

Department of
Mississippi

Magnolia



AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY

Serving veterans, their families and their communities

Monthly
Newsletter

Jan. 2012



GREETINGS FROM THE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT



TOUCAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

I hope that everyone had a great holiday season. Even though our children and grandchildren are far away, we were fortunate to be able to celebrate with close Legion friends and family. I enjoyed sharing in many Christmas parties throughout the state. Thanks for all of the invitations. If I had conflicting schedules, please don't hesitate to invite me at some other time. I would like to visit as many

units as I can this year as your department president.

Mid-Winter is here, reports should have been sent to all committee chairmen; and it is time to hear what has been going on around the state. I am always amazed at how much we accomplish each year for our veterans. What an amazing group of women we have.

Please be sure to attend the Mid-Winter Conference and be prepared to enjoy yourself. We will have some great talent on Saturday night, the 14th. We will also have a tropical hat competition. I have prizes for the best hats so get your fingers to working on those hats of yours. The hat parade has always been a favorite and a lot of fun.

If you would like to contribute to a silent auction, please bring items to be auctioned off for

our Department Support Fund. Also, sign up your neighbors and friends and bring them along with you. I understand that Angela has some fun things, too, associated with membership. It is good to see so many new faces in our Auxiliary Family, and to see the enthusiasm that they are bringing into our organization. I congratulate all of you units that are growing with new membership. Sharing is what we do best as we work with our veterans and service men and women and their families.

If I can do anything to help your units grow, don't hesitate to call on me. I will do all in my power to try to help you out.

See you in a few short days.

For God and Country,

Mary L. Smith-Ried

1ST VICE PRESIDENT-PROGRAMS COORDINATOR



Thank you goes out to those units who sent in a Mid-Year Progress Report by Dec. 31.

I hope the Department Chairmen of our programs were able to report great things

happening in our great state.

Mid-Winter Conference will soon be here, and we look forward to seeing many old and new friends of our Legion family.

Don't forget to bring membership turn-ins and some-

thing creative for the Poppy Usage Contest!

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

For God and Country,

Sarah Edwards

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**2012 MID-WINTER
CONFERENCE,
VICKSBURG
JAN. 13-15, 2012**

**MISSION TRAINING
CONFERENCE,
JAN. 21-22, 2012
MOBILE, AL**



2011-2012 DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

MARY RIED, PRESIDENT
SARAH EDWARDS, 1ST V. P.
ROSE BLANCHARD, 2ND V. P.
CAROLYN TARDY, HISTORIAN
PATRICIA TREST, CHAPLAIN
MARY LYLES, NEC
ANGELA KILCREASE, ALT. NEC
NANCY SANDERS, SECRETARY/
TREASURER

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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WWW.MISSALA.COM

2ND VICE PRESIDENT-VA&R CHAIRMAN



We've welcomed a new year and now it's time to get back down to business. I know everyone has sent in their mid-year reports and now the Department Chairmen will begin writing their reports, to send on to National and pass all of our accomplishments on to the members.

Our VA & R representatives worked very hard to make certain our veterans were able to experience the joys of Christmas. Parties, gift shops, and special delivery of Christmas Cheer are just a few of the activities. The smiles, the hearty thank you's, and yes, some tears, make these events extra special. These men and women have given so much for us and for our country, and THEY were thanking US.

The Biloxi hospital is looking for some organizations to adopt groups of patients to take out to lunch once a month. They are ambulatory and will be transported by the VA to the restaurant to meet up with the ladies.

This way the patient gets away from the hospital and out into public to enjoy some good conversation and good food. If you are interested, contact Jo Tisbury.

I'm looking forward to a full meeting room at Mid-Winter Conference---friends, good information, beautiful hats in the membership parade, and a fun time is being planned for Saturday night. You will be there, right? The hats and the entertainment will be tropical, a nice change from the winter weather.

