

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Oregon

BE THE ONE

2023-2024 Fall DEC
Klamath Falls
October 29, 2023

BOOK OF REPORTS

Department President
Catherine Brockmann

Department President
Book of Reports
Fall DEC 2023

What a fabulous start to this year! I have been blessed with getting out into communities, working with Units, and promoting everything good the American Legion Auxiliary helps accomplish.

I can't say it enough....being seen in public, wearing branded items, is a great way to strike up conversations with random people. This will give you the opportunity to explain who we are and what we do to help our veterans, communities, and youth. We want others to know the important work we do, hoping they would like to help as well. Never miss a chance to promote this organization.

So far this year, I have had the opportunity to travel parts of the state, meet new members, and reconnect with those I've not seen in a while. I must say, talking to members about all the ways they're helping their veterans is one of my favorite parts of being at a Unit. There are so many ideas out there for working the programs, we definitely need to share more when we're together!

Attend those community events wherever you live, as there is always the potential to find new members. I love working events, and have had the pleasure of working a Legion family table at two Hops baseball games and helped support the Legion family at the Grand Prix of Portland. Our focus at these events was letting everyone know they can 'Be The One.' Everyone can help destigmatize asking for mental health support. We can all ask a veteran how they're doing, listen when they need to talk, and reach out when they are struggling.

It's also important to support our family programs. I was able to attend the closing ceremony of Boys State this year, and spoke to multiple parents about getting Girls State running again. It was a great opportunity to promote our program coming back this year, and those parents will help spread the word to get even more girls involved. I also attended the Jim Willis Law Enforcement Career Camp Graduation Ceremony. Another opportunity to meet and promote the programs to the high school students.

Training happens in many different ways. I attended the Oregon Legion College this year. It was a fabulous day where the entire family was together learning about the different programs, and how we can help each other. Watch for training opportunities and try to take advantage of them. We are working on trainings to be held this year, some of which will be virtual. Watch for more details as we get things firmed up. If you are in need of specific training, please let your Unit leadership know, because maybe someone at that level can help. If you need more than can be gotten at your Unit, reach out to the District President and we'll see what kinds of training are needed.

It's been a great first quarter! Keep working membership, work together, and always be kind!

Catherine Brockmann
Department President 2023-2024

American Legion Auxiliary
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Vice President/Membership Chairman

I hope everyone is well and excited about this year as we truck our way to 100%. It has been a slow start. Getting our numbers each week and renewals going out late, put a temporary roadblock on us but we are on well on our way now.

We have 3 units that are over 50% and on their way to 100%. They are Banks #90, Earl B Stewart #16, and Ontario #67. Congratulations! Don't forget our incentives. Units making 100% by December 31st will be in a drawing for \$100. Units making 75% will be in a drawing for \$75 and units signing up 5 new members will be in a drawing for \$25. Who will be our winners? If you have a unit that has had or is having a membership drive, please let me know. I would like to recognize them for their dedication and to our veterans and our organization. Do you have a unit that is struggling with membership? Let Department know and we will get in touch with them.

Department President Catherine Brockmann is supporting the "Be the One" Campaign which is our charge to prevent veteran and she has stressed how we need to get the word out on this important program. I too feel strongly about this program, and I look forward to working with her in making this program and our Department successful.

What a great weekend! Beginning with the tour of the Oregon Air National Guard Base on Friday October 27th and then off to be at the Fireside Chat at the Shilo Inn with our Western Division National Vice Commander Randy Edwards of Utah. These were two great opportunities and those that attended enjoyed them very much.

Yesterday's Be the One Walk was awesome! We need to be doing these across Oregon to make sure every community is aware of what we do and what they should be doing as well. We also had training at 2pm where we met our new Girls State Director and heard what she has planned for the program this year and moving forward. It will be an awesome year for Oregon Girls State!

I have been working with the Roseburg VA and Linda Liebenow on getting supplies for Roseburg. I got the approval for \$500. I received a list of items that are needed, and I will be shopping over the next week or so for the items and get them delivered. I will report on what I was able to provide once the shopping is completed. I am currently working on getting the clearance to be a Representative for the ALA at the Roseburg VA. It has been a challenge, but I will continue to pursue it. We need to be in there to help those veterans.

On September 14th I met President Catherine at Department to look over the goal numbers for this year. I know everyone is disappointed that our goal numbers went up, with National raising our goal and loosing 7 units we had no choice but to distribute the numbers among our remaining units. These numbers are still attainable if we keep our units informed, recognize them for their hard work and we will be a 100% Department.

President Catherine and I are having a conference call twice a month to keep each of us up to date on what we are doing, upcoming events and deadlines etc.

I hope to see you at Klamath Falls. Remember these DEC's are for all members, not just officers. It is a great opportunity to be informed about what is going on in the Department, talk with officers and build our family relationships.

God Bless our active military, veterans, members, and our beautiful United States of America.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Soria
Vice President/Membership Chairman
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Oregon
2023-2024



District 1 Meeting
September 16,2023

It was great to see everyone, and we had 8 out of 10 Units that attended. We started out with membership, how and why it is so important to our Units and to the Department. We recognized we have many members with 50+ years in the Auxiliary.

