



American Legion Auxiliary Eighth District

October 24, 2019

Dear Eighth District Officers and Unit Presidents,
Department Officers, Department Chairmen,
And All Eighth District Auxiliary Members:

**Let's all gather in Braman for our
8th District Convention
Come on - We Can Do It!**



As your District President, I want to welcome you to a new year of serving our veterans! As members of the Eighth District begin our year, we will be showing our Department President Jody Chisolm that “We Can Do It!” as we focus on our service to our Veterans.

Our first 8th District Convention for the current Auxiliary year will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2019. Hennessy-Cunningham Post 259 in Braman will be our host. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Post location: 404 Broadway (north of the post office) in Braman. Registration will begin at 8:30 am. The Executive Board Meeting will be at 9:30 am the Convention will be called to order at 10:00 am. The Hennessy-Cunningham Post will provide a catered lunch - donations will be appreciated.

Unit Presidents in the 8th District – please share this Convention Call with all of your Unit members and bring a car full to Braman!

Unit Members, please be sure to bring a Unit Report describing the many interesting and valuable things you have been doing for Veterans since the last District Convention on March 9th in Alva! Reports allow our District Historian to prepare an accurate record of activities in the 8th District to the Department Historian. They are very important! The reports also allow YOU to share ideas – come and get some fresh ideas yourself to use in your Unit!

We will be having installation of our officers for 2019-2020, since this will be the first Convention of the current Auxiliary year. Installation will be done by our 2019-2020 Department President Jody Chisolm. Here theme is “We Can Do It!” – service to our veterans. I hope you will come and meet President Jody ... and bring a friend!

In order to earn some funds for our treasury, we will have a Silent Auction – be sure to bring something you would bid on! Each Unit is asked to bring two items for this Silent Auction! Remember that baked goods for the Thanksgiving holiday are always well received.



Your 2019-2020 membership dues became payable on August 1st - don't wait to pay – do it now! Your District dues are \$1.00 for Senior and Junior members. Save Postage and bring your dues with you to Braman! Let's have a HUGE Membership Dues Turn-in for our District and for Department. Let's all work hard on our Unit membership so we can make a real difference in the lives of our Veterans!

I look forward to being installed as your 2019-2020 8th District President. Everyone is encouraged to attend, share information, and enjoy fellowship as we work together for our Veterans!

See you in Braman on Saturday, November 16th!

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Here is a message from our
2019-2020 American Legion Auxiliary National President, **Nicole Clapp**

We have an extra special year planned to enjoy our *Centennial Anniversary*. What better way to recognize our 100 years of Service Not Self than by Celebrating a Century of Service, which is my theme for this year. The mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace, and security. Please invest your time to review the 2017-2022 Programs Action Plan and this companion piece, the 2019-2020 Annual Supplement. I have included some important details to make this administrative year memorable. (alaforveterans.org)

This year, my National President's special emphasis will be The Health and Well-Being of our Veterans, Military, and Their Families. One hundred years ago, our mission was to take care of our veterans, military, and their families, and that purpose remains at the forefront of everything we do as members of the American Legion Auxiliary. Remember, well-being reaches far beyond the health status of an individual. It encompasses all aspects of someone's life from transition back into civilian life to years later when other life events occur. We will be using the Veteran Projects Fund, a special grant of the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation, to provide monetary assistance for department and unit projects that aid veterans, military, and their families. So, if you know of a specific, emergent need, apply for a Veteran Projects Fund Grant. Information can be found at ALAFoundation.org.

New this year, we are planning to offer an American Legion Auxiliary Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship. This unique scholarship opportunity is designed to encourage our Junior members to continue their membership as senior members while assisting with their educational goals. We will be awarding two scholarships in each of the five divisions.

I look forward to Celebrating a Century of Service with each and every one of you!

Nicole Clapp natlpres@ALAforVeterans.org

Teach our Junior Members about Rosie

"We Can Do It!" is an American World War II wartime poster produced by J. Howard Miller in 1943 for Westinghouse Electric as an inspirational image to boost female worker morale. The poster was very little seen during World War II. It was rediscovered in the early 1980s and widely reproduced in many forms, often called "We Can Do It!" but also called "Rosie the Riveter" after the iconic figure of a strong female war production worker. The image made the cover of the Smithsonian magazine in 1994 and was fashioned into a US first-class mail stamp in 1999.

Elinor Otto, who becomes a centenarian on October 28, 2019, is known as the "Last Rosie the Riveter," or the "Longest-working Rosie the Riveter." "I was 95 when I stopped working, and I was still building airplanes with rivet guns," said the Long Beach native.

Otto was born in 1919 in Los Angeles, but spent the majority of her life in Long Beach. In 1942, she joined the war effort and began working at the Rohr Aircraft Corporation. "Women joined the force with the men and at first, they didn't want us, but they saw we were willing to work hard, and learn and listen to them." After the war ended, working women were let go of their factory jobs, but Elinor hated being still. "I enjoyed the work where you can be busy physically. I didn't care to sit in an office," she said.

Over the years, she continued working on airplanes until her career ended in 2014 at Boeing in Long Beach. "They shut the plant down so I didn't retire. I was laid off like everyone else," said Otto. Heather Kern, describes Otto as a "feisty, spunky, firecracker."

Sue Heil is our Department Junior Activities Chairman and she will be introducing a new contest at this Convention. Do you have Juniors in your Unit? Share the information below about "Rosie the Riveter" and have her pose as Rosie. Take a picture and send it to Sue. We will have our members vote on their favorite "Rosie" at the Department Convention in June, 2020. Have some fun with this! If any Junior Members come to the District Convention, Sue can take their pictures there!