On Mondays, I check my email and when I see Angela has sent something, I close my eyes and say "Please let it be good news!" We've slacked off, when it comes to sending in membership. Personally, I don't like not being the leader of the pack, so we ALL need to get busy with renewals and new members. Give other women the same opportunity to serve our veterans as we have...let's share these experiences, not keep them secret and to ourselves. IT'S TIME TO SHARE!

While planning the how-to of the display honoring our veterans, I hit a wall. After

trying several methods of matting the pictures, I decided to ask for help. I went to the usual craft stores, no help there, but on the way home I passed a custom framing shop. I explained what I was doing and without hesitation, I was given a mat board at no cost. After seeing what the prices were for this, I figured that this donation amounted to approximately \$100.00. When you or anyone you know have any framing needs, please use Negrotto's Gallery in Biloxi or Ocean Springs. If a business helps/supports us, I feel we should do the same for them.

Did you know:

January 1, 1962, first Navy SEAL teams were established.

January 28, 1915, the Life Saving and Revenue Cutter Services were combined and became the U.S. Coast Guard.

Hope to see you all in Vicksburg for Mid-Winter Conference!

Rose Blanchard, 2nd Vice

FOR THE RECORD - DEPT. HISTORIAN



History is who we are and why we are the way we are. ~David McCullough

HISTORY: Pass it on...

By 1929, the Great Depression blanketed the country. The threatening conditions tightened the ties of comradeship among veterans and their families. This need to join together resulted in new membership records for both the Legion and the Auxiliary. (Excerpt from American Legion Auxiliary Leadership Correspondence Course.)

Happy New Year. I hope the holiday season was a good and joyous one for all of you. As we begin our new year, it is

time to get back to work for our Auxiliary. I haven't received many reports from our historians. For those who have sent in reports, I thank you. Units, please work on your written histories and your Unit scrapbooks. The year is half over; time does fly by quickly so don't let the end of the year arrive and your history not be recorded.

Many events occurred during the holiday season. Your Units held parties, charity programs and fund raising. Did you keep records of these activities for your Unit scrapbook?

Don't forget to send items for President Mary's scrapbook to her Scrapbook Committee. Mary will enjoy reminiscing about her year as president as she leafs through her scrapbook and recalls the

events of her very busy year. Many items can be included so make sure you include all of your activities, especially records of her visits to your Units.

Our Mid-Winter Conference will be in Vicksburg in January. I do hope to see all of you there.

In the meantime, carry on with making history and be sure to record what you do!

For God and Country,

Carolyn Tardy, Historian

**A HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

NEWS FROM PROGRAM CHAIRMEN AND MORE...

MEMBERSHIP



Many congrats to all of you who have worked hard for membership and understand the importance of membership to our future.

I thank each and every unit for your contributions to date. Every transmittal is a blessing to me, no matter how big or small.

However, our Department has dropped yet again in the National Membership Rankings—to #17. It breaks my heart as we have done so well all this time to let it fall apart now.

Please, please, bring lots of membership turn-ins to Mid-Winter Conference. Wear your creative island hats for the parade of turn-ins on Saturday.

Don't let us down, Mississippi! Let's lead the way!

The American Legion Auxiliary has so much to offer to so many. Membership in this organization is one of service and HONORS OUR VETERANS each and every day.

We have more and more units reaching 100% goal. I challenge each unit to challenge yourselves to be at 80% to 100% plus by Mid-Winter Conference.

Remember, each member of each 100% plus unit will get to wear an island lei to signify their membership success at Mid-Winter Conference. You wouldn't want to be left out, now would you?

NEXT DUES RENEWAL NOTICE FROM NATIONAL:

It is my understanding that the next dues renewal notice will be issued around Jan. 3, 2012. The National staff will pull membership first thing Tuesday morning, Jan. 3, for the second dues notice.

Thank you again for all you do for our membership program. If I can be of service, please let me know.

