

Lora Shanahan
Department President

Rosie Riveter and the Pit Crew...Women Empowering Women



I am looking forward to meeting all of you on my travels throughout the State. I am anxious to hear what you do in your communities and how you are able to help our Veterans and their families. I know there are programs unique for your community and not always the Nationally recognized programs. I want to make sure your story is heard and recorded.

This year National is working the Strategic Plan Goal #2 by focusing on fostering a culture of goodwill, and providing tools for us to establish or reestablish a framework for civility.

The tools available:

American Legion Auxiliary Bylaws as a framework for civility.

American Legion Auxiliary Auxiliary Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct

Goodwill Ambassador Model

NEW: American Legion Auxiliary Blog, Goodwill Gail www.ALAforVeterans.wordpress.com and search "Goodwill Gail."

Lora Shanahan
Department President

As we begin our new year, I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude to be nominated and selected to be the leader of the Department of Washington, American Legion Auxiliary.

When I joined the Auxiliary, I can remember asking what is there to do besides what is available in the lounge? That is the image many of us grew up with, and the perception. I found many women who had been in the organization for a very long time and unwilling to share their knowledge. I remember finding a very old Unit Handbook while working in the coffee bar and was told that it wasn't important. The Unit Handbook is the most important resource. Everything need or want to know about The American Legion Auxiliary can be found in that Unit Handbook.

Upon completing the various offices, and chairmanships, I then set my goal to be the Department President. What a year to be the Department President, to be able to be a part of the delegation that will go back to Indianapolis for the millennial celebration. Not only is it an honor, but to lead our State back to my home State of Indiana.

Once I mastered writing the reports and understanding what the contents of a report contained then they weren't so intimidating. With special thanks to a Past National President and her ability to mentor. Mentoring is important to keep our organization growing into the future. We will always have Veterans, and it is up to us to share our knowledge and experience with them and their families.

It was our extended family and the women before me who were willing to mentor, and share their knowledge of the organization and their passion. When you can answer your Why, then it is easier to serve others, and not yourself, and come forth as a leader.

My theme is Rosie the Riveter and the Pit Crew. Rosie because of her strength and message during WWII, that encouraged women to come forward and step up and work the jobs normally held by the males. Pit Crew is because of our millennial celebration being held in Indianapolis, and the Home of the Indy 500. The pit crew symbolizes all of our members in the communities working tirelessly for our Veterans and their families, and understand the meaning of service not self.

On the journey to being the President there were many hills and valleys, and often a bit of fear.

FEAR has two meanings
Forget Everything and Run, or
Face Everything and Rise.

I hope we can learn to empower each other, and our new members yet to join, by empowerment it makes us strong and encourages our recruited members to stay and find their WHY!

Rosie Riveter and the Pit Crew



Women Empowering Women!
WE CAN DO IT!!!!



Elaine Roach ALA Department of WA C&Y 2018-1019

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509-936-1524

Enhancing Membership Strength by Renewing,
Restoring, and Repairing



Children and Youth Development

I am honored and excited to be your Children and Youth Chairman this year! I am looking forward to hearing all the wonderful things you and your Units do in your schools and communities! I feel it is so important that we work the programs that we have already set up for us. The Americanism essay contest, Girls and Boys State, the Oratorical Contest, poppy posters, Youth hero and Good deed awards, anything and everything that touches the lives of our kiddos. I know there are so many other things your Units do besides these I have listed, but I truly believe that these programs will foster good citizens and in turn a future of our Auxiliary membership.

With Veterans Day fast approaching, the timing is right to start working on getting Veterans into the classroom, or assisting local schools with their Veterans Day programs. I feel another key to working our programs is creating a good relationship with our local schools.

Did you have successful Girls State attendance? Invite them to your meetings, workshops, or roundtables, offer to purchase a Jr. Membership for them. Its another boost to their resume and a great way to make them feel welcome to the American Legion Family!

I hope you have all received little pink pigs at your Fall Workshops and Conferences, please fill those little guys up and get them sent it! I know with just a little change Washington can make an impact for the Child Welfare Foundation!

Lastly, please remember Santa's Castle, Lakeland Village, and Fisher House for the coming Holiday Season. I know any little donation would be appreciated! If you are unsure about these great places, do a little research! You'll be amazed at what they do!



