



## **ELECTRONIC BULK MAILING FOR**

To: Unit Presidents  
Department Executive Committee  
District Chairmen

Department Chairmen/Committee  
Past Department Presidents  
Hospital Representatives & Deputies

- ✓ AEF
- ✓ Chaplain
- ✓ C & B
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Poppy Program
- ✓ Centennial Countdown

- ✓ National Poppy Day
- ✓ Auxiliary Bonus Drive Benefit
- ✓ ALAMIS Information
- ✓ Save the Date for Mission Training and National Jr. Meeting.

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### **Special Information:**

**We are still accepting art pieces for the Art for the Troops Art Show that will be held during Department Convention. Artists do not have to be present. Items can be sent or brought by other Unit members. Please consider donating an item for this very worthy cause.**

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### **Membership**

- Online Dues in 2019: Members that renew their membership online will still get an electronic card that can be printed and handed to the Unit Membership Chairman. New this Year, National will also send a printed card to the Member so they don't have to wait on the Unit to verify.

Many Units were not recognizing member's that paid online and in order to rectify the problem National will now send the member a card. The Unit is welcome to still provide the member with a second copy of the printed card.

- National HQs has heard from many members who were upset that they paid their dues to the Unit but either didn't receive their card or received it but it was several months later. This is primarily due to the fact that Units and Unit Membership Chairman are holding dues and not sending them in when the member pays. Members having these types of issues are encouraged to pay ONLINE, therefore funds are transferred immediately and a card is sent to the member immediately.

# **AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND**

Tornado season is upon us. In 2017, there were 1,418 tornadoes in the United States that caused over \$5 billion in damages and 35 fatalities. The two largest were an EF4 that touched down in Perryville, Mo. on 2/18/17 and Eustace-Canton, Texas on 4/29/17. Tornadoes average from a few seconds to an hour but most last less than 10 minutes.

In Southern states, tornado season is typically from March to May. In the Southern Plains, it lasts from May to early June. On the Gulf Coast, tornadoes occur most often during the spring, and in the Northern Plains, Northern states, and upper Midwest, peak season is in June or July.

American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) members who are affected by these and other natural disasters are eligible to apply for temporary assistance through the AEF. The following are some general guidelines that the AEF is designed to help:

- Members are left without shelter or food following a natural disaster or weather emergency.
- Members are dealing with a financial crisis that leaves them without resources for shelter, food, or utilities and no other source of aid is readily available to them
- In extreme circumstances, if a member lacks the necessary skills for employment and needs educational training.
- AEF funds cannot be used to pay debts (such as credit card debts) or medical expenses.

We pray that our Auxiliary sisters remain safe from natural disasters but will find comfort in knowing there may be funds available to them should they be affected by Mother Nature.

Remember to keep the AEF Program in mind should you know a member needing help. Units and individuals are encouraged to donate. Every dollar sent grows the contribution total and, thus, funds are available to a member that has met with a crisis.

Thank you for all you do to support the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

Carole Sowards, AEF Chairman

# Chaplain

As we wind up our Auxiliary year and start planning for the next it is important to pray each day. Let us pray for our American Legion Auxiliary leaders and all officers. Pray for guidance in the activities your unit plans.

We ask God to help membership grow and give us each guidance to be an ambassador of good will. Guide each of us to spread the word about our great programs and the wonderful ways our American Legion Auxiliary help our communities, our children, our veterans and our active duty military.

Let us remember to pray for our Country and for each of our elected officials. We ask God to help the right people to run for offices and to be appointed. It can be so easy to complain so give us patience. If we can make things better than guide us to be the person that makes that difference.

Prayer warriors let each us pray for all the doctors and nurses that treat our veterans and active duty military.

We can't forget our obligation to be there for our patriotic services. Help make every event special.

There is still time to send in prayers for President Shirley's prayer book.

Please send them as soon as possible.

Thanks!

Life is a Gift; let each of us handle it with prayer..

