



Ohio Unit Plan of Action



VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

CITATION OF MERIT



REQUIREMENT

CHAIRMAN

Karen Peel
2216 25th St SW
Akron, OH 44314
(330) 962-0738 Cell

Email-
karen.peel@sk2holdings.com

VICE CHAIRMAN

Robyn Cooper
901 West High
Piqua, OH 45336
(937) 773-0165-Home
(937) 214-6307- Cell

Email-
ronaldcooper901@gmail.com

Department Hospital Director

Linda Close
1041 Donnawood Dr
Mansfield, OH 44903
(419) 989-1180 Cell

Email-
lindaclose@gmail.com

**REPORT DUE TO DISTRICT
CHAIRMAN BY:**

**April 15, 2023, to
DISTRICT CHAIRMAN**

**DISTRICT CHAIRMAN SEND TO DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN
BY MAY 1, 2023**

**Your District VA & R Chairman
(address shown below)**

District VA&R Chairmen

01	541	JENI	KENNEDY	431 GWINNETT ST	DELAWARE	OH	43015	(260) 715-5060	kmikejeni@gmail.com
02	355	NATALIE	MESCHER	236 OAKWOOD DR	FORT LORAMIE	OH	45845	(937) 638-6213	natalie_m2010@hotmail.com
03	184	ROBYN	COOPER	901 W HIGH ST	PIQUA	OH	45356	(937) 773-0165 (937) 214-6307	ronaldcooper901@gmail.com
04	194	MICHELLE	COSSMAN	5653 STONE TRACE DR	MASON	OH	45040-8314	(513) 368-5952	mcossman@zoomtown.com
05	257	LYNN	BAAB	219 MT VERNON AVE	LOUDONVILLE	OH	44842	(419) 994-4236	babblyne@gmail.com
06	085	LOLA	NIXON	44 CURTIS AVE	NEWARK	OH	43055	(740) 345-1567 (740) 877-2164	nix7lo@roadrunner.com
07	757	PATRICIA	OLAKER	207 CEDARWOOD TERRACE	CHILLICOTHE	OH	45601-1778	(740) 775-3389	NONE
08	21	NANCY	GRAVES	8235 WINDFALL RIDGE	ATHENS	OH	45701	(740) 593-7542	Hdgr.u812@gmail.com
09	601	TRACY	KING	1856 GREEN RD	MADISON	OH	44507	(440) 339-1672	ludtk2002@yahoo.com
10	436	JULIE	MARTIN	12574 ISLANDVIEW AVE NW	UNIONTOWN	OH	44685	(330) 699-6268	msjulieamartin@gmail.com
11	071	REBECCA	COLE	74 S MAIN ST LOT 8	ROSEVILLE	OH	43777	(740) 704-1221	rcole4@columbus.rr.com
12	614	JANE	DOMER	4105 SATURN DR	HILLIARD	OH	43026	(614) 653-2710	jvdomer@yahoo.com
13	421	ALLISON	NYE	28207 WISTERIA DR	NORTH OLMSTEAD	OH	44070	(330) 573-2228	allison.nye7@gmail.com
14	281	DOTTI	ALLRUTZ	736 ELEANORA DR	CUYAHOGA FALLS	OH	44223	(330) 671-1882	dsja14@aol.com

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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 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.

- List your assessment amount in the narrative and include on this form. Please include your dollars spent. _____
- How did your Unit support local veterans? How many senior members participated and how many Juniors? Please include the total number of hours. _____

- Describe how members earned their Service to Veterans hours. _____

- How did your Unit help support the VA Hospitals and the hospital representatives in order for them to help our veterans? How many hours did they spend on helping the veterans? Please include the dollar amount. _____

- What can we do as a group to help our VA hospitals? _____

- Tell about all the things that your Unit has done for the VA & R program this year. _____

- Tell about how your Unit supported the Veterans Creative Arts Festival. Describe how you were able to participate in the National President's Project to raise funds to help in providing funds for companions to attend with their veterans.

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active-Duty/Reserve Military

	Service for Veterans/Military	Obtain Total From	Member +	Unit =	Total
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	<i>Member Form Line 1</i>		N/A	
Line 2	Total dollars spent	<i>Member Form Line 2</i>	\$	\$	\$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted	<i>Member Form Line 3</i>			
Line 4	Total number of "Veterans in Community Schools" presentations facilitated	<i>Member Form Line 4</i>			
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	Unit Records	N/A	\$	\$

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American Legion Auxiliary National VA & R Report and Award Cover Sheet

**Please note, your report will also be viewed as an award entry if this cover sheet is attached.
Complete the following if you are applying for a member award.**

Unit #: _____ Full official unit name: _____

Name of state where you are a member: _____

Member's Full Name: _____ ALA member ID#: _____

Nominating Member (if different from above): _____

Nominator's Phone number: (____) _____

Nominator's Email address: _____

National committee sponsoring award: _____

Name of the award you are applying for: _____

For a unit award or to submit a year-end unit narrative report, please complete this section. Be sure to give the complete name of your unit. The award certificate will be prepared using the information you include below.

