

From the desk of the President...

Hello, fellow Auxiliary members. It has been remarkably busy since our last Buckeye Messenger. I attended 5 district conferences. The attendance at these fall conferences was well received. The chairman all did a great job. I was on the radio show “They Sacrifice for Us” on Tuesday, November 12. If you are ever asked to be on this show, do it. Bob and Susan Fratino make you so comfortable. The 30 minutes flew by, and when you have completed the show, you then think of more things you could have talked about. I attended Detachment Commander Tim Conway’s homecoming.

The largest achievement since the last publication was the hiring of our Department Secretary, Lori Wickham. Lori initially was hired by Desi Stoy as the part-time bookkeeper. After the first couple days, Desi recognized Lori was showing she had more to offer our organization.

We asked her to please apply for the Secretary position and was proceeded to interview her. Lori will complete the remainder of this year as the part-time bookkeeper and on January 6, 2025, start her position as the Department Secretary. Please welcome her and if you are attending Mid-Winter conference, stop by the office and meet her in person.

My homecoming was held on November 2nd, and I was overwhelmed by the members of the American Legion family that joined in this evening of celebration.

I have been in contact with Leora Porter, the supervisor, at The Judge Sara J Harper Village. She is very excited to be working with The American Legion Auxiliary this year. Leora continues to build her wish list but a few things that we have found that need:

- Storage Shed to house patio furniture and gardening tools

 - Patio furniture

 - Raised garden beds

 - Gardening tools

- Dog clean-up Stations – Currently 3 dogs live in the Village

 - All weather American and POW flags

- Vacuum sealed storage bags to help them maximize storage

Please remember to share all the information that is provided within the Bulk mailing with your units. The officers and chairman are working extremely hard to keep you informed.

Are you excited to attend Mid-Winter Conference in January? If you are not, you should be. We will have 2 wonderful speakers in addition to the Department Chairman giving their mid-year reports. We will have our meetings on Friday and Saturday. Finance, DEC will be during the day and our initial meeting will be Friday evening. Do not forget this is also the time that our District Presidents put together great gift baskets to raffle. The dates are January 17 – 18, 2025. The American Legion will have a formal Award Banquet on Saturday evening, The Detachment of Ohio SAL holds a reverse raffle on Saturday night at one of the local American Legion Post. There are things to do all weekend, or you can just visit with your many American Legion family friends.



Americanism

Cyndi Underwood, Chairman

Peggy Park, Vice Chairman

Happy Fall Chairman and members!

The leaves are now showing all of their beautiful colors. This inspires us to move forward with all the Grand ventures that await us through Americanism! First, let's Vote! Your units can set up a detail for driving your seasoned members to the polls to cast their vote, or set up a lit lunch at your post for your members to stop for a bite after voting. Be proud and wear your "I voted" sticker.

Veterans Day falls under so many chairmanships! So include it and do something! Honor our Veterans and be proud to have one in your life. Assist your post with a parade, lunch or breakfast. Perhaps set up an information table about the organization and veteran assistance. Have speakers at your meetings and have them visit your canteens, give away gifts, participate at a school and be a speaker—taking a veteran with you and our flag. Personally I take small flags and chocolate bars, you can not go wrong.

Start planning the rest of the year out now. Begin making a tree of info notes to assist you with programs. Stay a month ahead of schedule and take advantage of those evenings at home when you could call, cut, paste, bake and arrange.

Do not forget that we are having an **Americanism Day** (Saturday) at Midwinter this year. That's right!! **Wear your bandanas**-patriotic on this day. Any kind you have to show that Ohio has it all together this year and always.

Wreaths across America??? Yes we are supporting this. Your unit can embrace this by contacting them and getting started; they will explain the details a bit better.

Pay attention to the essay title for this year. Some of you may be using last years essay title and we do not want that. The correct essay for this year is "What does America the Beautiful mean to me?" Grades 3 to 12 and special needs children may apply and due by April 1, 2025 to Peggy Park our Vice Chairman

Be proud to show your colors of red, white and blue. Be proud to honor the American ways and support your veterans. Please contact us with any concerns.

Children and Youth

Krista Carpenter

Kristacarpenter115@gmail.com

The next three months are busy times for our units in Ohio working with children and youth. Halloween brings us the opportunity to protect and educate our youth about safety when trick or treating. You can find the pdf file for our ALA safety coloring book here -

https://www.legionaux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Programs/Halloween_Coloring_Book.pdf

Many units sponsor trunk or treat events as well as host Halloween parties and costume contests.

These are both fun and safe events for our kids!

November brings us the Thanksgiving holiday. Connecting with schools, churches, homeless shelters, family readiness groups and food banks can give us the opportunity to aid where needed for our youth. We also start to prepare for the Christmas holidays by planning parties and shopping for families. We can use similar connections to find those most in need.

