



## BULK MAILING FOR November 2024

### Included in this mailing:

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- Mid-Winter Information
- American Legion Family Shirt Order Form
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- Children & Youth
- Constitution & Bylaws
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- Historian
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- Public Relations
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- VA & R – Service to Veterans
- VA & R – Hospital Director





Louise Smerk  
Department President  
November 2024

I have been in contact with Leora Porter, the supervisor, at The Judge Sara J Harper Village. She is very excited to be working with The American Legion Auxiliary this year. Leora continues to build her wish list but a few things that we have found that they need:

Storage Shed to house patio furniture and gardening tools  
Patio furniture  
Raised garden beds  
Gardening tools  
Dog clean-up Stations – Currently 3 dogs live in the Village

I am very honored to be appearing on the radio show “They Sacrifice for Us” on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure to follow on Facebook or tune in on the radio.

Fall Conferences have been wonderful. I am overwhelmed with the use of my theme: LEAVES – Let’s Embrace All Veterans Every Season. District presidents decorated their hall with fall leaves, table covers, used paper products for breakfast or lunch with leaves on them. The district presidents are also having fun with the trees they were assigned by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Renee’ Kohl. The chairman are also using this theme in some of the most interesting ways.

Please remember to share all the information that is provided within the Bulk mailing with your units. The officers and chairman are working extremely hard to keep you informed.

Department office update: we are actively taking resumes through LinkedIn and are setting up interviews for the position of Department Secretary. We also have a part-time bookkeeping position open as well. We are hoping to fill the Secretary position very soon.

Remember, I am here representing you. I am a phone call away if needed, but I ask that you respect that I do work fulltime from 8:00 – 5:00 M-F and can be reached via my cell (216) 337-4037. You may text me at that number as well, but when you do, please put your name, district and unit number at the beginning of you message. I do not have all of you in my phone. You may also email me at [LAigner109@yahoo.com](mailto:LAigner109@yahoo.com).





The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Ohio  
2025 Mid-Winter Conference

**Friday, January 17, 2025-Saturday, January 18, 2025**

Marriott Columbus Northwest  
5605 Blazer Pkwy  
Dublin, Ohio 43017

To make reservations please call 1-800-228-9290  
to receive the discounted group rate of \$ 122.00 plus tax,  
or make reservations online at

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1708550451350&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Please reference "American Legion Mid-Winter" when making reservations.

Please visit **<https://www.ohiolegion.com/department-mid-winter-conference/>**  
and fill out the registration link.

Please join Department President Louise Smerk and the 2024-25 Department Chairman  
for an innovative and educational conference with the opportunity to hear from our  
Central Division National Vice President,

*Rosemarie W. Hauck.*

The American Legion Department of Ohio will also be hosting a formal awards banquet. Registration for the Awards Banquet can be downloaded and mailed to TAL Department or filled out on-line. E-mail confirmations will be sent to verify your banquet ticket purchase. If you do not receive an email after purchasing a ticket, please contact Department Headquarters. Tickets are \$40.00 per person.

Deadline for hotel reservations is **December 27th** For more information on the ALA event contact [OHDEPTSEC@alaohio.org](mailto:OHDEPTSEC@alaohio.org) or call (740) 452-8245.



American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Ohio

**Mid Winter  
Conference**

**2025**

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
<b>Friday 1/17/25</b>		
10am-12pm	Auxiliary Finance Meeting	Worthington
12pm-6pm	Auxiliary HQ Office	Union
12pm- 3pm	Auxiliary DEC Meeting	Franklin
2pm- 4pm	Auxiliary Buckeye Girls State Workshop	Dublin I & II
4pm-6:30pm	Auxiliary Exhibit/Registration	Lobby/ Atrium
6:30pm-9pm	Auxiliary Conference	Dublin IV
6:30pm-9pm	Auxiliary Juniors Meeting	Worthington
<b>Sat. 1/18/25</b>		
7:30am- 8:30am	Auxiliary Leadership Breakfast	Marysville
8am-9am	Auxiliary HQ Office	Union
8am-8:30am	Auxiliary Exhibit/Registration	Lobby/ Atrium
9am- 1pm	Auxiliary Conference	Dublin III
9am- 1pm	Auxiliary Juniors Meeting	Worthington

<b>Friday 1/17/25</b>	<b>The American Legion</b>	
12pm-5pm	Blood Drive	Dublin III
<b>Sat. 1/18/25</b>		
6pm-8pm	Awards Banquet *ticket required*	Grand Ballroom





## Ohio Legion Family Polo Shirt

» Womens and Mens available

» Contact us at Department 740-362-7478 or [legion@ohiolegion.com](mailto:legion@ohiolegion.com) to order or submit form below with payment to 60 Big Run Rd. Delaware OH 43015

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Ohio Legion Family Polo Shirt - \$50.00

Men's sizes: S M L XL 2X 3X 4X *(circle)*

Women's sizes: S M L XL 2X 3X 4X *(circle)*

Qty: \_\_\_\_\_

Ship To:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa / MasterCard / Discover / Amex *(circle)*

CC Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV # \_\_\_\_\_

## Americanism

Cyndi Underwood, Chairman

Email: [cyn2273@gmail.com](mailto:cyn2273@gmail.com)

Peggy Park, Vice Chairman

Email: [peggyprk@yahoo.com](mailto:peggyprk@yahoo.com)

Happy Fall Chairman and members!

The leaves are now showing all of their beautiful colors. This inspires us to move forward with all the Grand ventures that await us through Americanism! First, let's Vote! Your units can set up a detail for driving your seasoned members to the polls to cast their vote or set up a lite lunch at your post for your members to stop for a bite after voting. Be proud and wear your "I voted" sticker.

Veterans Day falls under so many chairmanships! So, include it and do something! Honor our Veterans and be proud to have one in your life. Assist your post with a parade, lunch or breakfast. Perhaps set up an information table about the organization and veteran assistance. Have speakers at your meetings and have them visit your canteens, give away gifts, participate in a school and be a speaker—taking a veteran with you and our flag. Personally, I take small flags and chocolate bars, you cannot go wrong.

Start planning the rest of the year out now. Begin making a tree of info notes to assist you with programs. Stay a month ahead of schedule and take advantage of those evenings at home when you could call, cut, paste, bake, and arrange.

Wreaths across America??? Yes we are supporting this. Your unit can embrace this by contacting them and getting started; they will explain the details a bit better.

Pay attention to the essay title for this year. Some of you may be using last year's essay title and we do not want that. **The correct essay for this year is "What does America the Beautiful mean to me?"** Grades 3 to 12 and special needs children may apply and due by April 1, 2025, to Peggy Park our Vice Chairman. The Cover Sheet is correct, page 3 of the POA at the bottom has the wrong essay topic. Be sure to use the correct topic.

### Red—White—Blue



Midwinter, Are you ready?? Share your ideas. Do not forget that we are having an **Americanism Day** (Saturday) at Midwinter this year. That's right!! **Wear your bandanas**-patriotic on this day. Any kind you have to show that Ohio has it all together this year and always. Wear your patriotic bandana and support the Ohio Americanism program and your pride to be a member of our organization. Prizes will be given throughout the day, secretly, to those displaying their colors.



Also, you can bring pictures in a 5x7 frame that will be displayed. Our members will then vote on the best photo for only \$1 a vote. The funds will be split between Dept President Louise's special project and BGS

Get excited early, make some donations, order your wreaths across America. Remember, **Let's Embrace All Veterans Every Season!!**

Be proud to show your colors of red, white and blue. Be proud to honor the American ways and support your veterans. Please contact us with any concerns.

#### Dates to Remember

- ❖ Veterans Day November 11
- ❖ Get Out and Vote! Nov 6 Tues
- ❖ Contact the High Schools/BGS
- ❖ Plan a Fundraiser for Americanism
- ❖ Visit the schools and promote all of our programs
  - American Essay Contest "What Does America the Beautiful Mean to Me?"
  - Star Spangled Kids
  - Americanism and Government Test Trip
  - All American Schools
  - Buckeye Girls State Program







**““What does America the Beautiful mean to me  
(regarding veterans and our military)?”**

**Questions have been asked how to explain the Essay Topic to  
school age children. Here are some examples;**

**America the Beautiful to me is our freedoms we exercise  
every day because of our Veterans and our Military.**

**Freedom of speech**

**Freedom of religion**

**The right to keep and bear arms**

**Freedom of assembly and the freedom to petition.**

**Freedom of expression.**

**Freedom of movement.**

**Right to vote.**

**All above is because of our Veterans and Military**





### ***1. Register to vote***

If you are registered, double check your registration status and confirm your voter information is up-to-date and accurate to avoid any hiccups on Election Day.

### ***2. Absentee and early voting***

Every state has varying protocols for absentee voters. It's a good idea to check availability and requirements for absentee votes in your area ahead of time.

### ***3. Research Candidates***

Study the issues, research candidates and their platforms, and find out what to look for in a debate. There are many issues and a lot of information out there. Do your homework and make an informed decision. An informed vote is a powerful vote.