We did not have a chaplain yet, so I put it out to the auxiliary to step up and be a part of our team. When I got home there was a message that she wanted to be the chaplain. Our District 1 chaplain is Joanne Ostlund.

We talked about Be the One and suicide prevention month. The newly elected National President Lisa Williams has also made Be the One as her theme and initiative this year. I was able to throw Poppies in the conversation. I asked if they needed poppies for this year, now is the time to order them. I will discuss this a little more in my Poppy Report.

We talked about the chain of Command. We do not want to flood Dept. with issues that should be taken care of within our Units then to the District President and if it cannot be resolved we would take it to DEC. Also, if you have any questions about the different programs we have please go to the chairman of that program. We talked about having responsible officers within our Units so that we could keep our Units safe from any issues that might come up. There should be audits done each year. Reports should also be sent in on time. We had Linda Liebenow talk with us about VA&R, we had Connie Smith talk about Girls State and Sheri Russell talked about Americanism. Our next meeting is December 16,2023 at the Tigard Post.

Aloha

July – Unit 104 participated in the Hillsboro Days 4th of July Parade. We grilled burgers and hot dogs at the post and had a BBQ. The Auxiliary dinner on the 12th was Chicken Pot Pie Casserole. We raised approximately \$200. Total Volunteer hours for the unit were 53 hours. August – We hosted our annual post picnic. Summer is slow for us so no other events were held this month. Our Wednesday night dinner on the 9th was Chicken Quesadillas. Total volunteer hours for the unit were 55 hours. September – We held a breakfast on September 10th to celebrate NFL opening day. No other activities for this month due to the post closing for the last 2 weeks for some needed repairs. We hosted a Wednesday Night Dinner on the 13th combined with the Legion and SAL which was Chicken Enchiladas. Total Volunteer hours for September will be 62 hours.

Argonne #56

We don't have anything to report for July. In August we had our annual Post picnic in which auxiliary members including myself helped serve food, and cleanup after.... It was a great turnout! September brought the start of our meetings again, our monthly taco Tuesday and Trivia the last Saturday of the month. We also donated \$200 to the local elementary school Archer Glen for their "fun run" in which money collected goes towards helping provide school supplies and lunches for children in need. We also voted to donate \$550 to the VA gift shop and are excited it will be open this year! September 18th our post is holding a remembrance dinner for members who've passed away over the last year, the auxiliary is helping cover the cost for food as it's a free dinner and will as always be involved with prepping dinner and serving!

Unit 90 update for July-September 2023:

On-going activities for July, August and September are hosting the 4th and 5th Post's Thursday Community Bingo nights.

The Auxiliary contributed \$500 toward the purchase of a new refrigerator for the Post.

July is our prep month for the two large annual August activities for the Post. We purchased a sandwich board and designed/purchased two large signs to advertise our August Member Appreciation dinner. These will be updated with new dates for future dinners. We had great feedback on the effectiveness.

Our annual Member Appreciation Dinner had a large turnout...over 50 attendees. Lots of food, door prizes and bingo. The auxiliary helps organize this joint Legion and Auxiliary event and pays for most of the food, door prizes, and decorations. This year the parents of the 8th grade citizenship award winners volunteered to help us set up and they attended the dinner. The annual Banks Parade float was decorated, and the 2 citizenship award winners joined 6 of the 5th grade Poppy Poster Winners on the float, throwing out candy. We displayed their names on the float for further recognition.

Cannon Beach #168

In June we held our Sandcastle Breakfast as part of the Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest. This was well received with many people donating hours. In July we had our annual Garage Sale. It provides funds for supporting our local veterans. We asked for donations instead of pricing each item, the result was more receipts than in the past several years. Our members and friends gave 162 hours of their time in support of this major fundraiser. In August we brought back our Craft Fair. Our vendors were excited to be back. The outside parking lot of the Post was filled with a variety of artisans. We are continuing our Bake-less Bake Sale fundraiser. It has proved to be more successful than the regular bake sale we had in conjunction with our Craft Fair in the past.

Clapsop #12

In August. We had the VSO at our meeting, and he gave us some local names that we could work with, they have a meeting on the 1st and the 3rd of the month. As soon as the ladies that are on vacation come back, we are going to make it out there, at Camp Rilea. Sept. our dinner was Brats, German Potato salad, sauerkraut. I have not kept track of all the times that I called bingo or taken care of the money. we are planning a bake sale and crafts in November. We are looking into finding families to help in the upcoming holidays.

Hillsboro #6

Hillsboro Unit 6 has been very busy this summer during our summer meeting hiatus. Unit members volunteered at the Hillsboro Saturday Market, helping to staff the Legion Family booth. We gave out small flags to the kids and took in flags to be retired. We shared new flags with anyone who requested one to put up at their home. We also handed out poppies. The Auxiliary participated in the 4th of July Parade. We didn't have to do a float this year, so the auxiliary walked behind the flag bearers. We hosted a free, hot dog event for the community at the post following the parade. Our hamburger/hot dot nights continued in the summer. It was so much fun to see everyone coming out to be together on warm summer evenings. Our big event of the summer, the Elephant Garlic Festival in North Plains in early August, was a success. The entire legion family came together to volunteer and serve roasted garlic at the festival. The weather was wonderful, and everyone who participated had a good time. Our unit is back meeting now in September and we are gearing up for a productive year.

