

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AUXILIARY NEWS

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American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Georgia, 3035 Mt Zion Rd, Stockbridge, GA 30281
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A Word From the President

By Hilde Martin, Department President

To my Auxiliary Family,

Summertime. We have surely felt the hot temperatures these last few weeks. Thank the Lord for air conditioning.

I have been more on the road than at home. Sure enjoyed all the visits to Posts, Units and Districts. There are a few things I need to update you on again. I have received a few phone calls asking about it. My theme: TO SERVE OUR VETERANS WITH PRIDE – HONOR – STRENGTH

My Fund Raising Project – Hospitalized Veterans

My new shipment of pins is to be delivered tomorrow. As I do my visiting I will bring them along. I hope that every Auxiliary member will wear one of my pins. In doing so you will be directly supporting our hospitalized veterans. The profit from the pins goes directly into our Presidents Project fund. Since I did not have T-shirts this year, the pins are one of the major sources of revenue for our hospitalized veterans.

I promised to let you know why I chose the Eagle. “Strength” Most of you probably know. The eagle has the longest lifespan of its species. It can live up to 70 years. But in the 40th year the Eagle has to make a hard decision. His long beak has become bent, his old wings become heavy with their thick feathers and this makes it difficult for him to find food. The Eagle is left with only two options. He can die or go through a long and painful process which lasts up to 150 days. This process requires for the eagle to fly to a mountain top and sit on its nest. The Eagle knocks off his beak against a rock and waits for a new one to grow. When it does he will then pluck off his talons. They will also grow back. When they are back he will then start to pluck his old aged feathers. After about five months,

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the Eagle takes it famous flight “Rebirth”

Why is change needed? Many times in order to survive we have to change processes. We sometimes have to get rid of old habits other past traditions. Once freed from the past burdens can we take advantage of the present. If one thinks and relates the Eagles change to our Auxiliary it is so true. We have to survive. Come up with new ideas, new ways to accomplish our goals, doing away with old habits and do things in newer and more efficient ways. **WE HAVE TO DO IT AND WE WILL SURVIVE.**

Now a word to my Chairmen. Please start early. I was once told I started a project too early and before I knew it the deadline was on me. Time flies by so fast that I had to hustle to make it. Remember ‘The early bird gets the worm’.

My chairman and I have been working on a schedule for our National Presidents Official Visit to the Department of Georgia. As of now, it will be Feb 20–22, 2012 and be in Augusta. More about her visit, preferences and so on after we get confirmation. I would like to see many of you visit with her in Augusta and show your appreciation. Thanks again for all the hard work my Auxiliary members are doing around the great state of Georgia. I hope to see many of you at the National Convention in Minneapolis. Or maybe sooner at your Unit or District. Until then, enjoy summer.

Secretary

By Patty Hawkins, Department Secretary

When things go wrong as they sometimes will; When the road you're trudging seems all uphill; When the funds are low, and the debts are high; And you want to smile, but you have to sigh; When care is pressing you down a bit; Rest if you must, but don't you quit. Success is failure turned inside out; The silver tint of the clouds of doubt; And you can never tell how close you are; it may be near when it seems afar. So, stick to the fight when you're hardest hit, It's when things go wrong that you mustn't quit. Don't Quit Unknown

Attention: When paying the Unit's Obligations and Contributions: A Separate Check Must Be Written for the Obligation and the Contribution Totals.

This is a MUST; the reason behind this is the money is now going into separate Bank Accounts.

1st Vice President / Leadership

By Susie Mash, Department 1st Vice President

To close out my membership year for 2010 - 2011 the National membership dead line was July 30, 2011. Sorry to say we didn't make 100%. But! Only one department made goal, Rhode Island with 1,187 members. We ended up with 92.43%, 6th place in the Southern Division and 21st in National. We reinstated and chartered one new Unit. Unfortunately we had to pull seven charters. I wanted to thank all the members for working so hard this year on membership.

I have contacted all the District Presidents and they are working on a place and time for a workshop to be held in their District. Since most of the first District meetings aren't held until August and September, the Presidents will talk to the Units at that time.

I have only heard and scheduled one for sure. It will be held at Post 192, Evans. Unit 192 will host the 11th District workshop October 1, 2011. If you live in the area I hope you have the opportunity to attend. I will publish the others when they are scheduled.

