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ALA eNEWS: *CONNECTING WITH YOU MONTHLY*



JULY 2026



ALA Girls Nation getting prepped for a fulfilling week

A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for incoming senior high school students across the United States is quickly approaching. This year, ALA Girls Nation will take place July 18-25. Two students, or senators, from the department-level ALA Girls State programs will travel to the nation's capital for a weeklong experience learning about the federal government process. These 102 senators will engage in a mock

legislature submitting bills and resolutions, participating in senate sessions, and electing officials. Join us in wishing these young senators an amazing week!

To stay updated with the fun from ALA Girls Nation, follow on social media @ALAGirlsNation and the [ALA blog](#). To learn more about the ALA Girls Nation program, go [here](#).

Save the date for this webinar right around the corner

Wills, Powers of Attorney, and Estate Planning Essentials

When: July 14 @ noon ET

This webinar will provide participants with straightforward, easy-to-understand information about wills and other essential estate planning documents. The presentation will explain the purpose of key legal documents, such as wills, powers of attorney, and advance medical directives, along with common considerations for individuals and families at every stage of life. Participants will gain valuable insights into the role these documents play in protecting personal wishes, helping loved ones navigate difficult situations, and supporting long-term planning goals.

Please note: The presenting attorney is licensed in Virginia and will only speak to Virginia law. This session is for informational purposes only and does not include legal advice.

To register, go [here](#).

ALA members share red, white, and blue from coast to coast

Across the nation, our Auxiliary members repped their patriotic pride. To celebrate the United States' 250th birthday, ALA entities and American Legion Family members got decked out in red, white, and blue and shared their pictures. The first 250 to send photos earned the pictured patch. Happy 250th!





Get convention ready with Pam's picks!

National Convention is almost here! As we gather in Louisville to celebrate a year of service, conduct the business of the American Legion Auxiliary, and commemorate USA 250, show your ALA pride with Pam's picks from Lands' End Business. From cozy soft-shell jackets and classic button-downs to versatile totes and timeless layers, you'll find convention-ready styles designed to keep you looking your best all week long.

Looking for convention-ready style? Check out Pam's picks on the [ALA Blog](#), then shop ALA-branded apparel in our [Lands' End Business Store](#).

MEMBER BENEFITS



Turn your everyday Amazon purchases into support for the American Legion Auxiliary, at no extra cost to you! When you shop through SmileAssociate, a portion of the commission earned on eligible purchases helps fund the ALA entity of your choice while supporting our mission to serve veterans, military, and their families. It's a simple way to make every purchase count.

Select your ALA entity to support here: <https://smileassociate.com/alanational#/>



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GOOD TO KNOW

Keep a lookout for the August *Auxiliary* magazine! The August issue of our national quarterly magazine is heading to mailboxes this month. A digital copy is available on our [website](#). Send us your thoughts on this issue: [Email PR@ALAforVeterans.org](mailto:PR@ALAforVeterans.org).

Missed a webinar? Go to ALA Academy to review recordings and see what other webinars are coming up. Click [here](#)!

Have an idea for an Academy course? Email ALAAcademy@ALAforVeterans.org to send your ideas for potential courses.



ALA COMMITTEE FACEBOOK GROUPS ENCOURAGE DISCUSSION

These national committee groups are spaces on the social media platform for ALA members to discuss or share ideas about topics related to each committee. Groups provide a safe place for organic discussion about your local programs or services and support efforts to grow our organization's awareness. Visit www.ALAforVeterans.org/social-media to join the groups you're passionate about.

ON THE ALA BLOG

Helping others benefits kids and our organization

A 2025 Tufts University analysis shows that 50% of young people say they "rarely or never spend time in person with others in their community." It's a worrying statistic, considering the lifelong benefits that community involvement provides for young people. But one simple activity can strengthen the community ties that are lacking among today's youth. That activity is volunteering.



[Read more](#)

Being around veterans feels good again for NVCAF artist

U.S. Army veteran Paula Zielke from Kansas said she was “completely shocked” when she found out her fiber arts pattern bag secured her a spot to the 2026 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival for the first time.



[Read more](#)

SAVE THE DATE



July 10: National Motorcycle Day
 July 25: National Hire a Veteran Day
 July 27: National Korean War Armistice Day
 July 28: National Buffalo Soldiers Day
 Aug. 4: Coast Guard Birthday
 Aug. 7: Purple Heart Day
 Aug. 10: Agent Orange Awareness Day

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

What does your American Legion Family membership mean to you?

“My memberships are my way of giving back to those who have and/or are serving by being vocal about the organizations, what they do, and can do to help our veterans and their families.”

— Pam Norton, American Legion Family Department of Vermont member

LEGION FAMILY NEWS

American Legion Boys Nation approaching

Throughout July 17-25, 98 incoming high school seniors representing their respective American Legion department Boys State programs will learn and connect with each other in Washington, D.C. Like the ALA's Girls Nation program, these students, referred to as senators, will spend a week immersed in learning the U.S. government and political process, as well as other civics education. Good luck and have fun, young senators! To learn more, go [here](#).

National Membership Workshop coming up in August

Held in Indianapolis, The American Legion National Membership Workshop will offer presentations on various topics to help strengthen the Legion Family's focus areas. A few of the topics attendees will learn about include recruiting and retention, Be the One, welcoming new members, legislative priorities, etc. The workshop is scheduled for Aug. 7-8. To register and learn more, go [here](#).

American Legion Baseball World Series starts in August

Pack up your peanuts and Cracker Jacks — The American Legion's Baseball World Series is set for Aug. 13 at Veterans Field at Keeter Stadium in Shelby, N.C., where eight American Legion Baseball teams will bat for the championship title. To learn more about the championship game and the American Legion Baseball program, click [here](#).



ALA Membership

Where does your department stand in Auxiliary membership? [Click here to log in and view the latest reports.](#)



The American Legion Legislative Center

The ALA supports the legislative agenda of The American Legion. [Get involved.](#)



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