Lois Larsen #68

We didn't have any meetings this summer, but we did a few community events. July came and went for our unit as many of our members were enjoying the first of summer. For the month of August, we participated in a vendor booth at the Clatskanie Festival. We had information about our unit and had applications on hand to give to those interested in joining our unit. We also had momentary donations that day. For the month of September, we will have our first meeting on Monday, September 18th at the post. Piercing Arrow Private School has moved locations and is still under construction and organizing the rooms. I am hoping to hold the October meeting at the school's new location at 6pm. We will be in full swing by then and hopefully adding new members too.

Seaside #99

In June we installed our new officers. We were happy to see fresh faces step up for leadership positions! Like many Units, our slate of officers doesn't change much year to year, so we are excited to welcome three first timers this year: Treasurer, Linda Benjamin; E-Board Members at Large, Patti Hail and Sandy Williams. We had two members represented at the Department Convention in North Bend. We had fun and learned lots. We held no business meetings in July or August. Our first meeting is next week, September 21. We continue to host weekly Tuesday Taco's, which is our most consistent fundraiser. The Unit also hosts dinner one Saturday each month. In August, our President attended National Convention in North Carolina. We have processed membership already and have signed up at least two new members!

Tigard #158

Our members continue to partner with the Legion on Post food & beverage operations, grounds maintenance, foodbank distributions and fundraising. One member helps create quilts for the Quilts of Valor program. Our members donate bottles & cans to Bottle Drop with all funds going to the ALA AEF. Our members are responsible for cooking & serving dinner the 2nd Saturday of each month but also assist with most of the other meals served at the Post. Over the summer months members helped beautify the Post grounds by planting annuals, pulling weeds, pruning shrubs, sweeping & raking tree debris. Members also scrubbed & painted the outside BBQ, buffet & dining areas. While our monthly Saturday dinners typically net \$300 - \$400, we earned \$800 from our August dinner due to the inclusion of a raffle with 15 very nice items. We held a rummage sale in September, earning \$1,085. Our members' volunteer time for veterans in this quarter is estimated at 1,500 hours.

Washington #2

On Monday, July 3, Post and Unit 2 decorated the float for the July 4th parade. The parade was well attended by post and unit members. We handed out flags, candy, and painted rocks to spectators. After the parade, several of us joined Post 6 for a potluck where hotdogs were served to members of the community

as well as legion and auxiliary. July 15th, we held another rock painting for veterans' event at our post. We had 6 people attend and got lots of rocks painted to put in our rock kindness house. July 18th, we provided snacks for the Post 2 legion meeting and shared information about upcoming events. Friday, August 25 Sheri and Dianne flew to the National Convention in Charlotte, NC and were pages for the department of Oregon. It was a new experience for both of us and it helped us wrap our minds around all the programs we offer and the impact we have. On September 14, our painting group will be meeting at Tiara Neal's house to paint rocks for veterans and the community. On September 16th our unit and post will do the color guard and posting of colors for the Corn Roast Festival and will also have an informational table to share information about who we are and what we do. On this same day, Dianne and Sheri will be attending District 1 meeting in Astoria. On September 19, we will be providing snacks for the legion meeting as well as sharing information with them. Our unit meeting had to be postponed to September 23rd due to Sheri and Dianne having covid.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Standing
District 1 President
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508-688-4068

District 2 Report
October DEC – Klamath Falls
Gregoria Hernandez, District 2 President

Unit 20

Have not heard from them at all. Have sent texts but no reply.

Unit 21

Some of our members continue to visit our veterans at the care facilities. Auxiliary members helped with a community event Richard Bert sponsored Oregon Brew and BBQ in McMinnville .

He presented the Auxiliary with a check as appreciation for all we do he said. Unit 21 treated all the fathers to breakfast on Father's Day amount paid was \$393.. July 4th Auxiliary volunteered time and salads and desert for the picnic. August 19& 20t Auxiliary members volunteered at the Harvest Festival at the Heritage Museum. We also came together and helped our Legion Rider family with their scholarship poker run. Every month on Friday we have prime rib night all Post Families take turns so sometimes we fill in to help when needed. Two scholarships we're awarded in the amount of \$1500 each. Unit also sponsored a student with the amount of \$250. to send him to law enforcement course (LECC). First Saturday of the month is Cancer Bingo and at the end of the year proceeds collected go to Cancer Facility in McMinnville. Auxiliary members run the bingo very Sunday as well. We also had potluck Dist.2 first meeting here. Auxiliary members also attended 911 Remembrance held in Sheridan Post 75 it was truly a day to honor all those that lost their lives and pray for those still suffering the aftermath. We also attended a District 2 first ever Potluck BBQ held at Red Oaks Farms it went very well about 40 attended 9 Post and 4 Units were represented. Hopefully, next year will be even better.

Unit 57

It's been my pleasure to be involved with Scout Troop 9265, a girl troop from Scouting BSA, as Committee Chair. This year, we were awarded District Troop of the Year. Our troop has doubled in size. We have 2 Eagle projects completed. We'll welcome our second Eagle Scout this spring! We Assist with placing flags in Newberg 14 times a year. On major holidays, we meet at the flagpole (the big one as you come into town from the north) waving flags, displaying all the services and the Legion family flags. The community either joins us at the flagpole or drive by honking their horns and waving. American pride!

