



# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

SERVING VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

## Auxiliary Communique - Spring 2017

### American Legion Auxiliary - Department of Iowa

#### 2017 - 2018 Unit Data Form - Direct Billing

(Type or Print blue or black ink - FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY)

Our Unit understands the dues amount listed below will be printed on the Membership Renewal Notices for the **2017-18** membership year that will be mailed to each senior member of our Unit. Below is the address to be printed on each renewal notice showing where our members are to mail their dues for this Unit.

This information is used to send membership cards and rosters to Iowa Units. The Iowa Department **MUST** have this information by **APRIL 15, 2017**.

It is understood that no change in the amount of dues or the address to which the dues are to be sent can be made after a deadline which Department Headquarters will establish based on the requirements of National Headquarters. Please use **this** form and send in by the due date. Thank you.

#### DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

UNIT NUMBER	#
DISTRICT NUMBER	#

2017-18 INDIVIDUAL SENIOR DUES OF THE UNIT ARE \$

2017-18 INDIVIDUAL JUNIOR DUES OF THE UNIT ARE \$

Name of individual in the Unit to receive membership dues for the year 2017-2018

Member's Membership Number found on Membership Card or Unit Roster (**REQUIRED**)

Complete Mailing Address

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN TO:** AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
**BY APRIL 15, 2017.** ATTENTION: Unit Data Forms  
720 LYON STREET  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309

#### **Make a copy for your Unit Files**

ATTENTION: Unit Presidents and/or Secretaries please see this form is sent in by the due date. Thank you.

### Special Workshop

The Department of Iowa and the Iowa Strategic Planning Committee are planning a new and special workshop in May, 2017. This workshop will be for the 2017-2018 District Presidents, 2017-2018 District Vice Presidents and 2017-2018 Department Officers.

The workshop will be geared to the basics of meetings (how to conduct meetings, parliamentary procedure, and a multitude of information regarding various subjects). After District conferences are held detailed information will be sent to the above named members regarding their attendance. This is an important meeting for these named officers.

This meeting will be held in May (probably May 20). The Saturday meeting will be held at the Department Office beginning at 10:00 a.m. and run to the middle of the afternoon. Lunch will be served.

Reminder this meeting is for incoming District and Department Officers. The Department Leadership Workshop for all members will be August 11 and 12, 2017. Details for this meeting will be available in the Summer Issue of the Communique and this coming summer on the website.

Questions about either workshop? Please contact Executive Director Marlene Valentine at the Department Office by e-mail ([alasectreas@iawlegion.org](mailto:alasectreas@iawlegion.org)) or phone 515-282-7987.

### The Poppy Story

From the battlefields of World War I, weary soldiers brought home the memory of a barren landscape transformed by wild poppies, red as the blood that had soaked the soil. By that miracle of nature, the spirit of their lost comrades lived on. The poppy became a symbol of the sacrifice of lives in war and represented the hope that none had died in vain. The American Legion Auxiliary poppy has continued to bloom for the casualties of four wars, its petals of paper bound together for veterans by veterans, reminding America each year that the men and women who have served and died for their country deserve to be remembered. The poppy, as a memorial flower to the war dead, can be traced to a single individual, Moira Michael. She was so moved by Lt. Col. McCrae's poem, "In Flanders Fields," that she wrote a response... the blood of heroes never dies but lends a luster to the red of the flower that blooms above the dead in Flanders' Fields.

On impulse, she bought a bouquet of poppies -- all that New York City's Wanamaker's Department Store had -- and handed them to businessmen meeting at the New York YMCA where she worked. She asked them to wear the poppy as a tribute to the fallen. That was November 1918. World War I was over, but America's sons would rest forever "in Flanders' Fields." Later she would spearhead a campaign that would result in the adoption of the poppy as the national symbol of sacrifice.

## In Flanders Fields

"In Flanders Fields" is a war poem in the form of a rondeau, written during the First World War by Canadian physician and Lt. Col. John McCrae. He was inspired to write it on May 3, 1915, after presiding over the funeral of friend and fellow soldier Alexis Heimer, who died during the Second Battle of Ypres.

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.*

—Lt. Col. John McCrae