January 20, 2020

ALA members,

It was great seeing everyone at Mid-Winter in Rochester. What a wonderful time we had. I thoroughly enjoyed listening to our ALA Granite Girls Nation Senators chosen to represent New Hampshire.

We got to hear about Commander Brooks’ project, Honor Flight New Hampshire, my own project, Warriors at 45 North, our Detachment Commander spoke about his project, Children’s Miracle Network and our Honorary Junior President Hannah O’Neil spoke on her project, Mission 22.

The Poppy Corsages were beautiful, I look forward to wearing mine and the dolls from Scotland were done with love and care. What wonderful imagination and craftsmanship we have in our members.

We look forward to assisting the American Legion in the Senior and Junior Oratorical, some Districts have already chosen their representatives. This is a wonderful program and I look forward to it every year. This is part of the Americanism Program. If you have never been, it is amazing what the young people can do and realizing the benefits of obtaining scholarship funds for their continuing education. Check out the Dates to Remember to see where the program is taking place in your District or call your District Commander. Did you know that the winner of the Senior Oratorical represents the Department of New Hampshire in Indianapolis?

Stay Safe, Stay Warm,

Celebrating 100 years of Service,

Linda Dupont, President
CHAPLAIN’S CORNER:

God is kind, patient, and gentle!
God is merciful and wise! God is compassionate, and faithful!
As we start the New Year, let us keep God’s goodness as our guide.
Let us be the catalyst that makes this the best year for our Units.
Always be aware of God’s deep and abiding presence.
He is everywhere. He is there to offer His wisdom and love.

We are starting a new year. We can sit by and have the same old experience at our meetings or we can invigorate members with new ideas and projects. Why not try one of those projects that your Unit has pushed aside? New ideas, new energy, with God’s guidance, just think what we can accomplish.

A New Year! New excitement could be just what is needed to inspire your members to have the greatest of year.

Let us remember to keep our members, our troops, and all others in our prayers for a New Year of good health and wellness to all.

I am still looking for prayers and inspirations for President Linda’s Prayer Book. Please send them to me at 23 School Street, Marlborough, NH 03455 or email them to: lindalapoint4@gmail.com

Linda LaPoint, Department Chaplain
SECRETARY NOTES:
Members that plan to run for a Department Office need to have their endorsements into the office by 9 AM on February 20th.

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Enclosed in this mailing is the 2021 Unit Data Form (Green Paper) – please make sure that it is filled out (EVEN IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES) and sent in to the office by May 1st. I have to get it entered and sent off to National shortly after that date, and National will charge a $40 fee for all changes after that date. So, please make sure I have your current information, especially if there is a dues rate change or a change in the person or address where the remittance is to be mailed to.

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REMINDER: Please do not staple checks to anything. They get stuck going through the machine at the bank. Also: Please remember that checks to the NH Veterans Fund have to be made separately of any other checks, and must be made out to ALA NH Veterans Fund.

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Calendar Raffle drawings will start in February (which will include the January drawings).

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DISTRICT 5:
The next meeting will be February 17, 2020 at Post 31 in Penacook, at 7pm. Everyone is welcome.
District 5 is holding their leadership class on March 7, 2020 – 9:30 coffee and 10 am class.
Everyone is invited to come join us for a Meat Mingo fund raiser for District 5 on March 14, 2020 at 2 pm, location is Post 31, in Penacook. We will be raffling off a St. Paddy’s basket and a 50/50 raffle.

Brenda Edmunds, District 5 Director

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VAVS REPRESENTATIVE, MANCHESTER:
Ladies I haven't asked in a long time and hoping you can help us out. It seems that we have no monies in that account and hoping your Unit can help us get it back to normal for supplies.
Please make sure when doing so to make out the donation form so you can be recognized by the VA itself. If you want to send the form to me my address is Gloria J Morin 13 Maple St Lincoln NH 03251 and I will bring it down when I go down.

Thanks in Advance
Gloria Morin, VAVS Rep. for Manchester

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ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE:
ALA Granite Girls State will be held this year at Saint Anselm College, Manchester. **Friday**, June 19th through **Wednesday**, June 24th. Please take note of the different start/end days.

The applicant will be responsible for a $50 nonrefundable application fee (unless the unit/sponsor chooses to take care of that for them) and the Unit/Sponsor will be responsible for the $350 cost of attending.

Also, when promoting ALA Granite Girls State please be sure to promote Boys State as well. They will be in session June 21st - 26th at St. Anselm College.

I would like to take this time to comment on an issue that was brought to my attention. We on the ALA GGS Committee now and in years past, are very much aware that Units are not the only ones to help cover the cost of attendance for many of the young ladies. It has never been our intention to make any supporter feel like they are not appreciated. We are grateful for ALL supporters!!

