



Colleen K Phillips

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Blessings To My American Legion Auxiliary Friends,

Hopefully each of you had a Great Thanksgiving and an opportunity to spend some quality time with friends and family. Believe it or not Christmas is almost here! As you prepare to celebrate the season make sure you take time to Bless some of the veterans and active-duty Military with blankets, care packages, and other needed treats to show them just how much they are appreciated.

I recently had a realization, while being around a bitter man who seemed so unhappy with everything around him. This bitterness caused me to pause and think of the young men and women that each and every day serve this great country of ours. Without pomp and circumstance, they dedicate their time and lives to ensure that we have the freedoms we have come to know and trust. The sacrifice is so greatly appreciated and we as a Nation are Blessed to have such a great group standing on the front lines for each and every one of us. Too often we focus on the problems and day to day chaos in our lives when we need to appreciate just how Blessed we are. This season I challenge each one of us to have a positive outlook in all we do and say. Helping so many is what makes the American Legion Family so amazing. This is a wonderful organization that does so much without complaining and often without recognition.

As you have events this holiday season don't forget to take along membership applications. It is important to keep our membership growing. Do not be afraid to ask and be surprised just how many will say sure. The programs we have are wonderful and do so much for so many great people! So let's spread the word and see just how many more people we can get to help!

Mark your calendar and please plan on attending Midwinter conference. There will be a Buckeye Girls State Workshop and Two special speakers at the conference. The first will be Kevin P. Cullen, Colonel, US Air Force (RET), he is the assistant Vice Provost and Director of the Office of Student Academic Success, Military and Veterans Services at The Ohio State University. The second will be our Central Division National Vice President Denise Delaney-Wrolen. This will be a great two days full of activities such as the BGS Workshop, Poppy Contest, raffles, Junior meetings, and special information from our chairman; fun filled pack days and I cannot wait to see you there!

For God & Country,

Colleen K. Phillips



2022 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

January 21-22, 2022

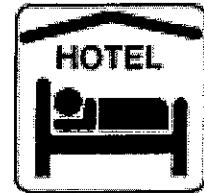
Crowne Plaza Columbus North

6500 Doubletree Ave

Columbus, Ohio 43229

By Phone (614) 885-1885

Select Option #2



Please call for reservations and refer to the American Legion Midwinter or reference the three-letter code AAL. Be sure to ask for a confirmation number and if you need to cancel, please secure a cancellation number.

Price: \$103.00 plus tax

Reservation Cut-Off Date – Thursday January 13, 2022

American Legion Leadership Awards Banquet

January 22, 2022, 6:00 PM

The Leadership Awards Banquet is a Formal Banquet Hosted by the Legion Department of Ohio to present Membership Awards to all mid-year winners.

Auxiliary Members are encouraged to attend.

Dress is Formal.

Silent Auction and social hour start at 5 pm in the foyer with a cash bar. Dinner will be served at 6 pm.

Reservations Cut Off: January 12, 2022

Please visit <https://www.ohiolegion.com/events/department-mid-winter-conference/> and complete the banquet registration form.

Cost is \$40.00 per person

Dinner options are Beef Tenderloin, Chicken Picada, Salmon, or Vegetarian Lasagna.

**Due to the current pandemic, you must register online for this event.*



Americanism

Mary Ann Dull, Chairman

Charlotte Frazier, Vice Chairman



HISTORY OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was written in August 1892 by the socialist minister Francis Bellamy (1855-1931). It was originally published in *The Youth's Companion* on September 8, 1892. Bellamy had hoped that the pledge would be used by citizens in any country.

In its original form it read:

"I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." In 1923, the words, "the Flag of the United States of America" were added. At this time, it read: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." In 1954, in response to the Communist threat of the times, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we say today. Bellamy's daughter objected to this alteration. Today it reads: **"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."**

Section 4 of the Flag Code states:

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.", should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute."

The original Bellamy salute, first described in 1892 by Francis Bellamy, who authored the original Pledge, began with a military salute, and after reciting the words "to the flag," the arm was extended toward the flag. At a signal from the Principal the pupils, in ordered ranks, hands to the side, face the Flag. Another signal is given; every pupil gives the flag the military salute — right hand lifted, palm downward, to a line with the forehead and close to it. Standing thus, all repeat together, slowly, "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands; one Nation indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all." At the words, "to my Flag," the right hand is extended gracefully, palm upward, toward the Flag, and remains in this gesture till the end of the affirmation; whereupon all hands immediately drop to the side.

Shortly thereafter, the pledge was begun with the right hand over the heart, and after reciting "to the Flag," the arm was extended toward the Flag, palm-down. In World War II, the salute too much resembled the Nazi salute, so it was changed to keep the right hand over the heart throughout.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund
By Pam Brenneman, Chairman
pam7352@buckeye-express.com

“The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) provides temporary financial assistance to eligible members during time of financial crises or weather-related emergencies and natural disasters and promotes awareness and knowledge of the program.”

