



## ALA Evergreen News Online

[Department Website](#)

[Impact Reporting Forms](#)

[Evergreen Girls State Info](#)

[2024 Unit Delegates Form](#)

[ALA National Website](#)



### Dept. President Catherine's Message

National Poppy Day is May 24th - hope you'll wear your poppies with pride as we honor those who have fallen.

Please send in your Girls State reservation forms and money as soon as possible. We are getting close to the deadline and we want to have as many citizens as we can to change their lives in an amazing experience.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
EVERGREEN



**G**irls  
S T A T E

### Evergreen Girls State

June 23 - 28, 2024

Central Washington University

We need your Girls State reservation forms turned in now! We have lots of citizens interested in attending, and we need to know which Units are sponsoring them. Please send your forms and checks to the Dept office.

Your Girls State committee is working hard to make this the premier leadership event it should be, now that we are back at Central Washington University.

Click on the link above, or visit

[www.evergreengirlsstate.com](http://www.evergreengirlsstate.com) for all the info you need. Please reach out to us with any questions.



## Message from Our National President Lisa Williamson

Dear American Legion Auxiliary members,

If the trend continues, the 2024 membership year can be a special one for the American Legion Auxiliary. At the end of 2023, we were able to “stop the slide” and were able to boast a gain in membership numbers.

This demonstrates the proven success of personal contact, remaining visible in our communities, and remembering to “Just Ask!”

I am passionate about our mission of supporting our veterans, our military, their families, and our communities. And I through my travels, I know that our ALA members are as well. Everywhere I go, I see that our Mission remains in forefront for our members!

Shortly after 9/11 nearly 23 years ago, our combined membership with Legion, Auxiliary and SAL was pushing 5 million members; as of today, we sit around 3.1 million members. Wouldn't it be nice to have 5 million members to help support our programs??

A larger American Legion Family – Legion, Auxiliary and Sons - benefits all Americans. This means more are embracing the "Be the One" mission to stop veteran suicide. It means talking about that it's okay to get mental health help. It means saying “it's okay to not be ok!” It means more ALA members to work our great programs such

as ALA Girls State, participating in Veterans Creative Arts Festivals, both locally and nationally, promoting our scholarships, and of course, working with the future of our organization, our Juniors.

We are attracting younger members, many with families. And most don't have time to attend meetings and be super active. I ask that you "give them permission" to be card-carrying members by simply paying their dues, volunteering when time allows, or not. There is absolutely nothing wrong in that; remember the larger our organization, the louder our voice when it comes to our lobbying efforts at home and in our nation's capitol.

I think we can all agree, we would like to see the 2024 membership year continue growing. This is where we need your help!

You can **renew just as easily here**, or you might consider a **Paid Up for Life membership**. If you are not a current member, you can join simply by **clicking here**.

As I said earlier, personal contact matters. Legion Family members who are welcomed by active and engaged posts, units and squadrons in their communities are more likely to stay active.

With your help, I know that we can do it!

Yours In Service,

Lisa Williamson



**DEPT OF WASHINGTON  
CONVENTION**

**JULY 10 - 13, 2024**  
THREE RIVERS  
CONVENTION CENTER,  
KENNEWICK

[WWW.WALEGION-AUX.ORG](http://WWW.WALEGION-AUX.ORG)

The Dept Convention is coming soon, and we are looking forward to having you with us in Kennewick.

Please send in your Unit Delegate forms to the Dept office so we know who will be representing you. It's available in the link above or on our website.

Both the Legion and Auxiliary websites linked above have the registration forms for the Legion Family, plus the information for the three hotels in the area where

**DEPT CHAIRS -  
REPORTS DUE TO  
DIVISION CHAIRS  
ON MAY 15TH**

**Department Chairs' Annual  
Reporting Guidelines:**

Department chairs' annual reports reflect the cumulative summary of units' mission service in the department and share the positive impact of our mission! They help us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

Each department Committee chair is required to submit via email a narrative report to the division Committee chair, plus copy the national Committee chair by May 15, 2024.