Community involvement in Newberg Old Fashion Festival, making hats for school kids or blankets for the police to have at an accident or fire. Providing fellowship for our Legion Family, neighboring Legion Families. We have a summer picnic at Carlton and our biggest event was the district 2, 1st Annual Picnic. 9 posts and 4 units were represented. Our family goal is to reach out to all posts/units to help support each other. Many hands make light work. Our potlucks are inclusive to vets and their families. Fundraising. Youth activities are supported by pop can recycling, Visa cards for baskets it is the season! We've been supported by the Harvester Restaurant in St. Paul, a spaghetti feed.

Turning in volunteer hours is very hard for some people! Free lunches during the summer.

Helping Fernwood Grange with community events. I know what they do...if only we could count those hours.

Here are our hours:

Youth=55 Americanism=73 Veterans=483 Community=365

Respectfully
Dana Speer
Unit 57 President

Unit 75

911 Remembrance was a great turnout. District 2 Commander Mike and District President Gregoria were present at the ceremony.

Afterwards had a chili feed for all in attendance and a cake. We continue to have Bingo. Auxiliary puts lunches together for the homeless.

Unit 89

Participated in the Mt Angel 4th of July parade also took part in the opening ceremony for the Mt Angel October Festival in

Mid - September. We attempted to do some recruitment during the car show at the October Festival with little success.

We finally completed our project of a Bereavement Quilt (3years in the making 😊). We are working on repairing/replacing.

the Little Free Library we sponsor and are trying out hand at hosting a station at the first Halloween Candy Trail in Mt Angel

focusing on Americanism with hopes of this becoming an annual event. We kick off our Poinsettia/Christmas Cactus sale for our fundraiser begins in October.

Unit 110

NA

Unit 122

NA

Unit 136

NA

Unit 173

Put out flags for July 4th, Help the legion with Derby Day fundraiser/feed. Put out flags for 9/11 Prep work for legion haunted house (in October) Helped with Spaghetti feed.

For God and Country
District 2 President
Gregoria Hernandez

Fall Book Of Reports

October 2023

District 3

The year is getting started. Our District meeting was held September 9,2023 in Springfield. Very small turnout. Our Girls State Chairman, Connie Smith attended and filled us all in on what plans they have so far, very exciting.

I have been able to visit some of the Units. Myself and Suzanne Driver installed officers at Unit 83 .

Albany Unit #10 was busy over the summer months. They continued to provide breakfast at the Post for our Veterans. Manned booths at both the Linn County Fair and Art and Air Festival. They made some contacts and plans are being made for a drive by dinner fundraiser. This is an opportunity to work with local schools and encourage younger families to join the Post family.

Plans are being made for the Fall Bazaar and Veterans Parade.

Cottage Grove Unit #32 has two summer rummage sales. With the proceeds they purchased gift certificates for our Veterans and community members in Assisted living.

They had 5 volunteers that put in many hours.

Lebanon Unit # 51 continued to stay busy in the summer months. They have actively been searching for Junior members. They would like to have an active Junior unit. In August the Auxiliary helped at the Post summer picnic. Members served. Auxiliary members hosted all the family games and karaoke. Kids raffle was held. The proceeds helped to fund the Children and Youth program.

Members participated in a downtown city clean up, collecting trash from the streets surrounding the our Post and parking lot

The unit collects cans, bottles and scrap metal to support the Children and Youth programs.

We provided food and beverage at two memorials. One of the memorials was for a 51 year member and Past President of Auxiliary Unit #51.

Florence Unit #59- Spending time with Vietnam Veteran, taking to meals and running errands in 3 different counties. Baking, coffee and just spending time with those who need someone to listen, Working local Food Banks.

Working at the Veterans Café. Knitting hats, making quilts and delivering them.

Reading to our Veterans, doing laundry delivering lunch. Two canes were donated by a brother of one of the Unit members and delivered. \$65.00 worth of Ensure was donated to Food Share.

Eugene Santa Clara Unit #83

VA&R stand Down had 18 volunteers to set up, sort and man the booth at te event. Welcome Home for Honor Flight -6 volunteers. This Unit had 6 outdoor events 2 Chicken BBQs, August Yard sale and September car show. They helped host the September outdoor Bingo and volunteered at the Fish Fry. They are assisting in raising funds for their new building. It will be one floor and Ada accessible. Stars and Stripes Banquet is a huge fundraiser. As of tis report they had sold 15 out of 20 tables @\$1000.00 ea. and hoping sell all of them.

These Units are all busy with fundraisers, working their programs and working membership.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bobbi Peebler

District 3 President

Fall DEC - District #5 Book of Reports

Klamath Falls, OR

October 29, 2023

Ginny Williams- Dist. #5

Hood River #22 - Membership has not been turned in because they have never received renewal letters.

Chris Schulz #71 - No report

The Dalles #19 - The Auxiliary assisted The Legion with their Stand Down on August 20th, with 5 hours' time each for both ladies. They also had a booth for information about the TAL, ALA, and SAL.

It is hard to do a lot with no Post home to have dinners or meetings.

Steven Chute #4 - In July they lost a very special lady that was on the Charter to open the unit,

They held a Celebration of Life for her. In August they held their annual BBQ, The officers were installed.

