
LEGIONETTE – A STORY TO SHARE –

3/23



NEWS FROM DEPARTMENT

Shared By Courtenay Burns.

Department President

Did you know that March is Women's History Month? This is a month-long celebration that highlights the contributions of women to events in history and

contemporary society. In the United States, Women's History Month traces its beginnings back to the first International Women's Day in 1911. This year, the theme of Women's History Month, as designated by the National Women's History Alliance, is "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories". Celebrate all the extraordinary women in your life by finding out more:

www.womenshistorymonth.gov



NEWS FROM DEPARTMENT

Shared By Department

Secretary/Treasurer Daela Gibson.

Hi Everyone,

It's that time of year to send Department your dues rates

for Junior and Senior dues who are in your Unit. Please remember that National is increasing Senior dues by \$6.00, so the **minimum** amount you can set your Senior dues rates at is **\$34.00**. I need this information **by March 31st**, along with who your remit person will be.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER: *Shared By: Laurie Diefenbach is the elected Chaplain of the ALA Department of Nevada.*
HOLIDAYS & VALUES

Welcome to the month of March. This is the longest stretch of the year that contains no Federal Holidays (defined by me as a day with no mail delivery).

Think of it. After Presidents' Day – the third Monday of February – there is no Federal Holiday until Memorial Day, the last Monday of May.

Sure, there are non-Federal Holidays during this time period. Religious holidays like Easter and Passover. St. Patrick's Day. Mother's Day. But none that give us a paid day's off from work!

The Holidays that a country observes tells us a lot about what that country values. What does the United States value?

Well, we have two Holidays devoted to veterans – Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Traditionally, Memorial Day honored veterans who died, whether in war or afterwards, and Veterans Day honored all veterans, alive and dead. More recently, however, these two Holidays have morphed into honoring all veterans, alive and dead. I guess if a Holiday is going to change, having it change to honoring more people, rather than celebrating "the unofficial start of summer," is not such a bad thing. From this we learn that our country honors its veterans.

Our newest Federal Holiday, Juneteenth, recalls the end of slavery in the United States. Juneteenth, celebrated on the 19th of June, commemorates June 19, 1865, the day that enslaved people in Galveston, Texas learned they had been freed. Of course, Emancipation actually took place two years prior. We also honor a leader of the Civil Rights movement, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., close to his birthday, on the third Monday of January; Dr. King's birthday actually was January 15th. Having two holidays that address America's "original sin" of slavery, and the aftermath of that sin, the fight against racial discrimination, also sends a message.

We have Labor Day, the first Monday of September, honoring those who work, demonstrating our work ethic. We recognize the birth of our country on the Fourth of July, our Independence Day. We celebrate all our Presidents on the third Monday of February; this used to be Washington's birthday (February 22nd), but since some states also celebrated Lincoln's birthday (February 12th), which was just ten days earlier, the



thought was to change both dates to just one, and honor all of our Presidents. We have Thanksgiving, where we give thanks to God for bringing the Pilgrims safely to what later became the United States of America.

And of course, there's Christmas and New Year's Day. Yes, lots of holidays – but still wish there was one during March or April.



Figure 1 Part of the Nevada's Representation

MISSION TRAINING/JUNIOR NATIONAL MEETING

was held February 4th, 2023, in the Flamingo hotel.

Departments from HI to WI and AK to NM attended this one day

training. Nevada was represented by Unit's 7, 8, 14, 40, 51, 76, 40 and 149. Networking, learning new ways to work ALA program from our national leaders were highlights. You could feel the enthusiasm as members shared their passion.

Throughout this Legionette issue, you will find candid photos of the event. You will also find inserts from the many Power Point slides presented at the meeting.

Check out <https://member.legion-aux.org/Meetings/>

Arts and Healing in the Military Community
National President's Special Project



Supporting Veteran Companions at the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

- Donations assist with financial support those who travel with our veterans while attending the festival.
- Veterans' expenses are covered, companions do not receive financial assistance

Send Donations to:
ALA National Headquarters
3450 Founders Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Be sure to earmark on the memo line of your check:
National President's Project 2022-2023



BMI UNIT 40

Shared by
Charmaine Meana –
Unit 40 President

American Legion Family Meeting

At one time before COVID, we used to have District Meetings. Typically, those in attendance were Officers from the American Legion Family. We no longer are divided or assigned a District number in Nevada. My idea is to revamp this kind of meeting, open to ALL Members of the American Legion Family to be held every 3 months.

