

THE ARKANSAS LEGIONNAIRE



MARCH ISSUE 2025

An Official Publication of The American Legion Department of Arkansas

For God and Country

**TEMPERATURES ARE WARMING UP IN ARKANSAS...
AND SO IS AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL!!!**



American Legion is just a short swing away from starting up again and there are some fabulous new things in the field of play this year!

"This is going to be a great year for American Legion Baseball in the Great State of Arkansas," says Jeral Howard, American Legion Baseball Chairman. "The American Legion Baseball Program is celebrating 100 Years in 2025, and many great baseball players of all time have deep roots back to their beginnings with American Legion Baseball in their youth."

[\(Continued on page 7\)](#)

"It's a funny thing, but, as years go by, I think you appreciate more and more what a great thing it was to be a United States Marine...People will tell me what a shame it was I had to go back into the service a second time, but I'm kinda glad I did... Besides, I am a U.S. Marine and I'll be one till I die."



***~ Ted Williams
Semper Fi!!!***

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And much, much, more...

A WORD FROM THE COMMANDER



Greetings, Legion Family. I say again, it is an honor to serve as your Department Commander. The last six months have flown by. It is hard to believe we have embarked upon 2025. As we journey into the next six months. I want to encourage you to continue to **"BE THE ONE"**. Each of us has the responsibility to serve this great organization with Dignity and Pride based upon what The American Legion (TAL) stands for.

Each and every one of our members is important to the growth and development of The Department of Arkansas. I implore you to take advantage of the training opportunities afforded to you at all levels. As I have stated previously, TRAINING is the key to success. When utilized properly, knowledge will help solve many of the obstacles we encounter while trying to be productive members of our Posts, Units, and Squadrons.

As your commander, I would like each of you to study the Preamble that many of us recite during our opening ceremonies. By the way, if you do not have a formal opening to your meetings, I encourage you to do so. We are in a prestigious organization founded and grounded on Four Pillars that have withstood the test of time. Your membership is special, and the relationships established is sacred. Our meetings should be our sanctuary.

Let us all embrace the idea of revitalization, starting at Post Level. Individually, we must have a renewed sense of responsibility to Recruit, Retain, and Renew. Many of you do a wonderful job recruiting, but as our National Commander stated during his visit, we lose just as many out the back door. If we take that approach, our Districts, Areas, and Departments nationwide will exceed membership.

Let's work together to FORTIFY THE FAMILY!

Antoine "Tony" Gordon
Commander, Department of Arkansas

BE THE ONE

A WORD FROM THE NEC

Greetings my fellow brother and sister veterans! In spite of the weather, the mid-winter conference was still held as scheduled and training was also completed as planned.

Attendance was down, but there were still enough members present to have a quorum, and we did get some vital work done and important decisions made. Updates will be reported at our Department Convention.



We can be proud and happy that, due to the respect our legislators have gained in Washington, four of them have been selected to chair some very important committees.

Senator John Boozman will chair Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, Senator Tom Cotton will chair the Select Committee on Intelligence, Bruce Westerman will chair Natural Resources Committee, and French Hill will chair the House Committee on Financial Services. We will be meeting with all of our legislators February 22-25 to encourage them to support The American Legion's priorities for the 119 th Congress. I will report on these priorities in the next newsletter and any other information we get from our visits. Our legislators are gracious and welcoming and want to hear from all of us. Not just the teams that go to Washington once a year, but they want to hear from all of you also. We all voted to put them in Washington to represent us so please contact them or one of their staff members and let them know what your concerns or wishes are.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Department Convention. In the meantime please contact me if you have any questions concerns or would like me to visit. I can always be contacted by phone or email. Till we meet again, take care and God bless you all and thank you for allowing me to serve.

Mary Erdman, NEC
(501)454-7357
maryrdmn@gmail.com

For God and Country...



A WORD FROM DOC SHEETS ON TRAINING



We have been working hard on Membership this year, but the results have not been as expected. We are working though, on revitalizations and working to bring on line new Posts as we move forward to the last half of the membership year.