Unit #: _____ Full official unit name: _____

Name of department: _____

Unit president/chairman (**circle one**) name: _____

Above listed person's ALA member ID#: _____ Phone number: (____) _____

Email address: _____

For a department award or to submit a year-end department narrative report, please complete this section:

Name of department: _____

Name of department chairman: _____

Chairman's phone number: (____) _____ ALA member ID#: _____

Chairman's email address: _____

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VA & R

Key Program Statements:

- Support rehabilitation and healing of veterans through arts, crafts, and hobbies.
- Support veteran caregivers, family members and survivors.
- Enroll Auxiliary members as VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) volunteers at VA health care facilities.
- Help The American Legion, State Department of Veterans Affairs and Chamber of Commerce promote job fairs for veterans and their families.
- There isn't a VA hospital close to your community? Find opportunities for Auxiliary members to serve veterans in your area such as serving the homeless.

1. **Objective Goal:** Organize and promote more job fairs to find jobs for unemployed veterans.
 - a. **Action Step:** Work with VA & R and Chamber of Commerce to contact businesses that are looking for employees to participate in the job fair.
 - b. **Action Step:** Advertise that a job fair will be held.
 - c. **Action Step:** Be sure to work with community organizations to acquire enough volunteers to run the event.
2. **Objective Goal:** Helping veterans when there is not a VA Hospital close to Auxiliary members.
 - a. **Action Step:** Find out through the hospital Representatives and Deputy Representatives what the VA hospital needs and either have a fundraiser or purchase items that are needed.
 - b. **Action Step:** Try to find out if there are homeless veterans in your area and give them a meal or two. Make up ditty bags with items that they need and give to them.
3. **Objective Goal:** Support the rehabilitation and healing process of veterans thru arts, crafts, and hobbies.
 - a. **Action Step:** Get the veterans involved in the Creative Arts Festival.
 - b. **Action Step:** Have a showing of what our veterans can do to help them rehab and heal.
 - c. **Action Step:** Participate in National President Vickie Koutz's project to raise funds for — money for a meal plan, travel, and/or a separate hotel room if needed for non-family member companions.

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION RESOURCES

- VA & R National Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAVAR/>
- ALA National website: <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/var>
- VA Homeless Programs: www.va.gov/homeless
- National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (NVCAF): <https://www.blogs.va.gov/nvspse/> or <https://www.legion-aux.org/nvcaf/>
- Volunteers of America: www.vo.org/homeless-people

Year-End Report

Annual reports reflect the program work of units in the department, and may result in a national award for participants, if award requirements are met. **Each Unit VA&R chairman is required to submit a narrative report by April 15, 2023, to the District VA&R Chairman** (addresses on first page of POA).

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NATIONAL AWARD INFORMATION & DEADLINE

Most Outstanding VA&R Program - one per division. The Blanche Klein Plaque winner will be sent on to National to compete for this National Award.

- A. **Department Recognition from The American Legion Award:** Michael Guty Homeless Veterans Outreach
- Deadline: January 15, 2023
 - Entries must be approved by the department adjutant or department employment chairman and sent to The American Legion National Headquarters. Nomination form is available at www.legion.org
- B. **James H. Parke Scholarship**
- Deadline: November 1, 2022
 - See www.va.gov for information on VAVS, James H. Parke Scholarship

DEPARTMENT AWARD INFORMATION & DEADLINE

Blanche Klein Plaque: best all-around *VA & R Program* by a Unit based on the Annual Report/Narrative. Entries must be in narrative form not to exceed 1,000 words and must include a completed copy of the annual report form. You may include pictures, PR clippings and flyers. Include the name and address of the Unit Chairman and forward to your **District VA & R Chairman by April 15, 2023**. *District Chairman will select one winner in each Membership Category based on goal and forward all narratives to the Department Chairman.* The winner of this award will be forwarded onto National for further competition.

Sue Friedrich Plaque: best overall *VA& R Program* by a Unit based on their narrative. Entries must be in narrative form not to exceed 1,000 words. Include the name and address of the Unit Chairman and forward to Department Chairman, Karen Peel, 2216 25th St. SW, Akron, Ohio 44314, by **April 15, 2023**.

Marie Moore Fund Plaque: awarded to the Unit donating the most money per capita (based upon membership goal) to the Marie Moore fund (gifts presented to the *VAMC* to be used in support of Veterans). Donations must be received in ALA Department Headquarters, P.O. Box 2760, Zanesville, OH 43702-2760 by **June 1, 2023**.

Olive Ruffner Plaque: Awarded to the most outstanding VA Volunteer by the Hospital Director. Nominations may be submitted by Unit or VA Voluntary Services in narrative form not to exceed 1,000 words on the accomplishments/activities of the volunteer. Submit entry to the Department Hospital Director, Linda Close, 1041 Donnanwood Dr., Mansfield, Ohio 44903 by **April 15, 2023**.

Volunteen Award: Awarded to the volunteen with the most hours served in a VA Medical Center. Volunteen must meet all requirements as set forth in the voluntary service program for a VA Medical Center Volunteer. This award to be presented at Department Convention. Submit entry to the Department Hospital Director, Linda Close, 1041 Donnanwood Dr, Mansfield, Ohio 44903 by **April 15, 2023**.

