



Barbara LeJeune
Sixth District President
13917 Ventress Road, Ventress, Louisiana
(225) 638-3328
[*lamembership2009@yahoo.com*](mailto:lamembership2009@yahoo.com)

September 2009 Newsletter

We're back from Louisville; it was a great convention, more about the convention later on in the newsletter. I am sorry if this newsletter is getting to you all late, I got back home from the convention about 8:00 pm, Thursday, August 27. Since I've been home I have been suffering with sinus problems along with a bad sore throat. Today, Monday, I am still feeling down, but I do feel a little better.

By now all members should have received their renewal notice from National. If you paid your dues and still received a notice, please disregard it. If you have not paid your dues please do so now. Unit Presidents I am asking that you remind your members that it's time to pay their dues now. The 6th District was in first place, however, we have dropped down to third. Lets try and pick this up to first place again. I know we can do it.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING UNITS FOR REACHING 100%

UNIT 502 – BONNETTE-HARRISON – 102.11%

UNIT 580 – WOOLFOLK-BAKER – 110.00%

GREAT JOB!!!

Our fall conference will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2009 at Post 16 in Covington starting at 9:00 am. District Officers and District Chairmen; please remember you will have to conduct a school of instructions for your office or committee. Also remember please have 30 copies of the duties to place in the Unit's folders.

September is Music month; make every month a music month. At the beginning of each of your meetings, sing The National Anthem, The Star Bangle Banner or God Bless America. Music brings out the best in everyone; it's a happy language that everyone can enjoy. Ms. Hattie B. Johnson, is the 6th District Music Chairman.

September is Junior Activities month. The 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. At age 18, junior members automatically are eligible for full active membership. Three objectives of the juniors this year are; 1. To have each junior member recruit one new junior, 2. To encourage community service projects by Junior Units and/or individual members and 3. To learn and practice points from programs and activities related to our mission of serving Veterans and their families. Some interesting websites for the juniors to explore are:

<http://pocketflagproject.com>

<http://www.sparky.org>

<http://www.mcgruff.org>

<http://letssaythanks.com/Home/1024.html>

Ms. Shelby Bland is the 6th District Junior Activities Chairman.

September is also Gold Star Mothers' month. The Beginnings of Gold Star Mothers: When the United States entered World War I in 1917, George Vaughn Seibold, 23, volunteered, requesting assignment in aviation. He was sent to Canada where he learned to fly British planes since the United States had neither an air force nor planes. Deployed to England, he was assigned to the British Royal Flying Corps, 148th Aero Squadron. With his squadron, he left for combat duty in France. He corresponded with his family regularly. His mother, Grace Darling Seibold, began to do community service by visiting return servicemen in the hospitals.

The mail from George stopped. Since all aviators were under British control and authority, the United States could not help the Seibold family with any information about their son. Grace continued to visit hospitalized Veterans in the Washington area, clinging to the hope that her son might have been injured and returned to the United States without any identification. While working through her sorrow, she helped ease the pain of the many servicemen who returned so war-damaged that they were incapable to ever reaching normalcy.

But on October 11, 1918, George's wife in Chicago received a box marked "Effects of deceased Officer 1st Lt. George Vaughn Seibold". The Seibolds also received a confirmation of George's death on November 4th through a family member in Paris. On Sunday, December 15, 1918, the following obituary appeared in the Washington Star Newspaper:

Lieut. G. V. Seibold Killed in Action, Battling Aviator, Recently Cited for Bravery in France, is War Victim.

Lieut. George Vaughn Seibold, battling aviator, cited for bravery in action some time ago, lost his life in a fight in the air August 26, last. His father, George G. Seibold...has been officially notified of his son's death by the War Department.

Lieut. Seibold was a member of the 148th U.S. Aero Squadron. He was first reported missing in action, though a number of circumstances led to the fear that he had been killed. Hope was sustained until now, however, by the failure to receive definite word.

George's body was never identified.

Grace, realizing that self-contained grief is self-destructive, devoted her time and efforts to not only working in the hospital but extending the hand of friendship to other mothers whose sons had lost their lives in military service.

She organized a group consisting solely of these special mothers, with the purpose of not only comforting each other, but also giving loving care to hospitalized Veterans confined in government hospitals far from home.

The organization was named after the Gold Star that families hung in their windows in honor of the deceased Veteran.

Barbara Harris is the 6th District Gold Star Mothers Chairman.

To all of the members that requested they get their newsletter via email, I have not had time to set this up, due to the National Convention. We will try for the October newsletter.

To all that attended the Department DEC, it was a wonderful workshop, lots of good information was given out, and lots of fun was had by all. Linda Petit did a wonderful job as chairman of the workshop. The Sixth District was represented well; there were several units in attendance. I would like to thank all that attended, and hope that you all learned something that could benefit your Unit.

I am so sorry, last month I forgot to mention about Girls State.



Pictured to the left is 6th District President - Barbara LeJeune, Girls State Governor - Amanda Harding sponsored by Unit 58 in Baton Rouge, and 6th District Procurement Chairman Pam Leonard. Congratulations go out to Unit 58 for sponsoring our

2009 Girls State Governor.
Up Coming Events

Fall Conference	Unit 16 2031 Hwy 190 Bypass Covington, LA	10-17-2009	9:00 am
6 th District Thanksgiving Party	Louisiana Veterans Home 4739 Hwy 10 Jackson, LA	11-15-2009	1:30 pm
6 th District Christmas Party	Louisiana Veterans Home 4739 Hwy 10 Jackson, LA	12-13-2009	1:30 pm
Mid Winter Conference	Best Western Hotel 2720 N. Macarthur Dr. Alexandria, LA	1-15-10 to 1-17-11	9:00am
6 th District Party	Alexandria VA Medical Hosp 2495 Shreveport Hwy 71 N Pineville, LA	TBA	
6 th District Easter Party	Louisiana Veterans Home 4739 Hwy 10 Jackson, LA	3-21-2010	1:30 pm
Spring DEC	Unit 16 2031 Hwy 190 Bypass Covington, LA	3-6-2010 subject to change	9:00 am
Spring Conference	Unit 16 2031 Hwy 190 Bypass Covington, LA	3-20-2010	9:00 am
State Convention	Best Western Hotel 2720 N. Macarthur Dr. Alexandria, LA	June 10 – 13, 2010	9:00 am

I have a special insert with information from the National Convention.

