“THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES”

Dear Auxiliary Members, As I reflect on this past year as National President, much has transpired. I extend a big “thank you” to everyone who has labored in the “vineyard” this past year, for all we have been able to do and for the wonderful memories. I will cherish and always carry them with me.

My great disappointment was that my focus on Women Veterans did not materialize the way I wanted. But disappointment aside, I had the opportunity to meet and spend time with some amazing female veterans this past year. A special thanks to all the Auxiliary Women Veterans for your service.

NEW DEPARTMENT AND UNIT OFFICERS

Congratulations to all the newly elected Department and Unit Officers. Department Presidents are members of the National Executive Committee (NEC). As you begin your journey, I urge you to take time to read the Constitution and Bylaws (CBL) and Procedures Manual. There you will find what you need to perform your jobs. Even if this is not your first time serving, every member needs to be familiar with the current CBL. The updated CBL was approved at the Convention in Dallas, TX, last year.

This year the CBL will need to be ratified at the Convention due to revisions that were the result of the adoption of three Resolutions. It would be very helpful, especially members of the NEC read the Bylaws ahead of the Convention.

HOV PROJECT

We are continuing to take requests for funding of HOV Projects. If you have a Project that you are working on, please submit your requests for funding and receipts before June 30th. Please call Molly Ware at 706-294-2823 if you have any questions about your Project.

MOPHA MEMBER PORTAL

A friendly reminder the member portal is still DOWN for MOPHA and MOPH. This is an old system that requires rebuilding which will be an expensive undertaking. Please contact the National Membership Officer, Tara Waugh if you need a roster for your Unit or Department.
National President cont.

NATIONAL CONVENTION
The deadline for early registration ends June 26th. After that date, you will be required to pay a $75.00 registration fee. Additionally, we realize that airfare may be a little more costly due to the delay in authorizing ticket purchases. Unfortunately, the delay was beyond our control. In any event, please endeavor to purchase tickets at the least cost as you make your airline reservations. The Department of Washington, Chapters, and Units are working hard to ensure we have a successful convention in Spokane, “The Lilac City.” If you are planning to attend the Convention, please inform the hotel your arrival time to facilitate ground transportation coordination. Also, if you plan to go to the Casino, please contact Gary Yeager at 509-994-6552 or via email: gjyeager@aol.com.

NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS
Some members have inquired about up-to-date membership cards. These will not be issued, but Membership Cards with the current Logo and Preamble may be ordered. Please contact our Membership Officer, Tara Waugh. The cost is five dollars.

FINALLY
Each morning when you wake up you have two choices. You can choose to be in a good mood or you can choose to be in a bad mood. I choose to be in a good mood. Each time something bad happens we can choose to be a victim or we can choose to learn from it. The bottom line, it’s your choice how you live life. Be less critical and more tolerant, Be the best you can. Try to maintain a joyful and grateful attitude. Attitude after all is everything, control it or it controls you. Free your heart from hatred, free your mind from worries, live simply and give more, expect less.

“Be strong, and of good courage, may the Lord God be with you wherever you go and in all that you do.”

Gloria

NOTICE—If you are attending the Convention, please remember to call hotel to give them your flight information so they can coordinate shuttle pick up from airport in Spokane.

National Secretary

Thanks to everyone who submitted their reports in a timely manner to the correct chairperson. Thanks to those who submitted their Installation reports on time. If someone is attending the Convention in Spokane...be sure to turn in a Delegate/Alternate form from the Unit for voting...this needs to be to me by June 30. Also, anyone wishing to run for an office at National should send a Letter of Intent to me by June 30 as well (this is in case you are unable to attend at the last minute, we would have your intentions in writing). Our supply items with the new logo are ever increasing...Flag sets, logo lapel pins and bookmarks are in and stickers, Unit and Department President pins and patches are to arrive soon. Please do not forgot to register for the Convention and make your reservations for the hotel...Hope to see many of you there...Judy
As summer is fast approaching, we should look back at the successful year in our Departments and Units. I hope your conventions were helpful and informative and that your newly elected officers are excited about the coming year!

