

## INFORMATION FROM HEADQUARTERS

### Website Edition

August / September

Volume 3 Issue 1

### AUGUST

August 23-28          National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona

### SEPTEMBER – MUSIC MONTH

September 1          Labor Day          Department Headquarters will be closed  
September 20 -21    DEC Austin          Crowne Plaza Hotel

### OCTOBER – EDUCATION MONTH

October 13          Columbus Day      Department Headquarters will be closed  
October 31          Halloween

### NOVEMBER – POPPY MONTH

November 11          Veterans Day      Department Headquarters will be closed

### INFORMATION FROM DEPARTMENT

**Units that have not Certified**      As of this printing, 70 units have not certified their officers for 2008-2009. Because of this, their 2009 membership cards are still being held at Department Headquarters and are zero units. Those units are not receiving the bulletin as we don't have a point of contact for them.

#### **Think about Poppies and the Poppy Promotion      Order Poppies**

The order form is available on line and printed in the mailed bulletin. Remember, if you have not paid your Poppy 1/3's from the last Poppy Promotion you will not be able to order Poppies (C&B Article VII, Section 15.)

**District Convention Calls.** The blanket call for all District conventions and the Delegate Certification is available on line and was mailed in the printed bulletin. 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 3rd deadline for your Plans of Work so that we may have them printed and ready by DEC. All plans must be in electronic format.

**Activity 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.

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**DEC** will be the 20-21 of September at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 6121 IH 35 N & US 290 E, Austin. The Auxiliary will be in Ballroom ABCD for the DEC on Friday night, Saturday and Sunday. Please contact the hotel for reservations at 512-323-5466.

A REMINDER that our mailing address is

PO Box 140407

Austin TX 78714-0407

We are still getting correspondence that has been forwarded from our old address. Please use the PO Box on all correspondence. Forwarded mail can cause delays in membership processing and unit/individual donations.

**MEMBERSHIP** There are still many Certifications of Unit Officers that have not been sent to Department Headquarters. This means there are approximately 70 zero units because the 2009 membership cards have not been mailed. The goals for 2008-2009 were included in the printed bulletin and are available by clicking the membership link on the website.

**Membership Target Dates**

<b>50%</b>	<b>Tuesday, September 23, 2008</b>
<b>75%</b>	<b>Tuesday, January 27, 2009</b>
<b>100%</b>	<b>Saturday, May 23, 2009</b>
	<b>President Mickie's Birthday</b>
	<b>Special Target Date for Texas</b>
<b>100%</b>	<b>Wednesday, November 19, 2008</b>
	<b>Mickey Mouse's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday</b>
	<b>Close of Books All Time Highs</b>

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**NEWS FROM NATIONAL** - The first renewal notices will be mailed in September.

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

**Attention Unit Presidents:** Please let us know immediately if your address, phone number or name changes. We need to keep this information as accurate as possible so that we may get in contact with you and so that you will continue to receive the bimonthly bulletins. 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.

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 of your deceased members, so we can notify National. Don't forget to send the changes by using the Member Data Form.

### **FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT MICKIE**

If you missed the Department Convention in Corpus Christi, you missed a great convention. The weather, for one, was beautiful (just a tad bit humid). All the Auxiliary and Legion functions took place in the Auxiliary hotel- which made it very nice for those of us staying there!

I want to express my THANKS to everyone who stood by me these past 2 years; my unit 81, my 5<sup>th</sup> District, and all my many friends and supporters. *Glenda Gallop and Betty Basden* being two of them. And thank you **ALL** for showing me your support by electing me as your Department President for the term 2008-2009.

My *Special Project* this year is "**Our Texas USO's**"

My *Motto* is "**Serving our Veteran Warriors through the USO**"

I'd like to see every Unit make at least one donation to one of our **Texas USO's** this year. If you don't have a USO in your city, then please donate to the USO at DFW Airport, Dallas. This USO is the busiest in the state with 200-250 troops inbound from Iraq and Afghanistan, and another 200-250 deploying back to Iraq and Afghanistan – every day. So, supplies need replacing every day.

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There is also a wonderful reading program for each soldier deploying. The Dallas USO video tapes him/her reading a book to their child, and talking to them. The video, and the book are then mailed to the child. The family's' response is indescribable! (new children's books needed)

Addresses for our USO's are listed in this bulletin, in addition to more info on *servicing our Veteran Warriors*.

Before donating funds, be sure and make a "copy" of your check, and forward your check "copy" to department, so we can keep track of accumulated donations. Let us show our Veteran Warriors just how much the Texas American Legion Auxiliary supports our troops 365 days a year.

**MEMBERSHIP!** Goals have been lowered this year, and that said, I know we can make 100% for Department for 2009. Each unit has a goal of just "2" over what they obtained for 2008.

**The key is to contact each one of your members NOW.** There won't be a National renewal notice until September, so it is up to each unit, to do their own mail outs, if you want to meet the 1<sup>st</sup> target date of 50% September 23<sup>rd</sup> -don't sit and "wait" for membership to come walking in –send out a dues notice, with a stamped self addressed envelope, **NOW**. It will be worth it. It isn't just the "other units" that make 100%..... YOU CAN TOO!

**My Membership theme** is "*The Wonderful Patriotic World of Auxiliary*"..... there is Mickey, Minnie, Donald, Daisy, Goofy, and Pluto – and Pooh, Tigger, Piglet, and Eeyore – and Cinderella, Snow White, Belle and Aurora – and Alice in Wonderland, and Tinker Bell! They're all going to be there to help us reach 100% membership!

I hope to see everyone make the 50% goal by DEC **AND** no 'Zero" units by DEC.

Mickie Prendergast

Department President