

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Alaska**

AMERICANISM END OF YEAR REPORT

Due May 15, 2018
Barbara Nath,
Americanism Chairman
Department of Alaska

It has been a very fulfilling year as the Chairman for the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska Americanism Committee.

I am excited to report that Alaska had two members submit an essay for the Senior Essay Contest. While not selected as the winner, it was a privilege to have our Department represented in the contest.

The Department of Alaska has 22 active units, of which I received reports from only 12 units. All units reported saying the Pledge of Allegiance at their monthly unit meetings, even though I didn't receive written reports from all units. That is just one example of Americanism. In addition, activities for the 4th of July or Memorial Day (or other holidays) also count toward Americanism.

By the end of the year (April, 2018), the following activities have occurred:

- All Units indicated, either verbally or in a written report, that they have said the Pledge of Allegiance at a variety of activities to include Unit meetings, Girls State and other meetings in which they were in attendance. In addition, members have led the Pledge of Allegiance in schools.
- The American Flag played an important role. Both community members were taught flag etiquette, as well as school children. Flags were distributed as well as flag pins. Flag retirement ceremonies were conducted and flags were collected for proper disposal. Schools were contacted to let them know flags needed to be replaced and family members of school children were encouraged to contact their schools.
- Helping our communities to celebrate Americanism holidays is another way in which members were involved. As reported, members across the state participated in events for Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Veteran's Day. These events included parades, scavenger hunts. In one community the Coast Guard attended the program for Veteran's Day. Also members marched in parades
- Assisting families in the community with needs.
- In addition, Units were active in events commemorating 9-11 and remembering those who died as well as those who survived. One Unit reported that they had a 911 project with three guests as well as Gold Star mother in attendance and Junior members.
- Different fundraisers were conducted to include a rummage sales, a Memorial Day fundraiser, and grant applications.
- One unit purchased radio spots for Veteran's Day as well as for the Poppy Program.

*American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Alaska
AMERICAN END OF YEAR REPORT
2017-2018 Year
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- Other activities including helping the Cub Scouts with their badges
- Meals/food were provided for Veterans and family members for holidays such as a Veteran's Day dinner, Independence Day and Memorial Day.
- Information about Girls State were distributed.
- Members wear red on Fridays to Remember Those Deployed.
- Birthday party for a veteran celebrating his 100th birthday
- Attending events to honor Veterans
- Visiting Veterans
- Hosting a Paint Party Fundraiser where the theme was the American Flag. The winning painting will be auction at the Department Convention and funds donated

Donations were given for:

- Women's shelters
- Flag Day Ceremonies
- Meals
- Kitchen supplies
- Utilities
- 911 projects
- Senior Centers
- Churches
- Domiciliary

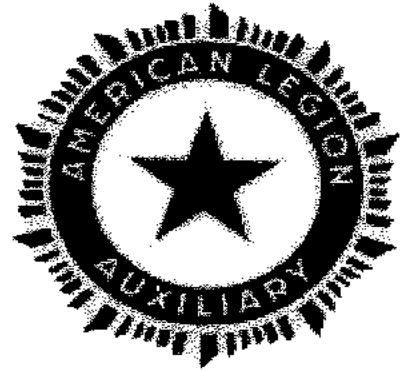
It was a joy to read that one Unit believes that in their service to Veterans, they are promoting Americanism every day.

During the first half of the year, there were 436 members involved, donating 5,405 hours and spending \$585.23.

During the second half of the year, there were 569 members involved donating 3492.4 hours and spending \$12,252.12.

Total for the year

Members involved	1,005
Hours donated	3,492.4
Funds spent	\$12,837.35



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

In the Spirit of Service Not Self for Our Veterans, God and Country

Auxiliary Emergency Fund yearend Report
Department of Alaska 22/22 Units = 100%

May 4, 2018
Zona Gregg, Chairman

Amended report:

Unit Award: Unit Contributing the Largest Amount (per capita)

Unit 1 donation to National \$1532	Membership as of May 3	= 269
Unit 6 donation to National \$ 207		= 102
Unit 28 donation to National \$ 100		= 244
Unit 57 donation to National \$ 500		= 212

Grand totals – AK

Members – 226 hours – 895 #projects 41
\$ to aid members \$6,844.60 #members helped 23
Department \$541 + 445 = \$986
National \$2,282 + 445 = \$2,727
+ \$100 to Dept. of Texas AEF

PS Barbara, I sent the copies of my program material for the year to you by priority mail today.

PPSS Here is the Units reporting how much they donated to the National AEF.

Children and Youth

Barbara Hommel
P.O. Box 162
Wrangell, Alaska 99929
mytaxilady@yahoo.com

Barb Nath

This is my final report for Children and Youth

14 Units reported
Money spent \$28,628.63
Members 1,900
Hours 1,667

Money donated to Department Children and Youth at convention.
Girls State support,

Juniors helped decorate cemetery for Memorial Day service. Many Units helped different grade School activities. Donation were made to the Boy Scouts troops.
Also Units put on Christmas, Halloween party's for your. Gifts were given

To many children at the parties. Funds were given to Church youth programs
For Children.

Units also gave out scholarships to children.

A unit built a greenhouse for a grade school.

Helped with paperwork for boys state.

Also a unit assemble Hero Packs,

Units all promoted family, flag awareness, and safety for youth.

Help was given to JROTC to buy uniforms and travel.

Money donated to a shelter for teens.

This concludes my final report.

Barbara Hommel
Children and Youth Chairman

For God and Country

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA
COMMUNITY SERVICE
YEAR-END REPORT 2017-2018

Penelope FC Mazonna, Department Chairman

We love our communities! The Units and members throughout the great State of Alaska have been working very hard to assist the citizens of their communities and letting the people know who we are, what we do and why we matter. The activities are as varied as our different areas, people and cultures. Yet, we all have one common thread: Service, not self.

As of the preparation of this report, I have received reports from 22 out of 22 Units. Thank you to all of our Units. Yeah! 100% reporting!

Some of the reporting Units provided the number of hours, amounts of money donated and the number of member volunteers contributing to Community Service. I know that there are much higher numbers, but this is what this chairman received 7,270 Hours of service, by 490 member volunteers. With \$28,661.60 donated back into our communities. Kudos to all of our dedicated members and Units. Great job ladies!

How did members recruit community volunteers (non-members) while engaged in ALA Community Service activities and/or project?

Our members are proud to wear ALA branded clothing while out in our communities. They have found that this exposure for our organization stirs up an interest within our neighbors. They ask questions about the ALA and Legion family. We are happy to answer those questions. As well as to invite them to join us. Applications and informational brochures are handed out. Branded items are displayed throughout our communities year round.