I ask that if a Post, or District or an area of the state would like to drive their membership with a revitalization, then please contact Department and we will get you the data you will need and help guide you on how to run the effort as well.

I sincerely hope we will move up in the National Rankings in order to give us good seats at the National Convention just as we had last year!

TRAINING

Training thus far has been very good and well attended. We have gone to Posts that have come back, and helped them in guidance on how to conduct their meetings, and what things are important to stay strong. We have had a District Training request fulfilled at District 1, Fayetteville Post 27 with five (5) different Posts, and three (3) Districts: District 1, District 13, and District 16 in attendance. This was well attended for an all day Saturday event, and I again thank Fayetteville Post 27 for hosting and offering up their Post for the event.

We also have another request for Training at District 4 coming up in March, and we are also working with the Paragould Post on giving them guidance as they move forward. If you would like training for your District or a group of Posts, please, contact the Department.

And if we are having a training session scheduled in your area...we invite you to attend; or we'll schedule one if there's not upcoming training in your area. Also, if your Post is in need of a computer for its needs to do the work of the Post, please contact us about this as well.

William "Doc" Sheets, PC
Membership and Training
williamasheets@gmail.com



*"I want YOU...to get some more members!
There's no reason EACH MEMBER can't get a
veteran friend, a family member, or even a co-
worker to join The American Legion! Together
we can make a BIG difference in our nation!"*

**AMERICAN
LEGION**

A WORD FROM PAST COMMANDER WILBANKS

Coudret & Garner Scholarships are due to Department NLT 18 April. If you have a student asking for an endorsement, please don't procrastinate. The team will meet on May 9th to select the winners of each scholarship. Information is available at arlegion.org.

Drug Awareness posters will be displayed at the convention in June. Each post is allowed to submit three posters. Please follow the directions for the program. The overall winners (1st, 2nd & 3rd) will be made and announced on Saturday of the convention.



Boys State and Girls State will be asking for students to complete the online application soon. Again...please talk with your schools and impress on them the benefits of our programs. It's not recommended that only the honor students attend. These programs are open to ALL juniors attending a high school in the state of Arkansas. This does include our home schoolers.

CPRs: Our favorite form to complete. ***The reporting period is from 1 June to 31 May.*** If you wish to be considered for a department award, your submittal must reach National and/or Department by 30 April. Otherwise, please have your report submitted by June 15th. A fillable PDF is available on arlegion.org, under Resources, Forms & Publications. The CPR is also available on line at legion.org. Save it as a draft until you finalize it then submit. Print a copy for your post. This is especially helpful as we had some issues last year with the online transmission of some reports.

Annual Post Certification Form: Remember department dues are going up this year. It is important that your membership vote for an increase to cover the rise in National and Department dues. Please complete the post Annual Certification Form and return it as quickly as possible so National can process the dues increase effective at the start of the new membership year. They will start getting everything ready to run the renewal notices in April, so it is imperative that you don't wait until the last minute!

Post & District Forms: Every post is required every year to submit the Post Officer Certification Form - even if there are no changes! Same with the District Office Certification Form. Again, these forms can be found on our department webpage (arlegion.org), Resources, Form & Publications.

***PLEASE...DO YOUR PAPERWORK...HELP THE YOUTH...
AND DOCUMENT YOUR POST'S WORK TOO!!!***

Marie Wilbanks
479-233-1631

j_rwilbanks@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS

As everyone has heard...and heard...and heard...membership is something that from Department down to District...and down to Post, is talked about constantly. However, more times than not, that is the extent of it! It is hard for some Posts and Districts to have a gain in membership when the demographics in their area has shifted to other state locations over the years.

It is also understood that in some areas, it is difficult to find new members; however, there are areas of the state which have a deep pool of potential Legionnaires; OR current Legionnaires which are just floating around in the Post 1000 or the Post 1000AD group.