Greeting's members! With all the natural disasters that have been having in our country it's time to make a donation to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

We never know when something is going to hit home. When you stop and think of the devastating fires out in California, the floods in Louisiana it can happen in an instant and most recently the tornadoes that destroyed countless cities in Kentucky and other states. And isn't it nice to know that if something like that happens to you, you have a place to go and apply for a grant that will help you out.

This year I am challenging every unit to make a donation to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Each unit that makes a donation will receive a certificate at the Department Convention.

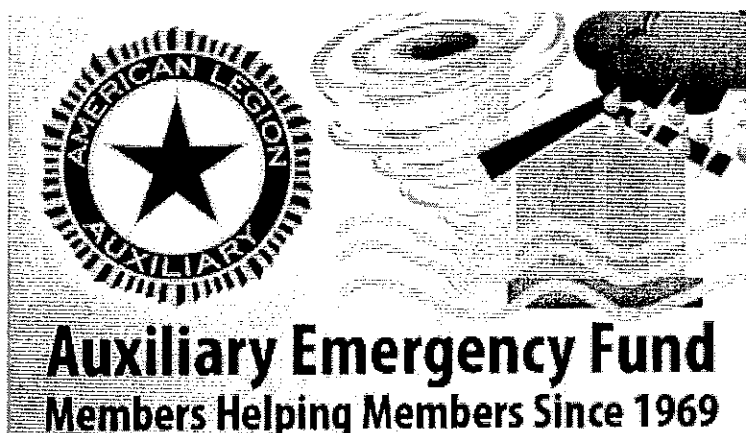
And did you know that there are awards that can be won? Here is a list of them.

Unit Award: Unit Contributing the Largest Amount (per capita)
Deadline June 1st for contributions

Department Award: Department Award: Largest Contribution
Deadline June 1st for contributions

Department Award: Department Contributing the Largest Amount (per capita) Deadline June 1st for contributions

So, have your unit plan to make a donation and let's help our members near and far!



Buckeye Girls State

Gwen Schroeder-Zulch—Director
gweniesue@yahoo.com



Time is flying by, and it will soon be time to select your Buckeye Girls State delegates. Just a few reminders.

- You must have BGS applications in hand before selecting the delegates- we do not want your Unit to get caught with no applications. Application requests are due to Department Headquarters **NO LATER THAN March 1, 2022.**
- Please also remember when sending back the BGS completed applications that the \$50.00 per delegate **non-refundable fee** is due with the application.
- The BGS Board voted at the last Board meeting that we will discontinue the on-line orientations as the delegate surveys indicated they did not really gain much from it. Instead, the Board voted that the in-person **DISTRICT ORIENTATIONS** will be **MANDATORY**. Each District will have up to two orientations per District and BGS delegates can go to ANY of the orientations per their schedule. District Orientation Schedule will be available to pick up during Mid-Winter Conference at BGS Workshop.
- Did you sign up for the BGS Workshop to be held at the Mid-winter Conference in January. The panel will present valuable information such as selection process, what to do after BGS, Public Relations. In addition, there will be other topics presented. Please get your reservations into Department Headquarters as soon as possible.
- REMINDER ON SELECTION CRITERIA:
 - SELECTION CRITERIA To be eligible, young women must: Have completed their junior year in high school and have at least one more semester remaining before graduation. Be keenly interested in government and current events. Have high moral character. Show strong leadership abilities. Demonstrate above-average scholastic achievement.
- Collaborate closely with your schools to get the best candidates. Utilize past BGS delegates to talk with the Delegates interested.
- Remember IT IS UP TO THE UNIT TO SELECT THE DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES.

The Board of Directors are looking forward to the 2022 Session. While we are making changes for the betterment of the program—the core program has not changed. We believe that with some of the minor changes that the program will continue to grow in a positive way. Change is good and it is our hope that the BGS Delegates will have “DREAMS OF A LIFETIME AND A LIFETIME OF DREAMS.”

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: BGS 2022 WILL BE HELD ON THE CAMPUS OF MT. UNION UNIVERSITY—ALLIANCE, OHIO JUNE 12-18, 2022.

BGS WORKSHOP

A workshop will be held at Mid-Winter Conference on Friday January 21, 2022, from 2:00 – 4:00 pm and will cover a wide range of important topics. If you are the Unit/Post Chairman for Buckeye Girls State, please consider attending this workshop. Below is the registration form that needs to be completed and sent back to ALA Department Headquarters. There is no cost to attend this workshop, but **pre-registration is required**. You may email registration forms to: Vicky Buck at vicky@alaohio.org .

Topics that will be covered are:

- The interview process and selection of BGS delegates
- After you have selected them, what happens next?
- Delegate Orientation – what is mandatory and what is not?
- Public Relations – promoting BGS at the Unit level and in the community
- Delegate Registration – what paperwork gets sent from Unit to Department and Department to Delegate?
- Volunteering – what roles are needed and what are the expectations of our volunteers?
- Question & Answers

Workshop Registration Form	
Mail to Department of Ohio	
PO BOX 2760	
Zanesville, Ohio 43702	
Unit _____	District _____
Name _____	
Name _____	
Name _____	
Name _____	



Children and Youth
Deborah Meyer, Chairman
Patty Miller, Vice Chairman



It is hard to believe that Christmas is rapidly approaching and our auxiliary year is almost halfway to Summer Convention. I am hoping that you are logging hours and money spent for our Children and Youth program. There are no mid-year reports this year but if you have done something that you think other units might want to do, please let me know so that I can pass those ideas onto others. National Children and Youth Chairman Trish Ward, would like pictures and information of your children and youth activities and events, Youth Hero, Good Deed and Youth Caregiver awards to put in her National newsletters.

