



 **AMERICAN
LEGION**
AUXILIARY

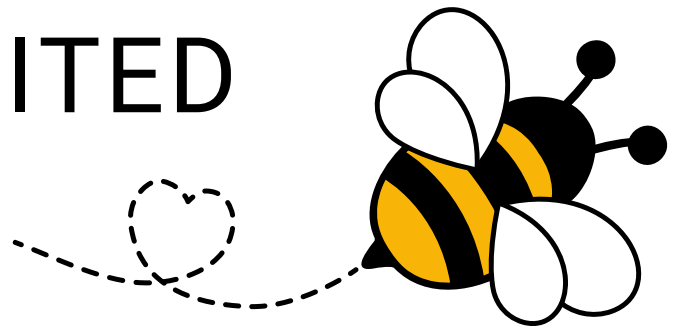
Evergreen News

November 2025

printable versions are
available on ALA website

December Deadline:
November 24th

BEE EXCITED



ALA National President Pam Ray Visits Washington State



Newly elected **American Legion Auxiliary National President Pam Ray** traveled to Washington State on **October 9th**, flying into Spokane to begin her visit. She was joined by **ALA Department President Cindy Smith** and **Past National President Mary Davis** as they toured several Posts and Units across the region.

Their first stop was in **Reardan**, where they visited the **Joe Mann Memorial**, a meaningful project still in progress and a testament to the dedication of local Legion Family members.

On **Saturday, October 10th**, the group traveled north to **Metline Falls Unit 144**, where the Unit President and members hosted an amazing and delicious luncheon. Auxiliary members from across **District 8**, along with **Unit 34 from Kennewick-Pasco**, came together to connect, share updates, and celebrate the work being done in their Units. One particularly inspiring moment came from the members of **Kettle Falls**, who shared the story of opening their new ALA Unit — a true example of determination, teamwork, and heart.

After departing Metline Falls, the **Presidential Trio** continued on to **Spokane**, where they visited the **VA Medical Center** and met with **CDCE Director James** as well as ALA representatives **Jane Montaney** and **Barb Rutherford**. The day concluded at **Unit 72 in Cheney**, where members hosted a beautiful reception and dinner in President Ray's honor.

During the evening, President Ray delivered a heartfelt and inspiring speech centered around her mission theme, **"Mission Driven and Family Focused."** She spoke about the deep influence of her parents and shared the touching story of her late father, **Clay Lofton**, who registered her as an ALA member just days after her birth. As a lifelong member, President Ray reminded everyone of the Auxiliary's founding purpose — to serve veterans, military, and their families — while also emphasizing the importance of strengthening **The American Legion Family**.

Her visit left a lasting impression on all who attended, inspiring renewed dedication, unity, and pride among Washington's Auxiliary members.

Name: _____



True or False?

Directions: Read each statement, then circle True or False.

1. There have been 27 official versions of the American flag, each with a different amount of stars.

True

False

2. The colors of the flag have meaning: The color Blue signifies valor.

True

False

3. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the first Flag Day in 1916.

True

False

4. Of the six American flags that are planted on the moon, four of them are still standing.

True

False

5. The flag may be displayed during darkness as long as it is properly illuminated with a spotlight, for example.

True

False

6. There are 48 stars and 13 stripes on the American flag.

True

False

7. Since 1916 we have set aside June 24th as National Flag Day in honor of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the official American flag.

True

False

8. Betsy Ross wrote the lyrics to our national anthem.

True

False

9. The 13 stripes on the American flag represent the original 13 colonies.

True

False

10. Francis Scott Key was a 17-year old high school student who submitted his version of the US flag design that remains in use today.

True

False

AMERICANISM FOR 2025-2026

Eva Wallace, Chairman

November 2025



“BEE PATRIOTIC”

Veterans Day is fast approaching, and I know many of you will be participating in our school programs and visits honoring our veterans.

