



## Department President's Bulletin #2

October 2020

I'm excited to make my monthly communication to our membership. For those who receive these bulletins, PLEASE share with your unit members. Hopefully soon we will be able to post online again but until then your members need the information. We will have had a DEC after the writing of this bulletin so when you see some new names on the information you receive, those members have gladly accepted the chairmanships. As always, to learn the programs for yourselves, create an account on [alaforveterans.org](http://alaforveterans.org) allowing you to see all the information in the members only section. I ask that you continue working the membership program and PLEASE send in those 2020 dues you have collected.

Many of our units are off to a great start for 2021. Getting the membership and assessments in in a timely manner allows us to continue to do the wonderful work we do for the Veterans in the VAMC and nursing facilities. Due to the changes in the postal service, you may not see this before October 9th. However, if you do Fall Conference is still happening in the Holiday Inn in Bowling Green, KY. I ask that you follow our Governors guidelines and have your masks. We will do our due diligence in having the room setup properly in order to protect all attendees. Please use your best judgement.

The ALA Foundation has a challenge going on within the departments. Many of us would have been at National Convention in August and would have participated in Giving Tuesday. On that day, if you had an email address on file, you may have received an email asking you to give. Also, letters came in the mail requesting donations. National has created a challenge and Kentucky has been invited to participate. Here is the verbiage from the communication:

"From now until #GivingTuesday, December 1, 2020, we will be accepting donations to the ALA Foundation via this link: <https://donate.legion-aux.org/CSiDonate/Give.aspx/QDSQ9AAB#c>. After December 1st, we will be tallying up how many donations came from each department, and the department with the most donors, (number of unique donors, not dollar amount) will be crowned the #GivingTuesday Department of the Year!"

Please, if you can, give to this worthwhile foundation. Kentucky has been a recipient of a few grants that helped with projects for our veterans. It is important that you follow the instructions above for it to count. If you have already given through the email or the letter you received in the mail, it does count. However, the foundation will not turn you down for donating more. Your name will only count once in the numbers.

One Family, One Mission, One Voice

Bonita Robey

Department President

2019-2020

[bcrobey@gmail.com](mailto:bcrobey@gmail.com) (daytime/anytime contact)

(270) 893-1126 (evening contact) PLEASE leave a message



Historian

With October approaching, I hope all is well and working on their History Book. National asks that you continue with your book. The rules for the History Book can be found at ALA for Veterans.org. Trophies will be presented at the next State Convention for the BEST Senior and Junior History Book and the BEST presented Charter. Hope to see everyone at the Fall Conference.

Sandy Omer

+++++

Poppy

Hello Ladies!

I can't wait to see you at Fall Conference on October 10, 2020! Attached is a past newsletter that contains a Poppy Special Project. I would like for you ladies to bring your Poppy to conference. We will judge and send to National President Nicole to put on her map. The best project will win a prize.

Thank you,

Brenda Lay

# American Legion Auxiliary Southern Division Poppy News Letter



Happy Mothers Day



### Calendar

June 1, 2020 - Poppy Poster Department winners due to the Southern Division Chairman, Susan Hall. Please scan separately the Poster and the information

July 1, 2020 - Little Miss Poppy, Please email name and scan in Scrapbook and email.

### Message from the Chairman

I hope everyone is well and staying safe. As you now know the National Officers will continue for another year. I am honored to serve as your Southern Division Poppy Chairman for the continuing year 2020-2021.

There has a lot of changes this year. Poppy Posters will be judged for the 2019-2020 year. Please submit a scanned copy to me by June 1, 2020 with relevant information for judging.

**You do not have to submit an end of the year report.** If you have completed it and want to send it to me I would look forward to reading it. You will submit a midyear report to me by January 5, 2021 covering the 2020-2021 year. You will submit a 2 year end of the year report covering 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. Please send me your Dept. Poppy for placement on the map to be given to our National President at the 2021 National Convention in Phoenix Arizona.

### Reminder

### Centennial Poppy Special Project

*100th Anniversary Celebration! Each Department is asked to create and submit a Poppy representing your Department.*

### Criteria

*A Poppy of any material, not more than 2" in diameter, with the addition of something related to your department. Poppies can be mailed to the Division Chairman as soon as they are completed. They will be placed on a corkboard that will be presented to National President Nicole at the National Convention*

**Please email and let me know when will be completed and sent**

**You can mail them to:**

Susan Hall  
15 Good Hope Hollow  
Naylor, GA. 31641

**Thank You South Carolina, Arkansas, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Puerto Rica for sending your Poppies**



## National Poppy Day

National Poppy Day will be celebrated this year virtually by our National President Nicole Clapp. There will be a live presentation on Facebook starting at 12:00pm on May 22nd.