Hopefully you have kept the children in your Post and community, especially the homeless children, in mind for this Christmas. I keep thinking about the little Ruby Sue in "Christmas Vacation" when she tells her Uncle Clark that she does not believe in Santa Claus anymore because "last year we did nothin' wrong and still got the shaft." Time for Christmas is quickly running out so we need to look to the new year. What activities and needs do our children have regardless of how old they are in the next few months? We have several significant holidays coming; Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day and of course Valentine's Day. Maybe you could work with your Americanism chairman to plan an event for MLK Day or Presidents' Day. Talk to your schools and maybe you could do a special presentation for Presidents' Day. Teachers might be looking for some special activities for both MLK and Presidents' Days. You might include why the month of February was selected, discuss the part of the constitution that tells how the presidents are elected and what their job entails.

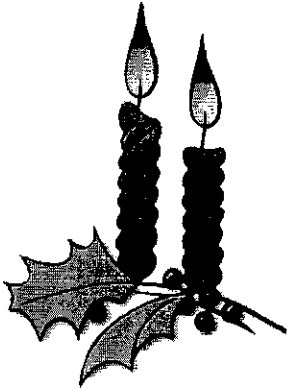
Planning events takes time so you need to start a couple months ahead. It might be a good time for you to start planning for April and to "purple up" for our military children. April 15, 2022 is Military Children Day and a good time to plan an event to honor those special children. April 30th is Military Brats Day and a good time to highlight a set of individuals who endured great sacrifice for the country. It is estimated that one out of every 25 Americans is a military brat, a term that used to be derogatory but is now often used for self-awareness to identify as being part of the military family. If you have children of military families in your community, consider hosting a special event to honor them and acknowledge their sacrifice for our country.

The Children and Youth Program also includes supporting the Child Welfare Foundation. Your unit could hold a special fundraiser for the CWF as simple as having a jar or can for collection in your Post. If you go to the National ALA website (alaforveterans.org) you can download a free label featuring children and the mission of the Child Welfare Foundation can be affixed to a standard round chip can and used to solicit donations. Login to the ALA "My Auxiliary Member Portal," visit the Liaison to Child Welfare Foundation page and click on the link and download Donation Can Labels. At this time (through the first half of the year) the Department of Ohio's auxiliaries have donated only \$25 to the National CWF. I know we can do better than

that. There might be other places or businesses in your community that would allow you to place a donation can in their establishment.

We need to continually keep our eyes and ears open to identify our Youth Heroes and those young people who are doing Good Deeds or are Caregivers. Take plenty of pictures of your events and memorialize them in writing. Hello educate yourself by logging into your "My Auxiliary Member Portal" on the ALA National website and learn more at <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committee/children-and-youth>
Join the ALA's Children & Youth Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/ALACHildrenandYouth

Be sure to visit our table at Mid-Winter for Valentine ideas and our raffle.



Patty and I would like to wish you all a very safe and blessed Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and joyous Kwanzaa. Best Wishes in the New Year and hope to see you all at the Mid-Winter Conference.

Emails:

Deborah Meyer debmeyer60@gmail.com

Patty Miller pattym54@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE 2021-2022

Department Chairman:

Becky Dippman
3186 S. River Rd.
Pemberville, OH 43450
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Department Vice-Chairman:

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Toledo, OH 43614
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roseanne@adray-grna.com

Greetings to all Auxiliary members in the State of Ohio!! As we write this article for the December bulk mailing, it is a sad day for those who have been hit hard by rare, strong tornadoes across several states. The Covid virus Delta variant is spreading rapidly, and the first cases of the Omicron variant in Ohio were announced today. Let us all take a moment to stop and pray for everyone in this great country, no matter what their need is.....

In Service, Not Self.

***A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families.
American Legion Auxiliary Angels Serving Others.***



What a perfect description of Community Service! And right around the corner is the Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service on January 17, 2022. www.mlkday.gov. This is a great opportunity for ALA members to serve their community. You don't have to use that date for your project--pick one of your own. Not sure where to start or what service project to do? Start with the website we listed, or check with homeless and domestic violence shelters, libraries, law enforcement, fire departments, nursing homes, senior centers, VA Clinics, drug rehab centers and response teams, mental health clinics and facilities, elderly neighbors—Just to mention a few, there are many, many more. Find out what their needs are, then plan an event or activity your unit can do to help fill those needs.

As you serve in the community, make sure members are wearing ALA branded clothing for easy recognition. Remember to contact local media about your project, take a lot of pictures, and share them on social media! And remember, we are always willing to answer your questions! Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at our contact information listed above!