This year the workshops will focus on the current priorities of the American Legion Auxiliary which will include Parliamentary Procedures, Protocol, the

Serving Veterans and Their Families

THE PRESIDENT'S PINS HAVE ARRIVED!!! Contact your District President to place your order. **This is the President's Special Project Fund Raiser for Hospitalized Veterans.** The pins are \$2.50 each. Hilde would like to see everyone wearing her pin.

Any Units having any leftover poppies they do not plan on using can be sent to: Mary Young-Morrow 4007 Emerson O'Bynes Avenue, Tifton, GA 31794 for the 2012 Poppy Anchor.



Leadership Correspondence Course and emphasis on directives by our National Organization.

The Yearbook, I know it is not due until the 1st of February, just wanted to let you know how important it is to do a yearbook for your District and your Unit. This is like the "Unit Activity Guide" the department publishes every year. It contains the names and contacts of all the officers. Committee Chairman and dates of the upcoming special events and much more. It has always been my Department guide and I go nowhere without it. So please go ahead and do one for your District and Unit members it is such a helpful guide especially when you start to send out report forms. I will be looking forward to receiving them February 1, 2012. You can find the rules on the Web site under forms. www.galegionaux.org

I have enjoyed visiting the Post/Units for their installations and installed a few. As the District meeting start I look forward to visiting you, if there any special needs in Leadership please let me know I will be glad to assist.

For God and Country.

2nd Vice President/ Membership

By Betty Grist, Department 2nd Vice President

I have already sent a request to each District President asking for the name of her Membership Chairman and a list of the Unit Presidents in her District. I e-mailed the ones who provided their e-mail addresses and mailed the letter to the other ones. I have not received anything back from them as yet but I expect to after the installations. It would be a great help if e-mail addresses can be provided along with addresses and phone numbers.

I would like for everyone to know that even though some of our members are not able to attend meetings and help with the programs, their dues do help us to carry on the programs we work. Without their continued support by paying their dues we could not help our veterans, troops and communities.

Our membership slogan this year is "GEORGIA EAGLES SOAR AS MEMBERSHIP GROWS".

I hope everyone will work to make our Eagles soar High over the whole nation.

God Bless America.

Historian

By Gabrielle Barnett, Department Historian

"History, although sometimes made up of the few acts of the great, is more often shaped by the many acts of the small." Mark Twain

Why do we need to know the history of the POPPY?

Why do we need to know the history of the FLAG?

Why do we need to know the history of the AUXILIARY?

Why do we need CAVALCADE OF MEMORIES?

The answer to all of these questions is the same. We need history to be able to answer questions, to educate our fellow man, and to preserve our knowledge for future generations.

We need to preserve, display and share the history of the

Like the eagles we have to move our wings to soar like an eagle.



No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another. Thank you. ~Author Unknown

American Legion Auxiliary so we can continue to honor those members who have made significant sacrifices for our organization and build on their experiences. History can act as a resource for members, volunteers, and the general public.

This year the National Historian would like to encourage Senior and Junior Historians to participate in the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project by interviewing a veteran's family member or a friend to help collect, preserve, and make accessible personal accounts of American War Veterans so that future generations may hear directly from them and better understand the reality of war.

Let's all work together and make history in Georgia this year.

Let us soar with the Eagles!

Chaplain

By Rosa Scott, Department Chaplain

I will certainly not sin against the Lord by ending my prayer for you. 1 Samuel 12:23 NLT

The 4th of July, another great day commemorating America's Independence has come and gone. We celebrated with picnic, concerts, baseball games, barbecue, fairs, parades and fireworks. We remember the history of this "great day".

As the part of the Legion Family we continue to remember the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary . . . to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. Remember to lift our voices for love of God, our county and home.

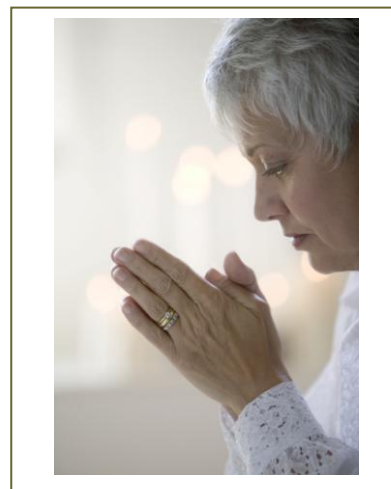
As a reminder I want to add . . . in your quiet moment of meditation, for these men and women, lift up the members of our organization. . Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL, and Legion Riders for within the body of our organization are members who are also in need of prayer.

Join with me in prayer for their strength and their families as they continue to help and encourage other.

