It seems like it was just yesterday that I sat down to write an article and here it is already two months later, I guess time flies when you are having fun. National Convention in Indianapolis saw me making new friends, greeting old friends, and renewing old acquaintances. Then it was time to go back to work for a couple of weeks and then off to Kodiak for a visitation at Post 17 and Madam President Bevs' homecoming. (If I ever find out how they cooked the roast beef to come out as tender as it was I promise you Rich that I will never tell). The following Saturday found me in Homer at Post 16 where Tim cooked up some outstanding beer-can chicken (I saw all of the help you had Tim). Then on to Ninilchik for a Saturday visitation at Post 18 and some melt in your mouth steak. I tell you if this keeps up I’m going to have to start buying bigger pants and belts. I wish to thank all of you that helped and showed up for my visitations and made them a success.

It is a very exciting time for the American Legion in Alaska as some changes have been made due to the ever changing demographics of the state. Now instead of having Conventions in Feb. Mar. and Apr. it has been changed to having a fall conference in the Oct. Nov. time period and a Department Convention in April thereby eliminating the need for members to travel three times in four months to twice a year split up into the spring and fall making it much easier on the pocketbook and hopefully increasing both the participation and input from the members. This year the fall Conference has been scheduled for the 17th and 18th of November and will be held at Post 1 in Anchorage and the notification has been sent out to all Post Commanders. Remember that this is not just for Officers, Chairman, and Commanders but it will be a learning opportunity for all Legion Members. I hope to see you there.

A new Legion year is now upon us and it is now time to renew your membership for the upcoming year and become an early bird. I am sure that the 1st VICE has more to say on this subject so I will end with an old statement of JUST ASK.
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:

It is the complete and unqualified loyalty to the American Nation that is the cause of Americanism. Americanism is a moral, social, political, economic, and spiritual ideal of loyal patriotism, religious tolerance, righteous freedom, fearless courage, honest integrity, abiding faith in the commanding destiny of the United States, and a fatherly love for the principles that led our forefathers to found this country. It is the complete and unqualified loyalty to the ideals of government as set forth in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. A desire to secure the blessings of liberty for our Nation and for our posterity.

What is Americanism? It is defined as love of America, loyalty to her institutions as the best yet devised by man to secure life, liberty, individual dignity, and happiness; and the willingness to defend our country and Flag against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

It is a vital, active, living force. Americanism means peace, strength, the will and the courage to live as free men in a free land. It means a friendly hand to people everywhere who respect our institutions and our thinking. It is not a word; it is a cause, a way of life - best way of life ever known - a challenge and a hope in this world.

Americanism is an ideal of loyal patriotism, religious tolerance, righteous freedom, fearless courage, honest integrity, abiding faith in the commanding destiny of the United States, and a fatherly love for the principles that led our forefathers to found this country. It is the complete and unqualified loyalty to the ideals of government as set forth in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. A desire to secure the blessings of liberty for our Nation and for our posterity.

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE

By Ernest L. King Sr.

2nd Vice Commander

Department of Alaska

Second Vice Commander

Happy Holidays to everyone.

There will be many activities going on over the next few months so be sure to check with your local posts for any activities that they may need help with.

Upcoming events are as follows:

Month of November is American Education Week, November 6 Election Day
November 11 Veterans Day
November 22 Thanksgiving
December 1 Domiciliary Gift Shop
December 25 Christmas
December 31 New Year's Eve

What is Americanism? It is defined as love of America; loyalty to her institutions as the best yet devised by man to secure life, liberty, individual dignity, and happiness; and the willingness to defend our country and Flag against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

It is a vital, active, living force. Americanism means peace, strength, the will and the courage to live as free men in a free land. It means a friendly hand to people everywhere who respect our institutions and our thinking. It is not a word; it is a cause, a way of life - best way of life ever known - a challenge and a hope in this world.

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Monday, December 17th is the deadline

For the November/December issue of the “Alaska Legionnaire” December 17th is the deadline for all stories and/or photos to be submitted. All material must be into Department Headquarters no later than 5:00 pm. Please be reminded that only those articles that are typed, preferably sent via e-mail or provided on a diskette will be considered for publication. Faxed articles will not be considered. As always, the editorial staff can edit all submissions. Photos are also being sought for publication. They should be clearly marked and must be original for good quality camera reproductions. Anyone interested in submitting an article and/or photo, or anyone interested in advertising in an upcoming issue contact the Alaska Legionnaire office at 1550 Charter Circle, Anchorage, Alaska 99508 or call 907 278-8598 or email us at legion@anch.net. Please request a return receipt for any emails you send to us, in order to verify that it was received.

