

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AUXILIARY NEWS

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A Word from the President

By Miriam Stein, Department President

It has been a very busy month already. I have traveled 3500 miles already. I installed District 1 and District 3. I installed Units 500, 168, 209, 178, 205, 336, 337 and 505. It was a wonderful feeling to be asked to install these members.

"The Georgia Peaches" and Magnolia Blooms have been everywhere. The Dept shirts have gone over great. We have placed another order to have at the Leadership Workshops. I hope they continue to sale it helps the Dept Headquarters. If you haven't been able to purchase one in your District please let us know if your Unit wants some. We still have membership pins also.

The "No Bake Cake Sale" is getting off to a good start to the help the headquarters. If you can afford to send a donation for a cake it will be appreciated. It helps out the headquarters until the membership starts to come in good.

We are trying a different way for the "Silent Auction" at Fall Conference. The Dept. officers and the 12 District Presidents are the only ones to bring gifts for it. We are hoping that it will work better. Joan and her committee will be there to make it successful. We will have different fundraisers all year to help the Special Project and Headquarters. I know that is hard for some Units but you everyone. I know I enjoyed spending the time with them. It gave us time to answer their questions and for us to get to know them better.

The audit team has been very busy also. I would like to say thank you to them for all the hard work they have done. They do a great job to inform these Units about their finances.

Dept of GA will be having a fundraiser for the Special project of the VA'S, GA WAR NURSING HOMES and the FORT GORDON FISHER HOUSE on September 24th at Post 178 Augusta. We will have a "CHILE COOK OFF" with different phases to enter. The application and guidelines will be on the Auxiliary website very soon. There will be a real "BAKE SALE", "SILENT AUCTION", "HORSESHOE TOURNMENT, TURKEY SHOOT" and food and entertainment for the day. Please try and come out and support our Dept Commander, President, Detachment Commander and State Director.

Ladies I know that the Anita, Jane and Valerie will put on some great Leadership Workshops this year so please try and attend them when they are in your Districts.

Please ladies we all need to work on membership. Keep those Georgia Peaches and Magnolia Blooms coming in.

For God and Country

TRAINING for ALA MIS

We will be hosting a training class for the UNITS that have registered & paid for the ALA MIS. The class will be held at the Department Headquarters on September 14th from 12:30-3:00pm. Bring a laptop.

Please RSVP by September 7th so we can prepare.

"Georgia Peaches and Magnolia Blooms Growing Support for Our Veterans."

Secretary

By Patty Hawkins, Department Secretary

The 2016-2017 year has started. We hope to have a wonderful year but it is up to our members to help. As our Membership is starting to Bloom with Peaches and Magnolias let's all pitch in to help getting new members and retaining our current members. I know there are ladies out there who are not aware of all the good work our Auxiliary does to help make the lives of our Veterans better. So ladies spread the word what we do.

National has provided us with the Department and Units membership goals. The **CORRECTED** Unit goals are included in this newsletter and on the website. It's a great time to jump ahead and start collecting membership and not wait on the Renewal Notices.

The leadership classes are being set for every district. There will be training on filling out forms and doing reports, as well as other great info. Please plan on attending at least one of these training sessions. You can go to more than one, also to another district if it is closer. Look for the dates in Anita Owens news article. You know how it feels to miss a party that you really wanted to go to? Well, LET ME TELL YOU, you don't want to miss out on these training sessions. You want knowledge well it's coming your way, so plan ahead to be there. I know there are a lot of Georgia Peaches and Blooming Magnolia shirts and pins floating around town. Miriam is quite the fundraiser. She will be having shirts and pins available at the Leadership Workshops.

ALA MIS TRAINING:

For the Units that have signed up for the ALA MIS online, we will be having a training session on Wednesday, September 14th at Department Headquarters. The time will be 12:30 - 3:00pm. This should help the ones who have to travel a long distance. You will need to bring a laptop. Please RSVP by September 7th so we can prepare.

There have been some changes to our Website. We are open for any suggestions on making it better.

Be on the look-out for the Chili Cook-off Veterans Charities Fundraiser. Looks like a fun day to be had on September 24th @ Post 178 Augusta. Hope to see you there.