September brought them to a new home for their meetings. They will be meeting at the VFW Hall.

Karen Banks had the opportunity to attend the National Convention and gave her report at the meeting. She presented a young man a Youth Hero Award in helping find a fallen hiker(deceased) with his drone.

La Pine #45 - The Auxiliary challenged The Legion, SAL and ALR to donate \$150.00 each to help buy school supplies for School. They received \$600.00 to donate. They had a baked sale and made \$125.00.

ALA, The Legion and SAL had a booth at Pioneer Days, they reached out to about 71 people with information about The American Legion Family. Sent reinstatement forms along with payment, now waiting for feedback. Standing rules have been updated.

Crook County #29 - In July and August, they purchased \$300.00 worth of school supplies to go to the FAN rep for the Crook County School District. They also filled 3 backpacks for students returning to school who had no supplies.

We were contracted by the National Guard to help a soldier who was in Prineville following the sudden death of a parent and needed to return to Montana. The request was for gas money-we were able to donate \$150.00 and an additional \$150.00 from our post, she was able to return to Montana.

At the end of August/First of September we held our annual Hot Dog/Bake sale. We work closely with our local grocery store and many volunteers, so we were able to raise more than \$600.00. Later in September we received another request from The National Guard for groceries for a soldier who lost his living arrangements and was temporarily staying at the Armory. Crook County#29 was able to provide a \$100.00 gift certificate for our local grocery store.

The unit continues to do a "Grab & Go" dinner the first Friday of each month. All proceeds go to our varies programs. (thank you to Nicki and Helen). We also received a \$500.00 donation from an Auxiliary member to be used as we need.

We were also contacted by our local Partnership program that coordinates gifts and food for the less fortunate in our community at Christmas time. We have committed to help those in need and will have more information in our next report,

Thank you to all the Units who sent me their reports. Love you all!

Ginny

FALL 2023 DISTRICT 6 DEC REPORT
OCTOBER 29, 2023
BY MAGGIE LA MONT, DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT

District 6 has started out slow this year and I have not been able to visit Units because of my husband's illness. Have a visit schedule on 10/10 at Milton-Freewater Unit 24

Listed below are things the Units are busy with so far this year. All Units are meeting and planning events. Their Unit reports are:

- Athena Unit #130 no response.
- Lone Unit #95 In June they served a School Staff appreciation luncheon on their final day of work. In July they hosted 2 hours of Bingo during the 4th of July celebration. The attendance was very good, as it was hot, and they enjoyed the air-conditioned Legion hall.
- George St. Denis Unit 140 - no response
- Hermiston Unit 37 Margaret Wetterling was elected the President following the extremely unexpected death of long-time leader Cathy Stolz. On June 29th, they held a Memorial Dinner with both the Auxiliary and the Legion to give folks the opportunity to share memories of Cathy. Her brother Gary and wife Marilyn along with Cathy's god-daughter Tressa and family were in attendance.
- La Grande Unit 43 has a new member who has been a huge asset to the Unit. They lost an Honorary for life member. They were able to start providing the Va clinic with snacks again with coffee and supplies. The VA Clinic is stocked up now along with a new coffee pot, so far they have spent \$1,010.81. The Legion Family was struggling with the cost of burger supplies and a generous benefactor stepped up to help us continue. The Legion does burger on the first Tuesday and the Unit does the third Tuesday. Pizza is served with people bringing something to go with it on the other Tuesdays. The Auxiliary Burger crew has donated 60 hours. The Post needed two trees taken out for \$1,125, The Auxiliary split the cost. The Auxiliary purchased a Dyson upright and cordless vacuum for \$799.70 and they help pay maintenance cost with the Post as it is their home too. Their yearly audit was complete and passed with only a \$.10 correction. The new budget was presented in the August meeting and will be presented again in September. The 2024 paid members were 20. The Annual golf tournament (6-2&3) had 11 volunteers plus a couple of Legion Members for 130 hours and 400 miles for the two days of work. They have a volunteer that cleans the Post every Friday for 45 hours. Two members collected Back to School Supplies at the Dollar Tree and took to the Armory for the National Guard families; 2000 items were collected and delivered; 11 hours and \$109.00 was donated in backpacks; 50 miles were driven. Upcoming events are a Chicken Fried Chicken dinner on October 21, the annual Fall Bazaar on October 28th, and lunch after the Veteran's Day Parade on November 11th. Many Members and Spouses have health issues and may affect our events, but we continue to serve our Veterans.
- Milton-Freewater Unit 24 does not meet in the summer months so nothing to report.

Unit that are of concern are

1. Athena Unit 130 is a concern as we have not been able to attend a Unit meeting for years. They are still working of the remodel of their Post.
2. Geo. St. Denis Unit 140 does not have 10 members, they have no follow through.

DEC Fall

District 8 President

Trudie McGriff 10/2023

As our year started membership was coming in. We are down to three mighty Units who work hard in a lot of programs. Our membership chairman has started and working hard to get us to goal.

Units in district 8 do a lot for our veterans. Donations to Wy East Veterans Transition with dinners once a month and to Camp Withycombe. Also helping at Camp Kennedy with donations and even haircuts for the veterans.