Auxiliary Chaplain Update

Sept. 2018

Chaplain Duties: Serving Our Members

The Chaplains duties are to pronounce the invocation and the benediction at all Auxiliary meetings, as well as perform such other acts as would fall within the realm of the office of the spiritual leader. She should conduct the memorial service for Unit members when requested by the family. Since we are women of different creeds and faiths, she must be a woman of tolerance and sympathy toward all.



Some things to remember: 1). The Four Chaplains Fund is always in need of donations. 2). Forward data reporting deceased members, either through death notices/obituaries. Remember to send cards of condolence and or sympathy to spouses and family members. 3). Cheering ill or hospitalized members by sending "get well" or "thinking of you" cards, and visiting those if permissible. 4). Remember our older members; it is nice for them to receive cards on special occasions. 5). Showing support for our members with prayers and devotional thoughts for your unit, district and department prayer books.

Recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of our fallen members, the ALA program "Cavalcade of Memories" by both our Senior and Junior classes.

Remembers administering to the spiritual needs of our members is important and a part of our mantra "FOR GOD and COUNTRY"



Carolyn Wiley-Frasier

Department Chaplain

USO COMMITTEE REPORT



SEPT. 2018

Last May, I spoke with the USONW Executive Director Don Leingang at SEA-TAC Airport, asking how the ALA can help. He sent this email:

“Carolyn,

Thank you for the call earlier today! It warms my heart that you reached out and are getting support for the military guests visiting the USO. Here are a couple of things we can always use at SEA-TAC:

1oz bags of potato chips

Hotdogs and buns, as we go through 10,000 each month

Bars, such as granola or Kind bars

\$25 gift cards so the managers can buy fruit, diapers, wipes, cereal and milk as needed.

Last year, SEA-TAC had 133,000 guests or the most of any USO in the United States. Our consumables at SEA-TAC are about \$150,000 each year.

Instead of the Legion Posts just sending in checks, a few of the posts have also honored their Post or a current or former member with a brick on our “Wall of Heroes”. We have about 600 bricks in our centers and they are on the walls at SEA-TAC and Portland Airport Centers as well as both centers on Joint Base Lewis McChord.

Let me know if you have, any questions ~ thank you again!”
The need in his list all sound like things we can help with. Can we do it?



All you need to do is send in a donation check to Department along with the



Donation form marked for the Serviceman’s Lounge SEA-TAC or JBLM.

Carolyn Wiley-Frasier
USO Chairman Seattle



American Legion Auxiliary Department of Washington Strategic Plan – Packet info Sept 2018

The goals of the plan are, by 2019-2020:

- With the American Legion, Build Brand Loyalty
- Strengthen Departments and Units
- Develop Leadership at all Levels
- Create an Internal Culture of Goodwill
- Enhance Membership Strength

For the last several years the Strategic Plan Committee of the Department of Washington has been asking Units to please share the projects/events they've been involved in that help to fulfill the goals. Not one response has been received. All we asked was for you to share your ideas and actions so we, as a family, can all achieve the most we can for our veterans, military, and their families.

Most of what is written below was sent out in a packet last March but everyone was busy trying to get reports done; and, in talking with some members of different units, I learned that many didn't even see or go over the information last March. So, I'm repeating a lot of that same information in hopes that we'll get some responses from Units this time. As I mentioned before, I don't intend this to be bragging but thought showing some examples would help; and, since no one else has given input – the only examples I have are those of my own unit, Art Semro Unit 28 in Ephrata.

Goal 5: With The American Legion Build Brand Loyalty

We wear our uniforms (Legion-Caps, Auxiliary – shirts with ALA emblem on them and/or our Membership pin whenever we put on events, help with funerals, visit schools and organizations. We also put our emblems on all our correspondence. (Note: Our Auxiliary unit is sometimes referred to as “the Legion” but at least that's in the family. People know we're not VFW.)

Goal 4: Strengthen Departments and Units

Send thank you notes when member renew and welcome letter to new members reminding them of our mission and encouraging them to participate, even a little helps a lot. We also share items of our purpose in our Post/Unit Newsletter. Everyone is encouraged to attend District and Department events.

Goal 3: Develop Leadership at All Levels

Share duties with others insuring that if one person can't finish a project it will continue. Insure our Juniors are aware of everything, encouraging their input – we even went so far a couple years ago of electing an “Assistant” Sergeant-at-arms. All our Juniors have equal voice at our meetings.

