



BULK MAILING FOR October 2023

To: Unit Presidents
Department Chairmen

Dept. Executive Committee
Past Department Presidents

Included in this mailing:

- President's Message – All members
- Brand Usage - white
- Heros Flyer - white
- NEC – white
- Americanism – blue
- Auxiliary Emergency Fund – pink
- Buckeye Girls State – ivory
- Children & Youth – Yellow
- Historian – lilac
- Junior Activities – pink
- Junior Activities – Central Division - white
- Leadership –
- Legislative – yellow
- Membership – blue
- National Security – green
- Parliamentarian - white
- Poppy – cherry
- VA & R -lilac
- VA & R – Hospital Director
- VA & R – OVH Updates



Included in plastic bag:

- Plan of Action Update Cover Page
- Education – Children of Warriors Scholarship - online
- Education – Non-Traditional Student Scholarship – online
- Education – Spirit of Youth Scholarship
- Education – Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship
- Junior Activities – POA Cover Sheet
- Junior Activities – Junior Purple Patch Program - ****NEW****



Jane Ridenour, Department President

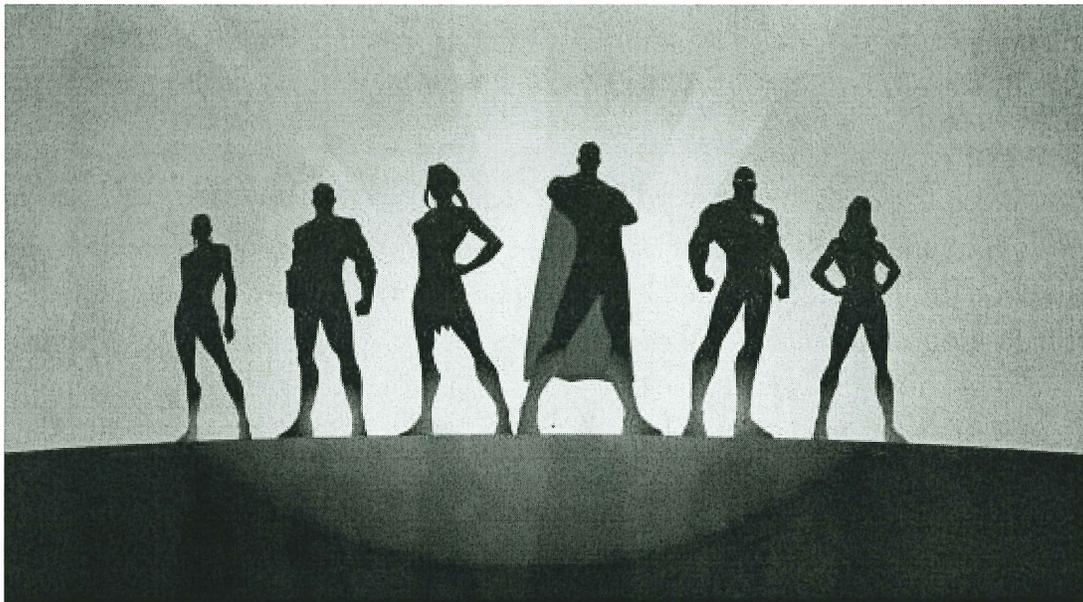
prezjane@yahoo.com

(419) 352-5054



Ohio is off to a great start!! I was extremely pleased with the attendance at our Department Fall School of Instructions! In the pods that I visited, I heard a lot of great questions, along with the exchange of ideas and suggestions on the various programs. Kudos to all of the chairmen who facilitated these sessions! And a special shout out to Vicky Buck for her excellent presentation on the American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System (ALAMIS). Armed with this information, attendees then took this back to their fall district conferences. I had the honor and pleasure of attending many of these, traveling to areas of the state that I have never been to. My sincere thanks to all for your hospitality! You sure know how to combine fun and learning together!!

Be sure to check out our Facebook page "Ohio ALA Dept President" page for updates, announcements and what other units/departments are doing. Any Units or Districts that have any special events coming up, please send me a note. I'd love to see/help our members in action...doing what we do best...supporting our veterans, military, and their families! You are ALL superheroes!!!



Auxiliary Brand Mark



Purpose of the Brand Mark

The American Legion Auxiliary brand mark was created to address the need to modernize the American Legion Auxiliary brand to appeal to the next generation. Moreover, the new brand mark takes into consideration a host of applications that the original emblem could

never have anticipated. Those include digital and social media, special event and sports marketing, lifestyle apparel and more.

Brand Mark versus Emblem

Going forward, the brand mark is to be used in all marketing communications applications, while the emblem should be reserved for official documents and communications.

In application

The following guidelines offer direction in terms of when to use the emblem or one of the brand marks. While most applications will be clearly defined, inevitably some instances may straddle the line between two areas. In those cases, use discretion based on the intended audience. When choosing a brand mark option, default to what is most visually pleasing in that application. For example, the word mark should almost always be used in embroidery.

Brand Mark Options

- advertising
- apparel (use word mark for embroidery)
- business cards, letterhead, email signatures
- credentials, event badges
- press releases
- digital (apps, web, social, PowerPoint presentations)
- promotional communications (flyers, handouts, etc.)
- events (signs, backdrops, tents, tablecloths, swag/giveaways)



Emblem

- uniform caps
- financial documents
- history books
- flags
- legal affairs
- internal manuals & guides
- reports & resolutions
- awards (option emblem or brand)
- building signage (option emblem or brand)
- formal government communications (option emblem or brand)



For more in-depth explanations of approved usage guidelines, [click here](#)



Our Heroes Inspiring Others Then and Now

We would like to celebrate YOUR Heroes! If you would like to join us in this project, please email a "then" and "now" photo of your veteran(s)! We ask that you send these in jpeg format, to ensure we can present quality images!

Please email your photos and be sure to include their name, branch of service, and date of service of your hero in your email!



AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY

CONTACT JANE RIDENOUR PREZJANE@YAHOO.COM



Cindy Masowick

National Executive Committeewoman

I bring Greetings from National President Lisa Williamson.

This year National President Lisa along with National Commander Dan Seehafer and National SAL Commander Don Cook, Jr., has taken on the same initiative. The American Legion Family's focus is increase awareness about the Veteran and Military Suicide epidemic. "BE THE ONE" initiative seeks to:

- destigmatize asking for mental health support
- provide peer-to-peer support and resources, and
- educate everyone on how they can "Be the One"

Let each of us simply Be the One to Save One. Together, the American Legion Family urges you to Be the One to Save One!

How can we support this initiative?

The stigma associated with mental health issues is a barrier to Veterans seeking assistance. They fear loss of their job and promotion, think they can handle their situation themselves, or don't believe others can understand their situation.

We are encouraged to Be The One by:

- Ask veterans in your life how they are doing
- Listen when a veterans needs to talk
- Reach out when you think a veterans might be struggling

Really quite simply. Probably something we do regularly.

What we are saying to our military and veterans that are struggling is "It's OK to say you're not OK". We can take appropriate action when a veterans or servicemember may be in crisis. Our responsibility is to connect them to the professionals. They'll remember you had the answer, even if it wasn't you personally.

There is no pathway to suicide. Mental health is a convoluted problem that needs a multifaceted solution. Family members may be the first to recognize the signs that their veteran needs help, but may lack the knowledge of how to approach the situation.

Providing those resources is another element of Be The One; some of the tools include:

First, there is the new, easy to remember way to reach the Veterans Crisis Line – Dial 9-8-8 then Press 1. This number has been only active for just over a year, and thousands of veterans have called when they needed crisis support. Remember it like 9-1-1!

The VA has put together the S.A.V.E. Suicide Prevention Training. This training reviews the scope of veteran suicide within the United States, how to identify a veteran who may be at risk for suicide and then what to do until professional help can be obtained.

The acronym S.A.V.E. can help you remember the important steps involved in suicide prevention:

S – Signs of suicidal thinking should be recognized.

A - Ask the most important question of all “Are our thinking of killing yourself?”

V – Validate the veteran’s experience.

E – Encourage treatment and expedite getting help.

VA S.A.V.E. training classes can be provided for all Legion Family members. Consider hosting this training program provided by the VA Suicide Prevention Coordinators.

Other resources include apps by the National Center for PTSD – PTSD Coach and PTSD Family Coach. They can be used by anyone for self-care and may be used as bridge to professional mental health care. And to help keep things private and confidential, the VA cannot gain access or link information to health records. Considering downloading one or both apps to your phone!

The Legion’s Buddy Check program was initiated in 2019, and its success exceeded expectations and has proved to be a valuable year-round method of providing a friendly voice during potentially difficult times through outreach. Buddy Checks can help Veterans facing mental health and well-being struggles, no matter the reason. Suicide awareness and prevention is the heart of the “Be The One” initiative, and the “Buddy Check” is just one of many ways we hope to address this crisis.

Many of these resources you can find on the American Legion website and the VA website.

Let us all “BE THE ONE!”



Happy October Ghouls and Goblins!

Boy did the weather turn to Fall quickly! Before we know it, it will be Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving!!

