



“Angels in the Outfield, Caring for others”

May 2026.

Department dues will be going up for the 2027 Membership Year! At last year’s convention a dues increase for department was passed. Units will be sending in \$30.00 to cover Department and National dues. PLEASE, talk to your members and make sure your unit charges enough to cover this and the unit portion. **Dues forms are on the website and must be returned to department HQ by May 5th. Late forms will be charged \$30 if changes are to be made. The form is included in this packet.**

Department Convention June 25th - 28th in Chandler.

REGISTRATION FORMS AND THE HOTEL LINK ARE ON THE WEBSITE. If you want to CALL the hotel, the number is 480-812-0900. You MUST talk to the front desk (NOT RESERVATIONS) Code is ZOS.

We will be holding the ALA convention at the Chandler Community Center again this year. Please bring a cushion as the chairs are hard. The link for hotel rooms at the San Marcos is on the website. Once the San Marcos is sold out, then the link for the Hilton Garden Inn will be available. **PLEASE NOTE, 30 days before convention, the San Marcos will charge your credit card on file one night room rate plus taxes and fees. This is to reduce the number of cancelled rooms at the last minute. The Legion has to pay for empty rooms when posts/units call for a block of rooms and then cancel some of them right before convention.**

ALAMIS billing has been sent out. Please send your payment as soon as possible. If you make changes to anyone on ALAMIS those billed MUST BE PAID and then payment for any changes. National DOES NOT PRORATE and neither do we.

Don’t hold on to membership, please send in weekly.

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!

If you have changed your Unit Mailing address, we need to know the new one. We are getting a lot of undeliverable mail back from the USPS saying undeliverable mail or unknown residents.

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.

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

MANDATES : Units 9,22,30,37,84,88,125,133,140 and Districts 2,4,6 have not paid their mandates for 2025-2026. 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.

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 APRIL 2026

--When you receive this, hopefully your Unit has submitted the Impact Report to your District President and all of the Department Report Forms to the proper officer or chairman.

Remember the NATIONAL Membership Awards are due on June 1, 2026, to Department. This includes the Recruit/Rejoin 10 and Family 3 Awards, which require input from the Unit. The forms for those 2 National Awards are included in this "April Combo".

--Change President of Unit 107 to:

Anna Burda
602-810-6754
aburdaaz@gmail.com

--CORRECTION ON GIRLS STATE ORIENTATION TO BE HELD ON SAT. MAY 16, 2026, AT POST 62 IN PEORIA. THE NEW TIME IS 11:00 AM.

--SPEAKING OF CORRECTIONS:

If you ever see I may have posted something on the internet that is INCORRECT, please text or email me immediately: 480-282-7097 munchaz@msn.com And I do mean IMMEDIATELY.

I make mistakes and will research your question and get back to you.

--Department AWARDS

There are several Resolutions pertaining to Department Awards that have been submitted for the upcoming Convention in June.

We will be entering a 3 to 4 year period of intense work on the Department Awards Manual to get rid of some of the confusion and disagreement.

We can do it efficiently if you review items posted on the Department Website under Member Resources #15 NOW and email your questions or suggestions to Department or myself. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL CONVENTION !!!

secretary1@aladeptaz.org munchaz@msn.com

--If you would like to see an award revision addressed NOW instead of later, WRITE IT UP and send it in. We will research it and get back to you. If you help us, the time these revisions take will be cut down.

THANK YOU.

--New Unit and District Officer reports for 2026-2027 are due to the office by June 1, 2026. They are included in this packet. Also included is the form to report any DUES changes for 2026-2027.

2027 MEMBERSHIP DUES

July 2026 – Dec. 2027

Non-legible forms will be Returned.

Department is raising it's portion of Dues to \$12.00 Effective July 1st, 2026. Units will send \$30.00 to Department to cover National and Department dues for the 2027 membership year.

It is HIGHLY suggested that units raise their 2027 dues, so they have operational capitol.

The dues amount indicated below will be printed on the 2027 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICES that is mailed to senior members in your unit. Also requested is the address to be printed on each renewal notice showing where and whom to mail the dues for your Unit.

Completed forms for 2027 dues must be returned to Department Headquarters on or before May 5, 2026. NO EXCEPTIONS!!

You can mail or email the completed form to secretary1@aladepaz.org OR mail to Department Headquarters, 4701 N. 19th Ave. Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85015.

If your unit fails to return the needed information by the due date, the current information on file with the Department will be sent to National.

Units making Changes after May 15th, 2026, will be charged \$30.00 FEE!

UNIT NUMBER: _____

2027 Junior Dues \$ _____ 2027 Senior Dues \$ _____

Address where membership dues will be mailed to.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP CODE: _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ DATE: _____

Name of Person Completing this Form: _____

TITLE _____

DATE: _____

DUES COMPARISON WITH INCREASE FOR DEPARTMENT PORTION
2026-2027

2025-2026

Member Pays	30.00
Amount sent to Department	25.00 (Dept. keeps 7.00 and sends 18.00 to National)
Unit keeps	5.00

2026-2027

If member pays the same	30.00
NEW amount sent to Department	30.00 (Dept. will keep 12.00 and send 18.00 to National)
Unit keeps	0.00 Nothing. If you rely on some of the dues money to meet Unit expenses you will need to increase the amount each member pays.

2026-2027 Unit Officers

Please complete and return this form to the Department Office immediately following the election of Unit Officers for **2026-2027**. Please complete this form even if your slate of officers will not change for the upcoming administrative year. Verify email addresses and phone numbers before submitting this form.

Return this form to the Department Office (address-above) no later than June 1, 2026

Unit Town: _____ **Unit #:** _____
Unit Name: _____ **District:** _____
Time and Date of Unit Meetings: _____
Date Unit Officers will take office: _____

Please provide a complete mailing address for each unit officer.

Unit President:

Address: _____
City: _____ St: _____ Zip Code + 4 _____
Email: _____ Ph: _____ Cell: _____

Unit Vice President:

Address: _____
City: _____ St: _____ Zip Code +4 _____
Email: _____ Ph: _____ Cell: _____

Unit Secretary:

Address: _____
City: _____ St: _____ Zip Code + 4 _____
Email: _____ Ph: _____ Cell: _____

Unit Treasurer:

Address: _____
City: _____ St: _____ Zip Code + 4 _____
Email: _____ Ph: _____ Cell: _____

Girls State Chairman:

Address: _____
City: _____ St: _____ Zip Code +4 _____
Email: _____ Ph: _____ Cell: _____

Membership Chairman:

Address: _____
City: _____ St: _____ Zip Code +4 _____
Email: _____ Ph: _____ Cell: _____

Unit Email Contact: Please provide the email address of one person to serve as a **Unit Email Contact**. This person does not need to be the Unit President. This email address will be used to distribute time-sensitive information quickly.

Unit Email Contact: _____ **Email:** _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Department of Arizona

SUBJECT: Names and addresses of elected 2026-2027 District Officers

NOTE: Since this mailing will be sent to the OUT-GOING OFFICERS, it is THEIR responsibility to send the requested information to the Department Office. Even if you are REPEATING an office, *it is necessary to complete and send this form to the Department Office.*

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

DISTRICT NUMBER _____

DISTRICT MAILING ADDRESS _____

MEETING DAY _____ **TIME** _____

PRESIDENT: _____ **ID#** _____

Phone # _____ Publish Yes No

E-Mail _____ Publish Yes No

VICE PRESIDENT: _____ **ID#** _____

Phone # _____ Publish Yes No

E-Mail _____ Publish Yes No

SECRETARY: _____ **ID#** _____

Phone # _____ Publish Yes No

E-Mail _____ Publish Yes No

TREASURER: _____ **ID#** _____

Phone# _____ Publish Yes No

E-Mail _____ Publish Yes No

Please complete and return this form. We must have this information to prepare the Department Directory and to notify National. **Form must be into Department no later than JUNE 1, 2026.**

Mail form to: American Legion Auxiliary, Dept. of AZ, 4701 N. 19th Ave., Ste 100, Phoenix, AZ 85015

You can email this form to secretary1@aladepaz.org.



AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA CONVENTION JUNE 25-28, 2026

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY REGISTRATION \$15.00

REMINDER AT CONVENTION \$25.00

PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO:

American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of Arizona 4701 N. 19th Ave. Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85015

UNIT NUMBER _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

NAME (PRINT)

POSITION/TITLE (PRINT)

15 numbered rows for registration details

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE JUNE 12, 2026 NO REFUNDS OR SUBSTITUTIONS



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF
ARIZONA CONVENTION JUNE 25-28, 2026
RESOLUTION**

SUBMITTED BY: _____

SUBJECT: _____

DATE: _____

Resolution No. _____
(Assigned by Resolutions Committee)

**DO NOT TRY TO SQUEEZE THE RESOLUTION INTO THIS SPACE. PLEASE ATTACH TEXT OF
RESOLUTION AS A SEPARATE PAGE**

Routing: _____

Submitted by: Name and Signature _____

Submitted by: Name and Signature _____

Submitted by: Name and Signature _____

_____ Approved _____ Rejected _____ Revised _____

_____ Approved _____ Rejected _____ Revised _____

_____ Approved _____ Rejected _____ Revised _____

Convention Action: Approved _____ Rejected _____ Date _____

One "hard" copy, signed by at least two (2) qualified delegates, and an unsigned "soft or electronic" copy of all resolutions are to be forwarded to the Department Secretary before Convention if possible. Resolutions originating at Convention need to be written as a "hard" copy with two delegate signatures, and a "soft or electronic" copy forwarded to the Department Secretary as soon as possible so that discussion and vote may take place. (2013) Resolutions presented by the vote of a unit need to be signed by at least two (2) qualified delegates from the Unit and forwarded to the Department Secretary thirty (30) days prior to Department Convention for registration and classification and issuing to respective committees. A resolution which has not been presented through the proper channels will not be considered.

**DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
2026-2027(Fiscal Year 8/1/2026 to 7/31/2027) Proposed Budget**

Acct. # from QB				Acct. # from QB			
	ESTIMATED INCOME:				ESTIMATED EXPENSES:		\$0.00
401.00	Proposed Membership 2027			501.00	Proposed Membership 2027		
401.50	Dues from 15900 Senior members @ \$30.00	477,000.00		501.48	National Sr. Dues 15900 @ \$18.00	286,200.00	
401.20	Dues from PUFL	5,029.00		501.20	PUFL,Unit Reimbursement	2,145.00	
401.51	Dues from 375 Junior members @ \$4.00	1,500.00		501.49	National Jr. Dues 375 @ \$2.50	937.50	
	Dues from 2026 year:				Dues from 2026 year		
401.48	80 Sr. members @ \$25.00	1,520.00		501.46	National Sr. Dues 80 @ \$18.00	960.00	
401.49	15 Jr. members @ \$4.00	60.00		501.47	National Jr. Dues 15 @ \$2.50	37.50	
	Total Proposed Membership Income		\$485,109.00		Total Proposed Membership Expense		290,280.00
407.00	Proposed Conference and Convention Budget				Proposed Conference and Convention Budget		
407.20	Fall Conference Registration 300 @ \$15.00	4,500.00		628.00	Fall Conference courtesies,decorations, microphones,Pres, NEC & Sec/Tre Room	5,000.00	
407.10	Department Convention Registration 350 @ \$15.00	5,250.00		629.00	Dept Conv courtesies,decorations,microphones, Pres, NEC & Sec/Tre , Membership Room	5,000.00	
	Total Proposed Conference and Convention Income		\$9,750.00		Total Proposed Conference and Convention Expense		\$10,000.00
403.00	Mandate Programs			500.00	Mandate Programs		
403.10	Delegates Per Capita Seniors (DPC) 15900 @ \$.40	6,360.00		500.10	Sr. DPC to National Travel (3 National Convention Delegates)	6,360.00	
403.20	Delegates Per Capita Juniors (JDPC) 375 @ \$.20	75.00		500.40	Jr. DPC to National Travel	75.00	
403.30	Unit Bond Fees (85 Units @ \$5.50)	467.50		500.50	Unit Bond Fees (85 Units @ \$5.50)	467.50	
403.60	District Bond Fees 10 for \$234.00	234.00		500.60	District Bond Fees	234.00	
403.70	ALAMIS	1,865.00		500.80	ALAMIS	1,960.00	
	Total Mandate Programs Income		\$9,001.50		Total Mandate Programs Expense		\$9,096.50
415.00	Scholarship Donations			642.00	Scholarship Expenses		
415.01	Past President's Parley Scholarship Donations	\$5,000.00		642.01	Past President's Parley Scholarship Expense	\$5,000.00	
415.02	Hoyle-Chilton Memorial Scholarship	\$1,000.00		642.02	Hoyle-Chilton Memorial Scholarship	\$3,000.00	
415.04	National President Scholarship Children of Warriors	\$100.00		642.04	National President Scholarship Children of Warriors	\$100.00	
415.05	Spirit of Youth	\$100.00		642.05	Spirit of Youth	\$100.00	
415.06	Non-Traditional Student	\$100.00		642.06	Non-Traditional Student	\$100.00	
415.07	Americanism Essay 7 @ 10.00	\$0.00		642.07	Americanism Essay 7 @ 10.00	\$70.00	
415.08	Poppy Poster 7 @ \$10.00	\$0.00		642.08	Poppy Poster 7 @ \$10.00	\$70.00	
415.09	Junior Loyalty Scholarship	\$0.00		642.09	Junior Loyalty Scholarship	\$0.00	
	Total Department Scholarship Income		\$6,300.00		Total Department Scholarship Expense		\$8,440.00
404.00	Auxiliary Programs (excluding Junior Activities)			550.00	Auxiliary Programs (excluding Junior Activities)		
404.10	AEF	10,000.00		550.06	AEF	10,000.00	
417.00	Cavalcade of Memories 404.417	1,000.00		550.07	Cavalcade of Memories	1,000.00	
			\$11,000.00				\$11,000.00
416.00	Leadership - Mission Training		\$1,200.00	643.00	Leadership - Mission Training		\$1,200.00
442.00	New Units - Charters		\$20.00	640.00	New Units Committee expenses		\$300.00
441.00	National Leadership Fund		\$10.00	550.10	National Leadership Fund		\$0.00
412.00	Resale/Merchandise		\$4,000.00	602.00	Resale/merchandise Expense		\$3,500.00