### ***4. Go to the right place***

It may sound obvious, but polling locations change. Be sure to locate your local precinct and double-check it the day-of before you go to vote. Work, school, picking up the kids, and grocery shopping can make any day hectic, so make it a point to find your polling station and familiarize yourself with its hours of operation.

### ***5. Election Day***

Voting takes time. Plan to get to the polls early and remember to check voting requirements ahead of time. Each state does things a little differently, contact your state election office to find out what documents you need to bring with you to vote. If ID is needed in your state, make sure your name and address on your voter registration matches your name and address on your ID by the election. In some places, a current utility bill, paycheck or other document that includes your name and street address may also work.

***Check Your State's Policy***



**THE BUCKEYE GIRLS STATE TREE  
OF KNOWLEDGE  
GWEN SCHROEDER-ZULCH, DIRECTOR**

[gweniesue@yahoo.com](mailto:gweniesue@yahoo.com)

**The Buckeye Girls State Tree is starting to grow. We have applications coming in for the 2025 session of Buckeye Girls State. Have you sent yours in yet?**

**I would like to clarify a point that I received. It is not mandatory for any Junior to attend Buckeye Girls State for any of the Military academies. While this could be a plus factor, there is nothing that says she has to attend BGS.**

**As the buds continue to grow on the BGS tree—let us review a few minor leaf factors:**

- **You, the Unit select the delegates as you are the sponsoring unit.**
- **The leaves of the tree will continue to sprout until Feb 15, 2025, when leaf applications requests are due.**
- **Leaves will continue to blossom until Mar 15, 2025, when completed applications are due in headquarters**
- **The BGS tree will blossom June 8-14, 2025.**
- **Let us have a fully blossomed tree for 2025.**

**Please make use of the materials that are included in the Buckeye Girls State Chairman packets. The questionnaires, sample letters and other material are great resources for the delegates, the sponsors and the unit.**





**Would you like to spend a week of Lifetime of Dreams— Dreams of a Lifetime with the BGS tree? Contact Vicky at Department Headquarters for a staff application. It is simple and leafy friendly. While due to our insurance you must stay all week, there are a FEW part time positions due to the program.**

**Please make sure your Delegates actually want to attend BGS. Too often they get to registration and find out this is not the program they signed up for—either Mom or Grandma pressured them into it. We would like to have fully committed Delegates for the betterment of the program.**

**There will be a few minor changes this year and they will be addressed at the mandatory District Orientations. There should be no reason the Delegates/Alternates cannot attend one of the twenty-one scheduled orientations.**

**I would also like to remind the units not to release any publicity of the delegates until Department receives the applications. After they receive it, samples of press releases can be found in the BGS Chairmans packet.**

**So, a little trivia: Buckeye Girls State moved to Bowling Green State University in 1994 with seven counties and twenty-eight cities and we were there for four years.**

**If you have any questions or concerns, please contact either Vicky at Department Headquarters or any of the Board Members. We are here to help and assist.**



**Buckeye Boys State  
Miami University  
June 8 - 15, 2025**



**Buckeye Girls State  
BGSU  
June 8 - 14, 2025**

**# 1 in the Nation for Americanism and Youth.**

## **American Legion Buckeye Boys/Girls State**

### ***Delegate / Student QR Code***

<https://linktr.ee/ohiobuckeyeboysstate>



**“A Week to Shape a Lifetime”**

### **A program for High School Juniors**

**Paid for by the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and their sponsors.**

**Learn about the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches of  
State, County and City Government:  
by being a part of your own leadership experience,  
with hands on practice.**

**Scan the QR code.  
Learn more, and how to apply.**

**(This code allows access to information about the programs.  
The actual application to attend one of the programs will come later )**





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

## BUCKEYE GIRLS STATE District Orientation Schedule – Spring 2025

District	Date	Host Unit Number	Location	Registration Time	Orientation Convenes	Additional Information	BGS Orientation Speaker
1	April 24, 2025	Joseph W. Diehn, Unit 468	5580 Centennial Rd. Sylvania, OH 43560	6:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m.		Gwen Schroeder-Zulch
1	April 27, 2025	Hamler Unit #262	350 Ralldolph St. Hamler, OH 43524	1:30 p.m.	2:00 p.m.		Gwen Schroeder-Zulch
2	March 30, 2025	New Bremen American Legion Unit #241	6458 St. Rt. 66 New Bremen, OH 45869	12:30 p.m.	1:00 p.m.		Gwen Schroeder-Zulch
2	April 30, 2025	American Legion Unit #96	711 S Shore Dr. Lima, OH 45804	6:30 p.m.	7:00 p.m.		Gwen Schroeder-Zulch
3	March 29, 2025	American Legion Vandalia Unit #668	8220 N. Dixie Dr. Dayton, OH 45414-2760	2:00 p.m.	2:30 p.m.		Gwen Schroeder-Zulch Pam Roberts
4	April 5, 2025	Mason Unit #194	401 Reading Rd. Mason, OH 45040	12:00 p.m.	12:30 p.m.		Vicky Buck Pam Roberts
4	April 12, 2025	Middletown Unit #218	116 S. Main Middletown, OH 45044	12:00 p.m.	12:30 p.m.		Vicky Buck Pam Roberts
5	March 22, 2025	Plymouth Unit #447	112 Trux Plymouth, OH 44865	12:00 p.m.	12:30 p.m.		Gwen Schroeder-Zulch Louise Smerk
5	April 5, 2025	Bucyrus American Legion Unit 181	123 E. Renessler St. Bucyrus, OH 44820	1:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.		Karen Peel Cindy Masowick
6	March 30, 2025	Newark American Legion Unit #85	85 S. 6 <sup>th</sup> St. Newark, OH 43055	1:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.		Vicky Buck
6	April 16, 2025	Marysville American Legion Unit #79	500 Park Ave. Marysville, OH 43040	6:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.		Vicky Buck Jeni Kennedy
7	March 22, 2025	Washington Court House Unit #25	1240 US HWY 22 NW Washington Court House, OH 43160	1:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.		Vicky Buck Jeni Kennedy
8	April 27, 2025	Athens American Legion Unit #21	520 W. Union St. Athens, OH 45701	12:30 p.m.	1:00 p.m.		Vicky Buck
9	April 12, 2025	Harry Lees American Legion Unit #506	6336 St. Rt. 87 Kinsman, OH 44428	10:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.		Karen Peel Cindy Masowick
10	March 30, 2025	Lowell D. Oberly Unit #667	224 Wood St. NE East Canton, OH 44730	1:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	Foltz Community Center	Karen Peel Cindy Masowick
10	April 27, 2025	Lowell D. Oberly Unit #667	224 Wood St. NE East Canton, OH 44730	1:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	Foltz Community Center	Cindy Masowick Louise Smerk
11	March 29, 2025	St. Clairsville American Legion Unit 159	100 Legion Rd. St Clairsville, OH 43950-0495	3:00 p.m.	3:30 p.m.		Vicky Buck
12	April 27, 2025	Young Budd American Legion Unit #171	393 E. College Ave. Westerville, OH 43081	1:30 p.m.	2:00 p.m.		Karen Peel Renee Kohl
13	March 23, 2025	Brook Park Unit #610	19944 Sheldon Rd. Brook Park, OH 44142	12:30 p.m.	1:00 p.m.		Cindy Masowick Louise Smerk
14	March 23, 2025	Kent American Legion Post #496	1945 Mogadore Rd. Kent, OH	1:30 p.m.	2:00 p.m.		Karen Peel Renee Kohl



Chaplain Chats  
Melissa Boyers  
[ohioalachaplain@gmail.com](mailto:ohioalachaplain@gmail.com)  
419.250.6971

Oftentimes, we think of Thanksgiving as a one-day event where we gather around the table as family and friends to give thanks for our many blessings. But when we look deeper, every day is a day of thanksgiving! Psalm 100:4 "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name."



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)

This time of year can be challenging for those who have lost loved ones, those who are experiencing hardships or those who are struggling to make sense of the world. Be sure to remember the members of your Unit in your prayers and send them cards as needed. Help others to focus on being grateful every day.

"Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer." -Maya Angelou

When a member of your Unit passes away, do you drape the charter at your next Unit meeting? What does "draping the charter" mean and why does the Auxiliary uphold this long-standing tradition?

This information is located in the American Legion Auxiliary Manual of Ceremonies and outlined below:

### **Draping the Charter**

When a Unit is deprived of one of its members by death, it is customary to drape the Unit charter with black crepe during the period of mourning. The following ceremony is suggested for the draping of the charter.

Unit President: "We have assembled here at the call of our Maker who has taken from us one of our beloved leaders. We have come to give, by simple token, official expression of the grief of the Unit of \_\_\_\_\_. Let us first bow our heads in prayer."

Chaplain: (Brief prayer) "Almighty God, who has dominion over life and death, grant to us the grace to remember with love and reverence our valiant and honored departed Member."

