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## August 2009 Newsletter

By the time you receive this newsletter the majority of the Units will have already had their installations. Congratulations to all of the newly elected officers of your Units. I look forward to working with each and every one of you. I would like to thank all of the Units that invited me to do their installations; it was a great honor for me to be able to install these Units. Now that installation is over its time to start working on membership.

Membership is the lifeblood of this organization as it is in most organizations. Without our membership we can't function in the way this organization is suppose to function; helping our Veterans, working in the community, helping the less fortunate and so many other good deeds that the American Legion Auxiliary is known for performing. Units, challenge your members to sign up at least one new member this year. Give your members incentives to go out and recruit new members. Set up a phone committee to call members to remind them that their dues for the 2009 – 2010 year are due now. As of July 16<sup>th</sup> the first membership report the 6<sup>th</sup> district was in 1<sup>st</sup> place with 18.30%. Great Job this early in the game, lets try and keep it up. The following Units turned in membership to Department.

Unit 16 - Covington -----	33.65%
Unit 47 – Ponchatoula-----	44.29%
Unit 98 – Donaldsonville-----	2.44%
Unit 167 – Plaquemine-----	15.85%
Unit 248 – New Roads-----	49.53%
Unit 502 – Baton Rouge-----	97.89% - WOW
Unit 505 – Baton Rouge-----	31.97%
Unit 580 – Maringouin-----	56.00%

Thanks to all of the Units for getting an early start on membership. **Ladies, please do not hold membership, send it in at least once a week.** Please do not wait until all of your membership is in to send it to Department.



I am going to push the Area Presidents to work membership for their assigned Units. The \$10.00 should assist them in postage and stamps when writing to their Units.

As most of you know, Monique Batiste, Past 6<sup>th</sup> District President, will be our Department President in 2011-2012. This is a very expensive position, and as we have always done in the past for all 6<sup>th</sup> District members that are Department President, we come together as a District to help defray the cost by holding fundraisers. This year we are raffling off 2 - 18" pearl, and crystal necklaces and matching earrings. The two sets are valued at \$40.00 each. Because we have two sets we will draw for a first and second prize. The tickets are being printed now; we will have them at the DEC to distribute to the Units that are present. All other Units will be mailed 1 set which contains 10 tickets. We ask that you make every effort to sell your tickets. There will be more information to come in the next newsletter.

This year our Department membership theme is: "Stay on Track in the Amazing Race for Membership." The 6<sup>th</sup> District colors are Red and Blue. The 6<sup>th</sup> District theme is "Red and Blue, right on track for membership." Carol Johansen came up with the theme, so she won a hummingbird feeder. I would like the 6<sup>th</sup> District to be known as "LeJeune's Racing Team."

National Convention will be held on August 21 – 27, 2009 in Louisville, Kentucky. Ruth Nutfall has informed me that she will not be attending the convention and cannot fulfill her duties as a delegate. Alternate Sylvia Anthony will take her place as a delegate along with myself.

Our fall conference will be held on October 17, 2009 at Post 16 in Covington starting at 9:00 am. As discussed at our fall DEC, I explained to all of the officers and chairman in attendance that our fall DEC is a school of instruction. I do not think that a school of instruction means for an officer or chairman to stand up and announce that their papers are in the folders in the back of the room. All officers and chairman listed below will need to be prepared to give a short presentation of their office or program that they are responsible for. You must also have 30 copies of your Plan of Works to put in the folders. The officers and chairman that were at the DEC was handed a Plan of Works from the Department's book. If you were not at DEC, your copy will be enclosed with this newsletter. This is only an example; please use it to your advantage.

Listed below are the officers and chairman that need to be prepared to give a short program of your duties.

Unit Presidents-----Barbara LeJeune  
Vice Presidents-----Kathy Mott

Area Presidents-----Mary Higginbotham  
 Secretaries/Treasurers-----Hattie B. Johnson  
 Historian-----Natalie Chevelier  
 Chaplain/Memorials-----Sheila Brunett  
 Parliamentarian-----Monique Batiste  
 Americanism-----Carolyn Tate  
 AEF/LA Crisis Fund-----Sylvia Anthony  
 Children and Youth-----Juliana Roberson  
 Community Services-----Kathy Mott  
 Education-----A. J. Palmer  
 Girl State-----Pam Leonard  
 Gold Star Mothers-----Barbara Harris  
 Junior Activities-----Shelly Bland  
 Leadership-----Monique Batiste  
 Legislative-----Pam Leonard  
 Membership-----Kathy Mott & Mary Higginbotham  
 Music-----Hattie B. Johnson  
 National Security-----Carol Johansen  
 Past President Parley-----Maggie Watts  
 Poppy-----Cindy Newton  
 Public Relations-----Cynthia Kellum  
 Special Olympics-----Jane Duracher  
 V A & R-----Mavis Rios

If anyone who is receiving this newsletter has an email address, please send it to me at "lamembership2009@yahoo.com". Subject: Email-Newsletter. I would like to start sending out the newsletters to as many officers and chairman by email, so that we can save on postage. Please mention this to your members at your next meeting. If they would like to receive the newsletter, I will be happy to send the newsletters to any member as long as it's by email.

Unit Presidents I am trying to make my schedule for this year, my goal is to try and visit all of the Units that have meetings. I will call ahead of time to schedule my visit. I visited Unit 98-Donaldsonville on Tuesday, July 21, thank you ladies for making me feel so welcome.

Any questions, or problems you can reach me with the following information:

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For God and Country

Barbara LeJeune  
 6<sup>th</sup> District President