



Department President  
Debra Godwin

June 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF OREGON**

**2022-2023**

**Department Convention  
The Mill Casino  
North Bend, OR**

**BOOK OF REPORTS**

Department President  
Book of Reports  
Convention 2022/2023

Hello Team Oregon!

We are at the end of another amazing year!!

From Ontario to Forest Grove, I have traveled and visited so many amazing Units. Met members that I would not have had the opportunity to meet before. Learned just how passionate and devoted our membership is. The work that our Units do for their veterans and communities is outstanding! Thank you for all your hard work!

We held some amazing training sessions. Where I learned a lot. Watching our membership interact, work on team building, and ask those tough questions proved to me just how devoted you all are.

Birthday dinners, Rock House dedication, Holiday meals, National President visit, Learning, All American Legion families working together to make great things happen, and friendships made. What a great year I have had. Thank you, Team Oregon, for letting me represent our great Department as your President.

Debra Godwin  
Department of Oregon  
ALA President  
2021/2023

Department Chaplain  
Book of Report  
June 2023

First, I would like to extend my most sincere condolences to all our units that have lost members this past year. They will be missed terribly we lost 35 members that were reported to Department. Please make sure you report it is important it helps us have a current count of our members. I know it is a difficult time and it hurts to lose a loved one.

Our great Lord blesses us with the strength we need to keep going on with our lives to spread spiritual comfort and love. For we know that we will be reunited once more with our loved ones. Cry if we must miss them we will and Cherish their loving memory. This year 2022-2023 I received questionnaires from 8 units Thank you so much. When reading them it showed me how much you all do to help and comfort our Veterans and community.

I was not able to award any unit due to the fact the questionnaires weren't filled out completely or accompanied. with a supplementary report. Everyone was sending cards, visiting care homes, holding ceremony for 4 Chaplain. Donating money to the 4 Chaplain Chapel, dinner to shut-ins, tree planted in memory of a loved one, donating money to Gold Star Memorial. All those are great things that could have been used in the supplementary report. Remember it doesn't have to be long but please send something.

Cherita Potter PDP Chaplain Award only had 1 prayer book submitted. Unfortunately, it did not qualify several things were missing in it. Prayer Book was beautiful thank you for submitting it. Thank you all for keeping our Chain of prayers always going and for thanking our great Lord for all our daily blessings. For giving comfort when it is needed. Please keep praying for everyone in need of love healing, faith and anything else they may need. God bless all our Veterans and their Families, Our children and youth, communities and especially our members may they know how much they are valued and appreciated.

For God And Country  
God Bless The USA  
Dept. Chaplain Gregoria Hernandez

Constitution and Bylaws Chairman  
Pam Seelye

Several Units updated their governing documents this year. We have several that need to be done that are very, very old and some that are just a few years old. Please, this year is the year to look at your documents. Get them up to date with the new eligibility information.

Also, this year National dues went up, so you need to update that information. With the National dues increase and the Department increase last year you must send \$36.00 to Department for each senior member. If you have just recently updated your documents and this is the only thing you need to change this is an automatic change that does not need to be voted on. Any change from National or Department must be done so a vote of your unit body is not needed.

When looking over your documents make sure they say what you do as a unit and that you do what they say as a unit. These documents are your guide and blueprint of your unit.

District #1  
DEC Book of Reports  
Dianne Standing

We held our last District meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Seaside Post. Thank you Post #99 for all your hospitality. We continued to talk about membership and reaching our goals. Convention Basket theme is SPA DAY. I am still gathering donations for that basket. We elected District 1 President and Vice President. Sheri and I would like to thank you for having us another year, we both have learned so much and so much more to come. We are excited to serve as your President and Vice President.

Aloha Post #104- Unit 104 in April hosted a children's Easter party and egg hunt, celebrated Legion family day with a BBQ, games, dunk tank and face painting. We also had a special guest playing a calliope at the family day. We also had an Easter brunch. We also celebrated our post's 45th anniversary with a potluck and live band. May was Mother's Day brunch and installation of officers. We also did a potluck and opened early to watch the legion car#10 race in the Indy 500, and we manned a poppy table at the local Safeway and earned \$285 for poppy sales. June we are doing a spring craft/vendor fair and Father's Day Brunch.

Argonne #56-National poppy day we had a booth set up out front of our post for three hours passing out poppies and providing pamphlets with information about what the poppy represents, we also had stop signs available for members to purchase and raised almost \$200 for veterans. Saturday June 3rd we will be partaking in a re-dedication ceremony at Sherwood's Veterans Park, passing out hot dogs, chips, and bottles of water. The city has added plaques for each branch of the military along with flags to the existing veteran's wall. We will also be using that as a recruiting event and educating people of what the legion represents. June 17th is the annual cruisin Sherwood car show where we cook breakfast and again use it to recruit new members.

Banks #90- Unit 90 continues to support their post by hosting the weekly community Bingo evening once a month. 47 Poppy Posters from three 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. They gave \$200.00 dollars to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize winners. The Unit also gave a Poppy presentation. The Legion and Auxiliary did a Memorial Luncheon on May 27<sup>th</sup> with Veterans and their families. June citizens Awards will be given out on June 13th at school for two 8<sup>th</sup> graders, they will be given \$50.00 each and a bronze metal.

Cannon Beach #168- The Unit had a Spring potluck, distributed poppies, and had a Memorial Service at the NE Bridge in Cannon Beach. Monday night the auxiliary host hamburger night. June 10<sup>th</sup> will be sandcastle day at Cannon Beach.

Clatsop #12- This Unit went through a lot this year but is continuing to move forward. It's all new leadership and they are all in the learning stage as most of us. I give them credit for all they are doing, they are still wanting to help our Veterans and stay active as a Unit.

