

IT IS GREAT TO BE AN AMERICAN

Would you believe that after 33 years of membership, I have just inherited the Presidency of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Mississippi, the NUMBER ONE DEPARTMENT of the Largest Patriotic Women's Organization in the World. We have had a really good year under Angela's leadership, and it's gonna be a hard act to follow.

BUT, by working together, we can do it. After many weeks of serious consideration, numerous phone calls and letters, we have put together a first-class TEAM of Committee Chairmen and Members. By working with the Department and District Officers you elected, we WILL be able to achieve our goals.



Mary Lyles, Department President

Let's not forget that membership is our priority again this year. We all did a GREAT job last year, but, please, let's do it earlier this year. (Last-minute stuff makes all of us nervous.)



I need to clarify my Special Project. I first named the U.S.O **and** the Department Car Fund. After consideration, I have settled solely on the Department Car Fund. I've asked our National Security Chairman, Angela Kilcrease, to promote and coordinate our support for the USO in Mississippi through her program. And, we'll continue to support the Camp Shelby Chaplains Project (also to be reported under the National Security Program) as it is a worthwhile project for our troops.

The Department Car Fund is important to our Department as the vehicle not only allows the Department President to travel across our great state, but it is a big advertisement for the American Legion Auxiliary in Mississippi. It's our own rolling billboard! Our current van is serving us well, but we must be prepared to purchase another one in the near future. We all know that cars won't last forever. I sincerely ask for your support of this project.

We have many wonderful programs in ALA....the Plans of Action explain them well. There is something for everyone to do. Find your favorite programs, and "let's get 'er done." Remember, everybody can't do everything all the time, but everybody can do something some of the time. ***Let's work together often and have a successful year.***