It is always a good time to support our children and youth through attending sporting events, school programs, donating to charities, helping with school lunch accounts, providing information about mental health support, and all other activities that support, promote, and protect our children and youth. I'm looking forward to seeing what your unit is doing!

There is a special challenge to support children and youth every season this year. This goes along with President Louise's theme – LEAVES – Let's embrace all veterans every season. If your unit provides 3 seasonal narratives reporting an activity or activities to Vice Chairman Colleen, your unit will receive a certificate at summer convention. You can send your narrative and pictures to ckphillips43524@gmail.com. Save your narratives to combine for your yearend report! Activities that were completed during our "summer season," June 21, 2024 – September 21, 2024, should be reported by October 31, 2024. You can also report activities that happened April 15, 2024 – June 21, 2024, at this time as well for a "spring season" narrative. Our "fall season" runs September 22, 2024 – December 20, 2024, with the narrative due January 31, 2025.

There is a national challenge to have every department nominate youth for the Youth Good Deed Award and the Youth Hero Award. Nomination forms can be found here - <https://www.legion-aux.org/youth-hero-good-deed-awards>. Be on the lookout for children to nominate. The process is very easy. The hardest part is finding recipients, but they are out there! Candidates can be found through news stories, social media, schools, etc....

We have also been challenged to raise money for the American Legion Child Wellbeing Foundation. The SAL has traditionally raised the most money for this organization in the past, but how great would it be for the Auxiliary to raise the most money this year! Send your donations to the Department of Ohio and make a notation that you want it to go to the Child Wellbeing Foundation. This will give Ohio credit. You could also purchase a purple T-shirt that shows you support Military Children. The T-shirts are \$20.00 and \$5.00 from each shirt goes to the Child Wellbeing Foundation and any extra money raised will be donated to the Judge Sara J. Harper Village. The design goes along with President Louise's theme. The T-shirt was designed by Army Veteran Samantha Burnette. She was deployed in 2014 and served in combat in Kendar, Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom. She proudly served her country 2012 – 2016 and then continued in the Army Reserves from 2016 – 2023. Samantha used her GI Bill and graduated from the Columbus College of Art and Design. Her specialty is equine art. If you find a need for her services, you can contact her – anotherhorseartistry@gmail.com. The Milton-Union High School business class will be pressing all the shirts for free. The T-shirts are pre-order only and must be ordered by December 14, 2024. See the order form for more details or email me at kristacarpenter115@gmail.com If you cannot print an order form, make sure you include all of the important information to send to me on a piece of paper and send it to me with your payment. I am not accepting any types of electronic payments. Get your shirt ordered now! By purchasing a shirt AND wearing the shirt you are supporting and promoting children and youth!

Kathy Linn, Legislative Chairman

pebbles0916@yahoo.com

The 119th Congress will begin January 3, 2025 and run thru January 3, 2027. I will be posting who are Senators and Representatives are!

At Mid-Winter, we will have petitions to sign to send to our Senators advocating for our Veterans.



National has challenged the legislative departments to increase participation in corresponding with our legislators through the Grassroots Action Center. This is our chance to make **OHIO** #1 not only in the Central Division, but at the National Level advocating for our veterans and military. The National Legislative Committee Challenge will run from **November 10, 2024, through July 2025** will track all the Action Center messages sent by the Auxiliary. I have faith that Ohio will be the best state per paid 2025 membership.

Please scan the QR code to get directly to the Action Center!

Example of Department Data for Quarterly Challenge Using data as of 11-6-2024 Membership Report & 10-23-2024 Legion Quarterly Action Alert Report

Wisconsin 1.32%

Missouri 1.16%

West Virginia 1.05%

Ohio 76%

Illinois 75%

Kansas 54% (President Trish Ward's Home State)

Iowa 25%

Michigan 21% - I will be in contact with Dawn Gramza from that state up north (aka Michigan) for a friendly challenge that will be "awarded" at our National Convention in August!

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

Provided by Pam Bates, Department of Ohio Parliamentarian

(in brief from <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/guides/basic-parliamentary-procedure>)

The Three Ways to Amend Motion

The correct way to start a motion...I MOVE THAT ...

1. To insert or to add (a word, consecutive words, or a paragraph).

Phrasing:

"I move to amend the motion by inserting the word 'consecutive' before the word 'terms.'"

"I move to add the words 'at a cost not to exceed \$100.'"

"I move to amend by adding the following paragraph..."

2. To strike out (a word, consecutive words, or a paragraph).

Phrasing:

"I move to amend by striking out the word 'every.'"

"I move to amend by striking out the words 'during the second semester.'"