Unit Presidents, Unit Membership Chairmen, and Area Presidents, this is the time to start working on membership. We need renewals and new members. Lets work together in getting our membership in, and have the 6th District in 1st place.

Thank for all that you all are doing, not only membership but also the programs that this organization is so proud to sponsor.

For God and Country

Barbara LeJeune
6th District President

National Convention

Louisville, Kentucky

August 21 – 27, 2009

The 6th District faired very well at the convention:

SENIORS

The Auxiliary Woman of the Year Luncheon was held on Tuesday, August 25, Angela Kraft from Unit 258 – Springfield was one of the 40 members honored.

In the pre membership workshop, Louisiana was mentioned as one of the 41 Departments that reached the 2nd target date.

There were 5 Units that was presented the “President’s Award for Excellence”
They were:

Unit 170 – Bert S. Crossland - California

Unit 47 – Leander J. Kinchen – Ponchatoula, LA

Unit 214 – Palmer Robert – Ohio

Unit 21 – K.T. Crossen – Ohio

Unit 160 – Jackson County – Mississippi

JUNIORS

Americanism Class III – Madeline Bennett – Ponchatula – Champ Cooper School

Elected to the Office of National Chaplain – Brittney Watts

Elected to the Office of National Historian – Haley Bland

Junior Member of the Year – Brittney Watts

RESOLUTIONS

- If the dues increase pass, the vote was to increase the National Magazine from 4 times a year to 6 times a year. FAILED
- Amendment #1 – Insert the word “spouses” to be included in membership. Meaning: All women that are eligible to join the American Legion, if passed the husbands will be able to join the Auxiliary. FAILED
- Amendment #2 – Insert the words “and to the wives of The Sons of The American Legion. Meaning: Any women that are not qualified under her father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother or husband because they do not qualify for the American Legion, can join the Auxiliary if their husbands are members of The Sons of The American Legion. FAILED
- Amendment #3 – All Past National Presidents in good standing in the local Units shall be members for life of the National Executive Committee with all rights except the rite to vote. PASSED
- Amendment #4 – This one is concerning the National Historian. Delete the current Section 7 and insert a new Section 7. They added: Quarterly reports are due within 30 days of end of quarter for the first three quarters of the administrative year. Failure to submit reports will result in a termination of travel authorizations. PASSED
- Amendment #5 – Insert a new Section 4 and a new Section 5. Renumber current sections delineating duties of the Standing Program Committees in alphabetical alignment.
 - Section 4 – There shall be the following Administrative Committees:
Audit.
 - Section 5 – There shall be an Audit Committee under Administrative Committees that shall consist of three members appointed annually by the National President and ratified by the NEC. The first operating year of the committee, one member will be appointed to serve a term of three (3) years or until her successor is appointed; one member will be appointed to serve a term of two (2) years or until her successor is appointed; and one members will be appointed to serve a term of one (1) year. Thereafter, one member will be appointed annually to serve a term of three (3) years or until her successor is appointed. PASSED
- Amendment #6 - Insert a new Section 4 and a new Section 5. Renumber current sections delineating duties of the Standing Program Committees in alphabetical alignment.

Section 4 – There shall be the following Administrative Committees:
Human Resources (HR)

Section 5 – There shall be a Human Resources Committee that shall consist of five (5) members; three (3) serving by position title as National Vice President, Director of Human Resources, and National Treasurer; and two to be appointed by the National President and ratified by the NEC the first year. One member to serve two years and one to serve one year or until her successor is appointed.

Thereafter, one member will be appointed for the two year term or until her successor is appointed. FAILED

- Amendment # 7 – Withdrawn

- Amendment #8 – Dues increase to be effective in the 2011 membership year. There was a motion to amend and make the due increase effective in the 2012 membership year. FAILED
Back to the original amendment to have the dues increase effective in the 2011 membership year. FAILED

- Amendment #9 – Section 5 to read: The candidate(s) for National President for the ensuring year, with the cooperation of the National President and National Secretary, shall plan a membership theme and program and if possible in correlation with that of The American Legion for the following year; and these plans should be presented to the Departments no later than June 1 of the same year, enabling the Departments to coordinate their membership objectives and program to those of the National Organization. PASSED



Barbara LeJeune
Sixth District President
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Date: August 31, 2009

To: **All 6th District Officers, Chairman,
Unit President, Area Presidents**

Subject: 2009 6th District Fall Conference

From: Barbara LeJeune, District President

The 6th District Fall Conference will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2009 **at 9:00** am at the American Legion Post 16 in Covington, LA.

This is a very important meeting; this conference is our School of Instructions. Unit Presidents please encourage your members to attend, especially your new members. There is a lot of information to gain from this conference, and with that valuable information we can make the 6th District the best.

District officers and chairmen; please be prepared to give a presentation on your duties of your office and chairman on your committee. Also please have 30 copies for the Units folders.

The American Legion Post 16 is located at 2031 Highway 190 Bypass, Covington.

Hope to see a great turnout at the Fall Conference.