I am looking to host this Event in April. Details coming soon via email to Officers to bring to their members. The idea is for Our Family to get to know each other, learn about different Post's and see what we ALL are up to at our Post's, as well as upcoming Events they are hosting. We also have several Post's without a Post who do amazing work too.

What to bring you ask? Members! Also, copies of your Post's upcoming Events, dates and time to exchange. We all do great Events that other Members could attend too, if they just only knew.

Let's get together and get to know each other and help each other when we can. Times are tough. We must stand together as the American Legion Family that we are.

Next week, this is my primary focus. I am asking you, the reader to contact me with ideas or questions and mostly your thoughts on this idea.

Please email me ASAP: pandychar1@gmail.com
Because Nevada is so spread out, we need to network together and stand strong!

Also, come join Unit 40 March 5th for our ALA Breakfast, 8am-10am. 2 eggs your way or a 3-egg omelet, choice of cheese, onion, green pepper or ham, potatoes, bacon or homemade sausage patties, toast or a biscuit with homemade sausage gravy for \$7. ALA Unit 40 is also hosting Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, March 17th, 5pm-6:30pm for \$9.



New Eligibility – New Opportunities

Male Spouses

- At the 2019 National Convention for The American Legion, the ALA's eligibility term 'wife' was changed to 'spouse'
 - This allows male spouses of veterans who are current members of The American Legion to join the ALA
 - Widowers whose spouse served during eligible time periods are eligible to join the ALA
- Over 1,000 male spouses have joined the ALA



LD LOCKHART UNIT 14

Shared by Rose Cirac,
Unit President

L D Lockhart was represented by 6 senior & 6 junior members at the Western Division

Mission/Junior National training/meeting. "It was highly informative training on our mission and membership," said President Rose.

As a community service project for Valentine's Day our Juniors asked the community to make cards to distribute to veterans in care facilities. There were 400+ veterans who received cards. An additional 100+ cards went into care packages for our deployed. Unit 14 presented Good Deed awards to two brothers whose artistic talents created holiday cards for veterans in care facilities this past December.

Members Helping Members: Senior members helped transport members to doctor appointments, meetings and events. Visiting members in care facilities, calling members who have not been able to attend and sending birthday cards is an important service for our Unit.

Unit 14's current project is working on organizing and collecting items to be distributed to Veterans at the upcoming USVETS Stand Down, scheduled for March 22, at the Silver Nugget.

The above are "unit" projects and does not reflect individual service projects.



American Legion, Reed Gregory, #7

was the recipient of the Elko County

Realtor Association, Quarterly Auction. The local Realtors association's annual fundraiser donates all proceed to a local non-profit.

Source:

https://elkodaily.com/business/elko-realtors-raise-34-000-for-american-legion/article_3173b866-a1a6-11ed-af5a-03b808f9ec1d.html



Arts and Healing in the Military Community

How to Support the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

There are two excellent documents available for download at www.alaforveterans.org found on the VA&R Committee page:

- How to Support the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival
- How to Facilitate a Local Veterans Creative Arts Festival

Download these helpful documents and get started supporting NVCAF Today!



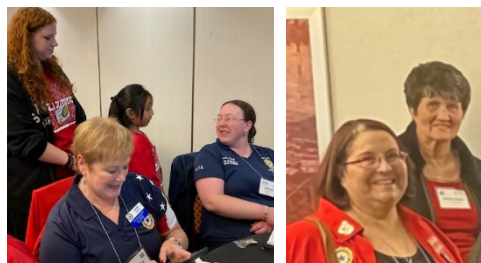
Do You Know Eligibility?

Why is our furthest eligibility within 2 degrees of the veteran?
E.G. Grandmother/Granddaughter as furthest allowable relation?

The ALA rolled back eligibility to only 2 degrees of relation of the veteran in order to become compliant with the IRS definition of a 501(c)19 Veteran Service Organization Auxiliary.

