



PRESIDENT BULLETIN

DECEMBER 2023

Season's Greetings ALA Family,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I know all our units were involved in events and dinners for our Veterans. This is the busiest time of the year for our units, from hosting dinners and Christmas parties for our Veterans, children and communities to delivering food and much needed supplies to those in need. Thank you for your amazing commitment and dedication in making certain that our Veterans and communities are well cared for during the holidays.

Just a reminder to please share all the remarkable work your unit is doing for our Veterans. We have several Facebook pages (ALA Dept KY, ALA KY Leadership & ALA KY Chaplain to name a few) to do this on, we would all love to see what other units are doing and maybe get some awesome new ideas to help at our own unit. As you seen at Fall Conference, we are all about Revving up Membership! With the holidays here please don't slow down on membership. We still have members that have not yet renewed their 2023 dues, please reach out to them with encouragement to do so or see if they need help this year. Maybe as an extra special gift, see if you can pay their dues for them. Also, with colder weather approaching, make sure to reach out to your members and see if they need help with heat or warm clothing. With seasonal depression, make sure to ask if they need any help or just someone to talk to, we all know that the holiday season can be extremely hard on some.

As another reminder, we are collecting toiletry items for Winter Conference where we will be putting together hygiene bags for our Veterans after the meeting. I have already purchased the bags, now I just need your help to fill them up. I'm also thrilled to have another special visitor at Winter Conference, our Southern Division National Vice President, Christine Trahan! I hope everyone is there to help welcome her to Kentucky.

Make sure to share these bulletins with your unit! Several chairmen, including myself, have had the opportunity to visit units, attend district meetings and events, it's encouraging to see what everyone is doing for our Veterans. Please remember, if you would like me or any of our chairman to attend a meeting or event, just ask, we would be excited to attend or help in any way we can. Prayers to all for a very blessed December, hope to see you at Winter Conference. Happy Holidays everyone, wishing you a season full of light and laughter for you and your family!

For God and Country,
April Ward
Dept. President 2023-2024
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ala.april.ward@gmail.com



AMERICANISM

Division Highlights

Southern Division: In the Dept of North Carolina, a Unit held presentations in two schools educating the students on the U.S. Constitution and how it came to be our governing document. The students were given a chance to participate in the program with Auxiliary member, Wanda Moore. Wanda enjoys dressing in period attire entertaining the students on how the constitution was written and having the students play the part of the original states that signed the document. And the students enjoy it as well. The Star Spangled Kids Program was a big hit in the schools educating our youth about United States history, Americanism, and the U.S. Constitution. Again, Wanda got into character and got the students involved. The students ranged from first grade to eighth grade. One Unit participated in a deployment of 400 Army National Guard Soldiers. Unit members met the soldiers, their families and presented them with flags, and helped served lunch after the ceremony. Members helped with activities for the kids. As the afternoon ended, Auxiliary members presented each soldier with a pocket flag to carry with them while deployed. It was a sad but heartwarming day. The soldiers and their families were so appreciative for our participation. The Southern Division is supporting the Americanism programs in the schools and communities.

Do you have a Unit or District doing something special to support Americanism. Remember to report your activities so they can be shared with others. It helps us show others what the American Legion Auxiliary is about.

Helena Carpenter

Americanism Chairperson



LEXINGTON, KY VETERANS MEDICAL CENTER

Donations for FY2024 to date to the Lexington VA are over \$165,000. Thanks to many they are already exceeding FY2023. Volunteer hours are 750 for a total value over \$236,000. Please consider helping increase this amount with your time and donations. Helping our Veterans is an important part of our goal.

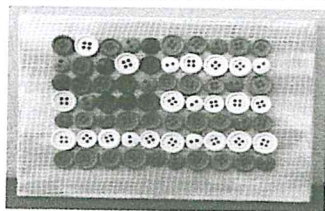
On November 5, 2023 the 5K run took place at the Leestown Road location and was a huge success. Over 468 were registered to run/walk, the largest participation yet. All funds generated support the VA Fisher House-Lexington.

The VA is asking for donations of travel size razors, shaving cream, body wash and other personal care items for both men and women. Water, coffee and snacks are always great items to donate. We learned that Honey Buns are very popular. **Remember** these items are in need year round so keep your list close by.

Many areas continue to be in need of volunteers for both Lexington VA locations. One important position is Truth Point Surveys. This involves asking specific individuals to the VA locations questions on services they receive. This will help the VA Medical Center focus on needs of patients and families to improve all services. They are also looking for individuals to Shuttle patients at the campuses. Please consider helping our Veterans and Families.

Helena Carpenter

Lexington VA Representative



Button Flag

Ages: 6+ (younger children will need help with glue gun)

Materials:

5x7 canvas panel

Decorative mesh (I used sparkly white) or burlap.