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at Mid-Winter January 21st and 22nd. We are planning to present something informational and fun for Community Service.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Take Care and Stay Safe.

Becky and Roseanne



Education

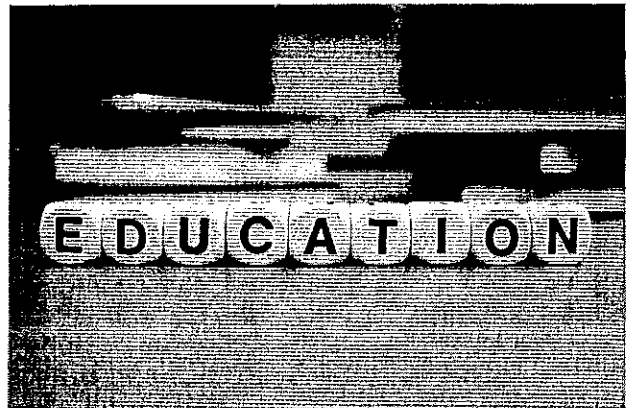
How did your unit celebrate National Education Week? Remember to record the activity for your year-end report and send me a brief note with a picture. Don't forget that Teacher Appreciation Week will be celebrated the first week in May and it is never too early to start planning.

Please be sure to pass on the information about Auxiliary scholarships to the students in your community. Consider contacting the school counselors or other staff members to help your unit reach the students that could use the assistance. If your unit offers scholarship(s), let me know the amount given and how you raised the funds. Your ideas may help another unit to fund their own scholarship. Remember to encourage students to also apply for the scholarships offered on the Department and National levels. Additional information, deadline dates, and the applications are available on our website.

It is especially important to stress the need for students to carefully read the instructions when applying for any scholarships. More than half of the Department's Continuing Education Scholarship applications were not completely filled out or did not include the needed documentation.

With the school year almost half over, many teachers have depleted their extra supplies. Could your Unit do a "Give Ten to Education" drive to replenish their supplies? Many classrooms need sanitizer and tissues as well as pencils and notebook paper. Contact your local schools to find out what is most needed.

Diann Long
17402 Independence Court
Brook Park, Ohio 44142
216-267-4711
ken17402@yahoo.com





Ohio Unit Plan of Action



DECEMBER BULK MAILING 2021

Department Junior Activities Chairman

CHAIRPERSON

Michelle Zayakosky
7400 Johnnycake Ridge
Mentor, OH 44060-7518
(216) 337-3178 (cell)
Email – post214michellez@gmail.com

2nd MEMBER

Karen Peel
2216 25th St. SW
Akron, OH 44314-2202
(330) 962-0738 (cell)
Email – karen.peel@sk2holdings.com

3rd MEMBER

Jacqueline Moore
3866 Darlington Rd.
Darlington, PA 16115-2110
(330) 957-7215
Email – jackie.moore@comcast.net

Greetings from your Department of Ohio Junior Activities team!

By the time you see this, we will all be recovering from the holidays and bringing in 2022!

No mid-year reports this year but please let us know what you've been doing! Send emails to any of us, post on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. Keep reminding everyone 'who we are, what we do and why we matter'!

How are your craft/prayer/craft books coming along? How about those diaries of Henry County?

Any designs for the conference cover for the Junior Convention or Poppy Posters?

How many activities have you done over the last couple of months (think of events from the holidays) that qualify for the patch program?

As winter sets in, why not take some of the courses online at alaforveterans.org ?

Don't forget to include your Juniors in Valentine's Day events! Create cards for our Veterans or your local nursing home.

Keep in mind National dates for Junior meetings and Mission training for 2022:

January 29 - Las Vegas
February 12 - Orlando
February 19 - Indianapolis
March 26 - Baltimore
April 2 - Omaha

As always, please reach out to any of us with questions!

For God and Country,
Michelle Z.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the Junior Activities Team!

The holidays are here! We can't to hear all about the great activities that the Juniors have done during this festive time of year! We hope that you have taken pictures! We want to see them and include them in the year-end report!

I hope that you are all working on your patches. Remember that any adult can sign your sheet. Once you have fulfilled everything that is required for the patch, please send them to me. Do you have SAL youth members? Are you helping them to receive their patches? The patch program is for all youth! Need help? Feel free to contact the Junior Activities Committee or your District Junior Activities Chairman for ideas and suggestions. We are all here to assist.

Encourage your Juniors that are working on the Blue – Level 3 (9th grade through 12th grade) to earn the Caregivers Patch. This patch is geared more towards Level 3 participants. Again – if you need help, let us know.

Don't forget to bring your items for Junior President Evelyn's Special Project. Her project will be divided into two parts.

In the fall and winter, we will collect blankets, socks, gloves, scarfs, and hats to keep the homeless veterans warm. During meetings, juniors can make no-sew blankets to donate. We will also include cards to the veterans thanking them for all they have done. During the winter season veterans in need struggle to find warmth through the cold. My project will help these veterans stay warmer and healthier in the cold of winter. Everyone loves a nice warm blanket, especially if the blanket is handmade by juniors or other loving people. This is why during the Department Junior meeting the juniors will be making no-sew blankets. We will also encourage Districts and Units to make blankets and cards during their meetings.

