



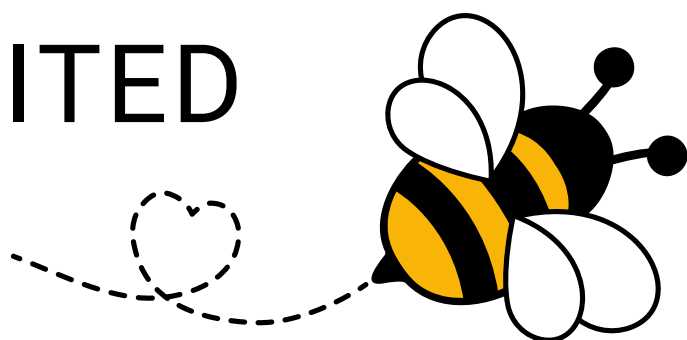
Evergreen News

August 2025

printable versions are
available on ALA website

September Deadline:
August 22nd

BEE EXCITED





2025-2026 Department President Cindy Smith

Welcome to the year 2025-2026 American Legion Auxiliary, State of Washington! I want to thank everyone for their support of me stepping into your Department President for the 2025-2026 year. I am very excited to be working with a very awesome and amazing organization with the best units and members of American Legion Auxiliary. My motto for the year is "on the road again, helping our veterans." I live about 100 miles north

of Spokane, WA. And always seems like I'm on the road, which I love doing for all kinds of missions for our Veterans. My chosen foundation is Veterans Housing/Transitional Housing. We have one in Spokane, Kennewick, Orting and Port Orchards. So, whatever I raise will be divided between these four housing for veterans. I'm excited to get started. The heart of our organization moving forward is our Membership. I really have two of the most awesome, knowledgeable women that are chairing my membership, and a lot of you will know or recognize their names, and I am so blessed to have them on my team. I'm excited to announce Barbara Rutherford and co-chair Jane Montana. I'm introducing them now, because we need 100% involvement with membership and these ladies will be sending you emails, ideas and flyers to help with membership. I want to "bee" focused on membership, but not "bee" so focused in a way that members are joined unqualified or wrongly. I am very honored to belong to this organization that I have family that I honor who served in the military and served during war time. So, let's "bee, busy bee's!" I want to thank Terri Campbell 1st Vice President, Laura Bounderaunt 2nd Vice President, Parliamentary Rose Ring, NEC Lorna Burgess, Chaplin Vickie Evans, Historian Jesse Cluck and Past National President, Mary Davis. I have a great and amazing DEC table beside me. Having the most wonderful and caring past Department Presidents, with a past National President and past NEC's I feel with their help and your help we will have an amazing year! The drive will be to pick each other up, "bee" kind, "bee" thoughtful, "bee" supportive and don't try to "bee" a bully. I am a very firm believer, everyone is great, beautiful and the most amazing volunteers an organization can have! I'm so excited to work and get to know everyone! I am so blessed.

Thank you,

Your Department President, 2025-2026 Cindy Smith.



2025/2026 Department Officers

President: Cindy Smith

1st Vice: Terri Campbell

2nd Vice: Laura Bounderaunt

Parliamentarian: Rose Ring

NEC: Lorna Burgess

Chaplain: Vickie Evans

Historian: Jesse Cluck

Past National President: Mary Davis

Unit Member Of The Year

Susan Baker

District 2 Unit 141

“This is so exciting! Never in my thoughts as being President for 3 years I would hear my name as Department of Washington Unit Member of the Year 2025. I am honored to represent Washington State this year at The National Convention. Also as Vice President of District 2.”

Susan will be attending the Nation Convention on August 22nd - 28th in Tampa, Florida



Evergreen Girls State 2025 Governor

Ava Swigart

Ava attended the ALA Convention and gave an amazing speech regarding her experience at Girls State. At Convention Girls State Director Terri Campbell presented Ava with the Girls State trophy and a \$1,000 scholarship. Ava was sponsored by her local ALA Unit #9 located in Spokane.



**AMERICAN
LEGION**
AUXILIARY
Washington Evergreen
Girls State



2025 ALA Convention Spokane, WA



***American Legion Auxiliary Department of Washington
Believes everyone should –***

Be an Early Bird

**Give a treat to the American Legion Auxiliary Programs –
renew ALA 2026 membership before Halloween.**

Remember our mission?

**The programs of the ALA support veterans, military, their families,
our communities and especially our youth.**



**Renewals provide funding –
the earlier renewals are processed the sooner, and better,
our veterans and mission programs are supported.**

**Your Department Membership co-chairs – Barb Rutherford and Jane Montaney
challenge every Unit to achieve 100% Renewals BEFORE December 31, 2025.**

The first unit to achieve 100% Renewals earns a new car!!!

**A print-out showing Unit Goals for 2026 Membership Year will be out soon but for now,
know your Goal is 2 over what the Unit achieved as of the final report (3 July 2025).**

Questions?? contact Barb 509-670-9971 or Jane 509-760-1433



2024-2025 Department President Farewell Letter

Dear Members and Friends of the American Legion Auxiliary,

Thank you for the honored privilege to serve as your 2024-2025 Department President. How swift the year has gone by in a whirlwind of activities! Thank you all for each one! Our 2025 Summer Convention at the Mirabeau Hotel and Convention Center in Spokane Valley was a tremendous success because of you!

We had reports from Department Officers, Districts, Committee Chairpersons and celebrated awards for Department Scholarships, Unit Member of the Year Susan Baker, and Unit & District “first” 100% of Goal Membership award trophies. We also had special incentive drawings for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund Challenge (a beautiful wooden eagle sign made by Department AEF Chair Tina Loomer’s veteran son), 12 - 2025-2026 Memberships, the ALA Academy Challenge prize, a special 90-100% of Goal Unit Membership plaque, lots of ALA prizes and daily 50/50 drawings. The Eighth District Convention Committee provided 2 special events during the convention - a Wednesday evening Spokane Indians’ baseball game at the Avista Stadium during their Family Feast Night and an American Legion Family Summer Fun Party in the Mirabeau Park Hotel Courtyard featuring live music by “My Own Worst Enemy.” Prior to the party, Americanism Chair Eva Wallace, Vickie Evans and Amy Robertson rehearsed and video-taped Auxiliary and Legion members in a performance of the “Star-Spangled Banner” to enter the Dept. of WA in the Department Americanism Chairman Challenge. Also, during the convention, we enjoyed 2 luncheons presented by 2nd Vice President and Children & Youth Chair Terri Campbell and 1st Vice President and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Chair Cindy Smith. Plus, we also honored our Past Department Presidents during their annual States Dinner. Our Department Book of Reports this year was a bit “expanded.” Its compilation corresponds with this year’s Membership theme “Happy Trails” and percentage of goals. Within its covers I wanted it to be a snapshot of our work together including important items that we usually find as handouts. There is a historical section which is only a reference point of past events. Other significant pieces include lyrics to the Star-Spangled Banner, the Loyal Legionnaire, protocol items, important forms and “how tos.” In parting, I must thank Vickie Evans, Department Chaplain for her very inspirational Prayer Book which was put together with Vickie and her team, Jessie Cluck and Barb Cutrell. All of the graphics were created by Jessie and the three of them worked together to make the book a reality! It is truly a remarkable artistic gift that I will always cherish!



Reminder:
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August 22nd

Email Submissions To:
alaevergreennews@gmail.com

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