"I move to strike out the third paragraph."

3. To strike out and insert (words) or to substitute (paragraph or entire main motion).

Phrasing:

- “I move to strike out the word ‘monthly’ and insert the word ‘annually.’”
“I move to substitute for the pending main motion the following...”

The Order of Business

- Reading and approval of minutes – approves the record of actions taken at previous meeting.
 - Reports of officers and standing committees – considers actions as recommended by an officer or committee. Any correspondence received should be read if not distributed prior to the meeting. A financial report is made at every meeting.
- Reports of special committees – considers actions as recommended by a group formed for a particular purpose.
- Special orders – considers items that were made special orders for this meeting or items required to be taken up at this meeting by provision in the bylaws.
- Unfinished business and general orders – considers items not reached when the last meeting adjourned or items postponed to this meeting.
 - New business – considers actions proposed by members.

WANT TO KNOW MORE: CHECK OUT APPENDIX B:
Fundamentals of Parliamentary procedure, Page 112, ALA Unit Guide

“If the Chair is an effective leader—focusing on the members, treating each fairly, earning everyone’s trust—then the meeting will be successful.” Hugh Cannon, Cannon’s Concise Guide to Rules of Order, P. 13

Do You Know Parliamentary Procedure?

Here is a little quiz to test your knowledge of parliamentary procedure. Mark a T (true) or F (false) in the blank preceding each statement. Please don’t look at the answers before you complete the test. How did you do...send to pamelabates9@gmail.com.

1. The president of a group should be in charge of the meeting.
2. In presenting motions, members should rise and address the presiding officer.
3. Motions should be introduced by saying, “I make a motion.”
4. You should not second a motion unless you rise, address the “chair,” and are recognized.
5. Committee reports which include recommendations need to be approved by the group through a motion, second, and a favorable vote.
6. Nominations made from the floor should always be seconded.
7. The secretary need not stand up when reading the minutes.
8. The secretary need not rise when calling roll.
9. The minutes of a meeting should be approved by a motion and a vote.

10. An amendment to a motion does not need to be seconded.
11. If the chairman does not like a motion which has been properly made and seconded, he or she can ignore it and call for a new motion.
12. Before every meeting, the president should outline a plan or agenda.

Kansas State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



VA&R

Marsha Giehls

As we approach this holiday season let's not forget our Veterans male and female at the VA Hospitals. If there is not a VA hospital close to your community find other opportunities to serve veterans in your area, Nursing homes, those that are at home or the homeless. Also do not forget the BE The One program. You never know when a Veteran just would like to talk so be willing to listen. Louise's project this year is the Judge Sara J. Harper Village in Glenville, Ohio which is for female veterans. Do not forget to include your Junior members in the things and events you do for our Veteran's. Have a fund raiser to support the VA&R programs. The National Creative Arts Festival, which will be in Indianapolis in 2025, is a great idea to have a fundraiser for. Remember, each dollar you raise helps a veteran in his or her quest for healing.

Honor Flight is another good program with which you can help. You can donate, volunteer to be a guardian (there is an associated cost to be a guardian) for a Veteran. You can write letters to the Veterans and get them to Honor Flight hubs and they will pass them out to the Veterans, as if it is mail call, like they used to have when they were serving our Country. They love to get the letters, and you can have your Junior members help with the project.

If you or your Unit has a special event or a fund raiser for our Veterans e-mail me what you have done. Be creative in your fundraising and let me know what you did to support this program. We should all remember that we are the L.E.A.V.E.S. on the trees and as members we can fill those trees with leaves and help our Veteran's so Let's Remember to Embrace All Veterans Every Season.

Service To Veterans
By Deb Sutterlin, Vice-Chairman

Service To Veterans is the acts of kindness that you do for veterans, their families, and caregivers that is done outside of the VA Hospitals. THIS IS WHAT YOU DO AS AN INDIVIDUAL. Please complete the SERVICE TO VETERANS form by each member to list what you do. This form is available in the Plan of Action. Please get a copy of this form now so you can write what you have done since May 1st , then you can keep the form updated as you continue to serve.

First off, I want to remind you of a couple of items. Prior to last year, you could not get credit for taking care of family members. That has changed! You get credit for 10 hours a week if you live with a veteran and you are his/her caregiver. This veteran can be a spouse, child, or parent but they must live with you. If you care for a parent, child, or related veteran the does not live with you, you get credit for 5 hours a week – provided you are not getting paid. Another point that I want to make. What you do for a caregiver who is taking care of a veteran, can be listed on this form. So, if you buy and take flowers to a caregiver (regardless of who that person is taking care of a veteran, put the cost of the flowers and the time spent taking those flowers to the caregiver and time spent visiting when you

deliver them. Also, if the veteran caregiver is taking care of a family member, what you do for that caregiver also counts. Another item: What you do for a surviving family member of a deceased veteran will count as long as it is within a grieving time (within a year to 18 months). Mainly this is to help a surviving family member to deal with the loss.

