

## INFORMATION FROM HEADQUARTERS

### Website Edition

December 2008 / January 2009

Volume 3 Issue 3

### **DECEMBER – VA GIFT SHOPS – The Gift Shop schedules are posted to the website.**

Dec. 24 –Jan 2 Christmas and New Year Holidays

Department Headquarters closed

### **JANUARY LEGISLATIVE AND NATIONAL SECURITY MONTH**

Jan. 5 Department Headquarters opens

Jan. 1 Deadline for Hotel Reservation – Midwinter

Jan. 20 Deadline for Pre-registration for Mid Winter

Jan 24-25 Midwinter Conference

### **FEBRUARY AMERICANISM MONTH**

Feb. 1 First Girls State Registration opens

Feb. 16 President's Day - Department Headquarters closed

### **BITS AND PIECES**

- The 2010 Unit Data form is posted to the website. Please fill out and return by February 15. This form is **VERY IMPORTANT**. ***Please send in this form***, even if your officers or dues do not change. National will use the information to print the renewals for 2010.
- **Registration forms** for Mid Winter are posted on the website.
  - Pre-Registration is \$20.00 and on site registration is \$25.00. Come and learn and meet your Southern Division National Vice President.
  - Come to Midwinter and visit our new Headquarters. A flyer will be posted to the website and is included in the mailed bulletin.
  - The **Hotel Registration form** for Mid Winter is posted to the website. ***Cut-off date is January 1, 2010.***
- **GIRL'S STATE**
  - Girls State packets will be mailed this month in a separate mailing.
  - Unit Presidents, please pass the packet on to your Girl's State Chairman
- **CHRISTMAS ASSESSMENTS**
  - We still have Units that have not paid their Christmas Assessment. If your unit has not paid, please do so immediately. A list of unpaid Christmas Assessments is included in the regular bulletin and posted to the website. Remember this money is used to provide our hospitalized

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veteran's a Christmas gift of five dollars (\$5).

- **PRESIDENT'S PINS** are on sale now! An order form is included in the regular bulletin. Order some today!
- **NEXT TARGET DATE** January 27, 2009 75%  
The Castle is anxiously awaiting those renewals and new members.

### From the Desk of President Mickie

We're starting off the month of December with 72.04% in membership..... good job ladies. Second District President Arliss Castle is still in 1<sup>st</sup> place, as is Second Division President Marty Peters.

I know everyone is working hard to reach our goals and it doesn't go unnoticed. You ALL are appreciated so much. I just have to ask one more time. PLEASE *talk to, go visit*, or what ever it takes! and get those ZERO units on the books. "Someone" in each unit is most likely 'holding' some membership- as their members have received notices and may have sent in their dues to the unit. Also, we must realize that if they still aren't certified, they aren't receiving anything from Department- *like my messages*. (Because they are not on the roster). So, it is up to the District Presidents to make *personal contact*. AND, if the District President is not doing this - it becomes the Division Presidents job.

Remember..... these Zero units are not only "not in good standing", but after Dec.31st, they are *delinquent*, and lose all their benefits.

Since DEC I have been traveling, traveling. Fall conventions, VAMC hospital tours, VA carnivals and parties, Cancer Research luncheon at MD Anderson, and the Annual Veterans Day program in Mineral Wells, and now the Christmas gift shops and VA Christmas parties..... And I love every minute of it!

Thank you to all the units and members that support the gift shops with their money, gifts and/or time. This is such a wonderful thing we do..... making it possible for those hospitalized veterans to "shop" for their families even while they are confined to the hospital. Here I am wrapping Christmas gifts at the VA and I haven't even wrapped my own families..... and I LOVE IT! It is *definitely* more blessed to give than receive. You can see it and feel it at Holiday time at the VA hospitals.

### And also AT THE USO'S!

Thank you to the units that stepped up and jumped right in when I sent out the request from the Dallas USO for Christmas packages to the sometimes forgotten troops, that are out in the country side in Iraq and Afghanistan eating MRE's. These are the troops that have no "comforts" of home.....

Also, thank you to those that have donated to our **Texas USO's**. My special project..... "Serving our Veteran Warriors through the USO" takes on a new meaning

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this time of year. Some soldiers, sometimes, get stranded at the airport because of bad weather *somewhere else*, and the USO, being their home away from home; will provide sleeping accommodations, meals etc.

Thank you to all who have donated so far..... Remember to be sure and send a copy of your check, or some kind of notification to Department, so we can keep account of donations. And "wear your Texas USO pin"!

Reminder Mid-Winter is just around the corner. January 23-25 @ the Austin Omni Southpark.

We will be having a *new and interesting program*. We are also having an open house and tour of the new Headquarters. I'm looking forward to seeing you all.

I wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

"Serving our Veteran Warriors through the USO".

*President Mickie*