



“Angels in the Outfield, Caring for others”

January 2026,

HAPPY NEW YEAR,

National President Pam Ray will be visiting Arizona March 12-16, 2026. We are working on activities, if your unit is interested in hosting a luncheon, dinner or meet and greet please let Rose know. We are looking at being in Southern Arizona for those four (4) days.

ALAMIS billing will be sent out for 2026 in February. No changes can be made, nor anyone added until National bills all Departments!

Department NO LONGER HOLDS MEMBERSHIP CREDITS!!! ONLINE AND OVER/UNDERPAYMENTS ARE REIMBURSED MONTHLY. DO NOT WRITE USE CREDIT ON YOUR MEMBERSHIP WHEN YOU SEND IT IN. If the check, we send you is not cashed within 90 days of issuance the bank automatically voids it and you WILL NOT BE ISSUED ANOTHER ONE!

The phone and Internet upgrades here at headquarters are complete. Thank you for your patience and understanding while this process was going on.

We have upgraded the Dept. website. It will be the same web address but more up to date. Anyone with website experience, with an emphasis on Go Daddy, that would like to volunteer to help webmaster Deb Munchbach (be a backup/assistant) with the website once updated please let us know.

PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT: President Dolores's project this year is **Caregivers and Hospice**. Dawn Davidson from Unit 45 is the PSP Chairman. You can reach her at, aladawndavidson@gmail.com, if you want her to visit your Unit or District, or to get more information.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership is everyone's job. 2026 membership renewals, re-joins and new members can be sent to the Department. Don't hold on to membership, please send in weekly.

RENEW MEMBERSHIP BY PHONE: Call National Headquarters at 317-569-4570 with your member ID and debit or credit card ready

MANDATES: The 2025-2026 mandates are on the website. Please pay your mandates sooner than later. There were several Units who did not pay their mandates 30 days before the Department Convention; therefore, they lost their voting rights at Convention. If you have any questions regarding Mandates, contact the Department Office.

2026 DIRECTORY: Is on the Department website: www.aladeptaz.org. If your Units information is blank, that means we did not receive your new officer information. Please email us with the information and we will get you entered.

POPPY: We need units to start making poppies for Department. I have 3 veterans making poppies and two of them have just started. A shout out to Roger Munchbach, who supplies Department with 98% of the poppies the units order.

Unit Goals: 2026 Unit Goals are in the new 2026 membership report and in the directory. Good luck to all Units in achieving 100% for President Dolores.

The Office is open, and we are here to help. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4p.m. Evenings by appointment. (please don't be afraid to ask).

Rose Ficklin
Department Secretary/Treasurer

Secretary1@aladeptaz.org

Rae Hopf
Department Membership Processor

membership@aladeptaz.org

PLEASE REMEMBER !!!!

No one representing the American Legion Auxiliary will ever send an email or text asking you for money or to purchase gift cards for them because they are busy or "in meetings".

PLEASE ALWAYS DELETE THEM AND IGNORE ANY SUCH REQUEST !!!!

A Unit has fallen for a gift card scam, PLEASE let your members know to be diligent!

TIDBITS FROM THE WEBSITE MANAGER

Secretary Unit 109

Sara Wilson
520-870-1020
sara00219@gmail.com

Unit 78 PO Box is 128 not 125.

Unit 9 PO Box is now 1585 not 1085.

New Department Community Service Chairman
Joanie Whitsett, jwhitsett11@gmail.com, 707-478-2102

Barbara Whitney, Children & Youth Chairman
barbaraw527@icloud.com

ALA Arizona Auxiliary – Monthly Chaplain Message December 2025

Dear Auxiliary Members,

As we enter this season of light and gratitude, I am reminded of the strength we share through service. December is a time to reflect on the blessings of our mission – supporting veterans, their families and one another. May your holidays be filled with peace, joy, and the warmth of our community.

Highlight a unit's holiday project (e.g. care packages for veterans, toy drives, food deliveries/support). Share photos or short stories of how auxiliary members are spreading cheer this holiday season on Ring Your Bell.

A prayer for December: May our service shine as a beacon of love and compassion for all who need encouragement. Let us carry the spirit of hope and renewal into our work. As we celebrate the holidays and welcome in the New Year, may our American Legion family continue to grow in unity and purpose.

Please take a moment this month to honor the memory of Auxiliary members who have passed. Consider lighting a candle or sharing a moment of silence at your next meeting. Their contributions continue to inspire us.

Thank you for your dedication, compassion, and unwavering support of our veterans. Continue to encourage members to renew before year-end to stay connected. May our hearts continue to be filled with gratitude during the holiday season.

NOTE to ALL District and Unit Chaplains - please join our Chaplains Circle on the Band app so that we can all be united in prayer. Scan with your phone the QR below. If you have any questions or issues please reach out to me at AzDeptChaplain@gmail.com or 562-370-0080 (text). (P.S. Chaplains Circle on the Band App is open to any auxiliary member)



With grace and gratitude,
DeDe
ALA Arizona State Chaplain

December 31, 2025

ALA CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM

The ALA Children & Youth program promotes our mission to enhance the lives of U.S. veterans, military, and their families.

The Children & Youth Program has 4 Key Program Statements:

- The Children & Youth program emphasizes protecting, caring for and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families.
- To recognize and reward the positive actions of our children and youth, the American Legion Auxiliary has two special national awards bestowed to youth nominated by units: the Youth Hero Award and the Good Deed Award
- Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDH2) is an initiative honoring military children who may be experiencing a separation from one or both parents, whether deployed to a war zone, having a short tour, or on an extended temporary duty assignment.
- The ALA Children & Youth program strives to support and promote the Children & Youth program of The American Legion.

Barbara Whitney, Children & Youth Chairman

barbaraw527@icloud.com

December 31, 2025

The 2026 applications for two American Legion scholarships for higher learning open Jan. 1.

- The American Legion Legacy Scholarship eligibility is for children of a parent who lost their lives while honorably serving on active military duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001, or children of a post-9/11 veteran with a combined Department of Veterans Affairs disability rating of 50% or higher. The scholarship is awarded for undergraduate study, graduate study, and trade schools at an accredited institution of higher education. It awards up to \$20,000 for children of the fallen, and up to \$5,000 for children of the disabled.
- Samsung American Legion Scholarship is available for high school juniors who will participate in the current session of American Legion Boys State or Auxiliary Girls State and are a direct descendant (or legally adopted child) of a U.S. military veteran who served honorably on active duty during a period of war (April 6, 1917-Nov. 11, 1918; or Dec. 7, 1941, until a date as determined by Congress).
More information: <https://www.legion.org/information-center/news/scholarships/2025/december/two-american-legion-youth-scholarships-open-jan-1>.

Barbara Whitney, Children & Youth Chairman

barbaraw527@icloud.com



Education January 2026



The 1st semester is already at an end! Each month I am focusing on one of the areas mentioned in the August newsletter. This month: **Assist and support veterans pursuing higher education and vocational education.**

There are a number of ways that Members and Units can assist veterans in furthering their education:

- Volunteer to collaborate with a Student Veterans of America chapter or other campus student veterans group at colleges and universities in your community.
- Sign up to receive The American Legion's Legislative Action Alerts, and support the alerts regarding the GI Bill.
- Arrange for your post home to be available for off-campus events/chapter meetings.
- Provide information/handouts to members on organizing and delivering presentations on career and life skills topics to student veterans.
- Promote events through local media and your Unit social media accounts.
- Promote the American Legion Auxiliary Non-Traditional Student Scholarship, available for students who are returning to the classroom after some period of time.

Please continue sending me updates on your Unit activities for the Education program. The year-end report form is posted on the Department website with the other chairmen's report forms.

I look forward to hearing how your Units promote the Auxiliary education programs throughout the school year.

In the Spirit of Service, not for self,
For Veterans, God and Country,

Julie Vietri

Education Chairman
Department of Arizona
jvietri@msn.com
480-495-1558

FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

GETTING THE WORD OUT ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS



Scholarships are a great way for students to finance their education. The biggest hurdle we face is getting the word out that The American Legion Auxiliary has scholarship funds available for deserving students. Here are ideas for getting the information out to our schools (including home, charter, and private schools), students, parents, and the community.

Utilize social media platforms

- Use social media platforms to distribute scholarship information: Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), TikTok, and LinkedIn.
- Create engaging posts and videos highlighting specific information, such as eligibility, deadlines, and benefits.

Use school communication channels

- Contact the schools for ways to connect with students and parents.
- Ask to post announcements on school websites, portals, and newsletters.
- Ask to include scholarship flyers in report cards, registration packets, or event programs.
- Ask to include an announcement in school activities programs.

Sponsor Scholarship Information Sessions

- Organize webinars and in-person workshops explaining scholarship options and application tips.
- Invite previous scholarship recipients to share their experiences and advice.
- Offer Q&A sessions for students and parents

Partner with Community Organizations

- Ask your local libraries, youth centers, and other nonprofits to distribute flyers and host information sessions.
- Connect with cultural, religious, and civic groups to reach specific communities.

Advertise in Local Media

- Submit press releases to local newspapers, radio stations, and community magazines.
- Feature scholarship stories and testimonials in your local media outlets to generate interest.