A few suggestions for topics and activities:

- a) Share the poppy story and talk about the meaning of the poppy and how it honors our veterans
- b) Share “Thank you Veterans” coloring sheet (copy attached for you)
- c) Use the True and False Flag quiz sheet and go over with the kids (copy attached/answers at the bottom of this article)
- d) You can distribute the “We the People” bookmarks (last month article), the comic books about veterans

One recommendation I know the teachers will appreciate is keeping the program fairly short, talk to them to see what works for their classroom, but make it fun and interesting for all.

Answers to T & F: 1) T 2) F 3) T 4) F 5) T 6) F 7) F 8) F 9) T 10) F

THANK
You





WHAT DOES YOUR MEMBERSHIP MEAN TO YOU?



Is it just another card to carry in your wallet? Are you not attending meetings because you really don't know what the American Legion Auxiliary is; or, do you think it's just a place members go to drink and party?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, please consider the following.

1. It's an honor to be a part of the largest veterans' service organization in the world. We are even chartered by Congress!
2. It's a privilege – not everyone can join. The eligibility requirements place you in an elite group.
3. It's beneficial with discounts on eyewear, medications, and hearing aids. Also, there are great insurance plans, phone services, a special credit card, free magazine subscription and accidental death benefits – just to name a few.
4. It's rewarding when you see the smiles of appreciation and changed lives.
5. It's fun working together with others of like mind, in projects for veterans, families and our youth. All is done with spirit, and you enjoy fellowship as you are helping others. It brings satisfaction.

Active members are people who care and are willing to help in anyway they can, no matter how small. Not all of us are able to attend meetings, maybe there's too much noise at your Post, or you work nights, maybe you just can't afford to pay for all those babysitters. You could also be one of those members who live too far away from your Unit to attend the local events. **You can still be an active member!**

Keep in touch with those who do attend meetings. If your someone who attends meetings maybe you could help keep in touch with a few who don't attend. Do you sew, knit or crochet? – you can help by making afghans, slippers, clothing protectors, and lots of other items needed by those homebound or hospitalized. Your Unit should have sample patterns provided by Department. Calling Committees are always in need of people to help notify others of projects; and, this is a way for you to keep up with things too.

Does your Unit and/or Post have a newsletter? – you could help with typing, folding, or maybe even offer to write an article now and then. In my Unit we have members that can't attend meetings but still participate in Blood Drives, Hosts (helping students in schools with reading), cutting Manufacturers' Coupons for the Troops, helping with Pocket Flags and a lot of other community projects. Maybe you think all you can do is pay your dues (Remember the earlier in the fiscal year the better – August /September is absolutely best time); but how about writing a letter or sending a card occasionally to a servicemember. Remember whatever you do, hours spent helping others should be reported to your Unit (we are auxiliary members no matter what we're doing) so they can add it to the reports. All this helps us when we go before the lawmakers.

Didn't think you were active, did you? Well, ok, maybe you could get more active; and, you could really help by encouraging others to join our American Legion Family.

Happy Fall to everyone

As the chilly days and cold nights are among us, I hope you are feeling the warmth of God's love and care in your lives.

I didn't get anything in last months newsletter, as I had surgery on my hand. My trumpet hand...YIKES!!! Everything went great, my fingers all move well and my therapy is practicing my trumpet and the piano to keep the fingers moving. This sure beats going to a physical therapy place!

I received the sad news of the passing of Past National President Barbara Kranig, Department of Wisconsin. I sent a card from all of us to her family. I also sent a card to the families of Cathi Taylor and Kris West. Cathi was the ALA National Headquarters Archivist and Kris was a PNP. Please keep these families in your prayers.

If you know of someone who is sick, has had surgery, or lost a loved one, please let me know so I can keep them in my prayers and send them a card. October brings us the the fun holiday of Halloween. The children are getting their costumes ready to hit the streets and say those famous words at your door..."Trick or Treat." We smile as we put candy into their bags and listen to them say "thank you" as they run off to the next house. I remember as a child doing this and it was so much fun. Now it is fun giving to the children and watching them.