VA provides mammograms for all Veterans, with 45 facilities providing services on site utilizing digital mammography. Some facilities offer mammograms to walk in patients and same day ultrasounds. VA also offers mobile mammography in some areas of the country. This mammogram technology on wheels allows women Veterans in rural areas to get screening mammograms and have their mammograms read by a VA breast radiologist, without traveling far from home. All this improves access for more than 337,000 women VA health care users.

For more information about VA programs and services for Women Veterans, visit www.va.gov/womensvets and www.womendcalt.va.gov

HolidayGreetings!

Here we are heading into the months of cold, snow, Turkey days and Ham with the entire fix in.' I haven’t heard any objections to the new bi-monthly Dept. newsletters as of yet, but again we are still at the early stages of productions and as far as we know, the newsletter is doing great. The last couple of month we have had all kind of activities that affect the different communities, from hunting the starting of school and the sports programs. There have been a few National holidays and when the political debates all the way to Halloween.

Now that some of the post had started to get visitations from the Department Officers, we head towards the voting day (11:06-12) where all legal voters have an obligation to vote and choose their next President. Who will it be for the next 4 years?..... Kind of makes you wonder!!!

On November 1st we have All Saint’s Day then on Tuesday the 6th we will have to go out and vote for the next President for the USA. So Get Out and VOTE!!!... Well after the first two exciting days of November we move on to our next holiday. Every Veteran’s Day on the 11th at 11:00 all of us remember for our fellow veterans in different ways. It was the actions of the past that brought us the life of the present. As we head towards the end of the month, America will celebrate Thanksgiving Day and sharing time with loved ones, families and friends alike.

In the days to follow starting with December 1st there is the Santa’s Secret shop at the Anchorage Domici-

linary. You are welcome to join us and help in this project wrapping gifts, addressing and sending them off for our veterans and their families. This overall process is very rewarding with the holiday spirits.

There is the WWII and Korean War Dinner on the 2nd honoring these veter-

ans at Post 35 from 2:00 pm until 4:30 pm. Next on the list we have the 7th of December, Pearl Harbor Day which is another day for us to remember our veterans of the past and the conflicts that followed.

There will also be a few visitations here and there, so you will have to watch your post calendar and attend when the visitation is at you post. After everything has kind of calmed down a little, next to follow is Christmas then the 2013 New Year.

Now as the membership chairman for the Alaska, must bring up the subject of our membership numbers. I know that our membership numbers are a little be-

hind the national target goals, but I am sure that everyone would agree that this is not an easy task. We must try to find innovative ways to interest members and veterans to either join and sign up or renew their membership with the Legion Family. One way is to discuss at your general meeting and see if your post has sufficient available funds to give up the money of the post member- ship dues and sign up the member just rejoining the post $33.00 for the Depart-

ment and National’s portions just for the rest of this year (2012). Or maybe pay a membership year for anyone who signs up 10 members, how could you even combine the two sug-

gestions in the hope of finding more member-

ship.

Our post could also pay the dues for that member that is a little under the weather or is short in finances. These are a few ways that I can think of to gain people for membership. The new Goals have been set, and the member-

ship target dates are set for the middle of each month until we are at 100%. Department will remind everyone on the dates and percent goals through Peggy’s E-mail to each post so we will have a visual, as we continue to make each goal during our year.

Well since my last letter I had men-

tioned about helping our veterans and their families and how this is just a small the Legion’s Four Pillars. Again if you don’t remember the Four Pillars they are as follows;  

- Defense - Fostering a strong National Security
- Veterans - Taking care of our Veterans
- Youth - Mentoring the Youth of Our Nation,
- Patriotism - Promoting Patriotism and Honor.

So remember as we look for all of those new members, we need to also look for that special member who volunteers’ and help with the smooth operation of very Post throughout our Great American Legion Department of ALASKA!! I will end by saying, “Have safe and Happy Holidays with your Family and Friends!”
Our Father, Almighty God, we thank you for wisdom to remember with reverence the valor and devotion of our separated comrades who became POWs and MIAs while serving their country to keep men free. Let us never forget and be always ready to assist in locating them and returning them to their desired locations. May we always keep them in our prayers, remembering the possibility that they may be found, yet realizing as time passes, life also passes. This we pray in your Holy name. Amen.