Hillsboro #6- Our Unit has been busy during April and May. In early April, we focused on preparing and sending our annual poppy letters to our Legion Family and then we spent time preparing for Legion Family Fun Day. The Auxiliary helped plan the day and led the Cake Walk game. It was a lot of fun and a beautiful day to be outside. We also helped staff the Legion Family booth at the Hillsboro Saturday Market in April and May. Unit members sign up to volunteer with one or more Legion members each Saturday from April to October. In May, we focused on poppy distribution and our spring craft bazaar. Unit and Legion Members volunteered

to distribute poppies at Ace Hardware in Hillsboro each weekend in May. We also had a poppy table at our spring craft bazaar. Unit 6 received approximately \$3300 in poppy donations this year. The spring craft bazaar was held May 20th and tables sold out soon after we advertised for vendors. We had shoppers all day during the bazaar. Unit #6 members attended and participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony at Pioneer Cemetery in Hillsboro on Memorial Day.

Clatskanie #68- Hosted a Memorial Day breakfast with 100 Veterans present and put out 2400 flags. They have 2 new members and will start working with the community to raise money for 2 Large flags for their town. They will also be working on the Clatskanie Festival over the summer., Veterans Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month. Lori sent in 27 Poppy Posters and 5 were sent to the Western Division and she also submitted Americanism essays. This Unit would like to work with the youth in the community and start a girl's program.

Seaside #99- April: The Unit reported income from our St. Patrick's Day Dinner at \$1,521.00 from dinner sales, tips and 50-50 drawing. Less expenses for food and advertising we netted 991.00 for local scholarships. In April we awarded a \$500 scholarship to the daughter of a National Guard Soldier who had been deployed in Iraq. We continued to support the Post with Auxiliary members hosting their Monday night dinners that help with their income. Taco Tuesday is hosted by the Unit and continues to be a big hit. This helps our general fund. May: WE MADE GOAL!!! This is the second year in a row and the Unit is quite proud of our membership chair, Beverly Neubecker! Of course, we hosted the District 1 Meeting on May 13, serving a potato bar for donations. It was fun to see everyone. We distributed Poppies May 25-27 at Safeway. Over the three days, 6 volunteers spent 15 hours and raised \$1,388.61. :) The Unit supported the Memorial Day Program that Post 99 holds every year by purchasing and preparing a meal of Spaghetti, Salad, & Garlic Bread. The event is open to the entire community and includes a parade from the Post, down Broadway to the turn around and back. June: We have two members that will be attending the convention. We provided financial assistance to the Oregon National Guard Family Program Volunteer Workshop being held June 2-4 at Camp Rilea. The event is designed to educate the Family Readiness Group (FRG) Leaders that work with ORANG soldiers and their families throughout the state. Our participation helps the FRG's realize that the American Legion Auxiliary is a resource in their communities, wherever they live. Installation of Officers will be done following convention. The Unit is dark through September.

Tigard#158-Members continue to volunteer for cooking, serving meals, bartending, and cleaning the post. The unit distributes surplus food donations from Safeway and Albertson's grocery stores to area food banks. Poppies were distributed for recognition of our Veterans.

Washington #2- Unit 2 still hosts rock painting parties twice a month. The mural open house was May 6. The community came in to see the beautiful mural on our walls, a Poppy field and meet the artist. We will be installing officers on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Legion and the Auxiliary passed out poppies at Safeway May 26,27,28 and on the 29<sup>th</sup> during our Memorial Service. Post 2 Legion and Auxiliary will be having a Silent Auction with food, drinks, dunking booth, corn hole and a lot more fun June 24,2023.

Respectfully submitted by

Dianne Standing  
District 1 President  
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508-688-4068

DISTRICT #3  
Book of Reports  
June 2023

For District 3 it has been a very good year.

Florence Unit #59

Provided transportation for Veterans to medical appointments and errands.

Visitation Veterans at Regency Care Facility in Florence. Taking Veterans out to lunch for some social time. Seven members are attending the Memorial Service and helping set up food for service.

One member, Maxine, made beautiful wreaths for Memorial Day service. One for the Post, one for the Unit and one for deceased members.

One of the members worked tirelessly at the Veterans Café cooking and serving our Veterans. The café is at the Elks Club in Florence.

One member volunteers at the Humane Society gift shop.

Two of the members attended the Suicide Prevention for Veterans seminar.

The members will be assisting the Post on Flag Day.

Veterans hrs-80

Community Service-72

Santa Clara Unit #83

This unit continues to work with fundraisers alone with the Post family- Drive through meals with community support.

Throughout the year they have provided eight gas cards to Veterans in need. Two Veterans needing lodging, one had a job interview in the area and the other had outpatient surgery.

Egan Warming Center for a the homeless. They were in dire need of warm clothing, sleeping bags and blankets. The Unit went to work gathering the needed supplies and made it happen.

In March they celebrated the Posts 49<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration with Corned Beef and Cabbage, What else? The Unit provided the cake celebrating their joint service of over 100 years.

For the egg hunt at Easter the unit filled 1800 eggs with candy and prizes. They also had a Golden egg.

They are fortunate to have the combined support of the Post Family,

With pride and dedication, fulfilling the mission of "Keeping the Promise" into the next 100 years of service for our Veterans, Youth and community.

Travis Moothart Unit 184

I am proud of all the things this small group does for the community donate time to other organizations in the community.

Brownsville Senior Center, Brownsville Meals on Wheels, Brownsville Art Center, Linn County Museum and of course our Quilts of Valor Group.

In May they had a small bazaar for the community.

Albany Unit #10

Albany Unit 10 are proud to announce the Poppy donations went very well. They handed out Poppy coloring books to the kiddos that were with the families. They put together a handout explaining Flanders Fields that did not know the significance of the Poppies and Memorial Day. The sewing group is still on hiatus, but they are searching for someone that can help continue with the projects. They still have some quilts and supplies available.

The Unit will be recognizing five students in surrounding high schools as Outstanding Senior Girl for 2023. thanks to generous donations they will be awarding each student with a certificate and a \$100.00 check.

The 2023 Military Family Scholarship of \$750.00 will be awarded to Kaylee Harris from Scio High School. Kaylee's parents both served in the Army.

Seven volunteers continue to operate the Post 10 Club for the Post. They have put in well over 875 hours dedicated to helping pay the expenses.

Unit 10 has six members that are also Legion riders.