Please keep an eye out for more information posted on the National Facebook Page.

Please check with your local and state ordinances when it comes to distribution or the sending of Poppies to nursing homes, and VA facilities. Call the facilities to make sure they will accept them.

I know that some states have begun a slow process of opening up, please remember that our Veterans and our Members health are very important to us.

We need to think outside of the box when it comes to National Poppy Day this year.

If anyone has any great ideas please post them on the National Poppy Facebook Page, we are here to share our ideas.

## Awards

All Awards will be announced during the Pre-Convention meetings at the 2021 National Convention in Phoenix Arizona.

## Resources for information on how you can expand awareness locally about the Poppy

[www.legion.org/poppyday](http://www.legion.org/poppyday)

[www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) and search Poppy

Download the Poppy Coloring Books distribute to your local Schools.

## National Poppy Day

National Poppy Day was established in May of 2017 when the American Legion asked Congress to pass House Simple Resolution 309 to designate the Friday before Memorial Day as National Poppy Day.

Across the Nation members of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and Legion Riders distribute Poppies, to wear in remembrance of those that made the ultimate sacrifice and those still fighting for our freedom. All donations collected go directly to the Veterans, Military and their families with medical and financial needs.

The American Legion Auxiliary does many different things on this day; they set up booths with material about the little red Poppy and its significance, with the poem by John McCrae and the poem "We Shall Keep the Faith" by the Poppy Lady Moina Michael. Other ideas for National Poppy Day include wearing your Poppy pin (sold at Emblem Sales), have National Poppy Day remembrance ceremonies at your Post or Unit home and inviting Veterans and members of the community to attend. Educate them on the Poppy. You can show your support just by wearing the simple little red Poppy.

Units hold little Miss Poppy contest in their communities. These young ladies participate in Parades, Poppy distributions are another tool to educate on the Poppy, Units volunteer in the schools and read the book my Moina Michael "The Poppy Lady" "educating is youth on the Poppy and its significance. You can also have your city or town declare the Friday before Memorial Day National Poppy Day in your community through a Proclamation.

For more ideas on how you can expand awareness locally, you can go to [www.legion.org/poppyday](http://www.legion.org/poppyday), and also [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) and search Poppy. The sites include many tools such as media and sample Proclamations. There are several links to places like Emblem Sales Poppy items and downloadable media releases, Poppy graphics, Poppy coloring books and copies of John McCrae's poem "In Flanders Field" that you can print.

Susan Hall  
Southern Division Poppy Chairman



## Treasurer Bulletin No. 1

We have survived what is the most difficult year in the ALA history and unfortunately the end is not on the immediate horizon. Since March, many of our customary activities, including service projects, fundraising, and informational activities, have been foregone. While our coffers are often reduced, we must remain in support of the ALA and the cornerstone programs which we support. As a part of our needed support, it is crucial that we strive to meet the financial activities which support our Department or are a service to our Units.

At this time in 2019, you received the summary of VA&R Assessments for the Units which were due for payment for the 2020 fiscal year. To date, some of our Units have failed to pay these assessments and need to do so as soon as they can. It is extremely important that these assessments and the ones listed for fiscal year 2021. The VA&R assessments and the 30 percent required to be remitted on the net profit from your poppy distribution are what provides the financial sources for our support of the VA medical centers, state veterans nursing homes, and veterans centers in our state.

Speaking of the VA&R Assessment, this amount is due by December 31 to qualify for awards at Winter Conference. These assessments must be paid before Spring Conference and Department Convention to be eligible for awards. These assessments are based on \$30 plus 15 cents per senior member and the amount for each Unit is listed in this bulletin.

Please see that you forward these obligations as soon as you can because there are what enables us to support our veterans.

In January, the schedule of Operating Assessments was forwarded which is membership support based on the size of each unit to support the operation of Department Headquarters. Ideally, the Operating Assessments should have been paid by March 31, but you can still pay them. The calculation for the 2021 Operating Assessments will be prepared based on the senior membership based on the 2020 calendar year end membership and the schedule of these assessments will be distributed in January.

