

SUNFLOWERETTE

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2023



Hello auxiliary family!

I hope everyone is having a great summer so far. July has flown by, and I have been very busy! I pray that we all had a safe but fun 4th of July!

I went to independence post for their 4th on the 8th celebration. Commander randy and i went down the water slide for children and youth. We earned over \$500 in donations. The fireworks show that evening was over an hour long. Well done independence!

The following weekend was the 'old soldiers and sailors 150th reunion' in Erie. Vice president Tracy, chaplain Kristen, and parliamentarian Jeanne joined me Friday evening for the bean feed. Let me tell you, they had over 50 cast iron pots of beans!! Even though we had a pretty good storm come in (and I got soaked!) It was a fun evening. The next morning my team of officers met and decorated our golf cart and rode in the parade. Way to go team!!!

I will also be attending the legion family picnic in Hutchinson. Rumor has it that i will be on the dunk tank. I am always willing to be a good sport for a great cause!

I hope to see everyone at homecoming in Arkansas City Aug 12. It sounds like commander randy has a good lunch planned.

Be sure to mark your calendars for fall conference in Pittsburg sept 15 & 16. You won't want to miss this one!!!

I have a great team and we are working hard for our great organization. Remember...'teamwork makes the dream work!' and always strive to be the one!

Your Department President, Cheryl Eastep



2023 -2024 KS ALA
OFFICERS AT THE OLD
SOLDIERS AND
SAILORS 150TH
REUNION' IN ERIE

Membership Beat

By: Tracy Kinnick Dept. VP.



As we draw near to the end of another membership year, it is important that each unit take time to review their membership roster to ensure that transmittals and membership reports in ALAMIS match, by performing this task you will reduce added frustration to your 2024 renewal process.

If your unit does not have access to ALAMIS, reach out to me and I will be happy to send you the membership roster as well as help you work with the Department to get your ALAMIS access. ALAMIS is key to a successful membership year, it is a valuable tool for recruiting, retaining, and renewing members.

Communications, communications, you will be hearing a lot from me as we move through this next year. Our goal sent to us from National is 10,344 members, this may seem like a lot to you, but by working together, working on our missions, and community outreach, we can meet this goal. It is all going to start with each of you working together and double-checking ALAMIS. We will also have some Zoom calls for questions and answers, as well as sharing ideas and information. Membership is ALL of us, not just the membership chairs.

If you have not received any communication from me as a membership chair for your District send me an email to deptvicepresident@kslegionaux.org asap, as this will help me verify that I have the correct information for you. The information that I am sending out will be for you to send to the units in your districts.

2024 Membership goals are currently being sent out to each district to share with their units. As a leadership team we realized that our current goals for 2023 did not match what National had sent out, we as a leadership team wanted to match the goals from National. This will help us to achieve National goal awards as a Department and for units.

To conclude, review your ALAMIS membership roster, with your transmittals, and make sure that they match! This will ease your 2024 membership renewal process.

Call/ text or email anytime at 316-655-5122
deptvicepresident@kslegionaux.org

Marching to the Beat in Membership – Tracy

Put on Your Mask

By Kristen Hensley, Department Chaplain



Mardi Gras has many symbols and customs associated with this Carnival season between the Epiphany and beginning of the Lenten Season. One tradition that is prevalent throughout the Mardi Gras Season is the wearing of elaborate masks.

These masks are made up of glitter, intricately placed beading, feathers, and can either be partial faced or full faced. In this season, it is argued that people use these masks to hide their identity, although many believe the masks uncover

the wearers true identity. People can express their true ideals and dreams through the design of the masks and costumes they wear during this time with little to no judgement. Social etiquette and norms are cast aside to allow participants to truly express what is in their heart and minds.

I encourage all of you to put on your metaphoric masks this month, be true to who you are, express your dreams, ideas and desires for our organization. Don't worry about what people will think of your ideas nor worry about judgement from other members. We need new ideas and dreams to recruit new members and remain relevant in the coming times.

For those listening to those ideas, please also put on your metaphoric mask. Please practice having an open mind to new ideas and make members feel heard and safe to share with everyone. Please throw off the yoke of "this is how it's always been", and practice embracing new ideas that will keep us appealing, inviting, inclusive, and relevant as we work to fulfill our missions in the modern times.

Let's get excited, let's be courageous to try something new, renew our commitment to serving Veterans, Active Duty Military, their families and the Communities they live in. Let us all learn from our elders and from the new generation joining our Post Families. By learning from each other, both new and seasoned, we can inspire a new generation of members and volunteers to continue the Mission of Service Not Self, by putting on your metaphoric mask and inspire others with forging new ways to fulfill our mission.

Prayer: Father God, please grant all volunteers in our Auxiliary Family, the courage to speak up and step out in faith, so that we can expand our efforts to fulfill the Missions of the American Legion Auxiliary. Let us be a beacon of hope, love, and support to those we encounter as we work selflessly to support Veterans, Active Duty Military, their families and our surrounding communities. Let us put on our metaphoric masks to be courageous in presenting our ideas and opinions, free from judgement of those around us. Let us spread peace and hope to all those we encounter. In your precious name we pray, Amen.

Greetings,

History is the thread that ties all the work done in the past to today's happenings. Whether it is a traditional event or a new unique trial, it is important to remember what it contributes to the future.