Unit 10 would like to acknowledge Cindy at Department and Thank her for all her help throughout the year. She is always there when needed and she magically makes the problems melt away!

Respectfully submitted,  
Roberta Peebler  
District 3 President  
Department of Oregon



District #5 President  
Ginny Williams

June 14th, 2023

Well, the close on 2022/2023 is here and it has had lots of good memories and sad ones with the closing of 4 Units. Now on to bigger and better for the coming year.

The Units have been busy with doing year end reports, and chairman reports, the Impact Reports done, and it is time for Poppy distributions. Getting the officers installed for each unit and the information sent to Department.

We are all looking forward to starting the new Year 2023 / 2024. I am proud of District 5, it has been a hard 3 years, now it is time to push on and rebuild.

God Bless all our members and our Legion Family.

Ginny Williams

2003 CONVENTION DISTRICT 6 DEC BOOK OF REPORT  
JUNE 17, 2023  
BY MAGGIE LA MONT, DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT

Another year has come to an end. The majority of Units were busy with their many activities.

Listed below are the Unit activities since the Spring DEC:

- Athena Unit #130 did not respond. The repairs on their post should be completed.
- Lone Unit #95 did a spring bingo in April to help with Legion Hall expenses and made \$1,875. In May they put up poppy donation tables in Lone and Heppner. Also, in May are choosing a High School scholarship winner for the Lone Auxiliary scholarship of \$500. June have planned a school staff appreciation luncheon for the next to last day of work for staff.
- George St. Denis Unit #140 did not respond.
- Hermiston Unit #37 with the death of their President, Cathy Stolz, and Margaret Wetterling will be taking her place. I hope to attend their June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to install the new officers and to provide assistance.
- La Grande Unit #43 is doing poppies at Safeway for 3 days and Bi-Mart for one day in May. The Annual Golf "Fore" A Vet tournament is scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Milton-Freewater Unit #24 helped with a decommissioning the City of Milton-Freewater flags, and members and all community individuals/businesses who bring their unusable flags to the Post. The total time spent was 10 hours. The Post does the actual burning of the flags with ceremony.

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, I visited Milton-Freewater Unit 24 and installed their Officers.

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, I visited Hermiston Unit # 37 and installed their Officers.

The Summer District 6 meeting was held in La Grande Post 43 on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The items discussed were Convention Notes, District President Training Notes, and report from Units. In attendance were members from Unit 24, Unit 37, and Unit 43.

The Fall District 6 meeting was held at the Wildhorse Resort on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Vice-President Mary Ward chaired the meeting. Only 2 members showed up, so they did not have a meeting.

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, I visited Lone Unit 95 meeting. I had not visited them since covid shut everything done.

The Winter District 6 Meeting was held in Hermiston at the Hermiston Post 37 meeting place on January 7, 2023. Vice-President Mary Ward Chaired the meeting. The fall DEC Report and Unit report were read. A suggestion was made to send out a challenge to all Units to have a competition for service hours to Veterans and families. A question was raised why the son of a Veteran can't join the Auxiliary when the daughter of a Veterans can join the Auxiliary.

The District 6 Spring Meeting was scheduled in Enterprise on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The meeting was cancelled for bad weather.

The Caucus was held by telephone conference call on May 7<sup>th</sup> in which no one joined the call. Vice President, Mary Ward sent an email voting for Maggie LaMont for President and Mary Ward for Vice-President. As there were no other votes, the District 6 officers are Maggie Lamont and Mary Ward as the 2023/2024 District 6 nominations. Support letters of Vice President Candidates Cindy Soria and President Catherine Brockman had been emailed with the Agenda.

District 8 Convention

Written Report 2023

Trudie McGriff President

VA&R - We may be a small district but boy do these units do a lot for our Veterans. Portland #1 puts together dinners for Wyeast transitional shelter and has a luncheon for WWII-Korean-Vietnam- POW veterans with the help of all echelons Auxiliary, Legion, ALR, and SAL help by donating and helping to bring everything together. They also donated neck pillows and hygiene bags to Portland VA&R. Oregon Trail 150 serves dinners with members donating items for their raffles. Monies made are used for their programs. They donate to VA&R- Home in the Dalles- Camp Withycome- and Fort Kennedy. Milwaukee 180 members joined 150 at their dinner put on for National President Vickie Koutz and they put on a wonderful ham dinner with all the trimmings. The Unit does raise monies for our veterans. All Units distribute Poppies for their restricted funds and to send to Departments 40%.

Children and Youth- Units put together a breakfast with Santa handing out candy canes and stuff toys. Easter Egg hunts and Easter bag drive by to hand out to the children. Having a game time with the adults helping to assist them when needed. Kids bingo when accompanied by an adult which everyone has fun. Units sending monies to charities helping our future young ones.

Girl State- Units were sad there was not a Girl State this year and are looking forward to having one next year. If need help, please reach out to the members and see if there are any wanting to help. Looking forward to next year.

Membership- District 8 membership chairmen worked hard this year on our membership. They worked hard to make us a gold district and I am proud of how hard they worked and tried their best. In my eyes we are number #1 and y'all did a wonderful job. You are the best and I would not trade you for anything.

I will take this time to tell all these Units how proud I am of each one of them. Like I said we may be small, but we are mighty and can do so much for our Veterans so do not count us out. Portland 1- Oregon Trail 150 and Milwaukee 180 you are the best. Willamette 5 you have done the best you could and yes, I am proud of y'all too. All the entities that have helped these Unit members' programs you are the best and please keep up the good work.

District 10  
2022-2023 Year-End Book of Reports  
Linda Schmidt, District President

As we come to the end of the American Legion Auxiliary's 2022-2023 year, I believe the Department of Oregon, through the help of all their Unit members and their Department staff, has laid forth another year's history they can be darn-tootin' proud of !

My thanks and gratitude to all the units in District 10 for the dedicated and outstanding group they are; there are none finer. Some months we think we have not been up to a lot, but year-end totals tell a different story and as we all know, we always forget some things that we did...however and even so:

Americanism: Units participated in Americanism Essay contests, Memorial Day activities at cemeteries, greeting "The Long Road" Marines and National President en route, Oratorical co-hosting, working with the Kiwanis Club and Elks at patriotic functions, Patriots Day, 9-11 Ceremony, Veterans Day Parades, and helping scouts with community flags.