Virginia Hobbs  
Department Treasurer  
297 Terrace Dr.  
Radcliff, KY 40160  
virginiahobbs@yahoo.com

UNIT	LOCATION	SENIOR MEMBERS	VA&R Assessment	UNIT	LOCATION	SENIOR MEMBERS	VA&R Assessment
2	Earlington	13	\$ 31.95	88	Corbin	67	\$ 40.05
4	Florence	54	\$ 38.10	101	Munfordville	5	\$ 30.75
6	Madisonville	118	\$ 47.70	104	Neon	9	\$ 31.35
7	Frankfort	71	\$ 40.65	109	Falmouth	10	\$ 31.50
8	Lexington	81	\$ 42.15	113	Elizabethtown	435	\$ 95.25
9	Owensboro	76	\$ 41.40	115	Stearns	57	\$ 38.55
11	Newport	32	\$ 34.80	119	Burkesville	24	\$ 33.60
11	Martin	11	\$ 31.65	121	Bardstovm	43	\$ 36.45
12	Richmond	17	\$ 32.55	124	Greensburg	48	\$ 37.20
16	London	25	\$ 33.75	126	Morehead	43	\$ 36.45
17	Carlisle	11	\$ 31.65	132	Lexington	35	\$ 35.25
20	Elsmere	51	\$ 37.65	138	Olive Hill	56	\$ 38.40
20	Whitesburg	20	\$ 33.00	148	West Point	66	\$ 39.90
22	Mount Sterling	29	\$ 34.35	157	Shepherdsville	84	\$ 42.60
23	Bowling Green	72	\$ 40.80	165	Paris	32	\$ 34.80
24	Georgetown	72	\$ 40.80	167	Bardstovm	26	\$ 33.90
26	Mayfield	29	\$ 34.35	176	Frankfort	12	\$ 31.80
29	Russellville	27	\$ 34.05	180	Louisville	97	\$ 44.55
31	Paducah	37	\$ 35.55	193	Louisville	87	\$ 43.05
34	Lawrenceburg	136	\$ 50.40	201	Louisville	74	\$ 41.10
38	Somerset	82	\$ 42.30	202	Franklin	20	\$ 33.00
40	Henderson	76	\$ 41.40	203	Covington	201	\$ 60.15
41	Carrollton	57	\$ 38.55	217	Burna	101	\$ 45.15
42	Bardstovm	18	\$ 32.70	219	Alexandria	51	\$ 37.65
43	Raceland	66	\$ 39.90	220	Shively	46	\$ 36.90
45	Louisville	15	\$ 32.25	229	Louisville	46	\$ 36.90
46	Danville	28	\$ 34.20	233	Oak Grove	106	\$ 45.90
49	Lebanon	2	\$ 30.30	236	Calvert City	40	\$ 36.00
61	Central City	20	\$ 33.00	243	Sebree	19	\$ 32.85
62	Franklin	88	\$ 43.20	244	Jeffersontown	80	\$ 42.00
66	Jenkins	12	\$ 31.80	247	Springfield	5	\$ 30.75
67	Versailles	81	\$ 42.15	257	Millersburg	39	\$ 35.85
68	Kuttawa	40	\$ 36.00	276	South Shore	9	\$ 31.35
72	Fulton	11	\$ 31.65	278	Portland	14	\$ 32.10
74	Cadiz	16	\$ 32.40	288	Bloomfield	33	\$ 34.95
76	Ashland	86	\$ 42.90	289	Clay	7	\$ 31.05
79	Irvine	25	\$ 33.75	313	Lexington	75	\$ 41.25
81	Leitchfield	173	\$ 55.95	325	Flatwoods	60	\$ 39.00
82	Campbells ville	50	\$ 37.50	341	Lexington	37	\$ 35.55
85	Benton	16	\$ 32.40	342	Willard	59	\$ 38.85
87	Hodgenville	20	\$ 33.00				



## Children and Youth Bulletin

October 2020

Greetings from your Department Children and Youth Chairman. I am sharing with you information we received from our Southern Division Children and Youth Chairman.

Although Halloween seems a long time away, there is a wonderful Halloween Safety coloring book. You may also purchase books from emblem sales. As a reminder, please access the American Legion's National website as it has so many resources available to download. Below finds the link for the pamphlet on Halloween Safety.

