

29 days in February reminds us that 2020 is leap year and our Unit is ready to leap into our activities. This month we will be very busy with our Girls State interviews. Many of the school counselors will be able to make their own selections but we still have a few that need us to do interviews. The interview process usually takes place first thing in the morning, so if you are available to help please let Geri Mulvihill know what days fit your schedule. Her contact is 832-620-6265.

ALA Mid-Winter Conference will be held at the Omni Southpark Hotel in Austin, Texas, on February 7-9, 2020. All Auxiliary members are eligible to attend. We have 3 members who are preregistered but anyone can register at the door. Overall this is a great learning experience because of the trainings that are offered but also you have an opportunity to meet other Auxiliary members from around the state and find out what other units are doing. Please think about joining us in Austin.

We will be combining 2 activities with the Post this month. On February 20th we will have our annual Chili Cook Off and we will have the Four Chaplains' Ceremony. This time we will be using several people to read parts of the ceremony so if you would like to participate please let our Chaplain, Karen Fisher, know. Her contact is 936-648-5425.

FYI: Red, White and Bike race will be on March 22, 2020. Once again our Unit will be responsible for the first rest stop. We have been doing this for several years and it has been a fun and worthwhile activity for us. Although we need to set up very early in the morning, we are usually finished by 3pm. There will be more about this in next month's article but for now mark your calendar for March 22nd.

We are still trying to get our Unit to 100% for membership. If you have not renewed yet, your membership is now past due. Please consider sending your dues (\$30 for Seniors and \$8.75 for Juniors) to me at 31322 Whispering Oaks Lane, Spring, TX 77386. Make your check payable to ALA Unit 305. You can also renew online at ALA for Veterans.org or you can pay by phone to ALA National Headquarters at 317-569-4570 using Visa or MasterCard.

Believe it or not that time of the year is coming when I need to know the number of hours that you have done community service or service to our Veterans. All of your time from April 1, 2019, to March 31, 2020, should be counted. I know this is still February, but I wanted to give everyone a heads up to start thinking about your total numbers. Also if you have made monetary or in kind donations this is also counted. And any miles you have driven doing Auxiliary work or service work is counted. I will need these numbers next month so you will receive another reminder then. For now, start putting those numbers together.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 20, 2020 at Sts. Simon and Jude Church. We will be having our Chili Cook Off so get those chili recipes out and we will have a great time. If you do not want to do chili we still need condiments and desserts so contact Rosalie Fryer at 936-520-8895 and let her know what you will bring.

Don't forget to fly your flag on February 17th for Presidents' Day.

God bless our veterans, our men and women in uniform, and God Bless the United States of America.

Kathy Carroll, President, ALA Unit 305

