



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

SERVING VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

Auxiliary Communique - Summer 2016

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Auxiliary Department Office Candidates



For Auxiliary President . . . **Sharon Anderson**

Sharon Anderson is currently serving as the Iowa Department Vice President. She is a thirty-nine year member of Baldwin Patterson ALA Unit #274 in Des Moines. Sharon is eligible through the service of her father Norman Loose a WWII Army Veteran and her husband Viet Nam Era Army Veteran

Richard Anderson.

Sharon has held all the offices in her Unit except Treasurer. Sharon served as Unit President and Secretary several times. She has held all the offices in Polk County. Sharon served in all the offices of 6th District and as 6th District President in 1995-1996. She has held several chairmanships at the Department level – membership, children & youth, education, Legislation, just to name a few. She has held the following Department officer positions: Vice President (twice) and Department Chaplain. Sharon is currently serving as Leadership Chairman and Vice President.

For Auxiliary Vice President . . .

Vicki Klinkhammer

My name is Vickie Lynne Klinkhammer. I have been endorsed for the office of Vice President. I am eligible through my grandfather, Victor Paar. I joined in 1996, I'm a member of Farley Unit #656 where my current position is Vice President, for Dubuque County I am Parliamentarian. At the District level I held the office of Secretary, Vice President and President during 2009/2010. For Department I was appointed to Junior Activities, AEF, Legislative, and Americanism Chairman, Assistant Junior Camp Director and I am the current Department Chaplain.

My son, Matt (Kate), daughter, Alice (Kyle) Greenwood, sister, Kris Staver and mother, Arlene Reisen all belong to the Legion Family.

In 2011 I received my BA in Communications from Clarke University. I am an avid photographer. I own VLP & Designs, my photography transformed into clothes. My respect for our veterans and our active duty military leads me to continue to do my best with the greatest women's patriotic organization in this country that I love.



2016 Iowa Leadership Workshop

The 2nd Annual Iowa Leadership Workshop will be here before you know it. There are a few changes from the 2015 workshop. First change is that you must go online to register for this informative workshop. Follow the steps:

1. Go to ALA website – www.iowaala.org
2. Click on **PROGRAMS**
3. Click on **2016-2017 IOWA DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP**
4. **FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY, CLICK SUBMIT**
5. Your Registration will be complete when the Department Office receives your online registration form and your check for \$20.00. The cost includes your lunch, a Blue Book and a Department Plan of Action.
6. **Both online registration and \$20.00 check is due in the Department Office no later than JULY 1, 2016.**
7. Space is limited and registration is based on a first come, first serve basis.
8. **THE WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2016 AT THE BALDWIN PATTERSON POST HOME, 2211 East 42nd Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50317. (Same location as last year.) 10:00 A.M. – PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 9:30 A.M.**
9. **Please no unpaid guests or children. Registration will NOT be available at the door.**

Leadership

Sharon Anderson, Department Chairman

Working together you must practice self-control. Control what you say and how you say it. Don't let yourself and your team down. Good leaders work good with team members and put work ahead of personal likes and dislikes. Look for positive things in someone you dislike. Respect individual differences. Have a sense of humor.

Good leaders and team members acknowledge mistakes and correct them. Admit the mistake. Correct the problem it has caused. Be tolerant of the mistakes of others. Don't jump to conclusions when communicating. Prevent false assumptions by listening carefully and slowing down response or actions. Clarify directions by asking questions, giving feedback. When giving directions, don't assume your words are understood as you mean them to be.

Good leaders don't take constructive criticism personally. Expect disagreement about ideas or opinions. Be prepared to discuss them openly and rationally. When giving criticism, be positive first. Criticize the idea or behavior, not the

person.

Leaders and team members show courtesy to fellow workers. Be considerate of others' time, feelings, and property. Treating everyone equally will avoid causing resentment.

Have a good attitude. It is more important than facts. It is more than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break our organization.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past, we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to us and 90 percent how we react to it. So it is all up to us, we can change our attitude.



For Auxiliary Chaplain . . . **Mary Sebben**

Mary Sebben is an 11-year PUFL member of the American Legion Auxiliary. She served as unit president for the Granger Unit for several years before transferring to the Woodward Unit in 2012.

She served twice as Dallas County President in two-year terms, from 2008-2010 and from 2014-2016. She served as Sixth District Secretary, Vice President and President from 2008-2011. In 2011-2012 she served as the Department Membership Chairman, followed by Department Poppy Chairman, Department Historian, Department VA&R Service to Veterans Chairman and, finally, as Department VA&R Chairman for the 2015-2016 administrative year.

Mary and her husband, Jerry, have been married 44 years and are members of St. Boniface Catholic Church in Waukee. Jerry is a longtime member of The American Legion, having served as Department Commander in 2010-2011 and is currently Alternate National Executive Committeeman.

They have two sons, Jonathan and Jay. Jonathan is married with three children. Jay is with the 132nd ANG in Des Moines and a member of The American Legion. Jonathan, is an SAL member along with his son, Geno. Mary's mother, three sisters, daughter-in-law, and two granddaughters are members of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Mary is committed to the American Legion Auxiliary and to serving our veterans, our military and their families. The first four words of our Preamble say it all for Mary: For God and Country. She is committed to serving God and Country while serving our great organization. That is why she is seeking your support for the office of Department Chaplain for 2016-2017. She will serve the spiritual needs of the members of the Iowa American Legion Auxiliary to the best of her ability with the supportive prayers of its members as well as with God's love and guidance.

**NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY CONVENTION
REGISTRATION IS DUE JUNE 15. ALL NATIONAL CONVENTION
INFORMATION IS ON THE IOWA LEGION WEBSITE
www.ialegion.org**

"BE"

By Sharon Anderson

- Be understanding to your enemies.*
- Be loyal to your friends.*
- Be strong enough to face the world each day.*
- Be weak enough to know you cannot do everything alone.*
- Be generous to those who need your help.*
- Be frugal with what you need yourself.*
- Be wise enough to know that you do not know everything.*
- Be foolish enough to believe in miracles.*
- Be willing to share your joys.*
- Be willing to share the sorrows of others.*
- Be a leader when you see a path others have missed.*
- Be a follower when you are shrouded by the mists of uncertainty.*
- Be the first to congratulate an opponent who succeeds.*
- Be the last to criticize a colleague who fails.*
- Be sure where your next step will fall, so that you will not stumble.*
- Be sure of your final destination, in case you are going the wrong way.*
- Be loving to those who love you.*
- Be loving to those who do not love you, and they may change.*
- Above all, be yourself.*

For Auxiliary Historian . . . **Dawn Aberle**



I am a member of Floyd Williamson Unit 712 in Troy Mills.

I am eligible through the service of my Dad and now

through the service of my son Nich. My husband Bert and I have 3 children, Shawn (Jackie) Alida (Jeremy) and Nicholas, as well as 3 grandchildren, Carson, Gretchen and Nichol.

I am currently serving on the Department Membership team I was Department Vice President in 2013-2014 and have been Second District Treasurer since 2007 with a 1 year break in 2011 while I served as District President, I am also serving as Unit president.

I look forward to serving the Department of Iowa as the Historian for this next year.

I am hopeful that I can help preserve the history of this great organization for future generations.