## **CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS**

Thanks to all Units who have submitted reports for the year. You help make my job easier, and I thank you. I know the units are working hard to update their bylaws, by the emails and mailings I have received. Keep up the good work.

### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT !**

Due to proposed amendments received for Departments Constitution & Bylaws (C&Bs), no approvals will be given until after Department Convention. All Unit bylaws presently on hand, will be reviewed to include updates, after Department Convention. The Department C&B Chairman will provide an updated guide for the Units to use, at that time.

Thank you for your patience.

For God and Country;

Patricia Taylor  
Dept. C&B Chairman

# Education

## Deb Meyer, Chairman

### May 2018

The school year is winding down and even though there is six weeks of school left most children are looking forward to summer vacation. Keeping our students focus becomes more difficult. The children still need to be reading to someone and someone needs to be reading with them. They still need tutoring so if those are programs your unit has started, you need to finish them to the end.

Many school PTA/PTO hold fundraising activities or festivals in the spring and summer of the year to help buy supplies and needed equipment for the next school year. Check with your local school organizations and see what they are doing and if there is anything your unit could do to help. Remember if you are out working in the community to wear your auxiliary apparel to help with public relations.

If your Unit has not worked to develop the Education Program “Veterans in the Community Schools,” it is not too early to get started for next year. This program would be a good one to work on now and then have in place for Veterans Day next fall. The guidelines are on the National website.

Students (and teachers) are looking forward to summer vacation and leaving the books to collect dust. Studies show that a child loses two month of reading skills over the summer if there is no intervention. This is especially true for children whose families fall in a lower income group. Studies show that reading four or five books over the summer will compare to the learning during the school year. If you have small children, reading with them fifteen to twenty minutes or a chapter a day will keep their reading skills intact. Make it part of their daily routine and have them read in the morning before distractions find a way into their day. Do not have school age children? This would be a good time for unit members to go to your public libraries and volunteer with the summer reading programs.

2017 - 2018  
For a Successful Poppy Program  
Round 7



Many thanks to those Units that sent year-end reports and/or narratives!

Although it would have been nice to receive a larger percentage of our 400 Ohio Units reporting, it was delightful to read all the wonderful ideas they came up with to increase their Unit Poppy revenue.

Some of the new ideas were gift bag bingo, Church 'penny patrol', Christmas Poppy ornaments, cross-stitched framed Poppies, car magnets, cans passed at City Council meeting, Chinese auction at market place, restaurant sales percentages and jewelry commissions.

A winner has been selected for the Unit Poppy Award - *'Most Outstanding Overall Poppy Program'* - and has been sent on to our Central Division Poppy Chairman for National consideration.

Also, five (5) of the nine (9) Poppy Poster entries have been sent on for further consideration. Here's hoping that Ohio will have winners.

For those taking on the Chairmanship of Poppies in your Unit for 2019, start now to keep monthly records of your Poppy endeavors, making it easy to write that narrative come next March/April.

My sincere best wishes for all to have rewarding Poppy distribution days with collecting much revenue to care for our Veterans and their families.

It has been my pleasure to serve you this year and *thank you* all for your courtesies!

*Together we have had 'a successful Poppy program'!*

*Gail Roddy*  
Department Poppy Chairman  
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## CENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

We all know that The American Legion is celebrating their centennial in 2019. Hopefully, you are joining in their celebration since we wouldn't be here without them. But don't forget that the American Legion Auxiliary will be 100 years old in 2020.



Don't forget to make plans for your own celebration. Start making plans early. You may decide you need to do some fundraising before-hand and you don't want to wait till the last minute.

### Unit History

Kingston Unit 291, Kingston, OH, in District 7 was chartered March 20, 1944. The charter officers were: Bernice Miller, President; Irene Priest, Secretary; Goldie Dresbach, Treasurer; Bess Immell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice; Thelma Routt, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice. They had 23 charter members. The current goal is 12. Irene Priest has the longest continuous years with a total of 74. The Unit hasn't started working on their celebration plans just yet. The District President was invited to come to the Unit meeting to advise ways to recruit and retain members. Their favorite activity is making their contributions to the local VA hospital.