President Louise's theme is L.E.A.V.E.S. Let's Embrace All Veterans Every Season. You have already covered the summer with the activities you have done so now let us focus on the fall season. What can you do? Here are some ideas. All veterans can be recognized on October 26th Make A Difference Day. The veterans have made a difference in how we live and what we are able to do so let's do something to make a difference in their life with something special. Do you know a female veteran? Surprise her with a small bouquet of flowers or a potted mum. Remember that the small acknowledgements and acts of kindness are a part of Be The One. You never know the impact of what you do for another even though it may appear to be nothing.

Our November holidays and observances include November 10th Marine Corps Birthday and November 11th Veterans Day, Plan now for those special activities. More ideas for fall. Decorate a veteran's porch with a fall theme – pumpkins, leaves, scarecrow, corn, etc. Decorate a grave for a veteran (his/her spouse) or a veteran's grave with a couple of fall items. Many cemeteries are cleaning off the graves and removing the summer flowers. If the cemetery board doesn't provide that service, you could do that and decorate for the fall.

Currently many of our older veterans are dying, did you attend their funeral? Did you cook food for their funeral meal? Or maybe it was the veteran's spouse who died. Please write down what time and money you spent of the Service To Veterans form.

Wade Park Hospital
Pat Miazga
Wade Park Rep.
216-526-6250

I have had a lot going on at Wade Park this summer. We serve coffee on Mondays and the patients are always looking for our items we pass on to them from the many people who donate to us. On any given Monday they will find items like pens, paper, greeting cards, socks, lotions, etc. I have received lap blankets and already given a few out to our wheelchair patients who are coming in from the cold. I keep my supply cabinet as full as possible so if they ask for something I can get it for them. With winter approaching I purchase gloves, hats, scarves and warm socks. There is always a need for these items. Our Civic Engagement office is always reaching out for sweat pants and shirts along with toiletries. This year they are working on expanding their storage room so they will be able to have more space for the items the patients need. Some of our patients come into the hospital with nothing more than the clothes on their backs, and I'm happy to say we have purchased shorts and shirts along with pajama bottoms for them.

On Saturdays, I go on the floors to deliver whatever the patients need or whatever some of the floors are in need of. The Blind floor is one of my favorites, they always are in need of things that are different than the other floors. They usually only have a few patients staying there and rarely women but they are very independent up there.

The weekend of our Department Convention, I had food from Mission BBQ delivered to the Women's Clinic for the birthing class they have every few months on a Saturday there. The ladies appreciated the Auxiliary providing them

and their partners with a meal for this all day class. The money was provided by the Past Presidents Parley. This November 3rd I along with a few volunteers, are going to serve refreshments for the hospitals Last Call. This memorial service is held twice a year now. We will have coffee, water and pastries in the Atrium so families and patients can visit with each other after the service.

Covid is starting to go around on the floors, so they are asking any Units going on the floors to please check with the Civic Engagement office before going up to make sure they are open, and to mask up. If they are not open you can drop whatever you are taking up to them at the nurses desk and they will be sure to pass your donations along. With Veterans Day approaching we will again this year pass out flags. It was a huge hit last year and were gone within a matter of minutes. I am always in need of volunteers. Maybe you don't want to go every week, or at the times I go. If that is the case just get ahold of me and I will set up a time for you to come. In closing I would like to ask everyone to remember our Veterans in their prayers.

District Two

Deb Meyer, President

District Two held their Fall Conference on Sunday, October 20, 2024, at St..Henry Post 648. Thirteen units were in attendance who heard from the five major program chairmen. Mindi Rue was the guest speaker and brought greetings from Department President Louise. Mindi explained the Department's decision to go digital and gave advice as to how members could share the publication with those who do not use a computer.

The District President encouraged the units to send articles to be published in the Buckeye Messenger. She challenged all units to submit at least one article to be published this year. Units were given oak leaves to add to their pictures for the articles as District Two was named the oak tree by President Louise.

District President Deb Meyer discussed the importance of getting membership dues sent to the Department. At this time, the District has eighteen of the twenty units in the first incentive drawing at Mid-Winter. There are fourteen units that have hit the second incentive mark. She also discussed the ease it is to update membership renewals using ALA MIS. As of Friday, November 15th, District Two is in second place.

President Deb also covered several other items. She encouraged the units to update their Constitution and Bylaws and to follow their Bylaws as the a're written. She also told the unit the importance of donating to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) or holding a fundraising event in support of AEF.