Your Youth Service Projects in conjunction with Wreaths Across America, should be well underway! Don't forget this should be completed by Veteran's Day. We are looking forward to seeing what you did with your Juniors to promote WAA mission to *Remember the Fallen, Honor those who Serve, and Teach the next generation the Value of Freedom.*

The last day to sponsor a wreath this year is Tuesday, 11/28/2023, and they will be laid on Saturday, 12/16/2023. Just a reminder, when you sponsor a wreath, send me a copy of your receipt (email or text) and you will be entered into a drawing for a Visa Gift Card at Mid-Winter.

The Americanism Essay question this year is "*What does Freedom Mean to Me*" I know that my Vice-Chair, Marie Schulz is looking forward to reading all the essay's. They are due to her by 4/1/2024.

I will be passing out kits to promote Star-Spangled Kids at Mid-Winter, but to start promoting, pass out flag pencils or flag coloring books with candy at trick or treat! For Veteran's Day, pass out flag pins.

Just a reminder, send me pictures, pictures, and more pictures of you wearing anything flag related or when you are out promoting the Americanism program (text or email). The Unit Chair or Person that sends me the most pictures with win a Captain America tumbler at Department in July!

Here's a US Constitution "fun fact" that you can share at your meeting.....

With 4400 words, the US Constitution is the *oldest* and the *shortest* written Constitution of any major government in the world!

Kathy Linn
pebbles0916@yahoo.com
(330) 860-4225

Marie Schulz
Americanism Vice Chair





Auxiliary Emergency Fund

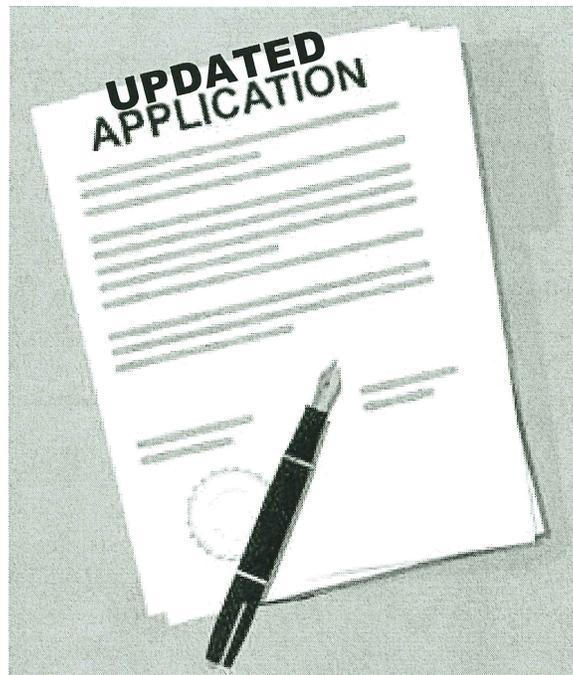
Christie Peeper
Department AEF Chairman 2023

I bring you glad tidings and good news from the Auxiliary Emergency Fund! The National Executive Committee (NEC) approved an increase for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) grants in February. The new grant amount took effect at the beginning of the 2024 fiscal year, Oct. 1. The updated grant award is \$3,000 for ALA members who have been affected by a natural disaster or other crisis and need urgent financial assistance.

The increase from \$2,400 to \$3,000 is a result of the rising cost of living and inflation. These rising costs impact millions of Americans, making it increasingly difficult for them to attain economic security. In July 2023, consumer prices were 3.2% higher than the year before. This has increased the cost of goods and services, making it more difficult for families to afford their basic needs.

The updated applications can be found on the ALA website. Please distribute them to your units so we can help as many members in need as possible. **They will no longer accept outdated applications.**

In the Spirit of Service not Self, for God and Country,

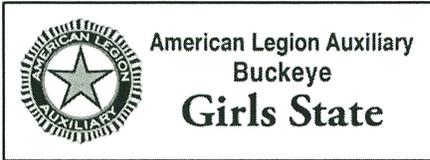




American Legion Auxiliary
Buckeye
Girls State

Gwen Schroeder-Zulch, Director
gweniesue@yahoo.com

- FALSE:** The \$50.00 fee that the DELEGATES must pay in addition to the \$350.00 ALA Buckeye Girls State fee paid by the Units is refundable upon the delegate completion of the program.
- TRUE:** **The \$50.00 fee that the DELEGATES must pay in addition to the \$350.00 ALA Buckeye Girls State fee paid by the Units is NONREFUNDABLE. This fee is used for administrative costs.**
- FALSE:** Parents or family members can pay for their family member to attend ALA Buckeye Girls State by sending in the fee to Department Headquarters.
- TRUE:** **ALA Buckeye Girls State delegates are selected and sponsored by a Unit, Post or Squadron. While Units can obtain donations for the program, the application must be applied for by the above. Selection of the delegates is done by the sponsoring American Legion Family.**
- FALSE:** ALA Buckeye Girls State delegates can attend the program at their leisure and may leave for family vacations, weddings, birthdays, and graduations with no penalty to the delegate.
- TRUE:** **ALA Buckeye Girls State delegates are required to attend the whole program and in case of an emergency the decision will be taken to the BGS Board of Directors.**
- Did you know ALA Buckeye Girls State is held at Bowling Green State University—June 9-15, 2024.
 - Did you know you can volunteer for ALA Buckeye Girls State by sending an email to Vicky Buck at Department Headquarters and she will forward information to you? The process is easy, and we welcome all ALA volunteers. vicky@alaoahio.org
 - I have had several inquiries about parents attending the sessions of Buckeye Girls State. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate parents at the assemblies due to the shortage of space in the ballroom. Additionally, we strictly advise that the parents not visit during the week of Buckeye Girls State unless it is an emergency. The delegates have work to do throughout the week and are very busy in their cities. We apologize for this.



American Legion Auxiliary

Buckeye Girls State vicky@alaohio.org
Post Office Box 2760 www.buckeyegirlsstate.org
Zanesville, Ohio 43702-2760 (740) 452-8245 fax (740) 452-2620

Registration Staff Application for Buckeye Girls State 2024

For registration duties on the first day of Buckeye Girls State, June 9, 2024.

Registration – Part-time position to assist with Delegate Registration including the check-in and welcoming process. Activity takes place on the first day (Sunday) of the session.

Training begins at 9:30 am in the lobby of the
Offenhauer Towers

Please complete and return by **APRIL 1, 2024** to the above address.

Please print legibly.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Signature _____ Date _____



Can you believe it? It has been a month since the school of instruction. Thank you to all of you who attended the Children and Youth presentation. We hope all of you have received your plan of action. Please read it. What do you have planned for your goals in the children and youth program? Do you need some suggestions? Or maybe you are going to try something new? Think outside the box and try new activities/events.

The end of October will be here soon. Do you plan to participate in Trunk or Treat or maybe the neighborhood Trick or Treat? How about a costume party? Maybe a pumpkin carving contest? While Oct. 28th will be community Halloween celebrations, don't forget Oct. 28th is Make A Difference Day. How can you plan a special project for a child or a group of children for Make A Difference Day? It is important to remind children they are special. Some children don't feel that way in their home life. How about making up treat bags to be handed out at a homeless shelter? Or maybe you can get some beanie babies or stuffed animals to be handed out to children. Or make cards on Sat., 10/28, and hand out to a Sunday school class. Don't forget our military children.

November has the important day of Veterans' Day 11/11/23. Provide children an opportunity to interact with Veterans. Maybe have a luncheon that involves Veterans and children. And don't forget, you might be able to provide Veterans with the opportunity to work with children so they both feel special. Veterans' Day is a Saturday. Maybe hold a coloring contest to award prizes to the participants and present the pages to a nursing home, assisted living, lonely/sick/depressed Veterans, or a special Veteran. Have children make Veterans' Day cards.

Also, in November is Thanksgiving, 11/24/23. How about making up a Thanksgiving dinner box for a family with children. Check with your church or school to get these boxes delivered to a needy family. Also, be planning your Christmas activities now.

Are you looking for a child to nominate for the Good Deed Award? The child must be younger than 18 years old and have donated time and/or money for a worthy cause. Check with FFA and 4-H groups to see if there is a child who would qualify. Don't forget home schooled groups. Be on the lookout for a child under the age 18 who has performed an act of valor to nominate for the Youth Hero Award. Can also be a child who is inspirational in their community. Once you have a child who qualifies for on of these two awards, go to www.alaforveterans.org and go to committees then to children and youth. Once on this page, on the left side is an online nomination form. Please submit the form and contact me, Deb Sutterlin, so I can know what units have had nominations. Thank you for your assistance with this information.

Deb Sutterlin, Ph: 330-465-9230, 950 Township Road 2506, Perrysville, OH 44864

Email: debsutterlin270@gmail.com with subject line to read "Children & Youth".