Let's wish the Department of Mississippi a successful New Year as we strive to end this membership year at 101%. I plan to take each and everyone of you TO THE TOP, kicking and screaming if I have to!

For God and Country,

Angela Kilcrease, Chairman

GIRLS STATE

It's January and time to start making plans for Girls State! I have been inundated with calls from counselors and potential delegates already about Girls State. They are ready to go now! As with last year, we will have the Girls State applications on our web site, along with the informational pamphlet. For those who cannot get online, I will have the applications, etc., at your disposal by the end of January. Please encourage the young ladies in your area to attend Girls State. We are excited about this year's program and will keep you updated throughout the Spring. The cost per delegate will remain at \$250 this year. We understand that times are hard now, and \$250 is not easy to come by. Ask the merchants, bankers, etc., in your town or city to help – if not with all of the costs, at least part of it. You would be surprised what they are willing to do. We want to break the 300 attendees mark this year. Girls State needs to grow. Thanks in advance for your assistance and support.

*Nancy Sanders
Girls State Director*

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP REMINDER!

Friday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m. until noon; Auxiliary Meeting Room, Battlefield Inn, Vicksburg

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER - DEPT. CHAPLAIN



As we begin a new year, let us recommit ourselves to remembering our troops who are in some foreign land away from their family and doing the duties that we all so greatly appreciate. I encourage all of you to participate in some way to send items that they need and especially words of encouragement and sincere thanks for their service to our nation.

Please keep our Legion and Auxiliary members in your prayers, especially who may have illness or a family member with illness. May God pour out a special blessing on America for 2012

For God and Country,

Patricia Trest

Thought for the month

You are my lamp, O Lord; the Lord turns my darkness into light. With your help I can advance against a troop; with my God I can scale a wall.

2 Samuel 22:29-30

NEWS FROM PROGRAM CHAIRMEN AND MORE...

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES



Hello Juniors and Junior Leaders,

Happy New Year!

It is now the New Year, and time to start your Junior Units in earnest if you have not begun your projects yet. Remember our veterans first. Volunteering with any project concerning veterans is a number one priority with JUNIOR UNITS.

By the way, I hope all of you have sent something to Nancy or me concerning anything you have accomplished thus far, so that I might brag on you at the Mid-Winter Conference in Vicksburg. The Senior Auxiliary love learning about what the Juniors are up to.

How many new Junior Units have started up, or re-started after being dormant for awhile? What have the girls been up to? Are they volunteering,

helping the Auxiliary out, assisting in Nursing Homes, visiting returning veterans? Working on Christmas parties, handing out presents for disadvantaged children, offering poppies? Or just organizing themselves into a cohesive, functioning Unit? Please tell us, by turning in some reports.

I hope to see many Junior Girls at Vicksburg in January 2012.

For God and Country,

Velma Harrington, Chairman



ANCHOR CLUB

Are you ready for another exciting year? Well, the Department of Mississippi is and we need to join the Anchor Club or renew your membership in the Club. The membership fee is just \$50. Any member of the Legion family can join. Entire Units, Posts, or Squadrons can join. Send in your membership to the Department office, making sure you mark your check for the Anchor club. Remember this fund is to help our Department office to function by purchasing items that are not in the budget but are needed. Last year, we were able to get several things that were needed to properly operate of Department Headquarters, but there is much more to de done. Please pledge your support by becoming a member or renewing y our dues. Send it in today!

For God and Country,

Janice Crosby, Chairman

From our Collins Veteran Home Rep!

Ladies, we have had a good time helping with Collins this past month. They had lots of different parties for Christmas. We had our usual bingo party in December and gave out the \$5.00 prize money and then had extra gifts to give each person there. Everyone got a wrapped gift with a pair of socks and personal hygiene products, and then we handed out everyone a lap blanket, plus items sent by Wesson consisting of tee shirt, socks, deodorant, razor, shaving cream, puzzle books, etc., for them to take their pick of. They all had a great time and we did too. We also had socks nicely packaged from a group of Girl Scouts from Tylertown who generously donated their time to remembering our veterans during the holiday season.