This year District Two's raffle basket is "Cookie Baking." President Deb asked the unit members who would like to contribute a cookie recipe for the basket to send a recipe in an email along with why that recipe is special. She is hoping to make a book of the recipes from District Two for the basket.

It was discussed and decided to donate cookies to the Lima VA Outreach Clinic. At this time the District's awaiting word from the clinic for the okay.

Minster Unit 387 in District Two participated in the Minster Schools Veterans Day program.



Ann Ernst, Unit 387 Poppy Chairman, prepared poppies with a ribbon to pin on all veterans attending the program. Ruth Brookhart and Mary Stueve assisted Ann to make sure all veterans received a poppy.



Deb Meyer directed the sixth grade Girl and Boy Scouts in the presentation of the Colors before the program began. Diana Hausfeld, Unit 387 Americanism chairman, presented the Principal of Minster Middle School the Department Outstanding Middle School award for 2023-2024.

District 3

On October 14, 2024, Randolph Unit 707 had the privilege of presenting an American Legion Auxiliary Good Deed Award to Cash Wheelock. Cash was nominated for this award for his dedication to community service. In the spring of 2024, Cash, along with his 4-H group, held a food drive for Milton-Union's Bulldog Bag Program. Cash also regularly helps deliver the bags discreetly before school. In May, Cash visited the Randall Residence in West Milton to spread joy. He can also be found helping his dad pick up trash along their road. Cash is the son of Kenny and Jenny Wheelock. Unit President Melissa Emmons and Department Children and Youth Chairman Krista Carpenter presented Cash with a certificate, gift card, and a donation to give to Bulldog Bags in his honor. Cash was also recognized over the announcements at his school! What an outstanding young man!



District 4

Margie Hominy
4th District President
440-823-2515

Oh4thdistrictpresident@gmail.com

Greetings from the Fabulous 4 th District!

Fall is in the air, and as the “LEAVES” begin to fall, units are preparing to meet the needs of our veterans and communities, as well as our children and youth. As the cooler air, and in some cases, snow arrives, we recognize this is a time to collect items to help everyone stay warm and dry. We will continue to stock food pantries, donate cold weather items to our local Cincinnati VA, support our youth with coats, gloves and more. We will proudly wear our ALA attire to assure that the American Legion Auxiliary is alive and well and working harder than ever.

Our fall “LEAVES” conference was held at Victor Stier Post 450. The Auxiliary did an amazing job of hosting and welcoming everyone to the program. Our Department President, Louise Smerk graced us with her presence, and shared her vision for supporting the Judge Sara J. Harper Village in Glenville, Ohio. She also spoke of the “LEAVES” theme for this year - “Let’s Embrace All Veterans Every Season” Her thoughtful words were much appreciated. Thank you for all who attended.

We had a special performance by Blanchester ALA Unit 179 group “Signs and Sticks” who performed a wonderful rendition of “God Bless America” using sign language and sticks. They are an amazing group of men and women from the Auxiliary and Legion. Past presidents Marsha Giehls, Carmella Fugate, Donna Ray and Vicki Monroe will again assist units to reach their membership goals. This team brings much knowledge to our district and they are willing to offer support to all.



ALA Unit 218 Members Tracie, Marcy, Trish, Ellen and Shaundra from ALA Unit 218 assisted with Post 218 Golf outing



ALA Unit 179 Blanchester Auxiliary and Legion members performed "God Bless America" in Sign Language and Sticks at the 4th District meeting



Carol Jordan, ALA Unit 288 volunteered at Post 72 selling tickets for Bingo
4th District President Margie Hominy and ALA Unit 72 President Bev Williams volunteered in the kitchen at Bingo for the post.



Veronica Levoy, ALA 256, making "birthday cake boxes" for a local food bank in Fuquay Varina, North Carolina, so families who are struggling financially can still celebrate birthdays with their loved ones.

ALA Unit 256 members participated in their Annual Cornhole Challenge for PRG (Pink Ribbon Girls). Over the past 10 years, this event with the Loveland Eagles Auxiliary has raised over \$10,000



Fabulous 4th District Fall Conference
Joe Barr Unit 194 4th District
Recently had more of their 2024
Girl State Attendees at their meeting



District 6



MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY HAD THEIR ANNUAL MOMMA HELEN 31 CARD TOURNAMENT AND DONATED THE PROCEEDS TO TWO INDIVIDUALS FROM THE POST. PICTURED L-R FRONT ROW VICKIE SALYER, RECIPIENT DEB TOWNER, PRESIDENT LINDA STIER, RECIPIENT MAXINE SELDON PICTURED L-R BACK ROW JILL BOGGS, CHERYL HOMEIER, BEV WHITELOW



MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION UNIT 105 HELD A SCHOOL SUPPLY FOR THE LOCAL HELP HOUSE. OVER \$600 IN ITEMS WERE COLLECTED. PICTURED L-R BEV WHITELOW, HELP HOUSE ADMIN DEE HILEMAN, JILL BOGGS AND UNIT PRESIDENT LINDA STIER

MEMBERS OF THE UNIT ATTENDED THE HOME COMING OF WORLD WAR II PILOT US ARMY AIR FORCES 2ND LT JAMES MARRAH



District 7

Post 62 Auxiliary has had a very busy Fall for Children & Youth: (Some photos are attached)

First of course, **Buckeye Girls State** follow-up; we sent a total of 8 between our Post 62 Auxiliary 7 SAL to Girls & Boys State. The Post 62 Auxiliary held a pizza party for both candidates that attended this year that also have

applied for next year to meet and share their experience. The party was before our monthly meeting so attendance was great and it was really nice to meet the young ladies and give time for questions to make sure they knew what to expect if selected to attend next year.

After a direct request from a Auxiliary Member who is a school administrator about the need for supplies when kids go back to school and some show up with nothing, which is a terrible start to a school year. So our Post held a '**Legion Family**' **Back-to-School Supplies Drive with the Legionnaires, the SAL and the Auxiliary**. It was great to work together with everyone for this and to foster a collaborative mind-set for our post; which I was so glad to hear President Louisa talk about that subject at School of Instruction. We held a 'drive-up' drop off in the alley where our Post resides and offered lunch to anyone who made a donation that day! Between grilling out, providing some of the food, delivering things, boxing things, picking up things, it was a team sport for Post 62.

Thanks to having connections with local media outlets, I was fortunate enough to be on the radio and also a local media station that has a huge following with area High School sports to promote this. Along with tons of actual supply donations (over 30 boxes packed full) \$3,000 in monetary donations raised thanks to local businesses donating as well as our members being generous. A simple facebook event was created to share the list of supplies and an 'Amazon Wish List' was done (like a registry) that had all the supplies requested on there so anyone, which many did, could easily follow the link and whatever they wanted to purchase was sent directly to our Post.

These supplies went to Chillicothe City Schools and were slowly distributed so they were able to make an immediate impact at the start of the school year, but also to make it hopefully through the first few months as well. Some of the 'new' supplies that were requested if this collection effort is being considered were wired earbuds, clothing in case during the day someone is in need of a clothing change that may not have those resources and also pencil eraser tops since the pencils last, but the erasers are always the things that go first. (flyer attached and happy to create one for anyone interested with their information on it.)

For **Make-A-Difference Day** our Auxiliary did a solo school supplies drive to help continue the efforts, which has been done for many years, many of our members were school teachers, and they focus on the schools in our county schools for this. The Post 62 Family Back-to-School Drive gave the Auxiliary \$560 to make sure they could get a good start. Those items will be delivered before the Thanksgiving holiday, so they can be available when the kids return from their holiday breaks for the teachers.

Our Post does a **Halloween Party** for the kids, which is always such a wonderful time, the Bar Manager and our post members are a big part of this. Hard to get a headcount (b/c they don't hold still..lol) but close to 50 kids were able to join in the fun. To get help for the actual day of the party, I contacted Bishop Flaget Catholic School, to see if they had any kids that would be interested in volunteering. We were thrilled that 8 middle-school age kids from their school volunteered time on their Saturday to help set-up, clean-up and with the games/activities for the party.

The **Halloween Parade** is a really popular thing in our area and our entire Post 62 Legion family gets together to make the float, which is such a wonderful time! To help with the current massive expense of candy, The Auxiliary donated money to help fund what was handed out during the parade. Some of our Auxiliary members walked and danced in the parade as the 'Witches of 62', again, another really great time AND OUR POST ENTRY WON FIRST PLACE! We had a 'DJ' on the back of the float for us and we played fun songs and the kids (and parents) were singing along the entire parade route. It was so nice to see their smiles and even though it was something simple, it was wonderful to get some really amazing ladies together and create some magic for those kids!

In another branch of Louisa's tree, if you will, a personal goal of mine is to keep getting our children & youth involved in local assistance that our veterans are able to take advantage of.

One of which is our local **Good Sam Food Pantry**. Bishop Flaget Catholic School is going to volunteer, some of these kids are **Junior Members of our Post or others**, to help unload for the shipment that will arrive on 11/25 to the food pantry. This truck (possibly trucks) is one of the largest influx in inventory the pantry receives annually due the Thanksgiving holiday. The kids and their teachers as well are going to be able to help unload and help organize

the warehouse and also pack Thanksgiving meal boxes so they are ready for the pantry patrons. We have many local veterans and members of our Post, including Auxiliary members, who volunteer their time there and most are retired, so they were thrilled to receive help from the 'youngsters'. *SIDE NOTE: These kids found out that the pantry is having trouble sourcing canned soup and some other dry goods so they are doing their own collection as well as for can openers.*

I hope this finds you well & just wanted to pass along what Post 62 Auxiliary was doing for District 7 and the Ross County area.