How did members engage high school students (with or without service hour requirements to graduate) in ALA Community Service activities and/or projects?

Some Units reported that youth of all ages have assisted in Post and community clean-up projects. They have assisted in meal prep and clean-up. Helped to deliver good to those in need. Assisted in planning and executing community events. Many times children of members bring their friends along to join the fun. This often creates and interest for their parents. We have brought in new member for the entire American Legion Family, by the kids telling their parents about our organizations.

Did members volunteer for or organize service projects for any of the ALA suggested Days of Service? If so, which days were most successful for offering service projects? Were there any challenges?

There were activities noted for three of the suggested days of service: 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance (Sept. 11, 2017), Veterans Day (Nov. 11, 2017) and Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service (Jan. 15, 2018).

9/11 National Day of Service: One Unit reported co-hosting a family friendly fun run event in collaboration with the 5-1 Cavairy Squadron. The volunteers wore branded clothing while distributing fresh fruit and water to race participants for both the %K and "Little Troopers" 1K races. The "feel goods" about why we do what we do were at a high level.

Veterans Day: All of the above Units reported taking part in Veterans Day activities. Some of the Community outreach included Cemetery clean-up. This included preparing veteran graves with flags and poppies. Community clean-up and beautification. Trash was picked up flower beds and baskets were planted/maintained. Ceremonies and parades were hosted/attended. Post homes were opened to our community. Stories were shared. Volunteers assisted veterans so that they could join in this very special day that has been set aside for them to remember and pay tribute to their comrades of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

One Unit reported adopting a local veteran and supplied him with clothing food, and transportation to events.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service: One Unit reported activities for this special day. The members took part in a Health and Fitness event in conjunction with MLK Day and Black History Month. They also contributed to other events during the month. Including volunteering at the local "Kids Kitchen" to provide meals for children I need.

What types of community service activities and/or projects were done in your Department? Units reported a variety of community service projects, such as:

- ❖ Providing support to those in need, monetarily, clothing drives, food drives, providing transportation to/from appointments. Delivering meals to home bound neighbors and assisting in other various means.
- ❖ Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets were provided to families and veterans in need.
- ❖ Christmas is a very special time to reach out to our communities. The Department of Alaska hosts an Annual Gift Shop at the VA Domiciliary in Anchorage, AK. We provide all of the gifts for the Veterans to shop for. We also personalize each gift with wrapping, bows and gift tags. We have Christmas cards for our veterans to sign and send to their families. Then we bundle up all of the packages and mail them to the veterans' families. All of this is provided without charging our veterans anything. This is just a small way of showing these wonderful people how much we appreciate what they have done for each of us and the citizens of our country. Our "Pay back" is found in the abundant smiles, hugs, and teary eyes of gratitude. This Department and several Units also provided holiday stockings, gifts bags and mugs of goodies to area hospitals, assisted living centers/homes and shelters for. Two Units reported providing gift wrapping at local shopping centers. Donations raised were dedicated to other community projects. One Unit sponsored children for the "Shop with a Cop" program.
- ❖ Holiday parties were hosted by Units and open to the community for Easter, Halloween/Fall Harvest and Christmas. During these events tokens/gifts were provided and meals were served.
- ❖ Memorial Day. Placing flags, crosses, poppies and other decorations at the grave sites for our departed veterans. Participated in Community ceremonies. Open house activities.
- ❖ Independence Day community breakfasts, picnics, parades and fireworks displays were organized. Flags and informational brochures were distributed. Post homes were open to the public.
- ❖ Additional activities include:
 - Taco Tuesdays, funds are applied to scholarships
 - Sponsoring a fundraiser for a local Police Department to provide a Homeless Warming Shelter.
 - Monthly and Annual Senior Dances and Dinners. Open to area seniors as a chance to experience fun, fellowship and a good meal.

- Hosted informational/educational materials at area Civics and trade fairs.

- Donations were made to other non-profit/Service organizations, such as: Loyal Order of Moose, Benevolent Order Of Elks, Eagles, Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Special Olympics, Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, Shore Board Registration, Voter Polling places/registration, Food Pantries, Diabetic Association, Health Centers, Community Shelters, Local schools, Sr. Centers, National Ocean Science Bowl. Sponsor children to attend summer camps. The list goes on!

With each of these community activities our members were given the opportunity to provide others with opportunities to see who we are. What we do. Why we matter. We have worked hard. Our communities are grateful for all we do, have done and will continue to do.

I encourage and challenge each of the Units and their members to report all activities. Record the number of volunteers. Their hours of service for each project. As well as the donated funds. Many of the reports I received were missing much of the information to make this Department year-end report complete and accurate. Please don't hesitate to ask question of the respected program chairman. Most, if not all, of the answers to your questions can be found on the Department and National websites as well as in your Unit Handbook. Most importantly submit your reports in a timely fashion. Preferably before the mandatory deadlines. There are Mid-year and Year-end reports to be submitted. Be sure to keep a copy of your mid-year report. This will make compiling the year-end report a breeze!

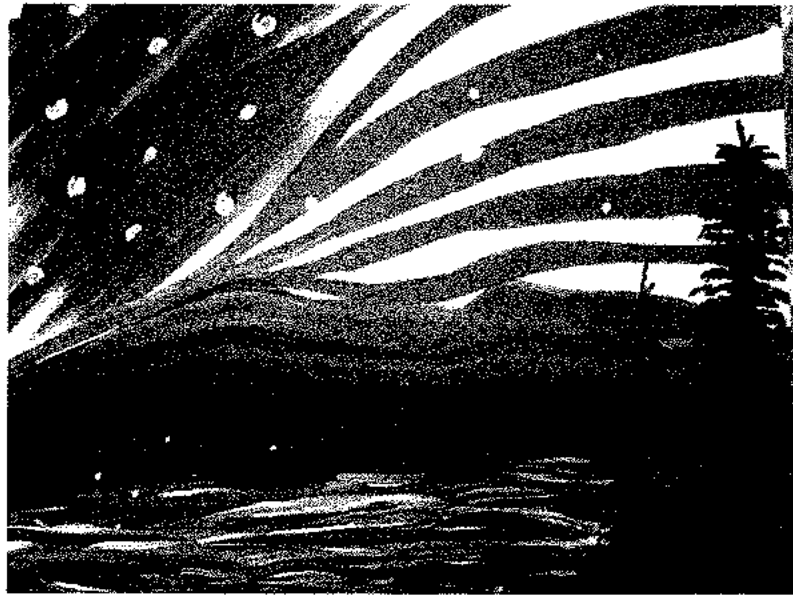
Thank you Department President Barbe Wolkoff, for allowing me to serve as your Community Service Chairman.\

Respectfully Submitted,
For God and Country,
Penelope FC Mazonna, Department of Alaska
Community Service Chairman 2017-18

The following photos were submitted by Unit 57

Join the ALA for a breakfast Paint Fun fundraiser event and paint a patriotic picture like the one below!