Red, white & blue buttons of various sizes and shades
(approximately 70 buttons total)

Glue gun & glue stick

Scissors

Tacky Glue

Ruler

Pencil & eraser

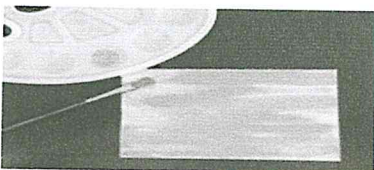
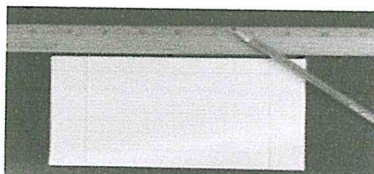
Optional: light blue acrylic or watercolor paint & paint brush

Instructions:

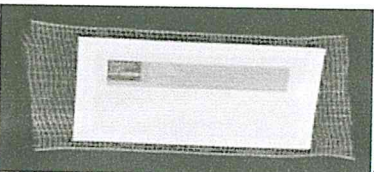
1. If using burlap, cut a piece 7 x 9 and skip to step 5*
2. If painting your canvas panel, use a pencil to lightly draw a rectangle $3 \frac{3}{4} \times 5 \frac{1}{4}$ centered on the canvas panel.
3. Be sure to paint from one side to the other, not top to bottom. (I tried to make mine look like the sky.) Allow to dry completely.
4. Cut a 9-inch strip of decorative mesh
5. *Lay your burlap or decorative mesh on your work surface. Flip your canvas panel over on top of your burlap/mesh.
6. Doing one section at a time, use your glue gun to attach the burlap/mesh to the back of the canvas panel. Glue the long sides first, then fold in the corners (like wrapping a present) and glue down the short sides. If you are using a hot glue gun, you will want a chopstick or skewer to help save your fingers.
7. Trim off any strings and flip your canvas panel over to the front
8. You can lay out your entire flag and then glue or glue as you go.
9. Place blue buttons onto the upper left area of your canvas. Line them as you wish. Be sure to vary the size and shade of the buttons.
10. Add red and white buttons in a stripe fashion. Making sure to keep your buttons within the border you've created.
11. Use Tacky Glue to affix the buttons onto the canvas panel.
12. Place the button flag into a 5 x 7 frame and display!



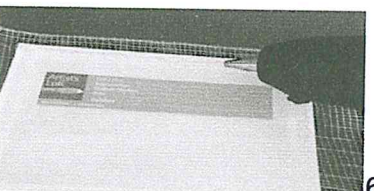
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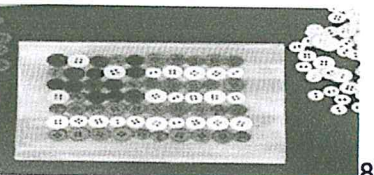
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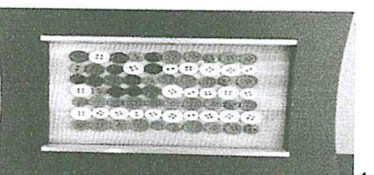
4-5



6-7



8-10



11-12



“Revving up Membership”

Cruising to Unite Our Legion Family

Happy Holidays Auxiliary Family,

I pray that each and every one of you have a very blessed Christmas and New Year. I know that sometimes we can get caught up in our own personal joy but don't forget the joy of others. This time of the year can be extremely hard mentally for our active military personnel, veterans, and their family members. If you see something uncharacteristic remember the acronym S.A.V.E.

S- Signs of suicidal thinking should be recognized.

A- Ask the most important question of all, “Are you thinking of killing yourself?”.

V- Validate the Veterans experience.

E- Encourage treatment and expedite getting help.

At Fall Conference Madam National Auxiliary President, Lisa Williamson, came and spoke to us about her special project, “Be the One” initiative. You could “Be the One” who saves a life. As membership chairs we take on the responsibility of welcoming new members, but we also need to take on the responsibility of checking on our current members when something doesn't seem quite right.

I know that this is one of the busiest times of the year for units, but don't give up on membership! I know a lot of your units are welcoming family and friends in to celebrate the holiday season, so remember this is the perfect opportunity to welcome new members in and show them how the Auxiliary helps to support our Veterans, their families, and the community. Remember, our goal for the Winter Conference is 75% membership paid by December 31st. I know for some units this is a chilly and uphill battle this time of the year, but I see the New Year peeking out over that next mountain top straight ahead!

As always, if you have any questions about membership, please reach out to one of the Membership Committee Members listed below. God Bless you all, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

Our Membership Committee is here for You!