**Shared from: Maria Moss,
Department of Nevada VA&R
Chairman**

February 28, 2023
Maria Moss represented Nevada as the VA&R Chairman at the American Legion Washington DC Conference. Maria attended the American Legion/American Legion Auxiliary Legislative Commission meeting where she met with past ALA National President Kathy Daudistel and current National Vice President Lisa Williams. Then later in the day, the Nevada delegation met with Congressman Horsford. March 1st is slated the Nevada Battleborn breakfast then meet with other Nevada US Senators.



Membership Award

- **10 Plus 3 in 2023**
 - Recruit 10 New Senior Members AND 3 New Junior Members
 - New members must be entered and paid in ALAMIS by June 1, 2023
 - Deadline: Forms must be received at ALA NHQ by June 3, 2023
 - One entry per recruiter
 - Form available at www.ALforVeterans.org



<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Campaigns>
Our National Commander will be testifying in front of a joint session of the Senate and House Committees on Veterans' Affairs to articulate our legislative priorities for 2023. As a member of The American Legion Family, The American Legion asks that you support him by sharing these 2023 Legislative Priorities with your members of Congress:

Join Our Action Campaign: Write Your Congressmembers Now.

The American Legion continues to serve as a powerful voice for veterans in our nation's capital, but the power of our voice is amplified by the voices of our membership. The American Legion's Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, and Sons of The American Legion are the heart and soul of our grassroots organization. This week, we need everyone's help to share our latest priorities far and wide.

Contact your Senators and Representative today to inform them of The American Legion's Legislative Priorities for the first session of the 118th Congress.

DATES FOR THE 2023 GIRL STATE SESSION IS TO BE DETERMINED

Check the website for updates
<https://nevadagirlsstate.net/>



**LD LOCKHART, UNIT 14,
JUNIORS**

Shared by: Judy Cobb
Unit 14 Junior Mentor

It has been a tradition for the American Legion Family to honor the lives of Father

John P. Washington, Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, and the Revs. George L. Fox and Clark V. Poling who perished along with 674 seamen on the army transport ship SS Dorchester.

2023 marks the 80th anniversary of this tragedy. Four current L D Lockhart Juniors and the 2012 National Junior Member of the Year, from Nevada, performed the Four Chaplain Ceremony Sunday February 5th. As a participant of the ceremony, each will receive an actual 3 cent US Postage stamp honoring the chaplains.



BACKGROUND: The *Dorchester* a civilian liner converted for military service in World War II. The ship was struck by a German torpedo. The chaplains helped the other soldiers board lifeboats and gave up their own life jackets when the supply ran out. The chaplains joined arms, said prayers, and sang hymns as they went down with the ship. Only 230 of the 904 men aboard the ship were rescued. A posthumous Special Medal for Heroism, The Four Chaplains' Medal, was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President on January 18, 1961.

“BELIEVE IT OR NOT” OUR THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER HAS ONLY BEEN OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM FOR 92 YEARS. FIND THE 03 2023 STAR SPANGLED BANNER BACKSTORY ATTACHMENT ON THIS MONTH’S EMAIL.



Poppy and Americanism:

Thank you to Spirit of Freedom Unit 76 for allowing the Department Poppy and Americanism Chairwomen to their February meeting.

Poppy Chairwoman shared Department due dates for Poppy Poster contest, March 5th and discussed websites telling how to use poppy money:

1. <https://www.legion-aux.org/poppy-funds> ;
2. <https://www.legion-aux.org/blog/using-poppy-funds-to-help-our-military-families>
3. <https://alaforveterans.wordpress.com/2019/02/06/questions-and-answers-on-poppy-fund-usage/#:~:text=Use%20of%20poppy%20funds%20is,as%20baked%20goods%20or%20books>
4. <https://alaforveterans.wordpress.com/2019/02/06/questions-and-answers-on-poppy-fund-usage/>

The Department Americanism Chairwomen shared Essay contest rules.

[https://www.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Programs/Americanism Essay Cover Sheet.pdf](https://www.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Programs/Americanism%20Essay%20Cover%20Sheet.pdf)

Americanism is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship Flag Advocacy is essential to the Legion Family and all Americans: Information on proper handling of the flag and dates to display the flag half staff

<https://www.legion-aux.org/flag>



PUBLIC RELATIONS:



*Shared by Western Division
Public Relations Chair Nicky
Flores-Ninmer,*

As you can imagine,
newsrooms and public affairs
departments at all media

outlets are inundated with incoming requests for coverage. Television, newspapers, radio, it doesn't matter. However, there are some common denominators to be aware of when requesting attention to your cause.