Pascagoula Unit 160 came up and gave them a nice party on that same afternoon, with food and gifts and a special visit from Santa.

I want to thank everyone that has helped us provide the monthly parties for the Collins VA. We could not do this if it were not for Unit 24 in Hattiesburg ; they send us a \$200.00 donation each month. I just want them to know how much we appreciate this great contribution. We are able to have nice parties with bingo money and refreshments each month. Thanks Hattiesburg ! Other units have sent donations along during the year and that is really appreciated, too. We have a great group of generous ladies, and we appreciate each and every one that has helped us out this year.

Thanks again,

Glenda Wheelis

NEWS FROM PROGRAM CHAIRMEN AND MORE...

PUBLIC RELATIONS



For the past two months we have celebrated Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Time seemed to fly by as we planned and participated in one event to the other and gave thanks for our Veterans, family, friends and most of all for God's abundance and His son, Jesus. Now it is time to put 2011 behind us and welcome in 2012, extending good wishes that the New Year will bring prosperity, love, joy and peace to all we know.

As we begin to record a new page in Mississippi's ALA history, we need to keep the public informed of our planned upcoming events, fundraisers, or community programs. In an online search for ways to get your articles and announcements noticed by the public, I came across the website www.101PublicRelations.com, which offers suggestions for effective news releases and "bonehead mistakes" to avoid, as we find ourselves in this later category, not intentionally but by omission. It begins by saying that the news release is your only chance to make a good first impression. Sloppy, inaccurate, pointless releases are the first to hit the newsroom wastebasket or recycle bin. Even if the article is short, making sure the details are all there is more important than having meaningless words count for length.

To make sure yours isn't one of them, avoid these seven deadly sins:

- *Verify your information, making sure it is not insufficient or wrong, particularly telephone numbers.*
- *Releases must be complete, accurate and specific.*
- *Keep your writing short, as they should be no longer than two pages. In most cases you will have limited space so just get to the point in as few words as possible or someone will condense your writing for you and leave out key ideas that you want included.*
- *Honor the deadline and do not send your information in too late. Mail or fax it in at least two weeks before an event, preferably three or four. Sending them four to six months ahead for major magazines is essential.*
- *Do not send in a release with no news value. News is what happens that is different. If it isn't different, it isn't news. Use suggested templates for help and ideas. Tell only about the newsworthy items and keep the "fluff" out*
- *Blatant commercialism is not effective. Avoid hackneyed words and phrases such as spectacular, incredible, the only one of its kind, breakthrough, cutting-edge, unique and state-of-the-art.*
- *Always include a contact name and phone number, at the top of the first page in the left corner, to let editors know who they can call if they have questions.*
- *Since most newspapers prefer an email of the requested information, this one hit home with the uncertainty in email receipts to the intended recipients, "Calling after you send a release should be avoided." Questions like "Did you get my news release?" or "Do you know when it will be printed?" will brand you as a pest. Don't follow up with a phone call to see if the media got your release, unless you are absolutely sure that someone will check for you. Most reporters and editors don't have time. Make friends and cooperate with press associates, especially if it is free advertisement or an ad for your Unit. Do not forget those thank you notes as a follow-up to an event and Certificates of Appreciation at the end of the year. They mean a lot, especially as they are unexpected expressions of gratitude. Hope that these suggestions will give you all the help you need to get the media's attention for your announcement or event—and keep your news release out of the wastebasket.*

Many thanks to all of the Units that submitted a report by December 31st. Your data is very valuable for the reports that are due for the Mid Winter Conference coming up January 13 – 15. The PR Committee has not received any archived information from any of the Units, so please bring your collection of articles to Conference. Regardless of the size of your Unit, I know that by now, everyone should have had at least one announcement or story in the newspaper, church bulletin or newsletter, etc. If you have not, consider adding this to your list of Unit goals for 2012. We all have a story to tell, make sure you and your Unit are included.