Michelle Marshall, Chair	mmarshall0016@gmail.com	859.509.6017
Edna Shupe, Co-Chair	ala.ednashupe@gmail.com	606.765.3669
Jennifer Mullins, Co-Chair	aladeptaux@yahoo.com	502.395.3275
Whitney Dallaire, Co-Chair	whitneydallaire@yahoo.com	606.315.0408
Marie Shouse, Co-Chair	mariebardstown@aol.com	502.460.0050



REVVING UP MEMBERSHIP
CRUISING TO UNITE OUR LEGION FAMILY

DISTRICT 1					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
3	20	3	21	23	109.5
26	19	3	27	22	81.5
68	28	3	46	31	67.4
72	1	0	12	1	8.3
74	15	0	20	15	75.0
217	29	0	70	29	41.4
236	20	0	38	20	52.6
Tot	132	9	234	141	60.3

DISTRICT 2					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
2	7	0	17	7	41.2
6	43	5	140	48	34.3
9	33	2	65	35	53.8
40	39	0	76	39	51.3
233	59	4	104	63	60.6
243	11	2	10	13	130.0
289	1	0	10	1	10.0
Tot	193	13	422	206	48.8

DISTRICT 3					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
23	29	4	60	33	55.0
29	18	0	40	18	45.0
61	4	3	37	7	18.9
62	62	0	80	62	77.5
119	8	1	24	9	37.5
202	10	0	19	10	52.6
Tot	131	8	260	139	53.5

DISTRICT 4					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
42	1	0	40	1	2.5
49	1	0	15	1	6.7
81	106	5	187	111	59.4
82	23	0	47	23	48.9
87	10	0	30	10	33.3
113	250	17	405	267	65.9
121	20	0	35	20	57.1
124	69	2	106	71	67.0
148	37	0	60	37	61.7
157	40	0	85	40	47.1
167	12	0	35	12	34.3
247	3	0	10	3	30.0
288	4	0	25	4	16.0
Tot	576	24	1080	600	55.6

DISTRICT 5					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
45	1	0	23	1	4.3
180	59	2	152	61	40.1
193	36	2	88	38	43.2
220	31	2	50	33	66.0
229	30	0	52	30	57.7
244	66	2	95	68	71.6
278	0	0	10	0	0.0
Tot	223	8	470	231	49.1

DISTRICT 6					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
4	24	1	73	25	34.2
11	21	0	38	21	55.3
20	15	1	57	16	28.1
41	5	0	55	5	9.1
203	134	0	235	134	57.0
219	48	0	62	48	77.4
Tot	247	2	520	249	47.9

DISTRICT 7					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
7	23	0	66	23	34.8
8	33	3	80	36	45.0
24	36	6	100	42	42.0
67	27	12	83	39	47.0
79	24	0	33	24	72.7
132	31	3	42	34	81.0
165	23	0	34	23	67.6
176	1	0	12	1	8.3
257	22	0	40	22	55.0
313	42	1	90	43	47.8
341	14	3	40	17	42.5
Tot	276	28	620	304	49.0

Charter Cancelled
 Assessments Paid VAR
 Assessments Paid OP
 Assessments Paid BOTH

Removed at National convention upon approval

DISTRICT 8					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
12	6	0	35	6	17.1
34	81	0	135	81	60.0
46	18	2	39	20	51.3
Tot	105	2	209	107	51.2

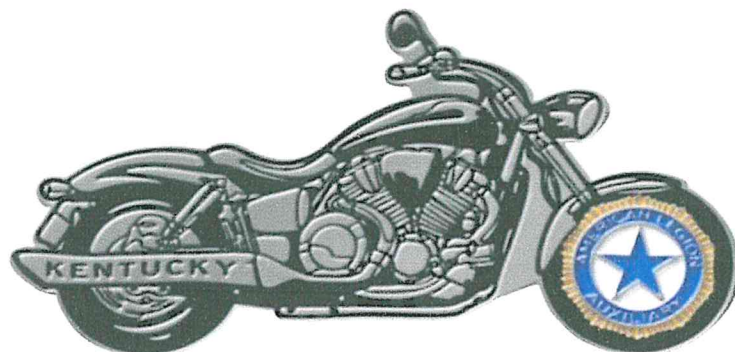
DISTRICT 9					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
22	14	0	31	14	45.2
43	1	0	60	1	1.7
76	13	0	45	13	28.9
126	22	0	50	22	44.0
138	27	4	75	31	41.3
325	36	0	80	36	45.0
342	20	2	85	22	25.9
Tot	133	6	426	139	32.6

DISTRICT 10					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
66	5	2	10	7	70.0
104	10	1	15	11	73.3
152	2	0	20	2	10.0
283	0	0	10	0	0.0
Tot	17	3	55	20	36.4

DISTRICT 11					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
16	0	0	30	0	0.0
38	52	0	86	52	60.5
88	53	6	75	59	78.7
115	29	3	76	32	42.1
Tot	134	9	267	143	53.6

HEADQUARTERS					
Unit	RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %
200	72	0	90	72	80.0

DEPARTMENT OF KENTUCKY					
RenPd	New	Tot Goal	Tot Pd	Tot %	
2240	117	4653	2357	50.7	





Children & Youth

Hello everyone,

Karen Goodlett here your Children and Youth chairman. I wanted to provide all the units a reminder about getting your reports into me about any children and youth programs that you've got going on. If you've done some type of activity or anything related to children and youth, please put that in your report then send it over to me. You can get your report over to me by either calling me at 219-433-1377, sending me an email at KarenDenise29@yahoo.com Please have your report over to me no later than December 15 for winter conference.