As our world has changed, it seems like we have to be more cautious with everything we do or say.

Some people think Halloween has become an evil holiday, but instead it is supposed to be a fun time for kids!! Let's do all we can as individuals to make it a fun holiday for all the kids.

Please pray this prayer with me on Halloween.

“Father, thank you for the joy that kids have on this one night of the year. Please wrap your arms of protection around them and keep them safe tonight and every night. Keep them safe from traffic dangers. Keep them safe from would-be wrongdoers. And most importantly, keep them safe from the dark and evil forces that are known to be active on this night of the year. In Jesus Name, we pray. Amen!”

Another holiday coming up is Veterans Day. Veterans Day is an opportunity for us to pause and reflect on the courage and dedication of those who have served in the U.S. Military. Most communities will have a ceremony to honor veterans and we can attend these to show our appreciation!

I have the opportunity to perform a Patriotic Concert for all the veterans around here, at Texas Roadhouse. We do this in the parking lot on Veterans Day. After my performance, they hand out a voucher to every veteran there to receive a free meal. What a great thing this is and it means a lot to the veterans to receive this from Texas Roadhouse. My concert is my way of showing my appreciation to our veterans.

Whatever your community or post might be doing, go celebrate and show appreciation for the brave men and women who have served.

I pray that everyone has days filled with joy. Stay productive, and active!

“Gracious God, as the leaves change colors and the days grow shorter, we give thanks for the beauty of autumn. Guide us to embrace this season of change with open hearts, trusting in Your eternal presence. Help us to walk in gratitude, spreading kindness and love as we prepare for the harvest ahead. May this month be filled with peace, reflection and a renewed sense of purpose. Amen”

Vickie Evans
Dept. Chaplain

With the Fall Conferences/Area Workshops coming to completion for this year, as you may know there have been a couple of changes.

I am excited to be your new Department 1st Vice/VA&R Chairman for the remainder of this year. (2025-26). Thank you, Department President Cindy, for the appointment. I have stepped down as the Department Parliamentarian for this position. Barb Rutherford, Past Department President, has agreed to step up as your new Parliamentarian. We both look forward to a great year with all of you, the ALA members.

I have started reaching out to the VA&R team. If there is anything you or your Unit/District need from us that we can help with, please reach out to us. If you need contact information, let me know and I can forward what I have to you. Most all are the same as last year. It is all listed in the Department Directory that Secretary Sabrina sent out via email a month or so ago. Please keep a running diary of what you do this year for VA&R, when it's time for reports you will have it all at your fingertips. Photos too!

I am enclosing here flyers from two of our Gift Shops that has been forwarded to me. Retsil, and Spokane. I have not heard from the Gift Shop for Walla Walla, or American Lake, as yet. Spokane has a nice list of needs/wants for their Gift Shop and Retsil needs monetary donations to help with the gift cards they hand out.

Thank you to all who help support these great programs of the ALA. The Veterans and their families are the true beneficiaries of these gift shops. Let's help them have a truly wonderful Christmas season.

In Service to our Veterans,
Rose Ring
Department 1st Vice/VA&R Chair
Cell: 360-969-9624
Email: rosering7854@gmail.com



We are thankful for our ALA Members and all you
do for the veterans!

November Treasurer Report

The 2026 membership renewals are coming in fast and furious! National deposits for the online renewals for the Department and Unit membership portions come in on the 1st and 15th of each month. I will be processing all Unit portions and payout every other month.

The PUFL distributions will be sent to the Department at the end of October, and I will be distributing the Unit's portion in November.

I have noticed that we have quite a few outstanding checks that some Units have not cashed or deposited for dues that were renewed online. The distribution checks are only valid for 180 days, so please try and deposit the checks as soon as they are received.

Please let me know if you have any questions and feel free to contact me at any time!

