

MID-WINTER BOOK OF REPORTS

JANUARY 17, 2026



Presidents Report

I hope everyone had a safe and Merry Christmas along with bringing in the New Year 2026, can you believe it! Looking back since our DEC in Tigard, Oregon a lot has happened. The end of October through December 6th has been very busy. I have made some visits to Units and talked about my project Paws Assisting Veterans and my vision. I also have participated in some events. I rode in the Albany Parade; I attended a Banquet the night before when they were honoring a Veteran of the year. While I was there, I met a World War II Veteran that was 104 years old. I attended a dinner at the Elks in Forest Grove honoring our Veterans and in October I handed out coloring books during our Halloween celebration, dressed in a renaissance dress.

I have attended a few National meetings for chairman that were unable to attend. I attended an Eagle Scout Project, and I visited Paws Assisting Veterans on October 22nd and November 6th. We had the Stand Down and it was full of amazing organizations that could help our Veterans, November 7th celebrated the Dept. Marine Corp Birthday here in Forest Grove. In December I attended the Lebanon Veterans home gift shop this was a first for me and I was very excited to see how it works. December 6th was the Dept. Christmas Party in Lebanon; we had a lot of fun and thank you Steve for the jail/bail to raise money for the Commander and myself projects. I also helped decorate our Post for an Open House with Santa and Mrs. Claus

My vision and my theme are still: Mission Driven Family Focused, Communication and being positive. I will be sharing with you on the 17th about these areas and how I feel they are doing!

If you would like me to visit your Unit or attend an event that you are having, please let Dept. and myself know.

I attended many Zoom meetings, interviewing and talking with our new Administrative Assistant Cheryl Hartley which you will meet at our Virtual Winter DEC January 17th at 10am.

Thank you for all you do!

Blessings,

*Dianne Standing
Dept. of Oregon President
508-688-4068
Diann2911@hotmail.com*

Vice President - BOOK OF REPORTS

Hello Friends

I became your Vice President in June 2025... but oddly (in my opinion). The year did not get underway until late September. I really feel that there were a lot of missed opportunities for outreach during those summer months. I plan to brainstorm an activity next summer for a family wide event of some sort 🥳 😊 😊

The fall months were spent visiting a couple of Units and getting to know a few members that I had not met before.

Our Legion Family Christmas party in Lebanon on December 6th was so much fun!! I would like to personally thank the Lebanon Legion Family for hosting and the wonderful turkey dinner that was prepared for us!!

I was honored to be the one to present the Christmas card album and cash donation from our Units and individual members to Madam President. I know that she was so touched by the outpouring of love and support from so many of you.

I continue to attend this coming year's convention planning meetings and am so happy to report that the plans are coming along great!! This year's convention is shaping up to be a BEACHY BLAST!!!

The New Year is just getting started and there are endless opportunities for us to serve our Veterans and the community that we live in the upcoming months.

I will be on the lookout for shining stars!

God bless you all for your heart to serve

Lori Vallery

Department Vice President

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY | DEPARTMENT OF OREGON

DISTRICT 1

MID-WINTER DEC, JANUARY 11, 2026

Happy New Year! I continue to be humbled and honored to represent the Units of District 1. I have

included all the Unit Reports that I received highlighting their activities October through December.

I know that some like all the details while other members do not have all the time to read them

thoroughly.

We have ten (10) units, with a wide range of membership goals: four (4) that have 10-50 members.

four (4) that hover around 100-150; two (2); and two (2) over 200. Each of these Units is challenged as all Units are with fewer members that attend meetings, and/or are willing and able to help deliver our Mission of assisting Veterans, Active-Duty Service Members, and their families in the communities in which they live.

Highlights of particular interest:

- The Units that have a plan and execute it!
- The Units that support their recruits and support them and their families.
- The Units that innovate and reach out to veterans and by extension their community by visiting assisted living communities...
- The Units that move forward despite the complications of thriving in a dysfunctional family.
- The Units that have aging, less active members and continue to support the mission...