Things to look forward too in the future with children and youth:

The back table will have 50-50 chances, I will have cookie mixes in a jar for sale. This is a great activity you can do with your kids and grandkids on a cold winter day. The proceeds to to children and youth. I will also have some beautiful items on the table that you can get chances on. I am also accepting donations of items for a silent auction, all proceeds will go towards the children and youth program. Please let me know if you have any items you would like to donate towards the silent auction.

I also wanted to remind you of the of the Helping Hand Baskets Challenge.

There are so many children out there that would benefit from a basket with much needed items. The basket should contain items that would benefit a child. This could be clothing, personal hygiene items, school supplies, sensory items, art items, anything in general that a child would need in their school or home life. The baskets are for ages K-12. These baskets will be judged at winter conference and donated to schools in Kentucky that have children in need. The baskets will be judged for creativity, originality.

I have stepped up the awards and now will have places 1st-4th place winners and the winning unit gets bragging rights, an award to display at their unit and a small gift for each person that participated in the making of the basket that is at the conference. I challenge you to not only show off your team working ability, but you're outside the box thinking and let's get some awesome helping hands baskets for the children in need in Kentucky. Which district will get bragging rights? We will have to see at winter conference.

I look forward to seeing what kind of baskets each unit brings in and if you want to bring extra baskets to donate please feel free to do so and thank you in advance for helping children in need this winter.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

2023-2024 Finance Bulletin #1

Your 2023 – 2024 Finance Committee members are: Alica Buser, Diane Kennedy, Kathy Daudistel and Treasurer, Virginia Hobbs. First order of business was the Department budget which was read and approved at the Executive Board meeting in June. Some old business: The 3 Raffle winners were Unit 180, Daniel Klein and Ray Huffman. The raffle did very well and it was due to the huge support of all units/members that willingly took tickets to sell. Thanks to all members who returned their unsold tickets as we were able to sell those at Convention. (2,481 Sold) There will be another Dept Raffle and tickets will be available to pass out at Winter Conference and Spring Conference.

There will also be another 2024 All- Star Award. To qualify, each Unit or District needs to donate to the following 7 programs: Spirit of Youth, Creative Arts, Child Welfare, Poppies, Girls State, Laura Blackburn Memorial Scholarship and AEF (Auxiliary Emergency Fund).

Speaking of..... we doubled Units last year to 10 and had 1 District. The following units received a medal and certificate at Fall Conference: LaCenter Unit 3, Florence Unit 4, Lexington Unit 8, Irvine Unit 79, E-town Unit 113, Greensburg Unit 124, Paris Unit 165, Franklin Unit 202, Latonia Unit 203 and Willard Unit 342. Also District 3!

Two Final items: 1. Remember to pay assessments (Listed in the October Bulletin). 2. Please keep working your Membership as that is our main source of income to maintain our general operation. You can visit the website to find any of the bulletins. ALAKY.ORG



Alica 'BC' Buser a_buser@fuse.net 859 620 7625

2023 VA&R Assessments

Unit	Unit Name	Senior	Assessment	Unit	Unit Name	Senior	Assessment
2	Joseph-Vernon-Lloyd	10	\$ 31.50	88	Fonzie Wilder	70	\$ 40.50
3	LaCenter	20	\$ 33.00	104	McClellan Anderson	11	\$ 31.65
4	Boone	58	\$ 38.70	113	Hardin	379	\$ 86.85
6	Maurice K. Gordon	121	\$ 48.15	115	Kinne-Slaven	58	\$ 38.70
7	Frankfort	51	\$ 37.65	119	Burksville	15	\$ 32.25
8	Man O War	71	\$ 40.65	121	Old Kentucky Home	26	\$ 33.90
9	James L. Yates	67	\$ 40.05	124	Rod Lowe	94	\$ 44.10
11	James Wallace Costigan	30	\$ 34.50	126	Corbie Ellington	42	\$ 36.30
12	Jesse M Dykes	29	\$ 34.35	132	Nathan Caulder	36	\$ 35.40
16	Mart Gentry	18	\$ 32.70	138	Moore-Armstrong	63	\$ 39.45
17	Nicholas	11	\$ 31.65	148	Ritchie-Trent	50	\$ 37.50
20	Simon Kenton	46	\$ 36.90	152	Douglas Day	8	\$ 31.20
22	Montgomery	22	\$ 33.30	157	Bullitt County	59	\$ 38.85
23	Warren	49	\$ 37.35	165	Charles Young	28	\$ 34.20
24	Scott County	93	\$ 43.95	167	Abraham Lincoln	24	\$ 33.60
26	Mayfield	21	\$ 33.15	176	Beckley-Hawkins	6	\$ 30.90
29	Logan	34	\$ 35.10	180	Zachary Taylor	130	\$ 49.50
34	Anderson	118	\$ 47.70	193	Shawnee	72	\$ 40.80
38	Pulaski County	72	\$ 40.80	202	Harristown	18	\$ 32.70
40	Worsham	71	\$ 40.65	203	Latonia	170	\$ 55.50
41	Carroll	58	\$ 38.70	217	Logan Clark	59	\$ 38.85
42	Nelson County	35	\$ 35.25	219	Simon-Gosney	58	\$ 38.70
43	Howard Thomas	56	\$ 38.40	220	Dixie	42	\$ 36.30
45	Peter Salem	12	\$ 31.80	229	Iroquois	38	\$ 35.70
46	Boyle	31	\$ 34.65	233	Fort Campbell	70	\$ 40.50
49	Marion	33	\$ 34.95	236	William A Doyle	32	\$ 34.80