Mary Jo Abraham, Chairman



DEPARTMENT OF MISSISSIPPI

War Memorial Building
P. O. Box 1382
Jackson, MS 39212

Phone: 601.353.3681
E-mail: ALAMSHQ@aol.com

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ALSO, JOIN: [ALA SOUTHERN DIVISION](#)

POPPY USAGE CONTEST AT MID-WINTER

POPPY USAGE CONTEST (formerly Poppy Corsage Contest)

DEADLINE: Before Mid-Winter

All units are encouraged to have a contest to generate funds for our veterans, by voting on your favorite member-designed poppy creations. Some ideas besides corsages include wreaths, centerpieces, tray favors etc.

It's simple. Make a creation from poppies and submit it to your unit Poppy Chair. She will keep all submissions anonymous so that people are not voting on the submitter but the submission itself. Members can pay \$1.00 to vote, and they are encouraged to vote numerous times! The poppy creation garnering the most donations wins the contest. The individual units will use their discretion in determining the rules for submission.

The winning Unit entries should be submitted to Shirley Turner, Department Poppy Chair, or Diane Lawrence, Poppy Usage Coordinator, by the first day of Mid-Winter Conference, Jan. 13, 2012. Use the Poppy Usage Contest Form available at ALAforVeterans.org. At Mid-Winter, all unit submissions (and you can enter more than one!) will be displayed for all Legion family members to vote on their favorites. Votes are \$1 each. All proceeds raised will benefit our Department contribution to the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival, as in years past.

Get those creative juices flowing; and generate excitement for helping our veterans!

For God and Country,

Diane Lawrence, Poppy Usage Coordinator

FROM THE DEPT. SECRETARY



Greetings from the Department!

Happy New Year! Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays. Now it's back to work. The Department is scrambling to "catch up." We sent the first mail-out of mid-year reports to the chairmen. We received a few more this week and will be sending them out to chairmen as well. We went through all the units who have EIN's and made sure your tax reports were filed. There were a few (about four or five) whom the IRS denied. Most of the time, it's because the address or name is different from the original filing. We are working through National to get all of this fixed, so bear with us.

I was quite surprised to find that no units had filed on their own this year. I went ahead and covered you, but if you haven't attended one of my workshops on how to file your own tax report, Mid-Winter Conference will be your last chance to do so. We will have a workshop on tax reporting on Friday morning prior to the conference in the Auxiliary meeting room starting about 10 a.m. at the Battlefield Inn in Vicksburg. Unless you are computer illiterate, you will be on your own next September. Some of you ignored by pleas for the last two years and now you have had your non-profit

status pulled. It is costly to be reaffirmed by the IRS as a non-profit organization, and I know you can't afford the \$100 - \$300 to get it done.

Reminder: The Junior Auxiliary will be holding a cake walk on Friday night of Mid-Winter for the Jr. President's Special Project. PLEASE bring a cake to Mid-Winter for this event. ALSO, President Mary will be having a silent auction at Mid-Winter. This year the auction will be set up in the back of our meeting room for convenience. Please bring something or some things for the silent auction.

I haven't gotten very many poppy orders yet. I will be ordering soon, and I know you will kick yourself if you forgot when it gets time for your poppy day!

FINALLY, our membership is trickling in – barely enough to send once a week to National. Please do not hold on to your membership. Send it right in so that we can stay up-to-date with the goals we have set. Remember, Angela said she would do the hula for us if we made goal! In fact, we need to wear our tropical outfits, make island hats and have a GREAT time at Mid-Winter. It will help the cold weather go away for a while. I'm bringing mine!

See you at Mid-Winter!