I have...along with others, heard folks say they have talked to a Veteran or even to a Post 1000 Legionnaire, and they were just not interested in becoming a member of a Post. I can understand sometimes when a Legionnaire may just not want to move to a Post, and there are also some Veterans that just don't want to join. However, one thing to think about... ***“Just how excited were you in talking about the Legion?”***

When you see a successful salesperson, you can see how much they are enthused about their product or service, and they try to get you...the buyer...excited as well. If you are talking to someone about the Legion, **YOU MUST BE EXCITED!!!** If you aren't excited about the Legion when you talk about it, why would a Veteran even want to join or be excited about joining? Take some time, learn about the Traditions and History of the Legion. And then think of ways to use that information to get a prospective Legionnaire to be excited about being a part of The American Legion or your Post! Also, when you are speaking with a prospective Legionnaire, always pause...and give them a chance to say yes, and fill out the form. Don't continue to speak and talk them out of joining!

If you need more Information and/or training for yourself or your Post, then by all means, please contact the Department and request the membership information and/or training. Make yourself and your Post more able to work toward gaining prospective members!

“I wonder...who's going to fill your shoes? - just my thoughts!”

Respectfully,

J.W. Smith ~ Post #29
Past Department Commander
2016-2017

Click [<here>](#) to email J.W.

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Editor for *The Arkansas Legionnaire* is Keith Dover, Public Relations, Flag Alliance, and POW-MIA Chairman. (majord91101@gmail.com)

[\(Continued from page 1\)](#)

The Five-W's and H:

- Who** Arkansas American Legion Baseball ~ Ages 13-19.
- What** American Legion Baseball 2025 Season...Celebrating the 100-year Anniversary.
- When** Starting June 1st through August 31st.
- Where** State Tournaments in June and July (dates to be determined after March 15th).
- Why** To have an outlet for young men to play outside of high school without the “high costs” of traveling teams. Arkansas top senior team to play in a Region Tournament in St. Louis, MO, and then in the World Series in North Carolina...if they make it through regionals. All expenses are paid for the senior team!
- How** This season brings the capabilities to watch live games via our newly designed website <[here](#)>.
- There will be a “Live” link to watch the games via the Game Changer App...and there will also be links for parents as well as college/major league coaches to follow stats updated by our new partner QR Recruiter and Associates <[here](#)>.

Follow us on our new X (formerly Twitter) Arkansas American Legion Baseball site: [@ARALbaseball](#)

“We are excited about all the new programs and avenues that are going to be available for the players, coaches, and parents,” says Howard. “We know this will be groundbreaking, and will be something all parties are excited to continue in for years to come!”

DID YOU KNOW...?

Baseball Great and Two-Time War Veteran Ted Williams (quoted on page one) received “MANY” noteworthy accomplishments in his lifetime, and in his youth, he also played American Legion Baseball. Williams was later named as an American Legion [Graduate of the Year in 1960](#), inducted to the [Baseball Hall of Fame in 1966](#), and even awarded the [Congressional Medal of Freedom by President George H. W. Bush in 1991](#).



A WORD FROM KOYT KIDD



Dear Department of Arkansas American Legion Leadership,

I am writing to formally withdraw my candidacy for Department Commander of the American Legion, Department of Arkansas. This decision is made solely in the best interest of the American Legion, as recent personal matters could potentially be damaging to the name and mission of this honorable organization.

My greatest priority has always been to uphold the integrity, mission, and reputation of the American Legion. I believe stepping away at this time is the best course of action to ensure that the focus remains on the important work being done to support veterans, their families, and our communities.

I appreciate the support and confidence shown in me during this process, and I remain grateful for the time I have spent serving alongside so many dedicated Legionnaires. I will continue to respect and support the mission of the American Legion in any way I can.

Thank you for your understanding, and I wish the organization continued success in all its endeavors.

Respectfully,

Koyt Kidd
PO Box 135
Dover, AR 72837
479-322-2019

DEPARTMENT SERVICE INFORMATION

Greetings everyone,

Here are some useful things you need to know in the new year:

- * Retirees and spouse military ID cards need to be changed to the new cards by 2026,
- * The Supreme Court expanded the G.I. Bill education benefits for some veterans. Veterans who qualify for the Montgomery G I Bill, and post 9-11 G.I. Bill can use both benefits under certain conditions...as long as they adhere to the overall time limit.

For veterans assistance. you can reach me at Cabot Post #71:

Allen Miller
Dept of AR State Service Officer
501-203-5715



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Are You Faithful?