The committee this year will be myself as chairman, Cherie Hebert, PDP as 2nd member and Joyce Flanders, PDP as 3rd member. Feel free to contact anyone one of us with questions.

Visit either programs site www.alagranitegirlsstate.wordpress.com or www.nhboysstate.org.

Melissa Greenwood, ALA Granite Girls State Chairman
mdgreenwood@hotmail.com

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POPPIES:

Just a few reminders.
Poppy Poster Contest: Go to local schools, Class 1: grades 2 & 3, Class 2: grades 4 & 5. Class 3: grades 6 & 7, Class 4 grades 8 & 9, Class 5 grades 10 & 11, Class 6 grade 12, Class 7 students with special needs. They must be on 11 x 14 poster board, with a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. American Legion Auxiliary must be used in the design, and a picture of the red Flanders Field poppy must be included. See the Poppy plan of works for more details.

Also Miss Poppy Contest, ages 6-12. Again see plan of works for more information.

End of years report due April 1, 2020. Please remember my address is 290 Ashby Rd, New Ipswich, N.H. 03071. e-mail cher1955@Myfairpoint.net. Also remember you are reporting from last May 2019 (Memorial Day) to April 1 2020.

Poppy Centerpiece Contest at Department Convention: no more than 25 poppies, with tags removed. Please have unit name & number on the bottom. Department or National theme.

Cheryl Fournier, Poppy Chairman

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HISTORIAN:

I hope everyone got a chance to get out and meet National President, Nicole Clapp. She is a remarkable lady!! Be sure to include her visit in your history report :)

As I have stated previously, do not wait to send me information, by sending a small blurb on events occurring throughout the year it is less likely to be missed come end-of-year reporting.
Report on any and all activities your unit and its members are involved in. EVERYTHING we do is important. Whether your event consists of 5, 50 or 500 people it is no more or less significant to our department’s history.

HISTORY TRIVIA QUESTION: In 1920, _______ becomes the first Auxiliary Department! (Answer will be revealed elsewhere in the bulletin.)

Melissa Greenwood, Department Historian
mdgreenwood@hotmail.com

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ALA GRANITE GIRLS STATE/EDUCATION DIRECTOR

We just celebrated the 75th session of ALA Granite Girls State along with 60 years of Ann G. West as Education Director. Since we probably will not be able to keep Ann for another 60 years (perhaps 5, 10 or 15) a committee has been formed to begin the process of looking for Ann’s successor as Education Director. This position will involve spending the week at Granite Girls State and MUCH prep time prior to that week.

The candidate must possess a working knowledge of all aspects of town, city, county and state government. A degree in government, not foreign service, is desired. Since the program consists of a 24/7 dormitory-based, hands-on learning experience with young ladies completing their Junior year in high school, an understanding of teenagers is helpful. A sense of humor and flexibility will also be useful.

Any questions and resumes can be sent to:
Paula Ross, Chairman;
PO Box 303,
Stoddard NH 03464
or email tsr95@tds.net.
603-731-0415

Committee: Paula Ross, Chairman
Sandy Neylon, PDP
Sharon Cook, PDP
Joyce Flanders, Dept. Secretary
Melissa Greenwood, Current Granite Girls State Chairman

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EDUCATION:

Happy New Year. I wish only the best for all in 2020. Thank you to all units that submitted your mid-year report. I really enjoyed reading what our units are doing in NH towards Education.

Scholarship deadlines are fast approaching. Try to contact local schools and ask if they have any questions and how you could help. Please contact me: Wendy Boissoneau-Decato, 22 Stevens Ave., Merrimack, NH 03054 – 603-494-7474 or email me at: wboissoneau@comcast.net with any questions you may have.

Our Department awards/scholarships can be found on www.legionnh.org. Our Department of NH Award/Scholarship applications along with other required materials must be received on or before March 15, 2020.
Our National scholarships can be found on www.alafortveterans.org. National Scholarship applications along with other required materials must be received to the President of their American Legion Auxiliary Unit on or before March 1, 2020.

We have Teacher Appreciation Week coming up May 4-8, 2020. This week let’s show our teachers that we care. You can send cards of appreciation, small gifts, and stop by and tell them “Thank you for all you do”.

Let’s continue to work on Give 10 to Education. Remember - class rooms are always in need of supplies. Contact a teacher and ask her what her classroom needs. Our schools need supplies not only at Back to School time but throughout the year.

Your Education Team Wendy, Eleanor, Glenda

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AMERICANISM:

I am looking forward to receiving essays for this year’s essay contest. The subject this year is: “How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military and their families?” Please check back with the schools you contacted regarding the essay and see how they are coming along with them. I need to have these sent to me by March 20, 2020 with a cover sheet so that I may forward them to the National Division Chairman.