Beallsville, OH, is the home of Beallsville Unit 768 in District 11. They received their charter in 1972. The charter officers were: Judy Frank, President and Lola Tremblay, Secretary. Charter members were 25 and the current goal is 112. The Unit is proud to have three (3) continuous 1972 charter members: Lyda Long, Donna Parr, and Eleanor Williamson. Their ALA Centennial celebration is still in the planning stage. They are recruiting and retaining members after they added an ALA Facebook page to keep their

members and the community aware of their activities. Their favorite service activities are Memorial Day and Veterans' Day Services, Buckeye Girl State and Christmas for Kids.

Matthew-Carter Unit 325, Manchester, OH, in District 7 was chartered in 1931. The charter officers were Alberta Henderson, President; Margret Fleming, Secretary; Mary Lockhart, Treasurer. The Unit had 105 members and has grown to a current membership goal of 114. Member Betty Jane Powenall has the Unit record for the longest continuous membership of 71 years. They plan to have a big celebration for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary but aren't giving away any hints yet. To recruit and retain members they have sent out notices of dues, make phone calls for late dues and generally, just talk to members. The Unit's favorite service activities are visiting the nursing homes and the community dinners.

Gwyn Allen Unit 735 of Piney Fork, OH, in District 10 was chartered on 12 December 1959. The charter officers were Irene Stratton, President; Julia Rensi, Secretary; Flora Stratton, Treasurer. The Unit was chartered with 13 members and has a current goal of 24. Irene Stratton and Barbara Phillippi have the longest continuous membership. They recruit and retain members by asking their American Legion Post for names. They recently got two new members this way. Their favorite service activity is their Memorial Day Program. The Unit states "We are a small unit but our Legion and Auxiliary have worked together beautifully through the years supporting the community and our veterans."

***Susan Masten***

***Department of Ohio 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President***

***Public Relations Chairman***

***[gclef419@yahoo.com](mailto:gclef419@yahoo.com)***





## THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NATIONAL POPPY DAY®

### ***How can ALA departments and units support National Poppy Day®?***

Honor the fallen. Support the living. National Poppy Day is the Friday before Memorial Day – May 25 this year! Remember: Poppies are not sold by volunteers — they are “distributed.” The person acquiring the poppy is invited to make a donation at his or her discretion, but we should be suggesting at least a dollar per poppy. The average donation per poppy is about 15 cents. Clearly, there is room for an increase in poppy donations.

1. Ask members to distribute poppies in their communities on Friday, May 25, 2018, or anytime Memorial Day weekend. This doesn't mean you can't distribute poppies at other times through the year (please check with your department for more guidelines), but it *does* mean your neighbors might be more inclined to donate, which will help us help more veterans, servicemembers, and their families.
2. Identify a specific purpose for which you are collecting your poppy money. For example, your goal is \$3,500 because you want to provide a needy military family in your area with a used car so they can get to work. Make sure your project falls within the allowable uses for Poppy Funds; check the *ALA Poppy Program Guide* available at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org) if you are not sure. Contact local schools to translate your donation request into other languages commonly used in your area.
3. Make arrangements to set up a card table in a busy area. If distributing in front of a business, please make sure you have permission or permits to do so.
4. When you are distributing poppies, have fun; be joyful. Don't forget to wear your ALA-branded apparel. Remember that you are representing The American Legion Family when you are out in public.
5. Get creative! You can bake spritz cookies ([www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Poppy-Cookie-Recipe](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Poppy-Cookie-Recipe)) or make felt poppies ([www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Poppy](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Poppy)). You don't have to limit yourself to traditional crepe paper poppies.
6. Most departments have already disbursed their supply of finished poppies, but remember that National Poppy Day isn't a one-time event. Plan now for next year. Don't wait until the last minute to find poppies. Supplies are always limited.
7. Work with your unit's Public Relations chairman to approach local officials and media personalities to ask them to wear a poppy. Express to them the significance of the poppy and see if they would consider making a proclamation or endorsement about the poppy and National Poppy Day. Here is what you can say in a note with the enclosed poppy:

