



Soaring to New Heights

*2012-2013 Annual Report
for ALA Unit 1 in DC*



Community Service

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service**
 - Members brought our friends together to have 10 volunteers stuff 120 care kits for servicemembers.
 - Members joined Post 1 to prompt the Legion Family at a volunteer service fair.
- **Joining with a local women veterans homeless shelter, we mobilized 25 volunteers to join the Wreaths Across America clean-up efforts.**
- **Unit 1 tabled with Post 1 at two Hiring Our Heroes job fairs in DC for veterans and military spouses.**

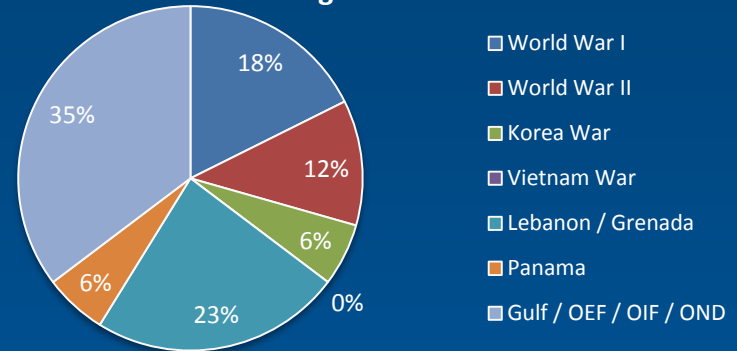




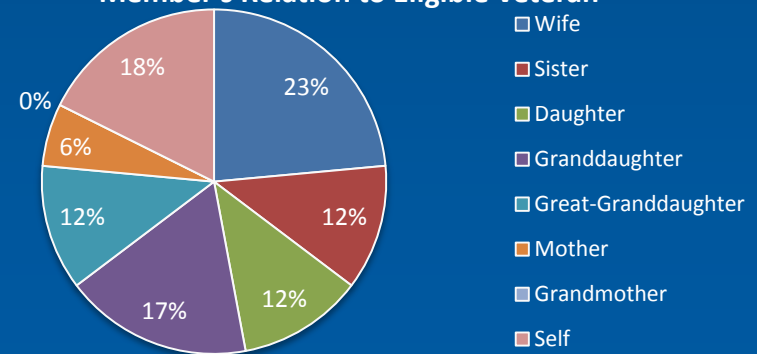
Membership

- **Unit 1 has 17 members!**
 - 13 are charter members.
 - 35% of our eligible veterans served in the Gulf War / War on Terrorism.
 - 23% of members are the wife of their eligible veteran.
- **Members average 2.82 years of membership.**
- **The average member is 40 years old.**

Conflict Period the Eligible Veteran Served In



Member's Relation to Eligible Veteran





National Security

- **Members of Unit 1 know and know of several servicemembers who are currently deployed. Unit 1 organized and collected items for a care package drive.**
 - We collected \$115 worth of various comfort and non-standard issued items!
 - This will create at least 4 care packages!



Public Relations

- We send out a monthly newsletter that includes Auxiliary, Legion and community members.
 - Our open rate is 42.9%.
- We created a Facebook page.
 - We have 27 likes.
- We created a website.
 - Will launch in the next week or so.
 - www.ALAAUnit1inDC.org

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
UNIT 1 IN WASHINGTON DC

ABOUT | PROGRAMS | MEDIA

UPCOMING EVENTS

DETERGENT REQUESTED: The Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center's Community Resource and referral Center (CRRC) provides excellent care and services to homeless and at-risk veterans. DC's CRRC is one of 17 across the country, and offers a primary care clinic, a kitchen, laundry and shower facilities, a food pantry and a play room for children, as well as a host of other community services.

We understand they can not keep Tide Pods in-stock. This is such a meaningful project; help us collect these detergent tabs to ensure veterans stay in clean clothes.

Your donation of Tide Pods or your monetary donations can be brought to our April meeting, mailed to the American Legion Auxiliary Washington DC Office (1608 K St NW, Washington DC 20006) or let us know by email if you need to make other arrangements. **A \$20 donation will provide Pods for 90 loads of laundry!** (We will use your monetary donations to buy them in bulk at Costco.)

LATEST NEWS...

Unit 1 joins with Final Salute and Ms. Veteran America to help clean up wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery. [More...](#)

Members and friends participate in National Day of Service events to support veterans and servicemembers. [More...](#)

Veteran Family Members Start DC Auxiliary Unit. [More...](#)

ABOUT

About Us / Mission
History
Leadership
Eligibility

PROGRAMMING & EVENTS

Programming
Events Calendar
Volunteer With Us
Collaborators

MEDIA

Press Releases
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CONTACT

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1
PO Box 66693
Washington, DC 20035
P: 202.643.2521
E: info@ALAAUnit1inDC.org

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Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

- **Veterans Holiday Gift Shop at the DC VA Medical Center**
 - Members joined with the ALA Department of DC, Boy Scouts and other ministries to provide the long-term care hospitalized veterans with presents for their loved ones. We specialized in wrapping the gifts.
- **Veteran Homelessness Prevention and Response**
 - We “adopted” DC’s CRRC to assist homeless and at-risk veterans. To start, we organized a collection of Tide Pods so veterans could wash their clothes. To date, we’ve raised enough for **450** loads of laundry!





Other Committees

- **Cavalcade of Memories**

- Where Are They Now? Research

- We have submitted three members (so far) for this all-call of members who have done something exciting, new or different outside of their membership.
 - Denyse Gordon was submitted as the first Ms Veteran America.
 - Barbara Riegsecker was submitted as the first female cadet to graduate from Mercer University's ROTC program.
 - Sharon Riegsecker was submitted for her service in the Auxiliary's first Call to Service Corps class (the Auxiliary's AmeriCorps Grant).

- **Past Presidents Parley**

- Active-Duty Servicewoman of the Year

- We are finalizing nomination(s) for this award honoring the service of women currently in the military.



Members also...

- Organized change to ensure cleanliness of a ward at a VA Medical Center.
- Lead a running group of veterans and current servicemembers.
- Assisted in judging a military child essay contest.
- Assisted veterans and current servicemembers in registering for higher education.
- Volunteered with and donated to American Women Veteran, a nonprofit that serves, honors and empowers women veterans and their families from all eras and branches of service.
- Volunteered with and donated to Final Salute, a nonprofit providing homeless women veterans with safe and suitable housing.



In Summary...

- **In service to veterans, we:**
 - Volunteered **162** hours.
 - Spent **\$1,380**.
 - Received **\$220** in donations.
 - Assisted **90** veterans.
- **In service to active-duty military, we:**
 - Volunteered **59** hours.
 - Spent **\$115**.
 - Assisted **1** servicemember.
- **In service to military families, we:**
 - Volunteered **20** hours.