<https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/71ACY0420%20Halloween%20Safety.pdf>

Another yearly event is Red Ribbon week which takes place from October 23 through 31<sup>st</sup>. Please support the local schools and donate items to raise awareness. Children, especially in today's trying times, are very vulnerable and need our support and protection. This year's theme is "Be Brave, Be Drug Free", it will help encourage children, families, and communities to come together to live healthy, happy, and drug free lives.



Sara Robey – sjrobey@gmail.com

## September Finance

by: Alica "BC" Buser, Chair

[a\\_buser@fuse.net](mailto:a_buser@fuse.net)

859 620 7625

Hello,

The fall conference is right around the corner. So time to return your Department raffle tickets to me. If you are coming to fall conference (in Bowling Green), just bring them with the money. If not, please get them in the mail to me by October 1<sup>st</sup>, so it has time to reach me before I leave for conference. Remember to update the date to October 10<sup>th</sup> on your tickets as they still say June. We will be pulling the tickets on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Again thanks to all you have sold tickets and continue to sell tickets for this. A few units even asked for more tickets which was great. I will have all the remaining tickets available for purchase at conference.

Also, a quick thank you to those units returning any unsold tickets. This is a huge in making sure that tickets did not get lost in the process.

Thanks to everyone working our programs and supporting our Veterans. If you have any questions for the finance team, just give me a text (preferred) or call. Info is at the top of this bulletin. I hope to see your ALA faces at our conference as it has been too long.

BC



I'm a proud member of  
The American Legion  
Auxiliary



## October 2020 Membership Bulletin

Hello Auxiliary Family,

We are so proud of everything you do! Congratulations to all the Units for working hard on their membership! We would also like to thank units for going the extra mile during this Pandemic and helping those in need. Some Posts are starting to reopen and activities are starting to resume, please stay safe. Now is an essential time to ensure all your member's dues are current, so they can have access to all their member benefits, if necessary.

Please continue to check in on your members, Veterans and their families.

Please continue to work on collecting 2020 and 2021 dues (renewals, rejoins and new members)!

We would like to inform all members that the 2019-2020 Membership Team will remain in office through the 2020-2021 year. We are here to help, feel free to contact us!

The Membership Team has been reaching out to check on units and would like to remind all units to make sure their Leadership contact information on ALAMIS is correct. We need a contact email and/or phone number for membership for each unit. When we contact you, please respond, it may be that we are simply checking in on your unit. Also when you have deceased members please notify the Department Secretary and Chaplain, so it can be documented in Department. Please make sure all your members are informed that they can pay their dues online @ [alaforveterans.org](http://alaforveterans.org), by phone to National 1-317-569-4564 or by paying to their unit and the unit sending dues and transmittal to Department. Do not send any paperwork to National because it needs to go through Department.

Please make sure your Membership Chair, President or Secretary has online access for ALAMIS for your unit. If no one has access, please contact Jennifer at Department for information on this process, this is an essential tool for your unit.

Tools are in place to help you; [alaforveterans.org](http://alaforveterans.org) and our department Membership Facebook page @ ALA Dept of Ky Membership.

Be kind, find your joy and include all members!

### Membership Team

Membership is our Heartbeat, Be part of our Rhythm

One Family, One Mission, One Voice

Edna Shupe Bland, Chair

[sis.bland@gmail.com](mailto:sis.bland@gmail.com)

606-261-8321

April Ward, co-chair

[alynne4869@gmail.com](mailto:alynne4869@gmail.com) 859-743-8673

Cindy McKinney, co-chair

[cindyxsturm@yahoo.com](mailto:cindyxsturm@yahoo.com) 270-625-6258

Marie Shouse, co-chair

[mariebardstown@aol.com](mailto:mariebardstown@aol.com) 502-460-0050

Pat Bryant, co-chair

[patniemuel@aol.com](mailto:patniemuel@aol.com) 270-403-3774







September 2020

Headquarters

The Fall Conference is right around the corner. I hope to see you there!

You will receive two sets of bulletins for October. There was too many pages to do one mailing. In the bulletins you will find the VA & R assessment chart showing how much is do for your Unit. Please do your part and send your check for the assessment.

Membership – National has mailed the membership renewals for 2021. Please do not hold membership.

Units – If you have not sent me your list of unit officers, please do. I need to make the mailing list I use for the bulletins is up to date.

District Presidents – please send me an updated list of district officers

Stay safe!

