

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AUXILIARY NEWS

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A Word from the President

By Hilde Martin, Department President

To all my Auxiliary family
Well, a brand new year is here. 2012. It will take a while to remember to write 2012 everytime we need to.

I wish everyone a very Happy New Year, may it be a healthy and prosperous one for all. I also hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you so much for all the Christmas greetings and New Years wishes sent to me. And now that all the company has left, the tree and decorations are coming down and stored away for next year, the house probably looks pretty empty. Now we can get back to normal.

I am more than happy to report that we reached our 70% plus membership goal. Thanks to everyone that made it happen. OK, we did that, now lets see if we can get to 100% so we can get better seating at the National Convention. It is not very nice in the back of the room. If we can do that it would be more than super.

Lets start the new year off with a bang. All Units should be sending their reports to the District Presidents. The District President will then send her report to the Department chairman. The National Commander for the American Legion, Mr Fang Wong will visit Georgia from January 26-28, 2012. If you plan on travelling with the Department please notify Charlie Knox right away.

One month later, the American Legion Auxiliary National President, Kris Nelson, will visit our Department. She will arrive in Augusta on Feb 20th and leave on the 22nd. We don't have actual arrival/departure times yet. Her schedule will be sent out later this month. We will be staying at the Doubletree Hotel in Augusta the nights of the 20th and 21st. If you plan to tour with the National President, please let Patty know so she can keep a record of who we can expect to be there. Lets see if we can have a great crowd. All Units/Districts that have gifts for President Kris can send them by someone attending if you are unable to attend yourself. Lets make it a memorable visit to Georgia for our National President. I would be especially proud if all my officers will be in attendance.

As everyone knows, I did not have TShirts as a fundraiser for the

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Presidents/Commanders Project. All I have is my Presidents Pins. We still have plenty of them left. They are only \$2.50 each and the profit from each goes to the Presidents Project. If you need pins, please contact Barbara Shubert. She is also handling the tickets for the hand crocheted table cloths. Drawings for these will be at the Department Convention in June. Pins and tickets will be available at the Spring Conference. Hope many of you are planning to attend.

I went to Stockbridge a few days before Christmas. I checked a few reports and was very happy with what I saw. Thank you Patty, Deana and Krista.

And now finally, I went to a local store a couple of days after Christmas. To my surprise the shelves were already filled with Valentine candy and other articles. And now aren't we rushing our lives away? Time is already running too fast. Or is it just me?

TO SERVE OUR VETERANS WITH PRIDE - HONOR - STRENGTH

Secretary

By Patty Hawkins, Department Secretary

Happy New Year's Ladies! Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and made a lot of sweet memories. It's time to get started on 2012. Let's make this year a great one for the Auxiliary. I know if it is up to our members, who are working hard on membership, other programs for our Veterans, Servicemen, Servicewomen and their families it will be. We have truly been blessed with all of our volunteers. "Thank you for all you do" are simple words but are meant from the heart, without you there would not be an Auxiliary. And what a great way to HONOR THE SERVICE of the person you are signed up under.

As we move forward with the New Year we have much to do. We have National President Kris Nelson visiting us in Augusta on February 20-22nd. The agenda is listed on the website, along with President Kris's preferences and bio. I hope you will plan on joining us in Augusta. If so you will need to make room reservations as soon as possible. We will be staying at the Doubletree by Hilton Augusta. The room rate is \$99.00 a night plus tax, total for the night will be \$112.87. You can book your room using group code **AUX** to get this rate. The cutoff date for all reservations is Thursday, February 02, 2012 for this rate. The phone number is 706.855.8100 or 1.800.222.8733. **Reservations will automatically be billed for one night unless cancelled 72 hours prior to arrival.** Each person is responsible for the cost of their room. You can also book your room on line at www.augusta.doubletree.com. Please call the office to let us know if you are planning to attend.

The Washington DC Conference (formerly Awareness Assembly) will be held in February 25 - 29th, 2012. Information on this can be found on National's website: www.alaforveterans.org

Our **Spring Conference is March 17 - 18th** in Marietta, with the DEC meeting on March 16th @ 7pm. Please look on our website for the room reservation form that is to be sent to The American Legion Dept. Headquarters. The Homecoming Banquet form is also available @ www.galegionaux.org. Also, don't forget you must pay the \$5 registration fee. The fee can be paid when you make your room reservations to the Legion.

Don't forget the 2012 Department Convention will be held in Duluth June 22nd - 24th. Hope to see everyone there.

