



Dewey Lowman Unit #109, Inc
American Legion Auxiliary, Department of MD
1610 Sulphur Spring Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21227
November-December 2009 Auxiliary Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

November 11th is Veterans Day – We need to pay tribute to those who serve everyday in order to secure our freedom. Many of us know someone serving in the military at home or abroad. As we celebrate this year and give thanks at our Thanksgiving dinner let us also remember these brave men and women in harm's way who continue to defend and support us.

Our first fundraiser of the year was the Quarter Auction in October. I thank all of the members who attended and the volunteers that helped make it such a great success. The winner of the Longenberger Holiday basket is Candi Hinebaugh. Without the few dedicated members that are always there when needed we would not be able to meet our obligations to the programs that our Auxiliary supports.

By now you should have received your two tickets in the mail to our next fundraiser which is the Cash Calendar for January. Please try to sell as many as possible to family members and friends. Let's make this project as successful.

We still need volunteers to fill the positions of 2nd Vice, Girls State, Poppies and Children and Youth. The following Committees have been filled –
Gold Star Mother – Fern Preiss
Community Service – Kathy Baquol
If any member is interested in getting involved with your Unit by filling the vacant positions it would be greatly appreciated.

The Holidays are fast approaching with another year behind us. We still have lots of work ahead of us to continue to make Dewey Lowman Unit 109 one that each and every member should be proud of.

Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm. Please consider attending.

To you and yours –
Have a Very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Year
Jean McElroy, President

MEMBERSHIP

We have had a huge response to the dues renewal notices from Headquarters. I want to thank all Auxiliary members who have paid their dues so far. *HOWEVER*, we still have some members who have not paid. Remember – in order to be an "Early Bird", dues must be paid by December 31, 2009. Renewal notices will again go out in January, 2010 as a 2nd reminder.

There are several members who still owe for 2009 and 2010. (When sending in your current dues, please add the additional \$18.00 for 2009). Many have been members for a number of years, and we would not want you to lose your years of service.

We would like to welcome several new members this year. They are Lisa Warfield, Mary Montgillion, Rachele Knecht, Samantha Lester, Lisa Smith, and Margaret Morningstar. We would like to welcome these ladies to our Auxiliary Unit, and hope to see them AND YOU at our meetings. Please feel free to call me or e-mail me doris1712@comcast.net if you have any questions.

Doris Scheihing, Chairman

CHAPLAIN

If there are any members or family members who are ill, please let me know so we can keep them in prayer. I can always be reached or leave a message at 410-796-7026. God bless you and keep you in good health.

Candi Hinebaugh, Chaplain

CASH CALENDAR

If you didn't receive your tickets or need extra tickets please call me at 410-744-5781. This is an important fundraiser so we need all members to support the cash calendar. Do you have a hard person to buy for at Christmas? How about a Cash Calendar ticket? It will take the stress out of shopping...

Jeanne Haney, Chairman

NATIONAL SECURITY

Children's behavior is unpredictable. To ensure traffic safety, as adults, we must always be cautious, especially in areas where children naturally congregate – like schools. Only near schools do you regularly find crowds of pedestrians, bicyclists, and motor vehicles, which is why obeying traffic safety rules near schools is vital.

Children are the second most likely group to be injured in automobile/pedestrian accidents. Pedestrians always have the right of way. In the absence of traffic signals, drivers must always slow down or stop for pedestrians in marked and unmarked crosswalks. At stop signs and when a school crossing guard is displaying an official stop sign or flag, drivers must come to a complete stop. Drivers must stop when approaching a school bus, church bus, or daycare bus that is stopped to pick up or let off children. The driver must remain stopped until the bus' stop sign is retracted and red warning lights are turned off. Wherever a school traffic safety sign is posted, drivers should slow down and watch for children.

There are many traffic safety tips to share with your children to keep them safe when you can't be with them. These tips may seem a bit trite, but they bear repeating (and repeating and repeating and repeating for kids).

First and foremost, set a good example by always following the traffic safety rules yourself. Children learn by example. Choose the safest route to school and walk it with your child prior to allowing them to travel it on their own. Always look both ways before crossing the street. Cross in the crosswalks at the corner, not in the middle of the block. Never cross from between parked cars. Never cross an intersection diagonally. Cross the street with the Crossing Guard whenever possible.

Children should look to see that drivers are aware of them. Making eye contact with a driver is a good way to know whether a driver is aware that someone is about to cross the road. Cross quickly – do not linger or play in the street. Always wear a helmet when riding a bicycle, skateboard, or scooter. Remember the same rules (look both ways, use crosswalks, etc) apply when riding a bike. Walk bicycles, skateboards, and scooters across the crosswalk. Be careful in parking lots – look out for cars as they may not be able to see you. Never walk or run in front of cars. Teach children the meaning of traffic signs. Stop at all stop signs, red lights, and obey traffic signals. When the intersection has crossing signals, only cross when the walk signal is lit. When walking on

sidewalks, be aware of driveways and alleys from which cars may emerge. When walking down a street with no sidewalks, walk as near to the edge of the road as possible, facing traffic. Bright colored clothing increases visibility, but when walking/biking near dusk reflective tape should be used on jackets, bikes, etc.

Jean Rigg, Chairman

CASH CALENDAR

What's in your mailbox? Back by popular demand we are having a cash calendar for the month of January. Not sure what to get that certain someone on your Christmas list? How about a cash calendar ticket. It would make a perfect stocking stuffer.

Jeanne Haney, Chairman

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

This year the Unit's VA and R project is collecting and donating travel-size toiletries for our veterans who are flying into BWI Airport and come to the USO area to freshen up. Most of the time the service people are returning from deployments and BWI is their point of entry back to the United States. USO Airport Services Manager Shauna Van Buren told me that the USO is always in need of travel size tooth paste, tooth brushes, soap, mouth wash, shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, disposable razors, combs, and hand lotion. These are items the service people have packed in their checked baggage and not readily available to use. The travel-size toiletries can be purchased by you usually for less than a dollar each at local drug chains, for example Rite Aid and CVS. Please drop off your donations to me at the Post on either the first and second Tuesday evening of each month. They can be left in the Lounge if I am in a meeting. Donations to buy the items can be sent to the Post in care of the Auxiliary. Please support this joint Auxiliary and USO project. Just like the American Legion the USO is not a government agency, but is funded entirely by donations from a caring public. Show a soldier, sailor, airman, or Marine you care – make their first stop on their way home more pleasant. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 410-747-7986 or email nonniek@verizon.net. So far we have collected over 400 items. This is an ongoing project so please keep those items coming!

Thanks for your support,
Sharon Knecht, Chairman