Taps

Alfred Apodruk Post 13
Jim Baker Post 11
Deaux Berg Post 1
Paul Blair Post 27
Dennis Boreen Post 77
G Brown Post 29
Carl Cartwright Post 1
Harvey Davis Post 49
Leo Dixon Post 77
Jesse Doris Post 5
Philip Dufresne Post 27
Martin Gamboa Post 77
Clifford Gangstad Post 33
Robert Gruzdinski Post 28
Noland Hallman Post 35
Herman Hauck Post 77
Jack Hetscheidt Post 49
James Howard Post 1
Eugene Janusieczwicz Post 28
Daniel Johnston Post 49
Minna Jones Post 77
David Kallaway Post 28
John Kirkpatrick Post 16
Ed Lapery Post 12
William Lawrence Post 1
Adrie Leduc Post 12
Paul Moreno Post 13
Clyde Munsell Post 29
James Munsill Post 29
Edward Myers Post 4
Palmer Nore Post 6
Allen Parker Post 17
Alex Peratovitch Post 77
Donald Presler Post 49
Raymond Rhodes Post 49
Marcelo Pombaoa Post 17
Vernon Simpson Post 1
Kenneth Spalding Post 5
Floyd Steele Post 1
Judith Vandiver Post 57
Emery White Post 29
Paul White Post 28
John Wright Post 49

Post 21 Aurora Borealis, Post 28 Spenard, Post 33 Peters Creek, Post 34 Chappie James and Post 35 Susitna Valley will send the names of winners to Kevin Collier (907-317-8029 kcollier@alaska.net). This contest will take place on February 9, 2013 in Anchorage.

By Jan Scott.
Oratorical Chairman

It is time to gear up for The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program “A Constitutional Speech Contest”.

In order to have an outstanding program this year (2012-2013) the format will be similar as in the past. Each post will hold their contest and send the winner up to the next level. One contestant from four groups of post will attend the Department of Alaska contest held on March 9, 2013. The following are the post groups:

Post 1 Jack Henry, Post 4 Anchorage Pioneer Home, Post 15 Matanuska Valley, Post 21 Aurora Borealis, Post 28 Spencer, Post 29 Muldooom, Post 33 Peters Creek, Post 4 Charlie Janes and Post 35 Sitka

NA valley will send the names of winners to Kevin Collier (907-317-8029 kcollier@alaska.net). This contest will take place on February 9, 2013 in Anchorage.

Post 2 Seward, Post 16 General Buckner, Post 17 Robert G. Blair, Post 18 Ninikikh, Post 20 George H. Plummer and Post 75 Sterling will send the names of winners to Sue Coope (907-776-8731 coupe@alaska.net). This contest will take place on February 9, 2013 at Post 20.

Post 2 Valdez, Post 8 John W. Jones, Post 9 Arctic Koyukuk, Post 11 Dorrman H. Baker, Post 19 Nome, Post 22 Jack Warren, Post 27 Gladys M. Heintz Memorial, Post 30 Con Miller and Post 57 C. Russell Hubbard will send the names of winners to Jan Scott (907-460-6707 janscott1@alaska.net). This contest will take place on February 9, 2013 in Fairbanks.

Post 3 Ketchikan, Post 6 Merlin Emler Palmer, Post 7 Skagway, Post 12 Lynn Canal, Post 13 Sitka, Post 14 Edward Locken, Post 25 Auke Bay and Post 26 Prince of Wales will send the names of...
2012

Calendar of Events

November is Membership Retention Month

- Nov 4 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov 6 Election Day
- Nov 11 Veterans Day
- American Education Week
- Nov 18 National Family Week
- Nov 22 Thanksgiving
- Nov 22 & 23 Dept Offices are closed
- Nov 23 Holiday Blood Donor Drive
- Dec 24 - 26 Dept Offices are Closed
- Dec 25 Christmas
- Dec 31 - Jan 2 Dept Offices are Closed
- Jan 1 New Year’s Day

- Jack Henry Post / Unit 1
  Wednesday Taco’s 5:30 - 7:30
  Friday night Steaks 5:30 - 8:00
- Tuesday Night Auxiliary Meals 6 - 7:30
- Nov 3 - Annual Silver Tea 1 - 4

- Seward Post 5
  Taco Tuesday
  Friday Night Steaks

- Food served most nights at Post

- Matanuska Valley Post 15
  Taco Monday
  Friday Night Steak

- General Buckner Post 16 Family
  1st Saturday Auxiliary Dinner 6 pm
  Taco Tues 5 pm
  Friday Burger & Brew 6 - 8 PM
  3rd Friday Steak night 6 PM