Do your research. Find the contact information for the assignment editor, beat reporter, and/or news producers for the outlet. Start with an email and be sure to personalize the request, if possible. Most media outlets have people who cover certain types of stories, for example veteran causes or nonprofits. When in doubt, the general assignment editor will always work. Be realistic. While your event or cause is important, you're likely not going to get the front page or prime news coverage unless it's something that is impacting a significant number of people in an unusual way, and even then, you may not. Note: Weekends are a great time to get coverage. It's a slower news cycle. Also, consider small radio stations and small-town newspapers. Some coverage is better than no coverage.

When you send a press release make sure you have details on who & how to contact, if the news outlet is interested.

Critically important. Prominently place "American Legion Auxiliary" on all your correspondence with news outlets to establish the sponsoring organization firmly in everyone's mind. Make sure your contact person is thoroughly familiar with what you are doing, why you are doing it, and how the people will benefit. Also, make sure your spokesperson is articulate. Put your best out there to ensure you're presenting well. And don't forget to wear branded clothing! Have fun sharing your cause. You work hard to make it happen.

Finally, send thank you notes to let your contacts know how much you appreciate their support.



CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

Shared by Department Chair Nicky Flores-Ninmer, Children and Youth



Continuing to search for children to award them with the Good Deed and Youth Hero Awards.

We have reached and gone above the total number of Awards we wanted to hand out, but we still have some Departments that have not submitted for an award. We would like to have every Department give out at least one award.

Ideas shared during zoom meeting The Department of Washington has put together backpacks with hygiene items and snacks.

The Department of California is planning to demonstrate the Military Children's Table at their Mid-Year conference.

The Department of Nevada is working on a dinner in April for 150 active-duty families.

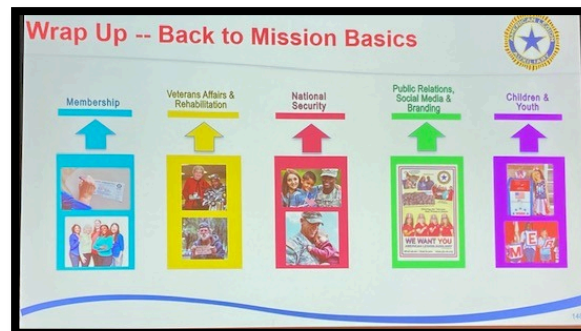
The Department of Oregon collected toys for deployed children.

April is military child month and Purple Up, start planning now.

APRIL - PURPLE UP - April is the month of the Military Child, how are your plans coming for it.

Have you found some creative purple items or treats that you can hand out to military children? Have you got a purple shirt to wear on April 15th as a wonderful visual aid to show your support? April is Purple all the way.

Please send me any information on activities and pictures of what your units are doing for Children and Youth. If you have a quote or poem you would like to share, please send it to me.



No-Bake Pineapple Cream Dessert
Shared from Anita D Green
Paquette Facebook

No-Bake Pineapple Cream Dessert

Ingredients

FILLING

8 oz softened cream cheese

8 oz tub whipped topping

14-16 oz large can crushed pineapple, drained

3/4 cup confectioner's sugar

1/2 cup pineapple chunks

1/2 cup shredded coconut for topping.

CRUST

1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs

1/3 cup sugar

1/2 cup butter melted

Instructions

For crust: Mix the graham cracker crumbs and sugar.

Add the melted butter and stir to combine well. Press into a 8 x 8- or 9 x 9-inch pan.

Filling: In a large bowl, beat the softened cream cheese and confectioner's sugar until very smooth. Beat in the tub of whipped topping. Then fold in the drained pineapple.

Spread filling on top of crust. Top with pineapple chunks and sprinkle with coconut.

Chill very well—at least 4 hours, preferably overnight



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

by Judy Cobb

Yesterday is history,
Tomorrow is a mystery.
Today is a gift. That's why
we call it 'The Present' –

Eleanor Roosevelt

You are the gift to this organization. You are what makes the difference. The mystery is how far will you go.

As you travel on your road to service, don't forget to take pictures and write it down. End of the year reports are almost due.

LET'S MAKE HISTORY.

A special mention about our member Janet Snyder. Other than her beautiful smile, what impresses me is her dedication to our military, veterans AND survivors

Janet makes a difference and continues to make a difference.