Where their stars shine is in their commitment to our Mission and their ability to tap into the skill set of their members and do what they can! Attention All Members, share your talents and passions with your Unit! This is the BEST way to support our mission! Me, I can't cook (and definitely not for 50-100!) but I can do dishes, and serve meals; I'm not crafty and don't sew but boy oh boy, give me a spreadsheet and I am a happy camper, I may not have contacts at schools or the ability to organize a presentation for littles, but if you have a veteran in need, I am THE go-to person!

For those Units that have younger members, I have been blessed with amazing employment opportunities that came from working on the Mission in my community! I was able to volunteer as a Battalion Family Readiness Leader which let to paid work with veterans and ORANG members as a Family Assistance Specialist (FAS), now Military and Family Readiness Specialist (MFRS), and the coup de grâce of being an American Legion Service Officer...

Unfortunately, I have not been able to visit as many Units as I had hoped, I am blessed to have units that have established leadership. As we move towards Spring and longer daylight, I will visit all the remaining Units! Our Units are shy of their goals, as of this report we stand at 58ish percent. Yet, I have faith and encouragement that we will shine brighter as the 2025-2026 membership year progresses!

For God and Country,

Jody Marsh, PDP

District 1 President

DISTRICT 2 - REPORT

Many of the Units have people that have been sick. It's going on Everywhere. So be careful and it will go away soon. Some of the Units had annual Garage sales. Dallas made \$2,000 for their General Fund. Great job!!!

For the Holidays many Units had Veterans that were in retirement Health Centers. Each veteran was provided with a special gift to thank them for their service and let them know that they are not alone.

Many Units are having free lunches for the Veterans. And some Units have Dinners and raffles like Sausage and Sauerkraut with the Auxiliary And some had extra SAL members' help, which is great. Bingos are going on in some of the Units making money for the veterans.

Hopefully everyone will have the monthly meetings. Memberships are coming up for some of you. Some of you have been repairing rooms at your unit.

One of the Units are writing Christmas Cards, 154 cards were sent to Lebanon Veterans Home, Dallas Veterans Home had 112 cards sent to them. It took 2 members to work 3 hours each. WOW!!!!

One Unit had a National Night Out in Carlton. A meal was provided for Sale from Post 173 American Auxiliary.

One Unit had their first Minimal Sales Event; it did bring a new potential member for both the Legion and Auxiliary with plans for additional events with better advertising and signage in the community.

McMinnville is having a Standdown this year. It will be in September 2026. If you want more information, I will get some info for you.

I think we all have been working hard to make all our Units grow, and keep up the good work you all have been doing. If you have any questions, you can get hold of me on 503-550-9787.

Glena Smith

District President 2

American Legion Auxiliary
Mid-Winter Book of Reports
District 3

I did not receive any reports on activities from my Units.

I can tell you the Units have been very busy. Working on membership, planning events for our Veterans and communities.

All the Units in District 3 have been very busy with projects including Holiday meals for Veterans, families and community members.

Unit # 51 hosted the Department Christmas Party. Good food and good time had by all.

Lebanon Veterans Home Christmas Shopping was held on December 3rd hosted by liaison Karol Satterfield of Unit #83 Eugene Santa-Clara. What fun. The Veterans enjoyed the shopping, visits and snacks.

A small 4_H group of children with parents joined in and wrapped gifts and visited with the Veterans.

Holiday meals were provided by the Units for Veterans, families and community members.

Holiday parties for the community children were held in some of the Units.

Unit # 116 Newport served and delivered 506 meals this year for Thanksgiving.

They are and have been busy with many projects and hope to have more to share next time.

We will have more to share in the next report.

For God and Country

Service not self

Bobbi Peebler

District 3 President

DISTRICT 4 BOOK OF REPORTS

Malin Unit 84

Heidi Cunningham, President, helped American Legion with the 50-50 Raffle. Cooking and cleanup 6 hours /woman.

American Legion took over the Veterans Day again. The auxiliary cooked and cleaned up.