We Followers of Jesus Christ are tempted in many ways to live immoral lives. It is easy to develop sinful habits that become strongholds in our lives. Faithfulness is important in every aspect of our lives.

Faithfulness in work, love, and life...

Faithfulness in **work** is essential if you want to keep your job or get a promotion. Faithfulness in **love** and marriage is important if you want to keep your marriage and your family. Faithfulness in **life** is important because it reflects on the legacy you leave. Your reputation as one who was faithful in all his ways is something you leave behind for your children and family.

Faithfulness to one's nation is important. God requires us to submit to the government.

Romans 13:1 states: *"Let every person be subject to governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."*

Also I Timothy 2:1 says: *"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way."*

How about your faithfulness to God? Are you someone who faithfully attends church? Are you faithful in reading God's word? Are you faithful in your prayer life? God expects you to be faithful in all these things.

Proverbs 3:3 says: *"Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and of people."*

John 15:7 states: *"If you abide in me and My words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."*

Of all the things to be faithful for, God's Word is the most important. Be a good and faithful servant.

Richard Lyles, Post 71
Department Chaplain



PLEASE...Pay Attention...!!!



The Leader

\$1.00

INDEPENDENT
AND LOCALLY
OWNED SINCE 1987

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1, 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR

WWW.ARKANSASLEADER.COM

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Gun storage during mental-health crises

■ Program encourages anyone struggling emotionally to voluntarily and temporarily store firearms out of home.

By JEFFREY SMITH

Leader staff writer

The Armory Project is a new program in Arkansas that offers voluntary out-of-home firearm storage to help individuals having mental health issues or suicidal thoughts by securely storing guns away until the situation has passed to prevent the firearms from being misused.

The TAP program provides resources and information through the Veterans Administration. The program started in Louisiana in 2021 and has 26 partners in the state. It is expanding into Arkansas.

Participants in the program are Chuck Leftwich of Cabot, an American Legion Post 71 member and a federal firearms dealer since 2003 and Unlimited Firearms and Outfitters (UFO) in Cabot and John Lykins a pharmacist in Lowell (Benton County).

The program is not operated or controlled by the VA, ATF, FBI or any state, county or law enforcement agency. It is strict-

ly an agreement between the firearms owner and the participating federal firearms dealer.

Leftwich told The Leader, "I hold the firearms for 90 days at no charge, while they get professional help. They can contact me and bring their guns unloaded. They fill out a storage agreement. I record the make, model and serial numbers of the guns.

When they return for their firearms, I do a federal background check on the individual, to make sure they can still legally possess firearms and release the guns back to the owner. Another option is to put the gun on consignment to sell."

TAP is a companion to the Project 22 program, crisis intervention and other suicide prevention programs. In Arkansas, 62-percent of suicides are by firearms. The firearm suicide rate of Arkansas veterans is more than three times the rate of the general population. Over half of all Arkansas firearm deaths are suicide.

"Sometimes you don't know when PTSD will sneak up on

you, and we want to do anything we can to keep them alive," Leftwich said.

Reasons for voluntarily storing firearms out of the home are mental health issues, relationship stress or divorce, loss of a job, depression or thoughts/talk of harming oneself or others, substance abuse or legal challenges or young children visiting the home.

Leftwich said he has been in contact with Cabot, Austin, Ward and Jacksonville police chiefs and Lonoke County Sheriff John Staley about the TAP program and the service he provides.

"They refer the individual to me. The police are the first to come into contact with the people in distressed situations," Leftwich said.

Leftwich will also store firearms for people, who have their house under renovation or for sale, or an extended time away from the home, for a fee.

For more information on The Armory Project contact Chuck Leftwich at (501) 413-9367 or visit www.armoryproject.org.

The warning signs of suicide include depressed, angry, impulsive behavior; losing hope; going through a relationship break up, legal trouble or other setbacks; talking about being better off dead; using drugs or alcohol more; withdrawing from things they used to enjoy; acting restless or feeling trapped.

For help, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 988 (for veterans select 1).



