



# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

## DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

SERVING VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

*Auxiliary Communique - Winter 2017-2018*



Page 10

## The name of the game "Photo Finish"

### Department Historian Alice Greenwood

Hello American Legion Family! I'm your ALA Department Historian, Alice Greenwood, and I'm here to preserve the history of our great organization. Part of that job includes creating a history book for our Department President Vickie, and that is something I just can't do alone! I need your help to make sure I've documented everything our units and districts do this year. I've been traveling with President Vickie a lot this year, and we will have many more adventures before the year is out. But try as I might, I can't be everywhere, and neither can she! So, what I need from you is your photos. Take pictures of all the activities your unit does and send them to me. I'd like a record of every-

thing Iowa is doing, no matter how large or small. In order to encourage everyone to participate in sending in photos, I've invented game to play this year. I call it "Photo Finish" \*Patent Pending.\* That's right, you guessed it! We're going to the races! This year, I'll be your friendly neighborhood bookie. At Mid-Winter you will be able to get a game slip for a donation to the President's projects. On that slip you will get to guess which district will win, place, and show in the race to send pictures to me. At our conference in July, the top three districts who sent the most photos to me will win a prize, as well as all those who guessed all three correctly for win, place, and show. So start strategizing on how you will vote! Will you vote for your own district and lead the charge of encouraging others in your

district to send in more photos? I certainly hope so! I'm not just looking for photos, though. I'd also like any kind of accompanying papers that tell the story of what's happening in the photos, such as programs and articles. I'd also like to see what your Junior members are doing this year. Take photos of their meetings and activities, and encourage them to take their own, especially at camp. Help and encourage them to send those photos to me and, more importantly, to the Department Jr Historian for the Department Jr President Mary's book. Their history is just as important as our own! You can also encourage your Juniors to participate in the Patch Program and help them to earn their History Patch, which you can find information for on our National Website. And finally, while you are busy documenting your

history through photos, don't forget to document it in writing and send it to me in the form of your mid-year and year-end reports. Mid-year reports are due on January 1, 2018 and year-end are due on April 30, 2018. You can also create your own history books to be sent in for the history book contest, and those are also due on April 30, 2018. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me through email at [alicegreenwood@outlook.com](mailto:alicegreenwood@outlook.com). You can send me your photos by email or snail mail. My address in the blue book is incorrect, so if you'd like to send me your photos, please send them to **1545 Montrose Ter, Dubuque, IA 52001.**

*Thank you all and remember, "America Runs Free Because of Those Who Served Our Country."*

[www.iowaala.org](http://www.iowaala.org)

### Tax-Exempt Status and IRS Filings

Under the 2006 Pension Protection Act (PPA), a non-church exempt organization's failure to file IRS Form 990 for three consecutive years will result in the revocation of the organization's exempt status. Under the IRS regulations, all Posts are required to file an IRS Form 990 every year. Forms must be filed by the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of the Post's annual accounting period. For more information, visit the IRS website at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). You may also get more information by contacting your tax professional.

### 5th Grade Flag Essay Contest

Contest information was mailed to Post Adjutants. Posts will forward one winning entry to their District Children and Youth Chairman or District Commander with signed Participation Application, by January 2, 2018. District entries will be judged by the respective District Children and Youth Chairman and sent to Department by January 29, 2018. Department judging will be by the Department Children and Youth Committee at Mid-Winter Conference.

### Junior Shooting Sports Department Match

The 13th Annual Department Junior Shooting Sports Championship Match Program will be mailed to each Post that officially sponsors a shooting team. New Team Affiliations must be completed by December 31, to be eligible for the 2018 Department match scheduled for March 24 at Camp Dodge.

### Educator of the Year

One of the goals of The American Legion has always been to work in cooperation with schools who assist veterans, their families and local communities. Some educators have gone above the call of duty and promoted the aims and purposes of The American Legion of Iowa.

Educators continue to instill in our children patriotism and respect for the flag. They continue to educate our youth about the sacrifices made by service men and women in defense of their freedom, as well as work with those students whose parent/s are serving this great nation.

The Department of Iowa developed a state program for recognizing educators in Iowa. Nomination brochures are available on our website at [www.ialeion.org](http://www.ialeion.org) or by request from the Department office. Nominations must be received by April 1, 2018.

### Baseball Season to Change for 2018

Changes have been made for the 2018 American Legion Baseball program in the Department of Iowa. The Department Tournament has been moved from spring to summer. As a result, there have been changes to some deadline dates.

- Teams must register online between January 1 and March 1, 2018
- Final rosters will not need to be certified until June 22
- The Department Tournament will be held July 30 – August 3, 2018

A baseball meeting will be held at Department Mid-Winter Conference on Saturday, February 10, at 11:00 am. All members of the Department Baseball Committee as well as coaches and managers are encouraged to attend.

### Scouting - Deadline March 1, 2018

Submission deadline to Department will be March 1, 2018, for Eagle Scout of the Year, Adult Boy Scout of the Year, and Adult Cub Scout of the Year. Eagle Scouts are required to complete the fillable version online, print, and obtain proper signatures. Nominations for Adult Scouts can be found on the Department website or are available by request from the Department office.

Submissions for the Square Knot Award for adult leaders can be applied for at any time. Applications available on the Department website or are available by request from the Department office.

A Certificate and Department Commander's endorsement letter can be sent to any Scout who achieves the rank of Eagle. The request is available on the Department website or are available by request from the Department office.

### Special Announcements

Our sympathy to Past Department President Tooter Baker on the passing of her husband Past Nation Vice Commander Keith Baker.

Get Well wishes to Past Department President Sandra Heckstein after her stroke.

Sympathy to Past Department Auxiliary President Fran Kirk on the passing of her husband Past Department Legion Commander Louis Kirk.