61	Andy Anderson	4	\$ 30.60	243	Austin Collins	2	\$ 30.30
62	Simpson	30	\$ 34.50	244	G I Joe	89	\$ 43.35
66	Bradley Burkhart	75	\$ 41.25	247	Springfield	4	\$ 30.60
67	Woodford	7	\$ 31.05	257	David Rankin	28	\$ 34.20
68	Lyon County	78	\$ 41.70	278	Portland	2	\$ 30.30
72	Marshall Alexander	34	\$ 35.10	283	John B. Reynolds	2	\$ 30.30
74	Trigg County	9	\$ 31.35	288	Nelson County	22	\$ 33.30
76	Clarence Fields	16	\$ 32.40	289	Clay	4	\$ 30.60
79	Estill County	26	\$ 33.90	313	Federal	87	\$ 43.05
81	Leitchfield	132	\$ 49.80	325	Elwood Stringer	77	\$ 41.55
82	Edwards-O'Banion	40	\$ 36.00	341	Thoroughbred	27	\$ 34.05
87	Lincoln Memorial	21	\$ 33.15	342	Willard	63	\$ 39.45



**AMERICAN LEGION
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alahq@ALAforVeterans.org

ONLINE:
www.ALAforVeterans.org
www.ALAFoundation.org

OUR MISSION:

In the spirit of Service Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and 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.

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

Welcome to the American Legion Auxiliary!

Thank you for becoming part of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA)! Here is an overview of who we are and what we do, but there is so much more about why we matter. We encourage you to take our free online orientation, "ALA 101," the first course in our ALA Academy. These online courses provide our members with information to help us better serve our mission. Log in today at www.ALAforVeterans.org/ALA-Academy.

We have so much useful information available for members on the national ALA website. Accessing free information for members only is as easy as creating a username and password. Simply click on "Log In" at the top-right corner of our homepage at www.ALAforVeterans.org, and thousands of helpful resources are at your fingertips.



OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AMERICAN LEGION

The ALA was founded in 1919 to support The American Legion, the largest organization of U.S. wartime veterans. Our mutual purpose is to make life better for our veterans, military, and their families. We work steadfastly, side by side, promoting patriotism and national security while supporting youth and advocating for those who have served our country.

ALA UNITS

The American Legion Auxiliary unit is where grassroots work of the Auxiliary takes place. There are almost 8,000 ALA units nationwide. At the local level,



The American Legion is called a post, and the Auxiliary is called a unit. All ALA units are attached to a Legion post, taking its name, location, and number (e.g., John P. Hand American Legion Auxiliary Unit 250), but units are not obligated to meet at the Legion post. If the post is no longer active, a unit may continue to function as what's called a widow unit. Sons of The American Legion groups within Legion posts at the community level are referred to as squadrons.

A note about ALA membership dues

An American Legion Auxiliary member's dues are made up of three portions, representing the three levels of our organization — national, department (state), and unit. The dues amount listed on your renewal notice is a total of these three portions. Membership dues are paid annually and can be paid directly to your unit or by calling ALA National Headquarters at (317) 569-4570, or by logging in to your profile on the national website at www.ALAforVeterans.org and paying your dues online.

The Auxiliary membership year is January 1 to December 31. Members pay dues prior to the start of the upcoming membership year, and many units start collecting dues six months in advance.



UNIT OFFICERS

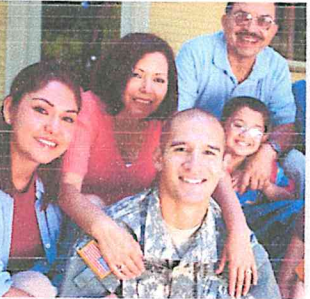
Each ALA unit has a set of officers. Your unit can tell you more about the members who hold these offices, along with their specific responsibilities. *The American Legion Auxiliary Unit Guidebook*, available at www.ALAForVeterans.org, also provides information about how a unit functions.



ALA NATIONAL PROGRAMS/ COMMITTEES

The following is a list of all national-level programs/committees in the ALA. Departments and units may have all of these programs, some, or additional committees included in their activities. Please visit www.ALAForVeterans.org for more information on ALA programs.

- ★ Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
- ★ Legislative
- ★ Poppy
- ★ Children & Youth
- ★ Community Service
- ★ Junior Activities
- ★ Education
- ★ Americanism
- ★ ALA Girls Nation
- ★ National Security
- ★ Membership
- ★ Auxiliary Emergency Fund
- ★ Leadership
- ★ Public Relations
- ★ Constitution & Bylaws
- ★ Finance
- ★ Risk & Compliance



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is The American Legion Family?