Goal 2: Create an Internal Culture of Goodwill

Respect opinions of all members, support projects that earned the majority vote even if we didn't vote for it. We also insure cards are sent to members when they need cheering up as well in cases of illness and death in their families.

Goal 1: Enhance Membership Strength

Insure people understand the organization they membership is in – not a bar, but a group striving to be there for our veterans (both those who have served and are serving), their families, and communities. Encourage timely renewals to better help us provide financial support for our programs.

Each unit has different situations where they can be of service, everything depends on whether you're city or rural, a big unit or small, have nearby veterans centers, hospitals, military bases or maybe none. Every unit should have the support of all the other units as well as their communities. But if we don't share with each other we don't know what is needed or how we can provide it. One of the best things about being part of a family is that, as a whole, we are stronger when we can learn from each other. For us to succeed, we need to really understand the American Legion Auxiliary, its mission of service, and the values of this great organization; then, put that knowledge to work for God and Country.

Strategic Plan Committee – Laura Bondurant, Barb Rutherford, & Jane Montaney. Please let us hear from you. FYI, If we can show our Department is achieving goals, we're eligible for a monetary award from National. Together – we can do it! Yours in service & friendship, Jane Montaney

JBLM (Joint Base Lewis McChord) Fisher House - Alice Richard, Chair

The JBLM Fisher House II continues at full capacity and Fisher House I is about ready to open again after the remodel. The number of families needing a place to call home while their family member is being cared for at Madigan does not decrease. Donations are always welcome and just think about what you have in your home. They also use the individual snacks that they can take to the hospital, bottled water, toilet paper, paper towels, granola bars, breakfast bars, baby food, baby wipes, baby snacks, soaps, cleaning supplies and laundry supplies to name a few of the needs. I know each Unit does send in money to Department earmarked for JBLM Fisher House which is always good. Any Unit and/or Post that would like to sign up to bring a meal or help in other ways is always welcomed.

VA Puget Sound Fisher House - Alice Richard, Chair

The VA Puget Sound Fisher House (Seattle) celebrated their 10th Anniversary on Thursday, September 13. It is amazing what ten years can do to support the Veterans' families with a home so close to the hospital. The Fisher House has reached the 7,000 family coming through the door to stay. Each year there is a million dollars saved by having families stay at Fisher House which is their home. The gardens around the facility are welcoming and relaxing for those that just want to reflect on the memories or need a quiet moment to absorb what they are going through. It is such a great facility that these families can really be close and "at home" during this time.

JBLM Santa's Castle - Alice Richard, Chair

Santa's Castle is getting ready for the distribution of toys for this year. The open house will be on the 25th of September with anyone that would like can come see the process. The referral letter will be going out on the 17th with the on-line site opening on September 24th for the process to begin accepting the military families. The site will remain open through October and emergencies will be added as needed. Photos with Santa will be November 2 and 3 for families to come for photos for their use. It is easy with just a toy or \$10. This has grown each year and will continue to grow since there is no rush with each family and Santa takes time so each family member can enjoy the experience.

There was a toy ride with the Roughnecks MC on September 8th which was a great ride. The weather was beautiful with no rain or wind for the first time in four years. These folks that ride are so focused on helping military families and most have served or continue to serve. Many other groups join in too but there were many other rides happening that day so not as many participated. Funds and toys were donated to Santa's Castle and next year will do another ride, stay tuned if you want to join the ride.



CELEBRATING 75 Yrs.
Of Providing Christmas to veterans
AMERICAN LAKE GIFT SHOPPE

Please join us for the
Opening Tea on Monday
Nov 26th at 1:00 PM
Veteran shopping on Nov 26th.
From: 3 to 5 PM and
November 27th AND 28th
9 AM to 4:30 PM
Bldg. # 9 Main Campus
American Lake



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



ORTING GIFT SHOP

DECEMBER 3rd, 4th, 5th 2018

It's that time again! Please help give the residents of the Washington Soldiers Home and Colony enjoy the true Spirit of Christmas.

Your donations of money, gift items, supplies and time will help!

PLEASE send your monetary donations in to Department early enough for us to receive it before opening ceremonies. Our Opening Services are set for the 7th of December. We ask that all donated items be **NEW, UNBREAKABLE, AND LIGHTWEIGHT.**

We encourage both Legionnaires and Auxiliary members to attend and assist.

Everyone can help!

THANK YOU for helping and remembering our Veterans.