Mrs. Dayna Beyer, Department Historian
Address: 6013 Garber Rd. Bellville, OH 44813
Cell: 419-566-9395 Fax: 888-225-3180
Email: mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com

HAPPY FALL TO OUR SUPERHERO AUXILIARY MEMBERS:

Welcome newly appointed and returning Unit Historians! With School of Instruction (SOI) behind us, I wanted to follow up with the History Tool Kit I spoke about, which contains a copy of the:

- Winning Senior History Book and Narrative 2022-2023
- Winning Junior History Book and Narrative 2022-2023
- Winning Central Division National History Book and Narrative of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Ohio 2019-2021
- 12 month Blue Print of the Unit History Book
- Sample of the Plan of Action (POA)
- Instruction sheet and grading point system

If you want this invaluable History Took Kit, it is available via email. Send me an email and I will be happy to reply with an email attachment of the above items. It is a good example of what is required and needed. It will help you follow along with your POA and what is expected for you to work on and turn in at the end of the year. **DON'T FEEL OVERWHELMED!**

I know each and every unit has some participation of events and activities incorporating their programs i.e., VA&R; Americanism; Children and Youth; Community Service, and Education. Each program worked by the unit, should have some documented history with photos and programs of events and activities the unit and or individuals participated over the year. **THIS IS THE INFORMATION THAT GOES INTO YOUR POA AND THEN IS PLACED IN YOUR UNIT HISTORY BOOK.** Only limited photos go in the history book, while most go in the scrapbook.

I am here available to help YOU put together a simple, or extravagant history book, narrative and or scrapbook. If you need further assistance, please contact me by phone at 419-566-9395. Or shoot me an email at mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com with your questions.

ALA Department of Ohio President Jane Ridenour's theme **Our Heroes Inspiring Others** was inspiring of itself at SOI, as Chairmen and District Presidents donned their Superhero masks, costumes, and capes to introduce their program for the year.

If you and or your members are representing a Superhero, please send pictures with the date, event name, and identify those in the photo. If you have any upcoming event, please contact me to see if I can be there to help you document this significant event.

Also, if you and your unit are wearing their Be The One shirts/attire on the 1st of each month OR at any event, please send me a photo with the date, event name and identify the members.

While the National Historian, Donna Thurman of Kentucky has not indicated any Mid-Winter reporting, please consider sending me info (for the period from September through December) via email on what your unit has done, photos and captions of your Superheroes or send a report if President Jane or any dignitaries visited your unit by December 20, 2023. Depending on how many units participate, I may have a FREE incentive drawing of an item or two from Emblem Sales to be drawn during our Mid-Winter Conference.

ALA Nat'l Historian Donna just sent an email informing us she will be putting together a zoom meeting for further discussion. I will report any and all information via bulk mailing. If you want to keep close contact with me, email me and I will add you to my emailing list and send you updates as I receive them.

NEWSFLASH * * * * * NEWSFLASH * * * * * NEWSFLASH * * * * * NEWSFLASH * * * * * NEWSFLASH

Here is some exciting news! Our end of the year incentive is a beautiful set of the Multi-Star Earrings with Auxiliary Emblem, and the matching pendant! The Best Overall History winner will receive the coveted Department Plaque presented with this jewelry ensemble at State Convention. AND every unit/historian that submits a COMPLETED PLAN OF ACTION (POA) with the detailed information of what the unit did throughout the year, or a complete History Book with Narrative will be entered in a FREE drawing. The drawing of the name of one unit historian will be held on the floor at State Convention, and the lucky winner will receive the jewelry ensemble.



3/4" Pierced
Item # 314-215
\$15.95



3/4" Pendant on 16" chain
Item # 314-315
\$9.95

This past year Jane Yeager, of Ehret Parsel of Plymouth Unit 447, District 5 won the Senior Best Overall Unit History Book with Narrative. The Junior Best Overall History Book with Narrative winner was Kristie Yeager, Plymouth Unit 447, District 5. The Scrapbook winner was Jeanne Ginther, of Russell Chadwick of Beverly Unit 389, District 11. And the winner for the FREE drawing for turning in a completed Plan of Action of what their unit did was Linda Sauter of Pickerington Unit 283, District 8. CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!

From the top of the highest peak of your town, to the sacred land in which our war dead heroes are buried, to the kitchens where meals are prepared for the weekly Auxiliary dinners or at the street corner handing out the infamous poppy, Superheroes, get ready, get set and go!

Remember our Veterans ~ Our Heroes Don't Wear Capes, They Wear Dog Tags! #BeTheOne

For God and Country ~ Be The One, To Save One, Life. www.Legion.org/betheone

Mrs. Dayna Beyer

Address: 6013 Garber Rd. Bellville, OH 44813
Cell: 419-566-9395 Fax: 888-225-3180
Email: mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com





Junior Activities
Sandra Grooms, Chairman
Connie Morton, 2nd Member
Michele Bolin, 3rd Member

Department Juniors -

The Villains are after us, we need all Super-Hero Juniors to assemble to conquer these bad guys. This year we are asking all Juniors to participate in all Senior meetings at your Unit. Take part in each program and have the Senior member assist you in doing so. Learn the roles of our great organization. Make sure you bring your friends to the meetings; everyone's input is important.

Remember we have several awards to try and achieve, and it is possible to do them all. We have some amazing awards to compete for this year.

The Merry Lyn Plaque - Junior Member of the Year Award
Helen Sloan Plaque - Overall Junior Activities Program
Best Media Coverage of Activity or Project
Junior Americanism Plaque
Dorothy McCullough Americanism Plaque
Erwina Ehresman Department Attendance Award
Martha Van Horn Plaque
Junior Citation of Merit
Membership Goal Ribbon
Ohio Travel Log - Wood County

Brooklyn Taylor, Honorary Department Junior President for the 2023-2024 year's Special Project for this year is "Helping our Women Veterans". She would like for you to bring the following items to Department Mid-Winter:

- Full size hair products (Shampoo, conditioner hairspray, etc.)
- Full size bath products (body wash, body spray, etc.)
- Hair ties, headbands
- Bath robes
- Gift Cards (Bath & Body Works, restaurants, movie tickets, etc.)
- Make-up
- Anything "girlie"!

These items can be brought to Mid-Winter or donations can be sent to Department Headquarters earmarked for the Junior President's Special Project.

Don't forget these little items: The Junior Conference Cover, Junior Craft Book, Junior Prayer Book, Junior Scrapbook, Junior Narrative History, Little Miss Poppy Contest, Poppy Poster Contest, Poppy Usage Contest, Poppy Corsage Contest, and the Patch Program. The

criteria for each item are included in your Plan of Action.

Please remember your ideas for Americanism, Chaplain, Children & Youth, Community Service, Education, History, Leadership, Legislative, National Security, Poppy, Public Relations and especially your Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation programs throughout your own unit are very valuable. If you try something new and it doesn't work, it's ok, rework it and try again. DON'T GIVE UP.

If there is anything you need, please call Connie, Michelle or me and we will be happy to help.

Till the next time, keep those Hero Capes on and let's chase the Villains of Doubt out of our Great Organization.

Sandra Grooms
Department Junior Activities Chairman



CALLING ALL JUNIORS!!



It is the beginning of a new American Legion Auxiliary year and I hope you are getting your Junior members involved.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for November 4th. There will be Mission Training for our Senior members and T-shirts and special projects for our Junior members. It will be at the Embassy Suites in Cincinnati. These events are great events that provide fun and learning, a time to meet others with same interests and see where our American Legion Auxiliary is going. A great way to help their enthusiasm continue to grow for our American Legion Auxiliary programs. They will meet girls from all over the Central Division and share ideas, and they will even make friends for a lifetime.

To register just go to the National web page. It is legion-aux.org
If you have questions or ideas call or text me at 419-439-0526

Hope to see you there!

Colleen K Phillips
Junior Activities Committee Central Division Chair



Mindi M. Rue
Leadership Chairman
Phone 419.439.2950
Email mindy1036@gmail.com



"The delicate balance of mentoring someone is not creating them in your own image but giving them the opportunity to create themselves." -Steven Spielberg

Mentoring is a "process of equipping people with the tools, knowledge, and opportunities they need to develop them and become more effective".