Just three simple steps are needed to add your part to our national success story:

1. Department reports are limited to 1,000 words.

we can stay with the Legion discount and the information on the banquets and luncheons.

Please send in your registration and meal choices as soon as you can. You will need to make your own hotel reservations.

2. Provide details/examples about the activity. Be sure to include specific information such as unit name and number.
3. Submit your department chair report to your division and national chair with photos by email by May 15, 2024. **Find contact information here.**
4. Photos should be in a high-resolution format (at least 300 DPI) or sent using the high-resolution option on your smartphone. When emailing the photo, select "actual size" for attaching to the email.
  - o When possible, include photos of actual events
  - o The request for photos is important for our national chairs to highlight members serving our mission.

## Children and Youth Vickie Evans, Chairman

Hello Auxiliary,

I hope Spring is finding you all in good health, and enjoying our springtime weather.

As I said before, we do have a winner for the "dollar out of your pocket" contest. The winning unit was able to get each member to take a dollar (or more) out of their pocket.

The winning unit will be announced at convention during the C&Y luncheon and will receive their prize at that time.

The contest may be over, but now units can just send a check to our Dept Treasurer to cover each member of that unit. We have 5500 members. We have collected \$965.50. Squadron #34 in Pasco donated \$82.00 to cover \$1.00 per member to help the Child Welfare Foundation. So, the auxiliary has actually sent in \$883.50.

We need \$5500 to reach our goal. The auxiliary still needs to collect \$4,616.50. This doesn't look too good. So, once again, units may now cover the cost of all of your members so let's get those checks in to Ruth before May 31<sup>st</sup>!

Remember to get the Dept donation form online and mark Child Welfare Foundation.

I sent four Good Deed Awards to National. Four



ALL UNITS: Let's get those checks sent to make our goal of \$5500.00 for the Child Welfare Foundation.

To date, nationally, the Auxiliary has sent in \$47,000.00.

The American Legion has sent in \$95,000.00.

The SAL has sent in \$230,000.00.

The SAL's are the number one donors for the CWF!

Thank you for all you do!

Vickie Evans  
2nd Vice President  
C&Y chair  
509-851-5384  
1005 Rd 54

juniors doing great things!  
Piper Souza Jr. ALA Unit #34 Pasco  
Dawson Souza Jr. SAL Squadron #34 Pasco  
Brook Callahan Jr. ALA Unit #37 Carson  
Janae Smith Jr. ALA Unit #34 Pasco

Pasco, Wa. 99301  
vwtrumpet@aol.com



## VA & R Diana Hagen, Chairman

There are approximately 25,403 volunteers providing more than 3.2 million hours of driving, escorting, feeding, visiting, serving, connecting with socially isolated Veterans, and sometimes simply sitting with a Veteran in their hospital room. The VA is proud to boast that it has one of the most extensive volunteer networks in the United States.

Are you ready to make a difference? Become a volunteer and give back to the Veterans in your area! To become a volunteer, contact the *VA Center for Development & Civic Engagement* (CDCE) at any VA Medical Center or visit: [www.volunteer.va.gov](http://www.volunteer.va.gov)

The VA's top clinical priority is preventing suicide among all Veterans. Suicide has no single cause and no one approach can end it – but *prevention* is possible, especially when Veterans find support before a crisis happens.

The VA is committed to offering and continuing to build a range of resources and a network of support for all Veterans, including those who do not, and may never, seek care within the VA health care system. No matter how they have served, no matter what they are going through, support is



## Auxiliary Emergency Fund Barb Cramer, Chairman

First I want to apologize for not promoting this program the way I should have, especially with all the weather related disasters, we have had this past year.

Any Auxiliary member who has been displaced from their home caused by weather disasters, fires, floods etc. can apply for the Disaster or Hardship Assistance.

is the information you need:

1. You have to have been a member for 3 consecutive years.
2. And has not been awarded an AEF grant during in the past 12 months.

AEF grants of \$3,000.00 will help provide funds for any auxiliary member during time of need.