Jennifer

ALA Dept. of KY  
134 Walnut Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
502-352-2380 – office  
502-352-2381 – fax  
aladeptaux@yahoo.com

**LEXINGTON**  
**Veterans Affairs Medical Centers**

Hello Ladies,

I attended my first VAVS Committee meeting on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of September via teleconference due to virtual schooling going on with the grandsons. Here is the information coming from Patrick Sinclair Voluntary Service Officer Lexington VA Health Care System.

The ground breaking for the Fisher House has been pushed back to the Spring.

The VAMC (both campuses) is need of reading glasses. For men and women all strengths. Your unit or you can purchase these at the Dollar Tree, Wal-Mart and Pharmacy's. They are also in need of non- allergenic laundry detergent. The VAMC will resume their craft room and snacks program. Your Unit can make a monetary donation so that Volunteer Services can purchase these items. **Please don't just show up with your donations or to volunteer at the VA. You need to call Patrick's office and let them know you are coming to drop off donation's or to volunteer.** You will have a screening process due to the Pandemic to get on campus and most doors are locked. You can reach Patrick Sinclair at the following number (859) 233-4511 extension 2297, 2298 or 4930. Email: [Patrick.Sinclair@va.gov](mailto:Patrick.Sinclair@va.gov)

Drive-Thru Flu shots for veterans are now being offered on Tuesday and Thursday's.

Though the Pandemic has touched all of us and how we operate there is still a way to volunteer. We as individuals or our units can support our VAMC programs. Service to our veterans is crucial especially through a pandemic. Our hospitalized veterans need cards and goody bags with personal hygiene items. Let them know we care at all times and that they are not forgotten.

Lexington VA Representative  
Martinez

Patty

(502) 600-0226 cell

(502) 839-7048 home



## KENTUCKY ALA AMERICANISM PROGRAM 2019-21

**Make a difference** as an Auxiliary member and as an Auxiliary Unit by promoting Patriotism, Citizenship and Flag Education. We have provided tools, resources and examples to assist in your patriotism promotion.