80 hours In-Kind: \$583 Unit: \$200 Volunteers: 24 Served: 181

Children & Youth: Activities included the "Give 10" program, Wisconsin SAL comfort ALF bears, Emblem Sales coloring books, Trunk or Treat nights, Lacrosse volunteers/auction program, Regional Baseball week with food/drink booth volunteers, dictionaries for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, and several donations to Shriners, Lacrosse, Foster Kids, Scouts, Sheriff's programs for kids, school programs, and girls basketball.

290 hours In-Kind: \$1,050 Unit: \$2,940 Volunteers: 33 Served: 1,763

Community Service: Senior Center volunteers for SHIBA Counselors, board members, Medicare/tax service, yard sales, hygiene programs, Human Trafficking training, fair volunteers, assisted living help, recycling, fireworks booths, community calendars produced, safety classes, donations to Sr. Center for meals/furniture, American Cancer Society, Muscular Dystrophy, Autism, Gospel Mission, CASA, OPB, Save-A-Stray, Our Community Flag fund, Trees of Joy, Elks programs, and Christmas community and assisted-living funds to name a few.

1,182 hours In-Kind: \$1,575 Unit: \$4,593 Volunteers: 59 Served: 1,233

VA&R: Donations for local Service Officers, Kidney & Liver Transplant Unit, Veterans Gift Shops, Check-a-Month, SORCC, Roseburg VAMC, The Dalles Veterans Home, Viet Nam Memorial Fund, National ALA Foundation, National Veterans & Children's Foundation, canned goods for veteran facility, veteran donation boxes, Veterans Day programs/potlucks, Veteran Hall dinners, Legion Birthday functions, gift bags for assisted living veterans, coffee/yoga with veterans, warming center supplies for homeless vets, as well as cemetery/chapel volunteers with maps, flags and veteran markers for veterans & families and hundreds of hours given in our Posts with repairs, cleaning, and booking bingo and party dates for the Post. Poppy distribution tables are also set up at several locations (funds raised are not included here).

1,590 hours In-Kind: \$9,539 Unit: \$4,603 Volunteers: 69 Served: 4,782

Other Programs were: AEF, Education, Legislative, National Security, and Public Relations  
106 hours \$537 spent or donated

*"Happiness is not a goal; it is a byproduct."*

*Eleanor Roosevelt*

# Americanism

## 2023 Year End Report

### Cindy Soria - Chairman

As this year comes to a close, I want to thank each and every one of you for your contribution to the Americanism Program of Oregon. I received 21 essay contest entries. Let me tell you it was very hard to pick a winner from each category. They were all exceptional.

7 units reported on how they honored our Americanism Program:

Harney County Unit #63 reported 26 volunteer hours and 10 volunteers for their Americanism Projects. Dollars given were \$583 in-kind and \$200 in unit donations. 75 patriotic color books were given out. The unit made and handed out pocket flags. The unit helped sponsor 3 Oratorical entries that went on to Department. Unit members helped the scouts put out flags on all patriotic holidays. The cemetery in town and three outline cemeteries always decorated with flags on Memorial Day. One unit member staffed the cemetery chapel for three days around Memorial Day to help people with grave locations, flags, and/or markers helping to identify those not marked as veterans. Every year there are more and more located this way. The unit also indicated that usually they march with the elementary children to the Burns High School on Veterans Day for their extensive school program, however, this past year was not feasible due to bad weather. There usually is over 1000 in attendance.

Louis Larsen Unit 68 is a unit of less than 30 members, but they have a very active Americanism program in their schools and community. They held classes for the local schools and homeschool students to help them write essays to enter the Americanism Essay contest. They first start off their class by asking the students if they were children of veterans. They learned that three children have parents who are still actively serving and one in the reserve forces. The children talked about some of the struggles they face with their parents being in the military. The unit provided snacks and juice for all the children that participated. This unit feels strongly about our youth, and that their Legion and Auxiliary keep the mission growing.

Oregon Trail Unit # 150 reported that they had one Volunteer and gave out 50 patriotic coloring books for their Americanism project.

LaGrande Unit #43 reported that they had two volunteers totaling 15 hours. They gave out 100 patriotic coloring books.

Aurora Unit #110 reported that they had 21 volunteers totaling 125 hours to their Americanism projects.

Hillsboro Unit 6 reported that they had six volunteers totaling 108 hours to their Americanism projects. One pocket copy of the constitution was given out. They participated in the Hillsboro Fourth of July parade where they handed out small flags two kids. They had an informational table at the local Corn Roast Festival where they handed out small flags and America the Beautiful coloring books to children. They also supplied some local people with new flags that had been donated.

Glenn Morrison Unit 70 participated in memorial services on Veterans Day, Pearl Harbor, Memorial Day, and Fourth of July. Poppy wreaths were placed at the flagpole at the Cave Junction City Hall and Laurel cemetery. Four members participated in these events. On Memorial Day at Laurel cemetery a flag retirement ceremony was presented to the public. All veterans graves had a flag placed in their honor.

I received supplemental reports from Aurora #110 and North Eugene/Santa Clara #83.

Always remember Americanism is what this country is built on and we must teach our children about what it means to be a true American.

God bless our veterans and our country.

Cindy Soria

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND  
YEAR-END REPORT  
CONVENTION, 2023

We had 10 Units turn in an AEF year-end report with 3 reporting activity. \$435 was donated to the fund. The Units had money donated from personal funds, their yearly budget and collecting change at their monthly meeting.

No one from Oregon needed the help from the AEF fund.



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH CONVENTION REPORT Angelina McKinney, Chairman

My report is in the Book of Report. We celebrate our Military Children who are a special part of Children and Youth as they go through so much with their parents being deployed and missing so much from their lives. I would like to take a few minutes to celebrate these special children and read the poem The Military Child by Jon M. Nelson.

My parent is proudly serving our country,  
In order to keep so many of us free,  
There are a lot of sacrifices that they're making,  
And I know the risks that they're taking.