To get the application for Disaster and Hardship Assistance Application and more information go to: [www.ALAforVeterans.org/AEF](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/AEF)

To help keep this program going, if you can donate to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund first

available and there is hope.

The *Washington Department of Veterans Affairs* (WDVA) offers a variety of training workshops through its *Veterans Training Support Center* (VTSC) including the *United States Department of Veterans Affairs* (VA) *S.A.V.E. Suicide Prevention Training Program*. *S.A.V.E.* is designed to help recognize the warning signs of suicide and provide support and resources to individuals at risk of suicide. Register now at <https://www.dva.wa.gov/counseling/veterans-training-support-center-vtsc/workshop-calendar>

Trainings will be held June 6, August 8, October 10 & December 12, 2024.

The *National Veterans Creative Arts Festival* (NVCAF) will be held in Denver, Colorado - **May 11-18, 2024**. Find information about the *National Veterans Creative Arts Festival*: <https://department.va.gov/veteran-sports/national-veterans-creative-arts-festival/>

Also, see results from the **2023 National Veterans Creative Arts Competition** including Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma (American Lake): <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/2647887/13/>

Service Not Self  
Diana Hagen, 2023-2024 Dept. of  
WA VA & R Chair

write a check or cash through the Unit, which is then sent to Department and then to National. Any member who donates \$100.00 will receive a "Member Helping Member" pin.

Please share the information with your unit members.  
Barb Cramer, Chairman

## Education

Jane Montaney, Chairman

### Are you participating in Give 10 to Education?

Don't forget to think outside the box. Instead of the standard pen, pencils, paper, etc. how about things like books for school and city libraries, clothing, or volunteering to mentor reading or maybe even math; you could also chaperone a

Some good gifts for teachers  
Appreciation Week –  
May 6-10, 2024  
and for the end of the year

1. Brownie Mix in Jar. Give the gift of a quick dessert by filling jars with brownie ingredients. ...

field trip and/or help on playground during recess. *What you do for Teacher Appreciation Week could be counted under Give 10 program.*

**Big thank you goes out to those Units who reached out and followed up on the scholarship information distributed last fall.** I received a total of 39 applications for the American Legion Auxiliary Scholarships to be awarded in the 2023-24 Term. *That's 2 more than last year ?* Of the Department Scholarships –

2 application was received for the Susan Burdett Scholarship;

4 applications were received for the Marguerite McAlpin Memorial Scholarship;

2 applications were received for the Florence Lemcke Memorial Scholarship;

5 applications were received for the Department Gift Scholarship.

We award 1 of each of the Department Scholarships with exception of Department Gift Scholarship, which is 2 (1 to an applicant and 1 to the student we selected as candidate for the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship (COW Ntl Pres. Scholarship).

National Staff received and sent to me for judging:

18 applications for the COW National Presidents' Scholarship

1 application for Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship

6 applications for Non-Traditional Scholarship

and 1 Spirit of Youth for Junior Members Scholarship application was received from a Unit who had received it from the student and followed procedure for certifying and sending on to Dept for judging.

Selections made on the National Scholarships and sent into the Western Division Education Chairman for judging on the National Level.

By the time you read this, all letters of congratulation as well as letters to those not selected have been sent to each of the applicants (with copy to the Certifying Unit). We thank all who participated and wish all of the students the best of luck in furthering their education in their career choice.

Names of Dept. Winners and National Selections (maybe winners too) will be in my End of Year Report given at Dept Convention and put in Book of Reports.

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

2. Gumball Jar. Fill customized glass jars with colorful gumballs and other sweet treats as an afternoon pick me up.

3. Custom Necklace. ...

4. Teacher Supplies. ...

5. Personalized Candles. ...

6. Chocolate Chip Cookies. ...

7. Festive Socks. ...

8. Heart Themed Jar. ...

9. Monthly Planners. ...

10. Desk Caddies. ...

## Secretary's Report

Endorsements: We have received endorsements for 2025 year including Diana Hagen- President, Terri Campbell for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, Vickie Evans for Chaplain, Alice Richard- 1<sup>st</sup> District President, Chelse Callahan- 5<sup>th</sup> District President.