Use Classroom and Campus Outreach

- Contact teachers and counselors and ask them to share opportunities during class or advisory periods.
- Display posters, flyers, and banners in high-traffic areas such as cafeterias, libraries, and bulletin boards.
- Set up scholarship booths at school events, fairs, and parent-teacher meetings.

Create a Dedicated Scholarship Website or Portal

- Develop a user-friendly website that lists all available scholarships, their eligibility criteria, and deadlines.
- Include application guides, FAQs, and support contact information.
- Enable online applications and status tracking.

Encourage Word-of-Mouth Referrals

- Motivate students, alumni, and staff to spread the word among their networks.
- Offer incentives, such as referral rewards or recognition certificates, for promoting scholarships.

Combining these strategies can maximize awareness and increase the number of scholarship applications. Tailoring your outreach to your target audience's needs and preferences ensures your message reaches those who can benefit most.

Submitted by Judy Ackerman, National Education Committee Vice-Chair



FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE



Education Dates

Q2 Zoom - January 27, 2026, at 7:00 PM Eastern

https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/20252026education_q2meeting

Department Scholarship Judges Webinar – February 3, 2026, 7:30 PM Eastern

The Science of Samsung ALA Academy – February 25, 2026, 7:00 PM Eastern (registration link to follow)

Scholarship Application Deadline – March 1, 2026, 11:59 PM Eastern

Q3 Zoom - April 7, 2026, at 7:00 PM Eastern

2025-2026 Mission Training

January 31, 2026 – Indianapolis, IN & Las Vegas, NV

February 7, 2026 – Atlanta, GA

[Click here and select your city](#)

National Scholarship Judging Registration – Due date January 7, 2026

ALL American Legion Auxiliary National scholarship applications are online this year, with a deadline of **March 1, 2026**. ALA National Headquarters will distribute the National scholarship applications to the departments in the first week of March. **Please supply ONE dedicated contact and email address to receive these applications.** This designated person will be the coordinator from each department who will receive all applications for your department that need to be judged. They will be responsible for sending them to their scholarship judging committee. Each department should have a panel of judges to review scholarship applications. These judges do not need to be ALA members. It is advisable to seek out people with experience judging scholarship competitions, if possible. You will need at least three judges on your panel.

Please complete the Formstack with your ONE dedicated contact by January 7, 2026. Division chairs will contact departments that have not completed it. A judges' training webinar will be held on February 3, 2026, at 7:30 PM Eastern.

https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/department_scholarship_information_2026



Navigating ALA Scholarships 101 Flyer

If you're looking for a great way to share the news about the ALA National Scholarships, check out the flyer on the National ALA website on the Education page. The flyer is new this year and can be found in the left-hand column under Education Key Resources. This one-page flyer is easy to read and full of helpful information.

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/education>

FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE



Purple Star Schools

Have you heard of Purple Star Schools? I had not until I was asked about them and did some research. A Purple Star school is a public or charter school whose mission is to help military families maintain continuity in their child's education through changes in duty stations. 44 states currently have Purple Star schools, with 5 more states pending legislation.

Purple Star schools are a key piece in the readiness puzzle for military families who traditionally move every 2-4 years. These schools give parents peace of mind and help smooth the transition for students, keeping them on track for academic success.

Educators at these schools receive training on the Military culture, on identifying the challenges students face when "being the new kid" again, and on tools to help identify the social-emotional effects of relocation. These schools are typically located near military installations.

The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) is a non-profit organization formed 26 years ago and serves as an advocate for Purple Star schools. To learn more about MCEC and this important education program, please visit:

<https://militarychild.org/programs-and-initiatives/purple-star-schools/>

Submitted by Nancy Babis, Education Committee Member

!! NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY !!

Please keep sending updates to your division chairs and posting on our Education FB page. Thank you for sharing the great stories of how you are supporting education in your communities and departments. We are limited on space in our newsletters, so please check out our Facebook page to read more stories from our hard-working units. Great work everyone!

If you would like to share your stories and pictures or see what others are doing to support the Education programs, join us on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALA_Education/



American Legion Auxiliary Canyon City Unit 180 sponsored two 5th-grade classrooms for a fun-filled Christmas party. We had donuts, Pop-Tarts, cookies & pastries, and drinks. We did a fun Christmas craft with the children, played games, and each child got a goody bag with toys and treats. We had a great time going into the classroom, and the children had a blast!

Maureen Sacco, Department of California

Laptops for schools - An anonymous donor (a veteran) refurbished ten laptops and delivered them to a rural school. The school chose the students who were most in need to be gifted just before Christmas. The veteran and his wife are members of the Department of Mississippi Legion and Auxiliary.

Cindy Harper, Mississippi Education chair



FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE



National Scholarships Sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary

The National American Legion Auxiliary awards multiple gift scholarships annually to students attending accredited institutions or trade schools. Help us award \$182,000 in scholarship funds to qualified individuals by sharing this information. Several scholarships require letters of recommendation or proof of military service, so encourage students to start **NOW** to collect the information needed for the application. Holiday breaks are a great time to start working on these. Please share with your students that they should not wait until the last minute.

Spirit of Youth Scholarship

Out of the 52 potential department scholarship recipients, one from each division will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. An additional \$1,000 scholarship is available to the remaining 47 departments. Candidates for this award shall be or shall have been Junior members, have held membership for the past three consecutive years (2023-2025), and be members of the current membership year (2026).

Essay Question for 2026 Application:

As our nation celebrates its 250th birthday, we are reminded of the generations of Americans who have selflessly served and sacrificed to protect our freedoms. Reflect on how the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary has influenced your understanding and appreciation of veterans, service members, and their families. In this historic milestone year, how has their legacy inspired you to carry forward a spirit of service and dedication to make a difference in your community, your country, and the world?

Member Loyalty Scholarship

Candidates for this award shall have been Junior members who are enrolled in an institution of higher learning or trade school, have held membership in the ALA for the past three consecutive years (2023-2025), and are members for the current membership year (2026). Two \$2,500 scholarships per division will be awarded.

Essay Question for 2026 Application:

As the United States celebrates its 250th birthday, we reflect on the generations who have served to build and protect our nation. How has the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary inspired you to remain active in the organization? How do you plan to carry on the legacy of sacrifice and dedication to make a meaningful difference in the world as we move beyond our nation's 250th birthday?

Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship

The Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship supports the children of our warriors pursuing higher education. Fifteen scholarships of \$5,000 each will be awarded to students who excel academically and volunteer in their communities.

Essay Question for 2026 Application:

As a descendant of a veteran, what lessons did you learn from your family's military service? How has that impacted your life, and how do you hope to honor that legacy as you make plans for your own future?

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

This scholarship helps members of the American Legion Family, veterans, and the spouses of active-duty service members or veterans pursue a college degree later in life or resume their studies after interruption. One \$2,000 scholarship per division will be awarded, for a total of 5 scholarships.

Essay Question for 2026 Application:

As our nation approaches its 250th birthday, how has your membership in the American Legion Family and your family's military history affected your worldview and personal values? How will you honor their sacrifice and commitment as you continue serving and sharing the mission of the American Legion Family?

**Article submitted by: Mary Kuperus,
Northwestern Division Education Chairman**

To learn more about the eligibility requirements and to start an application, visit the National website at
<https://www.legion-aux.org/scholarships>

FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE



Education Dates

Q2 Zoom - January 27, 2026, at 7:00 PM Eastern

https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/20252026education_q2meeting

Scholarship Application Deadline – March 1, 2026, 11:59 PM Eastern

Q3 Zoom - April 7, 2026 at 7:00 PM Eastern

Teacher Appreciation Week: May 4-8, 2026

2025-2026 Mission Training

January 31, 2026 – Indianapolis, IN & Las Vegas, NV

February 7, 2026 – Atlanta, GA

[**Click here and select your city**](#)

Home School Outreach-Part 1

Our Q1 Zoom session raised questions about how to reach home-schooled students to inform them about ALA scholarships and other programs they could participate in. Chelse Callahan, Department Education Chair, Washington, provided some helpful strategies for connecting with local homeschool groups. This is especially important as we seek to engage more families in our Auxiliary programs and scholarship opportunities.

Online tools are a great place to start:

- Search engines: Try phrases like “homeschool co-op [your city]” or “homeschool support group near me.”
- Social media: Facebook and Instagram often host active local homeschool communities. You can search by region and even post in groups asking for contacts or recommendations.
- State and local associations: Many states have homeschool associations with directories of local groups.
- Dedicated websites: TheHomeSchoolMom.com and homeschool-life.com both offer searchable databases of homeschool groups and co-ops.
- HSLDA’s local group finder is another helpful resource. <https://my.hslda.org/groups/s/>

In-person networking is just as valuable:

- Ask around—many families know of local homeschoolers through church, 4-H, or youth sports.
- Visit community hubs like libraries, churches, and parks where homeschoolers often gather.
- Attend local homeschool events or curriculum fairs—these are great places to meet group leaders and share Auxiliary resources.

Please send additional home school outreach ideas to your division chairs for inclusion in upcoming newsletters.

**AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**

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

December 2025

Issue #4

FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Laura's Corner

ALL American Legion Auxiliary National scholarship applications are online this year, with a deadline of **March 1, 2026**. ALA National Headquarters will distribute the National scholarship applications to the departments in the first week of March. Please supply **ONE** dedicated contact and email address to receive these applications. This designated person will be the coordinator from each department who will receive all applications for your department that need to be judged. They will be responsible for sending them to their scholarship judging committee. Each department should have a panel of judges to review scholarship applications. These judges do not need to be ALA members. It is advisable to seek out people with experience judging scholarship competitions, if possible. You will need at least three judges on your panel.

Please fill out the Formstack with your **ONE** dedicated contact by January 7, 2026. Division chairs will be contacting departments that have not completed this.

https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/department_scholarship_information_2026

!! NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY !!

We asked to hear about your departments' efforts to support education, and your response has been overwhelming!! **THANK YOU** to everyone who shared how they supported American Education Week as well as the other ways that you are supporting the Education program. We were limited on space, so please check out our Facebook page to read more stories from our hard-working units. We were truly amazed by the number of posts. Great work everyone!

If you would like to share your stories and pictures or see what others are doing to support the Education programs, join us on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALA_Education/



Cleburne, TX, Unit 50 recognized school Resource & Safety Officers this year in 3 area school districts. Each of the 11 years we have worked on this program, the unit selects a different group to honor. Cleburne ISD had 12 officers to honor (some stayed on campus for security). Rio Vista ISD has one officer for both campuses.

Submitted by Marty Hinson Peters



Freedom Unit 183 in Pemberville Ohio provided sugar cookies and snacks for teachers at Eastwood Elementary School for American Education Week. Pictured are President Anne Michel, daughter Leslie Myers, and granddaughter Melody.

Submitted by Gwenda Schroeder-Zulch

Finance

December 2025

This is a reminder that the following Units have not paid their mandates and the amounts owed are also listed as follows:

Unit 1	\$81.10	Unit 36	\$197.90	Unit 84	\$46.70
Unit 5	\$52.70	Unit 37	\$34.30	Unit 88	\$36.70
Unit 9	\$138.30	Unit 44	\$256.70	Unit 90	\$57.10
Unit 16	\$43.90	Unit 46	\$59.90	Unit 107	\$174.30
Unit 19	\$143.10	Unit 51	\$57.10	Unit 117	\$198.70
Unit 22	\$120.70	Unit 52	\$155.90	Unit 123	\$34.30
Unit 24	\$349.50	Unit 54	\$69.90	Unit 125	\$17.10
Unit 26	\$199.90	Unit 59	\$105.90	Unit 131	481.50
Unit 27	\$1,601.50	Unit 61	\$187.50	Unit 133	\$23.50
Unit 30	\$78.30	Unit 62	\$864.30	Unit 140	\$17.50
				Unit 141	\$21.50
				Unit 145	\$21.50

Per Constitution and ByLaws, Article VIII

Section 3 –"Units not having their current District, Department and National Mandates paid thirty days prior to Department Convention shall not be entitled to vote."

Department Constitution and ByLaws, Standing Rule 11, Page 15 - "All Units failing to turn into Department per capita tax, dues, etc., shall be given a period of thirty days from the close of Convention before Charter, monies and material may be confiscated, provided the Executive Committee has approved such action."

30 Days prior to Convention is May 25, 2026

Yolanda Bonilla, Chairman, 602-989-3321, yodobo@msn.com

Penny Maklary, Member, 520-364-5038, ahhpenny@aol.com

Barbara White, 602-908-2980, barbara.white99@gmail.com

Members by Virtue of Office: Stacey Mayberry, President, NEC, Rose Ficklin, Sec/Tres. (no vote)

Leadership/Arizona Mission Training

January 2026

“Leading by example is one of the most powerful ways to inspire others.” The best leaders are the ones who show up on time, get their hands dirty and get things done. BE inspired to emulate someone you know who fits this description!

The Department of Arizona Leadership Chairman has the responsibility for choosing the Arizona Unit Member of the Year (& Committee) from applications received by May 1st and presenting the individual and Unit awards involved in the Department Leadership/Mission Training Program. This form along with the Leadership report form is on the department website aladeptaz.org. Go to Member Resources Tab #5. We advise you to check into this site regularly to see any updates or changes. You will find a wealth of information. The Unit Member of the Year Award recognizes those serving at the unit level who exemplify the values and ideals of the Auxiliary and whose accomplishments significantly impact the program work in their units. This award form will also be on our website. Go to the Awards tab and be sure to look at the criteria for **Unit Member of the Year**. This criterion is very specific and must be followed as there are many entries for this award. Check out the list of Academy courses available on the National website alaforveterans.org. Submit those taken to me by May 1st and qualify for an **Academy Award!!**

It is not too late to schedule a Mission Training. Please contact me if you would like to plan a Training. The date must be scheduled with me along with instructors. The rule of 10 applies. \$10 per member, 10 members (minimum) signed up with this information sent to Department 10 days prior to training. Please follow directions carefully. Thank you!!

Karen Smith, Chairman

ksmith111@cox.net

(520) 249-1119

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
LEADERSHIP/MISSION TRAINING
2025-2026 SCHEDULE

February 7, 2026 {101 and 202} Southern Meadows Unit #5 Kim Lindsey
scoutermomkim@yahoo.com 602-574-1318

February 21, 2026 Swift Murphy Unit #32 **Becky Miscovich**
llrbecky@gmail.com 702-413-5554
This is a new date for Unit #32

February 28, 2026 {202} Merrell Mitchell Unit #39 Christine Paplaczky
cpaplaczkyunit39@gmail.com 630-957-7177

Legislative Bulletin

December 2025

Holiday Greetings!

Can you believe we've already reached the holiday season? It feels like we were just together at convention. While Washington, D.C. may be slowing down for the holidays, important legislation is still moving forward—and your voice matters.  **Mark Your Calendar**

January 3: National Write to Congress Day

Start the new year strong by making your voice heard! This is the perfect opportunity to remind lawmakers that veterans' issues matter every day of the year. Take five minutes to send a message, share with your unit, and encourage others to participate. Together, we can amplify our impact.

Key Legislation on the Line

The American Legion supports H.R. 2605 and S. 1441, the Service Dogs Assisting Veterans (SAVES) Act

Too many veterans continue to go without the critical support they need to heal from both the visible and invisible wounds of war. For those living with physical disabilities, PTSD, or other service-connected conditions, the lack of access to trained service dogs remains a major gap in care. It's time to close that gap.

 Please take a moment to support this legislation:

 [**Click here**](#) to act now

Why Your Action Matters

Legislation can feel distant or out of reach—but today, it's easier than ever to make a difference.

- Then: You had to write a letter, buy a stamp, and hope it reached your representative.

- Now: With just a few clicks on your phone, tablet, or computer, you can support multiple bills in less time than it takes to brew a cup of coffee.

 Imagine the impact if each of us supported 10 bills today. Every click helps—and our veterans are worth it!

Stay Engaged & Earn Recognition

Make advocacy part of your routine:

- Sign up for alerts. When you receive one, click and share—it's that simple.
- Track your actions. These records are essential for your end-of-year report.
- Aim for recognition. Did you know there's a Unit Award for the Most Outstanding Unit Legislative Program (per department)? This could be YOUR unit! Document your efforts and submit your report by May 1st.

Closing Thoughts

As we celebrate Christmas and welcome the New Year, let's commit to putting Arizona first in legislation. Together, we can ensure our veterans receive the care and support they deserve.

For God and Country,

Kathy Amery

Legislative Chair

 alalegislativeaz@gmail.com

 623-640-0134

MEMBERSHIP 12-26-2025

		UNIT	CITY	OBJECTIVE	JUNIOR	SENIOR	TOTAL	PERCENT
01	0100	Phoenix		166	3	138	141	84.94%
		Total		166	3	138	141	84.94%
	Total			166	3	138	141	84.94%
	0019	Yuma		182	3	117	120	65.93%
01	0046	Bouse		63	0	21	21	33.33%
	0056	Yuma		72	1	49	50	69.44%
	Total			317	4	187	191	60.25%
	Total			317	4	187	191	60.25%
1	0113	Quartzsite		0	0	10	10	
	Total			0	0	10	10	
	Total			0	0	10	10	
02	0007	Tucson		46	1	18	19	41.30%
	0036	Tucson		243	2	193	195	80.25%
	0059	Tucson		127	2	98	100	78.74%
	0066	Green Valley		883	0	652	652	73.84%
	0068	Tucson		56	2	36	38	67.86%
	0073	Tucson		25	1	9	10	40.00%
	0109	Vail		440	4	265	269	61.14%
	0125	Tucson		15	0	0	0	0.00%
	0131	Green Valley		601	0	430	430	71.55%
	0132	Oro Valley		77	2	53	55	71.43%
	Total			2513	14	1754	1768	70.35%
	Total			2513	14	1754	1768	70.35%
03	0011	Douglas		116	2	82	84	72.41%
	0016	Bisbee		48	0	31	31	64.58%
	0024	Tombstone		450	6	343	349	77.56%
	0045	Benson		45	2	31	33	73.33%
	0052	Sierra Vista		183	0	90	90	49.18%
	0141	Pearce		20	0	22	22	110.00%
	Total			862	10	599	609	70.65%
	Total			862	10	599	609	70.65%
04	0008	Casa Grande		27	1	23	24	88.89%
	0009	Florence		191	0	100	100	52.36%
	0051	Coolidge		72	0	1	1	1.39%
	0054	Coolidge		81	0	50	50	61.73%
	0129	Queen Creek		31	0	22	22	70.97%
	0133	Maricopa		23	1	11	12	52.17%
	Total			425	2	207	209	49.18%
Total				425	2	207	209	49.18%