On or after July 1, your 990 N postcard form will be available to complete. Remember, along with Installation report and the Membership Verification form, the 990 and the Finance report are required to be eligible for the annual Life Membership Rebate. The 990 and Finance Report are due on or before October 1, 2018. The Finance Report is found on our website at: https://nebula.wsimg.com/7356e9f0d1842bf82d46fcf24a2b157b?AccessKeyId=CD0AD7D276FD9E346B33&disposition=0&alloworigin=1

This link is helpful for questions regarding completing the 990 postcard on the IRS.gov website: https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard

On another note, if you are not familiar with the VA Caregiver website, it is full of helpful information and resources. All of the information is free and is very helpful. It is important to always remember to take care of yourself. Here is a link to an excellent handout on “Negotiating the Emotional Milestones of Aging, Illness, and Caregiving Handout”: https://www.caregiver.va.gov/pdfs/SupportLineHandOuts/April-2018-update/Negotiating-the-Emotional-Milestones-of-Aging-Illness-and-Caregiving-Handout.pdf

I wish you a wonderful summer and I hope to see most of you at our Annual convention in Spokane!

Picture right is our first presentation for the Debbie Sweet Memorial Scholarship. Debbie was a valuable member, a Past Department President in CA and also as a Past Region VI President. The following page are a few pictures from our recent California convention held in Bakersfield. We were honored to have our visiting National President join us.
National President cont.

Dept of California members with National President Gloria Sanchez
National Jr Vice President

*National Junior Vice President*
Cheryl Perez

Congratulations to the new Unit and Department Officers! It’s a busy few months with Unit elections, annual reports, Department Conventions, and getting ready for the National Convention!

As you prepare for National Convention, please remember National Ways and Means depends on our members, Units, and Departments generosity to make our fundraising efforts that benefit veterans successful! Your donations for the raffles and auctions are greatly appreciated and very much needed. This year, since many of us will be flying into Spokane, please consider the size and the ability of people to transport items you donate back home. I would like to suggest donating gift cards. They can be used in creative ways like to increase the value of other raffle and auction items and on Gift Card Trees.

This year, to offer our members who won’t be attending the National Convention an opportunity to join in the fun of a raffle, tickets can be bought for $1.00 each for the “Money Does Grow On Trees” $100 Gift Card Tree (four $25.00 Visa or Mastercard gift cards). To participate, just mail the form on the flyer below with your check made out to LAMOPH to me and tickets will be entered for you at the National Convention. A receipt for tickets will be emailed to you when your check is received. Please join in the fun and support National Ways and Means!

I would like to thank the members, Units, and Departments that have bought MOPHA Rhinestone Pins! The pins will be available through National Convention or until the inventory on hand of about 100 pins sells out. Please contact me at 619.997.5501 if you have any questions on any of the above.

Have a Happy Fourth of July!
Cheryl Perez

Continued
National Jr Vice President cont.

Raffle
$100 Gift Card Tree

Need Not Be Present To Win!

Perfect for members not attending National Convention who want to support our National Ways and Means fundraising efforts!
Just return the entry form below and tickets will be entered for you at National Convention

Tickets
$1.00 each

Drawing at Spokane National Convention

Money Does Grow On Trees

Name_____________________
Address___________________
City/ST/ZIP_________________
Email_____________________
Phone_____________________ Unit#_____
No. of tickets: _______ x $1.00 per ticket = $_________

Please make checks payable to: LAMOPH
Mail to: Cheryl Perez . POB 120083 . Chula Vista, CA 91912
Must be received no later than July 25th, 2018
Tickets available at Convention also!

Gift cards shown are not actual gift cards to be raffled, but will be four Visa or Mastercard gift cards worth $25 each.
THE BEST DAY OF MY LIFE

Today, when I awoke, I suddenly realized that this is the best day of my life, ever! There were times when I wondered if I would make it to today….but I did! And because I did, I’m going to celebrate!

Today I’m going to celebrate what an unbelievable life I have had so far; the accomplishments as a nurse, the many blessings as a chaplain, and yes, even the hardships because they have served to make me stronger. I will go through this day with my head held high and a happy heart. I will marvel at God’s seemingly simple gifts: the morning dew, the sun, the clouds, the trees, the flowers, the birds.