I know sometimes they have to go away,  
But I wish so bad for them to stay.  
My heart aches when they are gone,  
And a part of me feels so withdrawn.

But I will always feel a sense of pride,  
No matter how many tears I have cried.  
Even when they cannot be here,  
They will find a way to calm my fear.

I may be different when I see them again,  
Because I was so much younger then.  
In such a short time a lot can change,  
When they return, they may feel estranged.

I hope I grow up to be like them,  
Even if others will try to condemn.  
They are serving and showing their might,  
So that I won't have to grow up to fight.

Now for the awards: The Pam Seelye, PDP, Children and Youth Award  
No entry.

The Edith E. Brown Memorial Children and Youth Award, no entry.

The Cheryl Park, PDP, Children and Youth Award--awarded to the Unit submitting the best narrative report for their Children and Youth program. The report must include the Unit name, number and the name of the Unit President and the name of the Unit Chairman. I received three entries, and I had a couple of friends that were not Auxiliary members read the entries. We

all agreed on the same entry submitted by Aurora Unit 110, Pam Seelye, Chairman. This report was also submitted to National for consideration for the National Best Unit Report for Children and Youth.

This concludes my report. Madame President Debra I want to thank you for letting me serve as your Children and Youth Chairman this year.



CHILDREN AND YOUTH REPORT 2023  
Angelina McKinney, Chairman  
Department of Oregon

The Department of Oregon had ten Units out of 62 reporting for just under 20% reporting this year. Of the Units reporting we were able to give two Youth Hero Awards from our Department. Of the Units reporting only one reported no activity for this year.

Portland Unit 1 of District 8 reported on two functions that they put on. They did a Santa Breakfast with a Legionnaire volunteering to be Santa. The other function was an Easter Egg Drive thru. They met the Thursday before Easter and put together the Easter Baskets. One member goes to the school and asks permission to setup and give out the Easter Baskets. The Saturday before Easter the volunteers go to the school and hand out the Easter Baskets. These two functions served 130 children with expenses of \$159.00 and 48 volunteer hours.

Stevens-Chute Unit 4 of District 5 reported that they gave out 48 backpacks to Military kids and made Christmas Gift packages for the children of 5 Military families. They spent \$348.00 for these two functions while serving 49 children and gave 10 volunteer hours.

Hillsboro Unit 6 of District 1 reported on doing a Christmas Dinner party with Santa for 2 families. They spent \$350.00 and served 57 children and had 14 volunteer hours.

Crook County Unit 29 of District 5 had several projects. In October they donated \$350.00 worth of school supplies from a list of needs that was presented by the Crook County FAM, an organization that supplies missing items as needed for school. They had two volunteers who shopped and delivered the items for a total of 6 volunteer hours. They donated \$550.00 to the Weekend Backpack Program which makes sure children who may not have a meal over the weekend have food. The Unit maintains essential supplies in their homes to be able to respond when called with needed items. The members hosted a BINGO to support their local high schools Senior Night without Alcohol. Half of the profits were for this project but due to generous donations from members they raised over \$4,070.00 for this project. They were able to give gifts to 84 children from the Tree of Joy at Christmas. They served 50 veterans and their families, 35 members of their community and 4 families of the National Guard soldiers, a total of 12 including 8 children. They had 12 shoppers who shopped for 3 ½ hours. They had 4 volunteers that delivered the gifts back to the Holiday Partnership for a total of 59 volunteer hours and expenses of \$5,040.00 for this project.

La Grande Unit 43 of District 6 spent \$150.00 and served 50 children with various things that they needed and had 12 volunteer hours to achieve this.

Harney County Unit 63 of District 10 gave \$300.00 to their local Shriners Hospital. They gave \$425.00 in supplies from an auction they held to their local La Crosse team. They had 82 volunteer hours and also manned a regional baseball booth with 27 volunteer hours. They gave \$500.00 in coats to Foster Kids in their area. They worked with the Scouts and gave \$30.00 and 16 volunteer hours. They ordered coloring books from Emblem Sales for Give 10 and Trunk or Treats with \$59.00 spent. They Gave 10 at Slater Elementary and 25 filled backpacks for \$162.00 and 12 volunteer hours. They ordered 10 ALF Comfort Bears from the Wisconsin SAL for Ann expense of \$125.00. They did a Trunk or Treat and dressed as a wolf and 3 pigs with expenses of \$80.00 and 22 volunteer hours. They served 634 children with a total of \$890.00 in-kind donations and \$511.00 monetary donations from the Unit with 140 volunteer hours and nine activities to promote this program.

North Eugene/Santa Clara Unit 83 of District 3, reported that they searched thrift shops and watched clothing sales and gave them to Hwy. 99 Abused Women and Children Shelter and for schools clothing closets. They held their annual picnic and had games for the children present. They had Outdoor Bingo and raffles to help fund their Children and Youth program for school supplies. They have a tremendous need for school, supplies because many students parents are unemployed in their area. They budgeted funds and made donations to the Child Welfare Fund, Youth Scholarships, Children and Youth Direct Aid, Fisher House, Children's Miracle Welfare (Sacred Heart River Bend) and Direct Aid for Military families. They sent a donation to Lane County Food Share to provide 300 sack lunches for underprivileged children. They did their annual Truck or Treat for Halloween. They have the trunks open facing River Road. Cars, motorcycles and members dress up. The kids come by and safely grab a sack and go. They had approximately 300 children and parents attend. They gave out over 100 pounds of candy, Auxiliary coloring books and small prizes. In December they adopted two female veterans and 11 other veteran families and gave them each \$125.00 in gift cards for a total of \$1,625.00. They donated to Marine Toys for Tots \$50.00 in cash and \$500.00 in toys and \$200.00 in games for foster children. They held a community Easter Egg hunt with a Junior dressed as the Easter Bunny. They filled over 1,800 eggs with candy and prizes and had over 275 children and parents attend. They filled Bags of Love with stuffed animals. They spent \$50.00 and had \$800.00 in donated toys given. In all they helped over 800 children, had a total of 90 volunteers with 995 volunteer hours. They donated \$257.00 in cash and had \$4,400.00 in-kind donations for their projects.