- Post 20
  Sunday Breakfast 10 – 1
  Sunday Football
  Monday Night Football meals
  Thursday Afternoon Football
  Friday Night Steak night 6 - 8
  Dec 8 Children’s Christmas party 12:00
  Dec 22 Adult Christmas Party
  Dec 31 New Years Eve Party

- Spenard Post 28
  Burgers 6 PM
  Monday night food 6 PM
  Thursday Karaoke 9 PM
  Friday Steak and Seafood 5 - 8:30 PM
  Saturday Night Food 6 PM
  Karaoke 9 PM

- Muldoon Post 29
  Sunday Brunch 11 - 1
  Wednesday Karaoke and Food
  Friday Night Steak 6 - 9 with DJ Rico

- Chappie James Post 34
  Friday Socials 6 PM with Buffet.
  Pinhole, Dominoes, Music
  Saturday Dinners 3 PM - 8 PM
  Catfish, BBQ Ribs, Fried Chicken, Pkr Steak, Pigs Feet, Liver & Onions

- Susitna Valley Post 35
  Friday Night Steak Nights 6-8:30 pm
  Every Sunday Turkey Shoot, Starting at 1 pm. Ammo and Guns supplied or bring your own 12ga shotgun

- Legion Riders Sunday Pancake Breakfast 10 am - 2pm
  Senior’s Dance Last Thursday of he month 2 PM - 4 PM Everyone invited, Come enjoy, dance sing and meet new and old friends.

- By Don Ridl, ALRA State Director

Greetings everyone! I hope that everyone who went hunting this season was as lucky as I was. There were six in our hunting party and we came back with three moose.

It’s that time of year again for everyone to have put their bikes to rest for the winter. I hope everyone remembered to do all of the necessary procedures to winterize.

There have been quite a lot of things going on in the ALR since our convention. As most of you know by now our next state ALRA convention will be held at the same time Department Convention’s is held in April at Spenard Post in Anchorage. Also, now that Western and Southeast District has been disbanded, there will be a Fall Conference to be held the 17th and 18th of November for the entire American Legion Family. Gene Frank’s, the Dept. Adjutant asked me if the ALRA would like some floor time so if enough of you can attend, then let me know ASAP so I can let Gene know one way or another. There is some important business that I would like to take care of, one being the ALRA by-laws. If anyone needs more information call me at 907-235-5544 or 907-399-4859 or e-mail me @ rigsub1@yahoo.com. There will be no registration fees for this conference.

The conference will be held at Jack Henry Post #1 on Fireweed lane in Anchorage. The only charge will be food@ Post #1. The Post would like all of us attending the conference to preregister so they can make their plans accordingly. The conference will include a membership workshop, Adjutant workshop, post officer training, Americanism and Children and Youth.

This covers our youth programs. The conference begins at 0800 Saturday morning with a recess for lunch and then continues until 1600. Any unfinished business will continue Sunday morning with a DC meeting to follow.

American Legacy Scholarship: Our Civic Duty, Providing for the Children Left Behind. This program has become the pet project of The American Legion Riders. Over the past 7 years the riders have held their annual fund raising from National HQ in Indianapolis to the site of the National Convention. In that short time the Legion Riders have raised over 3 million dollars for the scholarship.

The Scholarship was formed after the 9-11 attacks of the United States. It is for the Child/children, or legally adopted child/children, of active duty United States military and Guard and Reserve personnel who were federalized and died during active duty on or after September 11, 2001. The student must be a high school senior or high school graduate to apply for the scholarship.

Last year, 2011, we met the challenge head on and raised a total of $668,738.00 National Commander Wong accepted this donation from the Riders and Dept. during the National Convention on Tuesday, August 28th, 2012. This huge task was taken on by the American Legion Riders. A large amount of this was raised during the annual American Legion Legacy Ride. This ride had been held for the past 7 years. You ask what the Legacy Ride is all about? Every year the Legion Riders have met at National HQ in Indianapolis and take 5 to 10 days and ride to the host city of the National Convention. With the National Convention being held in Indianapolis this year, the riders met in Niagara Falls, NY, Commander Wongs’ home Department and headed out, through 5 states and over 750 miles, to Indianapolis. The starting date was August 21st. The monies that were raised during the ride went directly to The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. According to event planners over 350 Riders participated in the year’s event. Legionnaires at posts along the route will provide support in the form of food and bottled water. This year the ALR of Alaska had 4 riders participating in the ride including, Scottie Dog, Jan Scott, Jim Petito, and Jay Cole. Last year the ALR of Alaska donated $5300.00 and this year topped that by donating over $7,000.00!! This year the ALR have raised over $710,000 shattering the record set in 2011 of over $660,000. I think you can agree this is an amazing accomplishment.

