

PRESIDENT'S GUIDE 2009-2010

Congratulations!!! You have been chosen to represent your Unit or your District. Your peers have faith in you that you are a leader and a caring person. Please do not disappoint them.

Your duties are explained in the Unit handbook. The duties are very simple right? Not true, if you take a good look. It is more than presiding over the meetings, appointing members to committees, and being the person up front.

You represent the American Legion Auxiliary to your community. What you do will be the image the people around you will believe of the organization. What you do determines the "success or failure" of your Unit or District. This is the greatest military organization in the United States. Please help to maintain the reputation.

As President you will take no side in any discussion, everyone wishing to speak will be acknowledged. Those who have not spoken will be given the chance to speak before someone has a second turn. You as President also have no opinion of the matter. You will have no bias when giving the information to your Unit or District.

It is your responsibility to see that your meeting runs smoothly and in a timely fashion. A meeting should not run so long that people are no longer paying attention to the discussion and any other important business brought before the floor.

Another of your duties as President is to see that your Unit or District runs as smoothly and efficiently as possible. If there is a problem between members, find out why and do your best to resolve the difference. You are their leader and they have the faith that you are able to handle the arising problems. If you do not have an answer for them, you do have others that will help you. If this is the Unit level, you have your District people to help. If the problem arises on the District level, try to resolve it there first. You and only you should be calling Department to help with any problems that need attention. The office staff has their own duties to deal with. They do not need several people calling to complain about a problem.

Each Unit and District has By-laws or Standing Rules. Be sure you know what is written in them. Most of your answers will be found somewhere in one or the other of these documents. If it is not, then go one step up to solve the problem. Then make a change according to our By-laws or Standing Rules if necessary to avoid the problem repeating.

I'm sure each of you will do a wonderful year as President. Remember to celebrate everyday as a Holiday for our Veterans!

Judy Lynch
Department President

