



Dewey Lowman Unit #109, Inc
American Legion Auxiliary, Department of MD
1610 Sulphur Spring Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21227
May-June 2010 Auxiliary Newsletter



President's Message

This will be my last newsletter of the year as your President for 2009-2010. I personally want to thank all of my Officers and Committee members who served with me to make the year such a great success. Without the support of not only them but YOU our members who came forth and devoted your time there would not be a Dewey Lowman Unit 109 Auxiliary.

Also, this is the last correspondence that you will receive before the election of new officers for the upcoming year. We are always looking for members to get involved either by holding an Office or being a Committee Chairperson.

If you can give some of your time to our many activities throughout the year please consider volunteering.

Thanks to all of the members who have taken their time for the various committees to be successful. When you volunteer and fulfill your accomplishments it gives you self-satisfaction knowing that they were achieved.

I want to welcome all members that will be taking over the various responsibilities for the upcoming 2010-2011 year. I'm sure that they will be successful in all of their endeavors.

The American Legion Convention will be held this year from July 13-17th in Ocean City. All members are encouraged to attend.

We always meet on the second Tuesday every month except July and August. The last two meetings of the year will be held on May 11th and June 8th. The election of officers will be held at the June meeting. Please take the time and try to attend your Unit meetings.

For the last meeting of the year anyone who is willing to bring in their favorite dish is welcome to do so.

Lastly, it has been a pleasure to work with each and every one of you. Keep safe and have a great summer.

Jean McElroy, Unit President

Americanism

There were two schools that participated in this years Americanism Essay Contest. The theme was titled "What is my Patriotic Role as a U.S. Citizen". Our first place winners are Elizabeth Doda from Our Lady of Victory and Danny Nicholson from Ascension.

Congratulations

Jean McElroy, 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

Membership

Just another reminder to our members: Once again, we still have around 60 members that have not paid their 2009-2010 dues. Since the membership year will be coming to a close shortly, it would be helpful if you could send in your dues as soon as possible. This way, you would avoid having to pay for 2 years at a time. In the last issue of the Cyclops, I made mention of those members that are still outstanding. Please help your Auxiliary by sending in your check. *Remember* – a good portion of your \$18.00 goes toward helping our various programs such as Children & Youth, VA&R, etc.

Without your help we would not be able to assist these worthy causes. When you are thinking of vacation this summer, please set aside a mere \$18.00 for your dues.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 410-747-7018 or e-mail me at doris1712@comcast.net. Also, if you know of a member that has moved or is ill, please let us know. In advance, thanks for your prompt reply. If you have paid your dues a big, big, thank you!

Honorable mention for our longest-running members: Esther Smith–75 years; Pamela Smith–50 years (she came in as an infant); Faye Thompson–53 years; Mary Hohenberger–49 years; and Frances Romm-50 years. CONGRATULATIONS LADIES!

Doris Scheihing, Chairman

Hollywood Casino Bus Trip

In April the Unit sponsored a trip to Hollywood Casino at Penn National Raceway in Pennsylvania. The day trip was so popular we added a second bus. A good time was had by all with plenty of entertainment on the bus. Some came back a little richer and some came back a little poorer but we all had fun. We had many requests to do the trip again. A fall trip is being considered so come to the Auxiliary meetings and check your Cyclops for the details. A special thanks to all those who got involved and helped make our first casino trip a success. Hope everyone will come aboard on the next trip.

Jeanne Haney & Sharon Knecht

Pot of Gold

The Pot of Gold has reached \$500.00 which will be guaranteed to the winner in attendance. Remember you have to be present to be win. Unless you are in attendance and participate in the Pot of Gold you will not be a winner.

Scholarships

Dewey Lowman Auxiliary scholarship applications are due no later than May 1st. We give two \$1,000.00 scholarships to high school seniors that excel in their grade point average and participate in other activities throughout their high school years. The scholarship are sent directly to the students school that they will be attending.

VA and R

We continue to collect travel size toiletry items for the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who use the BWI USO. The items are needed by service people who are traveling and don't have access to their toiletries. For example we need travel size: shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hair spray, mouth wash, soap, combs, shaving cream, razors, disposable shower caps, hand and body lotion. You can find these items for a \$1 or less at CVS, Rite Aid, the Dollar Tree, or Dollar General. And don't forget to save the toilet articles in your hotel or motel room while on your summer vacation. You paid for them so it is okay to take them for our military. Ask your friends and family to please do the same. Post and Auxiliary members continue to generously fulfill those needs. So far we have collected over 1200 items. I will be making the second delivery to the USO in May. You may bring your items to the Auxiliary meeting or put them in the collection tub in the canteen - thanks to Canteen Chairman Bob Haney. A BIG THANKS to all those who gave items for our troops. They ALWAYS need to know we care. Sharon Knecht

May is Poppy Month

The Poppy Story

Long known as the corn poppy because it flourishes as a weed in grain fields, the Flanders poppy as it is now usually called, grew profusely in the trenches and craters of the war zone. In the World War I battlefields of Belgium, poppies grew wild amid the ravaged landscape. How could such a pretty little flower grow wild while surrounded by death and destruction? The overturned soils of battle enabled the poppy seeds to be covered, thus allowing them to grow and to forever serve as a reminder of the bloodshed during that and future wars. The poppy movement was inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields" written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae of the Canadian forces in 1915 before the United States entered World War I. No definite organized sale of poppies on a nationwide scale was conducted in America until 1921, when the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies for the benefit of children in the devastated areas of France and Belgium. Madam Guerin was recognized as the 'poppy lady from France' sought and received the cooperation of the VFW of the U.S. early in 1922.

The VFW was the first veteran organization to promote a nationally organized campaign for the annual distribution of poppies assembled by American disabled and needy veterans. In 1924, the VFW patented the name "Buddy Poppy" for their version of the artificial flower. Buddy Poppies proceeds represents no profit to any VFW unit. All the money contributed by the public is used in the cause of veteran's welfare, or for the well being of their needy dependents and the orphans of veterans.

Around the same year, the American Legion Auxiliary adopted the poppy as the organization's memorial flower and pledged its use to benefit our servicemen and their families. Today, the poppy continues to provide a financial and therapeutic benefit to those hospitalized and disabled veterans who construct them, as well as benefiting thousands of other veterans and their families.

Each nine-piece poppy is made by veterans for veterans in Auxiliary-sponsored Poppy Shops that supplement physical and psychological therapy needed by hospitalized and disabled veterans. The Auxiliary provides the materials and the volunteers. The veteran makes the poppy and is paid a small amount for each painstakingly made flower. [Article from www.cal-mim/poppy.htm.]

The Auxiliary Unit 109 will be selling poppies during the month of May in the Post Canteen and other venues.