



Dear Members and Friends of the American Legion Auxiliary,

Thank you for your “Service Not Self” devotion to our mission “*to advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace, and security.*”

We are now in the “homestretch” of our Auxiliary year submitting *Impact Number Reports* and *Unit Activity narratives*, assisting Department Chairs by providing information for their reports and nominations for National Awards and preparing for the Department’s Summer Convention at the *Mirabeau Park Hotel and Convention Center* in Spokane Valley!

The Eighth District Convention Committee has arranged for some fun events during your stay at the Mirabeau. On Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm the Spokane Indians will be playing the Eugene Emeralds at the Avista Stadium on “*Family Feast Night.*” Box seats are \$13. Also, on Friday evening at 6:00 pm there will be an *American Legion Family Summer Fun Party* in the Central Courtyard. During this event together, we will be recording a video “*Our National Anthem – The Star-Spangled Banner*” for the *National Americanism Chairman Challenge*. Please send in your *Department Registration Forms* and make your hotel reservations (509-924-9000) by June 1.

We have less than 170 memberships to reach the Department’s 95% goal benchmark by *National Poppy Day*, May 23. To “jump start” next year’s memberships there will be 4 daily “*Membership Incentive*” drawings during the summer convention. Tickets are \$5.

Recruitment for *Evergreen Girls State*, Sunday, June 22 – Friday, June 27, is in “full swing.” Unit Reservation fees are \$320 and Citizen Registration fees are \$210 for a total cost of \$530 per participant. Applications can be made at: <https://www.evergreengirlsstate.com/>

Do you have a Unit member that goes “above and beyond” to support your Unit? Please consider honoring them by nominating them for the ***Unit Member of the Year Award***. Information about the award and where to send your nominations: <https://walegion-aux.org/leadership>

Other National Awards include the ***Youth Hero and Good Deed Awards*** - <https://www.legion-aux.org/Youth-Hero-Good-Deed-Awards> and ***Salute to Servicemembers Award*** - <https://member.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicemembers-Award-Form>

Most importantly, your Department of Washington needs YOU! Units, please submit endorsements for our Department Officers such as 2nd Vice President (Children and Youth Chair), Historian, NEC and Alternate NEC (*National Executive Committee Chairperson*). “*Now is the time and you are ready!*”

Good news! Your Department of Washington is in the running for the National President’s ***Department Merit Medallion Award*** which consists of 5 areas of focus: Membership, Department Impact Reporting, Governance Excellence, Financial Fiduciary Responsibilities, and Mission Investment Donations. Our application submission deadline is July 15.

Thank you all for your dedication and devotion to the American Legion Auxiliary.

Sincerely,

Diana Hagen

United in Service – Happy Trails!

American Legion Auxiliary

2024-2025 Dept. of WA President