	Department Office Basic Overhead			600.00	Department Office Basic Overhead		
440.00	Headquarters Office Overhead Donations	1,000.00			Headquarters Office Overhead Expense		
	Rent @ \$600.00 per month to the Legion	0.00		600.01	Rent @ \$600.00 per month to the Legion	7,200.00	
	Directors & Officers	0.00		600.03	Directors & Officers,	3,265.00	
	Business Liability Insurance	0.00		600.02	Business Liability Insurance	1,034.00	
	Repairs all items except those leased	0.00		600.04	Repairs and maintenance contracts	6,230.00	
	Telephone, e-mail, (Cox, AT&T)	0.00		600.08	Telephone, e-mail, (Cox, AT&T)	4,200.00	
	Postage (25% to come from Welfare Budget)	0.00		600.07	Postage (25% to come from Welfare Budget)	5,000.00	
	Printing and supplies	0.00		600.05	Printing and supplies	5,000.00	
	Copier Lease	0.00		600.10	Postage Meter and Scale Lease	2,650.00	
	Postage Meter and Scale Lease	0.00		600.09	Computer Preventive Maintenance	6,000.00	
	Computer Preventive Maintenance and software	0.00		612.00	Bank Service Charges and Fees	500.00	
	Bank Service Charges and Fees	0.00		600.13	Equipment	2,000.00	
	Bulletin Income from Subscriptions 6 @ \$40.00	240.00		600.14	Computer Software	3,000.00	
	Total Department Office Basic Overhead Income		\$1,240.00		Total Department Office Basic Overhead Income		\$46,079.00
410.00	Officer Expenses			620.00	Officer Expenses		
	Department President's Reimbursement (to be paid \$400.00 per quarter)	0.00		620.01	Department President's Reimbursement (to be paid \$ 400.00 per quarter)	1,600.00	
	Department Christmas Cards & Postage	0.00		620.02	Department Christmas Cards & Postage	100.00	
	Past Department President's Pin and N.E.C. Sash	0.00		620.03	Past Department President's Pin/ N.E.C. Sash/Name Tags	1,100.00	
	Postage (to be paid half in Aug & half in Dec annually)				Postage upon presentation of receipts		
	Department President	0.00		620.04	Department President	100.00	
	Department Vice President	0.00		620.00	Department VP/Membership Chairman	100.00	
	Department Chaplain	0.00		620.00	Department Chaplain supplies & postage	225.00	
	Department Historian supplies & postage	0.00		620.12	Department Historian supplies & postage	100.00	
	Department Scrapbook supplies & postage			620.00	Department Scrapbook supplies & postage	100.00	
	Honorary Dept. Jr. Pres. mileage to the Jr. Convention in April annually	0.00		661.00	Honorary Dept. Jr. Pres. Mileage to Jr. Convention in April annually	25.00	
	Unit Membership Incentives	930.00		620.08	Unit membership incentives - Requires receipts	400.00	
	Fall Conference round trip mileage only for Dept. Officers, Parliamentarian, District Presidents, Jr Hon Pres from their Post Home to conf \$.60 per mile	0.00		620.09	Fall Conference round trip mileage only for Dept. Officers, Parliamentarian, District Presidents, Jr Hon Pres from Post Home to conf \$.60 per mile	2,000.00	
	Department Convention round trip mileage for all Dept. Officers, Parliamentarian, District Presidents and Jr Hon Pres. From their Post Home to Convention \$0.60 per mile	0.00		620.10	Department Convention round trip mileage for Dept. Officers, Parliamentarian, District Presidents, Jr Hon Pres. from their Post Home to Convention \$0.60	2,000.00	
	Past President's Luncheon for 2026 June Convention (to pay for 16 active Past Department Presidents @ \$30.00 per person)	0.00		620.11	Past President's Luncheon for 2026 June Convention (to pay for 16 active Past Department Presidents @ \$30.00 per person)	900.00	
	Department Finance Committee mileage @ \$.60. per mile	0.00		620.14	Department Finance Committee mileage @ \$.60. per mile	2,000.00	
	Total Officer Expenses		\$930.00		Total Officer Expense		\$10,750.00
	National Guest Entertainment Package			667.00	National Guest Entertainment Package		
	Western Division National Vice President (includes gift, room, luncheon @ Fall Conference, meals, postage to mail gifts corsage)	0.00		667.01	Western Division National Vice President (includes gift, room, luncheon @ Fall Conference, meals, postage to mail gifts, corsage)	\$1,000.00	
	National President (includes gift, room, meals, postage to mail gifts, corsage, entertainment)	0.00		667.02	National President (includes gift. Room, meals, postage to mail gifts , corsage, entertainment)	2500.00	
	N.E.C. or Disting. Guest Chairman expenses (\$400.00 per guest, includes room, meals, mileage, airport parking)	0.00		667.03	N.E.C. or Disting. Guest Chairman expenses (400.00 per guest, includes room, meals, mileage, airport parking)	1500.00	
	NP Dinner (Comp Dinners)	0.00		667.04	NP Dinner (Comp Dinners)	300.00	
	Total National Guest Entertainment Package		\$0.00		Total National Guest Entertainment Package		\$5,300.00

	National Convention Travel Fund				National Convention Travel Fund		
	National Convention 2027 Kansas City, MO				625.02 National Convention 2027 Kansas City, MO		
407.30	Registration - 32 @ \$40.00 Alternates & Guests	1,280.00			625.03 Registration - 32 @ \$40.00 Delegates & Alternates & Guests	1,280.00	
	Department President's room	0.00			625.02 Department President's Room	1,200.00	
	Incoming President's	0.00			625.02 Incoming President's Room	1,200.00	
	Secretaries room (8 days)	0.00			625.02 Secretaries room (8 days)	1,600.00	
	NEC Room (1/2)				625.02 NEC Room (1/2 Expense)	700.00	
	Auxiliary Sr. member of the Year Per Diem 2 nights housing	0.00			625.02 Auxiliary Sr. member of the Year - 2 nights housing	400.00	
	Transportation:				Transportation:		
	Air Fare & Ground Transportation for 4 includes bag fee (Pres, Sec, In.Pres, Member of the Year)	0.00			625.02 Air Fare & Ground Transportation for 4 includes bag fee (Pres, Sec, In. Pres, Member of the Year)	4,400.00	
414.40	Other National Convention 2027 Related expenses (flowers, supplies, etc.)	3,000.00			625.25 Other National Convention 2027 Related expenses (flowers, supplies, States Dinner etc.)	\$4,350.00	
	Total National Convention	4,280.00			Total National Convention	\$15,130.00	
	Juniors Fund (JAPC & Jr. Donations)	3,180.00			661.00 Juniors Fund (JAPC & Jr. Donations)		
	National Jr. Meeting Las Vegas, NV				657.00 National Jr. Meeting Las Vegas, NV		
418.00	Delegate & Chaperon Air & bag fee or mileage which is lowest	0.00			657.00 Delegate - Air Fare/Mileage	410.00	
	Delegate & Chaperon Ground	0.00			657.00 Delegate & Jr. Chairman Ground	0.00	
	Delegate & Chaperon Per Diem (1 days @ \$200.00 each)	0.00			657.00 Delegate & Jr. Chairman	400.00	
	Delegates Registration (9 @ \$50.00) online.				Delegates Registration Jrs,		
	Reimbursement JR registration to Units for the JRs that attended the National Meeting	450.00			657.40 Reimbursement for JR registration to Units for the JRs that attended the National JRs Meeting	450.00	
418.00	Honorary National Officer (except National President)	0.00			657.50		
	Total National Jr. Meeting Income	0.00					
	Total Proposed Junior Fund	\$3,630.00			Total National Jr. Meeting 2026-2027 Expense	1,260.00	
	Total National Convention/National JR Meeting		\$5,660.00		Total National Convention/National JR Meeting		\$16,340.00
403.01	National Travel Fund				National Travel Fund		
	National Children & Youth Conference Indianapolis, IN				National Children & Youth Conference Indianapolis, IN		
	Air Fare & Ground Transportation for Chairman & bag fee	0.00			625.31 Air Fare & Ground Transportation for Chairman & bag fee	925.00	
	Per Diem for Chairman	0.00			625.31 Per Diem for Chairman 3 days	600.00	
	Total Children & Youth Conference	0.00			Total Children & Youth Conference	\$1,525.00	
	Department Leadership National Conference Indianapolis, IN				Department Leadership National Conference Indianapolis, IN		
	Air Fare & bag fee for President, Secretary & Membership Chairman	0.00			625.11 Air Fare & bag fee for Membership Chairman	900.00	
	Ground for President, Secretary & Membership Chairman	0.00			625.11 Ground for President, Secretary & Membership Chairman	0.00	
	Hotel for President, Secretary & Membership Chairman	0.00			Three Nights Lodging	1,200.00	
	Per Diem for Membership Chairman for 4 days	0.00			625.11 Per Diem for Membership - w/ Receipts	400.00	
	Total Department Leadership National Conference	0.00			Total National President's and Secretaries Conference	\$2,500.00	
	THIS BUDGET IS FOR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR				*** THIS BUDGET IS FOR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR		
	National Girls State Directors Meeting (1/2 to come from Girls State Acct): Indianapolis, IN				National Girls State Directors Meeting (1/2 to come from Girls State Acct): Indianapolis, IN		
	Half Air Fare for Department Girls State Director	0.00			625.14 Half Air Fare for Department Girls State Director	600.00	
	Half Ground Fare for Department Girls State Director	0.00			625.14 Half Ground Fare for Dept. Girls State Director + mileage to airport	100.00	
	4 day Per Diem for Department Girls State Director	0.00			625.14 4 day Per Diem for Dept. Girls State Director + half registration	1,000.00	
	Total Girls State Meeting	0.00			Total National Girls State Directors Meeting	\$1,700.00	
	National Mission Training Las Vegas, NV				626.00 National Mission Training Las Vegas, NV		
	Registration Pres & Dept Sec	0.00			626.00 Registration Pres, VP & Dept Sec- 3 @ 85	255.00	
	Two Nights Lodging Pres, VP & Dept Exec. Director 2 days	0.00			626.00 Two Nights Lodging Pres, VP & Dept Exec. Director	1,200.00	
		0.00				1,455.00	

	National Chaplains Conference Indianapolis, IN					National Chaplains Conference Indianapolis, IN		
	Air Fare for Chaplain, bag fee & ground transportation	0.00			625.34	Air Fare for Chaplain, bag fee& ground transportation	\$1,000.00	
	Per Diem for Chaplain	0.00			625.34	Per Diem for Chaplain - 2 days @ \$200	\$400.00	
	Total Chaplain Conference					Total National Chaplains Conference	\$1,400.00	
	NEC Indianaoplis, IN NEC & President					NEC Indianaoplis, IN NEC & President		
	N.E.C & President. Per Diem 3 days @ \$110 per day	0.00			625.17	N.E.C & President. Per Diem 3 days @ \$200 per day	600.00	
	N.E.C.& President Registration and Luncheon	0.00			625.17	N.E.C.& President Registration and Luncheon	150.00	
	President & Secretary Air Fare,bag fee & ground	0.00			625.17	President & NEC Air Fare,bag fee & ground	1,200.00	
	Total NEC Meeting	0.00				Total NEC Meeting	\$1,950.00	
	Total National Travel Fund Excluding National Convention		\$0.00			Total National Travel Fund Excluding National Convention		\$10,530.00
	Special Project				636.00	Special Project Expense		
	Donations for Department President's Special Project 2026-2027					Donations for Department President's Special Project 2026-2027		
	Unit donations	1,000.00			636.10	Unit donations	\$1,000.00	
	Department Donation	500.00				Department Donation	\$500.00	
406.10	Total Special Project		\$1,500.00			Total Special Project		\$1,500.00
406.00	Department Payroll		\$0.00			Department Payroll		
					601.01	75 % from General Fund	\$92,500	\$69,375.00
	Employer Share Taxes		\$0.00		603.00	Employer Share Taxes		\$3,600.00
	Workman's Compensation		\$0.00		606.00	Workman's Compensation		\$1,550.00
	Sec./Treas. Car Reimbursement (figured on \$150.00 monthly)		\$0.00		609.00	Sec./Treas. Car Disbursemnt (figured on \$150.00 monthly)		\$1,800.00
	Medical Insurance Reimbursement		\$0.00		679.00	Medical Insurance Reimbursement		\$1,920.00
	Outside Accounting Moore & Giese, Winning Edge		\$0.00		614.02	Outside accounting check (Moore & Giese) ; Annual tax return & Financial Statement Monthly review fee \$350.00 (Winning Edge) X 13		\$6,000.00 \$4,550.00
	Outside payroll service (ADP)		\$0.00		614.03	Outside payroll service (ADP)		\$1,700.00
	Corporation Commission annual fee		\$0.00		613.00	Corporation Commission annual fee		
	Department				613.10	Department	10.00	
413.00	10 Districts @ \$10.00		\$100.00		613.30	10 Districts @ \$10.00	100.00	\$110.00
	Estimated Investment Income (25% to Welfare)		\$0.00			Estimated Investment Income (25% to Welfare)		\$0.00
	Return to Investment Account				607.00	Return to Investment Account		\$0.00
	Funds to cover deficit					To Reserve Fund		\$20,800.00
	TOTAL ESTIMATED INCOME		\$535,820.50			TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES		\$515,020.50

Finance

REVISED

4/21/26

The clock is ticking Arizona, and the following 9 Units and 3 Districts have not paid their mandates and the amounts owed are also listed as follows:

Unit 9	\$138.30	Unit 84	\$46.70	District 2	Districts please contact Headquarters for amount
Unit 22	\$120.70	Unit 88	\$36.70	District 4	
Unit 30	\$78.30	Unit 125	\$17.10	District 6	
Unit 37	\$34.30	Unit 133	\$23.50		
		Unit 140	\$17.50		

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

Please make arrangements to pay before the deadline. Thank you.