THE ARMORY PROJECT

*** Special thanks to both [The Leader Newspaper](#) and [Reporter Jeffrey Smith](#) for not only providing access to military articles and content to the American Legion, but for also recognizing the historical significance importance of the local military community and military families...as they face many challenges such as deployments, job searches, and adjustments to new schools...while their loved ones continue to serve their country at home (or base abroad) by keeping our country safe!



Leadership Training

Join us for an inspiring day of leadership development and networking with your fellow members of the American Legion Auxiliary. During this year's Leadership Training, we will explore the American Legion Auxiliary's mission and programs in new, fun, and exciting ways. Get ready to be inspired and reignite your passion for our mission.

Remember, Bee Mission Minded—because Arkansas is Leading the Way!

Date: March 15th, 2025

Time: 10:00 - 3:00

Location: Russellville American Legion Post 20
215 N. Denver Ave
Russellville, AR 72801

Thank You to our hosts, Post & Unit 20 - Russellville!



American Legion Auxiliary - Department of Arkansas



Save the Dates 2025



January 1 - 31	DELINQUENT Membership - All Membership not renewed for 2025 are NOW DELINQUENT -- RENEW NOW or risk membership suspension (no right to vote, hold office, or voice)
January 3	2 nd Renewal Notice mailed from National to those not renewed for 2025
<u>January 17</u>	<u>GIRLS STATE</u> – Notification letters go out to schools - \$300 per delegate (See GS notification letter for registration process)
February 1	SUSPENDED Membership – ALL Memberships not renewed for 2025 are Suspended – NO Membership privileges (<u>no right to vote, hold office, no voice</u>)
February 17	President's Day
March 1	ALA National Scholarship Applications Due to Department
March 1	Americanism Essay Contest – due to local ALA Unit
March 1	Poppy poster contest information / rules delivered to schools
March 15	Department must be at 85% Membership for Department Excellence!!
March 15	Department of Arkansas Leadership Conference – Unit 20 Russellville <u>All members are invited!!!</u>
<u>March 21</u>	<u>GIRLS STATE</u> - Each Unit / school submit the name of their nominated delegates (See GS notification letter for registration process)
March 29	District 15 Meeting (ALA) – location and time TBD
April 1 – 30	Month of the Military Child (MOMC)
<u>April 11</u>	<u>GIRLS STATE</u> – Registration must be completed by delegates
April 15	Purple Up Day for Military Children
April 15	Dept Americanism Essay entries sent by Dept. Chair to National Div. Chair
April TBD	National Veterans Creative Arts Festival
April 12	Spring Conference – 2301 Thornhill Dr., Sherwood (Jack Evans Senior Center)
April 19	Poppy Contest Posters due to Department
April 26	American Legion Family Day
<u>May 9</u>	<u>GIRLS STATE</u> – Invoice along with check must <u>RECEIVED</u> by the ALA headquarters office
May 17	Armed Forces Day
May 23	National Poppy Day
May 30	Memorial Day
<u>May 25 - 30</u>	<u>GIRLS STATE</u> – Harding University
June 20 – 21	Department Convention – All Members are welcome Location: Wyndham Hotel - NLR





Department of Arkansas



BUSY BEE Units that are **BUZZZZZZing** for EXCELLENCE at 100% or greater!



Well DONE to:



Unit 017 - Paragould	115%
Unit 106 - Searcy	108%
Unit 027 - Fayetteville	100%
Unit 077 - Bentonville	100%
Unit 100 - Rogers	106%
Unit 139 - Springdale	104%
Unit 274 - Cave Springs	100%
Unit 018 - Mena	100%
Unit 020 - Russellville	100%
Unit 080 - Clarendon	100%
Unit 030 - Sheridan	106%
Unit 058 - Texarkana	100%
Unit 427 - Hope	100%
Unit 013 - Hot Springs	100%
Unit 019 - Benton	100%



Thank You for BEE-ing Mission Minded!