“This is something that all Americans can support” said Wong. “If you ride a motorcycle join us. If you don’t become a ‘non-ride supporter’ get your patch and help these children.”

Adjoint Cont from Page 1
By Kevin Collier, Sons of The American Legion Detachment Adjutant

Election Day is November 6, 2012 this year. Be sure to fulfill your responsibility as a United State citizen and vote. Did you know that since 1792 - Election Day in the United States is set by law. I hope to make it over to visit your posts this winter weather and schedule allows. Speaking of weather, please keep your local veterans in mind particularly during this time of year. Please take some time out and see if they need any help, such as preparing their home for the winter or lending a helping hand where needed.

As of November 5th, our membership renewal is only at 18.1%. At the end of last year we had a successful 105% – 107% membership renewal rate, and we hope to top that again this year. We all are busy during this time of year with family and the holidays, but please remember to renew your membership and help remind those around you. Your adjutant can send you membership renewals to Kevin in Detachment.

In place of a Western District Conven- tion, we will be having a workshop held at Anchorage’s Post #1 from November 17th – 18th. Please put this on your calendars to attend this event, and I trust you will find it to be both rejuvenating and educational. On November 18th we will be having a detachment meeting, and we ask that all det-achment officers please plan on attending.

It is truly a joy and blessing to be in such a wonderful and successful organization which is built upon strong leaders and dedicated members of society. I look for- ward to the opportunity to spend time with you as I visit posts throughout the winter. Once again, thanks for all your generous hospitality!

My door is always open. If you have any great ideas on how to continue to make this year a success, or simply just want to say hello, please feel free to email me at tusal-er@gci.net. Thanks again for being a part of this great organization as we preserve American traditions and values, improve the quality of life for our nation’s children, care for veterans and their families, and teach the fundamentals of good citizenship.

And remember, visit a vet! S.A.Lutations

By David Dieckgraeff

Detachment Commander

Well, the summer season is officially behind us, and the cold weather is upon us. We had a great visit to Kodiak during their visitation, and I would like to thank every member who donated their time and effort to make the event a success. The company, food, and hospitality were generous and excellent! I visited Kodiak during my high school basketball days (I will simply say that was over 20 years ago, no need to go into details). The friendliness and generos-ity of the locals was as amazing then as it is now. I want to give a special thanks to Debbie for going out of her way while we were stranded due to airline delays. All of those back-and-forth trips to the airport will not be forgotten.

Unfortunately I was not able to make it to Ninilchik’s and Horner’s visitations due to weather constraints from all the flood- ing Seward was suffering from. I hope to make it over to visit your posts this winter weather and schedule allows. Speaking of weather, please keep your local veterans in mind particularly during this time of year.

Elections for the President and Vice President are held every four years; a person may only hold the office of President for two terms (a total of 8 years). Elections to the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate are held every two years; all Representatives serve two- year terms and are up for election every two years, while Senators serve six-year terms, staggered so that one-third of Senators are elected in any given general election.

Learn where each of the candidates stand on the issues and then Get Out And Vote!! Only by our active participation in our form of government will our Nation remain the Greatest Nation, of the People, by the Peo-ple and for the People.

Remember November 11th we all need to stop and pay tribute to our Veterans by celebrating our freedom and the men and women who fought for country. Without the sacrifices our veterans made this country would not be the great Nation that it is. They have given of themselves so that we all may live in peace and enjoy all the rights and privileges we have being an American Citizen. All veterans gave something of themselves; some even gave all to ensure our blessings of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Take a moment out of your day to say “Thank You!” to our veterans.

This November 17-18th will be the first joint American Legion Family Fall Confer- ence at Jack Henry Post #1. We would like to have a very good attendance as we learn a lot from the Department Chairmen who will be conducting the conference. The educa- tion of our members is vital for a greater understanding of the Legion programs by all Legion Family Members. The cost of the conference will be $35 per person to cover meals. We will have a Detachment Executive Committee on the Sunday No- vember 18th after the conclusion of the Fall Conference.

Most of the Post will be giving out Thanksgiving Holiday Baskets. If you get the opportunity to deliver one of these to a needy family it will not only melt your heart but give you even more reason to be thankful for all your many blessings, of health, family and friends. Please remember to be sure to take the time to count your many blessings even those that we usually take for granted, for there is always someone with far less.