Law Enforcement Camp, Boys & Girls state had candidates.

Next 4th of July to plan and Veterans Day to plan.

3 or more meetings by phone.

Awarded Ruth-Unruh scholarship to 1 student.

Grants Pass Unit 28

Amanda Rarey started up unit after being closed.

They have 11 members charter turned in 11-02-2025.

No information on Charter; Wilsonville has charter application in possession.

Williams Unit 50

Mavis Comer, President, built wreaths at Pleasante Winery. Men & Women from Legion gathered greenery from forest.

Made 14 toiletry bags for Women at DOM (VA facility, White City was called DOMICILE) hair ties, socks, string back packs.

Christmas Party with Legion was December 18th meal and award.

Medford Unit 15

Kathy Wayne put together 6 complete Thanksgiving dinners and delivered 3 for 1 needy family.

Made 400 cookies for local church event.

Sponsored youth.

Riby Taylor, President had us gather socks & undies for men & women more than 2 times a year.

Kathy saw widow of Lyle Johnson and made a scrapbook for Sandy Johnson.

Bonnie Smith

District 4 President

District #5 President / Esther Reed

Each of the American Auxiliary units have been busy over the last three months. Each unit providing a report were the Presidents of each of the units.

LaPine Unit #45, Jessica Anderson

Crook County Unit #29, Helen Hisaw

Bend Unit #4, Karen Banks

I still have not been able to contact the Hood River's unit, The contact on file is Judy Osburne. I see from the reports in ALS MIS that there are members that are still paying their yearly membership dues. I have not had any response from Judy; I will attempt to contact some of the paid members in ALA MIS to see if I can get some additional information on the unit.

The Redmond Unit is currently trying to reinstate their auxiliary. I have spoken with Ilka Dalton both by phone and e-mail. On November 6th I attended an organizational meeting at the Redmond Post. There were several in attendance interested in the restarting of the unit. A great interest was shown by the group. It appeared that they have ladies who are interested in being on the board. Ilka stated that she was going to be sending in the application to the Department next Monday. I will continue to follow up with Ilka to see if I can assist in any way.

Crook County Unit #29, 2nd Quarter Report

Crook County hosted our annual Hot Dog and Bake sale in October. The members supply home baked goods. This is a 3-day event that is held in the parking lot of a local grocery store with a great deal of support from the grocery store. Proceeds will be used for our scholarship program. This year's successful event created over \$780.00 for our program.

November the unit and post work together to host a parade and spaghetti dinner on veterans' day. The parade was attended by many and approximately 150 community members were served a meal.

December was very busy for our unit. The American Legion host an annual auction with help from the Auxiliary. All proceeds go to next year for food and gifts in our annual gift giving. This year's auction brought in over \$14,000.00.

The Auxiliary provided an enchilada dinner before the auction. The Auxiliary went shopping on December 7th, we were able to give a gift to 3 homeless veterans and family, 6 National Guard families (21 people) and 20 senior community members from the tree of joy. Total spent was \$3,800.00 from last year's auction.

We have a member who host charity bingo for all kinds of programs including our scholarship, children and Youth as well as community. For a total of 12 hours per quarter and \$ 3,000.00. Another member sews for Christmas and donated baby quilts, toys, glass cases, zippered bags and much more. The member attends 3-4 bazaars annually and donates the proceeds.

Total Hours = 473 / Total Money = \$4,800.00 / People served = 300

Helen Hisaw

Unit President

American Legion Auxiliary

Unit 45 2nd. Quarterly Report

October, our post hosted our first kids harvest festival. All entities were involved as well as different members of the community. For the most part everything needed was donated including pumpkins donated by Costco. Pretty amazing.

The following weekend was the annual Christmas bazaar. Our unit hosts this every year as this is what we use for our scholarship fund. We were able to put \$1,200 dollars into our local scholarship fund.