 **American Legion Auxiliary – Department of Arizona**

Chaplain's Message – April 2026 “Happy Easter”

April often arrives as a gentle reminder that renewal is possible even after long seasons of waiting. The world around us begins to bloom again, and not all at once, but steadily – one bud, one sunrise, and one warm breeze at a time. It's a rhythm that mirrors our own lives. Growth rarely happens in dramatic leaps; more often, it unfolds quietly, in small choices, small acts of courage, and small moments of grace.

This month, I invite you to notice the signs of renewal in your own life. Where are you healing? Where are you learning? Where are you being invited to begin again? Even if the steps feel small, they matter. Renewal is not about perfection; it is about movement.

As we move through April, may you find space to breathe deeply, to reconnect with what grounds you, and to trust that the new beginnings are not only possible – they are already taking shape. May hope take root in you the way spring takes root in the earth: gently, persistently, and with quiet strength.

Reflection for the month:

April also gives us space to reflect on the strength and sacrifice of our military and veterans. Many of them know firsthand what it means to endure long seasons – seasons of uncertainty, separation and challenge. Their service has shaped not only our nation's history but the daily freedoms we often take for granted. And yet, the journey after service can require just as much courage as the years spent in uniform.

To our veterans: your resilience is not invisible. Your stories-both spoken and unspoken – carry weight and wisdom. Renewal may look different for each of them, and it may unfold slowly, and they deserve the same gentleness and patience that spring offers the world. May this season remind you that healing is not weakness, and seeking support is a sign of strength, not struggle.

As April unfolds, may all of us – veterans, families, caregivers and our members – find space to breathe deeply, reconnect with what grounds us, and trust that new beginnings are possible. Hope doesn't always arrive in dramatic ways. Sometimes it comes like spring” quietly, persistently, and with strength that surprises us.

NOTE: Don't forget your annual chaplain report and award narratives are due to me by May 1st. AzDeptChaplain@gmail.com or 480 S Calvary Way, Cottonwood Az 86326

In service and faith,

DeDe Dexter

Department Chaplain

American Legion Auxiliry

Department of Arizona

Greetings Everyone!

As the year charges forward, we are coming up on our dreaded "reporting season" I see Auxiliary Leaders cringe when they say things like, "I hate calling and nagging units for their numbers." "We have 35 units, and I only get reports from 3." Units are reluctant to talk about themselves, they want it to "be about the people, and not about us."

Once you get someone on the phone, they can be vague. You ask them what they did this year for such and such a program? Did you do any fundraisers? How about adopting a family for a holiday? The phone call seems more like an interrogation and can seem like an unpleasant experience.

Does any of this sound familiar? How can you make reporting a joy instead of chore? Here is my approach.

Tell me a story about how your unit helped children and youth this year. How much joy did you bring into your life and the lives of others as you served them? What was the happy ending to your story? These stories should be the basis of any report you compile. As you hear the story, ask questions about how many Auxiliary members were involved and how much time it took. By the time they get through talking, you should have an idea of some numbers that can be filled in to eventually make it to the National Year-End Impact Report.

When you make a year-end report at your Department Convention, you will have the best stories to retell. You will be excited! Your enthusiasm will be infectious! Look at the things we did. Here are some ideas of what you may consider doing in the future. We celebrate the joy and happiness we brought to the world.

Other questions to ask:

- Did you see any opportunities to award a Youth Hero or Good Deed Award?
- What fun things did you do for Purple Up Day?
- What did your unit do to celebrate to the Month of the Military Child?
- How did your unit help a family in need this year?
- When was the last time your unit presented the Military Child Table Ceremony?



Don't forget that there are programs outside of Children and Youth that may cross over to you. Did any children enter the Poppy Poster Contest or an Americanism Essay contest? What kinds of service did your Juniors perform this year?

Awards

Let's talk about awards for a minute. I find that some Units or Departments might be reluctant to nominate themselves for a National Award. Why? They may feel that they are just patting themselves on the back rather than gaining recognition for hard work and a job well done.

Please, please, please...help us celebrate the accomplishments of the American Legion Auxiliary by nominating deserving Units and yourselves for jobs well done. We want the National Convention to be a "Greatest Hits" compilation hopefully featuring some fabulous stories from the Western Division.

Reporting is about the stories we tell. Each tale is woven into a tapestry of compassion, service and joy. The people we serve, the lives we improve and joy we share are what the American Legion Family special.

Thank you for all of your hard work, dedication and encouragement!

Mike Rasmuson
Western Division Chairperson
American Legion Auxiliary
Children and Youth Committee
utahalamike@gmail.com
(530) 949-8280



Department Highlight

Candi from New Mexico thought of a way to have more units report to her. She gave away small prizes for reporting and every unit that reported got entered into a drawing for a gift basket she put together. What won't people do for good coffee?

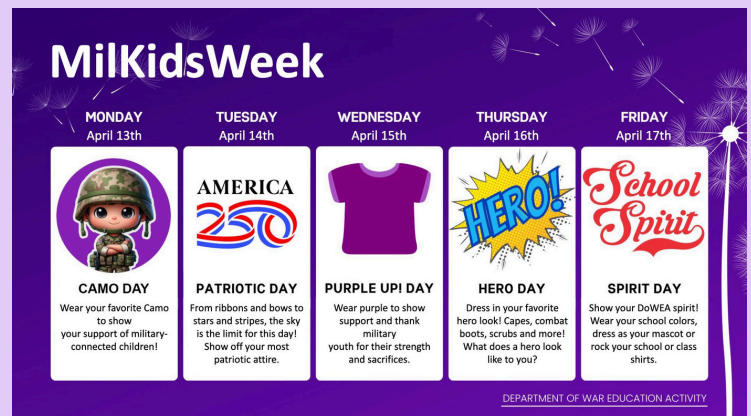
What are other ways you can think of to get more unit participation in reporting?



Realizing Reconnection through Resilience

The life of a military-connected child is one of constant change. In addition to the typical stressors of being a kid, a military child faces a unique set of challenges, including separation during deployment and being relocated across the country – or even the world.

Being a military child means always having to adjust and adapt to an array of changes, and that's not an easy task! Understanding how to support children during these challenges begins with paying close attention to their behavior and emotions and using available resources when needed. Help them realize what they are feeling and create a supportive environment to reconnect and share those feelings. Talking to someone is a critical first step toward wellness and resilience.



Ways to Celebrate

- Wear purple on Purple Up Day
- Web Site Feature
- Publicize Installation/Community Events
- Salute to Military Children at Sporting Events
- Teachers Salute Military Children

Project Ruck Sack Children & Youth

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

PURPOSE AND GOAL

Project Ruck Sack assists ALA departments with active participation in the initiatives of the ALA Children & Youth Program. Project Ruck Sack gives departments the opportunity to make a positive difference for children by gifting them comfort items, toys, and supplies. The project encourages activism in ALA departments to support children in their communities and provides direction for members, units, and department leadership to engage in a project that benefits children and youth.

IT'S TIME TO GATHER THE TEAM

Align key members of your department Children & Youth Committee, along with dedicated members and volunteers. You will need three key team members to successfully facilitate and launch this project.

1. Distribution: Assign a member to investigate and secure outlets to donate the sacks once they have been assembled. Places like Family Readiness Groups,



VA outreach centers, homeless/women's shelters where children may reside, and classrooms are options.

2. Public relations: Assign a member to manage communication to both members and external outlets. It will be important to reach out to members for participation and communicate about your good work to news outlets and the national ALA Children & Youth Committee.
3. Report: Assign a member to document the time, participation, and expense contributed to the project for reporting purposes. All contributions should be documented in the department's annual reporting.



CHECK THE CALENDAR — IT'S A DATE!

Review the activity calendar for meetings, conferences, and conventions to determine the best opportunity to connect with members and volunteers for a service project. Pick a date to host your Project Ruck Sack event.

GET THE GOODS

Assemble a list of items for members to collect and bring to the event (e.g., stickers, action figures, small plush toys, pin flags, LEGO, bracelets, patriotic dog tags, poppies, garden seeds like poppies, candy, and school supplies).

Check out places like Oriental Trading (www.orientaltrading.com) or US Toy (www.ustoy.com) for low-cost patriotic, leadership, and fun toys and favors which are great for this project!

SPREAD THE WORD!

Plan ahead of your scheduled event and be sure to communicate about the project and all important details. Keep in mind the following when spreading the word to your team: Who, What, Where, When, Why, and Bring.

- Who: Department members, volunteers, friends, American Legion Family, and leadership.
- What: Activity to promote activism in the American Legion Auxiliary Children & Youth Program to help children with comfort items and supplies.
- Where: Project Ruck Sack for our department will be held [location].
- When: Project Ruck Sack for our department will be held [date and time].
- Why: Fun activity for the Department of [state name] to support American Legion Auxiliary Children & Youth initiatives and to help children in the community.
- Bring: Gather items from the suggested list and bring them to your event. Together as a team, members will pack the bags and donate to local children.

TAKE PHOTOS, DOCUMENT, AND SHARE

Be sure to take pictures of your team in action working the American Legion Auxiliary mission and having fun. Document who was involved,

how many participated, and share to the official ALA Children & Youth Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/ALAChildrenandYouth. Send photos of your team in action to the national Children & Youth Committee chair at Children&Youth@ALAforVeterans.org.

DELIVER THE BAGS

You've assembled the team, hosted the event, packed the sacks, and now it's time to complete the project by delivering your bags to the kids. Help your assigned distribution team member(s) load up and head out. Make sure donations are delivered as promised and in a timely manner to recipients. The most important thing is that those who need your gifts receive them in good shape. Help get the sacks loaded into transport and distributed to your assigned outlets. Be sure to take pictures of your team in action.

A FINAL WORD...

Project Ruck Sack is a great opportunity to get your department active and engaged in supporting the initiatives of the ALA Children & Youth Program. Using ingenuity, organization, and a commitment to program initiatives, your department can play a role in making a difference for kids. If you have questions or need help, reach out to the national ALA Children & Youth Committee at Children&Youth@ALAforVeterans.org.





Education May 2026



The deadline for the Department of Arizona WILMA HOYAL-MAXINE CHILTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP is quickly approaching. One annual scholarship of \$3000.00 is available to a student at Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University and the University of Arizona enrolled as a second year or upper division student in Political Science, Public Programs or Special Education.

Any applicant must be a citizen of the United States and a resident of Arizona for at least one year. Honorably discharged veterans or immediate family members of a veteran will be given preference.

Applications must be sent to the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona Headquarters office by May 15.

Recipients will receive awards through the appropriate school offices for each academic year in the following manner: One half of the award will be made available to the recipient at the beginning of fall and spring semesters, dependent on proper enrollment with the university. Applicant must complete at least 12 hours with a grade average of "B" or better and be enrolled as a fulltime student.

Applications to apply for this scholarship can be found on the Department website. [Hoyal-Chilton Memorial Scholarship.pdf](#) Former recipients continuing degree programs as listed above may re-apply provided the applicant complies with rules and submits a new application.

Thank you to all the Unit Chairmen who turned in their year-end report by the May 1st deadline. I look forward to hearing how your Units promote the Auxiliary education programs throughout the school year, especially Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4-8.

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

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

 AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY

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

April 2026

Issue #8

FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE



MAY 4-8, 2026

Teacher appreciation week started as one day back in 1953 thanks to Eleanor Roosevelt. The Parent Teachers Association (PTA) elevated it to a week in 1984. This is an amazing opportunity for The American Legion Auxiliary to show teachers across the country how much they are valued. It is a wonderful way to honor educators for their lasting impact on student lives and the vital role they play in society.

Planning is important! Whether you plan something each day or focus on Teacher Appreciation Day (May 5, 2026) if you start now, you will be ready.

Contact the PTA President at the school to see if you can collaborate with them to reach more teachers.

Involve your juniors to make thank you cards, write letters to their teachers or make collages of fun events at the school. Post thank you notes on social media and tag schools with #Thankateacher or #Teacherappreciation.

If considering a gift card for teachers, consider cards that can be redeemed for items needed in their classrooms. Teachers often spend their own money to have supplies on hand for projects.

Like Veterans, teachers are frontline serving their community daily. Honoring teachers shows respect, appreciation and that the American Legion Auxiliary is here to help.

