



June – Pam Bates, Public Relations

JUNE IS JUNIOR ACTIVITIES MONTH

Junior Auxiliary membership for girls under the age of 18 is a training ground, which prepares young women for active adult membership. Junior activities and programs reflect and support the work of the Auxiliary and instill the ideals of the organization. The Junior program is an important step in the transition from childhood to responsible adulthood.

Junior Activities include projects in Americanism; Community Service; Leadership; Poppy and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. In these programs they will learn: American Flag history and etiquette; participate in parades and patriotic observances; tutor younger students; plant trees and participate in community projects; learn protocol and the art of communication; learn the history of the Poppy; distribute poppies on Poppy Days; volunteer in veterans medical centers; make and distribute holiday cards for veterans and much more.

One of the successful programs should the Unit not have an active group is:

Junior Activities Patch Program

American Legion Auxiliary Junior members can be active participants of the organization with the Patch Program. Regardless of where one lives, and whether she belongs to an active Junior group, Junior Auxiliary members are able to serve their communities, veterans and learn about patriotism, health, fitness and leadership through this program.

Each sheet explains the criteria and what a Junior member must do in order to earn her patches. When the activities are completed, an adult or Senior member must sign the form to verify a Junior has met the criteria.

There are 3 levels of patch criteria:

Red Level 1: Kindergarten through 3rd grade

Gold Level 2: 4th grade through 8th grade

Blue Level 3: 9th grade through 12th grade (or 18 years)

If you are interested in more info, go to our website: www.unit526.com or email us at aux526@yahoo.com or call Cuca Bowen, Unit President @ 878-7988.

LEADERSHIP SEMINAR HELD AT 526 (May)

The success of any organization depends largely upon the skill and competence of its members. Well-informed members of an organization make for a better public image. If you have informed members, your volunteer base will increase.

Pam Bates, Past Department President of the American Legion Auxiliary and organizer of this seminar introduced Sharon Miller, American Legion Auxiliary Department Leadership Chairman, who presided over the seminar. Although the group was small, it afforded more time for questions and answers of specific topics and a forum to share ideas. Topics discussed were: parliamentary points; protocol; responsibilities of the officers, chairmen and members; program overviews; importance of good public relations in the community; and how to work and support other community volunteer groups. Susan Masten, American Legion Auxiliary Department Constitution and Bylaws Chairman, instructed the group on the dos and don'ts of how to write a good C&B. She explained the importance of following the C&B which makes sure that all members are treated fairly and equally. The group attending consisted of members of the American Legion Auxiliary from Fairborn, Beavercreek, Piqua and Greenville.

Two of the major issues that filtered to the top which all organizations experience and

forget...membership and money. Communication has become so much easier for us...internet, email, facebook, twitter and cell phones...but has it made it easier? We forget the basic principle of communicating with our members...the personal touch...picking up the phone and actually having a conversation with a member of your organization. Asking them how they are, do they need assistance, can they volunteer for an activity and letting them know we care about them and want them to be an active member of their organization and their community. That is how you get membership and keep membership.

The money part is a little more difficult to resolve. Most organizations have dues and these dues are distributed in accordance with the structure of their organization. Often these dues are not enough to sustain any of your programs nor do they pay for the electric, the gas, the maintenance of a building or any other expense that comes with doing business. Hence, most organizations have fundraisers. The question is: Do you as a member of your organization support those fundraisers...if the answer is "yes", YOU ROCK; if the answer is "no", SHAME ON YOU! One day you will wake up and find an empty building up for lease/sale and the members have moved on to other arenas. Then you will wonder what happened? Where did the people go? Where are those volunteers? Why didn't I help?

At this Seminar, we had no magic answers other than, touch the membership personally, encourage your members to volunteer for at least one activity, encourage the Chairman to take responsibility and hold their own program fundraiser and special forum, take a look at those "calls" for help in raising money, and seriously take a look at your dues vs your expenses vs your income. The dreaded "dues increase" or "beverage increase" or "catering increase" (if you have a lounge or hall) may be the ONLY answers!

Lunch was provided by Pete Bates, Shwartz Jewelry and Cakes for All Occasion in Fairborn.



GIRLS SELECTED FOR BUCKEYE GIRLS STATE

This was the first year that we have not had any BGS candidates from Fairborn High School; but we were able to assist the Piqua Unit in sending their alternates to BGS as our delegates...and we are proud to do so.

Participants learn how to participate in the functioning of their state's government in preparation for their future roles as responsible adult citizens. For more information about Buckeye Girls State visit www.buckeyegirlsstate.org

Girls attending BGS for our Unit are:
Allison Gaier; Maddie Schneider; Madison Husa



THANK YOU BAKERS



The first Friday Bake Sale Committee, Cuca Bowen and Sophia Neuhart, wish to thank all the bakers, sale helpers and our customers for making all the Bake Sales a success. The following programs that benefited from your support:

- May 1, 2009 \$131 for VA Fence Project
- June 5 & September 3, 2009 \$183.50 for the Honor flight

- August 7, 2009 \$86.25 for the Education
- October 2, 2009 \$141.80 for National Security
- November 6, 2009 \$49.25 for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund
- January 22, February 25, March 5, April 2, 2010 \$315.40 for the Legion Birthday Band

ELECTION OF UNIT OFFICERS COMPLETE

May 17, new officers for your Unit were elected. Officers of an organization are important as they keep the Unit informed and on track with the ALA Programs as instructed by National and Department. If you have questions or hear rumors, go to them and get the straight scoop. We are our own worst enemy when it comes to gossip and innuendo.