November was the start of the holiday's events. We celebrated Veterans Day and the Marine Corp birthday. We kicked off November with our annual Turkey Raffle. This event raises money for our Thanksgiving Day meal that we provide free to the community. For our celebration of the Marine Corp 250th birthday our unit secretary Barb made a beautiful cake. Veterans day was a day full of things. We participated in the local parade, followed by burgers and hot dogs at our post.

Thanksgiving was a huge success. Our post served over 250 community members.

December our unit hosted Wreaths across America. We read over 275 names. It was a beautiful ceremony.

Dec 20th was our annual kids Christmas party. We provided 200 gifts to local children, Santa came, kids enjoyed writing letters to Santa and eating pizza.

Our unit provided gifts to the veterans that live in our two local assisted and memory care facilities. They were so overjoyed to receive a visit and a gift. We also provided "Christmas Soup" (hot chocolate, marshmallows and a peppermint candy cane in a coffee cup) to all the residents living in the facilities.

Over the last two years the auxiliary has also been collecting returnable bottles and cans. We raised over \$7,500.00 to go to the cost to build the Vietnam War Remembrance Wall in our state capital. This program ended December 31, 2025,

Unit 45 ended the year with 603 volunteer hours.

Happy New Year from Unit 45.

Jessica Anderson, Unit President

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 45

Unit 4, 2nd. Quarterly Report

American Legion Auxiliary Stevens-Chute Unit #4 Midyear Report

Unit 4 still meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

November, we rode in a van with our banner on the outside during the Veterans Day parade. There were 4- unit members and other guests that joined. We also sent \$500 to Department for The Dalles gift shop. We also donated \$500 to the organization that was handing out toys to disadvantage children in the area.

December we were contacted by the local National Guard Unit to ask if we could supply gift cards for families that had teens. We purchased \$500 worth of gift cards and delivered them to the Nation Guard office.

Also, one member always signs and gives out Christmas Cards to all the retirement communities that have veterans for our unit.

At our December meeting, the members brought a toy for kids and canned food that will be given to COVO.

For God and Country,

Karen Banks, President

ALA Unit 4

I am so excited with the number of activities that each of the units have been involved in one way or another. It is great to see that the units are working with their posts and the community to further the American Legion. We have a very active district; they are doing a great job of getting our name out there. We are sharing needs and resources with each other which helps us do a more outstanding job of serving our veterans.

This report respectfully submitted,

Esther Reed

District 5 President

Department of Oregon

District 6 Book of Reports July 1 to September 30.

Unit #43 La Grande: This unit is highly creative and are making their poppies from scratch and having lots of fun doing it. They had the first session on September 8 and had 8 members showed up to create the poppies; they made 200 in 2 hours. They will continue to make the poppies until their goal is achieved. The post Commander, Walt Dean, helped with bundling them. Unit 43 is trying to market joining the American Legion Aux. by staffing an informational table at the Celebrate La Grande Saturday Market. Their new pappy chairperson and her daughters have staffed the table twice so far. The unit voted to give away patriotic items to help with this event. It was not reported if the events were successful or not.

Unit 43 continues to purchase snacks and coffee for the VA Clinic, and it is very appreciated by the patients. This is a budgeted item, and the unit will be presenting their budget to the membership for a second time to either accept or make changes before sending out the donations.

The unit decorates the annex whenever there is a memorial for a deceased post or auxiliary member. The families of the deceased members really appreciate the efforts made by the unit. The unit is still able to do Burger Night thanks to a fill-in cook. They also continue to

have BINGO which pays the bills. The Unit president is developing a working relationship with the new post Commander so far looks promising.

The unit has 15 members who have been volunteering to serve 100 plus veterans with a total of 189 hours and spending \$532.00 since July 1. Another \$180 was spent on the promotional items given away at the Saturday Market informational table.

Unit 43 is struggling with the members volunteering for projects, as the members age no replacements are coming forward to fill the gaps.

Unit#130 Athena:

This unit does not meet over the summer months. They did have their annual HODAKA Community Breakfast and raised a little over \$1000.00 which is split with the post. They put in 20 hours of work to host this breakfast for the community.