NOTICE: The office has two employees, one full time and one part time. We have one phone line and we try to handle all calls in a timely manner. If you should call in and don't get an answer it means we are on the line assisting someone or away from our desks. We are here to help in any way possible. We treat everyone with courtesy and respect and we expect the same.

1st Vice President / Leadership

By Susie Mash, Department 1st Vice President

I hope everyone had a wonderful family Christmas and brought the New Year in with a bang. Hope the following year will bring you good health and joy.

Now that we have the holiday decorations all down and tucked away it's time to get back down to work. Now that we have reached our milestone and completed six of the 12 workshops, it's time to get on the road for the others, Jan. 14th in the 8th District - Unit 9 Brunswick, Feb. 4th - 2nd District - Unit 30 Albany, Feb. 11th - 4th District - Unit 105 Fayetteville, Mar. 3rd - 7th District - Unit 47 Calhoun. If you haven't already attended one please do.

The workshops start at 10:00 am and run no later than 2:30 pm. The Unit will serve lunch and a light breakfast.

Congratulation to Georgia, we reached our 70% membership goal. Please encourage your members to get in their membership so we can reach that 100%.

Don't forget about reporting, please send your Mid-Year reports in so the Department Committee Chairman can get theirs in the mail to National by Mid-January. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call your Department Committee Chairman

I have already received Yearbooks and might I say, "Great Job". I hope to receive a lot more. They are due 15th of February. You can find the rules on our Department web site. www.galegionaux.org. There will be cash prizes and awards at the Spring Conference.

National is offering a "Mission Training Conference" this year. This will be held in Mobile, Ala., January 21 - 22, 2012. Registration is \$55.00 and includes continental breakfast each day and one lunch. Deadline for registration was December 23rd. You can find the information on the National Website under Member Resources, Conventions and meeting, Mission Training. I don't know if they will take late registration but you might try. These sessions are always very informative.

The next two months will be very busy with the workshops, the National Commander Visit end of January and the National President Visit end of February, hope you can be with us to greet them with our Southern Hospitality. We will also be attending the Washington Conference end of February, visiting our Senators and Representatives to discuss the American Legion issues, which the most important is our Veterans.

For God and Country.

2nd Vice President/Membership

By Betty Grist, Department 2nd Vice President

We are over the goal set by National. We are 71.05% before Christmas. This is great work by our members. They have gotten their membership dues into Department and put us over our goal and made this a very MERRY CHRISTMAS for us all. Krista hopes to get more membership into National next week. We are 19th out of 52 Departments and this is great. I am very proud of everyone for working so hard to get us to this level.

We are now in the new year of 2012. I hope all of you had a great Christmas and will have a happy New Year. We have many things going on for the rest of the year and I hope everyone works hard to complete their programs. As our troops come home they will need our continued support and help to get over the stress of being in the war zone. Their families will need us too. Please keep these servicemen and women and their families in your prayers and do whatever you can to welcome them back home

God Bless America and the American Legion Family.

Historian

By Gabriele Barnett, Department Historian

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a good start into the New Year. I am pleased to report that I did receive several mid-year reports which I consolidated and submitted to National. As you might remember, the deadline for submittal was moved up to the 4th of January 2012.

We had a little history happening right here in Augusta this month. 61 years after he gave his life defending the freedom we enjoy, a Georgia Hero, Sgt. Joseph Bowen finally came home. Sgt. Joseph A. Bowen, born on March 11, 1931, was killed in action on November 30, 1950 during the Korean War. Since that date, it had not been possible to return Sgt. Bowen's body to the United States for burial. Recently, the United States Army visited Sgt. Bowen's family to let them know that his body will now be brought home, to Hephzibah, GA for burial next to his parents. To honor his service to our nation a traditional visitation, funeral and military committal service were held.

Another hero made it home. Let us never forget what our Veterans did for us and continue to do - to sacrifice their lives that we can enjoy our freedom.

Let us not rest until they are all home.

For God and Country



CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

WE MET OUR 2ND MILESTONE IN MEMBERSHIP. NOW ON TO THE 3RD MILESTONE OF 85% BY MARCH 20TH.
LADIES WE CAN DO THIS!!

Chaplain

By Rosa Scott, Department Chaplain

Here's hoping that everyone enjoyed the Holidays.

For the NEW YEAR 2012 . . .

Let this be a year that we uplift our American Legion Family members to greater heights.