Hosted by Your Canvas
Get your ticket early! As there is limited seating.



When: Saturday, February 10, 2018 @ 11:00am

Where: At the American Legion Post 57, 1634 S Cushman St.

What to bring: If you would like, bring something to contribute for breakfast.

Cost: \$45.00 payable in advance. Price includes all painting supplies, breakfast, & 3 drinks (mimosa, wine, beer, spirits, etc.)

See or contact: Frances Bedel @ 907-687-6686
or franbedel@hotmail.com

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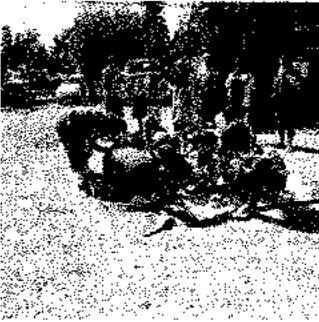
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The following photos were submitted by Unit 5:

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breakfast kitchen crew.jpg

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DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

2018 Year End Report

Due to personal health issues this past year, I was not able to attend many meetings. However, I wanted to let you know that work is occurring.

A review is being conducted regarding all of the Department of Alaska Governing Documents. This includes:

Department of Alaska
Constitution and ByLaws
Standing Rules
Policy and Procedures Manual

With our change from a combined position of Secretary/Treasurer to two distinct positions, there are a number of changes that will be required. We also want to be sure that we have all National amendments included in our Department documents. As a result, we are doing a thorough review so that anything need changes (not just mentioned above) is incorporated.

It was not possible to get this ready for our Department Convention in 2018. However it is expected to be ready for the 2019 Department Convention. Documents will be sent out well in advance in order to meet timeline requirements.

For God and Country

Sue Diaz, Chairman
Constitution and ByLaws
Department of Alaska

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Alaska
Darlene Sheldon
Education/Scholarship Chairman
May 1, 2018

Western Division Education Chairman: Josephine Herrera
National Education Chairman: Vickie Koutz

Department of Alaska Scholarship/Education Report 2017-2018

I have received reports from: 15 Units out of 22 Units.

Scholarship material was sent/dropped off at Counselors Office of local colleges – Posted at Legion Posts – High Schools – Flex Schools – Connections.

Hours reported: 7 hours – 400 Miles – 4 members

National Scholarships and Stock/Oliver Scholarship were distributed. Reported at this time only 7 senior high school students applied for the National President Scholarship. None for Stock/Oliver Scholarship. Three National President Children of Warriors were sent to Department for judging . Hours involved 20 hours and 450 Miles

Alaska Units awarded - \$3250.00 + \$4000 on Kenai Peninsula to high school graduates, Raffles were held netting \$4500 and was awarded to Individuals furthering their education Members attending Awards Night at High Schools to present scholarships. 6 hours and 100 miles

Girls State : Time making packets and distributing to schools and supporting the program \$300 – 265 hours 400 Miles. Girls sent to Girls State cost \$449

Oratorical - 105 hours

Meetings were held to educate members, parent, students and grandparents on available scholarships and how to apply – 14 members 16.5 hours

Volunteers in the class room / field trips 75 hours

Provided school supplies, gloves, hats, shirts, pants and other items needed in a local Elementary School - \$707 - 10 families served – 6 volunteers

Box Top For Education 140 box tops to schools.

University of Alaska LARS - 110 hours

Donated to Veterinary Program for students - \$1,500

Donated to ICHarr to train bartenders \$500; North Pole Booster Club \$500

Lathrop high school graduation celebration \$100

Donation to Legacy Scholarship \$100

Contact between Veterans and Students: Several Units throughout the year get high school students (wrestling and football) to help with July 4th activities, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner help and in turn Units donate monies to those student groups. One Unit has an oversized flag and they get students to dress up in old Military Uniforms and white gloves and carry the flag in the parades.

No Veterans in the Classroom information.

Fall Workshop, Haines Convention and National Convention:
Dollars reported by individuals: out-of-pocket \$7,850 , 180 hours
Auxiliary Units paid \$1,865.00

Total dollars Scholarships \$13,350 Other \$2,151 Grand Total of \$25, 216
Total hours -- 605
Total Miles ----1350 Volunteers involved ----- 25

For God and Country
Darlene Sheldon
Department of Alaska
Education/Scholarship Chairman



American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State 2017-2018 yearend Report

This has been a good year for the American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State Program. We had 27 students participate in the 2017 session that was held at St. Therese's Camp in Wasilla Alaska. These young women came from all over the state and were eager to get involved and learn how the government works. We had 19 staff members, several speakers and visitors throughout the week. Our annual appreciation dinner was held on Wednesday, June 7th and was well received by Unit members. Dinner was followed by the talent show where our participants showcased many amazing talents. The evening ended with desert and great conversations between the girls and the unit members that sponsored them. The Department President Sue Waldhaus was in attendance, along with several Unit, Post and Squadron members. The 2017 ALA Alaska Girls State program was a great success. We had many fantastic candidates for ALA Girls Nation and it was a tough decision, but the staff worked hard and chose Mackenzie O'Connor and Janet Taylor to represent us at ALA Girls Nation.

I am happy to say that the ALA Department of Alaska has come together and worked hard this year in getting ready for the 2018 ALA Alaska Girls State session. This year 9 Units have reported, Units 28, 35 and 57 all organized and participated in fundraisers to benefit both the American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State Program and The American Legion Alaska Boys State Program. I am happy to see The American Legion Family working hard together to support these Flag ship programs. Unit 28 held a paint night and spaghetti dinner in February raising \$300.00 for each program. Unit 35 donated space at their annual Holiday bizarre in November and held a Sock Hop in April raising \$217.00 to be split between both programs. Unit 57 held a pasta dinner where they had a silent auction and 50/50 raffle raising \$320.00 for each program.