They have started to plan for Veterans Day by Co-chairing another community breakfast with the students of the Career Class at Westen-McEwen High school and hope this turns into a yearly event to help the school and the Auxiliary

Unit # 24 Milton-Freewater

Unit 24 does not meet in July or August. In June, 4 scholarships for \$250.00 each were awarded to McLaughlin High School seniors. The criterion for receiving this award is to have military affiliation, a high sense of responsibility toward family, country, and community, and academic achievement.

The unit has only 15 total members with only 4 working members and has one fund raiser a year to raise the money necessary to fund their scholarship program. Unit 24 is enormously proud of this achievement.

Members decorate the tables every month for the Potluck dinner hosted by the post and clean up afterward. One member does all the paperwork for the post when the building is rented to private community individuals.

Unit 24 has started to plan for the Veterans Day Parade and will be handing out rulers that depict all the presidents of the US on one side and the Pledge of Allegiance on the other, plus candy.

The post will be hosting District meeting on December 27th, and the unit president will be working closely with the new post Commander to make this a success for all.

Newsletters have been mailed to all members who live out of state and to those unable to attend meetings, letting them know what is happening in their unit and a reminder to PAY DUES.

Unit #37 Hermiston:

Unit 37 reports that they do have regular meetings July, August and September, first Monday of the month. They accepted two new auxiliary members and one Junior member. In August new elected officers were installed by the Post Commander, Arron Wetterling.

Members voted on wearing blouses or shirts the colors of red, white, or blue with an ALA logo or patriotic pen or necklace to help the public recognize them as members of the American Legion.

During the Farm City Fair unit 37 members volunteered to staff an informational table handing out flyers and answering questions about the American Legion Family. Hoping to generate interest by the public to join the Legion or Auxiliary. They also sold lots of Beef Raffle tickets. Plans are in the works for the Aux. annual September Picnic in the Park that honors Veterans and the Aux. annual Yard Sale.

District 6 Auxiliary meeting was hosted by Unit 37 at the Hermiston Senior Center on September 27th.

Unit #95 lone:

This unit does not meet over the Sumer months and is just getting ready to begin their membership campaign.

District 8

Welcome to the mighty 3. Our units have been working memberships and serving our veterans. I do need to give Post Unit plus SAL of Oregon Trail 150 for receiving an award from Oregon National Guard for 2024 Community Partners for the year with a beautiful plaque. Way to go everyone at 150.

All three serve do veterans for dinner and some for lunch. For WY east a veterans transition program and ones at their Post.

Membership has slowed down because of the holidays, but all are working on it. We had a hiccup, but it's been worked out. That's what a Commander and President working together can do. So as far as District 8 is concerned we are holding our own. President Trudie McGriff District 8 a proud President

From Auxiliary Emergency Fund chairman, Cyndi Dahl

Auxiliary members helping Auxiliary members.

There have been a lot of disasters in Oregon, especially with the flooding and wind damage. If you know of any Auxiliary member that needs a grant to help, the AEF fund may be able to help.

Check the application available online or Dept can help with it.

Through your donations, we can help other members who need the help. This is a National American Legion Auxiliary program. And National rules apply.

If I can help anyone with AEF questions, please contact me,

Cyndi Dahl.

503-396-2860



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Oregon
Historian Mid-Year Report

The year started off with the post-convention DEC. Next up was a trip to Tampa, Florida for National Convention. Many things were presented, and the National President's theme was announced – Mission Driven, Family Focused.

- 🌸 June: President Dianne Standing was sworn in and the Post-Convention DEC was held.
- 🌸 July:
- 🌸 August: Many officers/delegates attended the National Convention in Tampa, Florida. Much information, including the National President's theme for the year

(Mission Driven, Family Focused) was presented. Several resolutions were discussed and passed.

🌸 September:

🌸 October: October was a very busy month.