Submitted by Nancy Babis, Education Committee Member



View the webinar here -

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/online-training>



FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Education Dates

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

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

Purple Up for Military Kids - April 15

Teacher Appreciation Week - May 4-8, 2026

Department Chairman Reports due to Division Chairman May 15, 2026

Awards submissions due June 1, 2026

Q4 Zoom - Before National Convention



SCHOLARSHIPS



Thank you for your diligence supporting the four national scholarships. We had 1,086 scholarship applications this year!

- ❖ 901 Children of Warriors from 50 departments
- ❖ 60 Non-Traditional from 33 departments
- ❖ 73 Spirit of Youth from 26 departments
- ❖ 52 Member Loyalty from 27 departments



Thank you to all the Department contacts who attended the February 3 Webinar for judging scholarships.

Samsung Scholarship Essay Questions

Please share these essay questions with your eligible Girls/Boys State delegates to help them get a head start on the Samsung scholarship application.

Question 1: Share a memory or incident from your qualifying veteran and what impact it has had on your life.

Question 2: In celebration of our nation's 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Which of the signers of the Declaration of Independence would you like to sit down with, and what would you like to ask them?



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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

April 2026

Issue #8

FROM THE 2025-2026 NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

“NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY!”

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/ALAEducation/>



Delivering supplies, clothes, classroom materials and \$1,000 to the school on base at Fort Irwin, CA.

Canyon City, CA Unit 180



“Read Across America” was a success and great fun for our American Legion Auxiliary members and students at local elementary schools.

Loganville, GA Unit 233



Peoria, AZ Unit 62



"Adopt A Teacher" program - We were able to visit her classroom along with member Veterans, talk with the students and deliver items from her Classroom Wish List!

Windsor, CO Unit 109



April 2026

Dear Girls State Delegate Welcome:

This is the first Girls State mailing you will receive with information on the American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State Program. Further information on the Girls State Session, May 31st to June 7th, 2026, will be sent to you during the first week of May.

Check List for Information:



Please check your name and email address if you use a school account, we need a personal one. If you did not include a parent email, please do so. Please **confirm by email** if there is a spelling error, whether you have a new address and that you got this email. This information becomes the data base and will be used in the handbook and when sending you information. We want the information as accurate as possible and will track each girl's response. Send emails to ... registration@azgirlsstate.com...by **April 25th**.



In this packet you will find information to apply for the American Legion Samsung Scholarship. **If eligible**, please follow the directions and fill out the application completely. You will **bring a hard copy** of the completed application with you to Girls State. It is not mandatory that you apply for this scholarship to attend Girls State. **You need to start early as you will need to review the required documents and provide what is asked for in the instructions. Specifically, the requirement to submit a standardized weighted GPA and supporting documentation from school authorities.** This cannot be completed after **school is out**.



Some of you still have missing information (**shirt size...many of you have checked two sizes and you will only be given one size, questionnaire, checked boxes, signatures, social media policy, your picture or your fee amount**) your card is **INCOMPLETE** and cannot be processed fully. Please respond when called or emailed what is requested **ASAP** or before **April 25th** to assure you have a complete application. Most of you are complete and I have been working with schools and your parents to get needed information.

If needed--Please send missing information to:

Penny Maklary

1354 12th Street

Douglas, Arizona 85607 ahhpenny@aol.com 520-850-1951



Girls State Orientations will be held again this year. Orientations are highly recommended and for some Units mandated that you and a parent/guardian attend to fully understand the program, receive helpful information and be able to ask questions. If you are unable to attend, your parent/guardian or other family member may do so for you. Your Auxiliary Sponsoring Unit will invite you to attend and respond to number provided. Most of you in the Phoenix area are being contacted about the two that will be held in May. Other Orientation Area

dates are listed, and you will be notified by sponsoring Unit. If you are **not assigned** to a Unit, or have not been notified by May 1st, please call me (520-850-1951) or Department Headquarters (602-241-1080). All Orientations have the same material and information provided. We will have **parts** of the Orientation on the Girls State website at www.azgirlsstate.com **after May 29th** as refresher information only and too late for what has to be done before attending. That is why we ask you to open **immediately** any information sent to you. Alternates are asked to attend orientations in case they take the place of a delegate that is unable to attend. **Any updated information will be placed on the Girls State website.**



In your next packet there will be a health paper that needs to be filled out between **May 1st and May 30th**. This is not a physical but a well check-up (eyes-ears-nose-throat) to make sure you are able to attend. Prior sports physicals are not accepted unless they are done within the time frame required by our insurance. The health paper may be completed by any **certified health care provider**. It is a check-up not a complete physical. We suggest making an appointment now and not waiting. All information will be handed to one of the registered nurses we have on staff at registration. Please do not send in any health items. Nurses will call if there is a question from your application that needs to be met prior to Girls State.

Please use this check list to make sure you have all the needed information completed, emailed or returned by date required. Missing information could result in registration issues, hold-ups and incomplete data base used for elections and awards. Please make sure you open all emails from Girls State **immediately when received and respond accordingly and by deadlines**. Important information is always enclosed that will make the Girls State process go smoothly for you.

Please check the Arizona Girls State web site at www.azgirlsstate.org for latest and most current information on the program. It is currently under construction but will be up soon.

Thank you for your assistance, it makes a difference. Looking forward to meeting each of you at Girls State.....**THE BEST STATE IN THE LAND.**

Penny Maklary
American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State
Director

April 2026

Dear Girls State Delegates:

Worldwide electronics leader Samsung endowed a scholarship fund of \$5 million to be administered by the American Legion in 1996. As of 2025, Samsung Scholar ships have awarded more than \$7.6 million dollars to more than 2,618 individuals. These scholarships are derived from interest and other additions to the principal amount.

Only those individuals attending a American Legion Boy State or American Legion Auxiliary session are able to apply.

The 2026 Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program is ready for another great year. Proposed awards are:

- 10 \$10,000 National Scholarships (2 per region)
- 10 \$5,000 National Runner-ups (2 per region)
- Each Department winner will receive \$1,250

If you are a direct descendent (child, grandchild, great grandchild or legally adopted child of a US wartime veteran or person currently on active duty, you participate and complete the American Legion Auxiliary program, you are eligible to apply for this scholarship. It is not mandatory to apply, nor will it affect your attendance by not applying. During the application process you must upload verification of the veteran's pr active-duty person's service.

1. Go to www.legion.org
2. Drop down to Programs and pick up Scholarships
3. Click on Samsung Scholarship
4. This takes you to the online application and will walk you through the process
5. More information...scholarships@legion.org

You must complete and submit the online application with all required uploads prior to the first day of Girls State May 31st midnight. When prompted to do so on the web site, print a hard copy of the application with the uploads that will be presented at registration ONLY. The Department winner will be announced on June 7th. National winners will be announced in late September or early October.

Other information will be found on the included pages or by emailing the American Legion. Good luck to each of you that apply

SAMSUNG



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
SAMSUNG AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIP

This document answers many of the most frequently asked questions regarding the Samsung American Legion Scholarship.

Q: Is there a hard copy of the application available?

A: No. The application is completely contained within the online application system. Not only is this more efficient and secure, but it is also more environmentally friendly.

Q: Does an application have to be completed in one sitting?

A: No. In keeping with many college and career web-based systems, an applicant will create a user account and password on legion.org, which will allow the applicant to return to the application at various times, as they collect information and write well-informed essays. After your application is submitted, there can be no edits or added information.

Q: When will an applicant find out the status of their application after submission?

A: The applicant's American Legion Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program will make the announcement of the department winner prior to the end of the program. This is not a requirement, and some programs may inform their department nominee later. However, all programs must submit their nominees to National Headquarters by August 1st. As such, you may contact your Boys State or Girls State program after that date with any questions as to a particular applicant's status. National Samsung American Legion Scholars will be announced during the month of **October**. If an applicant has heard nothing by this time, their application did not make it past the first round of judging at the program level.

Q: How are applications judged? What is the process?

A: Initially, all applications are screened by judges at the program level. One person from each Boys State program and one person from each Girls State program are chosen as department finalists. These comprise a pool of 100 finalists from across the nation. A national panel of judges on the Committee of Youth Education decides the final winners. Regardless of the level, each applicant is assigned points for every part of their application based on a common, national rubric.

Q: Are letters of recommendation required?

A: Recommendation letters are not permitted in this scholarship application.

Q: When are decisions made on who is selected?

A: Unlike other scholarship funds at The American Legion, the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Endowment Fund is self-perpetuating. It is funded completely through interest earned from the principal. Due to market fluctuations and to be more precise yet expansive in scholarship distribution, the following award levels were adopted beginning with the 2017 award year:

- Ten national scholars receive \$10,000 each (two from each region)
- Ten national runners-up receive \$5,000 each (two from each region)
- Remaining department (state) finalists each receive \$1,250

Every applicant is encouraged to be very dedicated in time and effort while filling out the application, as ultimately, they are applying for a \$10,000 scholarship.

Q: What counts (and doesn't) as an "official record" of military service?

A:	ACCEPTABLE	UNACCEPTABLE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Form DD214 (Official discharge certificate) ➤ Official "Honorable Discharge" certificate ➤ Form DD1300 (Official military death certificate) ➤ Official record of burial in a military cemetery issued by the National Cemetery Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs ➤ Current or former military ID card ➤ Current or former LES (Leave and Earnings Statement) ➤ ANY OTHER DOCUMENT LISTED ON THE "Military Service Verification Documents List" (Link on the Samsung American Legion Scholarship homepage) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Any otherwise "acceptable" document that is illegible ➤ Obituaries ➤ Pictures of military headstones ➤ Pictures of servicemembers in uniform ➤ Entries in non-military and/or non-official records or books ➤ Membership cards from veteran's organizations ➤ VA Healthcare Cards

Q: Who is a "direct descendant"?

A direct descendant is the child, grandchild, great-grandchild, et cetera of a veteran. Stepchildren and adopted children ARE considered direct descendants. Any other relationship (e.g., siblings, cousins, aunts, and uncles) does not count as direct descendancy.

Q: Can I list more than one veteran on my application?

No. No credit is given for being the descendant of more than one veteran. However, if an applicant is the direct descendant of a Korean War veteran, it is advisable to use that person on your application. Whichever ancestor you choose, ensure you can provide acceptable documentation of their time in service.

Q: If I have a question about the acceptability of a document, who should I contact?

A: When an applicant questions the acceptability of any document, they should contact their Boys State or Girls State point of contact. The point of contact information is listed in the delegate packet or can be found at <https://www.legion.org/boysnation/websites>. If a program representative has questions about the acceptability of a document, they should contact ScholarshipFunds@legion.org.

Q: My school uses an embossed stamp; it does not seem to show up on a scan. What should I do?

A: You have a few options here. First, you may try to darken your scan by adjusting the scan density settings. Second, you may choose to shade over the embossed seal with a pencil (preferably) or a dark highlighter to bring out the indentation. If you are taking a picture of the document instead of scanning, you may try illuminating the picture from a particular direction to bring out the embossment. You could also shade the seal and take the picture after doing so.

Q: What happens to applications which were begun but not submitted at the start of a program?

A: Such applications are deleted from the system.

Q: For applications submitted but not chosen as department finalists, how are they dealt with?

A: Such applications will be available for viewing or downloading by the applicant or department until 1 November. On 1 November, the application system will be purged of all applications not selected as department/program finalists.

Q: Can I access my application after my Boys State or Girls State program starts?

A: You can only access your application until the start of your program. You will not be able to request a copy of your application after your program starts. Be sure to save your essays from your application on a storage device. Also, print out a copy of your complete application and all documents used.

Q: Can I bring documents to Boys State or Girls State to add to my application?

A: Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. on the first day of your respective programs, on the online application. No other form of submission is acceptable.

SCHEDULE OF GIRLS STATE ORIENTATIONS 2026

WE REQUEST THAT EACH DELEGATE TO GIRLS STATE (and a parent OR guardian) ATTEND ONE OF THE ORIENTATION SESSIONS THAT WE HOLD AROUND THE STATE.

DISTRICT 1

Yuma Area Schools sponsored by Unit 19

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

American Legion Post 19

2575 S. Virginia St.

Yuma, AZ 85364

Contact Sandie Deutsch 615-590-2726 sandiedeutsch@gmail.com

-OR-

Yuma Area Schools sponsored by Units 56 and 46

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026 11:00 AM

American Legion Post 56

1490 W. 3rd St.

Yuma, AZ 85364

Contact Barbara Whitney 602-326-2484 barbaraw527@icloud.com

DISTRICT 2

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026 11:00 AM

Tucson Schools...Sahuarita...Oro Valley...Marana...Vail

American Legion Post 36

5845 E. 22nd St.

Tucson, AZ 85711

Contact Jennifer Turner-Jones 520-475-9662 al36family@gmail.com

DISTRICT 3

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026 1:30 PM

Cochise County...Benson...Douglas...Tombstone...Sierra Vista

American Legion Post 45

150 W. 5th St.

Benson, AZ 85602

Contact Dolores Chavez 928-386-0841 cheebjejs@cox.net

-OR- Maggie Montijo 520-904-1814 maggiemontijo@gmail.com

DISTRICT 4

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026 3:00 PM

Coolidge...Florence...Casa Grande...San Tan Valley...Queen Creek...Maricopa...Blackwater

American Legion Post 54

408 N. Main

Coolidge, AZ 85128

Contact Becky Ruiz 520-723-7557 b13ruiz13@gmail.com

DISTRICT 5

Safford...Willcox...Morenci

SUNDAY APRIL 19, 2026, 2:00 PM

American Legion Post 32

531 - 11th Ave.