The summer brought on Post clean ups and every Post Auxiliary and SAL and Ryders pitched in and worked hard to get their Post ready for the 2024 year. Dinners being served for our programs such as VA&R help a family dealing with cancer plus our communities. Getting ready to work on Girl State and looking forward to the upcoming year.

Lunches served for WWII/Korean/Vietnam/POW veterans. Always a great turn out and what a nice job they do. Units help with Post projects with both volunteering and monetary donations. We all work together as a family. Each member supports Post, Auxiliary, Sal, and Ryders and it's so good to see the unity.

Proud of all of District 8 members of all family members. It's so nice to see how everyone comes together. Let's keep up the good work and show others how all members can work together.

District 8 President Trudie McGriff

Fall Greetings to everyone,

District #9 has been busy, and it doesn't seem like they are going to slow down anytime soon.

Earle B Stewart #16 helped with the County Fair and helped the veterans in any way possible. They are my coupon queens and are currently sending the coupons to Japan. They pass out lap robes and blankets to the veteran's wherever they go. They participated in the local Standdown. On September 26th, they attended a Job Fair in Canyonville for 2000-3000 students to help the students with selective service, colleges, jobs and while assisting veterans. They will also assist in a job fair in Roseburg to help veterans find jobs. They are also getting ready for Christmas; they are gathering toys for the National Guard Party and a boutique in Sutherlin has been crocheting gifts for the veterans. They are also preparing for the VA Christmas Gift shop.

Bay Area #34 has scooped ice cream for 2 different festivals. (That's a lot of ice cream) They had a joint picnic with the Elks and a district meeting all in the same day. For Halloween, they will be passing 1000 coloring books and candy. They are planning on holding a Craft/Bake sale on the First Saturday in November. They are also having their Annual Veteran's day Dinner as well as a joint Christmas party.

Currently, they are working on their membership.

Keep up the great work!

For God & Country,

Frankie Trask

District #9--President

District 10 Report
October DEC – Klamath Falls
Linda Schmidt, District 10 President

Americanism: Three units reported Memorial Day activities at local cemeteries such as veteran graves decorated with flags, crosses or poppies, poppies distributed at the cemetery gate, and a table staffed at the cemetery chapel with extra flags, poppies, maps and veteran markers for visitors needing assistance. Harney County #63 donated \$200 to the Kiwanis Fireworks project and \$25 was presented to a local Americanism Essay winner. Ontario participated in a special memorial dedication for Gold Star Mothers, this dedication was during National Commander Seehafer's visit.

Children & Youth: A monthly \$25 donation is made to the Shriners Hospital. Ellis Tracy supported their local police's Safety Training in school; they also donated towards a radio program: Halloween Safety.

Community Service/Fund Raisers:

Several units reported community projects such as community calendars built and distributed, monthly yard sales, SHIBA Counseling, Medicare 101 training and Senior Center office and meal volunteers. Donations were made for Senior Center meals, hygiene products, OPB and Save-A-Stray. A special "Welcome Packet" listing was placed with the Harney County Chamber of Commerce, along with their yearly auxiliary membership. Harney County donated \$200 to their Unit's human-trafficked survivor for country-wide tapings held in the Portland area to educate female prisoners. Vale continues to help the Legionnaires by booking the rentals of the Post Hall for community needs. The Ellis Tracy Unit (John Day) now uses the Post Home as a collection area for donations to their Christie Young Memorial Fund which takes in care baskets and funding to help their local elderly community. Ellis Tracy also used the radio for Thank You's to all active and retired military personnel and First Responders.

Poppies: Harney County distributed poppies at several locations over a three-week period, raising \$1,234.34. \$25 was given to their local poppy poster winner.

Service to Veterans & Active Duty: Monthly \$50 donations are made to the National ALA Foundation. A potato bar and auction, with tables rented to outside vendors, was held at the Burns Elks to raise funds for the Post Building Fund repairs, to date \$2,300 has been presented to the local Post.

Units in Ontario, Vale, Prairie City, John Day and Burns had the honor of participating in events for National Commander Daniel Seehafer, Aide Mike Rohan, Department of Oregon's Commander and President Cory and Catherine Brockmann, Oregon NECman Kevin Owens and Alternate NECman Gene Hellickson during their September 24-26 visit through District 10. Thank you to all the ladies for working side by side with their Legionnaires to make this all happen.

My District meeting was held July 29 in Vale. I also attended the Albany Training Session in Albany in August.

Thank you to all the wonderful members we have here in District 10; I am fortunate to be able to know and work with all of you! 😊

AMERICANISM REPORT FOR FALL DEC, 2023

I am happy to announce that we have received our Star-Spangled Kids Kits from national headquarters. They were able to do this because of a grant they applied for last year. These kits were sent to each department and are to be used as a springboard for ideas of what to do for Americanism. There is not enough items for every unit.

We had our first zoom meeting and it was over an hour but went by so fast. We brainstormed ideas of how to get in front of kids to promote this and came up with the following:

1. School flag etiquette presentation
2. Do a flag burning ceremony at the schools
3. Hand out flags, coloring books, comic books at events
4. Host events for kids at the unit
5. Partner with libraries and local parks to do presentations
6. Boy and girls scout group presentations
7. Boys and girls club presentations
8. Have junior members do presentations to their classes
9. Meet with history teachers to give presentations about the constitution
10. Have an open house and hand out information, flags, etc.
11. Reach out to home schooled kids

I sent an email with a challenge stating that for the 1st 20 units who do something (big or small) for Americanism and send me what they are doing with a photo between September 1 and May 31, I will give them a Star-Spangled kids kit for their unit.