*Enclosed you will find a memorial poppy made by a veteran. The American Legion Family distributes these symbolic flowers to honor our veterans, raise awareness of the needs and sacrifices of our military families, and raise money to help those families.*

*As a (fill in their role here), it would be such a powerful statement if you would wear the enclosed poppy this month to honor all those who have given so much for our freedom. The awareness you could bring to the memorial poppy will help all of us provide more services to our veterans.*

8. In the weeks leading up to National Poppy Day, ask local dentists, doctors, and hair stylists you know if they would be willing to display poppies. If they are willing, provide them with a bouquet of poppies and sealed poppy donation can from American Legion Emblem Sales. Be sure to put your name and phone number on the bottom of the can, and pick it up at the scheduled time.
9. Have support materials to share, including poppy bookmarks and poppy cans for collection of donations.
10. Be aware of where the other units in your area will be distributing poppies, and what days, to see what areas are being missed.
11. Invite local servicemembers (active duty, reservist, or National Guardsmen) to help in your distribution, and ask if they will wear their duty uniform.
12. Partner with local JROTC/ROTC programs and military schools to help distribute poppies. These students often need community service hours in order to graduate.
13. Bring along American Legion Family membership brochures in case you meet someone who wants to join.
14. Ask your Public Relations chairman to write a news release announcing National Poppy Day and submit it to local media. Be sure to include a Poppy Program Media Fact Sheet.
15. Promote the ALA Poppy Poster Contest in local schools. Students who participate, and their parents, will then spread the word about the program. The unit can use some of these posters as advertisement in local stores (hang a color copy one week prior to the event, as to stay fresh in customers' minds). The rules are available at [www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Poppy](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Poppy).
16. Write your thank-you notes on poppy cards, available through Emblem Sales.
17. Be sure to document your activities and share with ALA National Headquarters. If you send a high-resolution photo, your image may end up being part of the national Poppy Program chairman's report at National Convention. Post the fun on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, tagging #ALANHQ, #poppyday and #LegionFamily.



## WHO DOESN'T LIKE A BONUS?

With BonusDrive, you could get up to \$500 cash back when you shop for and purchase or lease an eligible new vehicle from leading auto manufacturers – Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat®, Jeep®, Ram or Hyundai.

Visit BonusDrive.com for details.



## HOW IT WORKS

01.

Visit BonusDrive.com to view a list of participating manufacturers.

02.

Shop for and purchase or lease an eligible new vehicle from a dealer of your choice.

03.

Complete the BonusDrive application within 60 days of purchase or lease.

04.

Receive a check of up to \$500 at your home in approximately 8 to 10 weeks.

**VISIT BONUSDRIVE.COM FOR DETAILS.**

See Terms of Service at [www.BonusDrive.com](http://www.BonusDrive.com) for all program rules and eligibility.

Participating Manufacturers





## American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System (ALAMIS)

### Unit Access Includes:

- Ability to receive national announcements including updates on system improvements, dates and times for planned system maintenance, deadline reminders, etc.
- Ability to add new members to your unit
- Ability to edit member information such as: First/Middle/Last Name/Informal First Name, Home Phone/Cell Phone/Email, Permanent Address/Alternate Address/Seasonal Address, Volunteer Interests, Marital Status and Date of Birth
- Ability to view individual member activities such as: dues payments, changes to leadership positions and committees, continuous year adjustments, and event attendance.
- Ability to view individual member record change history
- Ability to view unit information such as # Jr Members, # Sr Members, # VIM members, # Paid Dues Members, # Unpaid Dues Members, Unit EIN Number, Unit Legal Name, Charter Date, Unit Number and Department
- Ability to add or change the unit leadership positions of individual members
- Ability to view, print & export your unit membership roster
- Ability to filter membership roster by member type (i.e. Jr, Sr, Deceased)
- Ability to view, print & export your unit leadership roster
- Ability to view, print & export unit paid dues roster
- Ability to view, print & export unit unpaid dues roster
- Ability to view, print & export unit dues activity for a certain time period
- Ability to view, print & export list of unit members who paid dues online