We should everyday pay tribute to our veterans by celebrating our freedom and the men and women who fought for our country. Always remember that with out the sacrifices of our veterans this country would not be the great Nation that it is. They have given of themselves so that we all may live in peace and enjoy all the rights and privileges we have being an American Citizen. All veterans gave something of themselves; some even gave all to ensure our blessings of life, liberty, freedom and the pursuit of hap-piness. Take a moment out of your day to say “Thank You!” to our veterans.

The National Membership Goal is 400,000 Members. The National Mem- bership theme this year is “Sons Band- wagon - 2012-13.”

Honor our Veteran’s Service whom our membership eligibility came under by renewing your dues or if you are eligible to become a member of the Sons of The American Legion and have not joined – join the SONS and honor the service of the veteran who has sacrificed so much to protect this great country. Remember it’s Cool to be a Dave!!

Last year the top recruiter for the Sons of The American Legion - Detachment of Alaska was Bill Null from Squadron #28 - he was submitted for the “Blue Brigade” award and recruiter jacket. Congratula-tions Bill!!

Who will be our Top Recruiter for the 2013 Membership Year??

We all need to work hard as being a top recruiter. This will assist, as we will succeed in reaching all our goals and the 105% challenge that Detachment Command- er David Dieckgraeff has posted. Currently we have a current member- ship of 1430 out of goal of 1487, or 96.2% for the 2012 membership year. We only need 57 more members to be transmitted to achieve our 100% goal. Remember that membership is everyone’s responsibility! Keep up the great job.

The Detachment as a whole has 118 members transmision official visits and send goal of 1469 (so far) is equivalent to 8.0% of our goal. Remember that membership is everyone’s responsibility! Keep up the great job.

As information comes out on the Na-tional Membership Theme we will make sure to get it out to you. Let’s all aim for 100% membership and100% renewal as soon as possible. The earlier we start the easier it will be.

For the 2013 Membership year the Target Dates have been set follows: 35% November 15, 2012 45% December 1, 2012 60% January 16, 2013 75% February 13, 2013 80% March 13, 2013 90% April 10, 2013 100% May 8, 2013 100%July 24, 2013

The first Membership Postcard Re- newal Notice for the 2013 Membership year was sent out by National Head- quarters in September and our members should be sending in their membership dues.

The challenge for you is to send in a transmittal with as many members as pos- sible prior to the 35% goal on November 13th and the 45% goal on December 12th.

We need your cards into Detach- ment Headquarters about 1 week prior to the above date in order to get them processed at National in time to count as reaching the goal.

Let’s meet or beat each and every one of our goals this year – let us show every- one what the SONS from Alaska can do. Remember that membership is every- one’s responsibility!

Keep up the great job you are doing in membership. Remember the three “R’s” – “Renew”, “Recruit” and “Reinstate”. Do not just sit on it! Keep it rolling in.

National Commander Chris Hunting- don of Alaska Detachment to work on what is still being called the “Triple Nickel” – to push membership to retain at least 85% of their current members, reach 105% by National Convention next year (2012) and charter at least 5 new Squadrions.

If you have not taken the oppor-tunity to turn in your Certification of Officers, please do so as soon as possible. This helps the Detachment Commander, David Dieckgraeff and myself in having points of contact at your Squadron so we may arrange official visits or send important information from the Detach-
From the Desk of the Auxiliary President

By: Beverly Eads
Department President
“Angels All Around You”
November is Membership Month
American Legion Auxiliary Birthday- November 10th- serving Veteran’s for over 90 years.
Veterans Day November 11th, Honor our Veterans past and those still serving our country. Please take the time to thank a veteran for all they do, a hug or a hand shake will give will bring a smile to their face and warm your heart!! This is the time to join a Post for the activities and show respect for all that has been done for us. November 22th- Thanksgiving Day a day to be thankful of all the rights we have in our fine country. A perfect time for food baskets for the needy and offering dinner to the veterans and their families.

Since November is membership month please focus on retaining your current members. Recognize members for what they do, say “thank you”. Be respectful to all members. Reach out to your community for new members remembering juniors! Keep up the hard work!!
December is Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Month
December 1st- Domiciliary Gift Shop Visit
December 7th- Pearl Harbor Day
Remember the sacrifices the veterans make for us give generously to the Gift Shop Program. Thank you.

The Holiday Season is coming and we have a lot of work to do. December is a month filled with holiday work for children, with Christmas parties for the children food baskets for the needy, and the Gift Shops for our Veterans, in Anchorage and Fairbanks, provide emotional support and cheerful companionship to the hospitals.