Nancy Sanders

Advice for All for New Year

Ann Landers

Let this coming year be better than all the others. Vow to do some of the things you've always wanted to do but couldn't find the time.

- **Call up a forgotten friend.** Drop an old grudge and replace it with some pleasant memories.
- **Share a funny story** with someone whose spirits are dragging. A good laugh can be very good medicine.
- **Vow not to make a promise** you don't think you can keep.
- **Pay a debt.**
- **Give a soft answer.**
- **Free yourself of envy and malice.**
- **Encourage some youth** to do his or her best. Share your experience, and offer support. Young people need role models.
- **Make a genuine effort** to stay in closer touch with family and good friends.
- **Resolve to stop magnifying small problems** and shooting from the lip. Words that you have to eat can be hard to digest.
- **Find the time to be kind and thoughtful.** All of us have the same allotment: 24 hours a day. Give a compliment. It might give someone a badly needed lift.
- **Think things through.** Forgive an injustice. Listen more. Be kind.
- **Apologize when you realize you are wrong.** An apology never diminishes a person. It elevates him.
- **Don't blow your own horn.** If you've done something praiseworthy, someone will notice eventually.
- **Try to understand a point of view** that is different from your own. Few things are 100 percent one way or another.
- **Examine the demands you make on others.**
- **Lighten up.** When you feel like blowing your top, ask yourself, "Will it matter a week from today?"
- **Laugh the loudest** when the joke is on you.
- **The sure way to have a friend is to be one.** We are all connected by our humanity, and we need each other.
- **Avoid malcontents and pessimists.** They drag you down and contribute nothing.
- **Don't discourage a beginner** from trying something risky. Nothing ventured means nothing gained. Be optimistic. The can-do spirit is the fuel that makes things go.
- **Go to war against animosity and complacency.**
- **Express your gratitude.** Give credit when it's due—and even when it isn't. It will make you look good.
- **Read something uplifting.** Deep-six the trash. You wouldn't eat garbage—why put it in your head?
- **Don't abandon your old-fashioned principles.** They never go out of style.
- **When courage is needed,** ask yourself, "If not me, who? If not now, when?"
- **Take better care of yourself.** Remember, you're all you've got. Pass up that second helping. You really don't need it. Vow to eat more sensibly. You'll feel better and look better, too.
- **Give yourself a reality check.** Phoniness is transparent, and it is tiresome. Take pleasure in the beauty and the wonders of nature. A flower is God's miracle.
- **Walk tall, and smile more.** You'll look 10 years younger.
- **Don't be afraid to say, "I love you."** Say it again. They are the sweetest words in the world.
- **If you have love in your life,** consider yourself blessed, and vow to make this the best year ever.



REMINDER FROM MARY LYLES, NEC: DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR THE MISSION TRAINING CONFERENCE IN MOBILE, ALABAMA . THE DATES OF THIS CONFERENCE IS JAN. 21-22, 2012. THESE CONFERENCES ARE VERY INFORMATIVE IF YOU ARE AN OFFICER OR CHAIRMAN OF YOUR UNIT, A DISTRICT OFFICER AND A DEPARTMENT OFFICER OR CHAIRMAN. IT IS OPEN TO ANY MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY.

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A REGISTRATION APPLICATION, YOU MAY GO TO THE NATIONAL WEBSITE (ALAFORVETERANS.ORG) AND PRINT ONE OUT OR CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT AND NANCY WILL SEND YOU ONE. THE HOUSING REGISTRATION DEADLINE WAS JANUARY 5, 2012, BUT REMEMBER, THERE ARE PLENTY OTHER HOTELS IN THE AREA TO CHOOSE FROM!

PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT

Happy New Year Everyone!

I pray you have blessed 2012. It's almost time for the 2012 Mid-Winter Conference's annual Saturday night show! Madam President Mary Ried's special project is the USO, so this year we're going to have a *Jimmy Buffet Margaritaville USO Show!*

Please dress tropical if possible. Tickets will be \$5 per person (with all proceeds to benefit USO project), and we will also have 50/50 drawing. Please try to come out and have some fun some of your favorites will be back, like Rodney Dangerfield, Phyllis Diller, The Village People. We will also have a tribute of all the branches of the Military.