Members: "Grant peace and eternal rest to those who have gone before us and make us ready for that last hour. Strengthen and console those in sorrow and bestow upon us Your everlasting blessing. Amen."

Unit President: "We stand before the document which gives our Unit life and being. Under its authority years of devoted service were given by \_\_\_\_\_, who contributed greatly to its significance, whose service is ended but the results will go on and on for our American Legion Auxiliary and for God and the country which the Auxiliary serves."

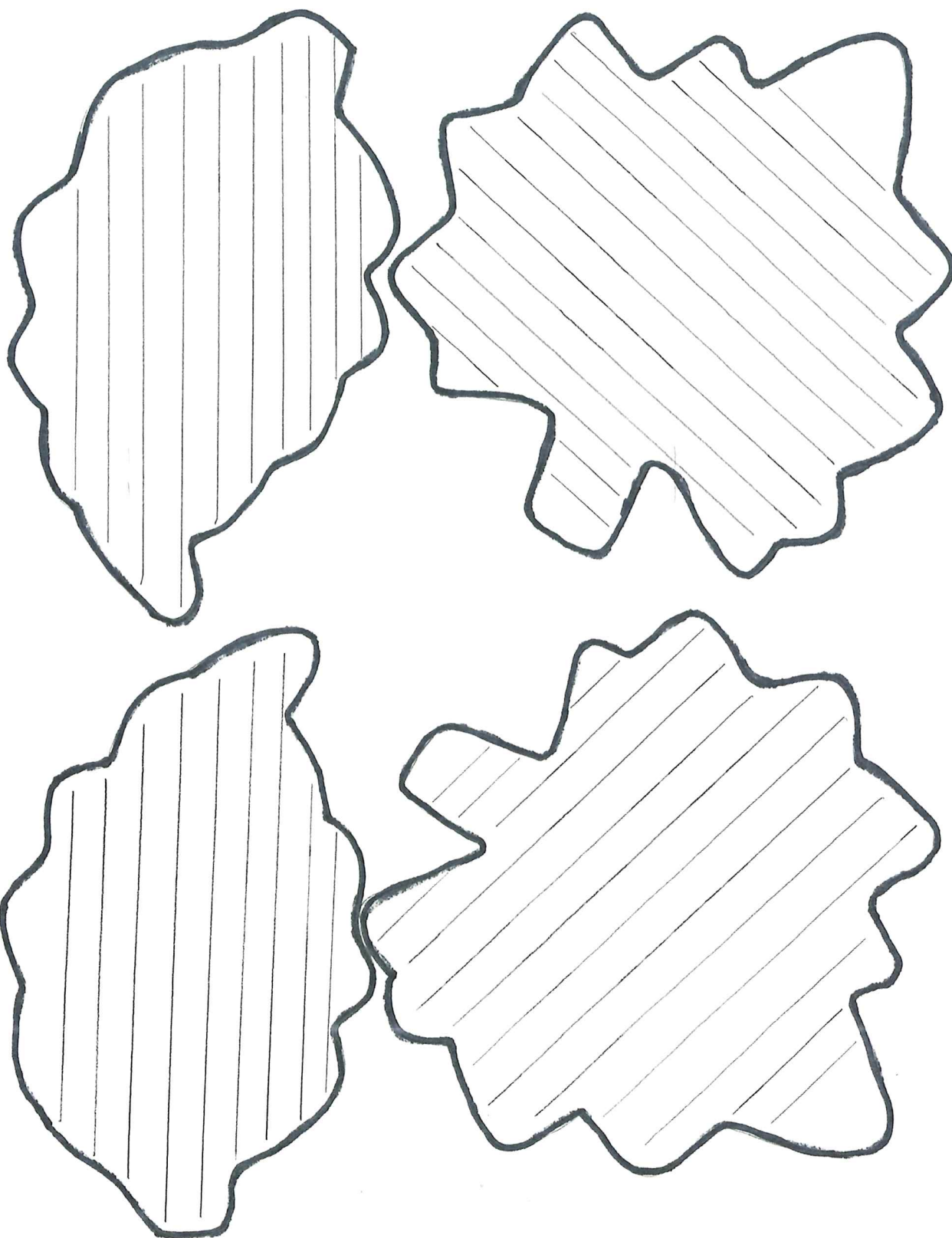
It is therefore fitting that about our charter we should drape this crepe of black, an expression of the sorrow that is in our hearts and of the mourning of the Unit of over its great loss."

(Drapes the charter)

"Now we will ask God's blessing for our departed friend and co-worker, then go silently to carry forward the task."

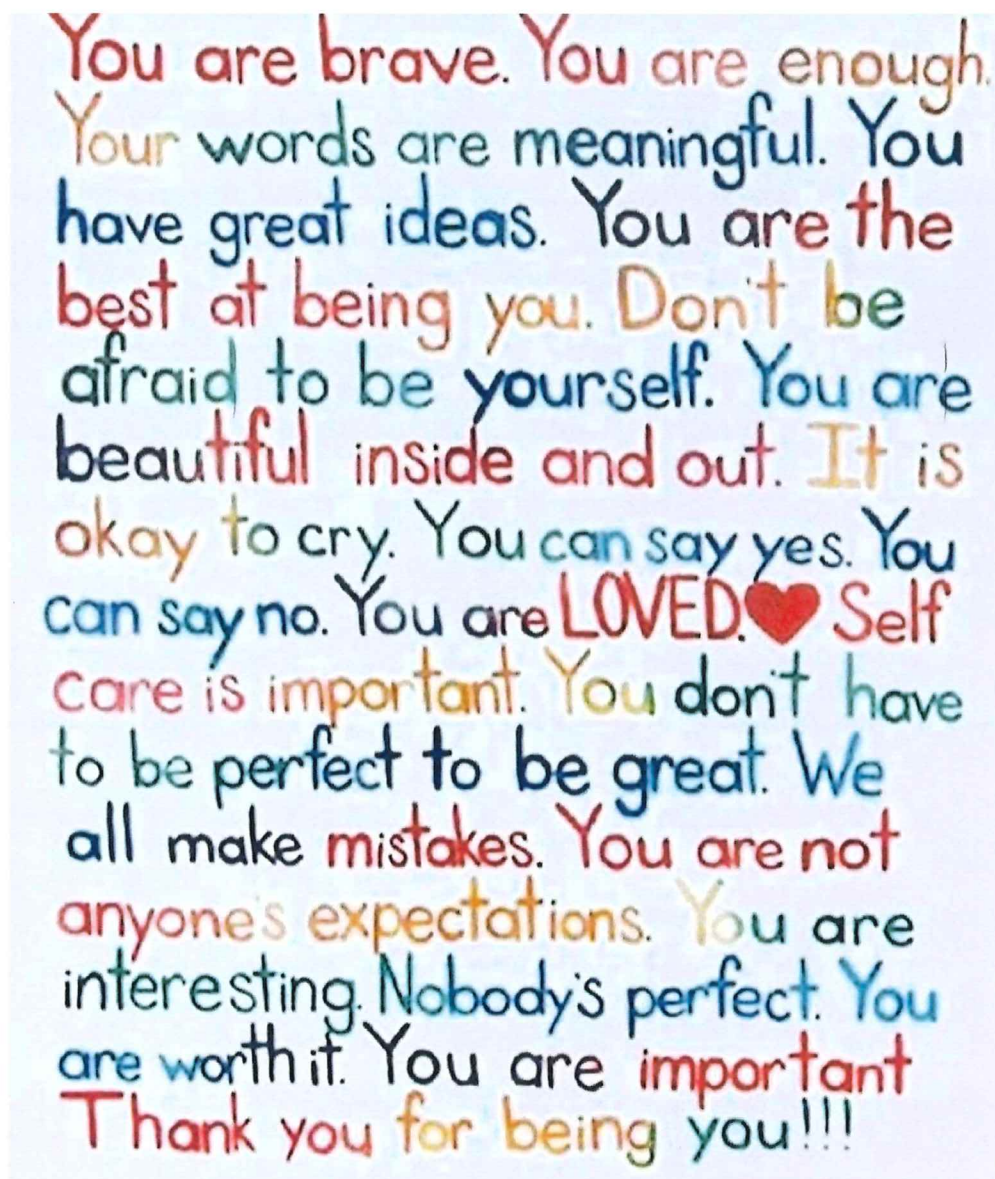
Chaplain: (Brief concluding prayer)

Please continue sending leaves for President Louise's prayer tree to me via email or US mail.





I would like for each District President to have their respective District Chaplain send me the following information: mailing address, phone number, and email address. I attend quarterly zoom meetings with the National Chaplain, Monique Bastiste, and want to be able to send them the ideas and information shared during these meetings.



You are brave. You are enough.  
Your words are meaningful. You  
have great ideas. You are the  
best at being you. Don't be  
afraid to be yourself. You are  
beautiful inside and out. It is  
okay to cry. You can say yes. You  
can say no. You are LOVED. ❤️ Self  
care is important. You don't have  
to be perfect to be great. We  
all make mistakes. You are not  
anyone's expectations. You are  
interesting. Nobody's perfect. You  
are worth it. You are important  
Thank you for being you!!!