Thanks so much & have a wonderful holiday!



District 9



Unit 7 Brewer-Tarasco Junior Auxiliary & Community Service Chairperson, Debbi Jordan presented a check in the amount of \$300 to Hannah's Home.

Hannah's home is a non-profit, faith based, maternity hone for single pregnant young women ages 18 and over and their children. They provide a nurturing environment designed to provide the strength and encouragement needed to face the future in positive ways. The program helps set goals, continue an education, pursue employment, prepare for childbirth and plan for the future. They focus on four different areas of life: mental health, physical health, spiritual health and emotional health. The goal is to provide hope for lives that are hurting and broken and to let the know that life can look different.



Delegate Jessica Gajendran is on the left.
Alannah Estvander is on the right. Maribeth Hannon is Chair of BGS Unit 214 Willoughby.

Willoughby Unit 214 delivered school supplies to four Willoughby schools.
Supplies valued over \$700, THANK YOU to all that donated.
Diane Woerner, (left) and Cathy Kramer, Chair Education Committee (right).



District 10



Patriot Day Honoring Heroes in Dillonvale OH

Patriot Day has come to mean we honor those we see as heroes. For our small part of the world this includes our Volunteer Fire Department, EMS services and Police. Pictures, handshakes, hugs and lots of smiles keep bringing history to life so this National tragedy is never forgotten. In turn, it becomes tradition.

We can never let this day slip from our memories. Too many lives were lost and many more were forever changed. Thank you just seems to not be enough!

Picture taken by Auxiliary Chaplain, Cheryl DeYarmon. Left to right: AL member Chuck Ebright, Auxiliary President Sharon Sands, DVFD Christopher McVickers, Assistant Chief DVFD/EMS Mike Skatula, Squad Cpt EMS/DVFD Ashley Cichon, Mt. Pleasant Police Chief Jon Young, AL Commander/ Adjutant Michelle Hedgecoke, AL Finance Officer Dan Cermak, AL member Tom Hutkay, AL Chaplain/First Vice Frank Santa and AL member George Harrah Jr.

District 13

Cindy Boehnlein, President

District 13 held their Fall Conference on Sunday October 6th. Thank you to Unit 2 for their hospitality and to Unit 610 for providing their hall for the event. Our special guest Department 2nd Vice Mindi Rue gave an inspirational speech on the how to of P.R. She also stressed our continued support of the “Be the One” initiative and the 90-minute course partnered with Columbia University, to save a veteran’s life. All Auxiliary members were encouraged to take the course at www.legion.org/advocacy/BetheOne. She also encouraged all to fully support Dept. President Louise’s project for the Judge Sara J. Harper Village for homeless at-risk female veterans.

The District Chairman gave tips on reporting and suggestions of what to focus on in their different chairmanships. It was suggested for all the members to go to the American Legion Education Institute and take the Basic Training Course to learn about how the Legion got started and the formation of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. This is found at www.register.legion.org/alei. Special District President certificates will go out to the units that report in their VA&R year end submissions, participating in the BE the One course and/or the Legion Basic Training course.

In honor of Dept. President Louise’s Theme, Let’s Embrace All Veterans Every Season, District 13 was assigned the Willow tree. You would think a weeping willow? No, it is a tree that stands in all its beauty, swaying in the wind and going with the flow of change, as our veterans’ needs may change daily. It is a reminder that we may change and bend as needed to serve our veterans. Artificial willow branches were distributed to the units, with a sign that reads: Willows, District 13 Ohio. All units were encouraged to use these as props at their meetings and include them in their photos they put out on social media. I can’t wait to see all the new projects Dist. 13 comes up with.

The Wade Park VAMC Cleveland will be starting the Birthday parties again, and Sunday November 3rd, will be the “Last Call” event to honor those that passed at the hospital the past 6 months, at 2:00pm. Contact Rep. Pat Miazga if you would like to help.



President Shirley Kessler of Unit 2, opening the District 13 Fall Conference



A picture of the willows and sign for District 13.



Unit 2 - The University Circle pic with police:

August 17th, Unit 2 donated a wagon full of school items for the Stuff the Cruiser event for underprivileged children of the special needs school in University Circle, Cleveland. 153 items in 13 categories for the "Give 10 to Education" were delivered. Featured are the University Circle Police and Unit 2 member Cindy Boehnlein.

