



American Legion Auxiliary District 11 Newsletter

September 2025



New News:

Boy, how does time fly! It's already September!! I wasn't able to go to the National Convention so I am very excited to hear about it at Roundup in a couple of weeks. Hope to see you all there!

My theme for this year is along with our Legion's "Be The One" initiative. My focus is on our Veteran's PTSD and mental health issues.

Let's **BUILD** each other!

B – Be the One!

U – Unite and help each other achieve our goals!

I – Inspire and motivate one another!

L – Listen to each other!

D – Dedicate ourselves to helping each other!

My project for this year is to raise money for a program named JAVELAN.



This program was started by Robert Dean. His wife is a Veteran and needed a service dog and they personally seen how important these dogs are, so they decided to try to do a program to help others. How this program works is when a Veteran (or First Responder) would like a service dog they need to contact them and the only cost to the Veteran (or First Responder) is \$25. If the Veteran has a dog that is 3 years or younger they will come out and train their dog that they currently have. If they don't have a dog, then the JAVELAN program will get a dog through Pet for Vets (another rescue program for Veterans) or the local Humane Society. If the Veteran wants a specific kind of dog, they need to acquire that on their own. The Trainer comes to the Veteran and will train the dog at the expense of the JAVELAN program. This program is nonprofit and relies solely on donations. When I spoke with Mr. Dean he told me that if anyone would like him to come to their meetings and would like more information he would be glad to do so.

I will be raffling off a couple things to make money for a donation to this program. The 1st prize is an Eagle lawn Decoration and a Patriotic picture of bird houses and cardinals. The 2nd Prize is a Patriotic picture of dogs in the back of an old pickup and flag and a patriotic table centerpiece.



1st Prize



2nd Prize

Dates to Remember:

September:

- 10th – Deadline for Star Articles – October/November Issue
- 11th – Patriots Day
- 13th – **Commander Judy Walter's Homecoming** – September 13th in Ainsworth, NE
- 18th – POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 20th – **District 11 Fall Roundup** is in Friend on September 20th at 2:00pm at the Legion Hall. Robert Dean from the JAVELAN program has agreed to speak and let us know more about the JAVELAN Program
- 25th – Gold Star Recognition Day
- 27th – **ALA Leadership School & President Ruth's Homecoming** in Bennet, NE at the Legion Hall at 2:00 pm. More information will be in The Star so keep watch. You will need to RSVP to the Department.

October:

- 13th – Columbus Day – Department Headquarters will be **Closed**
- 31st – Halloween

I have filled my Officer positions. Thank you everyone 😊

President – Mary Beth Coffey

Historian – Cindy Summers Lugan

Vice President – Karen White

Music Chair – Julia Pohlmann

Secretary/Treasurer – Vicky Fleming

Poppy Chair – Marilyn White

Parliamentarian – Deb Albers

Chaplain – Donna Schweer

Immediate Past President – Cindy Summers Lugan

New Flags:

I have set up a DEC meeting on Sept 20th before Fall Roundup at 12 pm so we don't have to have another day to travel. We need to decide on our Flags as soon as possible. We have \$1,250 currently for the purchase of the new flag and we need \$1,882.9 plus shipping & handling for the purchase. So, we are still a little short. We still need \$632.9 plus shipping and handling so if your Unit or County has not donated yet could you please consider it, and this would be much appreciated. If you would like to bring the donations to Fall Roundup that would be great! I hope to see you all there.

Ready, Set Go for Dues this year!!

Secretary Roxanne said she can start taking them at any time now for all members. She also has a challenge to the first District to reach 100% membership by Aug. 20th (her birthday), she will personally pay for the hotel room for up to 3 nights at the Department Convention!

Let's go for 2 years in a row for District 11 to get to #1 for getting Dues in!!

Deadline for getting Dues awards! Let's help get those Dues in early!

FYI:

The membership goals list that was provided in our Membership Packets was incorrect. A Corrected version was made available via August/September Headquarters Newsletter we just received.

Also, in the newsletter was the Cover Sheet for the Americanism Essay Contest and Poppy Contest so please give these to your Schools for your students in your area to participate in.

Thank you everyone for all your help getting this new year started. I hope to see you all at Roundup on the 20th!

Mary Beth Coffey
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