Have an amazing day and know that I am praying for you!



## **Children and Youth**

**November 2024**

**Krista Carpenter –**

**[kristacarpenter115@gmail.com](mailto:kristacarpenter115@gmail.com)**

**Colleen Phillips**

**[Ckphillips43524@gmail.com](mailto:Ckphillips43524@gmail.com)**

We know your unit is working for our children and youth. Here is some information that might help you.

Why the Child Welfare foundation? The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation was Established in 1954 The purpose of the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation is to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth; to aid progress in the field of child welfare; and to the sum total knowledge of children and youth through research, studies, surveys and projects, or in other ways, including but not limited to activities and programs benefiting the children and youth of this nation. The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation was developed as a repository from individuals who wished to contribute. “To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs of children and youth through the dissemination of knowledge about new and innovative organizations and their programs.”

“To make wider, more effective use of the knowledge already possessed. To that end, the Foundation considers hundreds of requests worthy projects are turned down due to a lack of funding. To that end, the Foundation considers hundreds of requests each year and allocates grants based on need. Unfortunately, many worthy projects are turned down due to a lack of funding. This is why we are donating money to CWF.

Oct 23, 2024 · The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation is now called the Child Well-Being Foundation. On Oct. 6 during the annual Fall Meetings of The American Legion, a motion was made and voted



on by the American Legion CWF board of directors to change the name of the foundation to one that encompasses the overall needs of the whole child and all society.”

Visit more information on the internet

**What are some ways your American Legion Auxiliary Unit helps our Children? Quarterly reports are appreciated Let us know:**

[kristacarpenter115@gmail.com](mailto:kristacarpenter115@gmail.com)

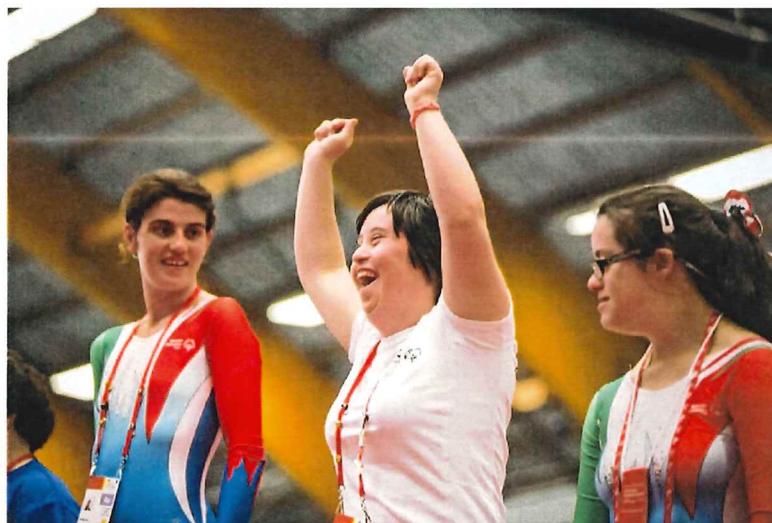
**Or** [ckphillips43524@gmail.com](mailto:ckphillips43524@gmail.com)

### **Special Olympics**

The Department of Ohio Legion provides support in donations to the Special Olympics State Winter Games and State Summer Games, and also hosts a breakfast for over 400 Special Olympics athletes and coaches at the Special Olympics State Winter Games.

At the Summer Games, the Department of Ohio provides the funding for “Tent Town” booths, a very popular attraction operated by the Franklin County Legionnaires with assistance from several other districts, American Legion Auxiliary, and the Sons of The American Legion. The American Legion Department of Ohio’s operation of “Tent Town” is the largest among all corporate and organization sponsors.

[Visit Ohio Special Olympics Home Website](#)





Children & Youth

Krista Carpenter - [kristacarpenter115@gmail.com](mailto:kristacarpenter115@gmail.com)

937-216-8878

## T-Shirt Order Update!

A few early shirts have been made and they look great!

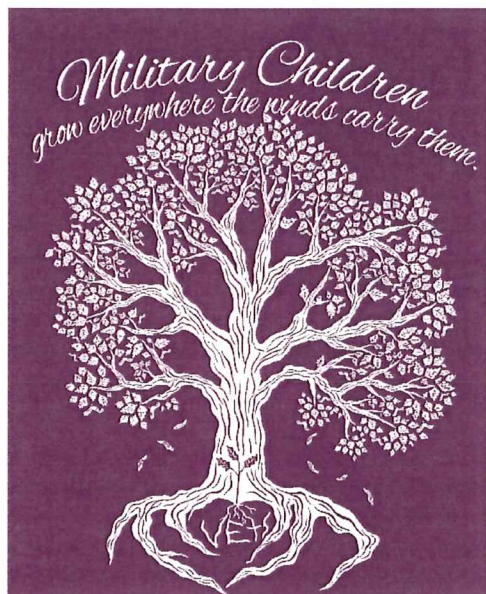
Make sure to order yours by December 15, 2024.



District Presidents from 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> have replied and said that they would be willing to pick up shirts at Mid-Winter and have them available at your spring conference. I can bring 3<sup>rd</sup> District's. I may hear from more, but not before November's bulk mailing. IF you would like this to happen, make sure you use this new order form that includes your unit #, district #, and a place to check off that you want it brought to conference! This will still need to be a pre-paid order.

I've only sold 23 so far, but I would love to hit 100. That would be \$500 towards the Child Welfare Foundation as well as money for President Louise's special project!

Children & Youth T-shirt order - email [kristacarpenter114@gmail.com](mailto:kristacarpenter114@gmail.com) with questions



Shirts are purple.

They are 100% preshrunk cotton jersey. They are available in sizes small – 3 XL.

\$20.00 per shirt

Pre-orders/pre-paid only

Orders must be received by **Saturday, December 14, 2024**

Shirts will be handed out at Mid-Winter Convention.

Additional cost to have the shirt sent to you -- \$5.00 (Ohio only) or \$8.00 out of state.

\$5.00 of each shirt goes to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

Additional money collected will go to President's Louise's special project – Judge Sara J. Harper Village

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL
Body Width	16	18	20	22	24	26	28
Body Length	26.5	26.62	27.62	28.62	29.62	30.62	32
Full Body Length	-	26.62	27.62	28.62	29.62	30.62	32
Sleeve Length	15	16.75	17.25	17.75	18.25	18.5	22
Neck Size	-	6.75	6.75	7.63	7.63	7.63	-
Neck Circumference	-	6.75	6.75	7.63	7.63	-	-

Fill out the order form below and mail it in with a check payable to **Krista Carpenter**. **1 order form per shirt please**. Mail order form and check to

Krista Carpenter – 115 Lowry Drive – West Milton, OH 45383

Please Print – Name \_\_\_\_\_

Circle 1 shirt size – S      M      L      XL      2XL      3XL

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email – address \_\_\_\_\_

Unit \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

**\_\_\_ Yes, send mine with my District President and I will pick up at the spring DISTRICT conference      Total - \$20.00 per shirt**

If you are unable to pick up your shirt at mid-winter, you may pay \$5.00 additional per shirt (Ohio) or out of state (\$8.00) to have it shipped to you. Total - \$25.00 or \$28.00

Address in which to ship – please print

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS KAREN PEEL – CHAIRMAN

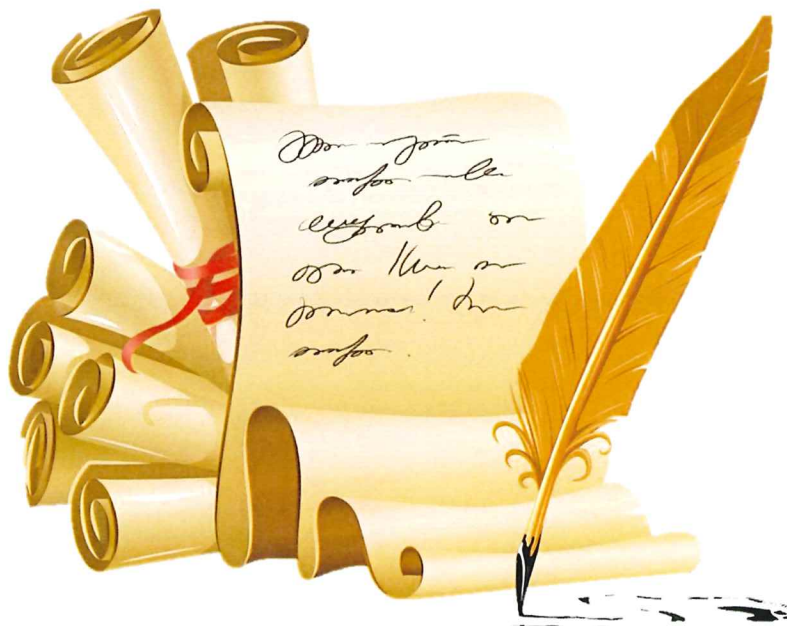
The fall and winter months are upon us and what better time to begin updating your governing documents!