Don't forget to bring your items to Mid-Winter.

Plan now to attend the Mid-Winter Conference in January. Bring your Juniors! It will be fun!

Have a safe and blessed Christmas!!





**SHARE
COMMUNICATE
BE THE SOLUTION**



LEADERSHIP
PAM BATES, DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN
pamelabates9@gmail.com
937-974-2316

START PREPARING FOR A WINNING LEADERSHIP REPORT
MAKE SURE YOU ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR LEADERSHIP REPORT

KEY PROGRAM STATEMENTS

- To raise awareness of ALA leadership development opportunities.
- To promote participation in the ALA Academy.
- To enhance knowledge about ALA history, programs, and organization.



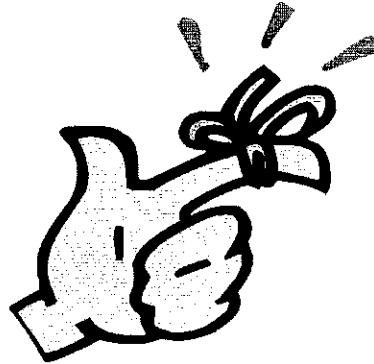
1. Objective Goal: To raise awareness of ALA leadership development opportunities.
 - a. Action Step: Educate and Encourage members to participate in National, District & Department functions (both in person and online) by providing: times; places; and types of learning experience to your members.
 - b. Action Step: Educate and Encourage members to read the Department Leadership online courses.
 - c. Action Step: Have members who have taken online courses to share on their experiences.
 - d. Action Step: Sign up on the National website for MyAuxiliary.
2. Objective Goal: To promote participation in the ALA Academy.
 - a. Action Step: Educate and Encourage members to participate in the National online ALA Academy courses.
 - b. Action Step: Have members who have taken these courses to share their experiences.
3. Objective Goal: To enhance knowledge about ALA history, programs, and organization.
 - a. Action Step: Using the National News; online courses; Guide Book; Department bulk mail & Buckeye Messenger, district and unit archives share our history with members and the public.
 - b. Action Step: Using the same sources above in (a), share information about our ALA programs.
 - c. Action Step: Share with your members the officer roles and responsibilities at all levels.
 - d. Action Step: Share with your members the rights and responsibilities at all levels.
 - e. Action Step: Sign up for the ALA National Leadership face book page.



APRIL 15, 2022

Details in the Leadership Plan of Action

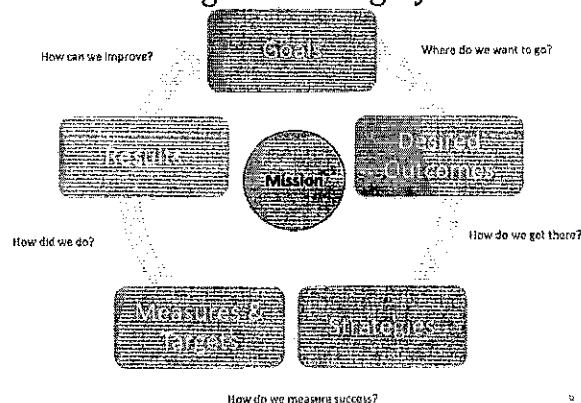
- ❖ END OF YEAR
- ❖ MOST OUTSTANDING UNIT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
- ❖ CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION
- ❖ CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTION
- ❖ CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE
- ❖ UNIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR



UNIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD MOVED FROM PPP TO LEADERSHIP
Unit Member of the Year Award Deadline to Leadership Chairman...April 15, 2022

- The Unit Member of the Year award recognizes those serving at the unit level who exemplify the values and ideals of the Auxiliary and whose accomplishments significantly impact the program work in their units. Recognition of the winners occurs at the American Legion Auxiliary's national convention.
- Nominees must be a senior member who is not in an elected or appointed leadership role higher than unit president.
- Each department selects one Unit Member of the Year from its submitted candidates.
- Units must submit a narrative of 1,000 words or less describing the nominee's accomplishments and activities together with the nominee's name and address.
- The selection of the winner is at the discretion of the department Leadership chairman.
- The application form is with your Plan of Action for Leadership.