A part of her history, is the Congressional Record Statement signed by Senator Dean Heller.

Congratulations Janet as you continue to help make changes for our future.



Senate

TRIBUTE TO JANET SNYDER

Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Janet Snyder for tirelessly supporting Nevada's veterans and military families, particularly military spouses and widows. Mrs. Snyder is dedicated to giving back to the brave men and women who defend our freedom and has contributed greatly to the Las Vegas military community and to the greater good of the Silver State.

Mrs. Snyder understands the many sacrifices military families make on a daily basis. As an army wife, mother of three, grandmother of six, and great-grandmother of five, she stands as a shining example of someone who has devoted her life to the betterment of others, selflessly serving to advocate for the interests of our Nation's heroes and their families each day. Her dedication reminds us all of the importance of thanking the men and women serving this great Nation, as well as their families, for their countless sacrifices.

Since the passing of her husband of 52 years, Mrs. Snyder has provided unwavering support and care for military widows as president of several military wives clubs and support groups. In fact, Mrs. Snyder was recently installed as president of the National Society of Military Widows in October of 2016. The Silver State is grateful and honored to have a Nevadan leading this critical organization. Additionally, Mrs. Snyder is the secretary and acting treasurer of the Society of Military Widows of Southern Nevada Chapter 34 and was also the founding president from 2012 to 2015. Mrs. Snyder is also an active

member of multiple religious groups. She was editor of the Military Jewish Chapel Newsletter and directed and participated in many projects with local religious leaders from Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish communities.

Mrs. Snyder is also known for her outstanding advocacy for military widows by fighting against unfair benefit adjustments that negatively impact families of deceased veterans. Specifically, she has played a pivotal role in fighting for legislation, S. 979, to reverse the offset of the Survivor Benefit Plan, SBP, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, DIC, programs so that spouses of late military retirees fairly receive their deserved benefits without any deductions. As a cosponsor of this bill in the Senate and as a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I truly admire Mrs. Snyder's commitment to these families and believe she is an extraordinary role model to all Nevadans.

Mrs. Snyder's hard work has not gone unnoticed. I extend my deepest gratitude to Mrs. Snyder for her noble contributions to the Las Vegas military community. Her service to Nevada places her among the most remarkable men and women of the State, and acknowledgement of her dedication is well deserved.

I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in recognizing Mrs. Snyder and her work with veterans and their families. Her efforts are both honorable and necessary. I wish her the best of luck in all of her future endeavors.

Complete the WORD SEARCH. Photo and text to 702 612 8982 or email to yelloww@cox.net or mail to 10067 Sparrow Ridge Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89117. Questions call or text 702 612 8982. Send in prior to next issue. You will receive a raffle number. Drawing will take place at Department Convention.

P	I	N	E	A	P	P	L	E	A	B
D	H	I	S	T	O	R	Y	Q	F	W
E	W	S	E	S	G	Z	E	N	O	E
E	E	A	U	D	O	X	Y	E	U	R
D	W	W	D	C	O	C	E	W	R	C
A	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	S	D	O
S	D	F	D	G	E	P	T	D	C	N
R	O	T	L	A	E	R	Q	G	S	T
A	S	D	E	U	G	I	E	D	D	E
S	D	G	R	T	V	L	D	G	F	S
C	O	N	F	E	R	E	N	C	E	T

1. Department President Courtenay stated March is Women's _____ Month.
2. Department Secretary/Treasurer Daela reported National is increasing Senior _____.
3. Department Chaplain Laurie pointed out there are no Federal _____ in March.
4. Unit 40 President Charmaine, is planning an American Legion Family event in _____.
5. Unit 14 presented two _____ Deed Awards.
6. Congratulations to Legion Family #7 for receiving the Elko County _____ Association fundraiser.
7. Department VA&R attended the American Legion Washington DC _____.
8. Unit 14 Juniors performed the _____ Chaplain Ceremony.
9. Department Poppy and Americanism Chairwomen shared _____ rules.
10. Department Public Relations Chairwoman suggests weekends are a great time to get _____ coverage.
11. Department Children and Youth Chairwomen encourages units to search out for Good _____ and Youth Hero Award recipients.
12. Featured receipt is No-Bake _____ Cream Dessert