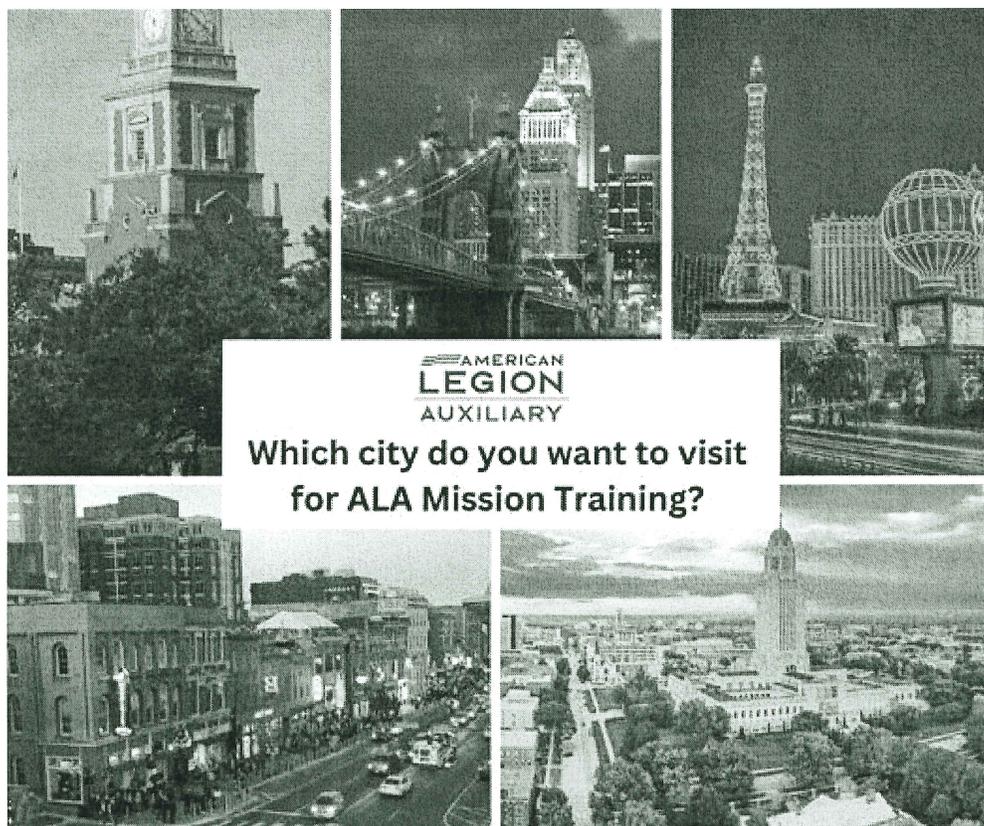
Mentoring allows organizations to create an environment that fosters personal and professional growth through the sharing of organizational information, skills, attitudes, and behaviors. It **increases role modeling of leaders and accelerates processes for the identification, development, and retention of talent.**

10 WAYS TO BE AN AMAZING MENTOR from [How to Be an Amazing Mentor in 10 Ways, according to HubSpot Managers](#)

1. Understand what you want out of the relationship.
2. Set expectations together in the very beginning.
3. Take a genuine interest in your mentee as a person.
4. Build trust.
5. Know when to give advice.
6. Don't assume anything about your mentee - ask.
7. Share your journey.
8. Celebrate their achievements.
9. Seek out resources to help your mentee grow.
10. Be sure you have the bandwidth.

The value of mentoring in the American Legion Auxiliary will be to preserve the traditions of our organization, all while fostering new ideas, growth, and change. This is the most effective way to serve our veterans, active-duty military and their families, our children and youth, and our communities. Remember: Just because that is the way we've always done it; doesn't mean that's the way it always has to be done!

LEADERSHIP



Mission Trainings are not your typical meetings! They are interactive, fun, and hosted in great cities! Take a break from your normal weekend routine and have a weekend getaway 🚗, all while serving the ALA mission 🇺🇸.

You can choose any of the five locations; you don't need to stay within your ALA division.

🍁 Cincinnati and Providence are great fall destinations!

🌴 Beat the winter blues by traveling to Las Vegas in January!

🎵👋 In February, enjoy music in Nashville or visit Lincoln, Nebraska – the steak capital of the world!

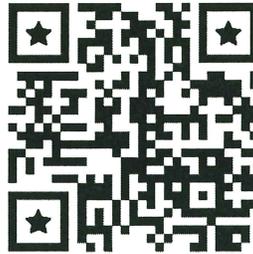
Past attendees have returned home with a renewed sense of purpose, creative ideas, and new friends in the ALA.

Register for an ALA Mission Training today 📅 <https://cvent.me/ZKANvO?RefId=Facebook>

Legislative

Superheroes getting it done!

#1 Captain Invisible says “I represent those that are behind the scenes but not seen. Whether you are washing dishes at a pancake breakfast or pounding the pavement on Capitol Hill, every little thing you do adds up to a great Department of Ohio!”



www.legion.org/action

Scan this code to sign up for Action Alerts and send messages on TAL agenda topics

#2 Mid Winter, January 18th-20th Please come and sign the petitions I will have at the conference. I also will need help getting Legion Family Members signed up with Action Alerts.

#3 March Madness! Be on the look out for superheroes that will be swooping in on the Ohio State Capitol. We will March in March, and have a tour and lunch. Details by January’s Mid Winter. Also check for information on our Facebook group, “ALA Legislative Ohio”

#4 The American Legion is in support of HR 5641 Pay the Military and HR 2693 Pay the Coast Guard. If we go into Government Shut down without these passing, they will not get paid during this period. They will get back pay once the budget is finally passed, but they will not be able to pay their bills and support their families during this time. Please write, call and email your congressmen now!

#5 On the backside is a list of legislation in Ohio pertaining to Ohio Veterans, Active Duty, Reserve & National Guard, and their families, thanks to Legionnaire David K. Root

Cindy Boehnlein, Dept. of Ohio Legislative Chairman

440-212-5150

Legislation In The 135th Ohio General Assembly

Pertaining to Ohio Veterans, Active Duty, Reserve & National Guard, and Their Families

- ◇ HB 18 Allow military license plate applicant present county veterans ID
- ◇ HB 33 Establishes operating appropriations for fiscal years 2024-2025
- ◇ HB53 Authorize refundable tax credits for hiring certain veterans
- ◇ HB 57 Index the homestead exemption to inflation
- ◇ HB 60 Increase amount of and expand the homestead exemption
- ◇ HB 69 Revise membership of county veterans service commissions
- ◇ HB 90 Authorize property tax exemption for disabled veterans, spouses
- ◇ HB 123 Designate Honor and Remember flag to honor fallen service members
- ◇ HB 126 Expand municipal income tax exemption for military pay
- ◇ HB 131 Designate Army SSgt. Charles V. Kettler Memorial Highway
- ◇ HB 132 Designate Army Sgt. Herbert C. Linville Memorial Highway
- ◇ HB 133 Designate Army Sgt. Ronnie Blair Memorial Highway
- ◇ HB 150 Prohibit rental discrimination based on lawful source of income
- ◇ HB 202 Designate Specialist Dennis Alan Combs Memorial Highway
- ◇ HB 231 Establish 9-8-8 suicide prevention, mental health telephone line
- ◇ HB 242 Establish the Armed Forces Reserve Component Scholarship Program and related funds
- ◇ HB 250 Revise the Military Enlistment diploma seal
- ◇ HB 252 Designate SM1 Cornelius Anthony McCafferty, Jr. Memorial Highway
- ◇ HB 253 Designate Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor
- ◇ HB 254 Expand and enhance the homestead property tax exemption for disabled veterans
- ◇ HB 269 Designate Sgt Bradley J. Harper USMC Memorial Highway

- ◇ HR 95 Urge Congress to extend GI Bill benefits
- ◇ HR 189 Honoring Thomas Mihalís Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1079 on its Centennial
- ◇ HR 221 Honoring Dan Shroyer as a 2023 National Veterans Golden Age Games Champion
- ◇ HR 222 Honoring Dr. John Eichelberger as a 2023 National Veterans Golden Age Games Champion
- ◇ HR 258 Honoring American Legion DeWitt McConnell Post 235 on its Centennial

- ◇ HCR 8 To urge the federal government to select Ohio for the permanent headquarters of the United States Space Command
- ◇ HCR 9 Adopt Restoration of America's Readiness (ROAR) Resolution

- ◇ SB 12 Regards veteran-owned business enterprise certification program
- ◇ SB 14 Expand veteran eligibility to teach without license
- ◇ SB 15 Authorize Military License Plate Program permanent registration
- ◇ SB 43 Modify homestead exemption-surviving spouse of a disabled veteran
- ◇ SB 45 Designate Veterans Memorial Bridge in Trumbull County
- ◇ SB 63 Require plaintiff in asbestos claim to file specified disclosures
- ◇ SB 64 Expand Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program
- ◇ SB 110 Designate Sgt. Anthony Kress Vinnedge Memorial Highway
- ◇ SB 113 Regards failure to comply with Military Selective Service System
- ◇ SB 114 Designate Lance Corporal James F. Kimple Memorial Highway
- ◇ SB 152 Designate Cpl. Jack O. McClure Memorial Highway
- ◇ SB 154 Include Space Force in armed forces, armed and uniformed service

- ◇ SR 171 Honoring Thomas Mihalís Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1079 as it commemorates its One Hundredth Anniversary

You can watch live every session of both chambers, all the committee hearings, Governor DeWine's press conferences, and much more on the Ohio Channel.

They are also archived for viewing at a later date.

www.ohiochannel.org



Membership Report

October 2023

Louise Smerk
1st Vice President



Let me start by saying it was wonderful to see SO MANY new faces at SOI.

At SOI, I believe that a few people misunderstood my message. Let me clear the air... I think that each and every one of you are working very hard on membership, and I hope you continue to work hard at it. My message was truly to promote having your membership see if they can become PUFL members and then you never have to worry about a dues increase again. Also, I was supporting Angela Miller, within the Department office, to stress the importance of using the correct transmittal form when submitting dues, make sure that all information is completed on new applications and that you are getting a legible email address for the new member.

I am also promoting ALAMIS. PLEASE, reach out to Vicky Buck and or Angela Miller at the Department office if you are interested in signing up for the online registration program.

I receive a membership report from the Central Division membership chairperson every Wednesday. The Central Division is in 2nd place as of the October 11 date. We need to keep up the good work on collecting dues and turning them in on a timely basis.