The American Legion Family is comprised of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion. The Legion Family also includes American Legion Riders, a program of American Legion Family members for motorcycle enthusiasts. While members of The American Legion Family are individually unique, collectively we are a multimillion-member powerhouse of caring advocates dedicated to service.

What are the advantages of American Legion Auxiliary membership?

The ALA is a remarkable organization with nearly 100 years of service to veterans and the nation's communities. In addition to the personal gratification

and rewards gained in voluntary service, there are many tangible benefits for members of the ALA. Members receive a complimentary subscription to the Auxiliary's national quarterly magazine and have exclusive access to a wide variety of discount services and supplemental insurance products. Members also have access to free classes, webinars, and trainings through the ALA Academy. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency help to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have suffered a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or other personal crisis.

What if I need to update my name and/or address? Can I do this online?

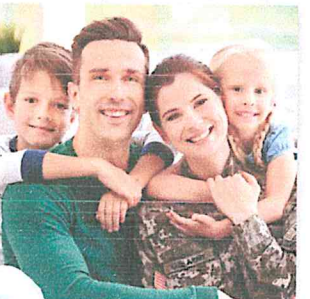
Members whose dues are current can create an account to log in to the MyAuxiliary area on the national website to update their mailing address, phone number, and email address at any time. For log-in assistance or a name change, email ALAMIShelp@ALAForVeterans.org.

I paid my ALA dues. Why haven't I received my membership card?

Units are to provide members their card upon payment of dues. Members who renew either online or by phone with national headquarters are mailed a membership card to the home address on file. Members can log in to their MyAuxiliary account online at any time to print a copy of their most current ALA membership card.

How do I find my member ID number?

New senior members receive a 'Thank you for joining' email or postcard after they join. Their member ID number is located in the body of the email or on the address label of the postcard. A member's ID number is also listed on the address label of their quarterly *Auxiliary* magazine. Members can email membership@ALAForVeterans.org to request their ID number. Members will need their ID number in order to create their online profile on the national website.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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

Hello, department leaders! Please take three minutes to read this message from National President Lisa Williamson.

Be the One: It's not a catchphrase. It's not a campaign. It's a mission — one to destigmatize asking for mental health support, provide peer-to-peer support and resources, and educate everyone on how they can Be the One to save a veteran's life. **Unfortunately, we have seen the mission "Be the One" taken out of context.** This phrase should not be used as part of a theme, to invite someone to a meeting, or to ask someone to be a member, etc. It is to be used to Be the One to save a veteran's life.

We know ALA members are playing a big role in supporting the Be the One mission of helping a veteran in crisis; however, tying the phrase into a clever theme is diminishing the power of the words *Be the One*. We understand the ALA tradition of having themes, and we are not pointing fingers, punishing anyone, or assigning blame. But please note that this is a time our members may want to step back from using Be the One as a theme. Remember: This serious topic is not just an ALA focus, but an American Legion Family mission. We would love for people to use Be the One, but only as a stand-alone to really drive the importance of its mission.

ALA National Headquarters has several awareness plans incoming for members, including social media posts, a blog post, magazine story, and discussions at upcoming trainings, so that all levels of the organization are hearing the same message. You can also go to www.ALAforVeterans.org to watch the Be the One webinar in the ALA Academy.

Let's keep our momentum going in supporting the Be the One mission, and thank you for all of your hard work in doing so. If you have questions about anything, feel free to reply to this email, or contact our Communications and Marketing Division at pr@alaforveterans.org.

Again, thank you for all that you do.

Lisa Williamson





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

Talking points on how to use the phrase “Be the One”

We know ALA members are playing a big role in supporting the Be the One mission. However, tying the phrase into a theme is diminishing the power of the words *Be the One*. We understand the tradition of having themes and we are not pointing fingers, punishing anyone, or assigning blame. However, our members may want to step back from using Be the One as a theme. Remember: This serious topic is not just an ALA focus, but an American Legion Family mission.

- Be the One is about suicide prevention and awareness.
- It originated as be the one to save one. It’s estimated that between 17 and 22 veterans or servicemembers take their own lives each day.
- It’s not a catchphrase. It’s not a campaign. The American Legion is now calling it a mission.
- It’s a mission to destigmatize asking for mental health support, provide peer-to-peer support and resources, and educate everyone on how they can Be the One.
- The American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion joined The American Legion to promote the Be the One mission. So, ALA members should follow the guidelines from The American Legion. Go to BetheOne.org to learn more.
- The words “Be the One” should not be use as part of a lighthearted theme, to invite someone to a meeting, or to pay their dues. Uses other than suicide prevention/awareness diminish its power.
- Use of “Be the One” should be reserved for topics related to suicide prevention and awareness.
- The No. 1 issue facing the veteran community is suicide.
- The approved logos for Be the One are subject to the same usage rules as The American Legion brandmark.
- Think of Be the One as a standalone phrase such as “Just Do It” and “Got Milk”.