### Benefits of Unit Access:

- Membership information is at the unit's fingertips allowing Unit Membership Chairmen to actively manage the Unit's membership
- Important information is available in a timely manner
- Up-to-date information -- address, phone number & email changes made via the national website, [alaforveterans.org](http://alaforveterans.org) member portal are automatically updated in ALAMIS
- Fewer errors in member information when a unit enters vs. department
- Membership roster exports can be used for mailing labels or email distribution lists to communicate with your members
- Leadership roster exports can be used for mailing labels or email distribution lists to communicate with your leadership
- Units can check for members' birthdays to honor them on their special day. *(Please note that not all members' birth dates are in the system. However, you can ask members to update their own profile or collect members' dates of birth and add to their profile for them.)*
- Reduces the need to keep extensive paper records that sometimes get lost or damaged

### How Units can access ALAMIS:

- To gain access to ALAMIS, Units need to contact their Dept Secretary who will work with National Headquarters to get them set up. Units are limited to 2 users. There is a \$10 fee for each user. User access is good for a calendar year.
  - Once set up, Units are sent a user guide and can access online tutorials.
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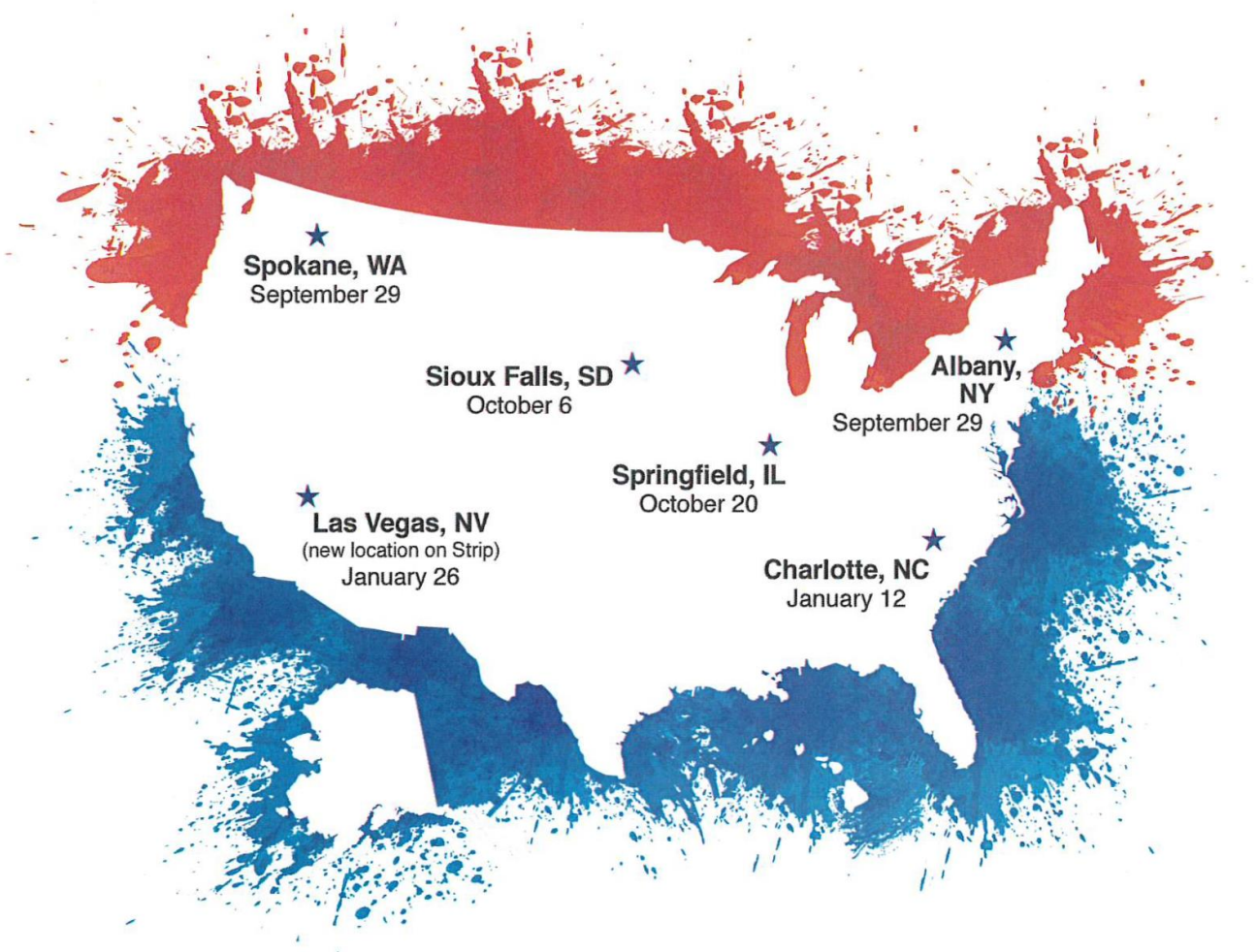