- Fall DEC was held on 12 October 2025 in Tigard, Oregon. The budget was discussed, and a few oral reports were given, including one from the Girls State Chairperson, Karla Thaler. Awards were given out.
- On 22 October 2025, there was a visit to PAVE – Paws Assisting Veterans. Much was learned about the process of training a service dog, from the organization acquiring a young dog, through the end of the service dog's "career," and the cost...

🌸 November: On 5 November 2025 President Dianne attended Argonne Unit 56's monthly meeting, where she was able to share information learned from her visit at PAVE the month before. The unit made a donation to the President's Project.

🌸 December:

- President Dianne was present for the opening of the Veterans Gift Shop in Lebanon, Oregon on 3 December 2025.
- The Department Christmas party was hosted by Lebanon Post. They provided a ham and turkey dinner with all the fixing's, did a gift exchange, and had a fund raiser event. Several people were "arrested" for various crimes, and the proceeds (bail funds) were divided between the Department Commander and Department President for their individual projects.
- President Dianne was unable to attend District 8's Christmas party on 16 December 2025, but Department was represented by the Parliamentarian, Pam Seelye, and Historian, Tawnya Lege.

This concludes my report.

Respectfully submitted by:

Tawnya Lege
Department Historian

Book of Reports Oregon Girls State

Winter DEC; Virtual meeting; January 17 ,2026

Oregon Girls State for 2026 will once again be held in Sackett Hall at Oregon State University. It will be held from Saturday, June 20, 2026, to Saturday, June 27, 2026. We have added a full day to ensure we cover all objectives of the program and to allow more personal interaction amongst the Girls State citizens. Boys State will once again run concurrent with our program with theirs beginning on the 21st. Hopefully, program communication and interaction will be more effective and beneficial this coming year. It is unfortunate that this also coincides with the Department Convention being held in Lincoln

City in the last half of the week. With the time Oregon schools finish their year, facilities availability and when the military academies have new cadets report (our Governor, for instance), our options are extremely limited.

At the end of last year's program, we were pretty determined to part ways with the Girls State/Boys State concurrency. Due to the concerted effort of both the 2026 Girls State and Boys State Governors and their focus on coordinated interaction, we have given it one more year to prove it to be more advantageous than not. Both governors are highly motivated and engaged in the process hoping to double the participation in their programs from last year. A greater focus on digital communication is paying off, and we already have one application with at least three others pending.

Unfortunately, the Blount Family Foundation funding we normally have available was denied for this year. We will be reapplying again and are in contact with other organizations for possible support. We welcome any suggested sources you may think of. We will be contacting all District Presidents and Commanders with information to disseminate to your members and local area schools. We also had more brochures printed as they were no longer available from National. If you need some, let me or the Department know.

If we do indeed double the number of citizens for 2026, we will need a few more program volunteers. Girls State is the hallmark Auxiliary program that truly changes lives, for both participants and volunteers. Please consider being part of a summer week that is fun, educational and truly rewarding. I don't think you'll ever regret it!

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Thaler,

Girls State Commission Scribe

KJT

BOOK OF REPORTS

JANUARY 2026

VA&R

As usual, the Units are hard at work for our Veterans. You are doing much more than I have ever heard about. I am reporting only about what I know or have been told that the Units are doing. Sorry if what your Unit has been doing was left out.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Hopefully all the Units that ordered wreaths did it using our Department code so that we got \$5 back for each wreath. The money earned will go to the Presidents Project, P.A.V.E. We should be receiving the money in January.

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

Washington Unit #2 did a great job making Christmas stockings for the VAVS Christmas Cheer at Portland VA and The Oregon Veterans Home. They made 200 Christmas stockings, we were beautiful. Thank you so much for your dedication.

DONATION OF DENTAL HYGENE

We had a local dentist in Canby donate. They donated floss, toothpaste, toothbrushes and denture kits to Roseburg VA and to the Oregon Veterans Home. Thank you, Dr. Neal.