THANKS to everyone who donated to the Department Headquarters general fund, phone and fax machine. This is our organization and we want to be the BEST. Thank you ☺☺*

1st Vice President / Leadership

By Anita Owens, Department 1st Vice President

I really enjoyed meeting each of the District Presidents at our get together on July 12th at Headquarters and to accomplish all that we did. You were so enthusiastic about our upcoming Leadership Workshops that it is making all of us excited to share our information with you. If you have not scheduled yours yet you need to get going dates are running out.

Based upon your feedback and all of the members we have talked to, our main emphasis will be on report writing. The subjects to be taught are Impact Reports, Community Service Report, Chaplain Report, History Report, Children and Youth, Americanism and VA&R with examples on how to write these reports. We will also have a New Member Kit that should be given to each new member enlisted, Finance and Audit Reports, Leadership/Culture of Goodwill, Fund Raising in Districts, Special Projects and Department Goals and Expectations. As you can see this will be a fully packed day with lots of hands on experience and of course questions are always appreciated.

Current Workshop schedule is:

Registration is at 9am workshop @ 10am

September 6	District 6	Macon, Unit 3
September 17	District 3	Columbus, Unit 267
October 1	District 11	Waynesboro, Unit 270
October 8	District 8	Kingsland, Unit 511
(held at hotel)		
October 15	District 12	Tifton, Unit 21
November 5	District 4	Jonesboro, Unit 258
November 19 th	District 1	no location at this date
January 7	District 5	Douglasville, Unit 145
January 21	District 10	Loganville, Unit 233

Please contact the District President or Unit President in these locations and let them know that you are coming. You do not have to attend one within your own District if it is inconvenient you can attend at another location. JUST ATTEND PLEASE.

Looking forward to seeing all of you soon.

For God and Country

Anitia Owens
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2nd Vice President/Membership

By Jane Lawrence, Department 2nd Vice President

Ladies,

If you have not received your membership goal for 2016-2017, Krista has posted the goals on the Department website. You can go to galegionaux.org and click on membership. We have seen a trend of decrease in our membership in the past years and we need to make this the year to reverse the trend. If you have ideas on how to obtain new members and getting renewals, please email or call me and we can share those in the newsletter. My email is janeall@yahoo.com and my phone number is 770-926-3468 (H) or 404-783-1835 (C). Our goal is to have members to serve our Veterans and our communities. The more members we have, the more people we can help.

Again, I want to work closely with Membership Chairman in the Districts and Units to help increase our membership. With everyone working together we can accomplish so much. Georgia Peaches and Blooming Magnolias will be going forth to increase membership.

For God and Country

Goals reached and exceeded Units.

PERCENTAGE GOALS FOR MEMBERSHIP

2015-2016

Independence Day	July 4, 2016	100%
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We has 8 Units that reached the 100%

30 Days National Convention	July 30, 2016	102%
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We had 18 Units that reached the 102%

Way To Go TEAM!!!

Our Department (YOU) did a wonderful job working Membership this year even thou some didn't reach their goal it wasn't due to a lack of not trying. Membership is all of responsibility, together we can reach our highest potential. THANK YOU for all you do.

HISTORIAN CORNER

By Valerie Brown-Debro, Department Historian

The Historian's purpose is to accurately record the accomplishments and significant events that occur on the National, Department, District/County and Unit level during the course of her term.

HOW TO RECORD AND POST TO "MEMBERS REMEMBER" I'm glad you asked...

Record the events during the course of YOUR term... It starts when you were elected.

Contact Information for Questions: Valerie.debro@yahoo.com (See Plan of Action at alaforveterans.org/Historian.)

Objective: Record the ALA's history through the eyes of its members.

Here are some tips: Work with our Junior Members start with Veterans History, youTube Video.