In total the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska reported 3,858 hours, by 79 members with a total of \$7640.36 spent on the American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State program. I am sure that this is not an accurate total of the numbers, but if it is not reported to me I cannot report it to you. On a personal note I'd like to thank Barbe Wolkoff for appointing me to the position of ALA Alaska Girls State Director. I am honored to take charge of this program and work with the wonderful people in this department to better the future of this great country through the American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State Program.

For God and Country,

Yvonne Lamm

American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State Director

Colleen Newman
3457 N Inspiration Loop
Wasilla, AK 99615
907/539-2802
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May 5, 2018

Department of Alaska
Historian Year End Report 2017-2018

Taking the narratives and statistics submitted by the Department of Alaska's units, I continued to weave the section of the tapestry of the USA that Alaska is tasked with, the narrative is the fabric used.

Alaska Units either created displays that are attractive or cleaned up and rotated history displays; and the photos that were taken at events were added to Unit Scrapbooks and History Books. One Unit had a fun time when the ladies had a slumber party to work on the Unit Scrapbook. Their ideas and talents are shown in the way they displayed our Unit's pictorial history in our scrapbook.

April starts our year off right with the Installation of Officers at each Unit, then off to the Alaska Department Convention held in Haines, Alaska. Not only was the convention informative and fun, but the community was friendly and giving. Also in April we celebrated Children and Youth Month and it was the first Honor Flight of the year; what a site to see the crowd that comes out to greet the returning veterans.

May was busy cleaning gravesites, placing markers and flags for Memorial Day with a celebration at some of the Posts. A Poppy table was set up at one local grocery store Memorial Day weekend. One Unit hosted a mother's Day brunch.

One Unit held a Kentucky Derby party. Starting the festivities, the ladies dressed up with their finest hats, and mint juleps with typical Kentucky Derby foods were served. Some of the foods were Hot Brown baked sandwiches, cucumber sandwiches and a table full of delectable appetizers; and for dessert a beautiful horseshoe shaped cake with red roses.

June was especially busy for all. As the saying goes, "Today's youth are tomorrow's leaders." This is so true and this is evidenced when we support Girls State every year. Girls State is always a very busy week for everyone. Providing three hot meals a day kept the kitchen staff busy. Watching the girls grow throughout the week is a joy for all. After a week of learning about our government and how it runs, the girls end the week with a program for visitors and staff. Some girls got stranded and Unit 11 pitched in on the airfare, so all ended well.

Also June brought great weather and Annual Picnics, getting ready for Flag Day and Fathers Day Brunch and Dinners. Members walked around town with flags.

July is always a fun month starting off with the 4th of July celebration, some towns had parades with floats decorated by the Auxiliary, and the members marching in the parades. Handing out poppies and flags at the parade, cemetery and Veteran's Memorial Wall. An especially good time was had by all when local baseball teams stopped in.

August is very busy getting ready for the National Convention. Reno was hot, hot, hot but very a fun town. A lot of information was given at the different work sessions that we all took back to our Units to help us with our membership and other areas of interested. The highlight for some was the visit by President Trump. With football starting, everyone scrambled to set up some fun activities and food to bring in members and hopefully community members that we could recruit.

September found Units gathering various necessities for winter time, such as food or clothing for those families in need. 9/11 Awareness and Flag Retirement Ceremony at one Unit was very moving.

October activities included the second Honor Flight of the year, Halloween party for kids and adults. One Chaplain boxed of goodies and fun stuff to send to an Adopted Soldier in Afghanistan.

Fall Workshop was held at Spenard Unit 28 in Anchorage. A lot of business was taken care of and the Junior members put on a wonderful program for us. The Honorary Junior Officers were installed at the meeting, as Juniors were not able to attend Department Convention this past April.

November was busy celebrating Veterans Day with potlucks around the State, a Celebration of Life for a department member was held, then Thanksgiving Dinner (One Unit's stove quit working so they had to punt, talk about good food, we have some wonderful cooks in our State.)

A Junior Tea was put on by one Unit. Attending were Junior Auxiliary members and S.A.L. juvenile members. A patriotic video was shown, literature was passed out on Bullying and patriotic color books. The participants made red, white and blue corsages for special guests attending Early Bird Dinner. The tea was served in porcelain cups, the sandwiches and desserts were delicious. Everyone had an informative and fun time.

December is always a hectic time of year. One Unit's project was a collection box for the Door, a local teen shelter; two loads of products were donated to assist in their worthy cause. Other Units boxed up gifts for soldiers deployed overseas. Of course Christmas at each Unit is a big deal, after careful planning and executing those plans, kids and adults alike had a great time. WWII, Korean War and Territorial Guardsmen Dinner was held, with 106 invitations mailed out.

Some Units purchased gifts, wrapped them then distributed them for seniors and children., also wrapped cookies for single soldier packs.

Domiciliary Christmas gift distribution was a very merry and busy day. Auxiliary ladies escorted veterans around the gift tables (and boy were there a lot of neat gifts) to pick out a gift for their family members, then took them over to our special gift wrappers to wrap the gifts,

next they took the wrapped gifts over to the shipping tables where the gifts were boxed up and labeled with addresses and taken to Post Office

January was busy with a Welcome Home celebration for the Sea Bees Helicopter squad and assisting a widow who was out of fuel.

February was full of love with Valentine's Day parties. One Unit participated in the Four Chaplain Ceremony. Girls State Painting Fundraiser was held at Spenard Unit 28 and was quite an experience for all, especially for those of us that cannot paint. Wow, it was too fun.

March Legion's 99th Birthday and St. Patrick's Day was celebrated the same day with a typical Irish dinner of corned beef and cabbage. Special O Dinner is an event that is hosted by one Unit every year and it was a great success; there was a large turnout and a lot of money was raised from the gift and dessert silent auctions, also there was the really fun \$1 bidding auction on a pile of gifts. At a monthly senior dance, a 94 year old veteran who had been a POW in WWII attended and a picture was taken of him with the POW Flag, what a moving moment that was.

Easter started off with clear and sunny weather for the children's Easter egg hunt and party; all the little girls were dressed in their beautiful new Easter dresses. After the party one Unit held a family dinner with some of the best potato au gratin in the world.

In support of Americanism and Veterans, our members wear red tee shirts on Fridays in honor of R.E.D., say the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of our meetings and other community meetings and events. Also members worked the voting polls and donated to the USO. We wrote letters, sent emails and had meeting with legislators about veteran affairs. Auxiliary members help decorate Post with red/white/blue curtains, table clothes, wall and table decorations.

Supporting our veterans is a very big part of what we worked on. We supplied food and clothing to homeless veterans, volunteered at Fisher House by cooking/serving dinner and visiting with veterans, supported the Wounded Warriors Project and provided home services to veterans.