"Dear God, I bring the needs of others to you in faith, confidence and obedience." Amen

Honorary Junior President

Congratulations **Kirstin Ray**, Department of Georgia, Honorary Junior President! President Ray is from Unit 264, Mableton. She was elected at the Junior Convention in June at Indian Springs State Park. Bring your Juniors to Fall Conference to meet Kirstin and to get involved with the Juniors.



Department Bulletin Deadlines

Department Officers: The deadline for submission of bulletins into Department Headquarters is the 25th of the month. We prefer to get these by email.

Department Chairman: You may put two bulletins in the newsletter a year. Please Keep your bulletins brief and to the point, but informative (relative to our Department). We prefer to get these by email. The deadline for submission of bulletins into Department Headquarters is the 25th of the month. Those received after the deadline will be prepared for the next mailing. We will be happy to include short paragraphs and/or reminders in the Newsletter whenever submitted. We will try to have the newsletter out by the 5th of each month.

If you want the Newsletter by email you can go the website and sign up or you can send the Department \$15 to cover the cost of mailing via US Mail.

**TO SERVE OUR VETERANS
WITH
PRIDE – HONOR – STRENGTH**

Membership Coordinator

By Krista Massengale, Department Membership Clerk

By now everyone should have their 2012 Membership cards and be actively collecting 2012 Membership!!!!

I would like to take this time to welcome aboard the New Membership Chairman for the 2011-2012 year and say a Hello to those I've had the pleasure of working with in past years.

Membership and our New System are a constant changing factor as we try to find new ways to make our new system work better and more efficiently for us. National has been passing down many new ideas and changes as we progress to a bigger, better program for our Membership.

I hope you will all continue to work with me and be patient with me as we continue to work out our kinks with the system and as we move forward to a better Membership Program for our Auxiliary.

I have spoken with several of our New Chairman and some of our Old ones as we dealt with the situation pertaining to the years of service. I am hoping the letters that were sent out about this were explanatory and if not that I have spoken with you and that we are all on the same page. I am going to have the letter that was sent out about the situation put on the website so that anyone who doesn't yet understand the change will have a better idea.

I will continue to do my best to process a membership report each week and have it updated on the website. We currently have processed 2- 2012 Membership reports to National and our website is up and current as of 7/29/2011.

However, some of you may notice that your totals are off by a couple of members. I will explain that here.

In processing of the New Members for 2012, our new system will not recognize those members until 9/1/2011. Therefore to keep my count correct with National, I have not included them in your totals. As of 9/1/2011 your new membership will be processed and added into your Membership at that point. They are in the office, they have been entered and you have received credit for them. However it will just take until 9/1 for

the totals to reflect this. Once again, this is where I ask for your Patience with me.

The other discrepancy is with VIM/PUFL Members. They are not counted into your totals until I receive the list from National giving me the exact number of VIM/PUFL Members to account for within each Unit. As soon as I receive this list and count, I will add them to each Unit and your totals will reflect this amount. I will also send out a notice on the bulletin stating when that will be expected.

As always if you have any questions or I can be of any assistance what so ever with Membership please let me know. I can be reached at the Headquarters Office by calling 678-289-8446 or by email amlegaux@bellsouth.net.

My hours at the office have changed a little this year. Monday and Fridays are optional days for me. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays, I will be available between 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. So this should be the best time to reach me by phone or to expect return calls. However, you can reach me by email and I will answer as soon as possible.

I will not be in the office on Wednesday August 10th - Friday August 12th. If you should need me during that time, please leave a message, or an email and I will get back to you as soon as I return to the office.





Membership Milestones (formerly Target Dates) For Georgia

Milestone 1: 55% September 29, 2011
 Milestone 2: 70% January 26, 2012
 Milestone 3: 85% March 20, 2012
 Milestone 4: 100% July 30, 2012

Calendar of Upcoming Events

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| August 7 th | Purple Heart Day |
| August 26 – September 1 | National Convention, Minneapolis, MN |
| September 11, 2011 | Patriots Day |
| October 22 - 23 | Fall Conference, Marietta |
| March 17 – 18 | Spring Conference, Marietta |
| June 1 - 3, 2012 | Junior Conference, TBA |
| June 10 - 15, 2012 | Girls State, GSU, Statesboro, GA |
| June 22 - 24, 2012 | Department Convention, Duluth, GA |

Check the web site for membership information, forms for upcoming events, the Plan of Action, the Constitution and By-Laws, the Unit Handbook and all things pertaining to the Auxiliary.



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