### Catch ALA Americanism Fever! Here's How To Do It!

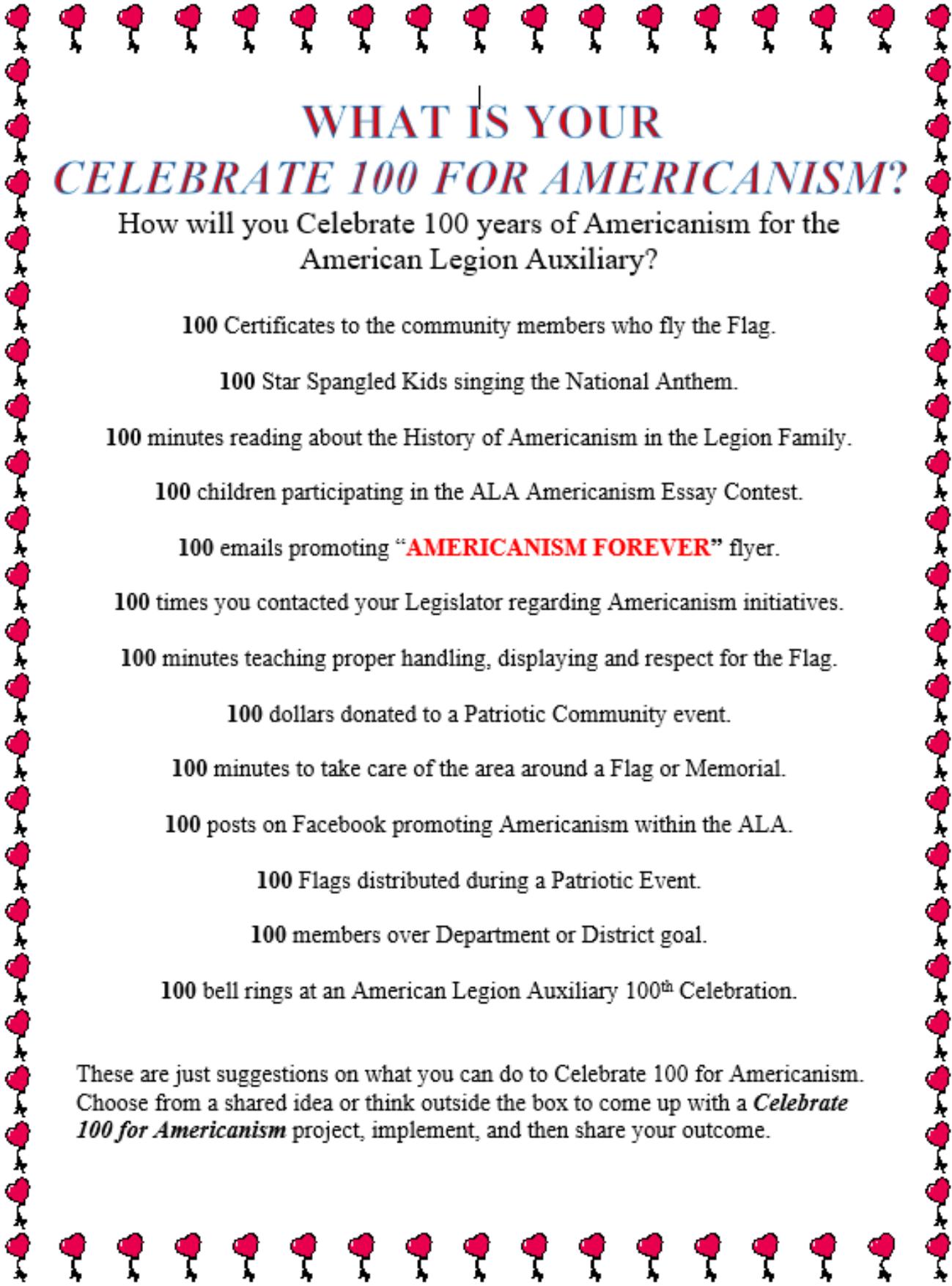
1. Know your **F**lag etiquette and history. Host flag etiquette ceremonies and classes. Share the importance with your community (host an event, share in the news, post on Facebook).
2. Promote patriotism at schools by providing American flags to classrooms, promote the Americanism **E**ssay Contest by contacting schools and youth groups, provide education on the U.S. Constitution.
3. Get out the **V**ote and Kids Voting USA. [www.legion.org/vote](http://www.legion.org/vote) [www.kidsvotingusa.org](http://www.kidsvotingusa.org)
4. **E**ducate youth about patriotism and what it means to those that served. Promote Star Spangled Kids, encourage our communities to fly the flag,
5. Contact state and federal **R**epresentatives and ask them to support the flag amendment.
6. Volunteer for patriotic events.
7. Give thank you certificates for businesses and individuals flying the flag.
8. Order pocket flags and distribute to active duty military overseas.
9. Conduct a flag folding ceremony. Conduct a flag disposal ceremony.
10. Sign up for text messages for when to display your flag at half-staff.
11. Support American Legion programs, Oratorical, Girls State, Baseball and Junior Shooting Sports.

### Tools and Resources

Flag Knowledge, go to <https://www.legion.org/flag>

<http://www.citizensflagalliance.org/>

**Get Text Alerts** when to display your Flag at half-staff by texting Flag to 534466.



## WHAT IS YOUR *CELEBRATE 100 FOR AMERICANISM?*

How will you Celebrate 100 years of Americanism for the  
American Legion Auxiliary?

100 Certificates to the community members who fly the Flag.

100 Star Spangled Kids singing the National Anthem.

100 minutes reading about the History of Americanism in the Legion Family.

100 children participating in the ALA Americanism Essay Contest.

100 emails promoting "**AMERICANISM FOREVER**" flyer.

100 times you contacted your Legislator regarding Americanism initiatives.

100 minutes teaching proper handling, displaying and respect for the Flag.

100 dollars donated to a Patriotic Community event.

100 minutes to take care of the area around a Flag or Memorial.

100 posts on Facebook promoting Americanism within the ALA.

100 Flags distributed during a Patriotic Event.

100 members over Department or District goal.

100 bell rings at an American Legion Auxiliary 100<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

These are just suggestions on what you can do to Celebrate 100 for Americanism.  
Choose from a shared idea or think outside the box to come up with a *Celebrate  
100 for Americanism* project, implement, and then share your outcome.

## AWARDS

**CELEBRATE 100:** Do any of the listed 100 activities and be entered in a \$100 drawing at June Convention. Send an email confirming what 100 activity that you did for 100 and your Unit will be entered. Must have proof with pictures, articles, receipts, etc. 2019-2020 winners will be drawn at October's conference. 2020-21 will be drawn at the June Convention.