Safford, AZ 85546

Contact Kat Sticklin 928-322-1550 katsticklin2025@gmail.com

-OR-

Globe...Miami...San Carlos

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 1:00 PM

American Legion Post 4

645 S. Broad St.

Globe, AZ 85501

Contact Patty Nolan 928-812-3027 thenolans127@hotmail.com

DISTRICT 6

Show Low...Blue Ridge...Holbrook...Snowflake...Overgaard

Contact Robyn Hansen 602-999-3486 robyn.hansen@jrhie.com

OR Martha Raether 602-809-0972 orbitzbk@gmail.com

DISTRICT 7

Kingman Area

NO ORIENTATION SCHEDULED

DISTRICT 8

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Prescott...Prescott Valley...Bagdad...Sedona...Mayer

American Legion Post 25

480 S. Calvary Way

Cottonwood, AZ 86326

Contact Pam Diffin 928-301-4787 pamrcp@msn.com

DISTRICT 11 -- correction made on 4-15-2026

SATURDAY MAY 16, 2026

presentation begins at 11:00 AM

Phoenix West Valley...Peoria...Buckeye...Tolleson...Sunnyslope...Dysart...Willow Canyon

North West Schools...Surrounding Areas

American Legion Post 62

9847 W. Desert Cove Ave.

Peoria, AZ 85345

Contact Nicki Cruz 602-292-0960 noreennickerson@cox.net

DISTRICT 12

SUNDAY MAY 3, 2026

sign-in Noon to 12:30 pm, presentation begins at 12:30 pm

[Phoenix East Valley...Apache Junction...Fountain Hills...Chandler...Mesa...Gilbert...Tempe
Scottsdale...North East Schools...Surrounding Areas](#)

American Legion Post 27

1018 S. Meridian Rd.

Apache Junction, AZ 85220

Contact Cindy Queen 602-316-7647 cynqueen53@cox.net

Historian Report May 2026
By Stephanie McMullen – AZ Department Historian

ARE YOU READY?
HISTORY REPORTS WERE DUE MAY 1, 2026
HISTORY BOOK – Convention June 26 – 28, 2026

Year End Reports

Annual reports reflect the program work of units in the Department and may result in a national award for participants if award requirements are met.

History Awards are as follows:

Units History Awards

Helen Blakeslee to units with membership of 150 and under.
Betty Kent Plaque to units with membership of 151 and over.

Districts History Awards

The Rasmussen District History Plaque

Junior History Award

Connie Erickson Middlebrook Plaque – Junior History

You will find the History Annual Report Form on the website, along with the History Awards criteria. Let's make History 2025-2026.

**DEPARTMENT CONVENTION IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER AND I AM EXCITED TO
SEE ALL OF YOU AND YOUR BEAUTIFUL HISTORY BOOKS!!!!**

I want YOU
in the Department History
Be sure to post on Ring Your Bell
And send me your meeting minutes!

Stephanie McMullen
AZ Department Historian
historianaladepaz@gmail.com
(623) 910-4716

Leadership/Arizona Mission Training

May 2026

What a great year for the Department of Arizona programs. I see so many activities posted on social media that work the programs and support our veterans and our communities. All of our department chairman strongly encourages you to report those activities to the varied programs we support. This information then goes on to the national organization and yes, they love to hear from everyone.

May 1st has come and gone as you read this bulletin, we hope that many of you have sent in yearly reports and narratives for the Leadership awards. We thank you very much for your participation in this program and all programs!

Even though deadline is past for awards, you can still go ahead and sign up for some Academy, courses, registering is easy, can be done on social media as well as the national website. This can be reported in next years reports. They do not take much of your time and are always informative. Any questions, please contact me.

A huge thank you to our instructors and those who assisted in the trainings. Also, thank you to those who set them up and attendees. A well-educated member is a plus to all of our units! Keep encouraging your members and let them shine!! **And, give them recognition.** “Keep on Keeping On!”

Karen Smith, Chairman

ksmith111@cox.net

(520)249-1119

1133 Carmelita Drive

Sierra Vista, AZ

85635

Legislative Report – March-April 2026 Message

It's hard to believe we've already reached April. Last month, we reviewed how to complete the Legislative Report Form. This month, we're focusing on the next important step: how to write a strong narrative.

There are two award categories:

- Jessie Gribble Memorial Plaque – Units with membership of 151 and over
- Betty Kent Legislative Plaque – Units with membership of 150 and under

Before writing your narrative, the first step is to KNOW THE GUIDELINES. These are the standards used when judging.

Overall Narrative Rules

1. Word Limit: Unless otherwise noted, narratives must not exceed 1,000 words, excluding the cover page and the word count notation at the bottom.
2. Deadline: Narratives must be received by May 1st. If mailing, the postmark must be on or before May 1st.
3. Formatting: Narratives must be typewritten. Computer-typed pages are acceptable, but no color or special graphics are permitted.
4. Point of View: Narratives must be written in third person.

Replace these words:

- I, me, my, mine
- we, us, our, ours

With:

- the Chairman
- this Chairman

- the Unit
 - the Unit's
5. Cover Page: Include a cover page with:
- Name of the award
 - Unit name and number
 - Chairman's name and address
 - Date
 - Unit membership total at the time of writing
6. Spacing & Margins: Double-spaced with 1-inch margins on all sides.
7. Signatures: Both the Chairman and Unit President must sign the narrative.
8. Include Year-End Report Forms: Completed Year-End forms must accompany all narratives.
-

Legislative-Specific Rules

Some items may feel outdated (such as “The Dispatch”), but they remain part of the current scoring system. The intent is to ensure Units stay informed and engaged.

Scoring Breakdown

UNIT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- 15% – Subscriptions to *The Dispatch*
- 20% – Letters or telegrams to Congress
 - *Note: Email and VoterVoice actions also count.*
- 20% – Replies received and forwarded to the Department Legislative Chairman

- 20% – Special meetings with the Post and a speaker on legislation, open to the public
- 10% – Information shared with Unit members about the Legislative Program
- 5% – Contact with other organizations on legislative issues
- 5% – Radio, press, or other public outreach
- 5% – Special activities

I'll admit—even after reading these many times—there were a few items I had forgotten, like forwarding replies to the Department Legislative Chairman. 😊

As Always...

If you have questions at any time, please reach out. I'm only a phone call or email away.

A small pebble makes ripples reach far.

Kathy Amery

623-640-0134

alalegislativeaz@gmail.com

2025–2026 Legislative Chairman



2026 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Member Award: Recruit/Rejoin 10

- **Award:** Special gift selected by the National Membership Chairman
- **Presented to:** Members who recruit and/or rejoin 10 Senior and/or Junior members. Rejoined members must not have renewed since 2022 or earlier.
- **Deadline:** Members must be entered and paid in ALAMIS member database by June 1, 2026.
 - **FORMS** must be received at National HQ by June 6, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Form can be printed from the ALA national Membership Committee page of the national website (www.ALAforVeterans.org). You must be logged in to the *My Auxiliary* area to access the page.
 - One entry per recruiter.
 -

Member Award: Family 3

- **Award:** Special gift selected by the National President
- **Presented to:** Members who recruit 3 *New* Legion members, 3 *New* Auxiliary members & 3 *New* SAL members.
- **Deadline:** Members must be entered and paid in the database by June 1, 2026.
 - **FORMS** must be received at ALA National HQ by June 6, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Form can be printed from the ALA national Membership Committee page of the national website (www.ALAforVeterans.org). You must be logged in to the *MyAuxiliary* area to access the page.
 - One entry per recruiter.

Unit Award: 100% Unit Award

- **Award:** ALA Key Chain with phone stand and cleaner, 2 per unit for the unit president and unit membership chairman.
- **Presented to:** Units that reach 100% of their 2026 membership goal by January 31, 2026.
- **Deadline:** January 31, 2026
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - This award will be based on units that reach 100% of their reported goals by January 31, 2026 as verified by ALAMIS.

Note: Departments must submit unit goals to National Headquarters by September 1, 2025, to be eligible for the 100% Unit Award. These must be sent in a specific format which will be provided by NHQ. Key chains for winning units will be mailed to each department for distribution.

Unit Award: New Unit Award

- **Award:** Unit Guidebook & ALA National Constitution & Bylaws from Emblem Sales.
- **Presented to:** New units chartered between September 1, 2025 and July 31, 2026.
- **Deadline:** July 31, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - This award is automatically presented upon receipt and processing of new unit charter applications at National Headquarters.

Department Membership Goals: Department membership goals are based on each department's 2024 membership as of 12.31.2024 plus a percentage increase chosen by each department during the 2025 Department Leadership National Conference.

Department Award: 25% Award

- **Award:** \$25 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 25% of their 2026 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** SAL Birthday, September 15, 2025
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by September 15, 2025.

Department Award: 60% Award

- **Award:** \$60 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 60% of their 2026 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** ALA Birthday, November 10, 2025.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by November 10, 2025.

Department Award: 85% Award

- **Award:** \$85 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 85% of their 2025 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** TAL Birthday March 15, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by March 15, 2026.
 -

Department Award: 95% Award

- **Award:** \$95 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 95% of their 2026 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** Female Veterans Day June 12, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by June 12, 2026.

Department Award: 100% Award

- **Award:** \$250 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Any department that has reached 100% of their department goal.
- **Deadline:** Independence Day, July 4, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by July 4, 2026.

Department Award: 102% Award

- **Award:** \$500 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Any department that has reached 102% of their department goal.
- **Deadline:** 30 Days Prior to National Convention, August 1, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by August 1, 2026.

Department Award: 95% Retention Award

- **Award:** Citation Plaque
- **Presented to:** Any department that reaches 95% retention rate (includes renewals and rejoins)
- **Deadline:** 30 Days prior to National Convention, August 1, 2026
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALA MIS member database by August 1, 2026

Seating at National Convention: Seating at National Convention will be based on each department's percentage of their 2026 membership goal, from highest percentage to lowest.



2026: RECRUIT/REJOIN 10

Members who recruit and/or rejoin 10 junior or senior Auxiliary members for the 2026 membership year. Rejoins must not have paid membership dues since 2022 or earlier.

One entry per recruiter.

Certified forms must be received at ALA National Headquarters by June 6, 2026.
Please send this form to your department headquarters office no later than one week prior to the deadlines.

New members must be paid in ALAMIS by June 1, 2026.

ENTRY/CERTIFICATION FORM

Please type or print legibly and fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms may not be processed.

Recruiter's Name: _____ Member ID#: _____
 Recruiter's Department: _____ Unit #: _____ Email: _____
 Recruiter's Address: _____

Names of <u>New/Rejoined</u> Members	Member ID#	Names of <u>New/Rejoined</u> Members	Member ID#
1. _____	_____	6. _____	_____
2. _____	_____	7. _____	_____
3. _____	_____	8. _____	_____
4. _____	_____	9. _____	_____
5. _____	_____	10. _____	_____

Certified by Department Secretary: DATE: _____
 Department Secretary
 Printed Name: _____ Dept: _____
 Dept Secretary Signature (required): _____
***I certify that all 10 members are new or rejoined into the 2026 year.**
***I've provided or verified member ID numbers and that the form is filled out legibly and completely.**
DO NOT SEND INCOMPLETE FORMS or more than 1 form per recruiter.

Units: Send form to your department secretary.

Departments:

Please either scan and email to:
membership@ALAforVeterans.org
 (Subject line: Recruit 10/ Member Name & ID)

Or

Fax: (317) 569-4502 (Attn: Membership)

***Must be received at NHQ no later than midnight June 6, 2026.**

Each recruiter will receive a special gift selected by the 2026 National Membership Committee Chairman.
One award per recruiter.



FAMILY 3

Members who recruit 3 New Legion members, 3 New Auxiliary members and 3 New SAL members for the 2026 membership year.

One entry per recruiter.

**Certified forms must be received at ALA National Headquarters by June 6, 2026.
Please send this form to your department headquarters office no later than one week prior to the deadline.**

New members must be paid by June 1, 2026.

ENTRY/CERTIFICATION FORM

Please type or print legibly and fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms may not be processed.

Recruiter's Name: _____ Member ID#: _____
Recruiter's Department: _____ Unit #: _____ Email: _____
Recruiter's Address: _____

<u>Names of 3 New Auxiliary Members</u>	<u>Member ID#</u>	<u>Names of 3 New Legion Members</u>	<u>Member ID#</u>
1. _____		1. _____	
2. _____		2. _____	
3. _____		3. _____	

Auxiliary Unit Officer Signature - Verifying Membership

Legion Post Officer Signature - Verifying Membership

<u>Names of 3 New SAL Members</u>	<u>Member ID#</u>
1. _____	
2. _____	
3. _____	

SAL Squadron Officer Signature - Verifying Membership

**Forms must be signed by officers from
TAL, ALA & SAL to be valid.**

**Please email forms to
membership@alaforveterans.org**

Or

Fax: (317) 569-4502 (Attn: Membership)

Please do not send incomplete forms.

*Must be received at ALA NHQ no later than midnight June 6, 2026.

Each recruiter will receive a special gift selected by the 2026 National President. One award per recruiter.

April 3, 2026

Happy Friday!

We had a sloooowww week—three Districts had NO CHANGE in membership. Not one single member added in any of their Units. Remember: membership should be processed every single week!