PLEASE, do not hold onto dues. Your annual dues are valid through 12/31 of each year. We start collecting dues for the new year on August 1st. If you have a member that is in need of applying for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund, she must be in good standing for 3 consecutive years.

Have you purchased your membership pin yet? They are available from your District President and will be available at Mid-Winter Conference in January.

**KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK AND I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHERE WE ARE
NEXT MONTH!!!!**

NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAM

2023 – 2024

Becky Dippman, Chr.

3186 S. River Rd. Pemberville, OH 43450

419-409-6032 bdippman@gmail.com

My name is Becky Dippman, Department National Security Chairman, AKA the Super Hero RED POWER RANGER. My superpower allows me to have enhanced strength, speed, and durability to support active-duty service members. This year, let's plan to join forces, enact your special powers with other Super Heros and enhance our Country's National Security.

The American Legion Auxiliary National Security Program maintains and promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting **active-duty** military service members and their families. I encourage our Super Heros (our Legion and Auxiliary members) to support the emotional, social, and material needs of active, reserve and transitioning military service members and their families through activities such as Operation Comfort Warriors and working with military installation Family Readiness Groups (FRG's) or National Guard or Reserve units.

*****I NEED TO MAKE A CORRECTION FROM THE SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTIONS: The Military Family Assistance Fund Maximum Grant has been changed to \$750 each.** The grant amount was lowered to be able to reach more active-duty and Veterans in need.

Ohio's Super Heros can provide "welcome home" events for active-duty military. Units can sponsor Blood Mobiles, hold package mailings with cookies, snacks, and personal care items. Donate expired coupons to military bases, and present Blue and Gold star banners to active-duty military families. Donate or volunteer at your local ASYMCA food pantries -Armed Services YMCA. Support or volunteer at the local USO and sponsor the local Quilts of Valor program by donating supplies and money or host a ceremony to award quilts to service members.

Ohio's Heros are also encouraged to support the American Legion National Security program by completing Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), acknowledging families whom an accounting of an MIA service member's remains has been certified, and working the Citizen Corps Council to ensure citizens are prepared to respond to national disasters.

These are just some of the activities and events that our Unit's Super Heros can get involved in to participate in the National Security Program. There are many more. The back of this sheet contains more National Security Activities to support.

SO, SUPER HEROES IN OHIO EVERYWHERE- Bring out those super powers you have and let's all work together to support our active duty service members and their families!

CROWN ROYAL PURPLE BAG PROJECT

<https://pack.crownroyal.com>

Crown Royal has partnered with Packages From Home to send care packages to deployed military service members. **Please visit <https://pack.crownroyal.com>** for more details.

Crown Royal believes it's not what you have, it's what you give. So, when it came to honoring the bravest amongst us, American Military Heroes, they wanted to do more than simply raise a glass. They wanted to give them something meaningful, to thank them for all they've given us.

Driven by Crown Royal's generosity, The Purple Bag Project was born, turning their iconic purple bags into care packages for soldiers and veterans reminding them of their support and thanks. Together with Packages From Home, their National Charity Partner, The Purple Bag Project has become a token of their appreciation for those serving our country.

Since 2010 they have packed and distributed over 1 million purple bags (and counting) to service members and veterans, providing them with essential care and comfort from home. Royal Crown is continuing their commitment to supporting military heroes with the goal of packaging TWO MILLION BAGS by 2030.

Check with your local retailer to see if they are participating in the Purple Bag Project. If not, maybe you can partner with them and get it started in your committee. Maybe you could make your own care packages, and/or partner with another charity that serves active-duty service members and veterans.

packagesfromhome.org

Packages From Home began as a labor of love for founder, Kathleen Lewis's son, Christian, a soldier with the Army's 1st Infantry Division.

On September 11, 2001, Christian turned on the TV and was shocked to learn about the devastating terrorist attacks that had occurred that morning.

MOTIVATED BY PATRIOTISM AND A STRONG SENSE OF DUTY, CHRISTIAN RESPONDED BY LEAVING HIS HOME AND ENLISTING IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY THAT SAME DAY.

In March 2004, Christian was deployed to Iraq and Kathleen began sending care packages to him on a regular basis. Shortly thereafter, Kathleen received a phone call from Christian thanking her for the packages from home. He told her that receiving familiar items not only provided the comforts of home that he missed so much, but also reminded him that someone was thinking of him, which helped him combat the loneliness and dangers of deployed life. Receiving the packages motivated him to fight for his country and come home safe to his friends and family.

Along with her friends and neighbors, Kathleen began having monthly "Packing Parties" in her garage, sending requested and needed items to Christian and the soldiers in his squad. As we all know, volunteering for a good cause is contagious, and as Kathleen and her small group of volunteers kept sending packages, more and more people began to get involved. The grassroots effort began to grow by leaps and bounds from November 2004. By then, the amount of donated goods and funds for postage had increased so much that the group requested charitable status with the IRS and finally became a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Today, Packages From Home's primary purpose is to provide food, personal care, and recreational items to deployed American servicemen and women from every branch of the military, at no cost to them, while simultaneously supporting the needs of military working/service dogs and veterans who have returned home. And Packages From Home does all of this by relying mostly on the generosity of volunteers and donors, as the organization only employs one full-time and two part-time team members on its staff.



Do You Know Parliamentary Procedure?

Here is a little quiz to test your knowledge of parliamentary procedure. Mark a T (true) or F (false) in the blank preceding each statement.

- _____ 1. The president of a group should be in charge of the meeting.
- _____ 2. In presenting motions, members should rise and address the presiding officer.
- _____ 3. Motions should be introduced by saying, "I make a motion."
- _____ 4. You should not second a motion unless you rise, address the "chair," and are recognized.
- _____ 5. Committee reports which include recommendations need to be approved by the group through a motion, second, and a favorable vote.
- _____ 6. Nominations made from the floor should always be seconded.
- _____ 7. The secretary need not stand up when reading the minutes.
- _____ 8. The secretary need not rise when calling roll.
- _____ 9. The minutes of a meeting should be approved by a motion and a vote.
- _____ 10. An amendment to a motion does not need to be seconded.
- _____ 11. If the chairman does not like a motion which has been properly made and seconded, he or she can ignore it and call for a new motion.
- _____ 12. Before every meeting, the president should outline a plan or agenda.

Answers to Do you know Parliamentary Procedure?

1. True. The chairman would be in charge of those meetings.
2. True. In business meetings, it is only after a member has addressed the presiding officer as "Mr/Madam President" or "Mr/Madam Chairman" and has been recognized that the member is privileged to speak and to present the proposal.
3. False. It is better form to say, "I move that ..." instead of "I make a motion that..."
4. False. Only in the larger and more formal meetings is it necessary for one who seconds a motion to be "recognized."
5. True. All reports where a committee makes recommendations need to be approved by the group.
6. False. Nominations made from the floor do not need to be seconded. While it is moved that the report of a nomination committee be accepted or that nominations cease or that the secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for those nominated, this is a main motion. These situations do require a second followed by discussion and a vote.
7. False. The secretary does stand up while reading the minutes.
8. True. The secretary may remain seated when calling roll because of the convenience of recording in the secretary's book. The secretary must stand when the minutes are read.
9. False. After the minutes have been read, the chairman may ask, "Are there any corrections to the minutes as read? If not, they stand approved as read." If there is a correction, the presiding officer asks the secretary to make the change.
10. False. An amendment to a motion should be seconded the same as the main motion to which it applies.
11. False. A chairman cannot ignore a motion. He or she must deal with a motion which has been made and seconded by following the process outlined in the president's brochure. The president must also acknowledge points of order and appeals.
12. True. Better meetings will result if the chairman always prepares advance program outlines or agenda.

Poppy Program October Bulk Mailing 2023

It was wonderful to see everyone at the School of Instructions! I hope everyone was able to take away at least one great idea from all the wonderful presentations.

Veterans Day is right around the corner. This would be a great time to incorporate the Poppy Program. Your Unit can give a poppy Design as a flyer to be placed in the window of a Veteran. Be creative with your Poppy Design. Take pictures for public relations and send them to the local media. When you distribute the poppy, include a thank you note from the Auxiliary.

You can also have a local school assist you in the distribution of the poppies to be given to the Veterans. Miss Poppy for your Unit can ask permission if her class or school can color pictures for the Veterans and write thank you letters. The state of Ohio has declared that the public schools educate the students about the United States Veterans and their service. So, you can also share the history of the poppy with the students, and possibly find some youngsters to participate in the Poppy Poster Contest.

With Veterans Day around the corner, is there a way to incorporate raising monies for your Poppy Fund??? If you have a Poppy fundraiser, please share your ideas with me. I would love to share with our members all the great ideas in our department. The local businesses would be happy to put the Poppy Posters in their windows. They also will let you ask for donations if you just ask. The Veteran in uniform or the Juniors are a welcome sight and hard to turn down when asking for a donation.

At this point, there is no date for Poppy Shop. I will keep you all posted regarding any updates.

Please continue to check online for National's updates for the Miss Poppy program. It is "ALL NEW" on how the Miss Poppy "Book" will be done. I want to honor all the hard work that our Department Miss Poppy's 2023-2024 have done this year so I will be asking for our Miss Poppy names and other information, so they can be Honored at Convention.