Today, none of these miraculous creations will escape my notice.

Today I will share my excitement for life with other people. I’ll make someone smile. I’ll go out of my way to perform an unexpected act of kindness for someone I don’t even know.

Today I will give a sincere compliment to someone who seems down. I’ll tell a child how special he is, and I’ll tell someone I love just how deeply I care for them and how much they mean to me.

Today is the day I quit worrying about what I don’t have and start being grateful for all the wonderful things God has already given me. I’ll remember that to worry is just a waste of time because my faith in God and His Divine Plan ensures everything will be just fine.

And tonight, before I go to bed, I’ll go outside and raise my eyes to the Heavens. I will stand in awe at the beauty of the stars and moon, and I will praise God for these magnificent treasures.

As the day ends and I lay my head down on my pillow, I will thank the Almighty for the best day of my life.

And I will sleep the sleep of a contented child, excited with expectation because I know tomorrow is going to be the best day of my life, ever!

May today be the best day of your life, ever!

This was one of our daughter, Sherry Bayer’s, columns about nine months before she passed away after almost 20 years of major health issues that disabled her. But through it all she never complained but seemed to become more and more strong in her faith.

May this day be the best day of YOUR life!

Peace and every blessing,
Dar Schuff, National Chaplain
Region IV President

Region IV has been so busy with Conventions and the like for the last couple months. In the last 6 weeks, I've been able to travel to Conventions in Georgia, Florida, and Mississippi. Each convention was well attended with first time convention attendees at each location.

It is always a learning experience to see what all our ladies are doing across our Region and across our Nation. The work at the Unit level done by members is unmatchable. I want to thank everyone for their welcoming attitudes and eagerness to serve and participate this year. For those of you who sent in all your reports and installations, THANK YOU!

Gail Namesh, Department of Florida President was able to even include a couple of School of Instruction elements to her agenda this past week during meeting times. From handing out Job Duties of offices on Purple Hearts to having Mickey Hunt cover general parliamentary procedure and Hallowed Ground, to going over gavel raps and how to conduct a meeting, the information was excellent to equip the ladies in attendance for service in the Department or to take back to their Units.

Mississippi did a Chinese Raffle and t-shirt sale to raise funds. Georgia members did a 50/50 raffle and Chinese raffle as well. The Florida Auxiliary auctioned a few items, did a quilt raffle (which impressively raised around $3,000! I have to give a mention to Diane Grant-Jenkins (pic left) for her impressive Volunteer Service at the VA Medical Center in Augusta, GA. Diane received a Voluntary Service Certificate at the 2018 Volunteers Luncheon for her impressive 1514 hours over the last 13 years.

Tiffany Vedvick, (pic below rt) of Jacksonville, also gave a presentation on Scrapbooking and preserving our veteran's photos/articles, scrapbooking our Unit/Chapter and Department events and history. It was quite informative. We also were given the opportunity to scrapbook our own page or create a card. My card went back with Unit 776 for an Honor Flight Welcome Home.

If YOU have a "best practices" procedure/form/event that you would like to pass along, I'd be delighted to share what works for you with our ladies. From Ice Breakers, to prepared meeting dialogue for a President to work through a meeting, to event planning sheets, to any forms or practices you, your Unit, or Department has used. I would love to share your success stories and share your ideas and tools.

Thank you all for your service and dedication to our Order. ~Amanda Flener
Greetings,
As my term as your 2017-2018 Region V President nears its end, I have been trying to keep my heart and head around what I would share with you as my last item for the MOPHA Newsletter. For some reason, I keep coming to items that have already been shared/written from me to you in several of the previous MOPHA Newsletter or MOPH Magazine over the last few months/years. Not to be repetitive but to serve as a reminder—I strongly but gingerly encourage you to continue to communicate with your Units, Department and National leaders and most definitely vice-versa, and to continue being a player on this awesome TEAM! I hold you all in high esteem and always steaming to assist (when and where I am able). I love you all and what you continue to do in the name of commitment through your volunteerism spirit of service to our Patriots, Veterans, families, communities, and each other throughout our unique organization—as always, Thank you for allowing me to serve you as your Region V President!

