

Department of  
Mississippi

*Magnolia*



AMERICAN LEGION  
AUXILIARY

*Serving veterans, their families and their communities*

Monthly  
Newsletter

June 2015

CALENDAR OF  
EVENTS

- State Convention,  
Natchez, July 10-12

GREETINGS FROM THE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT



“**BEEP BEEP**” It has been a really hard month for all of our American Legion Family. We have all been involved in honoring our fallen Heroes, and we are seeing first hand the pain that the lost of our Heroes have caused their families and our Nation. The Memorial Day services that we have helped with have given

us all a renewed purpose of our American Legion Auxiliary Mission. We saw the pain in the eyes of the fellow Comrades, the Wives, the Mothers, the Children (some never even got to meet their Mother or Father) and the communities. We also saw our Heroes who have battle scars that they are dealing with every day, and this affects all of us. Auxiliary Members, we have a Mission, and we are needed.

We are in the process of electing our new officers at every level of our organiza-

tion. I would ask all of the elected officers to understand, you have been selected by your peers to **Be A Leader**. I know I hear all the time how busy everyone is, but if we all do just a little we will remain the Premier Organization that we have become. We have special talents and we all are very important. Please know if you need any help, just let us know.

How exciting, our week at Girls State is coming up, and we will be getting to know our Future Leaders.

I have heard we already have a full slate of girls, and plans are under way to make this a very special week in their lives. Just think what a opportunity we have to help these young ladies.

Auxiliary Members, we have a lot of Veterans and Active Military and their families that need our help. We are making plans that will help us to succeed and grow at every level.

We remain “On the Road for our Veterans.”

For God and Country,

*Mary Barrett*

1ST VICE PRESIDENT-PROGRAMS COORDINATOR



Hello Ladies!

The Roadrunners are home from Indianapolis. It was enjoyable and very educational, with new, positive ideas for our upcoming year.

Thanks go out to all the units that sent in a year-end report by May 1<sup>st</sup>. These reports help our chairmen with their reports to National. I hope the Department Chairmen were able to report the wonderful things that are happening in our great state. Our committee chairmen have done a wonderful job this year. I thank all of you for your dedication to our organization. TEAMWORK is so important.

We want to see a lot of ROADRUNNERS at our State Convention. It’s always nice to see old friends and make new ones. Be safe traveling.

For God and Country,

*Anita McAllister, 1st Vice President*

## 2ND VICE PRESIDENT-VA&R CHAIRMAN



Hello to our ALA...

Wow! We've had an excellent month. The last weeks of April were busy, preparing for the north and central conference. The food was awesome therefore we had a full stomach and crowded minds. So much good information was shared in each conference. I truly hope each and everyone carried away something new in the various conferences. No matter what we think, we know I firmly believe if we listen. We can learn something new. Most important when we share information we are motivated speakers in our own right. My perspective is the more you listen, the more you learn, the more you learn the more proficient you become, the more proficient you become the more you can do! The more you do, the stronger we become. So let's hit the road. Beep! Beep!

Following the last conference in May, we were honored with a visit from our National President Janet Jefford. She was so informative and shared so much information regarding places she has traveled and the experiences obtained in each location. In addition, she shared information regarding the "pros and cons" of where we are now and the goals we hope to accomplish as a team. She did not hesitate to share the good, bad and indifferent bumps in the road while trying to accomplish our goals. She was very realistic, informative, and practical in reminding us that membership is much needed. However, the focus must always remain on the goal, i.e. our veterans. Volunteers can be very helpful also. To make her visit more than just great, our very own Nancy Sanders arranged the schedule so lunch and guest speaker presentation were completed in time to get outside to see the Vietnam Traveling Wall which began with circling airplanes followed by the city motorcycle policemen motorcade. The day ended

with a helicopter circling over as the motorcycle motorcade departed. This was a very touching and sensitive moment. Special thanks to Nancy.

Now back to business, I have received some reports from some of you. However, just know if I didn't hear from you, I will not have knowledge of what you have done. If you did not send your report in please send a report for the end of year. Folks, your report will become part of the state and national history, so don't be left out. If you can drop your report in the mail or email now, please. Keep in mind sisters, we are our brothers keepers and together we succeed divided we fail. Thank you in advance.

Thank you for all your support and continued love for our soldiers.

All about our veterans, not self.

God Bless our Veterans and God Bless America.

*Eva Ford, 2nd Vice*

## FOR THE RECORD – DEPT. HISTORIAN



Hi Ladies,

The year is just about over. I hope everyone has had a successful year and have lots of good memories. To have a successful organization depends largely upon the skill and competence of its members so let's "Beep Beep" prepared to make Mississippi the greatest department in our organization. Let's attend the training and workshops, so tomorrow will be a brighter day for us.