CLOTHING DRIVE

Banks, Unit # 90, had a clothing drive where they asked their members and Bingo players to bring in socks, underwear, sweatshirts and other warm clothing for Roseburg VA. I do not have a count or dollar amount, just bags of new clothing. Thank you, Banks

CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOPS

It was another successful year at our Christmas gift shops, where our Veterans can come in and shop free of charge for their families. Each Christmas gift shop is different and unique. Each gift is gift wrapped and mailed if necessary. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this happen. We could not do any of these shops without the volunteers.

LEBANON VETERSN HOME

Veterans served 75/80

Volunteers 9 Auxiliary members and 4 Future Farmers of America

Money spent \$1750.00

Hours 150 approximately

OREGON VETERANS HOME

Veterans served 65

Volunteers 32

Money spent \$ 2920.00

Hours 153

PORTLAND VA

Veterans served 288

Volunteers many Auxiliary, Legion and SAL members

Money spent \$ 1500.00 approximately

Hours 441

ROSEBURG Letters to Santa

Veterans served 12

Volunteers 2

Money spent \$510.00

Hours 4

SORCC (White City)

We do not have regular volunteers at White City, but we try not to forget them. We sent \$500 for patient needs, hygiene items and clothing.

I hope that I have not left anyone out, I can only report what I know about. We have Units that are doing things every day for our Veterans. There are ongoing projects such as Veterans free lunches, shopping for the Liver/Kidney Transplant Unit, Christmas food and gifts, volunteering at the VA facilities and all the things that are done without even thinking, because we are here to serve our Veterans.

Linda Liebenow,

Department of Oregon

VA&R Chairman

National Security Department of Oregon

Winter DEC Report, 2025-26

Yvonne Drury, Chairman - 541-390-4231

63521 Boyd Acres Road, Bend, OR 97701 - ydrury47@gmail.com

As mentioned last year, National Preparedness has always been a part of the National Security committee, but the focus has been updated in recent years to emphasize our National Preparedness in relation to natural disasters, including hurricanes, power outages, severe weather and flooding, for example.

In Oregon, we suffer real seasonal natural disasters from flooding, wildfires, snowstorms and freezing weather, power outages, and now possible disruptions of services due to earthquakes.

If you have not already done so, PLEASE SET UP A DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PLAN. Provide the information to your Unit Members and disseminate it to your community. HOW TO? See below:

To get ready information for any of these types of disasters, the National ALA website includes a link to the US Government site: [ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov). This site gives us tips and contact information needed when disasters strike. September marks National Preparedness Month, and the [ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) site contains a link to "National Preparedness Month" in its header. We've missed September, but any time is appropriate to help your community. The site includes a toolkit, social media graphics, Congressional Co-Chairs and quotes, preparedness graphics and a "Start a Conversation Fact Sheet". There are also PSA videos and links to more information. They have done a lot of work for us...we just need to look it up and get started.

The National and Western Division National Security Chairs send good information throughout the year that I would like to forward to the Units. I will continue to disperse that information to our Oregon Units as it comes in, via our department email blasts.

Be sure to send me an email message (doing the program or not) in time for year-end reports and add me to your Post/Unit newsletter email list (you've already done the work...tell us about it!) I sent a request to Department to send out an email blast reminding the Units to send reports, but I haven't seen it as of Jan. 1.

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

For God and Country,

Yvonne

Yvonne Drury, Chr.

PS If you haven't personally signed up to the member portal of National ALA site: legion-aux.org, do so right away. The answers to your questions on any of our ALA programs and committees are right there!