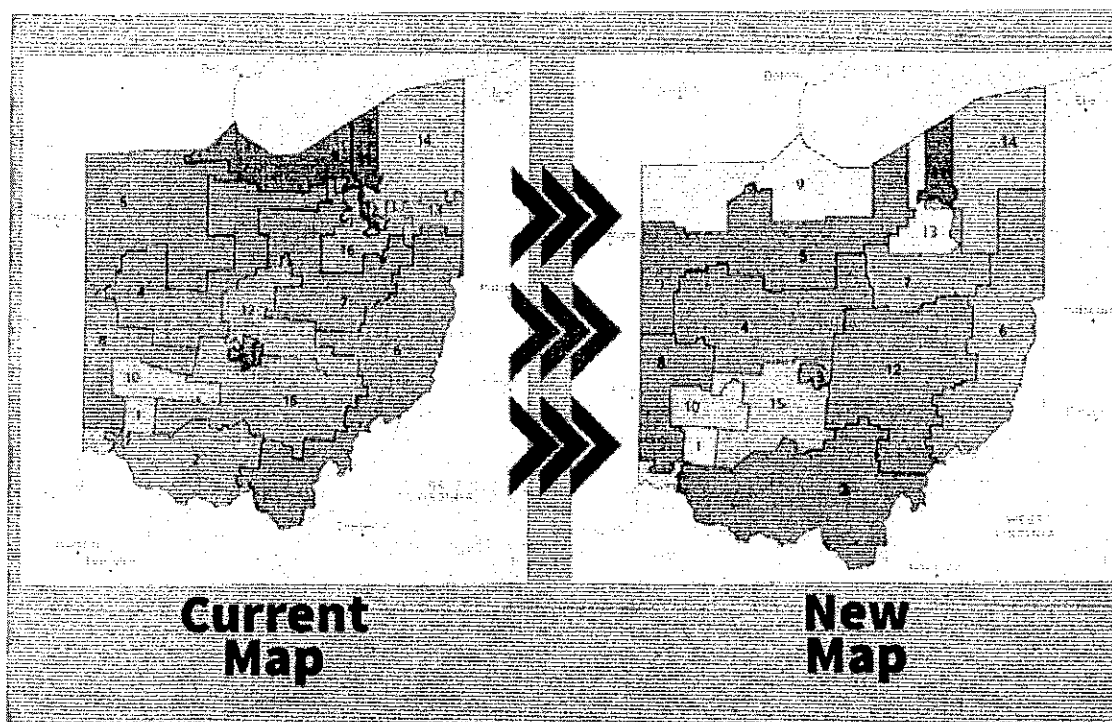
Strategic Planning Cycle



LEGISLATIVE, DECEMBER AND JANUARY

The 2022 United States elections will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. During this midterm election year, all 435 seats in the House of Representatives and 34 of the 100 seats in the Senate will be contested. So what does this mean for Ohio? Do you know what District you are in since the redistricting? District 16 has been eliminated and all 15 remaining have been changed. If you do not know where your city lies, call your local board of elections to verify and find out who is running for the congressional seats. This is the time to start thinking about having a "Meet the Candidate" night. The Step-by-Step instructions are listed on the National alaforveterans.org site under Legislative "How To's". Consider meeting the candidates and begin a relationship with them to put forth the American Legion agenda.

The following map was obtained from the Cleveland.com article of November 18, 2021, "Ohio legislature passes congressional redistricting plan"



Announcing the new Powerpoint to help you through the steps of navigating the Legislative Action Center.

The offer still stands to visit your Unit and present the Powerpoint to you, to teach your members how to contact their representatives in the House and the Senate. A printout of the slides will be provided. I'm currently working on a voice-over, so that you can download and follow along on your own.

Grassroots Alert: Open the VA to all WWII Veterans!

This Legislative alert went out in the emails on Thursday December 9, 2021. This alert was sent out to the National Legislative Commission members and Legislative Action Center subscribers encouraging members to call on their legislators to pass the "WWII Veterans Hospital and Medical Eligibility Act". The Bill was introduced in both chambers, and it is important that it passes before the end of the year. All Legion Family members are encouraged to contact their legislators and share any testimonials with Legion staff for further highlighting, and also in our Buckeye Messenger. Do not forget to report this in your annual reports to me.

Sometimes these updates do not reach your inbox. If you have Gmail, you may have to call up "All Mail" to see it. It is possible that if you think you have not been receiving these Action Center Updates, that they may be in your junk mail. Make sure you put the American Legion into your recipient lists.

As an example: **Buddy Check Week** sent out in November

Email Alerts sent to the Legion Family: 23,487

Emails Opened: 6,313 (28%)

Messages sent to Congress: 2,611

New Senders: 1,417

Congressmembers Engaged: 479

So you can see that we can do much better. Please search your mail for any missed messages.

Now is also the time to contact your representatives in person. Team up with your Legionnaire counterpart and visit their home offices. They are on District and Home office work right now. The Senate will reconvene on January 3, 2022. At this time I do not have the House schedule.

Have you checked out our **ALA Legislative Ohio** Facebook group? We are up to 148 members and would like to make it to 200! We have updates on TAL requests and have weekly "Tidbit Tuesdays on Ohio History" questions, with a drawing monthly on our Zoom meeting, which is held the first Monday of the month. You can participate with these meetings through your computer, laptop or smartphone. There will be no meeting in January as we will be having Mid-Winter January 21-22. The next drawing of correct answers will be drawn at the Mid-Winter meeting.

Congratulations to Rozella Brickman of Unit 421 for winning the reindeer earrings on Monday Dec. 6th.

Communication is Key. Remember to stay in contact with your Legionnaires and SAL on The American Legion legislative concerns.

Together we are Stronger !