My predecessor has done such a terrific job and has set us up for national rewards. It leaves big shoes to fill. I need each unit in the state to help with that. I know great things are being accomplished across the state and I would like to help make the future available to these ties. If your unit historian would let me know beforehand the details, I would like to attend as many as possible. Obviously, I can't make all of them but copies of news articles, pictures and first-hand accounts would help me,

Please feel free to send me dates and details so I can expect news from each one.

Please email me at ksdots@yahoo.com, Use the word HISTORY on the subject line to get my immediate attention. Call me at (620) 762-0081. Be sure to leave your name and phone number and unit on voice mail if I fail to answer. I'll call back asap.

I'm looking forward to your help.

Thanks,
Dorothy Wahl, Department Historian

Welcome to summer!!

Hope everyone had a safe extended holiday. If you worked, THANK YOU!!

Thank you for electing me to the office of National Executive Committeewoman. I will do my best to keep Kansas in the loop on what's happening in that elusive place we call "National". Yes, we all blame things on "National" and "Department" without knowing their real job. I can answer most questions about what happens on the department level, now I hope to be able to answer the questions of what is going on at the national level. Please don't think I won't be around to help or answer questions. Just call. If I don't answer, please leave a message and I will call back.

Summer doesn't mean we can't work on our programs or membership. Working with our programs shows new members why they should belong. It's because we are FUN!

Have a great summer.!

Sharon Spiker
785-851-7081

2023-2024 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS OFFICERS

PRESIDENT CHERYL EASTEP

deptpresident@kslegionaux.org

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TRAITS OF AN EFFECTIVE LEADER

E	E	A	T	H	O	U	G	H	T	F	U	L	A	L
C	V	N	E	I	L	L	O	T	G	G	T	D	L	H
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N	I	V	Y	I	U	S	N	F	L	G	N	N	M	L
F	H	O	I	R	T	E	E	U	H	I	V	P	S	O
I	L	O	R	T	R	A	F	P	V	T	A	I	G	C
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BRAVE
CARING
COMMUNICATION
CONFIDENTIAL
CONSIDERATE

EMPATHETIC
FAITHFUL
FORGIVING
FUNNY
GENEROUS

HONEST
INSEPARABLE
KIND
LISTENER
LOVING

LOYAL
PROTECTIVE
THOUGHTFUL
TRUTHFUL
TRUSTWORTHY

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Kansas



Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policies

Update: June 4, 2023

File Version: C_B_KS_06.04.23

Please go to the website www.kslegionaux.org
to see the most recent C&B

The American Legion Family Homecoming



HONORING:

RANDY FRANK- AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
CHERYL EASTEP- AMERICAN LEGION AUXILLARY DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT
JIM GALLENTINE- AMERICAN LEGION SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER

August 12, 2023

12:00 pm Social Hour; 1:00 pm – 3:00 p m Meal and Program

Shelton Beaty, American Legion Post 18
115 East Washington Ave, Arkansas City, KS
\$15.00 per person (RSVP by August 1, 2023), \$17.00 at the Door

Keynote Speaker – LTG (R) Perry Wiggins

Luncheon Menu:

Brisket
Cowboy Beans, Potato Salad, and Cole Slaw
Dinner roll with Butter and Desert

For Additional information or to RSVP, contact Randy Frank; 563-419-1474
(Please include the note below on meal selection)

-or-

Make checks payable to Randy Frank and send to
211 Floral Drive, Hillsboro, KS 67063

-----PLEASE CUT AND MAIL-----

NAME(S) _____

NUMBER OF MEALS _____

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF _____

POST/UNIT/SQUADRON # _____



Department of Kansas Presents



MARDI GRAS

FALL CONFERENCE



 **2023** 



Saturday Sept. 16

**Pittsburg American Legion
2815 Joplin St, Pittsburg, KS 66762**

ALL Members are encouraged to attend, this fun and exciting mission breakout session.

Friday Sept 15th, Finance and Eboard meeting, dinner, at Barto's, 201 S. Santa Fe St, Frontenac, KS 66763 (Send

**RSVP to President Cheryl at
deptpresident@kslegionaux.org)**





11th Annual POW/MIA Watchfire, hosted by the American Legion Post 3 and VFW Post 1372 members and auxiliaries, is planned for September 16, 2023

This year's event will begin at 5:00 pm and be held at the American Legion Post south of the park.

As in past years, there will be a flag retirement ceremony and food and drink will be available for purchase.

Bring your lawn chairs and join in remembering and honoring POW/MIAs.



AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY

BOWLING



Tournament

2023

★ September 30 - October 1 ★

PLEASE READ TOURNAMENT RULES ON THE REVERSE

- * Entries will be given priority in order of receipt *
- * Team captains will be notified of times and dates *
- * Non-Members can compete—see rule #2 *
- * Multiple entries allowed—see rule #6 *

** NO REFUNDS **



835 S. Washington
Junction City, KS 66441

Host Hotel

Holiday Inn Express & Suites,
Junction City, KS
Free Hot Breakfast

\$99 per night. Make reservations
NLT September 3, 2023



Please go to this link on the Dept Website for more info
<https://www.kslegionaux.org/departments-calendar>