



2nd District Newsletter



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Amy's Angle....

Congratulations to the Adell unit for being the first unit in our District to reach 100%! All units should be at least 50% or higher at this point. It's full speed ahead as we only have a couple of weeks left to get our 2022 renewals in.

Show Me The Money! The next Department membership incentive will take place on December 15 with one lucky unit winning \$75. Don't forget, our District has a membership incentive, too. Each time you obtain a new member, your unit will be placed in a drawing for a chance to win \$50 at the District Spring Conference.

Is your Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules up-to-date? Start the new year off on the right track by reviewing your unit guidelines. National made the following changes that must be incorporated to everyone's documents:

- Preamble - changed to *all wars* from great wars. (Note: correct terminology is in all wars - not during all wars).
- Eligibility dates changed to: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918 *and any time after December 7, 1941*
- All female terminology changed to gender neutral.

The Nominating Committee is looking for members who are interested in leadership roles for 2nd District. All positions are open. Contact Shirley Krier, Donna Maly or Judy Kuta for information. Elections will take place at the District Spring Conference.

Make sure to sign-up for the Mid-Winter Conference in Green Bay. There will be a 2-hour ALA session on Saturday, January 14. National President, Vickie Koutz, will be in attendance and there will be a parade of checks for her special project.

Save the Date: The 2nd District Four Chaplains Dinner will be held at the Grafton American Legion Post on Saturday, February 4. Watch for the invite after the holidays.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Blessings,

Amy



AMERICANISM

Mary Petrie, 2nd District Chair

Veterans Day - a day to remember and thank those who served...

Chuck Norris, Tony Bennet, Mr. T, Morgan Freeman, Tom Selleck, and Bea Arthur...What do they have in common? You might simply think of them as celebrities, and you'd be right, but did you know they also served their country?

Chuck Norris joined the Air Force as an Air Policeman and learned his martial arts skills while serving. Tony Bennet was in the Army's 63rd Infantry Division. His unit was primarily responsible for cleaning up after the Battle of the Bulge. He also performed with a military band while serving. Mr. T was an MP in the Army. Morgan Freeman was a radar technician in the Air Force. Tom Selleck signed up with the 160th infantry regiment of the California National Guard and his images were used on recruiting posters, both while serving and after he was discharged. Bea Arthur served in the Marines as a truck driver and typist and was one of the first members of the Women's Reserve.

These celebrities share the title "veteran" with our very own hometown heroes.

Look around you. We're surrounded by heroes. Most may never have had the notoriety of those mentioned, but we owe them a debt of gratitude for their service to God and Country. Grasp every opportunity to extend your heartfelt thanks to our veterans for their patriotism, service, & sacrifice to ensure our freedoms. Veterans Day remembers all who served – past & present. While we can never repay these heroes, we will never forget how extraordinary they are!

Happy Veterans Day...a day to celebrate every day!

Sunday, December 14, 1941 - another day of remembrance...

Pearl Harbor Day is just around the corner. This day honors the 2,403 Americans killed and 1,178 injured in the Japanese surprise attack on Hawaii's Pearl Harbor. The U.S. declared war on Japan the next day and entered into WWII...and as they say, the rest is history! President Franklin D. Roosevelt called the bombing "a date which will live in infamy."

In 1994, Congress designated December 7th as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, and was signed by the President on August 23rd of that year.

In remembrance, the American flag should be flown at half-staff until sunset to honor those who died as the result of the attack on our military forces on American soil.

Every day is a good day to thank a veteran and to fly the flag they served under!

PAID UP FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP (PUFL)

There will be a \$6 dues increase effective 2024. Now may be the time to consider a PUFL membership!

- Pay once and never be concerned about your dues again. You won't have to worry about forgetting to renew your membership.
- A rate change in dues won't affect you. The PUFL rate is calculated based on the current dues rate.
- The honor of being committed to the American Legion Auxiliary for a lifetime!
- Lifetime subscription to *Auxiliary* magazine.

PUFL application: https://www.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Brochures/PUFL_application.pdf

HISTORIAN

Judy Kuta & Cathy Brunnquell, 2nd District Chairs

Many years ago, while rummaging through a file cabinet at the Post I found several history books. Imagine finding the history for the first year of our Auxiliary's being. It was written in beautiful cursive handwriting. It included pictures of all the officers and charter members. I smiled at the hairdos and how everyone wore their "go to meeting" dresses. It was fun to read all they had done and how it was recorded with proper grammar and punctuation. I found out they had a drill team, a bowling team, a choir, a yearly picnic for the whole community and played cards after the meetings. There were history books that made it possible for me to trace the officer's names from the very first year to the present. I learned what they did for our veterans and discovered how much we were the same and how some things definitely changed over the years.

I wonder how our Unit would know all this if those members had not written down their history. I wonder how 50 years from now our Unit will know what we did. Will your Unit know what you did 50 years ago? Will they know what you did last year? Be sure your Unit has a Historian. Be sure she or he records what you do. It will become a treasure for everyone in the Unit now and for years to come.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. Remember it is not as important what style you use, but it is important you have a history.

TIPS TO HELP WITH RENEWALS AND REJOINS

There are many great tools available to all paid users of the ALA Member Information System (MIS) users.

Lost Address Report - There are many members that are listed as having a lost address for reasons such as, they forgot to complete a change of address with the National organization or the last four digits of their zip code is incorrect. These members no longer receive their renewal notices and when things are out of sight, they are out of mind – which means that their membership dues do not get paid and membership is lost.

- Log into your ALAMIS Department
- Go to Department Records
- Scroll down to Lost Department Addresses

Names of members whose address are lost are provided making it easy to separate by location.

Unit Expired Roster - Those who haven't renewed for a few years may now have a change in their life that will allow them to again be an active member.

- Log into your ALAMIS Unit
- Unit Reports
- Units Expired Roster

If they choose, they may back pay for and reinstate their membership which will allow them continuous membership.

Both resources are great tools to utilize. When visiting with members, ask them how they are, what's new in their life and invite them back to a meeting. Make it personal!

ALAMIS Application:

https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/files/ugd/8bea47_42a9a8d8d41a46c9bfa6f879861eb38d.pdf