

INFORMATION FROM HEADQUARTERS

Website Edition

February / March 2007

Volume 1 Issue 4

FEBRUARY

AMERICANISM MONTH

February 19

Presidents Day Department office closed

February 1-28

First Girls State Registration

MARCH

COMMUNITY SERVICE MONTH

March 3-7

Awareness Assembly—Washington DC

March 1-14

Second Girls State Registration

District Spring Conventions Begin

March 15-17

American Legion Birthday

March 15-31

Third Girls State Registration

APRIL

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MONTH

April 1

Fourth and Final Girls State Registration if quota is not filled

April 15

Deadline for reports to District Presidents

BITS AND PIECES

- Unit Presidents, please pass the information on to the other members in your units. We depend on you.
- Order forms for the Department President Treasure pins, Sweepstakes tickets and membership T-shirts are available upon request. Just let us know and we'll get the forms to you. We urge everyone to buy, buy, buy.
- **990 INFORMATION:** All Units should file a 990. If the Unit takes in under \$25,000, only the first page needs to be filled out. The IRS wants this for information purposes. If a Unit takes in over \$25,000 follow the instructions. No matter how much a Unit makes —File a 990. Please Note: the group exemption number to use on the 990 is 0964. If your unit has not received a Form 990, you may obtain one by: (1) Contacting your local IRS office and requesting one or (2) you may write and request a form from Central Area Distribution Center, P.O. Box 8908, Bloomington, IL 61702-8908.
- **Bond Information:** The 2006-2007 Bond Fee is due and payable. Due to postal regulations governing non-profit bulk mailing we cannot mail the form in the bulletins. Units that have not paid will be contacted and provided forms in which to send in their unit's bond fees. Remember, this is an obligatory fee. All units are required to pay their bond fee.

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- **Poppy Information:** The form for ordering Poppies for the Spring of 2007 was included in the last bulletin. If you need an order form, please call or e-mail your request. The order form is also available at our website, www.alatexas.org
- **Christmas Assessments:** A listing of unpaid Christmas Assessments for 2006 is included in the mailed bulletin. If your unit is on this list, please send in your Christmas Assessment to Department as soon as possible. Remember this money is used to give every hospitalized veteran \$5.00 at Christmas. This is an obligatory fee. All units are required to pay this assessment.
- **Spring District Convention** information is included in this bulletin. Please try to attend your District Convention. This is the year the odd numbered Districts will be electing a new District President and Vice President. It is very important for your unit to be represented and have a say in these proceedings.
- **A Gift Card Order form** is included in the mailed bulletin. Spring is almost here and that means weddings, showers and graduations. Order early and often to avoid delays. The order form is also available via e-mail or on the website.
- **Reminder:** 2008 Unit Data Forms were sent out in the Dec/Jan bulletin. This form is due into Department Headquarters by Feb. 15. This information is forwarded to National so that National Headquarters can print the 2008 renewal notices for our Senior members. If we do not receive this form, National could possibly use inaccurate or outdated information. Please do not mail this form to National. The form is available on the website.
- Membership is updated on Tuesdays and Fridays. Many forms and the Plans of Work are available on the website.
- Roster changes and additions are listed in the mailed bulletin.

Our Friends say "Thank You"

Ruth & Elroy Peters say "Thanks for the prayers, thoughts, and phone calls. Everything helped."

Past District President Nancy Guthrie says, "Words cannot begin to express my heartfelt appreciation for all your thought, prayers and cards for the loss of my Dad. Thank you again so very much."

Past Department President Mary Lahaie says, "Thank you, dear friends, for your prayers, cards and e-mails of encouragement during my grandson's illness."

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A Prayer Because We Care

Past Department President Wanda Potter passed away on January 6th and her husband, Mack passed away on Jan 3rd. Their daughter Sue is staying with family in Everman. Condolences may be sent to Sue at the address listed in the mailed bulletin.

Past Department President Lone Kubby is in a rehabilitation center in the Wimberley area. Everyone knows that Lone would enjoy cards and letters from her auxiliary family. Lone's address is listed in the mailed bulletin.

7th District President Kim Palasota writes that her mom, Jo Robertson, has been diagnosed with "non-small cell carcinoma", a very aggressive lung cancer. Please keep her in your prayers. Jo is a past District 7 president and Past Dept. Sgt-at-Arms. Jo's address is listed in the mailed bulletin.

Constitutional Corner

Preamble Quiz

1. What is the introduction of the Constitution called?

2. The objective/purposes of the American Legion Auxiliary is to:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

3. How many words compose the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary? _____

4. When reciting the Preamble, which is proper?

a. . . . To participate in and contribute to the accomplishments of the aims and purposes of The American Legion;

b. . . . To participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion;

Our goal is for everyone to properly recite the word accomplishment not accomplishments.

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Fill in the blanks from memory. Answers may be found in the UNIT HANDBOOK.

For God and _____, we _____ ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and _____ the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain _____ and _____; to _____ and perpetuate a _____; to preserve the memories and incidents of our _____ during the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of _____ to the _____, _____, and _____; to combat the autocracy of both the _____ and the _____; to make right the _____ of might; to promote _____ and _____ on earth; to _____ and _____ to posterity the principles of _____, _____ and _____; to participate in and contribute to the _____ of the _____ and _____ of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our _____ by our _____ to mutual helpfulness.

From the Desk of President Robbi

Winter came to south Texas and I nearly froze. Icicles were hanging from everything. It is an unusual experience to see cities the size of San Antonio and Austin close down for three days. I had just returned from a visit with the Auxiliary in Zapata where the sun goes for the winter and trust me it was on vacation.

Girls State is upon us. This is such a wonderful program. If you have never sent a girl, consider it this year. If you send one every year, why not try for two. If you need help in getting started with this program, contact one of the Girls State Committee, your District President or me. I have heard some interesting stories about methods of funding this program. Some units are soliciting donations from the American Legion, civic clubs and local businesses.

During February, so many units and posts are remembering the Four Chaplains. The programs that I have seen performed are magnificent. No one can fail to be touched by the memories of these gallant chaplains. Three of the Chaplains were young men but Reverend Fox had been under fire in World War I, before he became a minister. All four remained calm, assisted the troops, gave away their own life jackets to soldiers who had none and then linked arm in arm on the deck of the sinking ship as they prayed for the safety of the others. When last seen they still stood together as the sea closed over their heads. I commend those posts and units that take the time to remember the four chaplains.

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As I gear up for the remaining part of my year, let me remind you all that I can't come to visit unless I am invited. My schedule is on the web site and I only wish that it were possible for me to get to every unit and every district.

I had the special opportunity to serve as one of the finals judge at the Chili Cook Off at Post and Unit 593 in Converse, Texas. This is a wonderful way to make money for our projects and to have a very good time. Besides I got all that wonderful food.

The Treasures of Texas are continuing to make this organization proud. We are working the programs and continuing to inspire and to achieve.

Robbi Ruppert, Department President



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Get in touch with those non renewing members so we can reach our target of 95% by March 27th

WE KNOW YOU CAN DO IT!

Keep Searching for Texas Treasures!!