Patriotic Holidays coming in February:
Feb. 1 National Freedom Day – held annually on the first of February. This day honors, in the United States, the signing of a resolution by both the house and senate and President Lincoln that later became the 13th amendment (outlaw slavery) to the US Constitution.
Feb. 12 President Lincoln’s birthday
Feb. 17 President’s Day – also known as George Washington’s Birthday. Even though Washington’s Birthday was February 22nd, President’s Day is officially celebrated on the third Monday of February. It not only honors George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, but honors all the Presidents who have served the United States.

Also, don’t forget to get out and vote in the New Hampshire Primary being held on February 11th. Make your voices heard!

Terri Ouellette, Americanism Chairman

Answer to the History trivia question: Minnesota
2019 – 2020 MEMBERSHIP

Celebrating a Century of Service. Celebrate your membership with fellow members and your community.

Congratulations to the newest 100% Unit - Whitefield 41!

Please keep up the great work! Whatever has gotten you excited, continue to ignite the light and the excitement in our members to keep up the wonderful job they are doing! Remember, one person cannot do this!

The new year is upon us and we have seen an influx of memberships in the office. Department is currently at 78.83% needing 1582 more members for 100%. IT is not too late to encourage your members to renew. Remind them of the many benefits to being a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. Why did they join? Who are they honoring? As of January 31, 2020, they will have lapsed and be a delinquent member losing all privileges. They would not be able to attend meetings, continue to hold office; enjoy the canteen as member and lose out on the benefits available.

Recruit/Rejoin 5 - Did you sign up five or more Auxiliary junior or senior members into the 2020 membership year? You are eligible to receive a special gift from the National Membership Chairman. The first deadline is President’s Day, February 17, 2020. Be sure that it gets into Joyce as soon as possible. Can’t make the deadline? You will have another opportunity Flag Day, June 14, 2020.

As of the Membership report I received on 1-17-20. District 7 is in first place with 82.48%. Congratulations to Director Anthony and the members of District 7 for keeping the lead. District 2 is a close second with 80.22%. We also have a heated race for third place between Districts 1 and 6.

Our next goal is 75% - Presidents Day, February 17, 2020. I am happy to say that forty-eight (48) units have met or exceed the 75% goal of which seven (7) are well on their way to or have exceeded Goal 3 - 95%. Keep up the good work. At this rate all units should celebrate 100% by Department Convention in June 2020.

Have questions or concerns, don’t hesitate to call or email any member of the Membership Team.

Remember! Without unique members delivering our mission serving our military, veterans, their families and the community WE will not survive another 100 years. Let’s continue to have a Great Membership Year and a FUN ONE too!

Karyl Horn, Chairman
karylh@comcast.net
603-988-8267
DATES TO REMEMBER

2020

Jan. 25   Mid-Winter Conference – Post 7, Rochester, NH (94 Eastern Ave.) Reg. @ 8 – Meeting @ 9
Feb. 15   District 2 Oratorical Contest – Post 23, Milford (15 Cottage St.) @ 11 AM
Feb. 25   District 3 Oratorical Contest – Post 35 Hampton (69 High St.) @ 10 AM
Feb. 29   District 1 Leadership Class – Post 4, Keene (797 Court St) – Coffee @ 9:30 – Class @ 10
          Lunch will be available.
March 7   Oratorical Contest – NH Institute of Politics @ St. Anselm College @ 9 AM
March 7   District 5 Leadership Class – Post 31, Penacook (11 Charles St) – Coffee @ 9:30,
          Meeting @ 10 – Lunch for a donation
March 28  Department Spring Conference – Post 2, Manchester (251 Maple St) – Coffee @ 9:30,
          Meeting @ 10
Apr. 11   Junior Oratorical Contest – NH Institute of Politics @ St. Anselm College @ 9 AM
Apr. 25   Executive Committee Meeting – Post 51, Epping (232 Calef Hwy) - Coffee @ 9:30,
          Meeting @ 10
May 9     Junior Convention – Post 72, Alton (Route 28) – Coffee @ 9:30 – meeting to start at 10 AM
June 7    District 4 Girls State Orientation – Post 2, Manchester (251 Maple St.) – Coffee @ 9:30 –
          Meeting @ 10
June 19-24 ALA Granite Girls State – St. Anselm College
June 22-26 Granite Boys State – St. Anselm College
June 25-28 Department Convention – DoubleTree, Manchester – more info forth coming
Sept. 12  8/40 Annual Meeting – Post 37, Hooksett (5 Riverside St.) – 10 AM

Members

“Unique Women Working For Our Veterans”