It's important to review your Unit's constitution, by-laws, and standing rules if you haven't already. These rules are considered essential for your unit. Have you updated all changes from Department and National conventions? Make a list of things that need you to amend or what you want to amend in your documents. Get yourself organized before you start.

If your unit does not have a set of Standing Rules, you need to consider doing so. Standing Rules are important to the **individual** unit. Standing Rules vary with each Unit. Review your Plan of Action for the information on how to write standing rules.

Need some help? Let me know. If I don't have the answer, I will find it for you.

Karen Peel  
Chairman  
2216 25<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Akron, OH 44314-2202  
(330) 962-0738  
Karen.peel@sk2holdings.com



## EDUCATION / NURSE'S SCHOLARSHIP

Cindy Masowick, Chairman



### ATTENTION NURSING STUDENTS

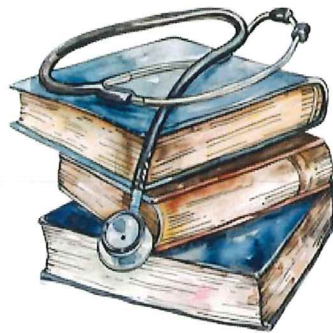
**WE WANT YOU!**

Do you know any senior in high school who plans on pursuing a career in the nursing field?

Scholarship applications and eligibility are in the Education Plan of Action. Keep printed copies with you.

With the holidays coming up and the senior will be on break, why not have them fill out this scholarship.

Make sure the application is signed along with all the proper criteria. Otherwise it may be sent back. You may snail mail it to me or email the paperwork.







## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY Department of Ohio

### NURSES' SCHOLARSHIP

#### 2024-25 INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Ohio has a program to assist students pursuing a degree in the nursing field. The scholarships are available from Department Headquarters: American Legion Auxiliary, Scholarship Coordinator PO Box 2760, Zanesville, Ohio 43702-2760 or can be downloaded from the [www.alaohio.org](http://www.alaohio.org) web site found under the Scholarship tab. Local Auxiliary Units should contact their local high schools on the availability of this scholarship.

1. The applicant must be an honorably discharged veteran or a spouse, son, or daughter (adopted, step, grand, or great-grand) of a living, deceased, or disabled honorably discharged veteran who served during these active war dates:
  - ♦ Due to the July 30, 2019, signing of the Let Everyone Get Involved with Opportunities for National Service – The LEGION ACT – eligibility for membership in The American Legion has been changed from the former seven war eras to two:
    1. April 6, 1917 – Nov. 11, 1918
    2. Dec. 7, 1941 – current.
2. Attach to this application a **photocopy** of the veteran's Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (Form DD-214) or other government document showing time served on active military duty during the eligibility period(s) indicated above.
3. The applicant must be a resident of Ohio.
4. The applicant must be sponsored by an Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Unit.
5. The scholarship may be used at the nursing school of the student's choice. Proof of acceptance must be attached to application along with a current class schedule or current financial aid letter.
6. Accompanying the application must be three letters of recommendation from:
  - 1) A member of the clergy or a representative to attest to devotional beliefs.
  - 2) A representative of the community.
  - 3) The applicant stating his/her financial need and why he/she feels they are deserving of this scholarship.
7. The applicant must sign and date the application.
8. The completed application must be returned to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit by **April 15, 2025**.
9. The Unit President must sign the application and forward it by **May 1, 2025**, with all supporting documents, to the Department Education Vice Chairman:

Cindy Masowick  
Education Vice Chairman  
9320 Root Dr., Streetsboro, OH 44241-5540  
[cjidgy@gmail.com](mailto:cjidgy@gmail.com)  
(Over for Application)

# NURSES' SCHOLARSHIP

## 2024 – 2025 APPLICATION FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Birth Date

\_\_\_\_\_, Ohio ( ) -

Veteran Affiliation: Wife ☐ Husband ☐  
(Indicate with (✓)) Daughter ☐ Son ☐  
Adopted Daughter ☐ Adopted Son ☐  
Self ☐ Step-Daughter ☐ Step-Son ☐  
Granddaughter ☐ Grandson ☐  
Great Granddaughter ☐ Great Grandson ☐

Brief statement and date of Military Service \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Information	Family	Applicant
Family Income	\$ _____	\$ _____
Social Security Income	\$ _____	\$ _____
VA Benefits	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____
Number in Household _____	Number currently attending College _____	

\_\_\_\_\_  
College Name and Address

Full-time student \_\_\_\_\_ Part-time student \_\_\_\_\_ What year in school? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Major(s) / Minor(s) of Study

College Expenses (Please list and explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Brief statement of individual need \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously received a Nurses' Scholarship from the American Legion Auxiliary? \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT OFFICER

\_\_\_\_\_  
DISTRICT/UNIT NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
UNIT REPRESENTATIVE'S PHONE #

**Submit to:**  
**Cindy Masowick, Education Vice Chairman**  
**9320 Root Dr.**  
**Streetsboro, OH 44241-5540**  
**cjidgy@gmail.com**





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



### NOVEMBER BULK MAIL: GRATEFUL & BLESSED!

*We are experiencing crisp and cool weather this month. Beware: Cold and flu season is upon us. Soon we will be embraced with the warmth of food, family and fellowship.*

*Thank you to those who have submitted your members biographies! These biographies will be used to promote the History program, for the Members Remember Project and each one will be entered into a Free drawing where one member will win a special prize during Mid-Winter in January.*

Let's recap from the last two months:

- 1) Submit a mid-winter report by December 1<sup>st</sup> of what your unit or district did from installation of your unit up to December 1<sup>st</sup> to me at [mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com](mailto:mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com)
- 2) Submit Members Biographies for the Members Remember Project by December 1st. Email me at [mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com](mailto:mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com) for a biography worksheet.
- 3) Create an account at [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) to access the History program resources section.
- 4) Communication is key. Stay connected with your unit and unit president. Work with your secretary who takes minutes of each meeting to gather information to add to your history.
- 5) Know the difference between the History, and Scrapbook. Work on each one. Ask questions if you are stuck and need assistance on working the history program.
- 6) Take photos with a camera or your phone. Download them right away and include a caption that will identify the name and date of each event and each person in the photo.

\* \* \* \* \*

These are Facebook pages that are available to help promote what your unit is doing:

- \*Sharing Historian America Legion Auxiliary Ohio Photos and Events
- \*Our Historians Inspires Others (OHIO) The American Legion Family
- \*American Legion Ohio Family Events – post your upcoming event flyers
- \*Ohio ALA Dept President
- \*ALA Ohio Public Relations
- \*ALA Legislative Ohio
- \*American Legion Auxiliary Historians (National Historian Facebook page)

Things you may be documenting in your unit history for the month of November:

- 1) November is National Family Caregivers Month to recognize and honor caregivers.
- 2) November 11, 2024, is Veterans Day.
- 3) Veterans Day parades, luncheons, and dinners your unit members serving veterans and or the community.
- 4) Wish our United States Marine Corps a Happy Birthday November 10, 2024
- 5) Thanksgiving care packages for veterans and needy families.
- 6) Kick off a food drive of can goods and household items to be donated to your community center, food pantry or veteran's shelter.
- 7) Have a bake goods sale at one of your post's Friday night dinner to raise funds for a designated ALA program in your unit, district, department or national level.
- 8) Share what your unit and members are doing to incorporate President Louise's theme LEAVES: Let's Embrace All Veterans Every Season in their program.

\* \* \* \* \*

Have you started a Facebook page? What would you like to learn or know more about?

If you are interested in attending a History zoom call with me, send an email to

[mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com](mailto:mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com)

If you have not received a History Tool Kit to help you with the history program, please email me and a pdf copy will be emailed to you. The history tool kit includes:

- 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

STAY TUNED for next month's bulk mailing.

***I am available to help YOU*** put together the best history book, narrative and or scrapbook for you and your unit for your records to share for future generations to come.

If you need further assistance, please contact me by phone at 419-566-9395. Or shoot me an email at [mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com](mailto:mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com) with your questions.