Active Duty military was also supported. A Battalion Redeployment Meet/Greet was held. Gifts were sent to those deployed and stationed overseas. Adopted two deployed Marines in Japan that are experiencing a personal crisis at this time and have no family support; one of the Marine's mother committed suicide and is having an especially hard time; sent several care packages to them and will continue to do so.

We depend on the memories and stories from our seniors to use as threads to help us weave the tapestry of our history, this is achieved by spending time with and supporting our elderly members and other elders in our community. One way is a monthly Senior Dance where we bring all together for an afternoon of fun and sharing. Spending time with them by taking them to doctor appointments, helping them with their shopping and chores around their houses, or just visiting with them and enjoying the memories they share.

Wow, what a busy and fun time ALA Department of Alaska had this year! Not only do we believe in supporting our veterans, 100%, Americanism and helping the communities that we live in; but you will see from this report that we practice what we preach.

In order to accomplish these projects successfully, our Department is happy to report:

\$215,261.97	Money Donated
55,574.4	Volunteer Hours
3682	Volunteers
36,569	Miles

15 Units Reporting for April 15, 2018
1, 5, 6, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 27, 28, 33, 35, 57, 442

The Department of Alaska is very proud of its members for the hours volunteered, projects completed and money donated to the support of the military, veterans and their families as is evidenced in this report. I am sure many more activities, money raised and volunteer hours were accomplished; but were not reported.

Respectfully submitted
For God and Country

Colleen Newman
Colleen Newman
ALA Department of Alaska Historian

Department of Alaska Year End Report
Junior Activities 2017
Chairman: Carrie Doores
Co- Chairman: Robia Bishop

Posts reporting: 7
Members: 65
Hours: 170.5
Money spent: 40
Money raised: \$326.50

It's been a busy year here in Alaska, but our Members are doing what they can to support and educate our youth. There is two Units I would like to give a huge high five to and they are Unit 57, and Unit 6! They have done an outstanding job with their Junior programs this year!

Projects have included:

Post lock ins where over 100 were made for Veterans stockings, running cotton candy machines, carrying flags, rummage sales, donating books, children's table ceremonies, baking cookies for single soldiers, volunteering in the Community, and points for Education. Please keep reporting, keep your Juniors active, and best of luck in the new year!

For God and Country
Chairman,
Carrie Doores

2017-2018 Department of Alaska Leadership Report
Chairman Susan Caswell

I received reports from 7 out of 22 Units in the State. Our Units reported 823 hours spent in leadership activities, such as training new members regarding the goals and purposes of the American Legion Auxiliary to help create well rounded and successful members. Also instructed members how to perform financial audits to create a transparent atmosphere.

Some units have encouraged their members to utilize the National web site to learn more about our great organization and our programs. And to take the American Legion Auxiliary Academy course.

Member data surveys were given to approximately 80 members.

2 junior members attended the 2017 Department Convention and along with 1 younger SAL members sold over \$1,000.00 in silent auction tickets for the Junior program. This money is used to send our junior President to the workshop in Las Vegas each year and to help the supplies for other junior activities. 8 junior members attended the fall workshop where they learned about the ALA programs and activities and gave a presentation to the Senior members at the end of the day. Elections were held and officers were installed. This year there are 12 junior members registered for this convention.

It was reported that \$5,024.00 was spent for leadership activities this past year. It was reported that 71 members attended the convention and fall workshop. 15 members attended the 2017 National Convention held in Reno, Nevada. Thank you to Units 5 and 16 for the great narrative reports.

Thank you to the 7 Units who took the time to send me a report.

Leadership Year End Report

2017-2018

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Update since Department Convention:

I received a total of 45 Member Data Surveys from members with the following results:

People 15 - - Participation in Education Activities 14 –Working with Youth 16-- Scholarships 14 –Community Awareness/Activities 17--Helping with Unit Activities 27 – Fundraising 21—Assisting Auxiliary Members in need...(AEF) -Working project that benefit our military and veterans 23 –Assisting in your home with projects 12—Working a phone tree 18. 20 members said that they have experience in a leadership role. 10 have completed the ALA Academy course.

I did receive reports for 3 additional Units putting this chairman at about 50% reporting.

For God and Country
Susan Caswell

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Legislative

2017-2018 Yearend Report

Sue Waldhaus, Dept. Chairman

- 13 Units reported
- Members attended town meetings, wrote to community leaders, legislators and representatives.
- Letters on education, budget cuts, fishing issues, seniors and veterans issues were just a few of the topics. Hrs. 100
- 5 members worked at polling places for a total of approx. 30 hrs.
- 8 members were active in commenting online on Veterans issues.
- 1 member is working closely with getting changes so Autistic Children and their families have access to proper housing while being out of state. 50 hours
- 2 units report that every member voted in recent elections. Approx. 40 hrs.
- 6 units promoted "Getting Out and Vote". Several offered rides to polling places. 60 hrs
- 1 unit had 10 members write to Senators & Representatives 12 times. 30 hrs. No cost
- 4 units indicated no activity in this programming area this year.

- 1 unit has a member diligent about responding to The American Legion's Legislative Action Alerts. She also remains an active member of the ALA National Legislative Facebook group.
- This same unit is proud of its special member who is passionate about the Legislative program and kept the unit apprised of the happenings.
- Following closely – S-193-Caring for our Veterans Act of 2017- a bill that would put an end to confusion to the arbitrary standards on how veterans may receive care. Hours approx. 300

- Our National Executive Committeewoman Lisa Williamson was able to "Storm The Hill" with our Legion and SAL counterparts in February, meeting the Alaska Congressional delegation, all staunch veteran supporters.. You are encouraged to obtain TAL materials for the Legislative program. Hours estimated at 120

Hours: 710

Updated/current as of 5/15/18

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Alaska
P.O. Box 242304
Anchorage, Alaska 99524**

**Membership Year End Report
2017 – 2018**

Our role for membership is to encourage and support the effort to attract, rejoin and retain our members, to ensure the future of the American Legion Auxiliary.