National Security Department of Oregon

Winter DEC Report, 2025-26 - SUPPLEMENT

Yvonne Drury, Chairman - 541-390-4231

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American Legion Auxiliary Unit 150 has just sent me the following information on a Community Partner of the Year award from the Service Member & Family Support of the Oregon National Guard, signed by Carrie Froelich, State Family Program Director:

Nomination letter: "The nominee has demonstrated unwavering dedication and commitment to supporting the Oregon National Guard Family Program, making significant contributions through volunteerism, resource coordination, and compassionate service. Their involvement has had a lasting and positive impact on the lives of Service Members and their families across the state. One of the nominees' primary roles has been the management and oversight of the Emergency Fund for Service Members, a crucial resource that provides financial assistance to Service Members in times of need. Throughout the year, the nominee has dedicated over 100 hours to organizing fundraising events, including multiple raffles, to ensure the sustainability of this fund. Despite the significant challenge of a six-month closure due to a pipe break and flooding, the nominee remained steadfast in their mission. They continued to process assistance requests, approving as many as possible within the fund's means. From September to September, the nominee facilitated assistance for 20 Service Members, distributing a total of \$2,323. One example of their dedication includes responding to a request for \$223 to help a Service Member catch up on storage unit payments. While one \$200 assistance check could not be processed due to external circumstances, the nominee's commitment to supporting Service Members was unwavering. Additionally, the nominee plays an essential role in the annual toy drive, a cherished event that brings joy to the children of Oregon National Guard families. This effort begins immediately after Christmas, with dedicated volunteers—led by the nominee—shopping for toys on sale throughout the year, often using their personal funds. The nominee also manages the collection of toy donations and funds raised through raffles and personal contributions. They oversee the process of purchasing and packaging toys to ensure that every gift is beautifully wrapped and presented with care, including handmade bows crafted by one of their dedicated team members. This attention to detail reflects the nominee's genuine compassion and dedication to creating meaningful experiences for families during the holiday season. The nominee's commitment extends beyond these activities. They are entrusted with the authority to approve initial assistance of up to \$100 for Service Members, ensuring that urgent needs are met swiftly. For larger amounts, they diligently seek appropriate approvals, ensuring responsible and fair allocation of

resources. The nominee also collaborates closely with the Military Assistance Specialist, ensuring their efforts align with broader community needs. Through their dedication, compassion, and strategic leadership, the nominee has significantly strengthened the Oregon National Guard Family Program. Their work ensures that Service Members and their families receive the support they need while fostering a sense of community, compassion, and resilience. Their efforts embody the core values of the National Guard and Family Program mission—providing unwavering support to those who have served and their families. For these reasons, the nominee is a deserving candidate for the State of Oregon Community Partner Award.”



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As your Membership Chairman this year, I have felt that I wanted to take a small step back this fall from the normal business of challenges and reminders of goals and deadlines, and focus instead on building up our membership with reminders of how much they are appreciated and (hopefully) some helpful suggestion on strategies to help build community awareness of our mission and purpose. I feel very strongly that it is not just important to gain new membership. I believe that it is the retention and the well-being of our current membership that is just as crucial to the success of our programs. I have been leaving small suggestions in our weekly membership reports, of possible ways to make our current members feel appreciated and possibly a few ways to get out into the community to increase awareness of our mission. Also, I have been very focused on reminding individual Units to please share your upcoming events with not only your communities, but the entire Legion family as well. I believe that communication and cooperation between family members is very critical to our success.

This has been a season of transition and learning at the Department level. I firmly believe that we are going into this new year with a renewed enthusiasm and dedication to making this coming year the BEST YEAR EVER for the Department of Oregon American Legion Auxiliary!

Lori Vallery

Membership Chairman

Mid-Winter DEC 2026

NEC Report

I am so sorry that I cannot be in attendance today at this DEC zoom meeting. I am at a prior obligation that was set up over a year ago. I am spending the day with 15 remarkable young people. We are visiting Fort Stevens, Fort Clatsop, the Astoria Column, and the Columbia River Maritime Museum. That evening, I have the honor of being the MC for the Voice of Democracy Banquet where we will celebrate and recognize these young people and their accomplishments.

Since our last DEC we have held 3 Executive Session Zoom meetings of the NEC. Since these meetings are confidential nothing can be reported on them.

However, it can be said that we as a department and each of our units need to make sure that our governing documents are up to date and that we are following what is written in them. Do not leave it up to what you think is in them. Verify before taking any action.

Wishing you a very successful DEC and the best in 2026.

Pam Seelye
NEC