



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Ohio

2009-2010
EDUCATION
PLAN OF ACTION

Department of Ohio Education Chairman

CHAIRMAN : Mona Shipley
632 South Elizabeth Street
Lima, Ohio 45803
(567) 712-7924 (home)
Email – shipley813@yahoo.com

REPORT DUE : May 1, 2010

SEND REPORT TO : Mona Shipley
632 South Elizabeth Street
Lima, Ohio 45803



Communication Is Key
Martha Lee Thatcher
2009-2010 Department President

EDUCATION

2009-2010

Congratulations and special thanks to the Unit members who have agreed to be your Education Chairmen for the 2009-2010 Auxiliary year. Our Department President Martha Lee Thatcher's theme "Communication is Key" fits into our educational plan of action very well. The communication tools that we give today's youth will have an impact on all they do in the future. Take the time to read to our youth, join a library group, or volunteer at your local elementary school by offering to read to a classroom.

Mission Statement: To promote quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion, and support of education beyond high school.

As Auxiliary members we believe that a solid educational foundation is the cornerstone of American freedom. Our Auxiliary's Educational programs should promote quality education for every child and support students in their desire to continue their education beyond high school. We should work actively with educators and local schools to develop and maintain an educational system that serves the needs of all children at every level.

1. **OBJECTIVE** – Promote oral and written communication skills by increasing literacy and mentoring opportunities.

Action Steps:

- a. Promote "Give 10 to Education" with Unit contributions of supplies to classrooms.
 - b. Offer Department incentives and awards to the Units that contribute the most per capita.
 - c. Implement an Auxiliary Teacher of the Year Award.
 - d. Suggest Units conduct a social event and invite parents/teachers/school staff. Ask school superintendant to attend and talk about the need for community help.
2. **OBJECTIVE** – Emphasize the National Constitutional Speech Contest.
Action Steps:
 - a. Encourage Units to assist with the Legion program by volunteering to help and becoming involved with their local schools.
 3. **OBJECTIVE** – Encourage greater participation and donations to the National Endowment Fund, "Educating Children of Warriors".
Action Steps:
 - a. Encourage Units to donate \$25 to the Endowment Fund.
 - b. Suggest memorial contributions be made "In memory of...".
 - c. When choosing a "Teacher of the Year", suggest the Unit make a contribution to the Endowment Fund in that teacher's name.

4. **OBJECTIVE** – Promote Support of the “Non-Traditional Student” Scholarships.
Action Steps
 - a. Encourage Units to nominate at least 1 (one) member for this Scholarship.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

1. National President's Scholarship “Educating Children of Warriors” - The National President's scholarships are awarded to children of veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for The American Legion. One \$2,500 scholarship, one \$2,000 scholarship, and one \$1,500 in scholarship money will be awarded in each division. Fifteen outstanding students will be awarded a total of \$30,000 to further their higher education. The applicant must complete 50 hours of community service during his/her high school years to be eligible for one of these scholarships.
2. The Non-Traditional Student - There will be five scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,000 awarded in the each administrative year. One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in each division of the American Legion Auxiliary. Applicant must be a member of The American Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion and shall have paid dues for the two preceding years and for the calendar year in which application is made.
3. Spirit of Youth - One Junior member in each division will receive a scholarship valued at \$1,000 per year for four years (total \$4,000). The applicant must have held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the immediate past three years, currently hold a membership card, and continue to maintain her membership throughout the four-year scholarship period.

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Department President's Scholarship – The American Legion Auxiliary of Ohio awards one scholarship of \$1,500 and one scholarship of \$1,000 annually for a student preparing to enter his or her freshman year of college. The applicant must be a veteran or a direct descendent of an honorably discharged veteran.
2. Continuing Education Grant – The Department of Ohio has established a fund to help meet the needs of upperclassmen. Fifteen \$200 grants are distributed on the basis of need and as the applications a received throughout the year until the funds are depleted.
3. Past President's Parley – Nurse's Scholarship – The American Legion Department of Ohio, Past Presidents Parley has created this program to assist student pursuing a degree in the nursing field. The applicant must be a veteran or a direct descendent of an honorably discharged veteran.

ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

1. The SAMSUNG Scholarship is available to direct descendants of U.S. wartime veterans who are also participants in the Girls State program.
2. The Girl Scout Achievement Award Scholarship is offered through the Americanism program and available to Girl Scouts who have achieved their Gold Award, participates in her religious institution, and must have received the appropriate religious emblem, Cadet or Senior Scout level.
3. The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year Awards are available to Boy Scouts who have achieved their Eagle Scout Award. The National winner receives a \$10,000 scholarship and the three runners-up each are awarded \$2,500 scholarships.
4. National Constitutional Speech Scholarships are available to finalists in the American Legion National Constitutional Speech Contest. Awards range from \$18,000 first place to \$1,500 for participating in the first round of the National contest.
5. American Legion Baseball Scholarships are available to participants in the baseball program.
6. The American Legion Legacy Scholarship is available to children of active duty U.S. military, Guard, and Reserve personnel who were federalized and died on active duty on or after September 11, 2001.