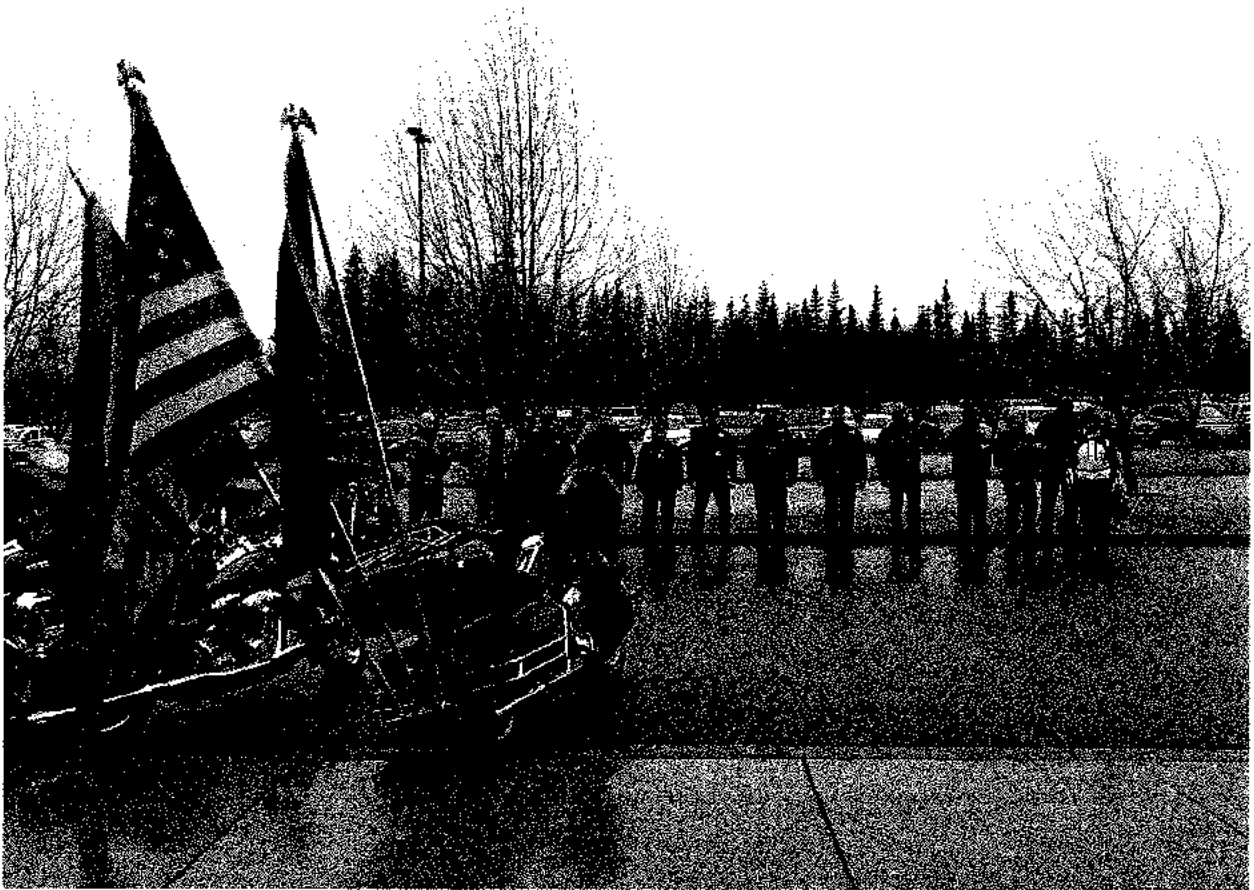
I did not receive a total 100% response of year end reports from our units, which seems a little odd, since we received the Pot 'O' Gold Award which is where our department had NO units with '0' membership as of March 17, 2018. So, every unit did have something to report.

Some of the things that were reported included:

- A unit sent out membership recognition certificates along with continuous year pins
- Another unit sent out reminder notices to members to renew
- Facebook, emails and texts were used to get the word out about the American Legion Auxiliary
- There was a weekly taco night, cribbage tournament and craft fair to bring the community into our American Legion in hopes to recruit new members
- One unit reported that they did a joint membership drive at their local community homebuilder's home show. The American Legion Family was given a booth space to display what we were all about. The last day of the show they participated in ceremony recognizing our veterans along with a bar-b-que. They stated it was a great success.



The booth at the Homebuilder's Home Show



Ceremony at the Home Show recognizing our Veterans

In closing I just want to say,

RECRUIT, REJOIN AND RETAIN NEW MEMBERS

For God and Country,

Jane L. Larson
2nd Vice-President
Membership Chair



**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Alaska
2017-18 National Security
Year End Report**

Lisa Williamson, Department Chairman

On April 23, 1910 in Paris, US President Theodore Roosevelt is quoted in his speech the "Citizenship in a Republic" with,

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Someone who is heavily engaged in a situation that requires courage, skill, or tenacity is sometimes referred to as "the man in the arena". I think that epitomizes our military of today.

And in a very small way, I believe it also parallels our devoted American Legion Auxiliary members.

American Legion Auxiliary members in Alaska are proudly supporting the ALA National Service program. Although only 15 of 22 Units reported at Year End, it wasn't for lack of trying to get those last 7 reports.

What I found outstanding, and not in a good way, was that of those 15, a third reported "NO ACTIVITY in this program"!! I simply find that hard to believe, especially when I look at those Units that reported that and where they are located. I can only attribute it to the fact that our members that are doing reports don't know what the National Security program really is.

However, the other 10 Units that did report activity are simply amazing! Not to single Alaska out, this seems a common problem nationwide; I see that members are unsure what should be reported where.

I have a question that seems to be the common quandary for our ALA members –

How are National Security and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation different?

National Security deals with active duty military and their families, some of whom do not live on military bases.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation promotes our Mission to enhance the lives of veterans, and their families.

Not to be outdone, Unit 11 also had the opportunity to support a Welcome Home gathering for the Sea Bees Helicopter unit when they returned in November from Afghanistan. They contributed \$200 and several friendly faces upon the servicemembers return.

When I think of Christmas, I think of baking and cookies! A few Units reported baking cookies and providing them to area Vet Centers, CBOCs, and even sending in care packages. Unit 57 takes cookies to a whole new level - At Christmas, and in cooperation with the 1/24 FRG, members of this Unit helped to provide homemade cookies to the over 300 single soldiers of the 1/24 Infantry. As well, they contributed \$200 to purchase additional cookies, supplies and candy canes. Unit members volunteered to help package the cookies in individual gift bags, alongside the FRG members. And to top it all off, these members helped to distribute the cookies to the single soldiers the following day. What could be more heartwarming than providing homemade cookies to the Single Soldiers (& plenty left for the married ones too) of 1/24 with the FRGs of all 5 Companies. *(See attached photos NS - cookies1.jpg through NS - cookies4.jpg)*

Contributing to scholarships to children of 1/24 Battalion through their Spouses Scholarship Fund was also something that Unit 57 has done in recent year, and this one no exception.