We made some changes to the reporting to include separate numbers for new Unit 147 in Payson. They are rocking membership!

District 11 is at 99.33% of goal! Units 1 (Phoenix), Unit 12 (Wickenburg) and Unit 105 (Phoenix) all made significant progress this week helping to bring their District within a puff of meeting goal. Wickenburg joined the 100% Club!

Districts 1, 6, 8 and 12—I still have your bling poppies.... I'm hoping you will help me get them distributed to your District & Unit Membership Chairs. Got ideas about that?

Enjoy Easter, in your tradition, with friends and family. Marge

April 10, 2026

Hi All,

Please share these highlights with your Units:

- Springerville, Unit 30, (District 6) has reached 100%. Way to go!
- District 11 increased membership but remains a breath away from 100%!!! SO CLOSE!
- BIG shout-out to Black Canyon City, Unit 90 for processing transmittals every week! Got just one member to send in? THEY SEND IT! Thank you.
- Thank you Unit 6 for sending in your report (first one I've received)! For those of you struggling with renewals: after all other attempts failed, Unit 6 used the America 250 Post Cards to contact non-renewed members. They went from 80 non-renewed to 39. Postage is expensive, but if you do the math—the cost was repaid many times over. If you need Postcards, see attached form or contact Department at membership@aladepaz.org.
- Year end report form for membership is attached.
- DISTRICTS 1, 6, 8 and 12—I have your bling poppies. Please let me know how you'd like to receive them!

I'm looking forward to reading Unit reports—thank you District leadership for reminding Units of this important task.

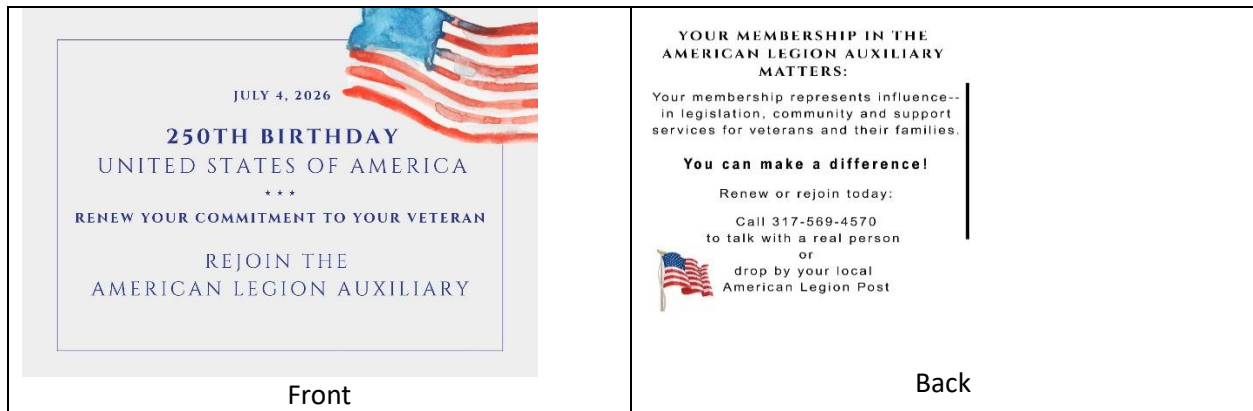
Have a great weekend,

Marge

***Marge Christianson
VP/Membership Chair
Department of Arizona
American Legion Auxiliary***

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
Membership Postcard ORDER FORM

- Renew/Rejoin Postcards will be available for distribution at Fall Conference. Each Unit will receive 5 free, additional postcards are available for \$2.50 per 25 cards.
- Order Postcards before September 30 to receive at Fall Conference and avoid postage costs.
- Orders received after September 30 will have cost of mailing added to the order. ORDER NOW!



Postcards are \$2.50 per 25 and must be ordered in increments of 25

Unit Name & number _____

Name of person to receive postcards _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip code _____ Phone _____

Number of postcards _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of AZ and mail the order form and check to:

ALA Dept. of AZ

4701 N. 19th Ave., Ste. 100

Phoenix, AZ 85015

Membership Report 2025-2026

Due May 1, 2026

Marge Christianson alaunit62az@gmail.com or 9611 W Bonita Ct, Sun City AZ 85373

Unit Name and Number: _____

Person completing form: _____ Email Address: _____

of Senior members _____ # of Junior members _____

RETENTION OF MEMBERS:

1. Please describe any Unit/Post membership renewal/rejoin incentives such as discounts, early bird rewards (dinner, drink coupon), prizes, event drives-- including which ones were most effective?
2. Please describe how your Unit reached out to members who did not renew -- via email, text, phone or mail? Did you send out any "America 250" postcards? Which efforts were most effective?
3. Please describe your most effective on-going efforts to engage Senior Members in the ALA mission:
4. Please describe your most effective on-going efforts to engage Junior members in the ALA mission:

RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS

1. Please describe any public event(s) where you recruited new members and if and why you found the effort worthwhile.
2. Please describe any recruitment efforts such as family & friends promotions, popular activities at Post home, Legion Family cross-recruitment etc. that you found effective.

Thank you for sharing information that will help other Units benefit from your experience!

April 17, 2026

Happy Friday!

Congratulations District 11 for reaching 100% of goal! Vice President Kathy Amery has done a super job motivating Units—and Units have met the challenge!!! Avondale, Unit 61 is the 5th Unit in District 11 to reach 100%. You are rockin' it!

Many other Units and Districts are poised to reach 100%. That means that every member “renewed” or “new” brings us one step closer to reaching our goal. Stick with it. As I am receiving year-end membership reports, Units are reporting that after calling/texting members, their last resort to mail members is having a good effect. One Unit reported that half of those who were mailed 1 or 2 postcards did in fact renew. Postcards are still available via Department.

Junior members renewals are lagging well behind our senior member renewals. Right now, 1 in 3 Junior members that we paid in 2025 have not renewed for 2026. Let's not lose our future!

I'm looking forward to visits at District 7 and District 12 to deliver bling poppies!!!

Have a great weekend,

Marge

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

April 24, 2026

Hello Membership Team,

PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR UNIT PRESIDENTS & UNIT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRS:

● **Processing membership—and checking to make sure all members are processed correctly-- is a critical step!** Processing new and reconciling submitted transmittals should be done weekly. Don't let things pile up—it will only cause you more effort and potentially cause problems for your members. For example, national periodically sends out email blasts encouraging renewals—if your member has renewed and you didn't process it, they get a notice that only causes issues.

● **Don't forget about your Junior members.** Remember, they do not get renewal notices—so they may take extra effort to remind. In mid-June a mailing is planned that will include a notice to those not paid for 2026. Be sure to process any “gift” memberships prior to that time. The per capita cost for Junior members is \$4.00.

AND NOW THE STANDINGS:

● Arizona is holding **3rd place across the nation**. Let's keep the momentum going—every member brings us closer to reaching our goal.

● **Not only is District 11 a “silly millimeter longer” at 101%, DISTRICT 1 has joined the 100% Club!** Baby Unit 113 in Quartzsite added 7 members to push the District to 100.30%. Every member counts.

● **Congratulations to Unit 86 Heber Overgaard and Unit 58 Fountain Hills-- both joined the 100% club this week!**

● **District 7 and 6 are neck in neck at 98.71% and 98.34%.** Between them, 32 more members puts them at 100%.

● **Nearly every District improved this past week.** We appreciate the effort it takes.

And finally, year-end reports are coming in. Amazing correlation between Units doing well and the level of effort demonstrated in their report. I can see the passion! From Unit 6 who is at 112%: “I emailed, texted and made phone calls for renewals, plus after January sent out Post cards. I had 80 some renewals and after 2 postcards, I'm down to only 39 renewals”. I LOVE THE DEDICATION & PERSISTENCE!

Have a great weekend!

Marge

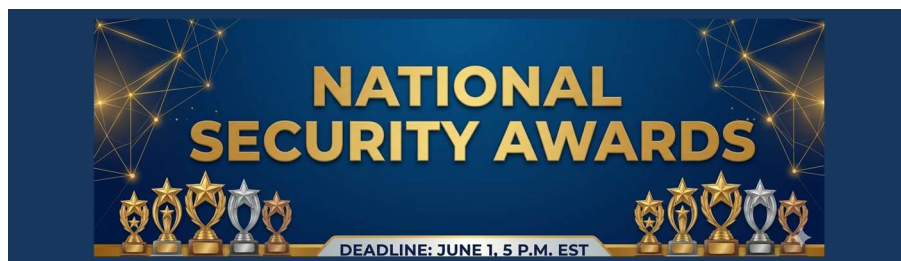
Marge Christianson
VP/Membership Chair
Dept of Arizona
American Legion Auxiliary
(763) 234-9852

MEMBERSHIP STANDINGS APRIL 24, 2026, with 4-20 comparison

		UNIT	CITY	OBJECTIVE	JUNIOR	SENIOR	TOTAL	PERCENT 4/24/26	PERCENT 4/17/26
		0100	Phoenix	140	3	149	152	108.57%	108.57%
		Total		140	3	149	152	108.57%	108.57%
	Total			140	3	149	152	108.57%	108.57%
01		0019	Yuma	182	7	181	188	103.30%	102.75%
		0046	Bouse	63	1	64	65	103.17%	103.17%
		0056	Yuma	72	1	60	61	84.72%	84.72%
		0113	Quartzsite	13	0	17	17	130.77%	76.92%
		Total		330	9	322	331	100.30%	97.88%
	Total			330	9	322	331	100.30%	97.88%
02		0007	Tucson	46	1	34	35	76.09%	76.09%
		0036	Tucson	243	2	235	237	97.53%	96.71%
		0059	Tucson	127	5	114	119	93.70%	92.91%
		0066	Green Valley	883	0	840	840	95.13%	94.56%
		0068	Tucson	56	3	49	52	92.86%	92.86%
		0073	Tucson	25	1	15	16	64.00%	64.00%
		0109	Vail	440	8	414	422	95.91%	94.32%
		0125	Tucson	15	1	13	14	93.33%	93.33%
		0131	Green Valley	601	0	571	571	95.01%	95.01%
		0132	Oro Valley	77	2	66	68	88.31%	88.31%
		Total		2513	23	2351	2374	94.47%	93.87%
	Total			2513	23	2351	2374	94.47%	93.87%
03		0011	Douglas	116	4	123	127	109.48%	109.48%
		0016	Bisbee	48	0	44	44	91.67%	91.67%
		0024	Tombstone	450	11	418	429	95.33%	94.67%
		0045	Benson	45	4	43	47	104.44%	104.44%
		0052	Sierra Vista	183	0	133	133	72.68%	72.68%
		0141	Pearce	20	0	22	22	110.00%	110.00%
		Total		862	19	783	802	93.04%	92.69%
	Total			862	19	783	802	93.04%	92.69%
04		0008	Casa Grande	27	1	28	29	107.41%	107.41%
		0009	Florence	191	0	106	106	55.50%	55.50%
		0051	Coolidge	72	11	60	71	98.61%	98.61%
		0054	Coolidge	81	1	73	74	91.36%	90.12%
		0129	Queen Creek	31	1	27	28	90.32%	90.32%
		0133	Maricopa	23	2	23	25	108.70%	108.70%
		Total		425	16	317	333	78.35%	78.12%
	Total			425	16	317	333	78.35%	78.12%

05		0004	Globe	42	2	30	32	76.19%	76.19%
		0028	Clifton	89	2	80	82	92.13%	92.13%
		0032	Safford	139	0	144	144	103.60%	103.60%
		0095	Solomon	82	6	75	81	98.78%	98.78%
		Total		352	10	329	339	96.31%	96.31%
	Total		352	10	329	339	96.31%	96.31%	
06		0030	Springerville	94	1	93	94	100.00%	100.00%
		0037	Holbrook	36	0	31	31	86.11%	86.11%
		0069	Payson	112	0	95	95	84.82%	84.82%
		0086	Overgaard	468	11	457	468	100.00%	99.15%
		0147	Payson	13	1	22	23	176.92%	169.23%
		Total		723	13	698	711	98.34%	97.65%
	Total		723	13	698	711	98.34%	97.65%	
07		0003	Flagstaff	68	3	64	67	98.53%	92.65%
		0013	Williams	74	3	62	65	87.84%	87.84%
		0014	Kingman	131	5	119	124	94.66%	93.13%
		0022	Golden Valley	146	4	128	132	90.41%	89.04%
		0042	Grand Canyon	42	5	34	39	92.86%	92.86%
		0057	Ash Fork	68	2	64	66	97.06%	97.06%
		0081	Lake Havasu City	759	4	708	712	93.81%	92.62%
		0087	Bullhead City	124	3	173	176	141.94%	141.13%
		0088	Dolan Springs	39	0	53	53	135.90%	135.90%
		0103	Meadview	53	0	64	64	120.75%	120.75%
		0123	Seligman	35	0	21	21	60.00%	60.00%
		0136	Yucca	15	2	13	15	100.00%	100.00%
	Total		1554	31	1503	1534	98.71%	97.55%	
	Total		1554	31	1503	1534	98.71%	97.55%	
08		0006	Prescott	304	6	334	340	111.84%	111.84%
		0025	Cottonwood	336	6	284	290	86.31%	86.31%
		0040	Chino Valley	97	0	91	91	93.81%	92.78%
		0078	Humboldt	148	1	125	126	85.14%	85.14%
		0079	Yarnell	172	0	155	155	90.12%	90.12%
		0090	Black Canyon City	65	1	63	64	98.46%	98.46%
		0093	Camp Verde	117	0	99	99	84.62%	84.62%
		0108	Prescott Valley	31	3	27	30	96.77%	96.77%
		0135	Cornville	42	6	31	37	88.10%	88.10%
		0140	Prescott Valley	17	4	4	8	47.06%	47.06%
		Total		1329	27	1213	1240	93.30%	93.23%
	Total		1329	27	1213	1240	93.30%	93.23%	