Pearl Gordon, President
2024 - 2025



Here's the Education **BUZZZZZZZZZZ!**



National Scholarships — MUST APPLY ON-LINE BY MARCH 1st, 2025 no later than 11:59 pm ET

1. Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship
2. Spirit of Youth Scholarship for Junior Members
3. The Non-Traditional Student Scholarship
4. Junior Loyalty Scholarship



ALL OF THESE SCHOLARSHIPS MUST BE APPLIED FOR ON-LINE @ legion-aux.org (Committees, Education, Scholarships).

ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE UPLOADED ACCORDING TO DIRECTIONS FOUND IN THE APPLICATIONS.

ALL APPLICATION PORTALS WILL PERMANENTLY CLOSE AT MIDNIGHT. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Department Scholarship — MUST USE 2025 DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. All applications must be received by the Units no later than March 1st, 2025!
2. Units must send their winning choice application to Department no later than March 15th, 2025. NO EXCEPTIONS!
3. Units must forward one (1) application ONLY.



GIVE 10 FOR EDUCATION



TRACKING SHEETS DUE TO DEPARTMENT BY JUNE 1ST

(Please note—this allows units extra time to finish the program and submit tracking sheets.)

Remember, as an example, if giving pencils, you must give 10...so on and so forth.

Include money spent on the tracking sheets, please.

Thank you for all you do for Education...

Education Committee
Denise "Dee" Smith, Chair
Christina Greer, Member
Shari Francisco, Member



Questions??? Please email to alwaysinmygarden@gmail.com



BEE MISSION MINDED!!



A Letter from the President

Hello sisters and brothers of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arkansas. I hope that this message finds you all well. The 2025 year has started off with a great BUZZZZ! I hope everyone made it safely through our first big, Arkansas snow of 2025. It really altered our lives for a few days. Mainly, it prohibited many from attending the Mid-Winter Conference. The American Legion kept its original date while the American Legion Auxiliary postponed for two weeks, to January 25th. In which we had a great turnout, and a very informative meeting. I want to encourage ALL of our Legion Family members to BEE Mission Minded, and do things accordingly for the betterment of our Veterans, Military, and their families.



Although we have been Busy Bees serving our Veterans thus far, we still have plenty more to accomplish in the remainder of the year. It is imperative to understand that 2025 memberships should be paid by now. If they are not, those memberships are now **SUSPENDED**. That means, those members have no rights or privileges in our great organization. They have no voice, they cannot vote, nor hold any level of office in the unit, district, or department. You can help the department reach its annual membership goals, and ensure your membership is never suspended. You can become a PUFL member, or simply...

Change your Membership RENEWAL time – RENEW between JULY 1 and Veterans Day each year! 

We must continue to strive to make this a year of Department Excellence. It is in our reach. However, to accomplish this endeavor we must ALL work as a TEAM as we:

- Serve our Veterans, Military, and their families
- Serve in our Communities
- Cultivate goodwill in our units, districts, and department
- Share our good work on the department and national level (through our reports)
- Appreciate and value each of our members

We all need to depend on each other to make a difference. I look forward to serving with each of you the remainder of the year, Lord willing. I hope to see many of you as we continue to visit units, districts, and divisions. Keep serving, *recruiting*, and BEE-ing Mission Minded!

For God and Country,

Pearl L. Gordon, President
2024 - 2025
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arkansas

See our visits & travels on [Facebook](#):

Department of Arkansas
Commander – President Gordon
2024 - 2025

BEE MISSION MINDED!! 



2024 - 2025 PRESIDENT'S PROJECT



Fisher House - ARKANSAS



Fisher House: Home away from home coming to Little Rock to better serve Veterans' Families

Fisher House – President's Project Donor Form

Name: _____



Street Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Unit/Post #: _____ Unit/Post City: _____

Any Donation amount is greatly appreciated.

Certificates of Appreciation will be issued at the end of the President's Project based on the following donation amounts:



Pollen Donor - \$25.00

Nectar Donor - \$50.00

Golden Nectar Donor - \$100.00



Thank YOU

for BEE-ing Mission Minded!