05	0004	Globe	42	2	20	22	52.38%
		Clifton	89	0	42	42	47.19%
		Safford	139	0	97	97	69.78%
		Solomon	82	6	69	75	91.46%
		Total	352	8	228	236	67.05%
	Total		352	8	228	236	67.05%
06	0030	Springerville	94	1	61	62	65.96%
		Holbrook	36	0	20	20	55.56%
		Payson	112	0	16	16	14.29%
		Overgaard	468	7	361	368	78.63%
		Payson	0	0	1	1	
		Total	710	8	459	467	65.77%
	Total		710	8	459	467	65.77%
07	0003	Flagstaff	68	3	42	45	66.18%
		Williams	74	2	40	42	56.76%
		Kingman	131	5	94	99	75.57%
		Golden Valley	146	3	96	99	67.81%
		Grand Canyon	42	4	25	29	69.05%
		Ash Fork	68	2	46	48	70.59%
		Lake Havasu City	759	3	527	530	69.83%
		Bullhead City	124	2	116	118	95.16%
		Dolan Springs	39	0	31	31	79.49%
		Meadview	53	0	45	45	84.91%
		Seligman	35	0	12	12	34.29%
		Yucca	15	2	13	15	100.00%
		Total	1554	26	1087	1113	71.62%
	Total		1554	26	1087	1113	71.62%
	0006	Prescott	304	5	260	265	87.17%
		Cottonwood	336	6	228	234	69.64%
		Chino Valley	97	0	58	58	59.79%
		Humboldt	148	1	84	85	57.43%
		Yarnell	172	0	120	120	69.77%
		Black Canyon City	65	0	34	34	52.31%
		Camp Verde	117	0	72	72	61.54%
		Prescott Valley	31	1	15	16	51.61%
		Cornville	42	5	26	31	73.81%
		Prescott Valley	17	4	4	8	47.06%
		Total	1329	22	901	923	69.45%
	Total		1329	22	901	923	69.45%
11	0001	Phoenix	114	0	25	25	21.93%
		Phoenix	61	0	34	34	55.74%
		Wickenburg	219	0	139	139	63.47%
		Glendale	240	6	152	158	65.83%
		Buckeye	38	0	39	39	102.63%
		Avondale	239	1	170	171	71.55%
		Peoria	1122	18	832	850	75.76%
		Phoenix	299	6	177	183	61.20%

	0115	Glendale	37	4	22	26	70.27%
	0145	Peoria	25	0	13	13	52.00%
	Total		2394	35	1603	1638	68.42%
	Total		2394	35	1603	1638	68.42%
12	0002	Tempe	101	0	68	68	67.33%
	0026	Mesa	251	1	166	167	66.53%
	0027	Apache Junction	2039	10	1583	1593	78.13%
	0034	Cave Creek	318	1	195	196	61.64%
	0035	Chandler	295	5	228	233	78.98%
	0039	Gilbert	636	6	393	399	62.74%
	0041	Phoenix	351	6	215	221	62.96%
	0044	Scottsdale	314	0	222	222	70.70%
	0058	Fountain Hills	411	4	331	335	81.51%
	0064	Phoenix	16	0	15	15	93.75%
	0065	Phoenix	358	12	175	187	52.23%
	0084	Sacaton	60	5	45	50	83.33%
	0091	Chandler	308	18	244	262	85.06%
	0107	Phoenix	215	3	158	161	74.88%
	0114	Scottsdale	9	1	5	6	66.67%
	0117	Phoenix	243	0	151	151	62.14%
	0124	Guadalupe	29	5	26	31	106.90%
	0138	Mesa	138	2	55	57	41.30%
	Total		6092	79	4275	4354	71.47%
	Total		6092	79	4275	4354	71.47%
Total	Total		16714	211	11448	11659	69.76%

December 26, 2025

Good Morning!

As we say good-bye to 2025, let us remember the everyday, special, moments that make up our lives. Remember the impact that together we make for veterans, military, their families and our communities. Got the holiday blues? Just scroll through our Ring Your Bell Facebook page to see the smiles and gratitude. Make it one of your regular past times.

Let us say a prayer for those that we lost this year and keep their families close to our hearts.

And as we head into 2026, let us bring optimism and hope for a great year. A year that welcomes all members—new and old. A year that reminds each of us that we ARE THE ONE who can make a difference.

With that said, let's talk about this week's standings!

●Four Districts are over the 70% mark:

- District 7* is in **first** with 71.62%! Unit3 Flagstaff, Unit 22 Golden Valley and Unit 81 Lake Havasu City led the way to their 6-percentage point increase. Unit 87 Bullhead City is at 95.16%!
- Close on their bumper, in **second** place, is District 12 at 71.47%-- big moves by Unit 34 Cave Creek and Unit 64 in Phoenix.
- District 3 is in **3rd** with 70.65% with Unit 45 Benson jumping over 10 percentage points!
- In **fourth** is District 2 at 70.35%. Unit 59 Tucson and Unit 66 Green Valley both made significant gains.

●**DISTRICT 4** jumped 20 percentage points to 49.18%. Thank you Unit 9 Florence and Unit 54 Coolidge! Still a ways to go, but momentum is moving in the right direction for sure!!

●Other Notable Unit gains: District 1: Unit 56 Yuma; District 5: Unit 45 Benson; District 6 Unit 37 Holbrook; District 11: Unit 5 Phoenix and Unit 145 Peoria. Keep up the great work!

●**PLEASE REMIND UNITS about the 100% Unit Award: Units that reach 100% goal (as verified on ALAMIS) by January 31, 2026 will receive ALA Keychains with phone stand and cleaner--- one for the Unit President and one for the Membership Chairman. Nice bragging rights!**

Warmest holiday regards,

Marge

*Marge Christianson
VP/Membership Chair
Department of Arizona
American Legion Auxiliary
(763) 234-9852 (call or text)*

December 19, 2025

Merry, Merry All,

Department of Arizona is currently in 4th place in the Western Division—just behind California. I'm not worried, we have time to pull ahead just when they least expect it!

At a local level:

- Last week I mentioned the 4 Districts (3, 5, 8, 12) that continually vie for 1st. WE HAVE A NEW ENTRANT: District 2 has moved into 4th place. [Congratulations](#) to the Tucson area Units—nearly all of them increased their performance from last week.
- District 12 is in 1st place this week at 69.44%. Unit 41 jumped 10 percentage points and Unit 64 jumped 30 points! Yahoo!
- District 3 right behind at 69.03%. Unit 16 in Bisbee jumped nearly 10 percentage points. They are a small unit that made a big difference this week!
- District 8 is in 3rd place with 68.02%. Notably, Unit 78 in Humboldt jumped 5 percentage points.

A note about Junior members:

- We had nearly 400 Junior members pay 2025 membership dues. As of today, we have 208 Juniors paid for 2026.
- Junior members do not get their own renewal notices addressed to them, so we rely on their sponsor to remember to renew them.
- FYI, I sent reminders directly to the Units that committed to the Junior Challenge during the Convention in June. So far only 2 Units have met the challenge to sign up 5 new Juniors by year-end.
- BTW, I loved the process of renewing by phone for the Juniors I renewed. I didn't know their member numbers—just their names. A customer service representative at National answered the phone, looked them up, charged my credit card, mailed the Juniors their cards. Slick!

●(317) 569-4570

Enjoy the season, and as Tiny Tim said: God Bless us, Every one!

Marge

*Marge Christianson
VP/Membership Chair
Department of Arizona
American Legion Auxiliary
(763) 234-9852 (Call or text)*

December 12, 2025

Happy Friday!

Less than 2 weeks to Christmas. WOW. There's a lot going on, so be sure to stop and smell the eggnog (pine needles?, holiday spice?)!

As we head into the end-of-year-membership-expiration, things seem to be heating up!

- Districts 3, 5, 8 and 12 are in pack heading to the East Coast continually vying for the top spots. This week, District 3 is in the top spot (by less than one percentage point!). Other Districts are right behind, so the field is still open. Vroom. Vroom...
- Percentage-wise, several Units jumped significantly: Unit 133, Maricopa; Unit 103, Meadview; Unit 90, Black Canyon; Unit 115 Glendale all jumped over 20%! Thank you!
- Number-wise, we also saw some huge moves: Unit 136, Tucson; Unit 109, Vail; Unit 86, Overgaard; Unit 81, Lake Havasu City; Unit 12, Wickenburg; Unit 62, Peoria; Unit 105, Peoria; Unit 27; Apache Junction; Unit 65, Phoenix rocked it this past week. Right on!
- Challenges coming due Jan 1:
 - Unit 91 challenged Unit 35; Highest percentage % of Membership by January 1st, 2026, \$100 to President's Special Project. Check out the standings to see where you are.
 - Unit 8 challenged Units 27,36,41,39,86,25,61,29,65,109,& 8; 5 new Juniors per unit by January 1st, 2026, Units not meeting challenge: \$100 to President's Special Project. **I have attached the file of new Junior members, by Unit, since convention. It seems a bit of work to do by January 1....**

Thank you, Viki Jackson from Apache for sharing one of their success stories: They found that people were not answering their phone calls (seems like nobody answers calls from people they don't know anymore), so they started texting first and then following up with the phone call. Members answered and appreciated the reminder! Got a success story? Please share it!!!

Keep up the great work!

Marge

*Marge Christianson
VP/Membership Chair
Department of Arizona
American Legion Auxiliary
(763) 234-9852 call or text*

December 5, 2025

Happy December Membership Leadership!

YAHOO!!!! DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA HAS REACHED 60%!

Now is the time to really press year-end expiration-- reminding members to renew their commitment to their veteran and the mission we support.

- If you have a Post home, please ask your bingo callers, bartenders, meal servers, greeters etc to push renewals. Provide them with a heartfelt statement about the importance of members.
- Post home or not, please reach out via phone, email, snail mail. The easiest way to renew membership from home is to call National at 317-569-4570 during regular business hours. A real person in Indianapolis will answer the phone! They can look up members by name, take payment for multiple members, mail out cards, answer questions. So nice and friendly!

District highlights:

Districts 2, 3, 5, 8, 11 & 12 are all over the 60% mark:

- First Place- DISTRICT 5 at 65.63%- who jumped 6 percentage points from last week!
- 2nd Place- District 3 at 65.55% (so close to first place!)
- 3rd Place- District 8 at 64.03%
- 4th Place- District 12 at 63.72%
- 5th Place- District 2- at 61.24%
- 6th Place- District 11 at 60.53%

Districts 1, 6 and 7 are close. District 4: HOW CAN WE ASSIST????

Units Highlights:

- 12 Units are over the 75% mark:

- Unit 100 Department
- Unit 141 Pearce
- Unit 8 Casa Grande
- Unit 95 Solomon
- Unit 87 Bullhead
- Unit 88 Dolan Springs
- Unit 136 Yucca
- Unit 6 Prescott
- Unit 53 Buckeye
- Unit 58 Fountain Hills
- Unit 84 Sacaton
- Unit 91 Chandler
- Unit 124 Guadalupe

THANK YOU, UNIT LEADERS-- SHOWING US IT CAN BE DONE!

Keep processing those new and renewals!!! I can't wait for next week's results....

Marge

*Marge Christianson
VP/Membership Chair
Department of Arizona
American Legion Auxiliary
(763) 234-9852 (call or text)*

Troop Safety in Social Media

April Kollmorgen, ALA Central Division National Security Chair

You may be asking, What is Troop Safety? How is this something we're discussing within the ALA? We are volunteers who want to help our Veterans and Servicemembers, right? Well, yes, we are, but this is a subject we probably don't talk about enough because we have a lot of excitement around caring for our Troops, and sometimes in that excitement, the best intentions can turn into an inadvertent problem.

In today's modern age of social media, we have so many ways to connect and stay in touch and get news from anywhere. At the same time, we can also share things we maybe shouldn't. It is easy to become complacent and relax our standards, but the world, and especially the internet, is not always a good place.

For those who don't know, my husband retired a few years ago from the Navy. He also served on Submarines, so we had very different deployments from what many of you see and attend, so please keep an open mind in what I'm sharing here and understand my advice comes from experience, but also the side of caution.

Troop safety, when talking about social media, put simply, is this: not posting any information about military deployments or movements, or even saying where they are and for how long they may be there.

The internet is permanent, especially for family and friends. It is never a wise to post about service members' departure or arrival in real time. **Keep it to yourself.** You can ask our parents – unless they were in the same room as me during a deployment, they never had an exact date of coming or going. It was my responsibility to safeguard the deployment information that was granted to me, and I still take that very seriously, as it was a privilege. There were even a couple of times, I did not know the return date and had to just wait for the call the day before because of too many issues with others on social media.

As my husband told me while writing this, it's easier to have the service members' schedule change than it is to simply remove what's been put out onto social media. Inevitably, it's been seen, and it's too late.

While we often share things for fun or support, it's crucial to remember that some people may misuse sensitive information against our military. The saying "loose lips sink ships" still holds.

As part of our ALA mission, we may be invited to participate in Troop Deployments with our American Legion Family. If you haven't yet, consider volunteering your support—it's a rewarding experience. Here are some key things to remember about troop safety during these events:

- Follow **ALL** rules and information given to your group by the command in charge of the deployment. This information will usually be provided in advance so you can be ready to go.
- If they need a list of volunteers to vet access, please don't add last-minute names. They need time for everyone's security and safety.
- If permitted by the command, absolutely post pictures from the event.
 - Only post approved information about the event.
 - Only take/post photos of your members and tables, etc.
 - Wait a day or two to post – and say something like "We recently participated in" – never give actual dates/times or locations.
- Don't announce your participation in a deployment in advance, as it could lead to changes or make it private.
- Don't "go live" on socials either. It's another way to track troop movement.

All these things may also depend on what kind of deployment is happening. Some are more secret and need more care than others. It's always best to be cautious and follow instructions given by the command; they will guide you in anything sensitive.

This may seem like a lot of "no's" and "don't do this", and I don't put this out there to be fussy or scare anyone, but the simplest way to say it is this: In any dealings with our Active Duty and Deployments, just remember that less is more. Keep doing all those amazing activities and celebrations, and events you are doing. Use a little caution when using socials, and everything will be just fine.

Thank you for your attention to this and for all you do as volunteers for our Veterans, our Active Duty, and their families.

The American Red Cross, More than Blood Drives

Jane McKnight, Southern Division National Security Chair

The mission statement for the Red Cross is “The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors”.

Disaster Relief, Military & Veterans, Blood Drives, and Training

The Red Cross offers shelters, food, and support to individuals affected by disasters. Ninety-five percent of disaster relief workers are volunteers, and they respond to an average of 65,000 disasters each year. On average, the Red Cross responds to an emergency every eight minutes.

The Red Cross teaches lifesaving skills and distributes international humanitarian aid. Services include training in CPR and AED, First Aid, BLS (Basic Life Support), Babysitting, Caregiving, Water Safety, and more.

The Red Cross supports veterans, military personnel, and their families by maintaining a presence at over 380 military installations and deployment sites worldwide. They process more than 1,300 emergency communications daily and provide care and comfort to over 561,000 patients each year through hospital rehabilitation and morale programs.

They supply about 40% of the nation’s blood supply. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood or platelets. Each year, approximately 6.8 million people in the U.S. donate blood.

For more information, visit redcross.org or call 1-800-REDCROSS (800-733-2767).

WARRIOR WEDNESDAY

Department National Security Chairs
Have you completed your assignment?

I have asked that you share the link to recognize someone for Warrior Wednesday. It does not need to be someone you know, but there must be at least one person in your department who has a connection, and the link can be sent to share their story.

So, let’s complete the assignment, and then you can give yourself an **A+++**. Also, others will become better informed about the lives of those who are protecting our freedoms.

Thanks for your immediate attention to this task.

Norma Tramm, National Security Chairman

**The link below will navigate you to the Formstack*

The Salute to Servicemembers Award: Jammie Phillips, National Security Vice-Chairman

This national award honors one enlisted servicemember (E1–E9) from each military branch, including the National Guard and Reserves, totaling seven awards.

- Nomination Process: To nominate someone, complete the Formstack and write a narrative (up to 1,000 words) explaining why the individual deserves recognition. **Be sure to highlight their military honors and community impact.** An endorsement letter from their command group and a current photo in uniform (preferably an official DOD photo) are also required. The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2026. You can find the nomination form here:
<https://www.legion-aux.org/salute-to-servicemembers-award-form>
- Have questions? Join us for an informational Zoom meeting on February 3, 2026, at 7:30 PM EST. We will review the nomination process and provide examples. This meeting is open to **ALL** members. Register here:
https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/salute_to_servicemembers_nomination_review
- Need even more inspiration? Check out last year's award recipients here:
<https://member.legion-aux.org/Blog/2025-ALA-Salute-to-Servicemembers-Award-winners-ho>



Pam Seelye, 2025-26 Western Division National Security Chair

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, prior to America entering World War II, had the idea of uniting several service groups into one organization. This organization was to help lift the morale of the military and help those at home support them. The organizations that he approached were the Salvation Army, Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association, National Catholic Community Services, National Travelers Aid Association, and the National Jewish Welfare Board, and this became the United Service Organizations or, as we know it, the USO.

Since 1941, the USO has supported our nation's military and their families as they defend our country and its freedoms. Providing support to our service members as they meet the challenging duties they undertake around the world. The USO principle is "to be always by their side."

The reach of the USO's more than 250 centers extends to countries on every continent, operated by thousands of staff and volunteers whose goals are to match our service members' commitment and provide the best service to those who sacrifice so much for America.

The USO today continues to serve the needs of our men and women in uniform and their families, so they can focus on their very important mission. The USO operates USO centers at or near military installations across the United States and worldwide. USO centers can be found in most of the major airports, providing hospitality for traveling service members and their families, bringing them a little touch of home.

The USO is not part of the federal government, so they do not receive government funding, and they rely on the generosity of individuals, organizations, and corporations to support their activities. Their centers are manned by generous and giving volunteers, giving of their time and energy, giving back to those who continue to serve their country.

Wish to become a volunteer at a USO? Go to USO.org/volunteer. This will lead you to an application process.

*Information sourced from the USO website USO.org

Military OneSource: An Essential Resource for Supporting Service Members and Their Families

Submitted by National Security Vice-Chairman Jammie Phillips
<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/>

Military OneSource is not just a website; it is a vital support system for service members, their families, and the leaders and providers who assist them. Whether you are organizing outreach efforts, providing guidance, or simply trying to connect someone with the appropriate resources, this platform makes it easier to help with confidence.

Military OneSource is a program funded by the Department of Defense that provides free, confidential support and resources to the military community. The section for Leaders and Service Providers is specifically tailored for individuals who guide, counsel, and support service members and their families.

Key Resources You Can Use

Here are some of the most helpful tools and materials available:

- **Downloadable Flyers & Infographics:** Topics include deployment readiness, spouse career support, and financial wellness.
- **Orderable Products:** Wallet cards, brochures, and educational materials for distribution at events or meetings.
- **MilProvider App:** Yes, there is an App for that! A mobile tool that lets you access and share resources on the go.

How to Use It in Your National Security Program

Whether you're planning a Unit event, organizing a support group, or preparing a newsletter, Military OneSource can help:

- **Support Families During Deployment:** Share guides that walk families through pre-deployment, active duty, and reintegration phases.
- **Assist with PCS Moves:** Offer checklists and relocation tools to ease transitions.
- **Connect Parents with Resources:** From Sesame Street for Military Families to parenting tips tailored to military life.
- **Promote Education & Career Opportunities:** Help spouses and transitioning service members find scholarships, job training, and career coaching.
- **Provide Confidential Help:** Direct eligible service members or their family to counseling, financial assistance, and crisis support—all confidential and free.

Get Started

Visit <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/leaders-service-providers/> to explore a complete range of resources. You can also call 800-342-9647 for personal assistance. By sharing these resources in your newsletters, meetings, and outreach efforts, you empower our members to support military families with the assistance they deserve.

Supporting Gold Star and Blue Star Families

The American Legion Auxiliary supports families whose servicemembers made the ultimate sacrifice. It is important to work with other like-minded organizations to create a greater impact.

Gold Star Mothers is one such organization. In 1928 Grace Darling Seibold along with 24 other women who had lost children in service to our country created American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. to honor their children, heal together, and support veterans and the nation. In 1936, congress designated the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mother's Day and in 2011 it was changed to include families. Today the last Sunday in September is designated as "Gold Star Mother's and Families Day."

How can we help our Gold Star Families? Make them aware of the Fallen Hero Tree where each November personalized ornaments are placed on trees representing the fallen from the Civil War to current time. They also have a program to send electronic Birthday Cards to children 18 year and younger.

You can find more information at <https://americasgoldstarfamilies.org/>

Blue Star Families was founded by military family members in 2009 to empower these families to thrive as they serve. Connecting military families with their community will help to strengthen them with a greater support system. When we are connected to our neighbors it is easier to reach out if a need arises. It can be as simple as needing a little sugar to finish a recipe or a complex as a water leak. Being a good neighbor, we can help our military family find the

**EMBRACE THE
SPIRIT OF
SERVICE -
VOLUNTEER
WITH THE
USO TODAY!**

At the USO, our focus is on people—those currently serving in the U.S. military and their families. Your time, compassion and dedication can make a profound difference in their lives. Join us in creating meaningful connections and unforgettable moments that bring joy to their days, uplift their spirits, and strengthen their well-being.



READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Visit USO.org/Volunteer

Supporting Gold & Blue Star Families Cont..

repair company needed. There is a comfort of safety when you know your neighbors and watch out for each other.

Blue Star Families have programs to assist military families through the many moves they experience. We can offer to host one of the Blue Star Family activities in our post home. We are good at volunteering and that is sometimes all that is needed to provide a successful program for the military family. Google Blue Star Families to find other ways to assist.

Respectfully submitted by

Norma Tramm

ALA 2025-26 National Security Chairman

Salute to Servicemember of the Year Award Informational Zoom

Join us for an informational Zoom meeting about the **Salute to Servicemembers of the Year Award**. This is a chance to learn how we honor outstanding service and how **YOU** can be part of the nomination process.

 **Date:** February 3, 2026

 **Time:** 7:30 PM EST

 **Open to Everyone!**

Whether you have already selected your nominee, are planning to nominate a service member, or are simply curious about the award, this meeting is your chance to get all your questions answered.

 **Register here:**

https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/salute_to_servicemembers_nomination_review

National Security Resources

Facebook – Follow us on Facebook! Don't forget to answer the questions...

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/915563745139663/>

National Security email address

nationalsecurity@ALAforVeterans.org

POPPY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
January 2026

We are in the last part of the fiscal year, and all units are busy with the different programs, some work in coordination with the Poppy Program.

As stated previously, all states in the western division are experiencing less participation in the Miss Poppy and Poppy Poster contest. Although several ways were discussed to encourage participation, it still comes down to Junior participation and getting the community schools involved. Neither is easy with the many school options of sports and liberal arts for students which involve time commitment.

The Miss Poppy participation should be year-round starting in May and ending in April to allow for reporting of events attended.

The Poppy Poster contest can start when school starts or in January. This depends a lot on the school staff and how they decide to work it into their lesson plans. This requires the school to have an end date so the posters can be picked up for local, state and national judging. Perhaps we can generate interest by giving out certificates to the teachers and student local winners. This committee has discussed this and has created some options.

Members wonder why the focus is more on the Poppy Poster Contest than on Miss Poppy. Poppy Poster Contest can be promoted by everyone with more community involvement. Miss Poppy requires a year-long commitment from a Junior. If you have no Junior members, which is the case with several Units, the part of the Poppy Program is not worked by the Unit.

We had two Units promote the Poppy Poster Contest last year and there are three committed this year. I am encouraging more Units to get your community involved. The last few years have produced National winners from Arizona.

The prison workforce has gotten their first batch of poppies through the quality control process and are working diligently to produce more poppies. Thank you, Wendy, for taking the initiative to get this started.

There are other contests at convention, so review the requirements. Next edition will review them in-depth for you.

For God and country.

Kat Sticklin, Department Poppy Chair
katsticklin2025@gmail.com
928-322-1550

Wendy Hackney, Co-chair
wendy9rs@gmail.com
480-510-6824

POPPY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
December 2025

We attended the Quarterly Zoom Poppy Meeting, and the following is part of the discussion.

Everyone has issues with getting participation in the Poppy Poster and Miss Poppy parts of this Poppy Program. Reasons are not enough Juniors and not enough interest in Miss Poppy and not enough Senior members interested in promoting the Poppy Poster Contest.

Ways of getting participation in both programs was discussed with the most discussion about the Poster Contest. Suggestions to not only contact the schools but to contact Girls and Boys Scouts, churches, and Boys and Girls Clubs for entries.

\

Emblem Sales is now printing cards utilizing some of the winning entries so check it out. These could be utilized as incentives to participate in the Poster Contest.

If you are participating in this program the information is available on the Department website under this Program.

In rural areas the Girls State Coordinator promotes Education and scholarships so this might also be added since the coordinator already goes to the high schools.

Miss Poppy has a scrapbook. Now it is digitalized. By promoting that fact Junior interest can be generated. An individualized cover for the scrapbook can be made and then photographed as part of the digital scrapbook.

Rose advised we are short 16,000 poppies. Great news! I have two new civilian poppy makers starting in January and we now have a total of four members working on this, with two more interested. Wendy has contacted the local state prison and has trained ten veterans and the appropriate state personnel. The inmates are now making poppies and on the first day 350 were generated. Great progress for just a few hours! The veteran participation is being tracked by prison personnel and Wendy will be monitoring the progress also. This will be an ongoing program for the inmates selected to participate.

Keep up the good work and encourage others to participate. If you have not started a Poppy Poster Contest, consider starting one in January and start making your contacts now so teachers can make their plans accordingly.

For God and country.

Kat Sticklin, Department Poppy Chair
katsticklin2025@gmail.com
928-322-1550

Wendy Hackney, Co-chair
wendy9rs@gmail.com
480-510-6824

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Public Relations Bulletin

January 2026

What makes your facebook post grab a scroller's attention?

- Engaging Content
- Visually Appealing
- Creates An Emotional Connection
- Use Clear Photos
- Accurately Describe The Images And Who Is In The
- Tells A Story
- Make It Memorable
- Everyone Is Smiling And Looking Into The Camera
- Include Your Department, Unit Name And Number
- Timing: Weekdays Are From Mid-Morning To Early Evening
- Make It Shareable



Facebook Live Streaming



Facebook is among the best social media platforms. It offers Facebook live streaming Services that are free and anyone on the platform can access the live stream feature.

Here are some key features that Facebook offers for live streaming on the platform.

- Facebook allows you to live stream on the platform through a business or a brand page, by your profile, or from a Facebook group.
- The platform has an option for automatic saving, where your live stream will be saved to your feed automatically.
- Real-time engagement features like live comments and reactions.

Shannon Mead, PR Chairman
8938 W. Hilton Ave., Tolleson, AZ 85353
623-521-1263 • shannonmead@live.com

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
January 2026
By 2nd Vice – Lynda Griffin



Buddy checks have been vital in the winter months especially, when focus shifts to mental health and well-being during the holidays and shorter days. The Buddy Check is a peer-to-peer initiative where members reach out to fellow members (by phone, text, or visit) to check on their well-being, foster connection, and guide those in need to services, or help. Here are a few ways to get involved:

- Gather up a team to call, or if possible, personally visit members and former members of the American Legion Auxiliary to make that Buddy Check. Sometimes that personal touch is all that is needed to lift their spirits.
- Make a list of local resources that includes services like financial aid, employment opportunities, veterans' services, home and auto repair, caregiver services and any other known benevolent resources for veterans and their families.

Sample Buddy Check Phone Script
(The American Legion - Buddy Checks within your Unit.

Hello, my name is **[INSERT YOUR NAME]** and I'm calling to see if there is anything that your American Legion Family can assist you or your family with. I may be able to direct you to resources that aid in critical matters such as health care, counseling, financial assistance, and VA claims if you need them, or know someone who does. It is my honor to continue serving this nation by serving those who served, so if you ever need anything from The American Legion Family, do not hesitate to ask. We may not personally be able to solve your problem, but we can get you to the right resources. Thanks again for your service. If you need anything, call me anytime at **[PHONE NUMBER]** or email me at **[EMAIL ADDRESS]** Let's stay in touch!

Mark Your Calendars

2025 – 2026 ALA Mission Training & National Junior Meetings

January 31, 2026 Las Vegas NV

January 31, 2026 – Indianapolis IN

2025-2026 ALA Mission Training & National Junior Meetings

January 31: Las Vegas

Let us all remember the ALA Mission Statement in everything we do!

In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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

December 2025

Issue # 4

FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL CHAIR OF THE VA&R PROGRAM

Upcoming Events

2025-2026 ALA Mission Training & National Junior Meetings

January 31: Las Vegas

January 31: Indianapolis

February 7: Atlanta

Register at <https://www.legionaux.org/Meetings/Mission-Training>

Honor Flight

Submitted by MaryAnn Paul
Southern Division VA&R Chair

What happens when American heroes board a plane full of gratitude?

You don't just get a flight...you get a flying celebration of courage, laughter, and living history.

This incredible organization has been dedicated to honoring our nation's heroes. They have successfully completed numerous trips, transporting many veterans to Washington, D.C. to pay their respects at the memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifice.

On every Honor Flight, veterans swap war stories for joy stories – Smiles replace helmets,

High-fives replace salutes,

And instead of marching, they're escorted with honor, love, and cheering crowds.

(continued on page 2)

How can you participate with Buddy Checks?

Submitted by Gwen Schroeder-Zulch
Central Division VA&R Chair



Image from Legion.org

Buddy checks have been vital in the winter months especially, when focus shifts to mental health and well-being during the holidays and shorter days. Here are a few ways to get involved:

- Gather up a team to call, or if possible, personally visit members and former members of the American Legion Auxiliary to make that Buddy Check. Sometimes that personal touch is all that is needed to lift their spirits.
- Make a list of local resources that includes services like financial aid, employment opportunities, veterans' services, home and auto repair, caregiver services and any other known benevolent resources for veterans and their families.

Go to the next page for a sample phone script from The American Legion. Feel free to use it with Buddy Checks in your area.

(continued on page 2)



Member Spotlight

This month we are spotlighting Mary "Peggy" Magahay, a 42 year member of Unit 48 in the Department of Virginia. She is the ALA Representative at the Hampton VA Medical Center and has logged over 5335 volunteer hours. She is currently on-site at least once a week helping her husband coordinate poppy-making by the veterans, as well as processing, packing, and shipping orders, and making sure the veteran poppy-makers get paid. In Virginia, all poppies are handmade by hospitalized veterans at that location so it is a busy job! She stands ready to assist with whatever is necessary to enhance the lives of veterans at the facility.

Send us your nominee and their picture for the next Member Spotlight!

(continued from page 1)

Honor Flight

Each seat on that plane holds a story that shaped our nation – Stories of bravery, brotherhood, courage, sacrifice, and yes...even some mischief and humor from their service days! These veterans didn't just serve history – they ARE history, and today, they get to relive it surrounded by appreciation, respect, and the kind of welcome home they've always deserved. Honor Flight isn't just a trip, it's a THANK YOU, a HOMECOMING, a CELEBRATION.

Submitted by MaryAnn Paul

Chairman's Corner

Submitted by Lisa Chaplin

There are many ways to get involved with Honor Flight, from donating to fundraising to volunteering. Post families located near Washington, DC host events providing meals and fellowship for veterans and their guardians after a day of visiting monuments. But what about those of us located elsewhere? We can contact local hubs for information about participating in *Send-off* or *Welcome Home* events, or for deadlines to send letters for *Mail Call* where veterans on Honor Flights are given letters and cards from the public expressing gratitude for their service and sacrifice. There is a way for every one of us to get involved.

On behalf of the VA&R Committee, we wish you the very best of the holiday season!



(continued from page 1)

Sample Buddy Check Phone Script

Hello, my name is [INSERT YOUR NAME] and I'm calling to see if there is anything that your American Legion Family can assist you or your family with. I may be able to direct you to resources that aid in critical matters such as health care, counseling, financial assistance, and VA claims if you need them, or know someone who does. It is my honor to continue serving this nation by serving those who served, so if you ever need anything from The American Legion Family, do not hesitate to ask. We may not personally be able to solve your problem, but we can get you to the right resources. Thanks again for your service. If you need anything, call me anytime at [PHONE NUMBER] or email me at [EMAIL ADDRESS] Let's stay in touch!

The 2025-2026 VA&R Committee

Dr. Lisa Chaplin, Chair (VA)
lisachaplin@lexacom.net

Pat Kranzow, Vice Chair (IL)
pkranzow@att.net

Darlene Allen, Committee Member (NM)
da_abq@yahoo.com

Gwenda Shroeder-Zulch
Central Division Chair (OH)
gweniesue@yahoo.com

Lauren Lloyd
Eastern Division Chair (DC)
laurenloyd@gmail.com

Chris Harvey
Northwestern Division Chair (CO)
harrett@yahoo.com

MaryAnn Paul
Southern Division Chair (TX)
mapminmol@gmail.com

Elaine Roach
Western Division Chair (WA)
livehappy73e@gmail.com

Chrystal Daulton, Director of Programs
VA&R Liaison (IN)
CDaulton@ALAforVeterans.org
VAR@ALAforVeterans.org

Arizona State Veterans Home- Phoenix
Birthday list January– March 2026

Send cards to:

Arizona State Veterans Home- Phoenix
4141 S Herrera Way
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Attention: Kyleigh Rubis

Please put each veteran's name and birthdate on their envelope

Questions? Contact Candy Neagle at candy.neagle@gmail.com; 623-826-9580 (call or text)

January:

1-Nicholas V.
5- Porter R.
16- Gene J.
16- Robert I.
18- John Z.
21- Eileen H.
24- Robert W.
30- Jeffrey V.

February:

1- John M
2- Tom B.
8- Stephen J.
10- Michael B.
12- Leslie T.
16- Charles S.
19-Leo K.
20- Bruce Ba.

March:

6- Ken T.
8. Miguel Y.
8- Ernest S.
9- John M.
13- Gregory G.
13- Michael H.
22- Lawrence M.
25- Cecil H.
26- Larry A.
28- James E.
30- Christopher L.

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)

ALA eNEWS: CONNECTING WITH YOU MONTHLY



DECEMBER 2025

National ALA committee application still open!

The application process for 2026-2027 national committee appointments is open until Jan. 1, 2026. National committee chairs and members are appointed annually and confirmed by the National Executive Committee to serve on a wide variety of ALA committees for you to explore. All members are eligible to apply. Go to [our blog](#) to learn more about the various positions and their responsibilities.

[Apply here before Jan. 1!](#)

ALA ACADEMY

ALA Academy Live webinar approaching

What: The Membership Advantage: Discover Your ALA Benefits

When: Dec. 17 @ noon ET

This webinar will explore the value-packed benefits available to members of the American Legion Auxiliary, beyond just service opportunities. With exclusive access to travel discounts, insurance programs, exclusive branded retail outlets, and educational resources, ALA membership opens the door to practical perks that can enhance everyday life. Whether you're a longtime member or brand new to the Auxiliary, this session will show you how to take full advantage of what membership offers, strengthen your connection to our community, and walk away with tangible ways to save money, stay informed, and live well.

[Register here!](#)

Members are encouraged to volunteer for Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service

Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service on Jan. 19 provides the ALA opportunities to host or participate in volunteer activities throughout our communities in honor of the Rev. Dr. King. ALA units and members are encouraged to use this day to make a difference in their communities and in the lives of our veterans by volunteering their time, talent, and compassion. Here's a list of the types of activities the ALA can host or participate in on this day:



- Coordinate a community cleanup — parks, schools, neighborhoods, or cemeteries that honor veterans.
- Collect and distribute hygiene kits to people experiencing homelessness.
- Sponsor a food drive for local food pantries or veteran families in need.
- Partner with your Junior members for a multi-generational service project, such as assembling care packages or making no-sew blankets.
- Sponsor an MLK Day Reflection Program highlighting the Rev. Dr. King's commitment to service and equality, tying in the ALA mission.
- Collaborate with local service organizations (American Red Cross, shelters, food banks) to join large-scale community volunteer events.
- Deliver baked goods or thank-you baskets to first responders.

For more information, check out the [ALA Community Service webpage](#).

Mission Training and national Junior meetings coming up in January!

Winter national Junior meetings are approaching alongside Mission Training. Interested in learning more about our mission and becoming a stronger ALA member? Plan on going, then bring a Junior, or Juniors, along to learn valuable information and become well-rounded members and individuals. Juniors will have their own meetings happening where they'll do service projects, meet new friends, and — most importantly — have fun!



What's happening in the 2025-2026 national Junior meetings?

- Hats for Heroes — a service project developed by ALA National President Pam Ray to give personal hygiene products to homeless veterans
- Learning the Pledge of Allegiance in American Sign Language
- Crafts, such as beaded keychains and America's 250th birthday hats
- Receiving *A Life of Service: The Story of Senator Tammy Duckworth* book about a U.S Army veteran with many firsts in Congress

To learn more about the national Junior meeting activities, [click here](#).

Winter meetings and trainings listed below:

- Jan. 31: Las Vegas
- Jan. 31: Indianapolis*
- Feb. 7: Atlanta*

Register [here](#) for both national Junior meetings and Mission Trainings.

*These events will be held with The American Legion's National Regional Information Conference and the Sons of The American Legion Regional Meeting.

Join the USA 250 Challenge to celebrate America's birthday

Join this challenge culminating with America's birthday on July 4, 2026. Participants have three areas — fitness, mental wellness, and/or community service — they can engage in as part of a team, like an ALA unit, or as an individual. You can do one category or go the extra mile and do all three!



[Register here](#) for \$30 and get a USA 250 Legion Family T-shirt and donate to a good cause. For more information on ways to fulfill the categories, go to [the USA 250 Challenge website](#).

Want more than a T-shirt? [Click here](#) to look at other USA 250 Challenge merch!

Watch [National President Pam Ray's video](#) for ideas on the community service category.

American Legion Auxiliary celebrates America250 with US...



MEMBER BENEFITS



Wellcare Medicare Advantage & more of the benefits you deserve.

See how a Wellcare Medicare Advantage plan works seamlessly to give you more of the benefits you can use every day.

The Annual Enrollment Period ends December 7.

844-363-1726 (TTY: 711)
8 a.m.-8 p.m., 7 days a week

ala.wellcare.com



Benefits and allowance amounts vary by plan. Please call for more details.
<https://www.medicare.gov/basic/get-started-with-medicare/get-more-coverage/joining-a-plan/special-enrollment-periods> Wellcare is the Medicare brand for Centene Corporation, an HMO, PPO, PFFS, PDP plan with a Medicare contract and is an approved Part D Sponsor. Our D-SNP plans have a contract with the state Medicaid program. Enrollment in our plans depends on contract with the state Medicaid program. "TennCare" is the Tennessee Department of Health's Medicaid program. "TennCare" is a registered trademark of the State of Tennessee. "TennCare" is not a plan name. "Wellcare" is issued by Health Net Life Insurance Company, Washington residents. "Wellcare" is issued by WellCare Health Insurance Company of Louisiana, Inc. Louisiana D-SNP prospective enrollees. For detailed information about Louisiana Medicaid benefits, please visit the Medicaid website at <https://dshs.la.gov/medicaid> or <https://www.louisianawhitehouseconnect.com>. To request a written copy of our Medicaid Provider Directory, please contact us. Notice: TennCare is not responsible for payment for these benefits, except for appropriate cost sharing amounts. TennCare is not responsible for guaranteeing the availability or quality of these benefits. Any benefits above and beyond traditional Medicare benefits are applicable to Wellcare Medicare Advantage only and do not indicate increased Medicaid benefits.

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SmileAssociate

The ALA National Headquarters has partnered with SmileAssociate, giving members, supporters, and friends an easy way to give back while shopping on Amazon. When you start your shopping at smileassociate.com/alahq, Amazon donates 1.5% of your eligible purchases to the Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund at no extra cost to you. Same shopping, same prices, same Prime perks, but now every gift you buy helps support scholarships for deserving students.



Do Good. Automatically.

- 1 Set it and forget it.
- 2 A little goes a long way.
- 3 Budget friendly.

A photograph of a family of four: a grandfather, a mother, a daughter, and a grandmother, all smiling and interacting together.

R LEGAL
RESOURCES

PROTECT WHAT MATTERS MOST

Discover affordable attorney support
and confidently navigate life's legal moments.

Peace of mind starts here

As an American Legion Auxiliary member, you have access to affordable, trusted legal support through Legal Resources. Whether you're updating a will, reviewing a

contract, navigating a family matter, or buying a home, your benefits are here to protect you during life's most important moments.

Click [here](#) to explore your coverage and see how Legal Resources supports you and your family.

GOOD TO KNOW

Missed one of our webinars? 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](http://www(ALAforVeterans.org/social-media) to join the groups you're passionate about.

ON THE ALA BLOG

Wise Person Said: Lisa Mannion

U.S. Army combat veteran Lisa Mannion served active duty from 2012 to 2018 at Fort Bragg, N.C. As a combat veteran, she faced isolation, PTSD, and moral injury. As a music educator, she is passionate about veteran mental health and music education. Music therapy and songwriting have both helped Mannion heal and reconnect. Now, she performs at Chicago American Legion veteran events and leads group ukulele classes to help her fellow veterans heal through music.

[Read more.](#)



Honoring a father, other family members through membership in the Auxiliary

Many people join the ALA join to honor a veteran(s) in their life. For Anne Quinn, a Department of West Virginia member, ALA membership began to honor her father's service. But he wasn't the only veteran in her life.



[Read more.](#)

SAVE THE DATE



December: Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) Awareness Month

December: HIV/AIDS Awareness Month

December: Safe Toys and Gifts Month

Dec. 13: Wreaths Across America Day

Dec. 14-22: Hanukkah

Dec. 16-24: Las Posadas

Dec. 20: U.S. Space Force Birthday

Dec. 21: Winter Solstice

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve

Dec. 25: Christmas

Dec. 26: Boxing Day

Dec. 26-Jan.1: Kwanzaa

Dec. 31: New's Year Eve

Jan. 1: New Year's Day

Jan. 3: National Write to Congress Day

Jan. 6: World Day for War Orphans

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

“We saw [The Wall That Heals] in Herman Park, Houston, Texas, in the '80s. Touching the names of veterans you knew was like reaching into Heaven to say, ‘Thank you.’” — Peggy Waring, Texas

LEGION FAMILY NEWS

American Legion annual Holiday Blood Drive is in full swing

Throughout December, The American Legion is encouraging the Legion Family to donate blood and host blood drives as a part of their annual American Legion Blood Donor Program.

[Go here to learn more.](#)

Be the One online training available for the Legion Family

The American Legion is partnering with Columbia University to develop training for American Legion Family members who want to learn more about interacting and responding with veterans who are in crisis.

These trainings will teach participants how to:

- Use the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale to determine at-risk individuals
- Identify risk factors and warning signs
- Outline the types of suicidal ideation and four behaviors that indicate imminent risk
- Effectively communicate with individuals who may be at risk of hurting themselves

Upcoming dates:

- Dec. 18 @ 5:30-7 p.m. ET
- Jan. 7 @ 2:30-4 p.m. ET
- Jan. 15 @ 2:30-4 p.m. ET
- Jan. 22 @ 5:30-7 p.m. ET

Go [here](#) to learn more about the training and register.

Chance to win a \$20 Amazon e-gift card after taking an American Legion collaborative survey

PRAY.COM is collaborating with the American Legion to conduct a research-based survey to gain information on the perceptions of faith-based mental health practices and well-being, mental health care, digital faith practices, church attendance, and social connection. PRAY.COM is looking for veterans, military members, and their family members to participate. All information will be kept confidential. Participants, at the end of the survey, can enter for a chance to win a \$20 Amazon e-gift card.

Click [here](#) to take the survey.

Questions about the survey? Reach out to Dr. Breanne Laird with PRAY.COM at breanne.laird@pray.com.

The Army-Navy football game is Dec. 13

The American Legion is an associate sponsor of the game, which will be happening at 3 p.m. ET at M&T Stadium in Baltimore. The game will be aired on CBS and streamed on Paramount+. Read more [here](#).

American Legion Baseball season is coming up

Registration for the 2026 season opens Jan. 1, 2026, for young people ages 13-19. Click [here](#) to learn more about the program. [Register 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.](#)



American Legion Auxiliary | 3450 Founders Rd | Indianapolis, IN 46268 US

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