If there is anyone else who would like to volunteer to be in the show, please let me know by calling me at 228-832-4307 or email me @ mjlady502006@yahoo.com. Thank you everyone so much for your help, talent, and support.

Merita Guinn
President's Special Project Chairman



Until Every One Comes Home.®

A THANK YOU FROM CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP, BILOXI VA (received via Department Web Site)

Name = Porter and Elizabeth Terrell

Comments = We donate what we can to many organizations but this is the first time we have been on the receiving end. My husband, retired Navy, has been attending the VA School For The Blind, which recently opened in Biloxi; he came home for Christmas this weekend. We want to thank you for the gift for wife and daughter that were offered by your organization through your Christmas Gift Shop there. He is a member of the American Legion (joined when we were in Maine), along with other organizations, and this is the first time we have been a recipient of some of the projects diligently cared for by the membership. Thank you all for caring so much to do such things.



2012 POPPY ORDER FORM

2012 Poppies will be ordered by the Department at the end of March. Please fill out your order and have it back to me by March 15, 2012.

Please order your poppies **NOW** even if you don't have Poppy Day until Veterans Day in November. This is the **ONLY** order we will make this year, and when all the poppies are gone, there will be no more available this year.

FILL OUT THE ORDER BLANK BELOW AND MAIL TO:

NANCY SANDERS, SECRETARY

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

_____ 1,000 - \$150.00

DEPT. OF MISSISSIPPI

_____ 500 - \$ 75.00

P O BOX 1382

_____ 250 - \$ 40.00

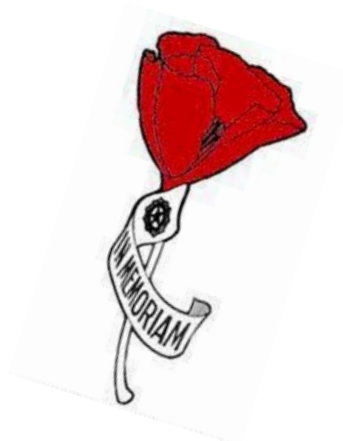
JACKSON, MS. 39215-1382

POPPY CHAIRMAN: _____

UNIT NAME AND NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS OF PERSON: _____

AMOUNT OF CHECK: \$ _____





MID WINTER CONFERENCE



CHECK LIST ARE YOU READY?



- Registration fee of \$13 per person for seniors
- Bring First-Time Attendees from your Unit
- Decorated Island Hat for parade/membership turn-in on Saturday
- Item(s) for the Silent Auction for the Dept. Support Fund—bring something nice that will bring high bids!
- Poppy Usage Contest Creation for your Unit (individual entries also welcome—the more the merrier!)
- Donate a cake for the Junior Auxiliary Cake Walk on Friday Night
- LOTS AND LOTS AND LOTS OF MEMBERSHIP TURN-INS!!!
- Tropical attire for the Saturday Night Margaritaville USO Show! Come fun and festive; \$5 admission per person
- Used Cell Phones and clipped coupons for the USO collection box
- Collected hotel toiletries for the Homeless Veterans collection box
- Bags for Hard Candy, individually wrapped for the Camp Shelby Chaplain's Project
- Donate a 3 x 5 American Flag for the Legion Riders in Mississippi—yep, we'll have a box for that, too!
- Did we mention LOTS AND LOTS OF MEMBERSHIP TURN-INS!???
- Three door prizes per unit for meeting drawings
- In gathering all this stuff above, don't forget your OWN clothes, underwear, and personal toiletries!

**LET'S GET READY TO HAVE A GREAT TIME!
SEE YOU IN VICKSBURG!**