Membership: Are you getting the weekly update? Please let me know if you would like to receive the membership reports. The **recruit 10** for your unit program is going on. Any units with 10 or more new members may apply for this.

Applications: Let's make sure the Adjutant is the one signing the applications, verifying the DD214 of Veterans and ensuring current Legion membership. Is it possible to go over the data on the Applications with the applicants? Sometimes the information is unreadable. Catch the missing information and keep watching for signatures. Please make sure the Applicants relationship is correct. We have had too many female applicants saying their relationship is male spouse. The relationship is **applicants** relationship to the eligibility person.

Reports: As with any reports please turn them in on time. The narratives are due soon, the Chairmen will be eager to get your information to put details into their reports. Be proud of what you do, let us know.

Convention updates: There are three hotels that we have discount blocks at: the Springhill by Marriott, the Hilton Gardens and Best Western Tri-Cities. Dates are July 10-13, 2024. The registration form is online now.

Due Dates: Did you know there is a Timeline indicating the due dates for all the documents that we need for the whole year? Yes, just on the website, <https://walegion-aux.org>.

Office Closed: May 27<sup>th</sup>, Jun 19<sup>th</sup>, Jul 8-17<sup>th</sup>

*"In the Spirit of Service not Self, for Veterans, God and Country"*

Sabrina Arsenia  
Department Secretary  
American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Washington  
[secretary@walegion-aux.org](mailto:secretary@walegion-aux.org)  
360.456.5995  
Hours: M-F 8:00am to 4:30 pm, excepting Wednesday off

DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON  
2024 CONVENTION BANQUET

HOSTED BY  
AMERICAN LEGION THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 34  
1027 W STEVENS ST. PASCO, WA

**Saturday, July 13, 2024**  
BANQUET FROM 5:00 to 10:00 PM  
DINNER SERVED 5:00 to 7:00 PM

AMOUNT PER PERSON: \$20 PER PERSON\*

\*TAXES TO BE ADDED ON JUNE 2024

CHICKEN FRIED STEAK  
SPAGHETTI  
MASHED POTATOES  
COUNTRY GRavy  
MIXED VEGETABLES  
SALAD BAR, ROLLS, CAKE

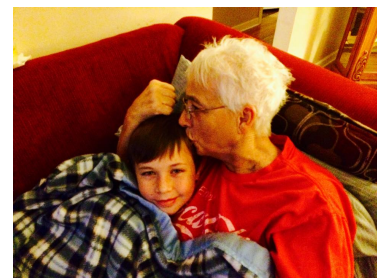


## In Memory of Mardi Carroll

This is a part of a collection of inspirational comments Mardi shared in her President's Message with the membership of the American Legion Family of Post & Unit 28 and others who received our Newsletter. We invite you to read them – keep them and let them give you insight into yourself. I'm sure Mardi intended to inspire us to better live the motto of the American Legion Auxiliary – "Service NOT Self".

As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands.

One for helping yourself, the other for helping others.



Morning is God's way of saying...One more time.  
Go live your best life, make a difference, touch a heart,  
Inspire a soul, encourage a mind and enjoy your day.

Some people just make you feel better when you're  
around them.  
They're sunshine for your soul and medicine for your  
mind.

Don't you dare let them tell you that you're too old or that  
it's too late. If you're still standing, then anything is  
possible.

Own you're awesome and show everyone that greatness  
doesn't have an expiration date. Keep going, you got this.

Do good things whether others notice or not. It's the  
deeds that matter, not the size of your audience.

The best gift you are ever going to give someone; the  
permission to feel safe in their own skin. To feel  
worthy. To feel like they are enough.

A single poppy has the soul of a thousand heroes and the  
tears of a million loved ones.

When you can't control what is happening, control the  
way you respond to what is happening, that is where your  
power is.



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