For God and Country ~ Be The One, To Save One, Life. [www.legion.org/betheone](http://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](mailto:mrsdaynabeyer@gmail.com)





# JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

## Department Junior Activities Chairman

Connie Morton – [cjsmorton@hotmail.com](mailto:cjsmorton@hotmail.com)

Michelle Blin – [mizetti1@live.com](mailto:mizetti1@live.com)

Brandv Little – [unit764ala@gmail.com](mailto:unit764ala@gmail.com)

### STAR SPANGLED KIDS

- Create a Unit Citizenship Award
- Have veterans discuss what their service means to defending the ideals of the Constitution
- Distribute patriot coloring books
- Play and/or create Constitution fact games
- Distribute pocket Constitutions
- Encourage The American Legion Oratorical Contest

### Junior Prayer Book with Corrections

- Book size 3x5" or 8.5x11"
- Respectful colored paper and clipart allowed
- Use **Department President Louise's theme – LEAVES**
- First page – centered with unit name, unit number, unit chaplains name, and "Prayers and Devotional Thoughts"
- **See POA for full instructions**

### Merry Lyn Plaque

#### Junior Member of the Year

- Junior member at the start of the 2024-2025 year
- Membership is in good standings
- At least 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Can be nominated by any member, unit, or department
- **See POA for full description**

**Start collecting photos, screenshots and other evidence of Junior ALA participation**

### April 1<sup>st</sup> Deadline

- Merry Lyn Plaque
- Americanism Spirit Plaque
- Holmes County Travelogue
- Conference Cover
- Jr. Craft Book
- Jr. Prayer Book
- Jr. History Narrative



## LEADERSHIP

KAREN KACZMAREK – CHAIRMAN

[alaohioleadership@gmail.com](mailto:alaohioleadership@gmail.com)

**HAPPY NOVEMBER!!! HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!**

The word for the month is ***innovation***.

***Innovation*** – Innovation is the ability to see change as an opportunity – not a threat.

*Steve Jobs*

Innovation is crucial to the continuing success of any organization. Discuss and share the word of the month. Think of all the interesting discussions you will have this month. Stay tuned for the word of the month in December!

Let's take a look at the word **LEADER**:

**L – Listen.** Listen to your officers and chairmen. We must listen to the members in our units. If we want the respect of others, we must first listen and respect them when they are speaking.

**E – Encourage.** Make your meetings an environment where others will feel comfortable enough to ask questions and share their ideas.

**A – Advice.** It is alright to offer advice from your experience but do it constructively. Don't criticize. Offer support.

**D – Develop.** Look for someone who shows positive skills with others in your Unit. Look for someone who is reliable and enthusiastic. When you find that member, help to develop the qualities needed in a leader. The good gets better, and the best excel.

**E – Educate.** Make all information available to all partners. The Unit Guidebook is the most important tool a member could have on-hand. Also – all levels of the Constitution & By-Laws and Standing Rules and any other resources should be available.

**R – Reward.** Praise all jobs done well. Be generous with your praise and remember to say thank you – but most of all be sincere. We are all volunteers and would like to know that their work is appreciated.

Leadership 101 – PRAISE IN PUBLIC – CRITICIZE IN PRIVATE. You never know who is listening.

***BE STRONG – BE FAIR – BE CONSISTENT!***

*Love,  
Karen*



# *Ohio Legislative Buckeye Boost! What's Happening in our Statehouse*



**Kathy Linn, Legislative Chairman**  
**pebbles0916@yahoo.com**

The Ohio 135th General Assembly convened on January 3, 2023. There were 99 Senators and 99 Representatives. Of the 132 legislators, only 17 (about 13%) had served or were serving in the United States Military, four Senators and thirteen Representatives. The general election is 11/5/2024. The first day of the 136th General Assembly will be January 6, 2025.

Ohio's senators are elected to a four-year term and representatives to a two-year term. Since elections are held every two years all 99 seats in the house are up for election every two years, while only half of the senate are up for election every two years. The even numbered districts are elected in one general election and the odd numbered districts in another, in this General election it is the even numbered districts.

**In the Senate** There were four veterans at the beginning of the 135th General Assembly. They are *Hearcel F. Craig* (District 15), *Frank Hoagland* (District 30), *Terry A. Johnson* (District 14) and *Steve Wilson* (District 7). Craig and Wilson are in odd numbered districts, so their seats are not up for election this year. Hoagland, a retired Navy Seal resigned last December and Brian Chavez was appointed to fill the remainder of his term. Chavez is running for reelection but is not a veteran. He is running against Iva Faber and there is no indication on his website that he is a veteran. Johnson retired from the Ohio Army National Guard with the rank of Colonel in 2011 as the Army Guard's State Surgeon. He is running against Shane Marcum who served in the United State Marine Corps from 2018-2019.

**In the House** The 135th General Assembly began with 13 veterans. They are: *Steve Demetriou* (District 35), *Haraz N. Ghanbari* (District 75), *Jennifer Gross* (District 45), *Adam Holmes* (District 97), *Beth Lear* (District 61), *Mike Loychik* (District 65), *Adam C. Miller* (District 6), *Tracy M. Richardson* (District 86), *Brian Stewart* (District 12), *Daniel P. Troy* (District 23), *Casey Weinstein* (District 34), *Scott Wiggam* (District 77), and *Bernard Willis* (District 74). Most but not all are hoping to retain their seat.

*"Voting is a right best exercised by people who have taken time to learn about the issues."*

-Tony Snow





## MEMBERSHIP

Renee Kohl

rckohl@aol.com



**Last Bulk Mailing, we went back to the basics with Membership 101. This month, we have some frequently asked questions and answers:**

**Q: Is there any circumstance where a person could join the ALA without having a relative as a current member of The American Legion?** A: There are two circumstances when a person can become a member without having a relative as a current member of The American Legion.

- 1) When a woman has served in the military during the requisite dates. She may join the ALA without being a member of The American Legion.
- 2) When a person's membership is based on a deceased veteran the prospective member will be required to provide verifying documentation of the deceased relative's service dates to prove their eligibility.

**Q: Is verification of veteran eligibility required by the Post Officer?** A: The signature of the Post Officer should be on every application of those applying for membership. If the Post Officer's signature cannot be obtained after a reasonable effort, a letter from the Department Adjutant will be accepted in lieu of the Post Officer's statement. The only exception is if the applicant is eligible in her own right, then the Unit Secretary signs and dates the application upon verification of that female veteran's military record.

**Q: In a female same-gender marriage, if the female spouse wartime veteran is a member or eligible to be a member of The American Legion, is the female wife eligible for membership in the Auxiliary?** A: On June 26, 2015, the United States Supreme Court issued a landmark decision in the case of Obergefell v. Hodges. The Court's ruling requires a State to license a marriage between two (2) people of the same sex and to recognize a marriage between two (2) people of the same sex when their marriage was lawfully licensed and performed out-of-State. This decision requires all states to recognize same gender marriages. The Legion and the ALA will continue to accept into membership those individuals who meet membership eligibility criteria regardless of the gender of their spouses.

**Q: Are stepchildren eligible to become members?** A: No, IRS regulation for 501(c)19 organizations do not include stepchildren in their definition of an auxiliary organization.

**Q: Are men now eligible to join the Auxiliary?** A: Male spouses of current members of The American Legion are eligible to join the Auxiliary. Male spouses of all men and women who served in the eligible periods (April 6, 1917-November 11, 1918 and any time after December 7, 1941) and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge are eligible to join the Auxiliary. Grandfathers, Fathers, Uncles, Brothers or other male descendants are not eligible to join the Auxiliary. Page 3 of 4

**Q: Are husbands of Auxiliary members able to now join the Auxiliary?** A: Husbands of American Legion Auxiliary members are only eligible to join the Auxiliary if their spouse is also a current member of The American Legion. Husbands would be eligible due to their spouse's membership in The American Legion and not through their spouse's membership in the Auxiliary.

**Q: Is a person eligible through the war service of divorced spouse?** A: A divorced man or woman does not occupy the status of spouse and, therefore, has no eligibility. But the fact that a member of the



Auxiliary has become divorced from whom they gained their eligibility does not force them to surrender their Auxiliary membership, even though they may be married to another person. However, if they become delinquent in their ALA dues, they may reinstate their membership only by payment of back dues for all years of delinquency.

**Q: Are relatives of members of the Sons of The American Legion eligible for membership in the Auxiliary?** A: Only if the member of the Sons of The American Legion is also a member of The American Legion. If the SAL member is not eligible for membership in The American Legion, the applicant must secure eligibility through the service of an eligible veteran.

**Q: Must a potential member join the Unit of the Post of which their service relative is a member?** A: No, the potential member is eligible for membership in any Auxiliary Unit.

**Q: Is the spouse of a non-veteran eligible for membership on the war service of a former spouse who died either during the war or following discharge?** A: The fact that the widow of a veteran remarried does not deprive them of their right to belong to the Auxiliary. Under these circumstances the spouse of a non-veteran is eligible for membership in the Auxiliary if their former spouse was a veteran and died either during the war or following their discharge.

**Q: Why is membership limited to two degrees of consanguinity (relation)?** A: The IRS regulation concerning auxiliaries to veteran service organizations states in part: "At least 75 percent of its members are veterans, spouses of veterans, or related to a veteran within two degrees of consanguinity (i.e., grandparent, brother, sister, grandchild represent the most distant allowable relationships)." This means that no great or great-great-granddaughters can join the Auxiliary. Current members whose eligibility relationship is great-granddaughter, great-great-granddaughter or direct descendent can continue being a member, as long as their dues are kept current. Page 4 of 4 Membership Processing Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q: Does a TAL Post have authority over a Unit's membership or money?** A: Besides verifying the eligibility of a potential Auxiliary member, no TAL Post has the authority to determine the membership of a unit or dictate what a Unit does with their finances.