How can you Be the One?

- Ask veterans in your life how they are doing.
- Listen when a veteran needs to talk.
- Reach out when you think a veteran might be struggling.
- Increase awareness about the veteran and military suicide epidemic.
- Have a list of resources in your area for veterans who may be struggling.
- Spread the word about the Veterans Crisis Line at 988.

October 31, 2023

Education Bulletin December 2023

Hello Everyone!

I wish everyone a healthy and happy Holiday Season! It's time to make a school's wishes come true! Don't forget those Give 10 to Education supplies that will be needed in January when students return to the classroom. Have everyone bring just one item to the meetings. Remember that small amounts from all can add up to one giant present to our schools. Send an email to me with pics of the donations.

This year has flown by. It's time to forward the wonderful scholarship information to the school guidance counselors. It's so easy. Just open our great website, alaforveterans.org. All the scholarship form links are in one place. Select each scholarship and forward a copy by email to the schools or print to mail. The Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship, as well as the other national scholarships, are online forms for students to complete through the alaforveterans.org website. Make sure the schools get this information as well, especially those of you that are located near a military base. The submission deadline for national scholarships is March 1st, 2024.

It's important to get the information to the schools about the two Department of KY scholarships also. These can be printed from our department website, alaky.org. The deadline for your unit to receive entries to judge is March 31st. That's my birthday! After your unit selects a winning entry, you will then forward the winner to me!

Here's the list of scholarships for Seniors:

- Laura Blackburn Memorial Scholarship/ March 31st, 2024 – Department of Kentucky
- Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship/ March 1st, 2024—National
- Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship/ March 1st, 2024—National
- Spirit of Youth Scholarship for Junior Members/ March 1st, 2024—National

There are also 2 non-traditional scholarships offered for returning students:

- Mary Barrett Marshall Scholarship/ March 31st, 2024--Department of Kentucky
- Non-Traditional Student Scholarship/ March 1st, 2024—National

ALA + Scholarships = Happy Successful Students

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Holiday Season!

Jeanette Key
Education Chairman 2023-2024
335 W. 17th St.
Covington, KY 41014
jmstewart7733@gmail.com
859-992-1678 (better to text)



American Legion Auxiliary

In the Spirit of Service Not Self for Veterans, God and Country

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION

DECEMBER BULLETIN



Merry Christmas Members!

The holidays are here. One of the busiest times for the VA & R Program. While visiting nursing homes and veteran hospitals please respect the privacy and dignity of resident rooms. Please knock before entering and check with staff first.

Address the resident as the adult that they are. Make it clear why you are visiting. Some patients may not want visitors. When taking items to the nursing homes and hospitals check with staffing that it is ok for patients to have. Especially candy, cookies and other holiday goodies. Due to dietary needs, food allergies and diabetics may not be allowed those delicious treats we all like to make and take to our veterans.

During the holidays suicide rates seem to increase. Please make sure to do buddy checks on your veterans through out the holiday season.

Please be sure to take plenty of pictures of your dinners with veterans and send them to me ttbuddy@aol.com with a brief narrative.

I am currently working on the report form and it should be out to you in February's bulletin.

I am sharing information on the James H. Parke Memorial Scholarship I just received.

May your holidays be filled with Love, Peace and Joy. I hope Santa is good to all of his little elves taking extra care of veterans, our military and their families.

VA & R Chairman Patty Martinez



VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement

James H. Parke Memorial Scholarship

General Information

James H. Parke was the first Director of Voluntary Service and the founding father of the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) National Advisory Committee (NAC).

The James H. Parke Memorial Fund, comprised of VAVS NAC member organizations, was established in 1976 to serve as the non-profit source of funds for a VAVS Youth Scholarship. Organizations, volunteers, VA staff and others continue to contribute to the Fund.

The board of directors of the Fund annually establishes (in the early spring) the amount of the primary award and any secondary scholarships. The Fund communicates such and provides a nomination form to the Director, Center for Development and Civic Engagement (10B2A) for distribution to Voluntary Service field staff.

The scholarships may be used for tuitions and fees, books and supplies and/or room and board or other educational needs purchased through the school of the students' choice. Scholarship winners must use their awards by their 24th birthday. All winners receive detailed guidance concerning scholarship utilization from the Treasurer of the Fund.

Nominations

Each medical center may nominate one VA student volunteer for receipt of the award. Recommendations may be made by any VA staff member who acts as a supervisor of the student volunteer or member of the local VAVS Committee. This recommendation should be discussed with the Chief, Center for Development & Civic Engagement, before submission to the Medical Center Director.

To be eligible, candidates must have completed 100 hours of regularly scheduled VAVS volunteer service during the calendar year prior to September 1; be a student in the 10th grade or above; and have not reached their 19th birthday.

The Medical Center Director nominates a candidate for the award by submission of the nomination form to the President of the Fund by December 31 via email to Parkescholarship@amvets.org. Nominations received after that date will not be considered.

The nomination form should be completed to reflect the volunteer service and background of the candidate and include: age, years of volunteering, number of volunteer hours, areas of service, and affiliated/supporting organizations, if any.

