



Just a reminder that May 24<sup>th</sup> is National Poppy Day and our 95% Department Goal Date!

This is an advance reminder so you can get your poppy flowers and poppy pins, as well as your membership applications ready! When people ask why you are wearing the poppy pin, or passing out the poppy flower, be ready to tell them all about the American Legion Family and share an application with them.

**In our Divisional Sled Dog Race:**

The places are the same –

In first Place is the Western Division with 96.32%

In second place is the Southern Division mushers with 95.03%

Third Place is the Eastern Division mushers with 93.83%

Fourth Place is the Central Division with 88.88%

Fifth Place and still running hard is the Northwestern Division with 81.72%

**In the Department Race:**

Department of Florida with 109.93%

Dept of Arizona with 105.22%

Dept of Alaska with 104.95%

Dept of New Mexico with 104.25%

Dept of Michigan 102.22%

Dept of Maryland 99.52%

Dept of Delaware 99.25%

Dept New Hampshire with 99.14%

Dept of Pennsylvania with 96.63%

Dept of California with 95.43%

I am hoping some of these departments make the leap to 100% by next week.

The number of **departments with more membership than they were this time last year** keeps dropping.

This week there are only eight departments that have more than last year. This shows in our total membership dropping from this time last year.

Do not hold your membership, let's go!

Congratulations and keep up the great work to those departments:  
Florida, Michigan, Arizona, New Hampshire, Alaska, Hawaii, Colorado, and Utah!

I was watching a video on how to get new members to an organization. Their number one suggestion was challenging all members to invite one person to a meeting as a prospective new member. Let's all try that. I challenge you! Their number two suggestion is to increase brand awareness. I think the American Legion Auxiliary does a good job with this, but let's do better! Wear your logo, and share, share, share on social media.

**F** - Form a strong bond with all your family.  
**A** - Always remember they may be in a different place.  
**M** - Make times together fun and memorable.  
**I** - Ignore petty differences.  
**L** - Love them while you can - life can be short.  
**Y** - You can be the glue that keeps them together.  
(Dan Mount)

Have a great week!

Karen Toll

American Legion Auxiliary National Membership Chair 2023 - 2024

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