

1st Vice President – Membership Bulletin

December 2018

Bertha (Bert) Lema

We're getting down to the end of our membership renewal year and are still waiting on quite a few from our local auxiliaries. I intended to start calling our local 1st Vice Presidents to see how renewals are going and offer whatever help or encouragement that I can from my end. However, I came down with a bit of the flu (yes; I had the shot) and have been more or less out of it since December 2nd. I thought that I was on the mend but now, unfortunately, have strep and can barely speak at all. While my husband is enjoying the peace and quiet, I'm not quite up to making those calls yet but once the voice is cooperating, I will.

Since my brain is not yet running on all synapses and because some of you may not receive or see our monthly newsletter, I am going to repeat a section from my December article here for those who missed it earlier this month (updated a bit due to additional forms received by Nancy):

I know that I am expecting another membership packet from Nancy in the next day or two, so the information noted below will probably be changing. However, I decided to provide you with the latest data that I have so that you are aware of our current membership status.

- *19 of 25 (76%) of are auxiliaries are 100% paid for their life membership donations. However, the other six auxiliaries have not submitted anything for their life members. That is 222 members or \$666 in funds that are desperately needed for our hospitalized veterans.*
- *Of 875 annual members with renewals due, 75%(!!) have not yet renewed. Or, they have, but their paperwork has not yet been submitted to Nancy for processing. Either way, until those renewals are received, we are unable to provide the necessary funds to our VAVS representative so that they can support our hospitalized veterans.*
- *While dues and donations from existing members are only trickling in, we have now gained 142 NEW members! Terrific work from those of you who are out there recruiting! Thank you!*

I know that many of you are waiting until the very last minute to renew or to complete the renewal paperwork for your local auxiliary but please remember that delays impact programs meant to support and provide morale boosting activities for our hospitalized veterans. It may be too late this year but please keep it in mind when you are working on renewals for 2020. The earlier that those dues are paid, the faster money gets to our VAVS to support their efforts. Incentivize early renewals to encourage members to pay early rather than delay to the end. I've shared some ideas on this topic in previous bulletins and will do the same in the upcoming months.

Continue the good works that you are doing for your veterans, military families, children and your communities. You all can be very proud of those projects and how those good deeds reflect on your local AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary. Thank you all so very much!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Joyful New Year from my family to yours!

Bert

You are always encouraged to contact me to share information and/or ask any membership-related questions. If you are holding a local membership project or event, let me know. Your ideas could benefit others! If you have a membership topic that you would like me to discuss, pass it along! I can be reached by email at lema81@wowway.com or by phone at 586.214.1019.