A Word from the President

By Miriam Stein, Department President

Ladies, what a honor to serve as your President this year. This year has challenged my leadership skills. But I have really enjoyed my year so far. Due to medical reason I couldn’t help I wasn’t able to attend the Washington Conference. We only have four months left in this year. Wow, time has passed by quickly.

I am looking forward to Spring Conference. District Presidents and officers don’t forget our Silent Auction. Our NO BAKE CAKE SALE still going on. Don’t forget the PPP ticket stubs (Green Egg) and money to turn in.

If you haven’t made your reservations and brought your banquet tickets for the Homecoming please get them in very soon.

I would like to say thank you to Anitia, Jane, Valerie and Susan a “GREAT JOB” on the leadership workshops. I believe everyone that participated really learned a lot. If they didn’t participate at one workshop they really missed a good chance to learn more about our organization.

Patty and Krista have been working hard at headquarters. Thank you for what you do. The audit and finance committees have really been busy this year. Thank each of you for a GREAT JOB.

Unit Presidents please get your Constitution and By-Laws into Gabriele Barnett if want them to be approved. She has been working on them with some Units.

National President Mary Davis

will be visiting GEORGIA on MARCH 3rd, 4th, 5th and leaving on the 6th.

March 3rd: Lunch @ Unit 209 Springfield 11:00 am
Dinner with Dept. Officers and members

March 4th: 9:00am visit Blind Unit in Uptown/ Augusta
Lunch 12 Noon Unit 63 Augusta
Dinner @ 5:30pm Unit 178 Augusta

March 5th: Leaving Hotel @ 8am for Moina Michaels
grave site in Monroe
Lunch @ 12 Noon Unit 32 Covington
Dinner @ 6pm Unit 205 Augusta

March 6th: Departs Georgia early AM
What is a Mentorship:  A mentorship is a relationship formed between a mentor and mentee with the goal of sharing knowledge and expertise between the mentor and the mentee. It can be a formal relationship with written goals and scheduled meeting times or it can be as informal as an occasional chat or email exchange.

So How Do Mentors Fulfil Their Role:  Many of the same things we do in everyday life to “help others are similar to the role of a mentor”. Some of the things one might do to help a friend who’s having a hard time might include:

- Providing information and advice based on your experience and ideas;
- Encouraging him or her to take a healthy, positive and constructive risk;
- Being there just to listen and understand, 
- Offering honest and positive feedback, 
- Planning and thinking with her about how to work through a challenging or confusing situation
- Sharing different points of view to understand and issue or problem from as many different ideas and ways of thinking as possible; and,
- Making use of multiple perspectives to base decisions in choosing from the best of all options, creating an action plan, and following through with that plan.

Have you considered being a Mentor to someone in your Unit or another Unit? If someone asks you to help them learn more about our organization and how to progress will your answer be “I would be honored to help you”. Remember, knowledge is a gift that is to be shared and passed on so that others will be here helping our veterans when we are no longer able to provide our services.

Remember we need to keep this great organization ongoing and this is only one of many ways that we can ensure that happens.

For God and Country
Anitia Owens
1st Vice President Leadership
Members, our time is running out it is almost time for Spring Conference. Our membership needs a "great big boost". I know that the Units have been working hard to increase membership, keep up the good work. As of February 22, we have five (5) Units making their goal. The latest Unit is Hiawassee, District Nine (9). Congratulations Hiawassee.

As of February 22, Department membership was 6,394, 60.34% of our goal.

District President and Unit President, I hope you received and read the information that Krista sent out from Vickie Thrower, Southern Division Membership Chairman, this week. National is really trying to help increase membership. National membership is over 27,447 behind last year's membership at this time. Georgia really needs to work hard to increase our membership. If anyone has any suggestions that would help, please contact me and also bring them to Spring Conference. New ideas are always helpful. Krista or I would be glad to talk to anyone about membership.

I am hoping to see each of you at Spring Conference.

For God and Country

HISTORIAN CORNER

By Valerie Brown-Debro, Department Historian

HISTORY

HOW TO CELEBRATE WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH – MARCH

What could be better for a women’s organization to do than celebrate their own history in conjunction with International Women’s Day on March 8th. Here are some ideas on how you can celebrate during March:

- Learn more about Auxiliary members who made history in your Department. Share this information with the community.
- Celebrate the women in your life – take them out to lunch; have a special gathering; call them, etc.
- Donate money to your Cavalcade of Memories not matter what level in honor a special woman in your life.
- Set up display in or honor of those members who have gone above and beyond the ALA’s mission—set them up in your community, not only the Legion...maybe the library; a bank; a community service center; or senior citizen center.
- Write an article for the newspaper Celebrating Women’s History Month.
- Hold a fashion show of then and now.
- Share this with your Junior members. Ask them to write about their Auxiliary role models. Have you thought of the challenges that accompany your goals, how to overcome them or options that assist your members to make the happen?
- Do you have a plan as to what should be saved or not saved? ie...photos, minutes, newspaper articles, etc. This should not be your decision alone and it should be recorded and approved as to why certain documents were chosen.

Continued on page 4
Chaplain
By Susan Hall, Department Chaplain

Chaplain
By: Susan Hall

Ladies there have been a lot of our members that have been either sick or have passed on over the past few months. Please continue to keep those members and their families in your prayers.