I have already had 1 unit, Mt Angel, send me what they are doing along with a photo of the flyer. I also requested photos that I will submit to the National Americanism Facebook page.

The Americanism Essay contest question for this year is: What does freedom mean to you? The essays are due to me by March 15th. The essay cover sheets can be found on the national website under Americanism and HAVE to be legible so they can contact the winners. These essays start at grade 3 &4 and go up to grades 11& 12. There is also a special needs category. The units need to fill out their information on cover sheets before giving them to the schools.

This ends my report and I am so excited to work with everyone! Thank you for this appointment.

Sheri Russell
503-407-3116
sheri.russell1@gmail.com

Auxiliary Emergency Fund
Cyndi Dahl chairman

I have had no communication from National Divisional Chairman nor the National Chairman for guidelines this year.

Please donate to NEF. This program is to render aid to our members. Include it in your budget next year.

Please report to me your District and those Units that have donated to the National Emergency Fund.

Let your Units know what the program is about. Have them read the bulletin.

If they have any questions have them contact me. 503-396-2860.

Cyndi Dahl

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF OREGON

For October 2023 DEC Meeting Book of Reports

The Education and Scholarship Bulletin for 2023-2024 was sent to all Units in Oregon. The bulletin highlights information about scholarships, literacy (including "Give 10 to Education"), and programs supported by the Auxiliary, e.g., Veterans in the Classroom, Educating the Children of men and women of the National Guard, and Supporting American Legion Education Programs.

I am in the process of providing information on scholarships and programs available to local high schools in the next couple of weeks.

In August I had the opportunity to sign into a zoom meeting with the ALA National Education Chairperson and others. They provided lots of great ideas and information that we will be able to pass on to our applicants.

Suzanne Driver, Chair
5050 Columbus SE Unit #232
Albany, Oregon 97322
Email : beaver1940@aol.com
541 979-2426 (Cell)
541 926-5567 (Home)

Legislative – Dept. of Oregon
Book of Reports
Fall DEC – Oct 2023

Legislative Activities July through September

- Attended one national, pre-convention Legislative Zoom Meeting – August 9. Vol Hours: 1
- Prepared and forwarded 2023-24 Legislative Committee bulletin to Department for distribution to Units. Vol Hours: 2
- Responded to three calls to action from American Legion Grassroots Legislative Action Center, related to sharing the 118th Congress Legion Legislative agenda with Oregon Representatives and Senators. Vol Hours: 0.50
- Responded to one Unit's request for information on signing up for legislative alerts. Vol Hours: 0.25
- Requested and received assistance from Department Admin Assistant to share the Central Division's Legislative Newsletter with all members via Department communication. This newsletter encouraged members to sign up for legislative alerts so they can make their voices heard about paying our troops in the event of the looming government shutdown. Vol Hours: 0.50

Tracy Peets, Legislative Chairman

tracy.peets@att.net

541-778-0115

National Security Department of Oregon
Fall DEC – October, 2023

Yvonne Drury, Chairman - 541-390-4231
63521 Boyd Acres Road, Bend, OR 97701 - ydrury47@gmail.com

This year I endeavor to get contact information for National Security Chairs for every Oregon Unit in order to keep all Units apprised of the opportunities to serve our mission through this program.

Per my Year-End National Security Report for 2022-23, ***“For some reason, National Security is a relatively misunderstood part of our American Legion Auxiliary committees. Not until I accepted the chairmanship for this committee, did I delve into the information on ALA’s National Website and learn that many of our units are working this program all the time, but don’t realize it.”*** National Chairman, Barb Washburn felt these words summed it up, and quoted me in her report at the 2022-23 National Convention.

Last year, I requested all Units to send me the contact info for their National Security Chair or at least the President. I relayed monthly reports from Division and National Chairs to the responding Units, sending program ideas, award information, and other data to help the Units. **Unfortunately, only 4 Oregon Units responded.**

Unit President, please email or text me the name of your Unit National Security Chair as soon as you can. Staying in contact with the Western Division and National Chairs, I see they are hardworking ladies, willing to help our Units be their best by sharing ideas and providing valuable information.

Now that we are settling into months other than summer, we can begin our work in earnest, and I hope to be able to assist Units as they are looking for ways that are suitable for their Unit, no matter what size or what opportunities they have.

Please also read the Department of Oregon National Security 2023 Bulletin for easy ideas to implement this year and increase the public awareness of your presence in the community.

Mid-year reports will be our next request, so please send me an email message (doing the program or not), submit the questionnaire, **add me to your Post/Unit newsletter email list** (you’ve already done the work...tell us about it!)

Call or email me anytime...I’m here to help.

For God and Country,

Yvonne

Yvonne Drury, Chr.