Prairie City Unit 106 in District 10 gave out 16 dictionaries to third graders for a value of \$259.00.

Aurora Unit 110 in District 2 had their Unit and post working together along with their local library gave out paperback and hardcover edition books to children in their area for Halloween instead of candy. In February they went to a local school and presented 105 flags with wooden stands made by their local high school wood shop students. Each stand had an Auxiliary emblem on it and had a special note on the bottom from the student that made the stand. They took two Legionnaires with them and they talked about their experiences serving our country. They learned about the number of stars and stripes and how to correctly salute the flag and said the Pledge of Allegiance. In March they submitted two applications for the Youth Hero Award to National Headquarters. The applicants were two juniors from Southridge High School in Beaverton who came upon the aftermath of a car crash. The car was overturned on the roadway and the young men went into action. They found a 3-to-4-month-old baby in the backseat still strapped in its car seat upside

down. One of the boys went in through the broken window and got the baby out of its car seat. The baby was unharmed and safe. The young an had a few cuts and scrapes. They were very humble and feeling good about helping this family. The first responders took over and reported that both the baby and everyone else involved in the accident were unharmed. They received their medals in April from National and were presented to the boys at their school. In April they provided personal hygiene products to students at a local Middle School which serves a low-income community. These items were placed in the restrooms of the school for the children to take as needed free of charge. One member on April 15<sup>th</sup> gave out small purple frisbees labeled with "Purple Up for Military Children" at our Spring DEC. They served 90 children with 3 activities, had 25 volunteer hours and raised \$1,493.00 to benefit all children.

Our last report is from Oregon Trail Unit 150 in District 8. They talked about finding someone to give a Youth Hero Award too but could not find a youth they could give, one too. They do a major project each December and collect toys, jewelry, clothes and various other needs for the children of deployed soldiers through our local Camp Withecomb for Christmas. They served over 200 children with 40 volunteer hours and raised over \$8,440.00 to accomplish this event.

This concludes my report on the various projects that the reporting Units gave me information on. It's been a very rewarding year to see all the fabulous events that the reporting Units did for our Children and Youth in their areas. I'm so very proud of the two young men who earned the Youth Hero Award in our state.

## Community Service Year End Report Department of Oregon 2022/2023

My report begins with May 2022. Our Units always go out into the community for Poppy Days, being visible in our communities, showing people who we are and what we do. One Unit, unable to go into the community, decided doing nothing was not an option. They inserted the Poppy Story about how it all started into their Post Newsletter asking Members for donations.

For Memorial Day, a Memorial Service was held at an American Legion Post with the Post and Auxiliary Chaplains. A Poppy Wreath was placed in their Memorial Garden.

On June 11<sup>th</sup> a Unit and their Post held a Community Flag Retirement Ceremony. A lesson on proper Flag etiquette was given. They had a local Scout Troop present the colors and they blew Taps. They have been presenting the ceremony for over 35 years and they now retire over 400 flags annually. They also started something new this year, by offering their community the option of flying their Memorial Flag for their loved one on the Post Flagpole. Honoring their service with their name and branch of service on the reader board for 30 days before it is retired.

During the Summer a Unit held their annual Post Beautification project. A display of love in their home, and Pride in being part of the community. There was a Community Chicken BBQ in July and a Drive Through Fish Fry on the last Friday each month, donating to various local community programs. One of the programs chosen that month was a local girls High Schools Lacrosse Team in purchasing team uniforms and the girls and the coach came to join and volunteer.

In September, Units reported attending Community 911 Candlelight Ceremonies. A Unit even helped and participated in a Community Car Show event with food, live music and prizes.

In October, there was a Community Trunk or Treat on Halloween. Cars were decorated and the adults were in costumes. The children could safely grab a bag of treats from the trunks of the cars.

For November, there were Veterans Day Events to attend. Units placed Flags on Veterans Graves. A Unit handed out painted Poppy Rocks to Veterans. A Unit displayed hero pictures in a Vet display.

One Unit, sent 39 boxes for deployed military, including 160 dozen cookies. People from the community reached out wanting to help on their Facebook Page. They also added 'Thank You for Your Service' cards from the Junior Auxiliary.

In December, these same Juniors, also signed 176 Christmas Cards to be given to all the residents of the Lebanon Veterans Home. They donated 26 small gifts for the women living at the Veterans Home. They paid for the gifts with money they earned volunteering for fund raisers at the post. The gift bags included a beautiful Christmas brooch, stationary note, thank you cards and Patriotic ink pens. A Unit had an Open House where people could get a photo with Santa.

A Unit sent a check to their local food bank to provide 300 sack lunches for children in need. Another Unit gave out 140 Christmas Cards to residents at a local low-income mobile home park.

In January, a Unit received a request from the Eagan Warming Center in Eugene needing warm coats, hats, sleeping bags and blankets and they made it happen. They were able to donate \$2000.00 of In kind donations.

In February, a Unit delivered 80 Valentine cards to an Assisted Living Facility.

In March, Units were getting ready for Easter, it was early this year on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

In April, a Unit reported a Community Easter Egg hunt with 1500 eggs filled with candy, stickers and prize tickets. They had about 250 children attend from the community. When the kids get a prize ticket in an egg, they bring them to the prize table within their age group area and redeem the ticket for any prize they want. Each child looking and hoping to find the one Golden Egg in each group for a bigger prize. Another Unit assembled 80 Easter Baskets that were given to residents at an Assisted Living Residence.

Units reported other community activities throughout the year. One Unit reported that several of their members volunteer at a Senior Center, serving meals both inside and driving Meals On Wheels. They also volunteer as Counselors/trainers for medical insurance and helping with tax preparations. As members of their Chamber of Commerce they post their Unit happenings on the Community Board and also work on a monthly Yard Sale. They receive donations for resale and use funds for their Legion Family projects and give free items to those in the community that have suffered loss. One Unit reported donating safety vests to their local police department.