History is a good source for those who are "Beep Beep" prepared, so let's get our history program in action! We can learn so much from the past, and pass it onto the future generation.

Hope everyone enjoyed the National President's visit.

I have enjoyed this year and hope to be of service to the ALA, in the future. Love to all.

Days to remember in July: 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day and Annual Convention!!!!

For God and Country,

*Jackie Baughman, Department Historian*



## AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND



What a year it's been, our State conference is almost here which will wrap up another great year for OUR organization. Last report I had, YOU raised \$4300 for AEF. Ladies that is great and I again thank you for a job well done. For everyone that sent in a report even those that had nothing to report, I thank you. Thank you Madame President for allowing me to serve as your AEF Chairman this year. I've learned a lot and I hope I've served you and our organization well this year.

For GOD and Country,

*Angie Baughman, Chairman*

## AMERICANISM



Patriotic holidays were last month and this month, show you're proud of our many freedoms. The annual reporting has past for this year, but start recording all events in all programs this month. Making a form for your unit is simple, by recording all volunteer work, hours, and expense as activities occur each month, I will be the easiest method. It's hard to put the brain in mechanical mode at the last hour.

Patriotism is something shown as an everyday occurrence and not realized, because as citizens, it's accepted without a thought. Watching DWTS on the tenth anniversary show that just ended, there's was a constant struggle and will continue for the young disabled veteran, Noah. How many Noah's are there today, thank God this is "One Nation Under God." Take a look at a salute entitled "One Nation Under God," on YouTube, where a local football (cheerleader squad) homecoming game performed the activity at halftime. All veterans were asked to walk to mid field on this being Veterans Day. The address to view this is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTqJwplmeq>. Just click under the big block with homecoming title. My patriotic pride wells within me every time I view the site; more so, because my grandson participated in the game, my son went to centerfield, and an android was flying around.

This year I received a lot more essays, and it was not an easy task, because it was so VERY close in several classes. One of the best for Class II was received after my deadline to the Department and Southern Division. Units, presidents, and chairmen, please mark your calendars for any deadlines for the upcoming year, because our brains are not computerized. An activity as simple as above is noteworthy and should be recorded.

Dates to Remember; June 6th, D-Day; June 14th US Army Founded (1775) and Flag Day; June 21, Father's Day, Summer Begins; June 22nd, Pledge of Allegiance recognized by Congress in 1942 and GI Bill signed into law (1944); June 25, Korean War began (1950); and June 30th, 9-11 GI Bill signed into law (2008)

See you at State Convention!

For God and Country,

*Wendy Walters, Chairman*





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

So many members to get renewed for 2015, so little time to do it! Ladies, I can't sugarcoat our downward slide in seeking out and retrieving our much needed renewals...and slide we have in last couple of months. Why? I can't say for sure, but I hope it is not because we have given up!

We have had the good fortune to meet membership goals and making membership history. Remember last year we were the ONLY department that actually grew and achieved 100 percent PLUS! Remember we have maintained a top 10 spot among the 51 departments of the American Legion Auxiliary all year! Remember that every member we have is valuable to our mission, not only as volunteers, but their dues help us meet our mission and support those we are obligated to serve.

The other day, I received a call from our beloved Department President, Mary Barrett. She said she was with our beloved State Commander, Ronnie Bennett, and had to endure a lot of gloating by him—it seems the Legion has reached a higher percentage of membership than the Auxiliary! Yep, she was beside herself and wanted to know what we could do to stop the gloating! Well, my advice was...get more renewals from our units! Simple, right?

In order for us to reach our 100% numeric goal, we need every unit, district president and vice president, department officer, and Past Dept. President to man those phones and call our members who haven't renewed. Membership is EVERYBODY'S responsibility. Remember?

Kudos to those units have reached 100% numeric goal to date! Whoo Hoo to You!! Let's have more units join their ranks and get this done, Mississippi!

**Many, Many Thanks** to all of those units who are continuing to turn in membership and working the program. Your efforts are most appreciated, believe me!

For God and Country,

*Angela Kilcrease, Chairman*



## DEPARTMENT SUPPORT FUND



Hello, ladies. I hope that the units will be sending in their donations to the Department Support Fund, if they haven't already. You still have until June 15 to send in your donations. Which District will be #1? The winning district will be announced at Convention. Don't forget to send pics of your fundraising efforts to your District President for the District booths.