Units keep taking pictures and promoting the Poppy in your area. At Mid-Winter, we will be having the Poppy Usage Contest and the Poppy Corsage Contest. (Junior and Senior divisions) SOOOOO start thinking about your designs and we all cannot wait to see the creations.

ORDER your Poppies. The Poppy order form will be out. Please return it ASAP. In order to be considered for the President's Citation of Merit, you must order poppies before December 31.

Any questions, give me a Text or Call!!



Darlene Hanneman hayman@bright.net 419-615-2940

SERVICE TO VETERAN'S

Marsha Giehls

aux194@embarqmail.com

If you do something for a Veteran outside a VA Facility, it counts towards your Service to Veterans Hours.

Some Examples: did you go shopping for a Veteran, give them a ride to an appointment or grocery store. Did you bake items, crochet, or knit items that are being donated to a Veteran. These are a few of the things you should keep track of for your hours and turn the hours in on the Service to Veterans paperwork. If you are not sure if you can count something you do on your Service to Veterans hours, ask and I will let you know.

Also, remember that if you take care of a Veteran who lives with you it counts as 10 hours a week and if the Veteran does not live with you, it is 5 hours a week.

Fill out one sheet per member, and fill out the information on the top of the sheet, keep a copy so that you can include these numbers in your VA&R report that you give to your Unit Chairman and make sure that everything is legible, you can send them by mail or email, and you do not have to wait until April 15th to send them to me. My email and address are on the Plan of Action you received. Also, please be specific about what you are doing for our Veterans. Remember, these hours can only be counted once and not counted again on another program's report, so decide which program you want to report the hours on. **EXAMPLE:** If you send in your hours on a Service to Veteran's report, which are to be included in your VA&R report you should not also count those hours on Community Service or National Security.

If you can send me short note letting me know some of the things your Unit is doing to promote Service to Veteran's, so your members can earn their hours, then we can share ideas with other members as to how they can also earn their hours. All members do things to help our Veterans, outside the VA Facilities, so turn in those hours.

Remember all these hours do matter and keep being those Super Heros for our Veterans.

Marsha

NOTES FROM THE HOSPITAL DIRECTOR

Linda Close

ATTENTION AUXILIARY MEMBERS:

I'm bringing your attention to the need for your support of our veterans in our V A Facilities. The donations for the V A hospitals in Ohio have been slipping and our Representatives and Deputies find themselves stressing over their gifts this Christmas season. Because they have to shop early to have their Holiday parties a success, we are asking members to get their donations in early. If you regularly donate, think about increasing your donation this year. And if you haven't donated, please consider using some of your poppy funds to help make our veterans' Christmas shine this year. Remember to make your checks out to A L A Dept of Ohio and earmark them for the name of the V A Hospital Christmas 2023. I know your donations are so appreciated.

The need for volunteers is becoming more and more prevalent each year. As we get older, we are losing more of our volunteers. Several of our CBOCs (Community Based Outpatient Centers) are not even being covered. We no longer have Representatives in Akron, Canton, Youngstown, Parma, and others. At other V A Facilities our Representative are working without a Deputy. If you are retired and able to volunteer, even once a month, it would mean so much. Please reach out to me or your Representative to volunteer or make donations. My phone number is 419-989-1180 and my email is lindaaclose@gmail.com. These are the current Representatives at each V A Facility: Chillicothe – Linda Lyons; Cincinnati – Donna Ray; Cleveland Wade Park – Patricia Miazga; Dayton – Sue Masten; Ohio Veterans Home – Denise Bossetti; Columbus – Cheryl Smith; and Toledo – Pam Brenneman. Our organization has always supported our veterans and we want so much for that to continue.

In advance I thank you for supporting our veterans and hope you will help us make this Christmas memorable for each and every one of them! God bless you all.

Linda Close

Ph. 419-989-1180

lindaaclose@gmail.com



**News from the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky, Ohio.
Chief Rep. Denise Bossetti, Deputy Rep. Nanette Peters**

As The American Legion Auxiliary starts another year under the new regime, we must not forget our mission to help assist all our beloved Veterans.

Bingo is running like clockwork with positive responses from the Veterans. Great to hear right? Want to join us? Our scheduled Bingos are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays starting at 1:30 PM each month through the end of May.

First, we want to THANK EVERYONE who found a way to include this facility in the donations this year. Still, the O.V.H. is extremely short this year when it comes to the Veterans Christmas gift funds. If you could part with a little extra cash sitting in your Poppy funds account it could help make the Veteran's Christmas and New Year happy and bright.

The difference between the Ohio Veterans Home and V.A. Hospitals is that V.A. Hospitals send the patients home after treatment. The O.V.H. Veterans remain here until they go home to be with our Lord. This is the final journey for many living here. So, you see the importance of this request.

Small units could help by sending Dove Sensitive Skin body wash. We have some Veterans with a need for a milder body wash.

Another project that helps the Veterans is sending assorted greeting cards with postage already on the envelopes so they can keep in touch with family and friends, especially during the holidays.

We truly appreciate all that you do to help us provide for our Veterans. Continue doing all you can, including keeping them in your prayers.

**The items in this bag are
PLAN OF ACTION
Updates.**

**Please replace or add to your
Plan of Actions.**

Enclosed:

Education – Scholarship Forms

Children of Warriors – online

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship – online

Spirit of Youth Scholarship – online

Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship

**Junior Activities – Corrected Cover
Sheet**



CHILDREN *of* WARRIORS

NATIONAL PRESIDENTS' SCHOLARSHIP



Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship

2024 Application

DUE MARCH 1, 2024.

Application closes at 11:59 PM Eastern.

Fifteen scholarships, in the amount of \$5,000 each, will be awarded for 2024.

Three scholarships will be awarded in each of the five divisions of the American Legion Auxiliary.

- CENTRAL - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- EASTERN - Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont
- NORTHWESTERN - Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming
- SOUTHERN - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia
- WESTERN - Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington

All are gift scholarships, not loans.

Please contact Education@ALAforVeterans.org with questions. The sheer volume of scholarship applications received makes it impractical for national headquarters to respond to each application or to confirm receipt of materials.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be direct descendants of veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion and were honorably discharged. **Membership in The American Legion Family is not required for this scholarship.**
2. Applicants must be in their senior year of high school.
3. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education.
4. Applicants must complete 50 hours of volunteer service within the community during their high school years. Hours must be verified in writing by the recipient organization(s).
5. Completed applications are **DUE ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2024, 11:59 PM Eastern.**
6. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:
 - 30% - Character/Leadership
 - 30% - Essay/Application
 - 40% - Academic Achievement

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

The award will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has registered. American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive certification of enrollment within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited. The scholarship must be used within 24 months of the date the winner receives notification from National Headquarters, or the scholarship will be forfeited. Thus, if the winning student does not wish to use monies for FIRST-YEAR expenses, they then must be used for SECOND-YEAR expenses or be forfeited.

AMERICAN LEGION

AUXILIARY

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

2024 Application

DUE MARCH 1, 2024.

Application closes at 11:59 PM Eastern.

Scholarship details:

Five scholarships, in the amount of \$2,000 each, will be awarded for 2024. One scholarship will be awarded in each of the five divisions of the American Legion Auxiliary based on a scoring rubric.

- CENTRAL - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- EASTERN - Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont
- NORTHWESTERN - Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming
- SOUTHERN - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia
- WESTERN - Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington

All are gift scholarships, not loans.

Please contact Education@ALAforVeterans.org with questions. The sheer volume of scholarship applications received makes it impractical for national headquarters to respond to each application or to confirm receipt of materials.

RULES

1. Applicants must be:
 - a. A current member in good standing of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion, must have held membership for the two preceding years (2022 and 2023), and be a paid member for the current (2024) membership year, OR
 - b. A veteran who served in the United States Armed Forces and was honorably discharged, OR
 - c. The spouse of an active duty servicemember or a veteran who was honorably discharged.
2. Applicants must be:
 - a. a non-traditional student returning to the classroom after some period in which their formal education was interrupted, OR
 - b. a non-traditional student beginning their education at a later point in life.
3. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:
 - o Academic Achievement 25%
 - o Financial Need 25%
 - o Character/Leadership 25%
 - o Initiative/Goals 25%

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

Disbursement of funds:

The award will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has registered. ***American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive certification of enrollment within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited.*** The scholarship must be used within 24 months of the date the winner receives notification from National Headquarters, or the scholarship will be forfeited. Thus, if the winning recipient does not wish to use monies for FIRST-YEAR expenses, they then must then be used for SECOND-YEAR expenses or be forfeited.

AMERICAN LEGION

AUXILIARY

Spirit of Youth Scholarship

2024 Application

DUE MARCH 1, 2024.

Application closes at 11:59 PM Eastern.

Scholarship details:

State/Department: National Headquarters will award each state/department winner a \$1,000 scholarship (47 scholarships total). *New for 2023-2024*

National: From the potential 52 state/department scholarship winners, the national Education Committee will select 5 winners (1 per division) for a \$5,000 scholarship based on a scoring rubric.