Other community programs Units participated in or volunteered for:

Rebuilding Together – Clean and Paint, Vets and Pets Charity Golf Tournament, Rock Painting Parties for the community, Celebrate LaGrande Day, Scouts, Church Programs, volunteering at baseball tournaments, Community Flags, Fair Booths, Lions Fireworks Booths.

Our Units in Oregon also reported that they proudly wore their Auxiliary pins and accessories.

Total volunteers that helped with Community Service: 498

Total Hours volunteered for Community Service: 5024

Total money donated to Community Service Projects from Units: \$17,343.64

Total money spent for Community Service projects by Units: \$5062.78

Total In Kind Donations given to local Community Service projects: \$17,123.00

Respectfully Submitted,  
Community Service Chairman  
Department of Oregon  
Margie DeMoss

EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP  
YEAR-END REPORT  
CONVENTION, 2023

We had nine Units reporting.

We had Units help four schools with "Give 10" totaling \$1012 in school supplies given. We had one Unit that filled 48 backpacks with school supplies for a local National Guard Unit.

We had 35 members spending 30 hours to help 11 students with the American Legion Oratorical contest on the local and Department level.

One Unit reported mentoring in the schools helping 50 students and spending four hours. We still struggle to be able to help in the schools.

We had \$600 donated to our Department scholarship fund and \$200 to the National scholarship fund. We had one Unit that awarded a \$1000 scholarship from their Unit for a local student.

We contacted six schools throughout Oregon with our Scholarship information.

We had 10 applicants for the Children of Warriors National President's scholarship. It was very hard to pass on just one application. They were all very good and deserving.

We had one applicant for the Spirit of Youth Scholarship and that was sent to the Western Division for judging.

We had one applicant for our Department Scholarship, but they were not eligible. The scholarship is for children or spouses of Veterans and this applicant was through her Grandfather.



# 2022/2023 Year End Legislative Committee Report

## Department of Oregon

Submitted by: Tracy Peets, Department of Oregon Legislative Chair - May 2023

*The following report was sent to the Western Division Legislative Chair*

Our Department shared legislative information with Unit members through a few different channels. One was via department email communications regarding the Legislative Action site. The email included information on how to sign up for alerts and to watch for requests related to Buddy Check Week. The second was a training by our Department Vice President Catherine Brockman. Catherine brought the QRC for the site and helped trainees get signed up on Voters Voice. She also shared how to watch and respond to calls for action via email.

Throughout the year, Unit Members around the State attended PACT Act awareness sessions at their Posts. Department Veteran Service Offices shared important information on key details of the PACT Act and described recent clarifications of eligibility based on more places of explore.



*Figure 1 - Department of Oregon  
Vice President Catherine Brockman –  
legislative alerts' training*



*Figure 2 - Department of Oregon Auxiliary  
and Legion Members Met with Rep. Lori  
Chavez-DeRemer*

Our Department also had two mentions for Legionnaires of the Week in the weekly legislative bulletins. Daniel Burks was featured January 2023 regarding his meeting with Rep Bentz and the joint forum they held at Ontario Post 67. Cory Brockman was featured April 2023 regarding his meeting with office of Senator Wyden to discuss mental health and the Be The One campaign, as well as PACT Act implementation.

During the Washington Conference in February, Department Auxiliary Members, Linda Liebenow and Marie Larson met with Oregon Representative Lori Chavez-DeRemer to discuss The American Legion's legislative agenda for the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress.

As Legislative Chair, I've attended quarterly legislative Zoom calls throughout the year to learn more about how to support the American Legion's legislative efforts. I also receive regular newsletters from Senators Merkley, Bonamici, and Wyden.

### *Additional information shared at Convention*

No units submitted supplemental reports for legislative committee awards. I do want to acknowledge the 10 units, from 6 out of 10 districts, that sent in a year-end report even those that didn't have legislative activities. This was very much appreciated. Thank you so much for taking the time to send the reports to me.

The current focus of the American Legion Legislative Committee is on the "Be the One" campaign to prevent veteran suicide and on addressing veteran homelessness. Other areas of focus are: concurrent pay for disability and retirement, increasing access to VA medical care, and paying the Coast Guard during government shutdowns.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT  
Book of Reports  
Convention 2023

It has been a year of challenges. We continue to get members to renew, recruit new members, and promote our organization at events around the state. Here is a breakdown of how the year has gone so far...

Date	# Members	Goal	Percentage
5/27/2020	4,268	5,049	84.50
5/26/2021	3,928	4,488	87.52
5/25/2022	3,994	4,184	95.51
5/24/2023	3,852	4,180	92.15

Here is a comparison of the last few years, roughly the same time of year, for total membership. We are still behind last year, but ahead of 2020 and 2021. We have more work to be done. As of the writing of this report, we still need 328 additional members to make 100% goal.

District	# New Members
1	99
2	29
3	71
4	18
5	38
6	14
7	2
8	59
9	12
10	14

For this membership year, we've added 356 new members. Every district has added new members, well done!

We've also had 705 members not renew. Think about that for a minute... We would be at goal if we could keep our members. This number is only 2022...there are others from prior years that we lost as well.

We need to strive to keep the members we've already had.

District	# Unrenewed
1	220
2	63
3	145
4	53
5	81
6	17
7	1
8	94
9	22
10	9

I'm sad to say, we've had 44 members transferred to the deceased list so far this membership year.

Working with the Western Division Membership Chairman, and other membership chairs for states in the west, has been a great way to learn more about membership. We are not alone in our struggles with keeping members, having units close, and trying to find new members. Everyone shared their ideas for renewing and recruiting, their successes, and failures, and we all helped each other cope with situations. I sent my final report to the division chairmen by the deadline.

I received 13 end-of-year membership reports. Not as many as I had hoped, but more than the number of mid-year reports received!

We're not done yet! We can still achieve another goal, as a department, by reaching 100% by July 4, 2023. And...we need to reach 102% by July 29<sup>th</sup>, which is 30 days prior to national convention, to achieve the final goal! We can still do this if we all continue to work at membership. How about we reach out to those 705 that haven't renewed and see how many we can get to come back? They should be easier as they already know who we are and what we do for our veterans...