Cindy Boehnlein

(440) 212-5150; cboehnlein55@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIP

Cindy Masowick, 1st Vice President

Membership Chairman



It's exciting to see everyone working hard at membership. As I write this, we currently have 18 goal Units. There are Units that need 10 or less to make goal. We only have 2 weeks to go before December 31, 2021. Membership Chairman, please send those dues in. There is no incentive for holding dues.

Incentive #2: These Units made goal by November 11, 2021. They will be placed in a drawing for 2-\$50.00.

District 1, Unit 143 goal on 11/8, Unit 553 goal on 10/7, Unit 680 goal on 11/1

District 4, Unit 755 goal on 11/8

District 8, Unit 602 goal on 10/11

District 10, Unit 147 goal on 11/2, Unit 651 goal on 11/5, Unit 679 goal on 10/15

District 11, Unit 495 goal on 10/22

These Units also will be placed in Incentive #3 drawing for \$100.00, along with the following. These Units must be goal by December 31, 2021

District 1, Unit 541 goal on 12/2

District 4, Unit 631 goal on 11/15

District 5, Unit 260 goal on 11/29, Unit 405 goal on 12/3

District 9, Unit 700 goal on 12/6

District 10, Unit 740 goal on 11/23

District 12, Unit 239 goal on 11/22, Unit 797 goal on 12/6

District 14, Unit 473 goal on 12/8

Congratulations to all these Units. Who will be next!!

We have several Goal Junior Units. How many Units have signed up Males Spouses? Check out those Incentives for next year.

We still have a lot of work to do on the Units that have not turned in any membership. They will be contacted. If you know of any Units struggling, please let me know, Colleen, Department President, a Past Department President and or the District President. We are here to help revitalize these Units. Some members that I have talked to are having problems getting their

cards after paying dues. Some want alternate ways to pay their dues. See below for instructions on how to "Renew Your Membership." You can pay dues to your Unit Membership Chairman, go on ALAMIS and pay dues or just call National.

I have been getting a lot of telephone calls. One of the sad things to report is how some of the Unit Chairman have been treating their members. They are being snippy, mean, and nasty. WHY? Remember Unit Chairman, you were elected by the members to do a certain position. This is how we lose members in Units. These members get fed up, some may transfer, others just quit. We need to keep these members to grow.

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas from my family to your family. See you in January at Mid-Winter. Hopefully we will have good weather.

Renew Your Membership

In the spirit of Service Not Self, please renew your American Legion Auxilliary membership today and help us continue our mission outreach and advocacy efforts to serve our nation's 18 million veterans. ALA members can pay their annual membership dues in 3 easy ways: online, by phone or mail.

Pay online

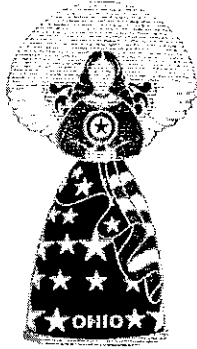
Click on the Login button below and enter your username and password to access your My Auxiliary account and then click the 'Pay Dues' button on your profile. If you do not have an account, click the login button, and choose 'Create Account' to get started.

You can pay with a VISA or Mastercard credit/debit card online. After your online payment has cleared, you'll be able to print your current membership card directly from your My Auxiliary profile. A receipt will be emailed to you. National Headquarters will also send your membership card to you via USPS mail, so please make sure your current address appears in your online profile.

Pay by phone

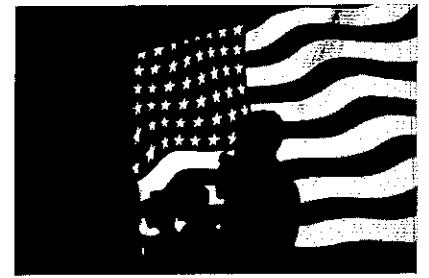
Call National Headquarters at (317) 569-4570 with your member ID ready. You'll speak with a real person who will assist you in paying your dues. If you would like to pay multiple members' dues at the same time, please call us, as this is the easiest way to accomplish this task. You can pay with a VISA, Mastercard, or Discover credit/debit card. We will send your membership card to you via email and mail.

The hours to call are Monday-Friday, 8AM-4:30PM EST. Mail your dues payment to your unit. Use your renewal notice that you receive in the mail to send a check to your local unit. Please make checks payable to "American Legion Auxiliary". Renewal notices are mailed to members in mid-September and early February each year.



National Security

Gloria Verbeke



While we continue as American Legion Auxiliary Angels Serving Others - Our Department President Colleen's theme- we need to really check-in with our Veterans. With the virus still causing havoc we need to take time to check on our Veterans and their families as well as our Active-Duty Military families. (You can contact the Family Readiness Group or the Family Readiness Center on your nearby military installation for more information.)

With Christmas fast approaching, we may find it more difficult to get permission from nursing homes to visit, we can ask how many veterans they may have and then send Christmas Cards or have our Junior Auxiliary make cards for these men and women. If you don't have an active Junior Unit a school class may want to help with this. Please remember to Thank them for their service.

Also check and make sure if some veterans in your community that may need help with groceries for his family or even help in finding a job. There may be a family of a Deployed Active-Duty military that may need help. Let's help them in any way we can to make their life a little better and more cheerful.