- CENTRAL - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- EASTERN - Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont
- NORTHWESTERN - Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming
- SOUTHERN - Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia
- WESTERN - Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington

All are gift scholarships, not loans.

Please contact Education@ALAforVeterans.org with questions. The sheer volume of scholarship applications received makes it impractical for national headquarters to respond to each application or to confirm receipt of materials.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall be/shall have been Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary, have held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the past three consecutive years (2021, 2022, and 2023), and must be a paid member for the

current (2024) membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the scholarship period.

2. Applicants must be in their senior year of high school or be a senior equivalent.
3. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education. Applicants must be of good character and have grades that meet entrance requirements at the institution of their choice. Applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA using a 4.0 scale.
4. Applicants must present the completed application to their **local American Legion Auxiliary unit president ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2024.**
5. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:
 - Character/Leadership 30%
 - Essay/Application 30%
 - Academic Achievement 40%

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

Disbursement of funds

- a. Department (state) winners - the award (\$1,000) will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has registered. ***American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive certification of enrollment within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited.*** If the winner discontinues their education or membership in the American Legion Auxiliary before requesting the funds, the scholarship will be forfeited. The winner will have 24 months from the date of high school graduation to utilize the scholarship funds.
- b. National Winners - the first half of the award (\$2,500) will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has registered. ***American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive enrollment certification within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited.*** There shall be no money paid to the school for the ensuing semesters until re-enrollment notification has been received at National Headquarters from the school. Notification from the school must include verification of a B (3.0) average. If the winner discontinues their education or membership in the American Legion Auxiliary before completing the scholarship period, the balance of the scholarship will be forfeited. The winner will have six years from the date of high school graduation to utilize the scholarship funds.



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
JUNIOR MEMBER LOYALTY SCHOLARSHIP
2024 APPLICATION**

Ten scholarships, in the amount of \$2,500 each, will be awarded for 2024.
Two scholarships will be awarded in each of the five divisions of the
American Legion Auxiliary. All are gift scholarships, not loans.

RULES

1. Candidates for this award shall have been Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary, held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the past three consecutive years (2021, 2022, and 2023) and be a paid member for the current (2024) membership year. Applicant must continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the scholarship period.
2. This scholarship is intended for the traditional college student, who has attained their high school diploma, has had no interruption in education, and who is at least in the first semester of college or technical school but not yet attained a bachelor's degree. Applicants must be completing one, two, or three years of college courses.
3. This is a scholarship to attend an accredited institution of higher education for the completion of a bachelor's degree. Applicants must have completed at least one semester with grades that meet continuation requirements at the institution of their choice. Applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA using a 4.0 scale.
4. Previous American Legion Auxiliary national scholarship recipients are welcome to apply.
5. Applicants must present the completed application, along with the other required materials specified on the following page, to the **president of their American Legion Auxiliary unit ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2024.**
6. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:

Leadership, Character, and ALA Participation (as presented in applicant's essay)	50%
Academic Achievement	25%
Completed Application	25%

THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.

7. The first half of the award (\$1,250) will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has re-enrolled. ***American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters must receive certification of enrollment within 12 months of the winning recipient's notification, or the scholarship will be forfeited.*** There shall be no money paid to the school for the ensuing semester until notification of re-enrollment has been received from the school. Notification from the school must include verification of at least a B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) average. If the winner discontinues their education or membership in the American Legion Auxiliary before all scholarship funds have been dispersed, the balance of the scholarship will be forfeited. The winner will have four years from the date of notification of scholarship to use the scholarship funds.



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
JUNIOR MEMBER LOYALTY SCHOLARSHIP
2024 APPLICATION**

APPLICATION PACKET CHECKLIST

- Completed application packet for the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship.

- Applicant's college transcripts, or photocopy of the college transcripts, that shows at least one year of study (24 credits) has been or will be completed.

- An essay describing your involvement in the American Legion Auxiliary, including past involvement as an American Legion Auxiliary Junior member.

- An original essay consisting of no more than 1,000 words (typed, double-spaced). ALA National President Lisa Williamson has chosen to increase awareness about the veteran and military suicide epidemic, while embracing The American Legion's "Be the One" initiative. "Be The One" will destigmatize asking for mental health support, provide peer-to-peer support and resources, and educate everyone on how they can "Be The One". **As a current college student and American Legion Auxiliary member, how can you "Be The One" for our veteran and military communities?**

I understand that by signing this application, I agree that my name and likeness, and/or essay may be used for marketing purposes in ALA media.

Print or Type Full Name

Signature of Applicant

Print or Type Full Name

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Please be sure to attach all the required materials to this application
and submit the application and materials to the
American Legion Auxiliary unit in which your membership is recorded
NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2024.



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
JUNIOR MEMBER LOYALTY SCHOLARSHIP
2024 APPLICATION**

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Date of birth: _____ **Email:** _____

Phone: _____

Membership ID #: _____ **Date applicant joined the ALA:** _____

Name of veteran through whom applicant is eligible for membership in American Legion Auxiliary:

Relationship to veteran: _____

Name of father, or guardian: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Name of mother, or guardian: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

What high school(s) did you attend? _____

What was your date of graduation from high school? _____

In what college or university are you currently enrolled? _____

What is your college major/course of study? _____



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
JUNIOR MEMBER LOYALTY SCHOLARSHIP
2024 APPLICATION

THIS PORTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SPONSORING ALA UNIT

(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

EACH UNIT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION IN THE APPLICANT'S PACKET.

- Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:
Leadership, Character, and ALA Participation
(as presented in applicant's essay) 50%
Academic Achievement 25%
Completed Application 25%
- No unit may enter more than one candidate in the department competition.
- The selected entry for each unit shall be certified by the American Legion Auxiliary unit president and unit secretary or unit Education Committee chair.
- The selected entry for each unit should be forwarded to the department secretary for competition at the state level to be received **ON OR BEFORE MARCH 15, 2024.**
- Participation in this scholarship program shall be on a voluntary basis in all units.

Date application received: _____

Unit name and number: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Email: _____

*Signature of Unit Secretary or
Unit Education Committee Chair*

Signature of Unit President



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
JUNIOR MEMBER LOYALTY SCHOLARSHIP
2024 APPLICATION**

THIS PORTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE DEPARTMENT (STATE) LEVEL

(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

EACH DEPARTMENT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION IN THE APPLICANT'S PACKET.

1. Judging, at all levels, shall be on the following basis:

Leadership, Character, and ALA Participation (as presented in applicant's essay)	50%
Academic Achievement	25%
Completed Application	25%
2. Each department is restricted to submitting one candidate to the division competition.
3. The selected entry for each department shall be certified by the American Legion Auxiliary department president, and the department secretary or department Education Committee chair.
4. The selected entry for each department shall be forwarded to the respective division Education Committee chair for competition at the national level, so it's received **ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 2024.** Contact information for the division Education Committee chair is located on the Education Committee page of the MyAuxiliary member portal located at www.ALAforVeterans.org.
5. Participation in this scholarship program shall be on a voluntary basis in all departments.

Date application received: _____

DEPARTMENT _____

DIVISION _____

*Signature of Department Secretary or
Department Education Committee Chair*

Signature of Department President

The American Legion Auxiliary division Education Committee chair and two qualified judges shall make the final decision on the winner. The division Education Committee chair shall certify the name of the winner and send the complete application packet to the national Education Committee chair **on or before April 15, 2024.** The national Education Committee chair shall certify the name of the winning scholarship recipient to ALA National Headquarters.



Ohio Unit Plan of Action - UPDATED 10/1/23



JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

District Junior Activities Chairman

CHAIRPERSON

Sandi Grooms
135 Columbia St
Seaman, OH 45679
(937) 386-7190

Email- s_grooms_219@yahoo.com

2nd MEMBER

Connie Morton
11022 Kent Ave NE
Hartville, OH 44632-9759
(330) 877-1237 (home)
(330) 354-6001 (cell)

Email – cjasmorton@hotmail.com

3rd MEMBER

Michelle Bolin
4300 Bridgeview Ave.
Newburgh Heights, OH 44105-3124
(216) 253-2101

Email – mizetti1@live.com

REPORT DUE TO DISTRICT**April 15, 2024, to****CHAIRMAN BY:****DISTRICT CHAIRMAN****DISTRICT CHAIRMAN SEND TO DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN****BY MAY 1, 2023****Your District Junior Activities Chairman****(address shown below)**