Thanks for a great year as the Membership Chairman. Thank you for the opportunity to serve, Madam President!

Always Serving,  
Catherine Brockmann  
Vice President – Membership  
Dept of Oregon ALA



## **DEPARTMENT OF OREGON POPPY PROGRAM**

### **Dianne Standing-CHAIRMAN**

I'm excited to be your Poppy Chairman for another year, thank you for appointing me. My plan for the upcoming year is to go to Units or Districts and educate on our Poppy Program. I will also be in the schools teaching about the Poppy since I will be retired in 8 days.

My main objective has always been to have our Poppy Program go through the whole year not just in May. I have received many reports from our Units telling of all the great things they are doing.

- I have 28 Poppy Posters entered and sent 1 from each age group to the Western Division and hopefully will move on up to National.
- We have a Little Miss Poppy in one of Units
- Most Units ordered poppies and had set their place where they would distribute the Poppies.
- Most of the Units that sent in reports said they all enjoyed telling the story of the Poppy Lady, having coloring books and stickers to pass out to the children.
- Poppies were at many events throughout the year with the Auxiliary and the Legion
- There were Units that went into the schools and taught about the Poppy and made a Poppy.
- Many Units had a Memorial Day Service and had a Poppy table, made wreaths and corsages.

With convention coming up plan your Poppy Display there will be a table set up where you can put your display, put your name and Unit on the bottom so when the judges are selecting the

winner, they can let me know the winner. We will be having a Poppy Hat Parade at the Convention, be creative and most of all have fun!

We also worked with the Lincoln City Outlet Malls, we had a few Units participating, everything was furnished, and all your donations were for your Unit. I have talked with a few people and feel like this needs a little more time than a month to get people signed up because a lot of the Units during this time already had plans for their own Poppy events. I would like to recognize Sharyn Jasmer for all the hard work she puts into this every year. She has a BIG heart for our Veterans.

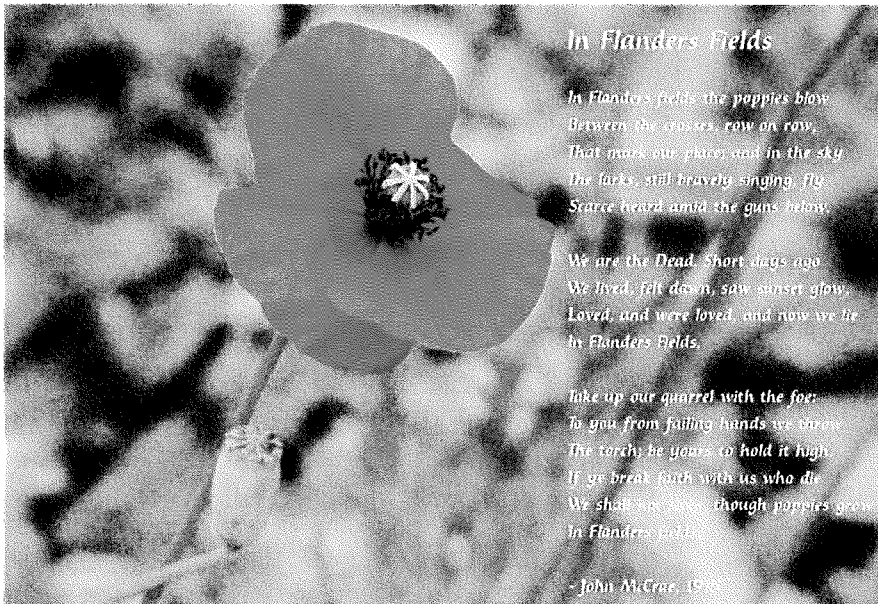
Last DEC I showed how to make a Poppy, I was asked to write down the demonstration I did while making the Poppy. First, the green stem stands for a shepherd's hook, wrap the green and black paper to represent the life and death of the soldier, wrap this with the stem which signifies God wrapping his arms around the soldier, place the four pedals on which mean the father, son and holy spirit wrap the green stem again with the armor of God around the soldier.

Please continue to honor our Veterans with cards, painted rocks and just a thank you, would be nice for them to hear.

Dianne Standing

Blessings

Dept. of Oregon Poppy Chairman



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2022 – 2023

## V A & R End of Year Report

Many of our Units have continued to provide for our Veterans. Although we have been impacted by the pandemic, rules are relaxing, and we are starting to get back to normal at our VA Hospitals and Veteran Homes. Volunteer opportunities are becoming available.

Some of the Units that reported their activities and hours for their activities included:

- Setting out flags on Veterans Day
- Shopping for Military families for Christmas
- Providing toys to Camp Withycomb
- Creating quilts, neck pillows, and ditty bags for the Veterans Homes in Lebanon and Portland
- Monthly dinners for Veterans Shelter
- Setting our flags on Memorial Day
- Assist Veterans to dr. appointment.
- Paid rent for National Guard family
- Participated in Wreaths Across America
- Participated in Veterans stand downs.
- Provided holiday meals for Veterans.
- Provided Hurricane Relief to Dept. of Florida
- Participated and presented Quilts of Valor
- Provided backpacks for military children.
- Sent Christmas cards to Veterans.
- Participated in Gold Star & Blue Star Flag events.
- Volunteering in Veteran Suicide Awareness fundraiser
- Volunteering in Veteran Boot Project
- Monetary donations to Veterans Homes and Hospitals
- Provide canned goods for Veterans facility.
- Provided Veterans Day dinners.
- Donations to Vietnam Memorial Fund

This year Dept. of Oregon members doubled their volunteer hours, with 10,284.25 hours and 400 volunteers. Reporting Units reported their VA &R programs spending:

- \$18,246.47 – General assistance to Veterans
- \$11,562.00 – In-kind donations
- \$5,350.00 – Donations to Veterans Homes and VA Hospital
- \$3,100.00 – National Programs

Our Units continue to enhance the lives of our Veterans and our military families.

This year the Portland VA Medical Center will again let the Department of Oregon hold our yearly Christmas Gift Shop in November.

Submitted by: Marie Larson

Dept. of Oregon VA&R Chairperson