Unit 57 also had the honor of two Unit Officers attend the 1/24's Military Ball as special guests, seated at the Battalion Commander's head table. This was a true honor, and an eye-opening experience.

One ALA member from Unit 35 has taken it as her personal goal to help a wife and her two children while their servicemember is deployed to Afghanistan. She drops by at least once a week, to just listen and they've become great friends. She ensures that snow-shoveling is done and the kids are taken care of. Unit 35 has "adopted" two Marines, with care packages being sent about every six weeks.

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is closer to some Units on the "panhandle" of Alaska, and Unit 6 reports they provided \$549 for nearly 750 items and dozens of hours of time to the USO Club at Sea-Tac.

One Unit even had a "Farewell Dinner" got a new Air Force recruit just prior to him reporting to Basic Military Training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas. (Personally, I LOVE this idea!)

Several Units report that care packages were sent from all over the state to all over the world to bring a little smile of sunshine to our deployed servicemembers.

Two Units also reported that they submitted names and addresses to the Hershey's candy program as was promoted by our National Chairman.

And National Guardsmen and their families are not forgotten as several Units mention they have hosted diners to help remind them of Who We Are, What We Do, and Why We Matter.

Nearly all Units reported that they had attended local POW/MIA ceremonies in September. Once Unit in the Interior of Alaska also stated that they ensured that a POW/MIA table, complete with an explanation of each item on the table, was displayed at a local shopping mall throughout the entire weekend of POW/MIA Day.

Although not reported by every Unit, but I'm sure it's the case, Legion Family members proudly wear RED - Remember Everyone Deployed each and every Friday.

And for the grand finale, let me take you back in time. Not too far - just to the end of October when Alaska had its Fall Workshop. At that workshop, we were introduced to a special guest- a wife of a

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Alaska

Past Presidents Parley
2017-2018 Yearend Report
Sue Waldhaus, Dept. Chairman

- 4 Units reported
- 65 members attended the Past Presidents Parley Luncheon at Dept. Convention.
- Members made place favors for those attending the luncheon- estimated hours of “making” at 200 collectively.
- Past Dept. Presidents as well as Past Unit Presidents, serve as mentor, listener, and co-chair in those units. Hours are not able to be estimated. 2000 maybe.
-

Hours: 2500

PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY LUNCHEON Report 2018

Sue Waldhaus, Chairman

Past Department President 2016-2018

Site : China Light Buffet, Old Seward Hwy. Anchorage
Saturday, April 28, 2018

58 in attendance including 10 Past Department Presidents, National Commander Denise Rohan (duel member) and 6 women veterans (duel members)

We were blessed this year to have lost none our Past Department Presidents. The time during the luncheon used for a memorial service was used as a celebration of our legacy and was presented by PDP Sue Waldhaus as a short essay:

“MEMORIAL LEGACY”

“Leadership from around the state in 94 years and 21 units share the pride of having a Department President from their unit. Many more share the leadership of Department Chairmen and elected board positions. We all share the legacy created by those leaders who partnered with us as members, the American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, Junior Auxiliary and now American Legion Riders.

Our Department has been blessed this past year with no losses of our Past Department Presidents. We have been blessed and tasked to carry on that planted legacy, that partnership, with pride as we look to the present and future needs of our Veterans, families and communities. Mentor, teach, partner, co-chair. We are all part of that legacy-PASS IT ON!”

One PDP/woman veteran served during WWII -Lori FitzSimmons-Unit 1-Anchorage, was invited to be a participant on the next Honor Flight this fall. How proud we are of Lori.

With pride we announced:

Our Service Woman of the Year was Jamie Greendyk/ Coast Guard submitted by Seward Unit 5.
Department Woman of the Year was April Martin submitted by Unit 57-Fairbanks.

Thank you's go to Carolyn Null, PDP/Unit 28-Anchorage, Sharon Cherrette PDP/Unit 29-Anchorage and Betty Randall PDP/Unit 17-Ninilchik- Judges for the Woman of the Year.

Thank you too, to Sarah Waldhaus for her help with the logistics of getting mom around and set up for the luncheon.

DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA
YEAR-END 2017-2018 POPPY REPORT

For the 20-17-2018 year, the Department of Alaska had 14 Units order 16,500 poppies for Distribution in the state. Unfortunately, due to the extreme increase in cost many Units reported a significant decrease in the amount of poppies they ordered. One (1) enterprising Unit chose to make poppies this year with seven (7) members putting in 300 hours to make 4,000 poppies bringing the total to 20,500 poppies for distribution.

Many Units reported that they devote most of their time in the month of May focusing on their poppy programs. They put cans of poppies out in their Posts and various business establishments in their communities. Units reported manning tables at various shopping areas to distribute poppies and information regarding the history of the poppy program. Units also reported placing poppies on graves along with 1,400 crosses decorated with poppies for Memorial Day. One (1) Unit created a press release informing the public that Congress declared National Poppy Day on the Friday of Memorial Day weekend which they sent to their local papers.

Throughout the rest of year Units reported handing out poppies at 4th of July parades, a film festival, member appreciation dinners, Veteran's Day ceremonies and subsequent Veteran's events. In all, Units reported 184 members putting in 1,435 hours in promoting the poppy program this year.

Two (2) Units reported having had poppy girls this year. One (1) Unit reported having their poppy girl attend a Chamber of Commerce Luncheon, where she met the Mayor and handed out poppies.

Unfortunately, I have not received any information from our Units regarding any of them having a Poppy Poster Contest.

I would like to thank Department President Barbe Wolkoff for allowing me to be her Poppy Chairman this year.

Respectfully submitted, for God and Country,

Lori Fruhwirth

Department of Alaska

2017-2018 Poppy Chairman

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Alaska

Public Relations Report
2017-2018 Yearend Report
Sue Waldhaus, Dept. Chairman

- 12 Units reported
- 1600 hours collectively from two units using Facebook and other social media to reach out to members and the public. Public Service announcements were used and done face to face. Soliciting, signing up and mentoring new members.
- Articles in the community newspapers, inviting the reporter to American Legion/Auxiliary events for their firsthand experience and ads in the papers are used by at least 5 of the 12 units. Local radio stations are used in the same way.
- Baby contests, parade entries and other public participation in events keeps the American Legion Family in the eyes of the community. At least 9 units were involved in such events.
- \$750 was donated to the annual Stand Down event.
- Welcome Home to Honor Flight in Oct. & April.
- Support is given to the 5k run at Fort Wainwright 5/1 Cavalry.
- Past President and Current President attend 1-24 Battalion Legion Ball
- Support is given for the redeployment of service members.
- Single soldiers cookie support if the for service members. 3 units
- The small town vibe for many of our communities lends itself to community closeness. 4th of July Carnival, Poppy Day, Veteran's Picnic and holiday baskets all keep TAL/AUX in the forefront.
- Post newsletters, letters and e-mails each month, postcards to those yet to renew, radio, TV, newspapers, phone trees, word of mouth, posters are all used.