Ruth

Ruth Foster

treasurer@walegion-aux.org

360.456.5996





Items Needed

American Legion Auxiliary

will be holding its annual Gift Shops at the
Spokane Veterans Home 17 & 18 Nov pack up on 19th
and at the VA Medical Center 8-10 Dec 2025!

We are in need of:

Bathroom towel sets, Kitchen Towel Sets,

Candy Boxes, Men's tool sets,

Small appliances, Men's Wallets,

Men, Women & Kids Cap & glove sets –

(a scarf is a nice addition to those sets)

Sweats (sets are nice) Size Large to 3X

Socks (Men, Women, Girls & Boys), Handkerchiefs,

Lrg. print books of Crossword, Word-Search, Suduko, etc.

Kids games & stuffed toys

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED

The Veterans Christmas Program (a separate program from Gift Shop) allows the ALA to give a gift to the Veteran himself/herself. Some items needed in addition to those above are C-Chargers for phones, reading glasses (1.5- 1.75), girls & boys socks.

Questions or to arrange drop off/pick up contact:

Barb Rutherford 509-670-9971 barblovesfrogs@nwi.net

Jane Montaney 509-760-1433 jmontaney@yahoo.com



You're Invited!

ANNUAL GIFT SHOP

November 14th for Retsil

November 15th for Building 10

Mark your Calanders

You may choose 1 Gift Card per Resident

Sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Washington

Dates

Friday, November 14th

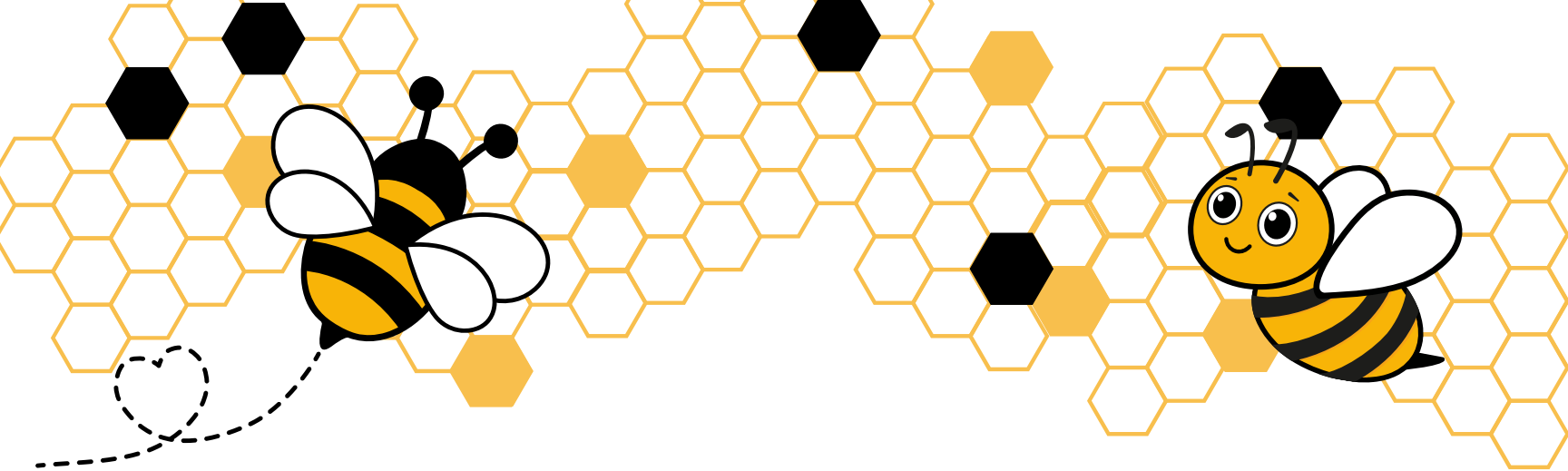
Saturday, November 15th

Times

9:00am to 3:00pm

9:30am to 3:00





Reminder:
December Edition Deadline Is:
November **24th**

Email Submissions To:
alaeverygreennews@gmail.com

BE EXCITED