Make checks payable to:
ALA DEPT of WA (Orting Gift Shop)**
Post Office Box 5867
Lacey, Wa. 98509-5867

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
Melodie Foster: 253-572-9171
253-439-0559 (Cell)
Judy Hanson: Cell 253-677-1441

P.S. we need cookies,cookies,cookies,cookies,cookies,cookies

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
ORTING GIFT SHOPPE 2018
1301 ORTING - KAPOWASIN HWY.
ORTING WASHINGTON 98360

Santa Claus is coming. One of the most rewarding programs of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary is fast approaching. The 4th District is now seeking some able-bodied Holiday Elves to assist **our** many anxious residents. Although each and every resident needs **assisting** with their shopping, some need extra assistance because they **may** be in a wheelchair.

We need VOLUNTEERS!!!!!!

December 3rd Monday 9:00AM till noon (unloading truck &
setup)

December 3rd Monday 2:00PM Opening Ceremony Tea

December 4th Tuesday 9:00AM till 3:30PM

December 5th Wednesday 9:00AM till 4:00PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

Melodie Foster: 253- 572-9171

Cell (253) 439-0559

Judy Hanson: 253- 677-1441.

The VA&R Christmas Gift Shop

The gift shop is a valuable service extended to hospitalized veterans in VA hospitals and State veterans' homes. All gifts should be new, clean, attractive and useful, please do not donate perfume or aftershave, it cannot be shipped. Each gift should include an appropriate notation that it was provided through the ALA Gift Shop Program. When displaying gifts, care should be taken that the veteran has room to look at and select gifts, also make cards available so that the veteran can write personal notes to include with the gift.

This program allows the veteran the privilege of Christmas shopping for their families back home at the expense of the ALA.

We cannot let a veteran shop for himself as that is what the VAMC representative takes care of, not the gift shop program.

We cannot allow visitors to the hospital to shop, inviting all to attend over the loudspeaker is not allowed.

Those from other facilities, even if they are veterans is not allowed.

All gifts are wrapped and shipped to the recipient, we do not deliver.

Rules and regulations are in place to prevent mayhem and discontent. If we all know, understand and follow the rules there should be no argument or controversy. I know times have changed and we have a great number of out-patients going through the VA system, but we must still follow the rules we have in place.

- Hospitalized veterans in VA hospitals and those in State veterans' homes can shop for their families.
- The veteran cannot shop for himself.
- Visitors to the hospital/facilities cannot shop.
- All gifts are wrapped and shipped, unless a Christmas party is taking place on the premises.
- All funds and gifts donated by ALA units and the public for the gift shop program cannot be used for any other facility or other veterans. To do so is considered misappropriation of funds.

Any other gift shops you wish to hold must be financed with funds raised for that purpose or if veterans are involved the poppy funds, not gift shop funds. The two places that come to mind are Santos Place and the CORD program. There may be others that I am not familiar with.

If you would like to see changes made to the rules, then write a resolution for next years department convention.

American Lake VA Medical Center Wants/Needs List

September 21, 2018

VASH The American Lake VA Supportive Housing program helps with housing services for homeless Veterans in Thurston, Pierce and Kitsap County. Donated items go to both homeless Veterans and recently housed Veterans. They no longer need items for starting up a home because they are using community resources for that. Items donated must be new and unopened. The following is a list of items they currently need:

Toilet paper paper towels brooms & dust pans all-purpose cleaner laundry soap fabric softener vacuums dish soap & sponges feminine hygiene products deodorant shaving cream 3 in 1 body wash shampoo men & women 3-season tents 0-degree sleeping bags adult (unisex)sock packages of 3 (S,M,L) sweat pants (3X, 2X, XL, L, M, S) to support incontinent Veterans

VASH annual Christmas Party for Veterans and their families in the VASH program needs our support. At the party they have bingo and raffles where they get something new for their home or themselves. Following is a list of items they would like donated by December 5, 2018

comforters Queen comforters twin for a child dish set flatware sets toasters vacuums sets of bath towels sets of kitchen towels coffee makers perfume cologne pillows sheet sets queen hickory farms gift sets bath & body gift sets for men or women gift cards for: AMC theater, restaurants, Walmart, Target, Dollar Tree, Safeway, Fred Meyers

Clothing Room Needs new/unopened Men's white T-shirt's, underwear(prefer boxer briefs) sizes small through 3XL, women's basic underwear size 6-10 and sports bra size S-XXL/3XL) Cannot accept clothing that is not current season, if used not washed, business attire and children clothing. They need jeans, casual winter shoes, winter jackets and currently can accept used in good condition. Need winter shirts, long sleeve or flannel, gloves and hats. Only accept limited amount of women's clothing. Call first before bringing items in.