**Q: Can staff at ALA NHQ transfer a member to another unit at the request of the member?** A: No, units have final authority over their own membership. Units must accept the new members transfer and then submit a form to their department for processing.

**Q: How long must units retain membership applications?** A: The American Legion National Judge Advocate/ALA Counsel General advises that since eligibility for membership can be challenged at any time during the life of the member, eligibility information should be retained indefinitely, as long as the member is alive. Only the eligibility information needs to be securely retained, and records can be digitized to save space and provide a more convenient way to retain the information. Units are advised to have access to a locked file cabinet in the post or other secure place for record retention and to redact any personally identifying information such as birthdate and social security number in order to secure information from identity theft. Counsel General notes that in the past four years, the IRS has been more stringent about demanding to see eligibility records when they are doing field audits of posts, units and departments. The fact that the IRS has escalated its audits of Legion and ALA entities in recent years may lead to confusion about the length of time for retaining IRS records versus the length of time for retaining eligibility verification records. Counsel General has advised that tax returns need be kept for only seven (7) years, but eligibility records should be retained for the life of the member.

**Q: How does the Auxiliary update/correct a members' join date?** A: Members are required to provide proof of original join date, if proof cannot be provided, the member must pay necessary back dues to reinstate continuous membership.

**Q: How does a unit request ALA MIS access?** A: All requests for ALA MIS access must be submitted to their department for approval and submission of request.

**Don't forget ... We have some incentive deadlines approaching!**

**The first Department incentive is a \$50 Drawing: All Units reaching 25% or more by **November 11, 2024**, are entered into the drawing to be held at Mid-Winter.**

**Angie has been doing an amazing job with notifications for all Units that have reached the 25% for the first incentive goal. Keep those dues coming, so your Unit can be added to the drawing!!**

**Two (2) \$50 Drawings: All Units reaching 50% by **December 7, 2024**, are entered into the drawing to be held at Mid-Winter.**

**\$100 Drawing: All Units reaching 90% by **February 3, 2025** are entered into the drawing to be held at Summer Convention.**





**National Security  
Kimm Bunch**  
10600 Fairlawn Drive, Parma, OH 44130  
Kimmieb219@sbcglobal.net

"Learn character from trees, values from roots and change from leaves"  
- Tasneern Harneed

As the LEAVES begin to fall, now is the time to think about sending packages to our deployed Heroes. Those care packages and Holiday gifts must be mailed by Monday, November 4, 2024 to reach them on time. Cards and letters must be mailed no later than Monday, December 9, 2024 to reach the destination in time.

Below are a few dates to remember in the coming months. I'm sure some of your Units will host lunches and dinners for Veterans Day. Let me know what you have going on so I can report it to our Central Division!

I hope your Units will consider sponsoring cemetery wreaths from Wreaths Across America and that your members will consider volunteering on WAA Day – Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> – to place wreaths at cemeteries around Ohio.



#### **October -**

Oct. 26 - National Day of the Deployed

#### **November - Military Family Month, Warrior Care Month**

Nov. 10 - Marine Corps Birthday

Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day – This is the anniversary of the signing of the armistice treaty, which ended World War I and is also a day to thank military Veterans for their service

#### **December -**

Dec. 7 - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day – The anniversary of the day Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, signaling the United States' entrance into World War II. Take some time to learn more about Pearl Harbor Day

Dec. 13 - National Guard Birthday

Dec. 14 - Wreaths Across America Day

Dec. 20 - Space Force Birthday

I look forward to some Mid-Year reports and to hear about all of your events over the next few months!

# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

ENTER TO WIN!

ENTER TO WIN!

## PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE BULK MAIL QUIZ #

Pam Bates, Department Parliamentarian

[pamelabates9@gmail.com](mailto:pamelabates9@gmail.com)

937-974-2316

The first member to text or email me ALL the correct answers win a prize. You will need to do some research and resources to use are...the Parliamentary Procedure—a matter of order; ALA Unit Guide; surf the web; and various sights on <https://www.alaforveterans.org>. I have always felt if I have to research something I learn and retain more. SO...LET'S GET STARTED!

1. Where did parliamentary procedure originate?
2. Who uniformed it in 1876?
3. What are the 5 general motion types?
4. Do you need a second on a motion?
5. When do you not need a second to a motion?
6. Can a motion be amended?
7. Can a motion be reconsidered?
8. What are the 5 methods of voting?
9. Is it important that ALL members know the basic rules, not just the officers?
10. What would be a typical order of business (meeting agenda)?

Parliamentary procedure helps get things done. (pg 15, *Parliamentary Procedure – a matter of order*)

- Make motions that are in order
- Obtain the floor properly.
- Speak clearly and concisely.
- Obey the rules of debate
- AND above all, be courteous!

“If the Chair is an effective leader—focusing on the members, treating each fairly, earning everyone’s trust—then the meeting will be successful”.

Hugh Cannon, Connon’s Concise Guide to Rules of Order, P. 13





## POPPY SHOP

Cindy Masowick, Chairman

[cjidgy@gmail.com](mailto:cjidgy@gmail.com)

Around 10,000 poppies were shipped this past week from Auxiliary Headquarters. All poppies will be mailed from our headquarters office.

Some of the poppies that were shipped out were acquired from another department. Please note that they are in bundles of 50, where the poppies made by our Poppy maker Doug, are in bundles of 25.

Doug is in the process of making large poppies. They should ship out in the next couple of weeks.

Vicky and I are working on a poppy put-together. Most likely after the holidays. We will keep you posted.

Any questions, please feel free to contact me.



# Public Relations

**Mindi Rue**

[mindy1036@gmail.com](mailto:mindy1036@gmail.com)

FROM THE CENTRAL DIVISION PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN SUE VERVILLE

## What is Public Relations?

It is a balance of news, stories, and resources that we use to inform and engage our members to help promote who we are, what we do, and why we matter. Your news can include updates on your projects, events, awards, or our programs. Stories can include interviews, pictures and how you promoted a positive image of the American Legion Auxiliary in your community.

To help our organization to grow, we need to LEARN how to do Public Relations. We need to get out into our communities and let them know what our Auxiliary stands for and how we help all our Veterans. Make sure to wear your ALA branding shirts, hats, jackets, etc.

Compile a list of media outlets in your area, such as daily and weekly newspapers, radio and TV stations and other social media outlets like Facebook. Take photos of events and provide a brief description and contact information. Consider pictures of your Unit serving or helping our Veterans, our children, and any events in your community you are helping with.

Distribute ALA Brochures, make posters, wear your ALA apparel, and help promote our ALA programs.

A good Public Relations Program will help inform any potential members of what we are all about and will help our community become more aware of what the American Legion Auxiliary does to help them and all our Veteran's and their families, our active military and our community.

### Public Relations Top 3

1. Looking for inspiration or ideas, check out some hashtags on social media (two used above to get you started).

2. Use our hashtags when posting:  
#AmericanLegionAuxiliary #ALA  
Juniors #LegionFamily

3. Always proofread before posting.





*A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families*

## **PERMISSION TO USE PHOTOGRAPHS/VIDEOS**

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

I grant to the American Legion Auxiliary, its representatives and employees the right to take photographs and/or video of me and my property in connection with the above identified subject. I authorize the American Legion Auxiliary, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically.

I agree that the American Legion Auxiliary may use such photographs/video of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including, for example, such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and web-related content.

I have read and understand the above:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

(if under age 18)

# **BREAKING NEWS**

The Buckeye Messenger will be going digital  
and will be posted on our website.

Access here:

[www.alaohio.org](http://www.alaohio.org)



# VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

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Veterans Day is fast approaching so let's get out there and do something for our Veterans. Remember to turn in your Service for Veterans hours for anything you do outside a VA facility. Let's be those L.E.A.V.E.S. and fill those trees up and support our Veterans.

I know this was in the October bulk mailing, but I still want to remind everyone about:

## Wreaths Across America

Wreaths Across America will be coming up on December 14<sup>th</sup>. You can order wreaths through their website and pick which cemetery you would like them to be placed at. You can also volunteer at one of the events and help place the wreaths. If you have never taken part in placing the wreaths, I would encourage you to find a location and help place them. There is also an online seminar in the ALA Academy if you would like to know more about Wreaths Across America.



# HONOR FLIGHT



I had a question asked of me the other day regarding lap blankets for those Veterans going on an Honor Flight. I asked the question of my local Honor Flight and was told that they would pass out the blankets if they had enough for all 88 veterans. Don't forget that you can do letters for the Veterans. They told me that they give each Veterans 8 to 10 letters on the flight depending on how many they have to give out. They also told me that you need to contact your local Honor Flight Hub and the web site is in your plan to find out what their requirements are as each one might have different requirements.

## JUNIORS

- I received these ideas from Kristen Hensley, Central Division VA&R Chairman in her monthly Bulletin.