### NATIONAL and DEPARTMENT:

Unit Award: Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program

Deadline: May 1, 2021

Send to **Nancy Moses** postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. EST on May 1, 2021.

- Entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Entry may include no more than 5 pictures and 5 news articles.
- Entry must have the National Report and Awards Cover Sheet attached and filled out (attached)
- First and Second Place Trophies for Best Department Americanism Program

### Americanism Essay Contest

2019 – 2021 Theme: "How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?" (see required cover sheet attached)

- Must be emailed or postmarked and sent to Nancy Moses by April 1, 2021.

Nancy Moses

2188 Treetop Lane

Hebron, KY 41048 (859) 817-9237 (h) (859) 630-7941 (cell)

brotherton42us@yahoo.com

**UNIT AMERICANISM REPORT FORM 2019-2021** December 1, 2020 May 1, 2021

Unit Name &amp; Number: \_\_\_\_\_ District #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Reporting: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the number of events held by your unit for each category and provide information on the back of this report or an additional sheet.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flag etiquette program  | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket Flag Program            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get out and Vote  | <input type="checkbox"/> Flag Disposal Ceremony         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Americanism Essay Contest   | <input type="checkbox"/> Boy/Girl Scout                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support of the American Legion Programs<br>(Oratorical, Baseball, Girls State, Junior Shooting) | <input type="checkbox"/> Flag donated to youth          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flag Day Celebration  | <input type="checkbox"/> Flags donated to the Community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thank You Certificate for displaying the Flag   | <input type="checkbox"/> Star Spangled Kids             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (Please list below or add additional sheet)  |   |

Please answer the following questions (1-7)

1. How did the unit promote the Americanism essay contest?
2. How did the unit promote the Flag program?
3. How did the unit promote patriotic holidays?
4. How did the unit encourage support of the Flag Amendment?
5. Did the unit support American Legion Americanism programs? How?
6. How did the unit promote Americanism in the community?
7. How did your units promote "Star Spangled Kids," educating children and youth about the U.S. Constitution from the aspect of patriotism and Americanism?
8. \_\_\_\_\_ # of miles driven in providing ALA service?
9. \_\_\_\_\_ # of volunteers for all projects
10. \_\_\_\_\_ # volunteer hours for all projects.

Please describe activities/projects carried out in the unit.

## MILITARY/PATRIOTIC HOLIDAYS

- **Feb. 3, 2020 – Four Chaplains Day** – A day to remember the four U.S. Army chaplains who made the ultimate sacrifice when the USAT Dorchester sank during World War II.
- **Feb. 19, 2020** – Coast Guard Reserve Birthday
- **March 3, 2020** – Navy Reserve Birthday
- **March 13, 2020 K-9 Veterans Day** – The date is the official birthday of the United States K9 Corps and a day to honor their service.
- **March 15, 2020 American Legion Birthday**
- **March 25, 2020 Medal of Honor Day** – A holiday to honor the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients for the United States.
- **March 29, 2020 – Vietnam Veterans Day** – A national holiday to recognize and honor Veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam War.
- **April 5, 2020 – Gold Star Spouses Day** – A day dedicated to those whose spouses gave their lives while serving in the U.S. military or as a result of service-connected injuries or illness.
- **April 14, 2020** – Air Force Reserve Birthday
- **April 23, 2020** – Army Reserve Birthday
- **May 1, 2020** – Silver Star Banner Day – Per Congressional resolution, it is an “Official Day to honor wounded, ill, and injured Veterans”.
- **May 8, 2020** – Military Spouse Appreciation Day – This date recognizes the service and sacrifices of military spouses.
- **May 13, 2020** – Children of Fallen Patriots Day – A day to honor the children left behind by the brave men and women who gave their lives while defending our freedom.
- **May 16, 2020** – Armed Forces Day Observed on the third Saturday every May, this is a day dedicated to paying tribute to men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.
- **May 25, 2020** – Memorial Day A solemn occasion to honor the men and women who died while serving in the military.
- **June 6, 2020** – Anniversary of the World War II Allied invasion in Normandy, France, now known as D-Day.
- **June 14, 2020** – Flag Day – A day to celebrate the adoption of the U.S. flag.
- **June 14, 2020** – Army Birthday
- **June 23, 2019** – Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday
- **June 27, 2020** – National PTSD Awareness Day – A day to bring awareness about issues related to PTSD.
- **July 4, 2020** – Independence Day
- **July 27, 2020** – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
- **Aug. 4, 2020** – Coast Guard Birthday
- **Aug. 7, 2020** – Purple Heart Day – A time for Americans to pause to remember and honor the brave men and women who were either wounded on the battlefield or paid the ultimate sacrifice.
- **Aug. 29, 2020** – Marine Forces Reserve Birthday
- **Sept. 11, 2020** – Patriot Day – An annual observance to remember and honor those who were injured or killed during the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.
- **Sept. 18, 2020** – Air Force Birthday
- **Sept. 27, 2020** – Gold Star Mother’s and Family’s Day – A day to honor the families of fallen Servicemembers.
- **Oct. 13, 2020** – Navy Birthday
- **Oct. 26, 2020** – National Day of the Deployed
- **Nov. 10, 2020** – Marine Corps Birthday
- **Nov. 10, 2020** – American Legion Auxiliary Birthday
- **Nov. 11, 2020** – Veterans Day – This is the anniversary of the signing of the armistice treaty, which ended World War I and is also a day to thank military Veterans for their service.
- **Dec. 7, 2020** – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day – The anniversary of the day Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, signaling the United States’ entrance into World War II.
- **Dec. 13, 2020** – National Guard Birthday
- **Dec. 19, 2020** – National Wreaths Across America Day