To donate above items call (253) 583-1084 Volunteer Service Office, to assure someone is available to take items and item is needed. Donation gets turned into Volunteer Service Office, Building 9, American Lake VAMC. Most current donation form is dated 5/24/2018, VA Puget Sound Health Care System, donation/activities

American Lake \$5.00 Christmas Canteen Book Program This program gives inpatients and those in TR homes (transitional residence) books of \$5; these can be used at the canteen or canteen store. How many books they get depends on how much money is donated toward these books from us and other non-profits in the area. To donate send a check to department by Nov 20th and make sure it indicates for AL \$5 Christmas Canteen Bks in memo part of check.

ALA Dept VAVS Representative American Lake VAMC, Debby Ramirez, (253) 219-0718
ALA Dept VAVS Deputy American Lake VAMC, Karen Lebeter (253) 579-7768



It's a new
membership year!

And We Can Do It!

Renew

Reach Out

Reconnect

Thank you for all you do to serve our Veterans!

See you at the Fall Conferences
and Area Workshops

Carmon Derting
Membership Chair
(509) 770-3620
ckderting@hotmail.com



We Can Do It!

What is PR?

Every organization, no matter how large or small, ultimately depends on its reputation for survival and success.

Customers, suppliers, employees, investors, journalists and regulators can have a powerful impact. They all have an opinion about the organizations they come into contact with - whether good or bad, right or wrong. These perceptions will drive their decisions about whether they want to work with, shop with and support these organizations.

In today's market, reputation can be a company's biggest asset – the thing that makes you stand out from the crowd and gives you a competitive edge. Effective PR can help manage reputation by communicating and building good relationships with all organization stakeholders.

Definition of Public Relations:

Public Relations is about reputation - the result of what you do, what you say and what others say about you.

Public Relations is the discipline which looks after reputation, with the aim of earning understanding and support and influencing opinion and behavior. It is the planned and sustained effort to establish and maintain goodwill and mutual understanding between an organization and its publics.



Your Evergreen News Needs You!

Have you received your Evergreen
News newspaper yet?

Our bi-monthly newspaper, a part of the “Legionnaire”,
is our way to tell your ALA story!

Share the events you have planned for poppies,
for holidays, for serving our Veterans;
Brag about the members that are doing
great things in your community!

The deadline is the 10th of the month,
even numbered months - so mark your calendars
for October 10th and December 10th

Send your Unit, District and
Department stories and articles to:

DeDe Theal, Evergreen News editor
dedetheal.aux109wa@gmail.com
360-286-6896



2019 Evergreen Girls State Information

June 9-15th, 2019

Are you ready for a successful 2019 Girls State year? I am.

Enclosed is information that can help you get started on raising funds for your Units program. It is not too early to start. Many organizations are preparing their budgets for next year and it is important for us to be right at the top of their list.

But first, there are steps you can take to make sure you are reaching the right individuals.

1. Make a list of all the organizations, business's, individuals, and schools that are in your community that would be able to help. (See the suggested list attached). Remember, it is nice if an organization can fully fund a girl for the whole week, but that is not always possible. You can accept donations of any amount and earmark it for your Units program.
2. Contact the organizations to see if you can stop by to make a presentation about the Girls State Program and why the American Legion Auxiliary sponsors it. Find out when they have their meetings and ask to be a speaker. If you can, take a former Girls State citizen with you. Be sure to take other Auxiliary members to help you pass out information and answer questions.
3. Have materials prepared to hand out to them and that you have enough for everyone. Also make sure you have your contact information on all materials you leave so they can easily get back to you.
4. Know the program. Read the materials so you can answer questions.
5. Make sure all members know this is a program designed for girls who have just completed their Junior year in high school. It may be one of their daughters, granddaughters, or neighbors that is eligible. Homeschooled girls are also eligible.
6. All materials can be downloaded from the American Legion Auxiliary website: www.walegion-aux.org.



Teaching Americanism one student at a time.

Contact Catherine Olson at 360.239.6383 or Janet Sperry at 360.691.9811 for more information.