EDUCATION AWARDS

DEPARTMENT

AGNES MERRITT PLAQUE – This plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman with the Most Outstanding Overall Education Program. Award entry must be double-spaced in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page must have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name and number, and name and address of the Unit Chairman. A copy of the Unit's annual report form must accompany the narrative. Do not include pictures, clippings, etc. Entry must be submitted by May 1, 2010 to Department Chairman, Mona Shipley, 632 S Elizabeth St., Lima, OH 45804.

BETTY ROBASKIEWICZ PLAQUE – This plaque will be presented to the Unit contributing the largest monetary donation to the Department of Ohio Education Fund. Donations are to be sent to the American Legion Auxiliary, Department Headquarters, P.O. Box 2760, Zanesville, Ohio 43702-2760, earmarked Education Fund.

NATIONAL

MOST OUTSTANDING AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK PROGRAM – A citation plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman for the most outstanding American Education Week program. Award entry must be double-spaced in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page must have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name, and name and address of the Unit Chairman. A copy of the Unit's report form must accompany narrative. Do not include any pictures, clippings, etc. Entry must be submitted by May 1, 2010 to Department Chairman, Mona Shipley, 632 S. Elizabeth St., Lima, OH 45804.

MOST OUTSTANDING LITERACY PROGRAM – A citation plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman for the most outstanding literacy program. Award entry must be double-spaced in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page must have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name, and name and address of the Unit Chairman. A copy of the Unit's report form must accompany the narrative. Do not include pictures, clippings, etc. Entry must be submitted by May 1, 2010 to Department Chairman, Mona Shipley, 632 S Elizabeth St., Lima, OH 45804.

MOST OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – A citation plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman for the most outstanding scholarship program. Award entry must be double-spaced in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page must have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name, and name and address of the Unit Chairman. A copy of the Unit's report form must accompany the narrative. Do not include pictures, clippings, etc. Entry must be submitted by May 1, 2010 to Department Chairman, Mona Shipley, 632 S Elizabeth St., Lima, OH 45804.

MOST OUTSTANDING VETERANS IN THE CLASSROOM PROGRAM – A citation plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman for the most outstanding Veterans in the Classroom Program. Award entry must be double-spaced in narrative form and must not exceed 1,000 words. The cover page must have the name of the award entry, Department name, Unit name, and name and address of the Unit Chairman. A copy of the Unit's report form must accompany the narrative. Do not include pictures, clippings, etc. Entry must be submitted by May 1, 2010 to Department Chairman, Mona Shipley, 632 S Elizabeth St., Lima, OH 45804.

GIVE 10 TO EDUCATION – A citation will be awarded to every Unit participating in the "Give 10 to Education" program. The citation form is available on the website at www.legion-aux.org. Citations may be printed by the Unit. A new report has been placed on the website for each Unit to report the items, hours or donations made via the Give 10 program. A detailed report of how your Unit has met this objective must be submitted to Education Program Coordinator at 8645 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46260 and to your Department Chairman at 632 S Elizabeth St., Lima, OH 45804

EDUCATION RESOURCES

- All National Auxiliary Scholarship applications are available at www.legion-aux.org.
- Samsung Scholarship applications are available at www.legion.org.

For the following items, contact National Emblem Sales, P.O. Box 1050, Indianapolis, IN. 46206; phone 1-888-453-4466; fax 317-630-1381 or visit Web site, www.legion.org. Payment options; check, Visa, MasterCard, or Discover

- *Need a Lift?* College scholarship and financial aid listing Stock #75207, \$3.00 each or \$250.00 per 100.
- *Guide for Parents and Students* brochure assisting parents and students with hints for planning higher education. Stock #75209, \$13.96 per 500; \$23.00 per 1000.
- *America's Veterans Video & Instructor's Guide* A 23-minute video and instructor's guide that describes who veterans are and why they should be honored. Stock #23000.
- *Our Country's Veterans Comic Book* Stock #72554, \$59.95 per 100.
- *Light of Liberty Comic Book* Stock 72551, \$59.95 per 100.
- *For Which It Stands Flag Education DVD* Stock #24000 \$7.95 each.
- *"I Pledge Allegiance Comic Book"* Stock #72552, \$59.95 per 100.
- *Our Country's Flag Comic Book"* Stock #72550, \$59.95 per 100.

The following resources are available at no cost by contacting the Americanism and Children & Youth Commission of the American Legion; P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN. 46206 or call 317-630-1200.

- *Adult Literacy* Suggestions for Post and Unit involvement. Lists resources for national literacy groups. Stock #23-009
- *American Education Week* suggestions for the American Legion Family participation in American Education Week (revised annually) Stock #23-006
- *Eight and Forty Nursing Scholarship Fund* fact sheet how qualified applicants can receive scholarships. Stock #24-001
- *PACT in Education Handbook* suggestions for conducting a well-rounded education program for the American Legion Family involvement. Stock #23-002
- *Policy on Education* The American Legion position on the status of education in America. Stock #23-005
- *Veterans in the Classroom* a listing of resource materials available for use in the classroom. Stock #23-016

Encourage your members to order some of the many available resource materials for distribution. Let them know about the many areas that can be reported on our Education Annual report and encourage them to share with your unit the way they intend to promote our education program. Inform them of the many awards your unit can receive on both the Department and National levels.

Best of luck and let's start get started and remember "Communication is Key" on every level, Unit, Department and National. Feel free to call or email me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Do not be overwhelmed! One person cannot do it all, but working together as a unit and American Legion Family, you can succeed with a great Education Program.