11	0001	Phoenix	114	1	105	106	92.98%	92.98%
	0005	Phoenix	61	1	63	64	104.92%	101.64%
	0012	Wickenburg	219	1	218	219	100.00%	100.00%
	0029	Glendale	240	8	205	213	88.75%	88.33%
	0053	Buckeye	38	0	42	42	110.53%	110.53%
	0061	Avondale	239	2	242	244	102.09%	100.42%
	0062	Peoria	1122	18	1181	1199	106.86%	106.86%
	0105	Phoenix	299	10	267	277	92.64%	92.64%
	0115	Glendale	37	4	31	35	94.59%	94.59%
	0145	Peoria	25	0	19	19	76.00%	56.00%
	Total		2394	45	2373	2418	101.00%	100.50%
Total		2394	45	2373	2418	101.00%	100.50%	
12	0002	Tempe	101	0	84	84	83.17%	83.17%
	0026	Mesa	251	1	210	211	84.06%	84.06%
	0027	Apache Junction	2039	11	2006	2017	98.92%	98.48%
	0034	Cave Creek	318	1	291	292	91.82%	88.99%
	0035	Chandler	295	5	277	282	95.59%	95.25%
	0039	Gilbert	636	13	605	618	97.17%	96.70%
	0041	Phoenix	351	11	313	324	92.31%	92.02%
	0044	Scottsdale	314	0	281	281	89.49%	86.94%
	0058	Fountain Hills	411	5	406	411	100.00%	99.51%
	0064	Phoenix	16	0	15	15	93.75%	93.75%
	0065	Phoenix	358	22	297	319	89.11%	89.11%
	0084	Sacaton	60	5	45	50	83.33%	83.33%
	0091	Chandler	308	24	332	356	115.58%	113.96%
	0107	Phoenix	215	4	234	238	110.70%	108.37%
	0114	Scottsdale	9	1	8	9	100.00%	100.00%
	0117	Phoenix	243	2	200	202	83.13%	83.13%
	0124	Guadalupe	29	5	35	40	137.93%	137.93%
0138	Mesa	138	2	108	110	79.71%	73.19%	
Total		6092	112	5747	5859	96.18%	95.32%	
Total		6092	112	5747	5859	96.18%	95.32%	
Total	Total	16714	308	15786	16094	96.29%	95.60%	



Submitted by National Chairman: Norma Tramm

Most important, all award entries must be submitted via the **electronic form** by 5 p.m. EST on June 1.

All award submissions must use:

National Awards Form Link: <https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Awards-Form>

Note: You will receive confirmation when your award is submitted.

Award submissions become the property of the American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters. Through submission of reports and award entries, the submitter grants nonexclusive reproduction and publication rights to the materials submitted and agrees to have their names and submission published for ALA use or commercial use without additional compensation or permission.

- Photos should be in a high-resolution format (at least 300 DPI) or sent using the high-resolution option on your smartphone. When emailing the photo, select “actual size” for attaching to the email.
- When possible, include photos of actual events

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit National Security Program (per division)

- Share everything you did to support the National Security mission this year.
- Provide details/examples about the activity. Be sure to include specific information such as who is pictured and the members/volunteers that assisted in the activity or activities.
- How did you promote the American Legion Auxiliary’s Salute to Servicemember Award or the Warrior Wednesday submission?
- Please fill out the information as completely and accurately as possible. Award certificates will be completed using the information given, so please be sure to complete the electronic form in its entirety.

Department Award: Dorothy Pearl Best Department National Security Award (per division)

GREAT NEWS – Department Chairs you can submit the department award for National Security and if you do this on or before May 15, 2026, it will also count as your year-end report. One and done!!

What to include in your Award submission and/ or year-end report.

Department chairs’ reports share the positive impact of our mission! They help us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

Just three simple steps are needed to add your part to our national success story:

1. Department reports are limited to 1,000 words.
2. Provide details/examples about the activity. Be sure to include specific information such as unit name and number.
3. Submit your department chair report to your division and national chair with photos by email by May 15.
4. Photos of actual events.
 - The request for photos is important for our national chairs to highlight members serving our mission.

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:

- How have you supported military service members and/or their families?
- How have you collaborated with other like-minded organizations (ASYMCA, Blue Star Families, Quilts of Valor, USO, etc.) that also support servicemembers and their families?
- How have you raised awareness of POW/MIAs and the work being performed by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in the search for missing personnel?
- How have you supported those families whose servicemembers made the ultimate sacrifice?
- What CERT training has your department accomplished this year?
- What did you do to promote the American Legion Auxiliary’s Salute to Servicemember Award?

Please fill out the information as completely and accurately as possible. Award certificates will be completed using the information given, so please be sure to complete the electronic form in its entirety.

Salute to Servicemembers Award

National Vice Chair Jammie Phillips oversees this award and has information shared in this newsletter. Don’t wait to apply, do this now!!

#RED FRIDAY

Submitted by Pam Seelye, Western Division Chair

Have you ever walked into an event or a gathering and seen a room filled with people wearing red? Did it make you take a second look, and did it fill you with pride to know that all that red is in honor of our military?

Remember Everyone Deployed (also known as **RED** or **Red Friday**) is a concept of honoring United States military service members currently deployed. The term describes civilian and military families' efforts to show their support for those deployed.

But have you wondered how this movement of wearing Red on Friday came about?

It isn't easy to pin down the beginning of RED Friday.

There are different accounts of how the tradition of wearing red on Fridays began. One story suggests that an email was circulated urging people to wear an article of red clothing on Fridays and to share the email with friends and family. Others believe that Canadians started this RED Friday tradition to show their support for soldiers. Regardless of its origins, this tradition was embraced by people in the United States, who continue to promote it even today.

Anyone can be a part of RED Friday. Wear a red T-shirt, tie, scarf, or barrette. Anything red will show your support. You can also purchase RED Friday shirts at The American Legion Flag and Emblem Sales <https://emblem.legion.org/>

Remember, you can encourage others to participate in the tradition of wearing red to show support for our troops. RED Friday is for everyone. You don't need to have a military connection or be part of the military community; you just need to be a proud American who wants to support those defending our country. Wearing red serves as a personal visual statement, expressing solidarity with those serving both at home and overseas and reminding them that they are not forgotten. It also reassures families that their loved ones are remembered by all of us.

Every Friday, proudly put on your RED to remember our military personnel and their commitment to each of us and our country.

References: redfridays.org, Wikipedia

American Legion Auxiliary Salute to Servicemembers Award

<https://member.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicemembers-Award-Form>

The American Legion Auxiliary has officially opened nominations for the **2026 ALA Salute to Servicemembers Award**, an annual honor presented at National Convention to recognize up to seven outstanding servicemembers — one from each branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserve. The award highlights individuals who stand out among their peers and make meaningful contributions both in and beyond their military careers.

Any ALA member, Unit, or Department may submit a nomination, allowing nominators to tell the story of why their chosen servicemember exemplifies exceptional service and community impact. Requirements are intentionally simple — a narrative of up to 1,000 words, a photo (preferably an official DoD image), and an endorsement from the nominee's command group.

Nominations are open now through **June 1, 2026**, and the online form is currently live. This award reflects the ALA's mission of honoring those who serve and strengthening communities through recognition, advocacy, and service. If your newsletter readers know a servicemember who goes above and beyond, this is their chance to help shine a spotlight on that dedication.

For more information, visit the ALA National Security Facebook Page and review the file Salute to Servicemember Informational Handout, or reach out to any of your National Security Committee members.

Armed Services YMCA

Submitted by Jane McKnight - Southern Division Chair

Did you know that there is an ASYMCA? This stands for the Armed Services YMCA. The organization's mission is to enhance the lives of military members and their families in spirit and mind through their programs relevant to the unique challenges of military life. The USYMCA operates programs and services to lighten the burden of military families and single service members who are currently serving, and emphasizes junior enlisted personnel. They work with installation leaders to ensure a network of support for military families at 95 installations across the country.

This collaboration allows the organization to identify and address gaps in services that pose a hardship to service members and their families, which can negatively affect mission readiness. From Child & Youth programs, Assistance & Support Programs, and Recognition and Appreciation Programs, the ASYMCA has our heroes six!

For more information and resources: <http://www.asymca.org/>

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

May 2026

By 2nd Vice – Lynda Griffin



**NATIONAL VETERANS
CREATIVE ARTS COMPETITION**

**Phoenix VA 20th Annual
CREATIVE ARTS
Festival 2026**

**Event Date: Thursday May 7, 2026
10:00 AM – 01:00 PM**

**This event will take place at the Carl T. Hayden VA Center in the Topaz
Clinic (Basement level – Ambulatory Care Clinic Building)**

Thank You! Thank You!

It is an honor to express my deepest gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your 2nd Vice President. It has been a true honor, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your trust and support.

I would like to extend a special thank you to all of the Chairmen and volunteers under Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) for your incredible dedication. I am truly grateful for the hard work of our veterans across all locations:

- **Creative Arts:** Anita Ritter (Phoenix), Sally Fine (Prescott), and Theresa Marks (Tucson).
- **Service to Veterans:** Sara Decker.
- **VAMC Facilities:** Sabina Iniguez (Phoenix) and Trish Aljets (Tucson and Prescott).
- **State Homes:** Candy Neagle (Phoenix), Nancy Morrow (Tucson), Lojray Alvarez (Flagstaff), and Trish Aljets (Prescott). Gift Shops: Viki Jackson (Phoenix), Melani Pyland (Tucson), and Trish Aljets (Prescott)
- **Gift Shops:** Viki Jackson (Phoenix), Melani Pyland (Tucson), and Trish Aljets (Prescott)

You have all done an awesome job. To our chairmen and our wonderful volunteers: Thank you for everything you do and continue to do to support our veterans.



Report Deadline – May 1, 2026

Again I want to thank you for the fantastic job you have done throughout the year serving our Veterans and their families. It has been a pleasure meeting so many incredible veterans and dedicated volunteers alongside you.

As we approach the end of the year, I am sending a friendly reminder that your final reports are due by May 1, 2026. Please ensure all your data and highlights are captured so we can reflect your hard work in our final end-of-year report.

Thank you for your continued commitment and for getting these submitted on time.

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.

Arizona State Veterans Home- Phoenix
Birthday list May-- July 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)

May:

4-Edward N
13- Carroll B.
15- Gabriel G.
17- David D.
20- Bernard G.
26- Douglas C.
31 Cecil B.

June:

1-Robert S.
3- Thomas R.
2- John Q
25-Mark C

July

4- Ken S
20-Dustin M.
21-Henry S.
21- Arthur N.
22- Bert L.
23- James K.
24 Tom K.
26 Adam R.
29 David F.
29 William F.

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

[View as Webpage](#)

ALA eNEWS: *CONNECTING WITH YOU MONTHLY*



APRIL 2026

Honoring female veterans with ALA-sponsored Lone Eagle Honor Flight

This month, female veterans will be flying from nationwide to Washington, D.C. to be recognized for their military service and visit various memorials and monuments through an ALA-sponsored Lone Eagle Honor Flight.

A Lone Eagle flight differs from a traditional Honor Flight where veterans leave and arrive on the same flight, by ensuring all eligible veterans can participate in the experience, regardless of their geographic location.

The sponsored flight came from the ALA and Honor Flight Inc.'s formal partnership in 2021 to help support Honor Flight Inc.'s mission of celebrating America's veterans by inviting them to a special day of honor at our nation's memorials and monuments. The official collaboration allows units and departments to directly donate funds generated from poppy distributions to Honor Flight hubs.

ALA National President Pam Ray formed a sentimental attachment to the Honor Flight program after attending a flight with her father, a U.S. Army veteran, in 2010. The genuine connection with Honor Flight's mission helped inspire this ALA-sponsored flight.



National President Pam Ray's message about the ,

AmericanLegionAux



Watch on

Stay updated on this all-female veteran Lone Eagle Honor Flight through our social media:

Make sure you're connected to our social media accounts for updates on this historic ALA experience:

- Facebook: [@ALAforVeterans](#)
- Instagram: [@ALAforVeterans](#)

Read more about this upcoming flight on the [ALA blog!](#)

Get packing for Project Ruck Sack

The ALA's Project Ruck Sack program is a perfect opportunity for Auxiliary volunteers to connect with youth in their communities. This ALA Children & Youth initiative aims to make a positive difference in children's lives by putting together comfort items, toys, and supplies for community youth and including the items in ALA drawstring bags in two cool designs. Place orders in quantities of 10, 25, or 50. Order [here!](#)



Need ideas on how to organize for this project? [Go to this how-to flyer.](#)

Ready, set, poppy! It's time to get active for National Poppy Day®

To honor those who have served and died for the United States, The American Legion Family petitioned Congress for National Poppy Day®. Celebrated Friday prior to Memorial Day, the Legion Family honors the sacrifices of our servicemembers and

veterans by wearing a red poppy. The poppy has been recognized and worn by Americans as a symbol of sacrifice since World War I.

National Poppy Day® is May 22 this year. Leading up to this significant day, a virtual 5K will happen throughout the month to raise awareness and support.