Please continue to keep the military men and women at home and abroad that are fighting to keep us safe also in your prayers.

Please keep the emails coming for prayer and card request when needed. I am trying my best to keep you informed. If I don’t have your email please let me know and I will add you to my list.

It is getting close to the time when I will be putting together the prayer book for President Miriam. I am requesting a prayer from each of the Unit and District Chaplains. Please email them to me at suem_66@yahoo.com, or you may mail them to me at 15 Good Hope Hollow, Naylor, GA. 31641.

Spring is upon us, May the lord shine upon you and bring glory unto you. Amen.

For God and County

American Legion Auxiliary
Honor Our Female Veterans

For Female Veterans who join as new members for the 2017 Membership Year, the national portion of dues ($9.00) will be waived for their first year of membership.

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Georgia voted at our Fall Conference October 23, 2015, For Female Veterans who join as new members for the 2017 Membership Year, the Department’s portion of dues ($8.00) will be waived for their first year of membership.

Some of the Units are waiving their membership portion as well.

Ladies this is one way we can Honor Our Female Veterans and build our membership. Make them feel welcome!

- It costs money for preserving documents, have you approached the Department Finance Committee for assistance in funding? Make sure before you approach that you have collected data as to what you would like to do: purchase binders
- Did you look into companies, historical societies, and colleges in your area that may be willing to assist in funding preservation of your documents?
- Did you surf the web to find grants that may assist in funding the preservation of documents.
- Have you thought of during an ALA event to put your history out for all to see?
- If your Department has a room or just an area with history information, have you extended an invitation to visit and showcase these items?
- Have you thought of placing in your Department bulletins and/or newspaper, writing about the history of your Department? ie…showcase past presidents; past successful events; past successful fundraisers; past Department accomplishments.

Please keep track of your District/Unit’s History; Ask members about your History?

Contact: Valerie Brown-Debro Resources www.alaforveterans.org/History

We will be sending out Obligations Notices before the month is out. The faster you get them to us the better, as we will be getting ready for our Department Convention.
We are still having our NO BAKE CAKE SALE

We are asking all members to send in the price you would pay for a cake. You don’t have to heat that kitchen up to bake one. Just save time and donate the money.

Have you sent in your donation Yet? All funds donated go to the Department Headquarters General Funds.

We have begun a new calendar year, with our 2017 membership year 5 months in progress. “Praises” are due to all departments for the dedication you are showing in renewing, rejoining and recruiting members. Huge “PRAISES” go out to all departments for being over 50% to your division goals in membership. We started the year off riding that roller coaster, but I know with all the department winter/spring meetings taking place now, our membership is going to ride that coaster to the top.

As your national membership chairman, I am issuing a personal challenge to each division/Dept to reach their goal in 18 weeks, May 24, 2017, before Memorial Day. In each division, every Department that is goal will be put into a drawing to win a special “Poppy” item valued over $50. Upon drawing that Department, the winning Department will then hold a drawing of their units that reached their goal by the same date and that unit will get the prize. This is just a small way for me to let you know how much I appreciate each unit in every department.

As we continue in 2017 working membership, I leave you with this: Communication is the real key to making your membership grow. Share what you know with your members so they in turn can share with others. Show an attitude of gratitude toward each other. Be grateful for all your members even though they may not attend meetings or functions as much as some, grateful you have your auxiliary family to share things with, work with, have fun and yes, even disagree with. Your auxiliary family is just like the family you were born or married into, not always agreeing but never the less, FAMILY. I know we will achieve our national membership goal if we all remember this, one can make a difference.

~Marth Corriher, National Membership Chairman

**ALA MIS PROGRAM ACCESS for UNITS---Membership**

The fee is $10 per year per person (2 per Unit). This is the fee National charges. Forms are on the website or call the Department for copies. Due to the enforced rules all forms must be completed and signed by 5 current Unit Officer. Please let us know ASAP.

If your Unit wants to continue having access to the ALA MIS I must receive new forms and $10 for each person. National will be billing the Department for any users on January 1, 2017. I have sent them a list of who to remove because payment was not received before December 20th. If you want to continue to have access to the ALA MIS, make sure your check is sent to the department before the end of January.
President's Theme:
"Georgia Peaches & Magnolia Blooms Growing Support For Our Veterans."

Membership Theme:
"Georgia Peaches and Blooming Magnolias will be going forth to increase our membership."

National President's Theme:
"ALA Members Pride"

Calendar of Upcoming Events 2017

March 1, 2017  Ash Wednesday
March 3, 2017  Patty’s Birthday I want you to be happy day 😊
March 15, 2017  The American Legion’s Birthday
March 17, 2017  St. Patrick’s Day
March 23, 2017  DEC MEETING 6:00pm
March 24 - 26, 2017  Spring Conference/College – Duluth

June 11-16, 2017  Girls State, GSU, Statesboro
***DATE CHANGE***

June 16 - 18, 2017  Department Convention
Duluth, GA
June 15th DEC Meeting 6pm

DATE Change:
March 24-26th, 2017  Spring Conference/College
DEC Meeting 6:00pm March 23rd