Reach out to your community for support and help with your efforts to help our Veterans and Active-Duty Military and their families. Please Remember to send packages and cards to our Active-Duty military overseas.

Gloria Verbeke

DECEMBER BULK MAILING POPPY PROGRAM

We are so excited to announce that on April 3, 2022, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Ohio will be holding its POPPY CELEBRATION.

The Celebration will be held on Sunday, April 3, 2022, at American Legion, Young-Budd Post 171 from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

The maximum capacity is 150 people. In order to attend, you must RSVP and you will not be admitted unless you RSVP. And remember, the earlier you RSVP the better.

Please see the attached application for Miss and Master Poppy, and Mr. and Mrs. Poppy. At this point we can only accept 25 applications, with no more than three guests per applicant.

Please see the attached for more information on the Poppy Celebration.

Put those creative hats on and don't forget about the Senior and Junior Poppy Usage Contest and the Senior and Junior Corsage Contest at Mid – Winter.

As a reminder there is no theme for the Poppy Usage Contest. Please see the plan of action for details.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Healthy Holiday. Looking forward to a great 2022.

Susan Schofield Fratino

Sscoey17@gmail.com

440-759-4961

Poppy Celebration Application

For

Miss Poppy, Master Poppy, Mr. & Mrs. Poppy



Lest We Forget

POPPY CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 3, 2022

American Legion, Young-Budd Post 171

393 East College Avenue

Westerville, OH 43081

Attendance limited to 150 people for this event

Masks are not required at this time (Subject to change)

This application must be completed and mailed no later than March 14, 2022, to:

Susan Schofield-Fratino

7565 Lambton Court

Mentor, OH 44060

Only **25** applicants will be accepted limited to **3** guests

Please remember that *Poppy Attire* is to be worn by all participants

Name: _____

Guests: _____

Sponsoring Unit, Post, Squadron: _____

School, Grade, and Age: _____

(if participant is a child)

Parents: _____

Parent's Email Address: _____

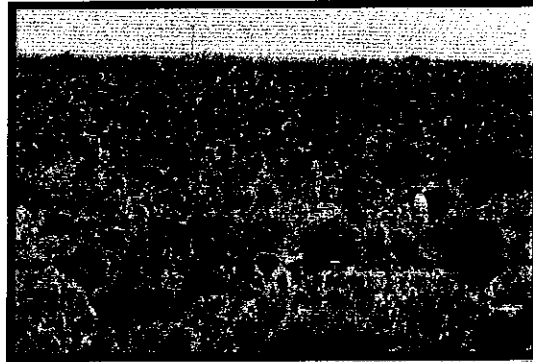
(if participant is a child)

Please note: You will receive an email confirming your reservation. Only those guests listed on the application will be able to attend the Poppy Celebration

Hobbies, extracurricular activities, sports, accomplishments: _____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this application. It is very beneficial in the preparation of the program and ensure that each participant receives proper recognition.

Poppy Celebration



Please Join Us

Sunday, April 3, 2022

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

American Legion, Young-Budd Post 171

393 East College Avenue

Westerville, OH 43081

(Maximum Capacity – 150)

IN ORDER TO ATTEND YOU MUST RSVP

**No admission will be granted on a walk-in basis, you must
RSVP. *The Earlier the Better.***

*Masks are not required / Refreshments will **not** be served or be available*

Please RSVP By March 14, 2022

Susan Schofield Fratino

sscoey17@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you at this year's

Poppy Celebration



THE HALO HERALD
December 2021 Edition

BE PROUD TO BE A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY;
SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES WITH OTHERS, BRAG ABOUT IT AND
MAKE SURE THE COMMUNITY KNOWS WHAT WE DO!!

This this is what Public Relations is all about!! I know I've mentioned the term "branding" in some of my articles and speeches. In researching National's website under Public Relations (where you can find ALL kinds of information available to you), I came across a Power Point entitled "The ALA Brand: Why It Matters to Me," and this explanation sums up why it is so important.

"'Branding' is more than the proper use of our emblem and logos. It is our reputation based on our behavior while serving our mission. Branding is about the opinion people form based on the experience they have when interacting with **you**. When people enjoy their experience interacting with **you**, they want to join or support the ALA. That is building brand loyalty. Prioritize and strongly support ALA mission services: veterans and military family support, poppies, ALA Girls State. These build brand awareness and brand loyalty when properly executed consistently."

And our American Legion Auxiliary members are doing this in wonderful fashion. If you're following my Facebook page "Ohio Second Vice President Am Legion Auxiliary," you will see countless stories of units doing amazing things...and we can't get enough of it!! Keep those stories coming!! But don't limit those stories to just Facebook! Not everyone uses this. And we need to reach out to EVERYONE!! So, contact those newspapers, send letters to the editor, communicate with radio programs, send those newsletters...shout it from the rooftops! Remember: WE ARE THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY. A COMMUNITY OF VOUNTEERS SERVING VETERANS, MILITARY, AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Jane Ridenour, Editor