- This is a two-person project so find someone to assist. This is a good time to enlist the help of your Junior members and/or college students due to their experience with technology. While one person writes the narrative and the other video. **Here's an example.**
- Find long time members of the Auxiliary and ask them to share their stories in a video. These stories can be about:
 - a special project,
 - a particular highlight during her membership
 - How many generations of her family have been members and why
 - if a chartered member, her experience in starting the unit
 - Find a location where it is quiet and where there will be no interruptions.
 - Record with iPhones/Smartphones. Please keep in mind that your video file **must** be either a .mov; .avi; .mpeg; or a .wmv file extension.
 - Each recording should be no longer than five (5) minutes in length. You may make more than one. Cover one topic in each video.
 - Post the video on YouTube. **An instructional video on how to upload is located at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_O7iUiftbKU.**
 - **Go to YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com>**
 - Give the video the following title: ALA Dept. of GA Unit ____ Members **Remember**.
 - Provide a description and tags that will help people locate the files easily. These will make it easier for others to locate the videos.
 - Under Category, click on Nonprofits & Activism
 - Under Privacy, **Click on Share** your video with the world
 - **Click Save Changes** Copy & paste to Department of Georgia Auxiliary Facebook Page and send copy to me by email or text to: **404-201-5138**. I will upload on Facebook and twitter.

Chaplain

By Margarete Brown, Department Chaplain



As we start our new journey let us continue to keep open hearts and minds for our Veterans and their Families.

Matthew 13: 15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; Lest at any time they shall see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

For God and Country

Save the Date:

The 2017 Department Convention
Sonesta at Gwinnett Place in Duluth

Date has been changed.

NEW DATE:

June 16th – June 18th. DEC
Meeting will be June 15th at
6:00pm

American Legion Auxiliary Honor Our Female Veterans

For Female Veterans who join as new members for the 2016 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 2016 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.

ALAMIS PROGRAM ACCESS for UNITS--- Membership

We need to get your form and information so that we can get started training. The fee is \$10 per year per person (2 per Unit). This is the fee National charges. We would like to setup a training class by mid-January. Forms will be 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.

Our webpage is being updated!!

If anyone has any suggestions as to what they would like to see on the website send me an email. We are open for suggestions and your input is important ☺

Legion Family, HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YET!!!!!!!

As a Legion, SAL, or Auxiliary member, you are eligible for up to \$5,000 in NO COST TO YOU accidental death insurance.

\$5,000.00 NO COST To You Accidental Death Protection if traveling on official American Legion business*.

\$1,000 Accident Protection for all covered accidents
Regulations require your Confirmation on file in order to finalize these complimentary benefits. Please activate your NO COST To You benefits today. **This benefit is provided by our Department of the American Legion.**

Please visit: <https://www.thelit.com/no-cost-legioncare> for more information.

The process is very simple. Just visit the site, and click on "Sign Up Now". You'll be walked through a form where you provide your Member Number and contact information. You'll receive a confirmation email almost immediately.

Again, this is a free benefit for all Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary Members. But, you must confirm your membership on the site in order to receive it.

\$5,000.00 BASE ACCIDENT PROTECTION COSTS YOU NOTHING

How did I qualify for LegionCare, up to \$5,000.00 in no cost to you benefits?

As a Legionnaire, SAL or Auxiliary member in good standing, you are automatically eligible for an important \$5,000.00 Member Only Accident benefit every time you travel for any Legion business or \$1,000.00 in benefits for all other covered accidents. This Accidental Death Protection is compliments of Your Department of The American Legion to thank you for your Membership.

You pay NOTHING. Don't wait until it's too LATE!!!



Department Fund Raiser

We are having a 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.

Who cannot bake the highest price cake? Will it be you? Or you? Or You?

**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 2016 - 2016

August 1, 2016	Army Day
August 4, 2016	Coast Guard Day
August 7, 2016	Purple Heart Day
August 21, 2016	Senior Citizens Day
Aug 26 - Sept1, 2016	98 th National Convention Cincinnati, Ohio
September 5, 2016	Labor Day/Office Closed
September 11, 2016	Patriot Day/ Grandparents Day
September 16, 2016	Constitution Day
September 18, 2016	Air Force Day
September 22, 2016	Autumn Begins
October 22 nd & 23 rd	Fall Conference Arrive on 21 st
June 16 th - 18 th 2017	Dept Convention, Duluth
June 15, 2017	DEC Meeting 6:00pm



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