District 14

L.E.A.V.E.S. are blowing all over the 14th District with all its programs. The District FALL School of Instructions was a huge success with 13 of 15 Units present for a total of 34 Auxiliary and 6 guests. We were honored to have our Department President, Louise Smerk with us. Our room was completely decorated in LEAVES, even the ceiling lights had LEAVES in them. Ravenna Unit 331 even had a beautiful color tapestry on the wall of a tree of life for pictures which was presented to President Louise at the end of the meeting.

With our new Auxiliary year just starting, that didn't stop the Units from having events during the SUMMER. Windham Unit 674 had a benefit dinner for the 16 year old grandson of a veteran. He has stage 4 cancer. They were able to help out the family with medical bills and anything else they needed.

Streetsboro Unit 685 was able to finally have the veterans from Wade Park come down for a steak dinner. The 1st visit was canceled because of tornado warning, but last month they finally arrived and had a great time with lots of goodies for them.

Garfield Memorial Unit 566 collected money to give to all Coventry School to help pay for lunches so no kids went without lunch. They also collect pop-tabs and crown royal bags. They helped with a fundraiser for one of our Auxiliary member who has cancer. We raised 10's of thousands of dollars for her. Over 100 raffle baskets were donated & many 50/50 raffles.

Acker-Moore Memorial Post 175 in Stow help fill a semi-truck with much needed donations headed to NC to help with devastation caused by Hurricane Helene.

Firestone Memorial Unit 449 helps yearly with the a Poker Run called "Bikers for "Boobs" for breast cancer awareness. Many bikers participate every year.

Charities Inc. gave us \$1000 this year and we divided it between Freedom House in Portage County and Valor Home in Summit County. We bought comforter/sheets sets and USB port lamps for Freedom House and \$500 gift cards to restaurants and Walmart for Valor Home.

Wendell L Willkie Unit 19 donated to Portage County Animal Shelter, collected blankets and towels for pups and Kitties and Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary—donated a collapsible red wagon and some blankets for the pig.

VA&R-- \$500.00 to EMT Daughter of recently deceased veteran to help with her nearly 2 month hospital stay and living costs.

That is only a few of the things that our Units have been doing. They have many FALL programs and activities planned in the next few month that will take us into the WINTER season. We will keep all those L.E.A.V.E.S. blowing in our district to support all the Auxiliary programs.



Kathy Linn and Cindy Masowick met up with Diane Woener and Sue Fratino from Unit 214 at Volunteers of America near Wade Park VA Facility.

Unit 685 donated women and men's clothing. They also donated a \$200 Michael's gift card to purchase material for their Art Therapy Program.

Pictures also was items purchased as a group effort between units in District 9 and Unit 685.



Wendell L. Willkie Unit 19 Akron

#1 New Member Sandy taping boxes for Kuwait Soldiers #2 National Night Out Against Crime. Handing out patriotic goodies to all the kids. #3 Summit County Stand Down. #19 Past Commander Louis and Unit President Michele with Akron Mayor Malik. #4 Items in boxes for soldiers



Unit 19 delivers winter coats and wellness bags to Freedom House in Kent.



Past 14th District Presidents meet for a little Christmas fun. Kathy Burkhammer- soon to be Past, Lori Shields, Cyndi Underwood, Cindy Masowick, Michele Sandridge, and Gail Roddy.



Ryker Kray helped Post 803 veterans distribute candy at the Aurora Trunk or Treat on October 26th. He aided his grandmother Sue Kray, ALA Unit 803 Chaplain



Windham Post #674 recently made treat bags for K-4th Grade for our local elementary school.



Michelle Tomasulo, John Tomasulo, Aux Members - Deb Garrison, Jayna Suchan, Cindy Suchan-Rothgery-President, Sandy Borovicka, Nancy Yari.

Jayna is our newest Junior member.



On Monday November 11th, VETERANS DAY, Becky Sharp, ALA Unit 803 President and Sue Kray, ALA Unit 803 Chaplain visited residents at the Atrium, an assisted living facility in Aurora. During a short program they read the words to Taps and handed out patriotic commemorative items.



Lee-Bishop Unit 464 - Hudson - District 14
A donation was made to Challenge America which provide music therapy and guitars to veteran for their mental health
Mary Chase - spoke on program
Pat Hall - ALA 464 - program event chair

Lee-Bishop Unit 464 Hudson - District 14
Veterans Day Program - Danbury Senior Living - Hudson
Helen Soblosky, Cathy Williams, Sandy Borovicka, Jim Garrison, Barbara Mansfield, Cindy Rothgery



BE

ETHE

ONE



Buckeye Messenger

December 2024

Department of Ohio

Issue #1