OFFICERS

President	Refugia (Cuca) Bowen
1 Vice President (membership)	Pat Drake
2 nd Vice President (ways and means)	None
Secretary	Pam Bates
Treasurer	Susan Masten
Executive Committee	Sondra Leggett JoAnn Trefethen Sue Lewis TBA

JOINT INSTALLATION WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, 8 JUNE @ THE POST @ 6PM. PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE.

FLAG DAY – 14 JUNE

FLAG RETIREMENT OR DISPOSAL CEREMONY

IF YOU HAVE A FLAG(S) THAT NEED DISPOSED OF



PROPERLY PLEASE BRING THEM TO THE FAIRBORN AMERICAN LEGION BEFORE 14 JUNE FLAG DAY.

JOIN OUR FIRING SQUAD AND COLOR GUARD AT THE NEW CARLISLE, POST 286, FOR THIS HONORABLE CEREMONY.

When a flag is no longer serviceable, they should be retired respectfully. They have served our community, state and nation well and honorably.

The U.S. Flag Code states, "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning".

These flags have inspired those who desired the taste of freedom and have represented hope to those oppressed by tyranny and terror. These flags have welcomed any and all in the name of liberty.

The American flag flies free to the wind. The American flag flies above residential porches, camp sites, small businesses, corporate offices, hospitals, schools, military and naval bases, government buildings and nonprofit organizations. The American flag is the most displayed and recognized banner in the world.

These flags serve as constant reminders to all of us that we live in a country where our freedom has been deeply purchased by blood, sweat, tears and ultimate sacrifice. We must not forsake what those in the service to this flag, and their families, have forfeited.

HERITAGE DAYS IN FAIRBORN

19 JUNE

7am-9am – setup

9am-5pm – booth operations

5pm – 5:30pm – tear down

Main Street, Fairborn OH

www.fairbornheritagedays.com

5/3 Commons & Main Street Events

Mercer Smith Log House

Volunteers needed to man our booth. We need to have at least 8 so that we only have to work 2 hour shifts. We will be selling soda, water, peanuts and baked goods.

Volunteers needed for bake goods.

Contact Pam Bates, 937-864-5909 or

pbates9@woh.rr.com

This is a fundraiser for the Unit and **ALL ASSISTANCE IS APPRECIATED!!**

**ATTENTION
JOINT INSTALLATION
OF
AL & ALA OFFICERS
8 JUNE @ 6PM**

ALA JUNIORS TO ORGANIZE

We have missed our Juniors!
Parents & Grandparents of current Junior members and those with potential Junior members...COME JOIN US
15 JUNE 2010
6:30 PM
AMERICAN LEGION HALL
526 Legion Lane; Fairborn
(see article on front page)

KUDOS TO THE LOUNGE STAFF

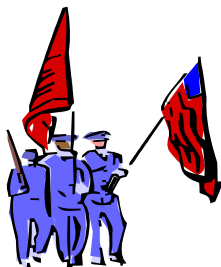
Remember to thank the Lounge Staff the next time you visit. This group is helpful and courteous. They always have a smile and a willingness to serve efficiently. In this editor's opinion, they are the BEST !!! You ROCK!!!



**BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER
VOLUNTEER AS A CHAIRMAN OR WORKER**

JOIN THE 50,500 AUXILIARY MEMBERS IN OHIO
The American Legion Auxiliary
Dignam-Whitmore, Unit 526, Fairborn
WANTS AND NEEDS YOU!!!
Looking for women to VOLUNTEER for the
Programs below
www.Unit526.com
aux526@yahoo.com
937-878-3831 Post Home Number

**COLOR GUARDS, FIRING SQUAD, POST-
EVERLASTING TEAM**



This group of men and women provide exposure in our community in a positive manner. They also honor our veterans at holidays and during funerals. They take a lot of time out of their family and work schedule to make all this possible. Make sure you **THANK** them when you see them.

CALENDAR

JUNE

- 4 *Bake Sale for Honor Flight Program
- 4 Meat Loaf Dinner 5:30-7:30pm
- 5 ALA District Summer Convention Unit 586
- 7 Executive Committee Meeting @ 6:30pm
- 8 Joint Installation @ 6pm-**bring covered dish**
- 11 Seafood Dinner 5:00-8:00pm
- 12-19 Buckeye Girls State – Ashland University
- 14 Flag Day – Flag Retirement Ceremony @ Post 286 around dusk
- 14 **Bingo @ Wright Nursing @ 2pm
- 15 Junior Meeting 6:30pm @ Post Hall
- 16 ***Bingo @ Patriot Ridge @ 2pm
- 18 **Bake Sale for Fisher House/8&40@ Tacos
- 18 SAL Pizza Night 5:00-8:00pm
- 19 Heritage Days-Fairborn **COME SUPPORT THE LEGION FAMILY EVERYTHINGS \$1 BOOTH 9-5pm**
- 21 General Membership Meeting @ 6:30pm
- 25 Auxiliary Dinner – Grill Items
- 25-27 Department Convention – Toledo
- *Bake Sale contacts: Cuca and Sophia
878-7988/878-6384
- **Bingo contact is Sophia @ 878-6384
- ***Bake Sale contact: JoAnn @ 864-5228

JULY

- 2 *Bake Sale for Honor Flight Program
- 3 Fairborn Block Party
- 4 Fairborn Parade
- 5 Executive Committee Meeting @ 6:30pm
- 9 Seafood Dinner 5-8pm
- 12 **Bingo @ Wright Nursing @ 2pm
- 16 ***Bake Sale for Fisher House/8&40 @ Tacos
- 16 SAL Pizza Night
- 21 **Bingo @ Patriot Ridge@ 2pm
- 23 Auxiliary Dinner – Enchilada Casserole
- *Bake Sale contacts: Cuca and Sophia
- **Bingo contact is Sophia
- ***Bake Sale contact: JoAnn