# 2018-2019 ALA Mission Training

## SAVE THE DATE!

Do you want to be more effective in working the ALA mission in your community? Are you looking for fresh ideas on how to serve veterans, military, and their families?

Join us at a one-day ALA Mission Training session!



Go to [www.ALAforVeterans.org/Meetings](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/Meetings) for more information.

Registration opens July 18, 2018.



# 2018-2019 National Junior Meeting

## SAVE THE DATE!

Bring your Juniors to a national Junior meeting! These one-day meetings are held on a Saturday so there's no need to miss school! Juniors learn about the ALA's mission, meet other Juniors, and have a lot of fun!

★ **Spokane, Washington**

September 29

★ **Albany, New York**

September 29

★ **Sioux Falls, South Dakota**

October 6

★ **Springfield, Illinois**

October 20

★ **Charlotte, North Carolina**

January 12

★ **Las Vegas, Nevada**

January 26

Go to [www.ALAforVeterans.org/Meetings](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/Meetings) for more information.

Registration opens July 18, 2018.



# 100<sup>th</sup> CENTENNIAL SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST DESIGN THE 100<sup>th</sup> CENTENNIAL DEPARTMENT OF OHIO SHIRT

To enter submit an entry showing Front Design and Back Design  
Send in JPEG Format to the Department Of Ohio Headquarters  
**By June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.**

The Top 5 Entries will be chosen by the Centennial Committee and placed on display at the Department of Ohio Annual Convention

The Top 5 Entries will be placed on display at registration & during the "Art for the Troops" Art Show. Attendees may vote on their favorite entry by making a donation of 1\$ per vote. At the Conclusion of the Art Show the Winning Entry will be announced. Participants do not have to be present to be considered. Funds raised will support the Centennial Celebration Activities. **The Winning Entry will receive \$100.00.**

## The Rules

1. Include Designers Name, Email, Unit Number, Unit Name, District
2. Must send front/back design in jpeg format to [katie@alaphio.org](mailto:katie@alaphio.org)
3. Must send in by **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**
4. Design must be submitted in black and white.
5. Each Entry Must Include the Following in the Design:
  - The Words: **100<sup>th</sup> Centennial**  
**1919-2019**
  - Must Include the **Auxiliary Emblem**