I wish you all a joyous, peaceful, healthy, and prosperous New Year!! Remember our troops serving around the world away from home during the holiday season.

From the SECRETARY’S DESK
By Linda Schmidt, Auxiliary Secretary
Hello, by the time you read this there will be snow on the ground, Halloween and the Silver Tea have come and gone, and the first Fall Conference, Thanksgiving and the Christmas Gift Shops will be upon us. This year has flown by and 2013 is knocking on the door. So, with all of that having been said and done; where do we stand as far as membership goes? At the time of this writing, we are at 19.99% a long way off from 55% by Veterans Day - I don’t know if we’ll make it or not, I’m hopeful that we can at least get close and our second milestone is 70% by Valentine’s Day. “We’ve got a long way to go and a short time to get there”, as the lyric goes but we can achieve these goals if we just put forth a little effort. Send out those reminder cards; make phone calls; remind your members who you see in the Post that you know have not renewed for 2013 yet to please do so. We’ve got to be more proactive with our membership so we can start meeting those goals. The entire Unit should be working membership, not just your Unit membership chairmen – anyone can pick up a phone or remind someone it’s time to renew their dues again. If I can help with anything, give me a call or drop me an e-mail.

Also, remember that we have until 12/31/12 to reach 100% for the membership year 2012. If you have members on your roster that have not yet paid their 2012 dues, now is the time to be contacting them and reminding them that they have not paid their dues. We are very close to achieving this goal - at the time of this writing we are at 98.74%, just 13 members away from 100%! It would sure be nice to hit that mark before the end of the year.

Department membership chairmen if you haven’t gotten your Plan of Action to Lisa to post on the website; now would be the time to get it done so that the Units can have an idea as to what they are to be doing this year. Also, don’t forget that according to the Constitution and Bylaws you are supposed to write two letters a year to the Units. Mid-year reports will be coming up soon and no one is going to have a clue as to what they are supposed to be doing.

In closing, please a safe and Happy Holiday Season. I look forward to seeing all of you soon at the Fall Conference and at the Domiciliary Gift Shop on December 1st.

Anchorage Domiciliary Gift Shop

The Anchorage Domiciliary Gift Shop is scheduled for December 1, 2012 at 10 am, at 3001 C St, Anchorage, AK 99503. If your Post, Unit or Sqd would like to make a monetary donation please send it to:

We are also giving out Christmas Stockings again this year and we are looking for items to go in them. We will need about 60 of each item. If you wish to donate please bring these items to the Fall Workshop. The American Legion Auxiliary, Dept of Alaska, PO Box 670750, Chugiak, AK 99567.

As always volunteers are welcome and encouraged to help us with this event. If you have any questions please contact Peggy Bateman @ 727-9230 or peggy.alaska@gmail.com.

2012-2013 National Membership

Goal, Objectives and Milestones
Membership Goal: By demonstrating Service Not Self and engaging members in meaningful mission delivery, the American Legion Auxiliary will retain current members and attract new members. The future success of membership organizations depends on a clear purpose, strong values, and engaging opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships as they work together for a common purpose. Amid the chaos of rapid change, meaning and purpose are the enduring qualities that attract and retain members.

Milestones:
- 55% by Veterans Day (November 11th, 2012)
- 70% by Valentine’s Day (Salute to Hospitalized Veterans, February 14th, 2013)
- 85% by Armed Forces Day (May 17th, 2013)

A new Auxiliary year has begun and with it a renewed spirit of Service Not Self. National Auxiliary President Peggy Thomas’s theme is “Soar to New Heights for God and Country” so let us set our sights on service to our veterans, the military and the families. Some of you may have heard the term “Pods” in referring to a grouping of our programs. The structure of Pods includes a simplified way any Auxiliary Unit with limited resources can work programs effectively. “Pods” are groups of similar ALA mission delivery programs. The Veteran/Military Support & Advocacy Pod includes: Legislative, National Security, Poppy, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation.

How are these related? We need to be aware of legislation at all levels of government that affect our veterans, military and the families. We need to let our representatives know how we feel about the legislation. We can make a difference. National Security is to maintain and promote a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military service members and their families. A few ways this can be done is: adopt a Unit adopt and active duty family, adopt a National Guard/Reserve family, or respond to the TAL Family Support Network Requests. Poppies: tell the poppy story. Explain how the money received from donations goes to assist veterans, the military and their families.

