



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Department of North Carolina



ALA DEPARTMENT BEST PRACTICES

Featured Unit: Division III, District 13 Shelby Unit 82

District President: Linda Quinlan jlquinlan@att.net

Shelby Unit 82 Best Practices

JULY 1, 2020: “Super Saturday” Membership Drive

The Legion 82 Family (Auxiliary, Post, and SAL) had officers available for several hours at the Post home to sign up new members and accept dues for members renewing. We renewed over 30 Senior and Junior members on that one afternoon! Our Unit 82 Vice President/ Membership Chairman helped, and our Unit President assembled goodie bags to give each member stopping by. Refreshments were served, Tables at the Post home were spread out so social distancing could be observed, everyone was required to wear a face mask, and hand sanitizer was readily available.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2020: “Patriots Day/9-11 Remembrance Ceremony”

Auxiliary Unit 82 again coordinated along with the Post and SAL to conduct an outdoor ceremony to remember the victims of September 11, 2001. Several local first responders from the community were present and helped with readings. Our Unit President placed a wreath along with the Post Commander.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020: “Post/Unit 82 Drive-By Meal Distribution”

Auxiliary members helped assemble five dozen dinners in takeout containers for Post 82 veterans. The Post did not have an in-person meeting during September due to COVID indoor meeting restrictions, but the Post Executive Board wanted to do something to foster goodwill and let Legionnaires know they were thought about. Auxiliary members provided homemade desserts for the takeout meals and helped distribute meals to veterans at the outdoor "drive-through" set up on the Post grounds.

NOVEMBER 11, 2020: “Veterans’ Day”

Our Auxiliary President, Rebecca Higgins, was asked to place a wreath at a community ceremony honoring veterans. Chairs were set up in the City Park gymnasium six feet apart.

DECEMBER 19, 2020: “Wreaths Across America”

This was the first time our unit participated in this nationwide event. Spearheaded by our Unit President Rebecca, unit members sold nearly 200 wreaths and placed them on veterans graves at two local cemeteries. Plans originally called for local dignitaries to speak, and the public invited, but again - due to COVID - plans were modified to keep the event to a minimum number of participants and omit the official part of the program.

As you can see, we found or made opportunities to hold a lot of OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES!

NOTE: All of the events adhered to social distancing guidelines and mask mandates!