ALA members are encouraged to participate however they're able to: walking, running, swimming, biking, etc.! Be creative!



To participate, make an encouraged \$25 donation to your local unit or state department Poppy Fund. Complete the 5K (3.1 miles) in whatever activity you choose between May 1-22. Be sure you're branded, wear your poppy gear, and take loads of pictures!

Registration closes April 30. For the first **700 registrants**, race medals are available. To register, go [here](#)!

Don't forget to post and share in the [American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program Facebook group](#).

Email high-resolution, actual-size pictures to Poppy@ALAforVeterans.org. Once you've emailed, you will receive a certificate of completion to fill out and print.

Keep an eye on our ALA social media accounts @ALAforVeterans for more about the 5K! Let's make this an unforgettable National Poppy Day!

To learn more about National Poppy Day®, go [here](#)!

To read more about the National Poppy Day® Virtual 5K, go to the [ALA blog](#)!

Unlock the full potential of your ALA membership with these upcoming ALA Academy webinars

Building a Strong Membership Strategy — Engagement, Retention, and Year-Round Planning

When: April 14 @ 7 p.m. ET

Looking for fresh ideas to strengthen membership in your unit beyond “dues time”? In this ALA Academy Live webinar, ALA national membership leaders share practical strategies to help units engage members year-round, improve retention, and build a welcoming culture focused on mission and connection.

[Register here!](#)

Promoting The American Legion Legislative Priorities and Engaging ALA Members in Local Advocacy

When: April 21 @ noon ET

Learn about The American Legion’s current legislative agenda priorities and how ALA volunteers can amplify and support those priorities on a local level. In this ALA Academy Live webinar, member and community engagement in advocacy efforts utilizing the Grassroots Action Center will be discussed, as well as understanding the importance of grassroots efforts in affecting change. Use this webinar to help explore ways to motivate and educate members on legislative issues.

[Register here!](#)

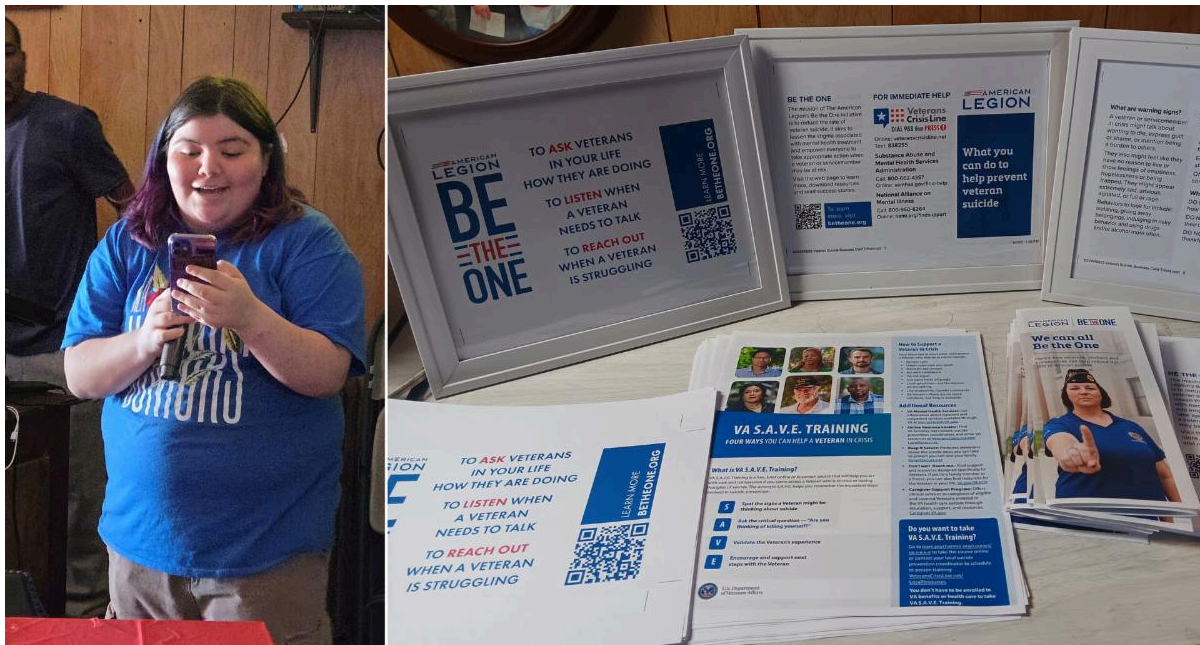
Celebrating America's 250th Birthday

When: May 12 @ noon ET

Who doesn’t love a birthday celebration? This July 4, America is celebrating its semi-quincentennial — its 250th birthday! Join us as we commemorate our nation’s past and its future. Happy birthday, America!

[Register here!](#)

ALA Junior member organizes Be the One fundraiser



American Legion Auxiliary Junior member Elizabeth Carmichael hoped to raise \$300 during her March 29 fundraiser to promote The American Legion’s Be the One veteran suicide prevention program.

But the 15-year-old member of unit 716 in Los Alamitos, Calif., blew past that goal. Carmichael’s fundraiser has raised more than \$1,200 for Be the One, a cause that is special for someone who has been active in The American Legion Family for years.

To read more, go [here!](#)

There's still time to join and be active in the USA 250 Challenge

Join this challenge culminating with America's birthday on July 4. 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](#).



With the end of the challenge drawing near, there's still time to make a difference. American Legion National Commander Dan Wiley is calling on The American Legion Family and friends of the Legion Family to raise \$150,000 in donations through the USA 250 Challenge to serve our servicemembers, veterans, and their families.

These funds can be used to help deliver grants to military and veteran parents who face unexpected financial hardships that threaten the stability of their homes and fund training for accredited American Legion service officers who are continuously working more than 750,000 benefits claims for disabled veterans and their families, free of charge.

Read more [here!](#)

Special awards are available for fundraising

To keep the USA 250 momentum going, awards are available for those who hit certain fundraising goals with three fundraising tiers:

- For \$250 in donations raised, participants receive a USA 250 Challenge hat pin.
- For \$500 in donations raised, participants receive a USA 250 Challenge coin and a personalized certificate of appreciation.

For \$2,500 in donations raised, participants receive a personalized plaque signed by American Legion National Commander Wiley.

MEMBER BENEFITS



**PARTNERSHIP EXPANSION
ANNOUNCEMENT**

ALA National Headquarters is expanding its partnership with SmileAssociate to give

ALL ALA ENTITIES

a new opportunity to raise funds through everyday Amazon shopping.

SmileAssociate benefit expansion to directly support local ALA entities

The American Legion Auxiliary is expanding its partnership with SmileAssociate to give departments, districts, counties, councils, and units a new opportunity to raise funds through everyday Amazon shopping. Each participating ALA entity can now have its own SmileAssociate page, allowing supporters to shop in a way that directly benefits their local Auxiliary programs at no additional cost to them. ALA National Headquarters will provide oversight, quarterly reporting, and support to help drive participation across the organization. Watch for additional details on how your ALA entity can enroll and begin turning routine shopping into meaningful support for our mission. Initial questions can be directed to ALA National Headquarters' Development Division Director Carley Schutz at cschutz@ALAforVeterans.org.



In 2025, American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters awarded \$529,168 to 274 ALA members who were recovering from a natural disaster or facing financial hardship. This assistance was only made possible with your support.

Last year, we gave
\$529,168



In 2025, American Legion National Headquarters awarded \$529,168 to 274 ALA members who were recovering from a natural disaster or facing financial hardship. This assistance can only continue with your support.

Your gift to AEF ensures we have the resources to create impact today and sustain our mission into the future. Text AEF to 1-844-940-3450 or visit <https://donate.legion-aux.org/AEF>.

Introducing FLAGS OF VALOR



The ALA is proud to partner with Flags of Valor, a veteran-owned company creating handcrafted patriotic pieces made in the USA by skilled veterans and artisans. ALA members receive 10% off with code ALA10, and 15% of each purchase supports ALA programs serving veterans, military families, and communities. Shop with purpose and give back by visiting <https://www.flagsofvalor.com/>.

Simplify Your Shipping with ShipThrifty



ShipThrifty.com
Save time, money, & hassles!



ShipThrifty.com makes it easy to create and print shipping labels for care packages of any size. American Legion Auxiliary members can save up to 60% on shipping, skip long lines, and securely manage addresses, all with free tools designed for military support efforts.


Create your free account at ShipThrifty.com/rf/ALA or use code **ALA** at sign-up.



Wellcare is proud to be the exclusive Medicare Advantage plan provider for The American Legion Family

You know the value of a trusted partner, and so do we. That's why Wellcare is proud to serve as the Auxiliary's exclusive Medicare Advantage plan provider. Our plans offer \$0 or low monthly plan premiums and go beyond Original Medicare, providing you more benefits you may need — like dental, vision, hearing, benefits and prescription drug coverage while also complementing your existing VA coverage. In addition, we offer My Wellcare Rewards, a program that pays you for your healthy choices. Complete an eligible activity and get rewarded with funds you may redeem toward your Auxiliary membership dues.

Call now.

 866-224-1991 (TTY: 711)
8 a.m.-8 p.m., 7 days a week

 ala.wellcare.com

 AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY



If you have Medicare and Medicaid, limited income, recently lost employer coverage, are turning 65, or you've just moved, you may be eligible for one of many qualifying events that allow you to enroll now.

GOOD TO KNOW

Keep your eyes peeled for the May *Auxiliary* magazine! The May edition of our national quarterly magazine is heading to mailboxes in late April and early May. A digital copy will be available on [our website](#). Send us your thoughts on this issue: Email PR@ALAforVeterans.org.

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

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



ALA COMMITTEE FACEBOOK GROUPS ENCOURAGE DISCUSSION

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

ON THE ALA BLOG

Planning for National Poppy Day

Guest blog post by National Poppy Committee Chair Karen Toll

[Read more](#)



Purple Star Schools program is a great ALA resource

Guest blog post by National Education Committee Member Nancy Babis

[Read more](#)



SAVE THE DATE



April: Month of the Military Child
April: Children & Youth Month
April: National Volunteer Month
April 9: National Former POW Recognition Day
April 19-25: National Volunteer Week
April 14: Air Force Reserve Birthday
April 22: Earth Day
April 23: Army Reserve Birthday
April 25: American Legion Family Day
May 1: Silver Star Banner Day
May 8: Military Spouse Appreciation Day
May 8: VE Day (Victory in Europe Day)
May 10: Mother's Day
May 13: Children of Fallen Patriots Day

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

“I went on an Honor Flight with my mother, a World War II Army nurse. Our local Auxiliary donated to her trip. She was a dual member of The American Legion. Wonderful trip, especially as a woman vet. They were not always recognized.”

— Cathy Buxengard, Minnesota

LEGION FAMILY NEWS

American Legion Riders escorting U.S. flag from Pittsburgh to U.S. capital to celebrate USA 250th

As a part of the United States' 250th birthday, Riders will escort the flag in a one-day trip to Washington, D.C. This flag will have traveled to 26 countries, being flown over U.S. military memorials and cemeteries under the American Battle Monuments Commission's guard. This escort is the final leg in its international tour, Sojourn 250.

Sojourn 250 is looking for 275 riders, and registration will close once that number is hit. There's a registration fee of \$250 per rider and \$50 for passengers. Registration is only online. To register to be one of the escorts, click [here](#). To learn more, go [here](#). If you have any questions, email legionriders@legion.org with the subject line Sojourn 250.

Freshen up your “Old Glory” through Emblem Sales

With America's 250th approaching slowly but surely, check out American Legion Flag & Emblem Sales' U.S. flag varieties to rep the good ole' Red, White, and Blue. Check out what the nation's No. 1 U.S.-made American flags and flag accessories supplier has to offer. To see the catalogue, click [here](#).

Emblem Sales offers **stick flags**, a perfect party favor for parades and Independence Day. These Stars and Stripes are also perfect lawn accessories and are great to use for the **America250's America Waves initiative**. America Waves calls upon Americans everywhere to wave a U.S. flag in unison on the nation's 250th birthday. If you're a history buff, or just need educational materials, Emblem Sales also has various **historical flags**.

Visit the Emblem Sales online store at emblem.legion.org.

Pop in your headphones and listen to The American Legion podcast *Tango Alpha Lima*

This podcast aims to engage veterans and The American Legion Family with authentic stories, education, and entertainment, while also building a virtual community. Available on various listening platforms, such as **Spotify**, **YouTube**, **Amazon Music**, **Apple Podcasts**, and **iHeartRadio**. To learn more about the podcast, [click here](#).

Legion Family Media & Communications Contest deadline approaching

The annual American Legion Media & Communications Contest recognizes the hard work and accomplishments of our American Legion Family members who positively promote and educate the public on the Legion Family on local, district, and department levels. All Legion Family members are encouraged to submit entries into the contest that showcase their work on various media channels.

Rules of the contest:

- All entries must have been published during the 2025 calendar year.
- You may enter submissions in one or multiple categories.
- Each submission costs \$5.
- Deadline for submissions is April 15.
- All entries must be original. Plagiarized entries or content from other publications will result in automatic disqualification.

To enter the contest, [click here](#).

Winners of the contest receive a plaque and are considered for the Innovation Award and Chairman's Award, which includes a plaque and a \$50 Emblem Sales credit.

To learn more about the contest, [click here](#).



ALA Membership

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

The American Legion Legislative Center

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



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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Our Privacy Policy](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!