Involving Juniors in VA&R Activities Juniors of our organization are our future. Some may struggle with finding activities that Junior Members can be a part of and contribute to the aims and purpose of the American Legion Family. Veterans Administration and Rehabilitation is one of those programs that it may be difficult to find ways in which Juniors can be included. With varying policies and age limitations across the VA Centers and Homes, this can be challenging. Below are some ways that Juniors can still be involved (under adult supervision) even if they are not old enough to serve our veterans within the centers and homes:

- Raising money and hold bake sales for the Gift Shops held at the VA facilities to be donated by the specified dates.
- Making meal tray cards during their Juniors meetings and/or during a special event.
- Creating art to donate to Veterans in VA Facilities to decorate their room and bring happiness to them.
- Holding a clothing drive and/or book drive to donate to Veterans in the VA homes in their department.

There are other Veterans Support ideas that Juniors can also do with adult supervision, such as:

- Raking leaves or mowing for a veteran in their community.
- Cooking a meal and delivering it to a local veteran.



- Participate in activities at local nursing homes such as reading to a veteran.
- Adopting a veteran in a local nursing home and providing Christmas for them.

These are just a few ideas that can give our Juniors a sense of helping, spreading joy, and contributing to the wellbeing of our Nations heroes. It is important to teach our Juniors about service, not self and giving them the encouragement to contribute. In my experience, when we include Juniors in these activities, it boosts the young person's self-esteem, confidence and allows them to see the joy that they can bring when you help others, no matter what age they might be. Remember if a Junior helps with a VA&R project you can count it on your Junior report and on your VA&R report.

If you have an event, fundraiser or do something for our Veteran's let me know about it. You can also email me a picture of your event. Kristin wants to highlight the things going on in our department! So please submit any photos and summaries to me no later than the Monday, the 3rd full week of each month so I can send them to be included in the bulletin each month. Please remember that we cannot take pictures of VA facility patients and residents, but we can take pictures of our volunteers working in the facility. Please also include any veteran support volunteering going on as well (raking leaves, serving meals, etc.).

Just a note the phone number listed for me (Marsha) is a land line. You cannot text to it so if you call leave me a message and I will get back to you or email me.

**What Is A Veteran?**  
A "Veteran" - whether active duty, discharged, retired, or reserve - is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America," for an amount of "up to, and including his life."

## Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation - Service To Veterans

### November Bulletin

Marsha Giehl, Chairman

Deb Sutterlin, Vice-Chairman

#### DID YOU KNOW?

What you do for a Veteran's surviving spouse/family to help them through their grieving time counts on the **Service To Veterans form**? It is important and a part of our mission to provide support for them. Check with your post quartermaster to get a list of deceased veterans with a surviving spouse. How can you support them? One common event is to host a funeral meal or celebration of life meal. But how about putting the veteran's deceased date on a calendar or in a planner and reach out to the spouse 3 months, 6 months one year, two years on the anniversary date. Also, the veteran's birthday and their wedding anniversary. Ideas as to what you can do are listed later in this bulletin.

While we remember the veteran's survivors. Don't forget the veterans who have had a spouse pass away within the past year or two. Like the survivors, special days are important to the veteran. Sometimes it helps to know that others remember them and their deceased person. Holidays are very hard for many veterans for various reasons so let's help them through a time when most are celebrating but they are grieving. You can get a list of veterans by getting the list of deceased auxiliary members then find the ones with a surviving spouse who is a veteran.

What you do for a veteran's caregiver counts on the **Service To Veterans form**? Even if the caregiver is a family member, friend, or auxiliary member. Of course, if the caregiver is a veteran, that is included on the **Service To Veteran form**. Ideas follow later in this bulletin.

What dates are coming up for you to celebrate/honor veterans? November 10<sup>th</sup> is the Marine Corps' birthday. November 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day. December 7<sup>th</sup> Pear Harbor Day. Remember veterans during the upcoming holidays.

Now that we have clarified **who we can serve and support for the Service To Veterans**



Now let's look for **IDEAS**. What can you do to provide support besides making phone calls, sending cards, visiting, and taking the individuals to do something to get them out of their house?

Make a treat box. This snack box has blackberries, red raspberries, and three cheeses with a small pack of graham crackers to go with the fruit and club crackers to go with the cheeses.



Make up a snack bag of Snowman Soup and Cookies.



Snowman soup is a decorated cup with an envelope of hot chocolate, marshmallows, and a candy cane to stir and include a couple of cookies.

Decorate a small box for the season and put a container of soup with crackers, a spoon, and a napkin.

Make a holiday food box that includes canned meat, a canned potato, a vegetable, dinner roll, and a dessert.

If a veteran's birthday falls between Nov. 20 – Jan. 3, why not make or buy a decorated cupcake and an ice cream cup to deliver on the birthday day.

Take a bouquet of flowers to a caregiver or surviving spouse, or maybe a potted plant or miniature Christmas tree.

All of these items take time and a little financial investment. Please list the hours and money for the **SERVICE TO VETERANS** form.

Thank you for all you do for our veterans!! Happy Thanksgiving to all of YOU.

Please share any ideas you have or activities you do with me. Deb Sutterlin  
[debsutterlin270@gmail.com](mailto:debsutterlin270@gmail.com) or text 330-465-9230.

## 2024 – 2025 Member Report Form

Members give this report to your VA & R Chairman, and she will **send all reports by April 15, 2025, to VA & R Vice Chairman, Deb Sutterlin, 950 Twp. Rd. 2506, Perrysville, OH 44864-9713**. Volunteers receiving their FIRST 50 volunteer hours will receive a Service to Our Veterans Pin to wear and hold their future hour bars. There is no cost to the volunteer if it is the Volunteers 1<sup>st</sup> Pin. Volunteers that have already received their Volunteer Pin may purchase new pins at their own expense through Emblem Sales or thru Department.

Unit Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

**Each volunteer needs a separate form, therefore, copy additional sheets as needed. This information is to be turned into the Vice Chairman of VA&R by April 15, 2025, to receive your pins and hours bars at the Department Convention.**



# HOSPITAL DIRECTOR

**Linda Close**

**November 2024**

The Holidays will soon be upon us, and I ask that you remember our veterans during this time. Our Representatives and Deputies are busy planning their Holiday parties. Please take time out to contact your Representative or Deputy to see what they need and how your Unit might help them.

I attended the Bundle of Love Baby Shower in District 12, where we also celebrated the retiring of Cheryl Smith. Cheryl was recognized with a plaque, flowers, gifts and cards for her many years of service as Chief Rep of Columbus Ambulatory. Whitehall Unit 490 had a wonderful taco bar which I enjoyed immensely. Thank you Unit 490. Hopefully Jeni Kennedy will be replacing Cheryl at the start of the New Year as the new Chief Representative.



November 10<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-3:30 Columbus Ambulatory will be celebrating Veterans' Day at the National Veterans Memorial Museum Grounds. Come on out and bring a toy for Toys for Tots, as Santa will be visiting the children that day.

I will be attending a Last Call Memorial Service at Cleveland Wade Park this Sunday for those veterans who have died this past year. Pat Miazga is our Chief Rep there if you wish to volunteer.

Toledo VA is doing soup and sliders each month. Pam Brenneman, Chief Representative is planning to give gift cards to local restaurants to our veterans for Christmas. If you can make a monetary donation to any of her projects, please send them to Department Headquarters earmarked for Toledo VA for Pam Brenneman. I know she'll appreciate it.

Chillicothe VA is once again doing their Birthday Parties. If your Unit would like to participate please contact Chief Representative Linda Lyons. Please note their Voluntary Services has new rules and guidelines to follow, so make sure you comply with them. Let's make our veterans know how much we care and give them our full support.



# Christmas PARTY

Ohio Veteran's Home has been busy with Bingos and Chief Rep Denise Bossetti has already begun planning for their Christmas Party December 19<sup>th</sup>. Darrell Bishop, past Dept. Commander is also working on this program. United in Harmony of Bucyrus will be the main performance beginning at 6:30 p.m. They will be followed by a magician and a singer performing hits of the 60's and 70's. Please contact Denise or Darrell if you would like to be a part of this special event. Also, we are working on changing Deputy Rep at OVH at the start of the New Year. Nanette is unable to fulfill her duties due to taking on a new job, so we have asked Ellen Mitchell of Unit 83 to take over this position.



I know I am invited to Dayton for their Christmas handout, but do not have the information on that yet. Please contact Sue Masten, Chief Rep or Carol T, Deputy if you can help them out.

Please keep Donna Ray, Chief Rep at Cincinnati in your thoughts and prayers. She has been recovering from Covid and pneumonia and had to return to the hospital a short time ago. She is out now and doing a little better, but still weak. She has been working with her SAL to raise money for supplying toiletries for the Cincinnati V A.

Along with attending my grandson's wedding last weekend, and attending President Louise's Homecoming this weekend, administering and grading the A & G test next week, holding our Buckeye Girls/Boys State banquet in Shelby, and assisting with planning and serving our Veteran's Day dinner, I have been very busy. I plan to start Hospital Tours soon.

I wish all of you a bountiful Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas, and I hope to see you in January. Please take care, be healthy and safe until we meet again.

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING

# MERRY CHRISTMAS