

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona



Juniors

August 2026

Hey, You Guyyyyys!

My name is Sara, and while I already have many titles, this year I added another: AZ ALA Department Junior Activities Chairman. Only a little pressure since this year's focus is "Engaging Youth in Patriotism", but I'm not doing this alone. My unit, Tony F Sosa/Ray Martinez Unit 41, has always been supportive and active with Junior activities and has promised to join me on this adventure. Within my Unit 41, I also added the title of Treasurer this year, but I'm not doing it alone. Only "Together We Can" because I believe that Teamwork WILL make the dream work, and it's way more fun that way.

As Mom of a Junior Auxiliary member - you might know her as Monster or BELLA - I have seen the impact this organization makes, especially for the Youth! Bella and I joined ALA Unit 41 in 2017, and we have been treated like family since day one. As members of the American Legion Riders Chapter 41, we have had the privilege to visit many of your post homes across the state, where we were also welcomed in as family. Our ALA membership is under my Father, Bruce Dyer, a U.S. Army veteran. However, we started coming to 41 because of a boy (Slim) who gave me the title "Wife" in 2024. Our son, Hugo, is now 8 and a proud SAL member at Squadron 41. Hugo is super excited to participate in the Patch program as Junior SAL this year too.

We've got a lot of great things already in the works for the Juniors. Starting with the Junior Convention on Saturday, July 25, 2026, hosted at Post 41. Attendees were able to complete multiple activities towards earning their Poppy Patch by reading/telling the Poppy story, learning how to make the crepe poppy, and Poppy art projects. Our goal is to have activities at each gathering to help Juniors achieve their patches. Special focus this year on the Poppy, Membership, and Americanism patches, but all patch packets are available online legion-aux.org (I have a couple of sets printed if you see me - ask me for one!)

Save the Dates:

November 6, 2026 AZALA Fall Conference (Doubletree Reid Park, Tucson, AZ)
February 6, 2027 ALA National Mission Training & Junior Meeting (Las Vegas, NV)
February 21, 2027 Junior Meetup for Americanism patch project (TBD)

Interested in hosting? Contact me

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The number 40 represents a time of trial, waiting, or testing, while 41 marks the breakthrough.