01	262	COLLEEN	PHILLIPS	C-032 CO RD 8B	HAMLER	OH	43524	(419) 439-0526	ckphillips43524@gmail.com
02	210	REBECCA	FETTERS	3893 CARMEL CHURCH RD	CELINA	OH	45822	(419) 305-8644 (419) 586-3731	tyh@bright.net
03	184	MAGGIE	WILEY	317 S BROOKLYN	SIDNEY	OH	45365	(937) 489-1792	howmaw71@gmail.com
04	256	MARGIE	HOMINY	490 HENNEPIN DR	MAINEVILLE	OH	45039	(440) 823-2515	oh4thdistrictpresident@gmail.com
05	447	CINDY	PERKINS	3603 BULLHEAD RD	WILLARD	OH	44890	(567) 224-6358	roncin4@hotmail.com
06	764	BRANDY	LITTLE	6158 LICKING VALLEY RD	FRAZEYSBURG	OH	43822	(740) 644-9462	unit764ala@gmail.com
07	633	STACY	HUMPHERY	1811 INLOW AVE	PEEBLES	OH	45660	(937) 798-1439	mntstacy@yahoo.com
08		VACANT							
09	151	SHARON	KNAUFF	303 BAILEY RD	CONNEAUT	OH	44030	(440) 812-8071	sharonk51@roadrunner.com
10	436	CONNIE	MORTON	11022 KENT AVE NE	HARTVILLE	OH	44632	(330) 354-6001 (330) 877-1237	cjasmorton@hotmail.com
11	495	FLO	HARPOLD	533 WIRT ST	BELPRE	OH	45714	(740) 423-7766	NONE
12	144	KAY	HAYMAN	2649 MCCOMB RD	GROVE CITY	OH	43123	(614) 537-4359	kaybh@juno.com
13	627	MICHELLE	BOLIN	4300 BRIDGEVIEW AVE	NEWBURG HEIGHTS	OH	44105	(216) 253-2101	mizetti1@live.com
14	449	MAKENAH	LEIBERT	2300 CANTERBURY CIRCLE	AKRON	OH	44319	(330) 283-9415	makenah25@yahoo.com

Ohio Unit Plan of Action - UPDATED 10/1/23

Department Report Form

This Form should be attached to each narrative that is submitted for information, Citation of Merit requirements and possible Department award. Please fill out the information as completely and accurately as possible. A Unit must submit a this report form with boxes completed and answer the questions below in order to earn the Citation of Merit. Narrative - word count must follow directions given in award guidelines. Simple or elaborate stories will be accepted as a report.

Please complete the following. Be sure to give the complete name of your Unit: _____

District _____	Unit # _____	Unit Membership Goal _____	Unit Membership Total As of Report _____		
Name of Person Completing Report: _____			Unit Chair. _____	_____	Unit Pres. _____
Phone # _____	Email _____	Membership ID (if available) _____			
Specific Award Name(if applicable) _____					

Answer the following Questions in your narrative.

Narrative must be typed written in narrative form.

Narrative must not exceed 1,000 words. (Can be fewer words if program dictates)

Narrative may include photographs and news articles.

- What did your Unit do to maintain/obtain new Junior members? _____

- How did your Juniors participate in Unit activities? What were the Juniors' duties for those activities? _____

- What did your Unit do to mentor the Junior members leading them into Senior membership? _____

- How did your Unit/Juniors participate in the Star-Spangled Kids program? _____

- What did your Unit do to promote the Conference Covers for the 72nd Department Junior Convention with your Juniors? _____

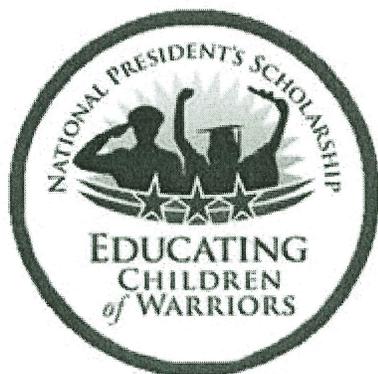
- How did your Unit promote the Americanism Essay contest with your Juniors? _____

- How did your Unit promote the Poppy Posters Contest? _____

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

PLAN OF ACTION

Patch Program Updates



There are new parts to all levels of the Patch Program.

There are four levels of patch criteria:

- **Purple Level:** Pre-School Age 3 through Kindergarten
- **Red Level:** 1st through 4th grade
- **Gold Level:** 5th grade through 8th grade
- **Blue Level:** 9th grade through 12th grade (or 18 years old)

Please find attached the *NEW Purple Patch Program for Preschool – Kindergarten.* All others can be found on the National ALA Website under Juniors at: www.ALAforVeterans.org


**AMERICAN
LEGION**
AUXILIARY
JUNIORS

Junior Activities Patch Program
PURPLE LEVEL: Pre-School Age 3 - Kindergarten

American Legion Auxiliary Junior members and Sons of The American Legion youth members can be active participants of the organization with the Patch Program. Regardless of where one lives, and whether she/he belongs to an active Junior group or squadron, Junior Auxiliary members and SAL youth members can serve their communities and veterans, and learn about patriotism, health, fitness, and leadership through this program.

Each sheet explains the criteria and what must be accomplished in order to earn a specific patch. When the activities are completed, an adult or Senior member must sign the form to verify that the Junior or SAL youth has met the patch criteria.

There are four levels of patch criteria:

- Purple Level: Pre-School Age 3 through Kindergarten
- Red Level: 1st through 4th grade
- Gold Level: 5th grade through 8th grade
- Blue Level: 9th grade through 12th grade (or 18 years old)

Patches may be ordered online at:

<https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Junior-Patch-Program-Order-Form>

Additional Patch Sheets are available at:
www.ALForVeterans.org

For questions and comments, please contact the
National Junior Activities Committee at
junioractivities@ALForVeterans.org or 317-569-4500



CHILDREN OF WARRIORS NATIONAL PRESIDENTS' PATCH

The National Presidents' Scholarship provides scholarships to deserving children of our nation's veterans and servicemembers who have sacrificed greatly due to their parents' dedication to defending America and our values.

A special Junior patch has been created for our Junior members and SAL youth to be involved in raising money for the National Presidents' Scholarship Fund. Help get the word out to all our members! We hope every Junior and SAL youth will be involved in some activity to raise money for scholarships, which are funded by the Educating Children of Warriors Fund. Most Juniors and SAL youth will become eligible for this scholarship, so they may be personally impacted by their fundraising efforts.

Any Junior or SAL youth can earn this patch if they raise at least \$5 for each year old. For example, a 17-year-old would raise a minimum of \$85 (17 x \$5 = \$85.)

Donations can be raised in a variety of ways. Juniors and SAL youth can solicit donations from family, friends, Legion Family members or contribute themselves. Fundraising activities can be coordinated, such as bake sales or other sales, etc. Funds can be raised individually or as a group, but each Junior or SAL youth receiving this patch needs to have raised the required minimum funds for their age. The goal is for the youth of our organization to be involved and aware of the scholarship project. Checks should be made out to *National Treasurer, American Legion Auxiliary with National Presidents' Scholarship* in the memo line.

Get involved today!

To receive the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship patch, complete the following and send it with the donation to:

American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters
Attn: Development
3450 Founders Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Name of Junior/SAL: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ Unit/Squadron: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Amount raised: \$ _____ (\$5/year of age) Department of: _____

Optional: Tell us about how you raised the money (You may use the back of the page if needed):



AMERICANISM PATCH PURPLE LEVEL

(Pre-School Age 3-Kindergarten)

Educate yourself about the rights and responsibilities of an American citizen.

Level 1: Seven (7) possibilities; a total of Four (4) must be completed.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Recite the Pledge of Allegiance with an adult.		
2	Color some pages in the ALA's <i>America the Beautiful</i> coloring book available at https://www.legion-aux.org/Coloring-Books .		
3	Have someone read to you about the history of the American flag.		
4	Have an adult identify the proper number of stars and stripes on the American Flag.		
5	Have an adult show you a map of the United States and point out the state you live in, your state capital, the national capital, and other locations important in our U.S. history.		
6	Draw a picture about what is important to you living in the United States.		
7	Have an adult tell you about the patriotic holidays in the United States (such as Flag Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day, etc.)		

Name of Junior/SAL Member: _____

Grade: _____ Unit/Squadron # _____

Department _____



MEMBERSHIP PATCH PURPLE LEVEL

(Pre-School Age 3-Kindergarten)

Your eligibility for membership is a gift from a veteran.

Level 1: Seven (7) possibilities; a total of Four (4) must be completed.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Wear your American Legion Auxiliary pin or Sons of The American Legion hat to a meeting or to church.		
2	Have an adult tell you through whom you have membership eligibility and why.		
3	Ask a Senior member to tell you why they joined the ALA or SAL.		
4	Assist with a service project or fundraising event at your unit or squadron.		
5	Have a senior member tell you the name and number of your unit or squadron.		
6	Make a card or picture and give it to a veteran at your post.		
7	Learn an interesting fact about the ALA or the SAL and share it with a friend.		

Name of Junior/SAL Member: _____

Grade: _____ Unit/Squadron # _____

Department _____



POPPY PATCH PURPLE LEVEL

(Pre-School Age 3-Kindergarten)

The symbol of sacrifices our veterans have made.

Level 1: Seven (7) possibilities; a total of Four (4) must be completed.

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Have a Senior member tell you the Poppy Story.		
2	Ask an adult ALA member, SAL or Legionnaire to tell you what the poppy means to them.		
3	Color some pages in the ALA's Poppy coloring book available at https://www.legion-aux.org/Coloring-Books .		
4	With help from an adult leader, distribute poppies in your post home or community.		
5	Have an adult recite the poem "In Flanders Fields."		
6	Have an adult read the book, "The Poppy Lady: Moina Belle Michael and Her Tribute to Veterans."		
7	Wear a poppy out in your community.		

Name of Junior/SAL Member: _____

Grade: _____ Unit/Squadron # _____

Department _____