

**Dwight Lamson American Legion Auxiliary Unit # 258
Little River, Kansas 67457**

The Little River American Legion and Auxiliary sponsored the 7th District Oratorical Contest, which was held at the Little River High School. Zach Galyon, Senior at Little River High School won the 7th District Oratorical Contest and went on to compete in the State Oratorical Contest held in Manhattan, Kansas on March 14, 2015. At the State level he was awarded \$1,500.00 and his school received \$500.00. Members of the Little River American Legion and Auxiliary attended this event.

The Auxiliary hosted the American Legion Birthday in March with a covered dish meal. Zach Galyon was present to give his winning Oratorical speech. Three of his family members were also present.

The Auxiliary sponsored one girl, Ruth Lehman, to attend Girls State. Ruth gave her Girl States report at the November meeting.

Auxiliary members helped the Little River Learning Center children make May Baskets, which the children took around town to local businesses. Auxiliary members helped the Little River Learning Center children assemble May Baskets, make Halloween decorations at the Legion building and decorate the windows, and helped the children decorate Gingerbread Houses at the Legion building and displayed them there.

Several of our Auxiliary members read weekly to the small children who attend Story Hour at our local library. Four members participate in various positions at the Little River Library. Two Auxiliary members volunteer weekly on Thursday to work at the Young Historical Library.

An Auxiliary member donated coloring books and crayons to the Little River Learning Center. They were greatly appreciated.

Auxiliary members go to the local rest home and help the residents play Bingo twice a month.

The Mayor of the City of Little River signed the Poppy Day Proclamation stating that Saturday, May 23rd would be Poppy Day in Little River. The Auxiliary distributed 250 poppies on Poppy Day. Poppies are also used on 275 small white crosses which are placed by each Veteran's grave at two cemeteries on Memorial weekend. A Poppy arrangement was placed on the Unknown Soldier's Grave. Two floral arrangements, with Poppies in them, were placed at the Memorial Wall, which has all the deceased Veterans names on it at the Little River Cemetery. One Poppy arrangement is on display in the front window at the local Legion building.

The Auxiliary, Junior Auxiliary members, and 4-H Club members placed small American Flags and the small white crosses on the 275 Veteran's graves located at the two cemeteries for Memorial Day weekend.

The Legion and Auxiliary helped with the Memorial Day ceremonies at both the Windom cemetery and the Little River cemetery. Following this the Legion/Auxiliary served dinner at the Legion building, as there was no place else in town for the huge crowd to eat at.

Auxiliary members provided food for three funeral dinners and helped serve the meal at two.

Spa services are provided once a month at the Little River Senior Center by several Auxiliary Members.

For fundraisers the American Legion and Auxiliary sold fireworks on July 1st through July 4th and they also had a Tailgate Party at the Little River Homecoming Football Game.

Children from both the Windom Elementary School and the Little River Learning Center paraded down Little River Main Street for Halloween. The Auxiliary provided candy for 200 plus children.

A lady from the Little River community donated 18 homemade crocheted stocking caps to the Auxiliary. These caps were donated to the Bob Dole VA Memorial Regional Center. The donated value of these caps is \$270.00. An Auxiliary member donated 3 huge sacks full of skeins of yarn to this lady to be used to make more caps.

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At least 25 boxes of material were donated by an Auxiliary member to another member who will make lap robes that will be donated to the Bob Dole VA Center. Part of this material donation will be donated to a local church that makes homemade quilts. The church will then send the quilts to the Lutheran World Relief. The Auxiliary member is also sharing the material with the Lyons High School program called "The PAWS PRIDE Program". This stands for Providing Rice County Individual Development Experience. In this program the students learn how to sew hot pads, make homemade dog treats, lap robes and etc. The Auxiliary member has volunteered 271 hours and traveled 610 miles to help with this program.

Eight Kansas Legislators were contacted either by mail, email or in person.

The Auxiliary sent 4 sympathy cards, 6 get well cards and 3 thank you cards.

On Veteran's Day, November 11, 2015 Auxiliary members honored Veterans at the local Sandstone Heights Nursing Home. Four veterans were presented with lap robes and then served ice cream and cake.

December 12th, 2015 the American Legion/Auxiliary hosted a soup/dessert luncheon during the "Ole Home Town Christmas" day. For the Christmas drawings the Auxiliary donated 2 gift certificates of \$25.00 each to be used at the local grocery store, Garden of Eden and also an American flag as a prize. Auxiliary members donated some craft projects and yarn, valued at \$25.00, to the local Sandstone Heights Nursing Home.

A \$100.00 donation was made to a Little River teacher whose class project was sponsoring a food, stocking cap, mitten drive for needy families in the Little River/Window area. This was delivered in time for Christmas.

A young lady from Little River was seriously injured in a vehicle wreck. The Auxiliary paid her utility bill for one month. The Auxiliary made a monetary donation to a young man from Little River who lost all of his possessions in a home fire.

The American flag has been flown by Auxiliary members for a total of 48,320 hours during the March 1st, 2015 to March 1st, 2016 year. To honor our past and present Veterans the Auxiliary purchased green light bulbs and donated the bulbs to local businesses, Auxiliary members and their families. A total amount of 17,280 hours from Veterans Day, November 11, 2015 till March 1st, 2016 the green bulbs have been lit.

The hours from March 1st 2015 to March 1st 2016 are: Community service 1,577.25 hours; Legion/Auxiliary Projects 288 hours; Auxiliary Projects 306 hours; Legion/Auxiliary Conventions 32 hours; Youth 1,262.25 hours; Veterans Services 525.5 hours; Library 282.75 hours; Recycling 55.5 hours; and Senior Citizens Center 565.25 hours. Two junior members volunteered for Legion/Auxiliary projects 10 hours. The total mileage was 41,146. The total donations for the project material value are \$7,508.96 and total monetary gifts \$4,270.03. Total hours of service 4,904.5

* #1 is Veterans - Affairs + Rehabilitation - #1 priority

Americanism	Girls State
Children & Youth	Scholarships
Community Service	Junior Activities
Library	Legislative
Oratorical	Cadet Law
Poppies	Eisenhower Pilgrimage
Public Relations	