I was privileged to attend the Department of Colorado and Louisiana Conventions in May which were very successful. (Refer to Officers Report available at National Convention). I offer a heart of gratitude to those Unit Presidents who spent time with me (via phone) while conducting their Inspector’s Report. By the way, this offered me the opportunity to speak and establish a rapport with some members that I haven’t before—an absolute delightful pleasure while giving a helping hand to bring them in compliance with the NSVP request and our organization mandate!
Region V continued

Picture rt—Ladies Empowerment Night Out 2nd Annual Event with Patriot Steve and Lady Priscilla Lassere (who is a member of the Crescent City Unit 1955 and was recognized as one of the top VAVS at 2017 National Convention) and Fernando Rivera, Director of the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (SLVHCS), and of course me:

Department of Colorado Annual Spring Convention 2018

(Picture left) PNC Roy and Angelique with Region Pres and Her Patriot at Colorado Department Convention 2018

Louisiana Annual Spring Convention

Picture rt—Ladies Empowerment Night Out 2nd Annual Event with Patriot Steve and Lady Priscilla Lassere (who is a member of the Crescent City Unit 1955 and was recognized as one of the top VAVS at 2017 National Convention) and Fernando Rivera, Director of the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System (SLVHCS), and of course me:
Region IV President

Picture above—Dept of Louisiana Officers 2018-2019 (not all)

Pictures above & left—
Veterans Day 2017 Homeless Standdown at Mahalia Jackson Theater of the Arts Center parking lot with Student Volunteers and my 10 year old granddaughter Sidnii to my right

In picture (rt) with Louisiana Women Veterans

Chapter & Unit 1955 Veteran Day 2017 at NOLA Mercedes Benz Superdome
Region V President

I am happy to share with you the newly elected slate of officers for Region V:

- **Arkansas Unit President (no Department):** Mary Holm, Unit President-No Department
- **Colorado:** Barbara Hale-Ray, Department President
- **Louisiana:** Cheryl Rock, Department President (One Unit Closed)
- **Texas:** Joyce Dalton, Department President

**Other States of REGION V:**

- **Oklahoma:** Susan Kruse, Outgoing Unit President (Much appreciated-Sadly, Unit Closing)

New Mexico and Kansas have no Units at this time

Although this year has had its share of challenges (as with any organization), very much can be said for the accomplishments and blessings which is due to the wonderful ambassadors of MOPHA like you and our National Officers-my hat is off to you Region V as well as to ALL of our Auxiliary members nationwide with a special thanks to our National President (Madam Gloria Sanchez) for her awesome leadership. Having said that:

Danke Schoen! Gracias! Ogrigado! Merci! Sukriya! Taki! Salamat! Arrigato! Grazie!

**Thank You!!!**

Please read all of the Officers reports where you will find details and much more information of events not necessarily covered in the newsletter or magazine.

It is written that “to whom much is given much is required.” Additionally, I leave you with:

_God grant me the serenity to  
Accept the things I cannot change;  
Courage to change the things I can;  
And Wisdom to know the difference  
(Authored by Reinhold Nebuht)_

_And also as always, I bid you to stay beautiful, keep smiling, and may, “The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.” Numbers 6:24-26 (KJV) - your families, our Veterans and America as your journey and your difference continues!_

Respectfully submitted in Peace, Patriotism, and Love

Gwendolyn Gilliard
LAMOPH Region V President 2017-2018
Region VI President

Dept CA Convention Raffle of Quilt. Squares made by units and actual sewing quilt.

Dixon CA, Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, Memorial Day Ceremony


MOPHA President Barbara Blankenship and treasurer Allyne McFalls handing $150.00 check to Dee Foster, president of Project Graduation. This will keep the graduates of Buena High School on campus to celebrate their commencement with games, dances, prizes, baskets and other fun activities.
Molly Ware HOV Project

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN HOV PROJECT

Pictures are from our Department Convention where we completed our “Blankets for Women Veterans Project. Photos are of our members and guest helping make the blankets. Photo (below) is Darlene Rogers presenting the blankets to Jennifer Conzemius of the Tomah Voluntary Services. These blankets are for the women homeless veterans at Tomah.
Molly Ware HOV Project cont.

Department of WI continued from page 14