***** Make Checks Payable to: ALA - Department of Arkansas**

Memo: President Pearl's Project ****

Send to: 1415 W. 7th Street, Little Rock, AR 72201



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arkansas
Spring Conference
2025

Please Join us:

Where: 2301 Thornhill Drive
Sherwood, AR 72120

(Jack Evans Senior Center)

When: Saturday, April 12th

Time: 8:30 Registration

9:00 DEC Meeting

10:00 General Meeting

**Lunch will BEE
provided.**

*Donations will be
accepted to use
toward the
Department of
Arkansas
Scholarship.*

Join Us for: Department Updates, Good Fellowship, Food, and Prizes!



Let's Make a Difference in the Lives of Our Veterans ...

Veterans Needs List



- Winter Coats-All sizes
- Liquid Laundry Soap – Smaller sizes, 10oz – 75oz
- Disposable Razors
- Coffee Sundries, Creamer, & Sugar Packets for Outpatient Clinic and Clinical areas in LR/NLR
- Body Wash - Men's and Women's
- Deodorant - Men's & Women's
- Underwear & T-shirts, Medium, Large, X-Large, XXX Large
- Event Tickets to Movie Theater the Tavern in Little Rock
- Fidget Blankets for Dementia Unit Veterans
Example: <https://www.etsy.com/listing/647230816/memory-adult-fidget-blanket-dementia>
- Bus tokens, Cab fare vouchers, Gift cards, Gas cards needed for Veteran outings.

We are SWARMING for our Veterans!!

BEE Mission Minded!!



Announced Candidate for State President 2025-2026



Patty is eligible for membership in the American Legion Auxiliary through her husband, Michael Tucker, retired Air force veteran. Patty has been a member of the ALA of Arkansas since 2018 and a PUFL since then.

Patty has served in various offices at the Unit 53, District 5, and State level.

Patty served on the Department Education Committee and serving on the Department Legislative Committee.

She is a graduate of the Arkansas Legion College. Patty serves as the AR Deputy Representative for the VA hospital in Memphis, TN

Patty is a graduate of Arkansas Northeast College, graduating with highest honors. While at the college she was a member of the Gamma Beta Phi Society, serving as President for the local chapter and Treasurer for the State chapter

Patty worked for various companies before retiring. She has had extensive training in leadership, team work, and business management.

Patty's additional activities include representing the American Legion Auxiliary while working with the Northeast Arkansas Veterans Action Council and Mid-south Veteran League. She also has many hobbies that occupy her days and also works with different animal groups in the area as foster fur-parent.

Patricia (Patty) Tucker was born in Harrisburg, Arkansas. Patty met her future husband, Michael Tucker when she transferred to Lepanto High School in Lepanto, Arkansas. Patty and Michael met after a 30-year gap and married in 2005.

She and Michael have 2 daughters (in Arkansas), 1 son (in Texas), 3 granddaughters, 4 grandsons, and 6 great-grandchildren (1 boy and 5 girls) who keep them on their toes. Patty has had family members in Military service in every conflict since the Revolutionary War when her 4th Great-Grandfather served at Valley Forge with General George Washington.



MILITARY LIFE

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

AIR FORCE
ARMY
ASSIGNMENT
CODE
DRILL
GENERAL
GUARD
HONOR
MAPS
MARINES
MEDAL
MESS
MOVE
NAVY
OFFICER
PASS
PLAN
PRIVATE
RANK
RESERVES
ROLL
SCOUT
STRIPES
TROOPS

H	O	N	O	R	T	N	E	M	N	G	I	S	S	A
E	A	R	I	E	C	R	O	F	R	I	A	M	S	S
L	A	M	M	E	D	A	L	N	F	M	O	A	T	E
G	A	L	L	O	R	B	Y	A	A	M	I	R	R	V
E	U	R	P	R	I	V	A	T	E	L	O	I	I	R
S	V	A	E	L	A	D	R	S	S	O	P	N	P	E
C	A	O	R	N	L	R	S	I	P	S	E	E	E	S
O	P	A	M	D	E	I	M	S	A	A	A	S	S	E
D	K	N	A	R	O	G	R	Y	M	C	N	P	W	R
E	R	E	C	I	F	F	O	D	J	T	U	O	C	S

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.



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but don't lie...you're gonna print it out and do it just to have some fun for yourself (ha)!