



# Auxiliary Communique



## Iowa's Roses

### President Norma Hawkins



Mother Nature has shown her wrath on us f r o m

tornadoes to floods during May and June. I know I stated we would have fun and excitement but not this much excitement. We need to have perfect weather the rest of the year. This will be the last travelogue for our year together. We are a fabulous American Legion family.

April 11, 2008 Toured the VA Medical Center in Iowa City at 1:00 P.M.

April 12, 2008 1<sup>st</sup> District Conference Shueyville Methodist Church.

2<sup>nd</sup> District Conference American Legion Post Oxford Junction.

3<sup>rd</sup> District Conference American Legion Post Iowa Falls.

Florence Long, Past National Central Division Vice President and Past Department President represented me at 1<sup>st</sup> District Conference. I was able to stop by and say "hi" on my way to Webster City. Martha Travis, Department Vice President represented me at Iowa Falls. Thank you roses for doing this.

April 13, 2008 8<sup>th</sup> District Conference at Webster City.

April 14, 2008 Swisher Unit meeting at Legion Post.

April 15, 2008 Sac County meeting Sac City VFW Post Everlasting and Auxiliary Memorial.

April 16, 2008 VA Medical Center Recognition Day Iowa City.

April 17, 2008 Legion Birthday & Post and Unit Meeting Blue Grass.

April 19, 2008 5<sup>th</sup> District Conference Mt. Ayr.

April 19, 2008 7<sup>th</sup> District Conference Shenandoah.

Department Chaplain Janet Tribolet represented me in the morning and I was able to attend in the afternoon. Thank you Janet for a great job.

April 21, 2009 Unit Meeting at Iowa City Legion Post.

April 22, 2008 Advisory and Finance Meeting at Department Headquarters.

April 22, 2008 Guthrie County meeting at Stuart Recreation Center.

April 26, 2008 6<sup>th</sup> District Conference hosted by Unit # 659.

April 28, 2008 Varina Past Unit President's Parley.

April 28, 2008 Audubon County Meeting Memorial Building Audubon.

May 4, 2008 4th District Girls State Orientation Hawkeye Legion Post.

May 5, 2008 Unit Meeting Solon Legion Post.

May 6, 2008 Iowa Veterans Day Volunteer Recognition Day Luncheon.

May 6, 2008 Pocahontas Unit meeting Pocahontas Pizza Ranch.

May 9, 2008 American Legion of Iowa Foundation Meeting at Department Headquarters.

May 12, 2008 Mothers Day Tea Gladbrook Memorial Building/Legion Post.

May 13, 2008 Unit Meeting at New Hampton Community Center.

May 15, 2008 VA & R Meeting Department Headquarters.

May 18, 2008 5<sup>th</sup> District Girls State Orientation at Monroe.

May 19, 2008 Pocahontas County meeting Pocahontas Legion Post.

May 20, 2008 Davenport unit Meeting Legion Post.

May 21, 2008 Spencer Auxiliary memorial & Spencer Post Everlasting at Oneota Park in Spencer.

May 25, 2008 Memorial Day at

Keokuk National Cemetery. I missed due to strep throat and laryngitis.

May 26, 2008 Memorial Day speaker at Hawkeye Elementary school.

May 28, 2008 Marshalltown Unit Brunch at Marshalltown Legion Post.

May 28, 2008 Fayette County meeting at Westgate.

May 29, 2008 Mothers Day Meeting Walcott Legion Post.

June 5, 2008 Department Convention Planning Meeting at the Ramada and Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center.

June 8, 2008 Welcome at Hawkeye Boys State Camp Dodge June 9 – 13, 2008 Junior Camp at 4<sup>th</sup> Camp at Madrid.

June 13, 2008 Department Junior Convention at Elm Lodge at 4<sup>th</sup> Camp Madrid.

June 14, 2008 American Legion Post #279 Memorial dedication at Lawler.

June 21 – June 27, 2008 Girls State.

June 28, 2008 Brick City Parade at Clermont.

July 7, 2008 Unit potluck and meeting Roland at Legion Post.

July 9, 2008 American legion Post Meeting and potluck at Osceola.

July 10 – 13, 2008 Department Convention Meetings & Convention.

I would like to thank everyone for their excellent leadership, dedication to our programs and organization, your support, and your determination on membership. Roses and Rosebuds you have made our year fabulous. The friendships and memories we have shared I will treasure forever. Thank you and lots of love. God bless our troops and The American Legion family.

### From The Secretary's Desk Marlene Valentine, Department Secretary

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) was established to help Auxiliary members in time of need. And we know that many our Department of Iowa members are in need due to weather related situations. Please contact the Department Office – 515-282-7987 and ask for Jeannie for AEF applications or go to our web site [www.ialegion.org/ala](http://www.ialegion.org/ala) and complete all the information. This will be the quickest way. Incomplete forms will not be considered by the National organization. Send to our office ASAP.

The Office has one Spinoza Bear available for purchase. It is for a military child. Please contact the office at 515-282-7987.

Reminder: Please do **NOT** combine your membership dues check with anything else. However, you may put everything else (obligations, poppy orders, donations, Girls State, Junior Camp, etc.) on one check. PLEASE don't combine with membership. This is at the request of our auditors.

All Units, Counties, and Districts **must** file the 990N tax filing and it must be done on line. Each Unit received instructions in their March mailing. Questions? Call the Department Office (515-282-7987) Tuesday through Friday mornings (8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.) and ask for Traci.

**All** County and District Officer forms were to be filled out and returned to the Department Office by **May 1, 2008**. We have many that have not been sent in to the office. Make sure your County and District forms are in!

Unit Officer forms were be mailed out in late May and need to be filled out and returned to the Department Office by **July 15, 2008**. This is a very important deadline.

All membership material will be on the website which includes the Membership Processing Manual and Award forms. Membership Cards and Unit Rosters will be mailed the last week of June 2008. If you have not received this mailing which is sent to the Unit Membership Chairman by July 7, call Jeannie at the Department Office – 515-282-7987. National will be sending out dues notices after Labor Day. Don't wait until then. Send your dues to your Unit today. Thank you.

All 2009 Annual Reports will be on the web site by October 1, 2008. These fillable reports will be able to be sent to the individual Department Chairman by e-mail (preferred) or by regular mail. Annual Reports will only be accepted between the dates of **April 15 to April 30, 2009**. Reports are not to be mailed to the Department Office. This is a new procedure. Check out the web site for more information. Announcements such as death notices will be found on the *Announcement* section of the web page. They will NOT be sent in mass e-mails in the future.

We will be using the web site for more of our forms and other information. This is due to the rising costs of postage and paper. Please check out the web site to keep you up to date on the Iowa Department of The American Legion Auxiliary.

[www.ialegion.org/ala](http://www.ialegion.org/ala)

**Lost and Found - If you didn't get home with a special item from either Junior Camp or Girls State, please contact the Department Office - 515-282-7987 - and we will check the lost and found cupboard. We keep items for 3 months and then they are disposed of. Thank you.**

### Congress Honors American Legion Auxiliary Unit

On April 30, Congressman Tom Latham (R-IA) recognized on the floor of the United States House of Representatives "the great work and service that Osage Unit 278 of The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Iowa is doing on behalf of our young citizens' education." The 381-member unit supported the Special Olympians of the Osage School System and provided 13 scholarships to graduating seniors of Osage High School. "Their work and dedication exemplifies the great Iowa spirit of giving to help others," said Latham.

Congratulations to the Osage Unit on their well deserved recognition. Hopefully, the work you do will inspire the United States Congress to continue to support our veterans, their families and their communities.