[Regular Parke Scholarship Form](#)

[Summer Parke Scholarship Form](#)

Criteria on which candidates are evaluated for consideration of awards include:

- Scholastic Activity
- Dependability
- Fulfillment and acceptance of responsibility
- Personality and pleasantness to patients and staff
- Leadership capability
- Inspiration to patients through service performed
- Appearance

The National Winner receives a plaque and a letter of commitment. This presentation is usually made at the Annual Meeting of the VAVS National Advisory Committee.

[Privacy Act and Release of Information](#)

All personal information contained in the nomination form for the James H. Parke Memorial Youth Scholarship award, as well as any photograph, may be used by the Fund and VA for promotion and publicity purposes. None of the information is required by law and is, therefore, disclosed voluntarily. A consent form (VA Form 10-3203) is available in all medical centers and should be attached to the nomination package.

For additional information contact your local Center for Development & Civic Engagement office.

[Donations](#)

If you are interested in contributing to the James H. Parke Memorial Scholarship Fund, you can send donations to:

Parke Memorial Scholarship Fund
C/O Ann Glende
520 Spring St.
Elsmere, KY 41018

James H. Parke Memorial Fund Board of Directors

John P. Brown, III, President

AMVETS (American Veterans)

John Kleindienst, Vice President

Disabled American Veterans

Marie Rorrio, Secretary

AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary

Anne Parker

Blue Star Mothers of America

Patricia Kranzow

American Legion Auxiliary



2023 James H. Parke
Memorial Scholarship
\$20,000 Scholarship Recipient

Kyla Griffin
W.G. (Bill) Hefner
Salisbury VA Medical Center
Salisbury, North Carolina

Kyla Griffin is a volunteer who truly believes in "Service before Self!" She was born in Augusta, Georgia but now calls Concord, North Carolina home. She has been a Salisbury VA youth volunteer since the summer of 2019 and has over 750 volunteer hours. She is passionate about helping Veterans and considers it a "Privilege" and "Honor" to volunteer to serve Veterans. Because of her character and compassion for Veterans, she was selected to represent North Carolina as a member of the VA's National Student Leadership Council (SLC).

Being an SLC member and avid reader, allowed her to combine her passion for reading and her passion for Veterans. She loves to read and has read over 1,000 books. She launched the first Veteran focused book club. Before starting the Veterans Book Club, Kyla researched and discovered reading helps to slow the onset of dementia and can be used as a method to cope with PTSD or other addictions.

Ms. Griffin's passion for volunteering extends into other activities. She volunteers at her church and spends time teaching kids how to code. She helped plan and organize the first Girls in STEM Conference in Concord for over 200 attendees and is in the planning stages of the second conference.

Ms. Griffin plans to major in Computer Science. Among her honors and achievements, she holds certifications in Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, Dreamweaver, and Illustrator. She is a member of the Girls Who Code Club, Phi Theta Kappa at Rowan Cabarrus Community College, National Technical Honor Society, National Honor Society and is a College Board African American Recognition Scholar.

Ms. Griffin has volunteered in several areas at the VA and helped organize a blood drive. She participated in numerous recreational activities to increase Veteran well-being.

Ms. Griffin is a world changing, compassionate volunteer with a servant heart. One of her favorite quotes is, "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth." Muhammad Ali.

Ms. Griffin says volunteering at the VA has meant, "Making the lives of Veterans and others better, finding a community, and working hard to change the world just like my favorite book characters did ultimately has meant finding who I am and being able to thrive in that identity. I am a leader. I am a changemaker. I am a volunteer and plan to continue volunteering throughout the rest of my life. I plan to continue to make an impact on the lives of Veterans."



Department Headquarters
December 2023

Merry Christmas to you all! I hope you have a wonderful holiday spending time with your loved ones and making memories!

The Winter Conference is right around the corner. It will be held January 20, 2024, at the Holiday Inn, Bowling Green. To make reservations, please call 270-745-0088 and tell them you are with The American Legion.

The VA & R assessment is due December 31, 2023. Please see the chart in this mailing to see what your Unit owes. If you have not paid your assessments yet, please send it in. This assessment allows us to make the necessary donations to the VA facilities and the Veterans homes. Please do your part.

There is a lot of good information in this mailing, please share with your members.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Bowling Green for the Winter Conference!

Jennifer

Hello to Auxiliary Family!!

Winter is coming!! We all know that it takes a lot of money to feed a family!! Well it takes a ton to feed Henrietta and her family! Save every penny, nickel, dime and quarter from your Holiday shopping!! If you don't have a piggy bank, use a Mason jar!!

I am looking forward to attending some District meetings! Hope to see you there. Karen Goodlett and I still have some pretty purple t-shirts 🍷. All the proceeds go to Child Welfare!!

Look forward to seeing you at Winter Conference in January!

Dee Schutz
Child Welfare chairman

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Kentucky
134 Walnut Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Frankfort, Kentucky
Permit No. 45000

Address correction requested