VA & R, by Marge Blankenship, Dept. Ist Vice President

An event that the Auxiliary is very proud of is the Remember the Brave Program. This program, which is sponsored and managed by the Department of Alaska is in its 13th year. It is a program that can be done in a variety of ways. You can participate through Home Service and Field Service activities. Check out the 2012-2013 Plan of Action How to Guide for the Veterans and Rehabilitation. http://www.alafortez.org/PlansofAction/2012/var/VARPplan2012-2013.pdf

What is your Unit doing for Veterans Day? Will you assist your Post in hosting a Veterans Day dinner? Will you be handing out poppies and the poppy story.

With all your activities be ready to share the news about the American Legion family. You do not have to be an officer to at least learn what we do and why we do it. Who is eligible to belong? Be proud of the American Legion family. It is all about. Why do we do what we do. Who is eligible to belong? Be proud to share the news about the American Legion family.

I look forward to meeting you at the Dep. of Alaska Workshop on Sat. Nov. 17 at Jack Henry Post 1, Come and learn what we do and why we do it. You do not have to be an officer to attend. It is for ALL auxiliary members.
Ketchikan Post 3
Meets every Monday, 7pm
Forty-third Tuesday, Serv. Off.
272-5242, FAX 272-5792
Adjutant - Greg Kowatch
Hunter Davis, Serv. Off.
2nd Vice Commander
Ketchikan, AK 99901
Meets 1st Thursday
1st Vice Commander
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Jack Henry Post 1
Sergeant-At-Arms
Dorman H. Baker
SEWARD POST 5
Meets 2nd Tuesday 7p.m.
Claire Sullivan
Commander
Taco Tuesday -- 6p.m.
Steak night Friday -- 6p.m.
P.O. Box 306
Seward, AK 99664
907-224-5440
Dorman H. Baker
Post 11
Dave Kent
Commander
Billy Smith Adjutant
Rich Brown
Service Officer
Pulaski Ball, the club
452-2228, 129 First Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Haines Alaska
Post 12
Commander
Pat Murphy
First Vice - Bill McKiberts
Second Vice - Wayne Streets
Finance Officer - Pat Murphy
Adjutant - Rick Riker
Seward Post 28
Commander
Wes Lancaster
1st Vice
Ernest L. King St.
Michael Blake
2nd Vice
Admiral Heck
Finance
Richard Giegas
Chaplain
Kim Jacobus
Historian
George Tillman
Service Officer
National Cartier
St-Arms
Jeffrey House
Judge Adv.
Kenneth Jacobus
Becchmittmen
Kirk Waldbau
Robert Murquez
Annual Sponsorship of
• Boys & Girls Program
• Al Baseball Service High
• Boys Scout Troop 214
• Cub Scout Pack 214
• Dimond High JROTC
• Post 28
• Scholarship Program
7001 Brayton Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507
907-344-3841
Muldoun Post 29
Meets 3rd Tuesday 6:30 PM
Commander
Fred Steer
Service Officer: Joan Goss
162 Muldoon Rd
Anchorage, AK 99504
(907) 338-3550
FAX (907) 338-0755
Susitna Valley
Post 35
Commander Dallas Massey
Adjutant Ronald Travis
Service Officer James Francois
MONTHLY MEETINGS,
1st and 3rd Tuesday's @7:00 PM
Friday Night Steak 6:00 - 8:30 PM
P.O. Box 8703
Wasilla, AK 99687
C. Russell Huber
Post 57
John Magmore
Commander
Service Officer
Darrel Peterson
Pete Duchschere, Adjutant
1634 S. Cushman St.
Fairbanks, AK 99701
452-5757
AMERICAN LEGION
Sons of The American Legion
CHALLENGE COUPON
TRIBUNE STATEWIDE
LEGION
2012
1. Complete the Consolidated Squadron Report Form.
2. Send your completed report to the Adjutant of your Detachment
3. The Adjutant will forward to the District Commander
4. The District Commander will forward to the State Commander
5. The State Commander will forward to the Department Commander
6. The Department Commander will forward to the National Commander
7. The National Commander will forward to the American Legion

American Legion Post 57
Tim McDaniel
Commander
Bill Malkuch,
First Vice
Adjutant & Finance Officer
Darrel Williamson
P.O. Box 7044
Fairbanks, AK 99707
907-4606707
jamscott1@alaska.net

Consolidated Squadron Report

The Consolidated Squadron Report Form is a tool used to document and track the events and activities of the American Legion. It helps in gathering information and reporting it to higher levels of the organization. The form is designed to be filled out by the Adjutants of each Squadron and then forwarded to the District Commander, who in turn sends it to the State Commander, and finally to the National Commander. This process ensures that all activities of the American Legion are documented and reported accurately and timely.