Let this be a year that we intercede in prayer for other.

Let this be a year that we show the men and women who serve our country that we care, whether they are at home or on foreign soil.

Let this be the year that when we recite our Preamble we say it with pride and honor.

Let this be the year that all of us work for the common cause of our organization and express the power we know that is within each us.

To each and every family that lost love one's in 2011, please know that prayers are still with you.

Please continue to send me your prayers and poems for the Department President Prayer Book.

For God and Country

Resolutions

By Betty Turner, Department Resolutions Chairman

Resolutions Committee Bulletin #1

Thank you so much Madam Department President, Hilde Martin, for asking me to serve as your Resolutions Committee Chairman this year. It is a pleasure to recognize my Committee Members, Nini Lynch and Dot Thornton. Their willingness to serve with me once again is very much appreciated.

Materials which are available to assist you in the writing of resolutions are as follows:

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Georgia Constitution and Bylaws, 2004

The National Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary, Revised 2008

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit Handbook, Revised January 2009

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 10th Edition

The Courtesy Resolutions will be prepared and read on the program at the Department Convention when the time is appropriate. Some basic guidelines the Committee would like to suggest concerning resolutions are:

1. A resolution should deal with only ONE subject.
2. There are two parts to each resolution: the PREAMBLE, consisting of the "WHEREAS" clauses and then concluding with the "RESOLVED" clauses.
3. Special rules of punctuation and capitalization should always be observed. These will be discussed in detail later.
4. Always remember that the Resolved Clauses Section should be prepared first. Although the Preamble comes before the Resolved Clauses Section in appearance, the Preamble should be prepared after the Resolved Clauses Section is put into final form.
5. Resolutions are important business to The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. Vote on each one with the realization that through your action you are either helping to build (or tear down) the effectiveness and reputation of your Unit (or Post) on the local level, the District level, and the Department level.

More details and facts about Resolutions will be forthcoming in

either a bulletin or a handout in the near future and before the Spring Conference.

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Resolutions Committee Bulletin @2

Since our Resolutions Form is not a part of the Consolidated Unit Report Form for 2011-2012, we are sending you our Resolutions Form in this separate bulletin. You should have plenty of time to respond before the due date of May 31, 2012 if you wish to mail us a completed Resolutions Form.

Be sure to read the directions on the 2012 Resolutions Form VERY CAREFULLY.

Additional Facts for Bulletin #2

What is a resolution? A resolution is a description of a problem or situation that is then followed by a suggestion as to how to correct it. It might also be a statement or declaration as to the policy of a certain matter in which The American Legion or the American Legion Auxiliary believes. It consists of two parts: the preamble (the description of the problem) and the resolving clause or clauses (how the local unit or post or even the national organization should solve the problem or support the issue). The entire resolution should be one long, continuous sentence with the preamble clause(s) first and the resolve clause(s) second.

This information was obtained and supported by *The American Legion Resolutions and Reports Booklet*, page 4. This *Booklet* can be downloaded in its entirety by seeking the web site at <http://legion.org/resolutions>. It is 30 pages in length.

Should you require extra space for your resolution, you may either write on the back of the Resolutions Form, or you may write on a separate attached blank page of your own. If we can assist you in any way, please contact me at Post Office Box 6073 or Cell Phone: 770-335-4732, robturner@windstream.net
Betty Turner, Resolutions Committee Chairman

Committee Members:

Nini Lynch 770-479-0354 ninifrog@comcast.net

Dot Thornton 912-842-2863 scarecrow@bulloch.net

The 2012 Resolutions Form is posted on our website for those who have internet. A copy of the form is included in all the newsletters mailed.

National Security

By Betty Turley, Dept National Security Chairman

NATIONAL SECURITY – BULLETIN NO. 2
CHAIRMAN: BETTY TURLEY

National Security is a very important Program of the American Legion Auxiliary. I hope all Units are keeping track of all they do in National Security. I am planning on sending the No. 1 Report for the Department of Georgia to National this year. I have prepared my Report Forms geared toward the Department and the National Awards. The National Security Report should contribute and support the well-being of our Military and their families. These activities should be the Mission of the ALA. Some of the items in the National Security Program are:

1. –Yellow Ribbon Project
 –Adopt a Military Family
 –Participate in the Military and Family Support Programs of The American Legion (Host Job Fairs, Present Blue Star Banners, Present Gold Star Banners, Support a POW/MIA Recognition Day)
 –Implement the Homeland Security Programs of The American Legion and the ALA
 –Support the ROTC and JROTC in local High Schools
2. –Publicize you National Security Program
 –Purchase US Savings Bond
 –Promote the USO
 –Promote Disaster Preparedness