The Jeans & Jewels Gala is on for Convention in July. Remember, the attire can be gowns with blue jean jackets or a bedazzled jean look. Just mix up country and glamour, and you will have it. Lots of BLING! Also, bring your \$\$\$\$. The Jail-N-Bail will be back by request. We will also have a live jewelry auction during the event. We have received donations from various jewelry designers and companies such as, Designs by Ronaldo, Kendra Scott Jewelry, Florence Scovel, Alex and Ani, and the Silpada Foundation, just to name a few. So, come ready to dance, post bail, and walk away with more bling and style than you arrived with. Come ready to have fun! Don't forget those \$\$\$.

We are asking for donations of cheese, crackers, nuts, etc. to provide snacks for the night. If you can help with this, please let me know.

To all units that have made donations so far, I say, thank you. You are showing that the units in each district can work together and that is what this is all about.

For God and Country,

*Diane Belue, Chairman*

## Team Mississippi 2019

### \$10,000.00 CASH BASH DRAWING



Yes, that's right, we will start drawing 3 tickets for 10 months. Each month we will give \$200, \$300 and \$500. The winners' names will be put back into the barrel, so this gives you 30 chances to win...now, if you buy more than 1 ticket you will have more chances to win. I'M JUST SAYING.

Please make your checks payable to Kathy Dungan 2019 Candidate Fund and mail to Glenda Wheelis, 35 Oak Tree Dr., Laurel, MS 39443, and we will mail you your ticket. We will have tickets at State Convention, so don't forget your checkbook.

We need every unit and member to support Katy. She will represent the Legion Family and the State of Mississippi as our 2019 National President. Remember you have to have a ticket to win !!!!! We also have \$20 Cookbooks and \$3 Campaign Buttons.

For God and Country,

*June Laws*

*Steering Committee Chairman*

### PUBLIC RELATIONS



BEEP! BEEP! Reports! Reports! The clock is ticking. It's not too late! If you have not submitted your Unit's report, please send them as soon as possible. Public Relations involve the planned promotion of the goods and services of the American Legion Auxiliary. Public Relations (PR) will promote a positive image of our organization. Communication may be utilized in various ways such as flyers, community calendars, Tee shirts, local newspaper, TV, emails, Facebook, and billboards. Also, it is good to know that the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary are being advertised. The American Auxiliary has good news to share. Ladies, keep up the good works with sharing and spreading the news about the American Legion

Auxiliary. I hope that everyone is having an outstanding year with their Unit's activities. Keep promoting our mission and projects of the Auxiliary through Public Relations!

Ladies, remember to please send your local newspaper articles, flyers, brochures, running ads, and community calendars for the Department Public Relations booklet.

For God and Country,

*Charlotte Williams, Public Relations Chairman*

### PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT



Almost convention time, and we are still selling the Laptop tickets. Let's keep them going, as we will be giving it away on Saturday at State Convention in July. I look forward to seeing everyone coming to convention and making a lot of money for the Special Project.

It has been a wonderful year so far, let's finish it strong.

*Melissa Seward, Special Projects Chairman*



DEPARTMENT OF MISSISSIPPI

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## FROM THE DEPT. SECRETARY

Yikes! This is the busiest time of the year for the Department Headquarters. Since we are within a month of State Convention in Natchez, Mississippi (which is July 10-12), with the Executive Committee meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m., you are receiving the following in this newsletter:



- Call to Convention (*snail mail to Unit Presidents only*)
- Proposed Amended Department By-Laws and Standing Rules
- Letter of explanation regarding voting on the Amendment
- Unit Delegate form (*snail mail to Unit Presidents only*)
- Proposed Convention Program

We will be voting on the amended Department By-Laws and Standing Rules at State Convention. That's why we are sending them out 30 days prior to Convention. Our C&B Committee has worked very hard revising our Bylaws to be in standing with National's Bylaws. Please read them. You might learn something new in the process.

The Unit Delegate form is provided for you to list your delegates AND PAY YOUR DELEGATE FEES PRIOR TO CONVENTION. The delegates your unit can vote are listed at the top. Remember, *the rule is that unless you are pre-registered, you cannot vote if a ballot vote is called for. This form is due to the Department Headquarters 15 days prior to State Convention. This gives us time to put the delegate numbers in sealed envelopes for units eligible to vote. Have mercy on me and mail them on time please!*

By the time you receive your newsletter, the office will be closed for Girls State. We will be at Mississippi State University this year. In case of emergency, you know my cell number. Girls State is June 6-12. **DON'T CALL THE OFFICE! I WON'T BE THERE!**

We are going to have a great time at Convention this year. President Mary plans a very productive and entertaining session. Hope to see you there!

Lovin' you all and my country,

*Nancy Sanders, Dept. Secretary/Treasurer*



# THREE WORDS....

# MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP

