

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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

February 2026

Issue #6

FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Year-End Reports

Amazing things are happening throughout our Units and Departments in support of our ALA Education program. Reporting not only highlights these great things, but it also gives well-deserved recognition to the people behind the activities.

Every Unit and Department should submit a year-end report so all members can see the impact our organization has on students in our communities. Whether it is teaching students about veterans and our flag, or awarding scholarships, the American Legion Auxiliary places the highest emphasis on education. YOU help us get the word out through your reports.

Your year-end report should be no more than 1,000 words and have examples of the activities presented. Did Units participate in Give 10 to Education, American Education Week, Teacher Appreciation Week, or Veterans in the Community Schools? Were there standout members or Units who went above and beyond? Be sure to give them a shout-out. The purpose of reporting is to give you the opportunity to toot your own horn, so blast away!

In addition, include how you promoted scholarships. Does your Unit or Department have its own scholarships? Tell us about your eligibility rules and the total amount awarded. Did you actively promote our National Scholarships? Explain how you disseminated the information to eligible students. How did you support and celebrate those who earned scholarships?

A picture tells a thousand words, so include photos of your events. Please be sure to caption your photos and include the names of members. Your photos must be high resolution (300 DPI or higher) and select "actual size" when attaching them to your report. Who knows? Your photo may even be included in National Chairman, Barb's, platform remarks at our National Convention!

Department reports are due to your Division Chair no later than **May 15, 2026**. Be sure to also copy Barbara Washburn (bwashburn827@gmail.com) with your report. A great report not only tells the story but also shows just how amazing we are in our work for Education. Be AMAZING! Refer to the reporting guidelines at this link: <https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Education-Annual-Reporting-Guidelines>

NEW FOR 2026

You may choose to have both your end-of-year report AND your award form submitted concurrently: <https://member.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form>. You must submit **BEFORE** 11:59 PM ET on May 15 for your report/award to be a concurrent submission. For year-end reports submitted **AFTER** the May 15 deadline, please email them directly to your division chair and complete the awards form separately.

Unit & Department Awards

Each year, awards are given in each Division to the Most Outstanding **Unit** Education Program and the Best **Department** Education Program. We have already seen excellence throughout our Units and Departments, so these outstanding Units and Departments deserve recognition. Award submissions are separate from year-end reports but may include the year-end report as part of the submission. To nominate a deserving Unit or Department, you must complete the electronic form accessible through the ALA National website:

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

Your submission must include a narrative not to exceed 1,000 words. Give specific examples of how the Unit or Department delivered mission-related service through Education. Explain why you believe the Unit or Department deserves to earn the award. Again, this is a great opportunity to highlight your stand-out Units or exemplary Department. We want to give credit to those who work so hard to promote education and recognize them with National awards to thank them for their dedication. Include photos in your award submission as well.

All award submissions are due no later than **June 1, 2026, at 5:00 PM ET**. We would love to see award submissions from every Department highlighting fantastic Units and Departments promoting Mission-Driven and Family-Focused Education.

Submitted by Valerie Hardy,
Western Division Education Chair



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Education Dates

The Science of Samsung ALA Academy – February 25, 2026, 7:00 PM Eastern

Join us for an informative webinar that provides an overview of the Samsung Scholarship and the application process. We will review the key components of the Samsung scholarship and information for those ALA members assisting ALA Girls State/TAL Boys State citizens in completing the application.

[Register here](#)

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

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

Unit 360 and Post 360, Weatherly, PA got together today and presented a “Veteran in the Classroom” presentation to Mr. McGee’s 6th grade class at the WASD Middle School. Retired Navy Seabee Construction Electrician Third Class E-4 Ray Desrosiers spoke about his experiences being a Navy Seabee. He related about many of the different projects he helped to complete during his Navy years, which helped when he left the Navy and returned to civilian life. He even did electrical work when the current Weatherly HS was built.

Georgeann Herling, Department of Pennsylvania

“NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY!”



New London Unit 537 in Minnesota led a US Flag presentation to six kindergarten classes. They learned the meaning of the flag, questioned them on the colors and where they go on the flag, and what to do if a flag is not serviceable anymore. Each student received a small flag to take home on Veterans Day.

Mary Kuperus, Department of Minnesota



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>



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/>