Awards to be won:

DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

First Place: BELL LINDSEY NATIONAL SECURITY PLAQUE

Second Place: BECKY BENTLEY NATIONAL SECURITY PLAQUE

NATIONAL AWARDS:

Military Support Unit Award: A Citation presented to a Unit in each Division that reports the Most Outstanding Overall Program serving and supporting Military Families with special emphasis on helping them through times of family member deployment and/or injury (severely wounded). Entry must be typewritten in narrative form, not to exceed 1,000 words. Please include pictures and news articles. The Department Chairman will send the best Department Report to the Southern Divisional Chairman.

Yellow Ribbon Program Unit Award: A Citation presented to a Unit in each Division that demonstrates the best project incorporating yellow ribbons in support of military and military families. Please include a type-written narrative form, not to

exceed 1,000 words. Please include pictures, and news articles. The Department Chairman will send the best Department Report to the National Chairman.

Department National Security Program Award: A Citation presented to the Department Chairman in each Division who reports the Most Outstanding Overall National Security program. Entry must include pictures and news articles to help tell our story. The Department Chairman will compile a report and send it to the Southern Divisional Chairman.

Dorothy Pearl Civil Preparedness (CERT) Plaque: A Citation plaque presented to the Department having the greatest percentage of Units participating in civil preparedness. Entry must be a typewritten summary (narrative or spreadsheet) of participating Units. CERT training dates and number of participants registering for the program and number of participants completing the program. The Department Chairman will send the report to the National Vice President.

Please keep good and accurate records of all you do in National Security, and send it to me in your reports at the end of the year. I cannot send my reports to National and Division Chairmen unless you send reports to me. The National Security Narrative Report Form is separate from the "ALA Impact Report Form". Remember all reports are due to me and you're District Chairmen, by May 1, 2012. A mid-year report is due sometime in January or February before the Awareness Assembly in Washington, DC. I will let you know the date as soon as I know it.

The "PLAN OF ACTION 2011-2012" is available on the Web Site, www.ALAforVeterans.org or if you attend one of Department Chairman, 1st Vice President Susie Mash's Workshops, they are available there for a small amount. You can gain a great deal of knowledge on your American Legion Auxiliary from the Plan of Action.

ATTENTION: Past President Parley Scholarship Raffle

All District Presidents will be getting Raffle Tickets to be distributed to each Unit to sell for a chance to win a \$100.00 bill. The \$100 bill will be given away at the Department Convention on June 23. These funds are for the Nursing Scholarship.

Please send your stubs & money to Patty Hawkins @ Department Headquarters 3035 Mt. Zion Rd., Stockbridge, GA 30281 by Monday, June 11, 2012. All checks should be made payable to ALA Dept of GA, earmarked PPP scholarship. Any questions contact Bettye D. Williams's hm# 229.432.9849 or cell# 229.349.1219



American Legion Auxiliary
 Department of Georgia
 3035 Mt Zion Rd
 Stockbridge, GA 30281

A Soldier's Prayer

Lord, wrap Your arms around me
 In this hostile, brutal place;
 Let me draw peace and comfort
 From Your restful, sweet embrace.
 Help me do my duty
 To uphold what is right;
 Give me strength and courage
 Each day and every night.
 Lord, hear this soldier's prayer
 To You in heaven above;
 Protect me with Your power,
 And sustain me with Your love.

By Joanna Fuchs



Membership Milestones (Formerly Target Dates) For Georgia

Milestone 2:	70%	January 26, 2012
Milestone 3:	85%	March 20, 2012
Milestone 4:	100%	July 30, 2012

Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 1, 2012	Happy New Year
January 16, 2012	Martin Luther King Day
January 26 – 29, 2012	National Commander Visit
February 20 – 22, 2012	ALA National President Visit, TBA
February 25 – 29, 2012	Washington DC Conference (Formerly Awareness Assembly)
March 17 – 18, 2012	Spring Conference, Marietta
March 20, 2012	85% Membership Milestone Day
June 1 - 3, 2012	Junior Conference, TBA
June 10 - 15, 2012	Girls State, GSU, Statesboro, GA
June 22 - 24, 2012	Department Convention, Duluth, GA
August 24 – 30, 2012	National Convention, Indianapolis, IN