Hours: While hours were not given for activities, hours noted could easily be read as estimated at for a of 5000.

Updated/current as of 5/15/18

American Legion Auxiliary
 Department of Alaska
 2017 - 2018 VA&R Report

Thank you Alaska on behalf of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska for your service to our Veterans, Military and their Families. This year has been full of fun and hard work by our volunteers both senior and junior members.

The following is what has been reported from Alaska for the year of 2017 - 2018.

Event	# of Members	Miles Reported	Hours	Dollars Spent
Auxiliary members provided funds and transportation to Veterans for medical doctor and dentist appointments, took them shopping, and accompanied them on walks, cleaned up yards, assisted with house cleaning, cleaned up after a house fire, help with taxes, held a donation benefit for a Veteran & family, visited Veterans in various hospitals and assisted living facilities, visited with house bound Veterans.	28	3,420	10,811	\$6,932
Hospice volunteer	1	0	250	\$0
Volunteered at the Elks Veteran event	3	55	30	\$221
10 Units reported serving meals to Veterans and families on Memorial Day, Mothers Day, Fathers Day, 4th of July, Thanksgiving, Veterans Day, Christmas, Valentines, St Patrick's Day, Easter	1,050	199	8,400	\$12,953
7 Units reported providing Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to Veteran Families.	93	300	218	\$4,775

Event	# of Members	Miles Reported	Hours	Dollars Spent
Auxiliary members from 10 Units reported sending invitations, donating and serving food and desserts for local Veterans Family picnics, luncheons and dinners serving communities across Alaska.	122	350	970	\$4,150
Christmas stockings and packages delivered to Veterans at Senior Housing and Long-term care centers	10	450	85	\$1,031
Two Auxiliary Units reported hosting Christmas parties for kids and Senior citizens. Senior members along with Junior members from one Unit sang Christmas carols at Senior and long-term care centers.	10	0	6	\$559
Auxiliary members volunteered at various Legion Posts to help cook and serve breakfasts, dinners, bake desserts, football night snacks and meals, clean up, wash towels	65	307	3,148	\$7,343
99th Birthday cake donated	1	0	3	\$35
Baked cookies for Christmas, Valentines Day and 4th of July and delivered them to Veterans Clinics in Homer and Kenai	6	400	40	\$180
Lunch served to 30 Veterans each month.	1	0	36	\$115
Donation made to Senior Citizens Center in support of providing meals to Veterans.				\$1,000
Quilts made for the Quilts of Valor program - members contributed countless hours making 6 quilts for donation this year.	2		600	\$600

Event	# of Members	Miles Reported	Hours	Dollars Spent
Five Units reported providing financial assistance to Veterans, widows and families to help pay rent, phone and utility bills, travel costs for medical and bereavement situations.				\$6,702
Volunteered at the annual "Combat Fishing" tournament held for military servicemen and women as a way of thanking them for their service to our country. Members drive military members to their charter boats, set up for the evening banquet, help cook and serve food and beverages during the dinner.	15		280	
Crew dinners held each time a military vessel is in Port, members assist with the meal preparation and clean up.	80		40	
Donation made to the crew of the USCG Mustang to pay for cable TV in their housing unit.				
Six Units reported making donations to Legion Posts and other Veteran organizations for various Veteran programs, functions, Meet and Greet events to welcome home military members, building repairs and renovation expenses.	172		7,227	\$23,026
Veteran's Day Memorial Services attended by members of 10 Units - Poppy Memorial Wreaths and Flags placed in honor of Veterans.	160		320	
Three Units volunteer at various Wounded Warrior events. One Unit volunteers at their Cities annual "Wounded Warrior" fishing trip. The Unit supplies food for the days picnic and members attend the opening ceremonies flag presentation and dinner.	8		80	\$300

Event	# of Members	Miles Reported	Hours	Dollars Spent
One Unit assist the Cities Chamber of Commerce with the "Honor our Home Town Hero's" event by providing laminated photos of local Veterans in their uniforms and displaying them in the park with flags for each picture.				
One Unit placed 3,000 flags along a major highway in honor of Remembrance Day.	10		20	\$200
One Unit provided a luncheon for a Vietnam Veterans' Day gathering at a local Veterans Center.	6		36	\$260
Two Units reported working with the Veteran's Association liaison and assisting the local Rescue Mission to help get homeless Veterans into housing. They regularly donate funds and household items needed to help the Veteran transition from homelessness.	3		2	\$2,730
One Unit reported working at a local food pantry each month.	3		3,500	
One Unit volunteered at their Coats & Hugs for kids and veterans.	2		40	
One Unit volunteered at the Anchorage Domiciliary for their Ice Cream Social during Veteran Patient Week	4		10	\$90
Members attended various Celebrations of Life for Veterans.	35		51	\$550
One Unit reported sending "We Care" troop boxes of deployed soldiers.	1		90	\$579

Event	# of Members	Miles Reported	Hours	Dollars Spent
One Unit volunteered and supported the Department of Alaska SAL Steak Night fundraiser	15		40	
One Unit donated \$750 to a Stand Down				\$750
One Unit welcomed the Honor Flight on two separate occasions.	10		10	\$0
14 pounds of aluminum pull tabs collected and turned in to the VA. One pound of pull tabs equals 1 night of lodging at Fisher House for a family of 4.	10		4	
Assisted Post Adjutant with membership.	2		48	
Two Units reported monthly volunteer hours and expenses for their work at the Fisher House cooking dinners for the residents.	40	1,050	372	\$2,140
Members from 4 Units volunteered at the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska's Anchorage Domiciliary Christmas event serving 40+ Veterans pick out, wrap and mail presents to their family members. Two Units reported making a donation to this project.	25		220	\$250
	1,993	6,531	36,987	\$77,470

Event	# of Members	Miles Reported	Hours	Dollars Spent
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This concludes the 2017 - 2017 VA & R report from Department of Alaska.

For God and Country,
 In the spirit of service not self.

Debbie Lowndes
 ALA Dept of Alaska
 1st Vice President / VA & R Chairman