

INFORMATION FROM HEADQUARTERS
Website Edition
Volume 1 Issue 1

FALL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

August 25-31 – National Convention Salt Lake City, Utah

SEPTEMBER – MUSIC MONTH

September 4 – Labor Day – Department Headquarters closed

September 23 –24 – DEC Austin, Crowne Plaza Hotel (formerly the Red Lion), 6121 IH 35 N & US 290 E, Austin. The Auxiliary will be in Ballroom ABCD for the DEC on Saturday and Sunday. The agenda and a reservation form for the Hotel is posted on the website.

September 26th 1st Target Date – 55% of Membership

OCTOBER – EDUCATION MONTH

October 9– Columbus Day – Department Headquarters closed

October 31st – Halloween

NOVEMBER – POPPY MONTH - THINK ABOUT POPPIES AND THE POPPY PROMOTION! ORDER POPPIES!

Remember, if you have not paid your Poppy 1/3's from the last Poppy Promotion you will not be able to order Poppies (Dept. C&B Article VII, Section 15.) This form is also available on line at www.alatexas.org. Click on the forms link.

November 11 – Veterans Day,
Department Headquarters closed November 10

November 18 — President Robbi's Homecoming in Converse at her post home in Converse. Information and Reservation Form is on the website. Hope to see you there!!!!

FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT ROBBI

The Department Convention in Plano was absolutely wonderful. My hat is off to Vicki Pollard, and Lavada Newell, our convention chairmen, who pulled this affair together. The hotel was super and could not have been more accommodating. The 100 plus degree heat was a bit much, but Hey its Texas in July and we don't shovel snow in my part of Texas. I cannot believe how excited I was to be elected your Department President. I was bouncing off walls and jumping up and down. I would have danced on tables if any had been available. Thank you so much for all the friendliness and kindness to my family. They were so impressed by all of you.

My overall theme for this year is "To Inspire To Achieve." I believe that when the inspiration is there, one can achieve anything. I am constantly amazed by what our membership does in all the programs we have. I am a great believer in using our talents for good.

I have attended the Baseball Tournament in Irving. What a wonderful experience that was. The banquet for the 4 teams was great. It surprised me when the young men came by and thanked all of us for supporting this program. They even let me throw out the 1st ball at the opening game. It was a perfect strike. I don't care that it bounced; at least it went over the plate. An Auxiliary unit sponsored the team from Uvalde. Ladies, we are allowed to sponsor baseball teams. You can check out the rules on the American Legion web site.

I look forward to this year and all the challenges we will face. There will be many changes as we move more and more into the 21st Century. All the report forms will be mailed to the unit presidents. The plans of work will be available on the web site. For units that absolutely have no way of getting to the internet, they will contact their District President to arrange for a printed copy.

My membership theme for this year is "The Treasures of Texas, the Lone Star State." I consider everything a treasure so will be interested to find what you believe are the treasures of Texas. I installed officers at the Stephenville unit. The Post home is a treasure in itself. The ladies had decorated with flags and wildflowers and even a beautiful picture of Longhorns. My welcome basket included things that had been made within 25 miles of Stephenville. They got it.

Membership is flourishing. I have met with the Post in Lumberton to discuss organizing a unit there. District 2 has chartered one new unit and is working on two more. They are truly closing the gap. This is going to be one of our goals this year. The American Legion has over 200 more Posts than we have units. I find it hard to believe that there are that many Legionnaires that do not understand what we do in our support for the veteran. I am available at any time to meet with any post to discuss what the Auxiliary does and why it is beneficial to have an Auxiliary. I want to know why the Posts do not want an Auxiliary. The only acceptable reason is that the members are all single orphans without siblings.

We have a good team in place to inspire, to achieve and to accomplish the aims

and purposes of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Robbi Ruppert

UNITS THAT HAVE NOT CERTIFIED: At the DEC, the District Presidents will receive membership packets for those units that have not sent in their certification of unit officers. District Presidents; please distribute these membership packets at your Fall Conventions.

PLEASE SHARE THIS BULLETIN WITH YOUR UNIT MEMBERS: Remember any member can receive a complete bulletin by sending a request and \$15.00 to Department. The form is available on the forms link.

DISTRICT CONVENTION CALLS. – The blanket call for all District conventions is in printed bulletin along with the Delegate Certifications. Please mail these certifications to your District President. Units should be receiving detailed information on these conventions from their District President.

ACTIVITY CHAIRMEN: Please remember the September 8th deadline for your Plans of Work so that we may have them printed and ready by DEC. All plans must be in electronic format.

CHAIRMEN: If you wish to have an article in the bulletin, you must have it into Department by the first of the preceding month. This excludes membership, which is every month. If there are any questions let us know. This article/information must be in electronic format.

NEWS FROM NATIONAL: The first renewal notices have been mailed from National. Members should be receiving their renewals in the mail now.

The ALA benefits sheet is not allowable for mailing in the packets. If you would like copies of this information sheet to share with your new and renewing members, just let us know and we'll send you some via 1st class mail.

LIST OF SUPPLIES: The supply lists are posted on the website under the forms link.

MEMBERSHIP: The majority of Certification of Unit Officers has been received, which means most of you have received your membership cards. The goals for 2006-2007 are shown on the membership reports. When a member in your unit changes their name, address, or telephone number please let us know as soon as possible so we can update our records and inform National of the changes. Also please let us know as soon as possible when member in your unit dies, so we can notify National. Don't forget to send the changes by using the Member Data Form.

ATTENTION UNIT PRESIDENTS: Please let us know immediately if your address, phone number or name changes. We need to keep this information as accurate. Remember to send this information to the office via a Member Data Form. We are collecting e-mail addresses. If you wish to be added to the list, please send us your e-mail address.