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Department of Oregon Poppy Program

Dianne Standing- Chairman

Greetings to everyone, as most of you know I am from Forest Grove Oregon, Washington #2 and serve as Vice President/membership. I love all we do for our Veterans, but my passion has always been the Poppy program, I have been Dept Poppy chairman now going on 3 years and my passion for it has not gone away it has increased, I am also Poppy Chairman at our Unit. This year has brought me great pleasure working with our Unit and creating a brand-new look at where we are in Forest Grove. We are still reaching out and encouraging our Veterans and our community with our Rock House. We are working with the theme of the Legion and Auxiliary this year "Be the one" which is a suicide prevention program, helping one another.

Last year my goal was **to be active with our Poppy program all year long** and I would like to continue with this same goal. Here is a list of idea's we can do:

- Poppy hat fashion show
- Holiday Decorations (Wreaths, trees)
- Poppy Displays at Units and Department
- Making cards for Veterans with Poppies
- Contacting local businesses to help support our Veterans with Poppy Donations
- Coloring books, stickers on candy, corsages

National Poppy Day is May 26, let's do something special on that day to start our Memorial Day Donation weekend. (A proclamation can be found on the Poppy resource sight. You can create one for your mayor and have him or her sign it. You will then have an official Poppy Day in your town) I hope all of you will have a chance to work with your schools for our Poppy Poster Contest, all the rules are in your bulletins, and they are **due to me by April 15th**.

If you have not ordered your poppies yet you can get them from the Dept of South Dakota, Dept of Wisconsin, and the Dept of Texas. Department also has poppy kits that you can make yourself. Remember the little poem that went with the making of a poppy.

The green stem stands for the shepherd's hook(staff)
The black and green paper stands for the life and death of a soldier.
Place the paper inside the shepherd's hook which lets God wrap himself around the soldier!
Take the four pedals which symbolize the father, the son, and the holy spirit!
Wrap the armor of God around the Veteran

When we distributed poppies, I realized that if you have a Veteran with you, it makes an incredible difference, the community wants to see and talk with that Veteran in person. The stories you will hear can make you cry or laugh, and we all should want to listen to them, they served our country, and they need to be heard. Always be polite and greet them with kindness, we all need this at this time in our country. Many Units have stuffed envelopes with newsletters and poppies with a stamped envelope inside so if they would like to donate. Keep track of your donations throughout the year and remember **40%** of what you receive goes to the Department of Oregon. **The year-end report will be due to me by June 1st.**

The last couple of years we have had the privilege of working with the Lincoln City Outlets which they provide everything from decorations, discounts to most of their stores and the money you receive goes to your Unit. This year I would like to start it earlier, so I am planning to visit with Sharon sometime soon. Last year seemed a little rushed so I would like to get people more involved, and Lincoln City is a great place to go.

I would really like to share our Department's successes and plans for our Poppy Program in my National zoom meetings. This is why I stress the importance of reporting to your chairman. **As Poppy chairman I would love to see or hear about things you have done or going to do this year with your Poppy program.** It does not have to be just in May. My first National Zoom meeting will be October 17, 2023. There are going to be some changes so I will let everyone know what they will be.

Attention all District Presidents: I would love to attend one of your meetings to talk about Poppy's!!! I would also like to have a Little Miss Poppy this year if you have a junior program, please let me know if this would be possible, I will catch you at DEC in October.

Respectfully Submitted
Dianne Standing
Poppy Chairman
Department of Oregon

FALL DEC BOOK OF REPORTS

2023

VA&R

Linda Liebenow, Chairman

lindaliebenow@comcast.net

503-826-5877

IN PERSON Christmas Gift Shops are a GO at the four facilities (fingers crossed).

We are so excited, at this time, we are planning for IN PERSON Christmas Gift Shops at all our usual facilities. Now is the time to send in money to support these gift shops, all money must go through the Department. Earmark your money for a specific gift shop or for the general gift shop fund.

Lebanon Veterans Home Christmas Gift Shop, December 6, 2023, 10:30am-2:30pm

Contact Michelle Wilkinson, 541-409-4170

Oregon Veterans Home Christmas Gift Shop, The Dalla, December 2, 2023, 10am-3pm

Contact Geanne Horne, 503-849-8149

Roseburg VA Christmas Gift Shop, TBA

Contact Cindy Soria, 541-787-0462

Portland VA Christmas Gift Shop, November 25, 1pm-4pm and November 27-30, 10am-4pm

Contact Linda Liebenow, 503-826-5877

Ways to Honor our Veterans

Christmas Cheer is where a stocking is filled with small items and given to Veterans in the VA hospitals. Money for this can be sent to the Department and earmarked for Christmas Cheer.

Wreaths Across America, December 16, 2023, at Willamette National Cemetery and other cemeteries across Oregon.

Honor Flights. Do you know of an Honor Flight that is going out in your area? Try to be there when the flight comes back to welcome the Veterans, send cards and letters for the “mail call” on the flight home.

Buddy Baskets are for Veterans transitioning from homeless to housing. Get a laundry basket and fill it with paper towels, toilet paper, laundry supplies, cleaning supplies, towels, or anything else that a person would need moving into a new home. Work with the transitional housing list that was in the bulletin.

Blessing Bags are to keep in your car to give out when you come across a homeless Veteran. Fill a gallon zip lock bag with hand warmers, first aid supplies, disinfecting wipes, tissue, hand sanitizer, toothpaste/toothbrush, lotion, granola bars or other snack items.

If you hear of any special needs of our Veterans, please let the VA&R committee know so that we can try to help.