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR – FLAG DAY

To the Editor:

On Flag Day, June 14, we commemorate the adoption of the American flag. For more than 200 years, Old Glory has served as a symbol of our nation’s freedom and as a source of pride for our citizens. In patriotic parades and musical salutes, we support our local military and recognize the significance of the Stars and Stripes.

Flag Day is also a time to honor our nation’s veterans who have willingly served to protect the flag and the ideals it represents. With each ceremonial fold of the flag, we recognize the principles on which our country was founded: liberty, unity, justice, and sacrifice.

On Flag Day, I will join more than three-quarters of a million American Legion Auxiliary members across the nation as we honor our servicemembers and reflect on their commitment to our country.

Whether you are a veteran, the loved one of a servicemember, or a patriotic citizen, there are many ways to honor local heroes, such as visiting veterans’ homes, assisting with recognition ceremonies, collecting personal memories and photos from veterans to create keepsake journals, or simply flying the U.S. flag in tribute to their sacrifice.

As you wave the flag on June 14, remember that showing your gratitude for veterans does not have to be limited to Flag Day, Memorial Day, or Veterans Day. Throughout the year, join the American Legion Auxiliary in serving veterans, military, and their families who have sacrificed for our freedom.

Thank you to all who have served Old Glory. Happy Flag Day!

Founded in 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) helps to advance the mission of The American Legion. With nearly three-quarters of a million members, it is the world’s largest women’s patriotic service organization and one of the nation’s most prominent supporters of veterans, military, and their families. ALA members volunteer millions of hours annually, with a value averaging \$2 billion each year. From helping to draft the GI Bill in 1944 to advocating for veterans on Capitol Hill, The American Legion Family has been instrumental in advancing legislation that improves the quality of life for our nation’s veterans. To learn more and get involved, visit [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org).

[INSERT YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME HERE]

[INSERT YOUR LOCAL ALA UNIT TITLE (EXAMPLE: PRESIDENT, SECRETARY,  
MEMBER, ETC.)]

[INSERT YOUR LOCAL ALA UNIT NAME HERE]

[INSERT LOCAL CONTACT PHONE OR EMAIL HERE]



**AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST  
2021 Cover Sheet**

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund. National winners will be posted at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org) after convention.

**Essay Title:** *"How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families"*

**Essay Classes:**

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

**Essay Checklist:**

- Class competing in \_\_\_\_\_
- Sponsoring ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_
- Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- Word count of essay \_\_\_\_\_
- Due date for student to return to ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_

**To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):**

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit winner due to Department on: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Department Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

**Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2021**



## American Legion Auxiliary National Report and Award Cover Sheet

Please note, your report will also be viewed as an award entry.

**Complete the following if you are applying for a member award.** Be sure to give the complete name of the member. The award certificate will be prepared using the information you include below.

Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Full official unit name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of state where you are a member: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ALA member ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominating Member (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Phone number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

National committee sponsoring award: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Award:       Department       Unit       Member

Name of the award you are applying for: \_\_\_\_\_

**For a unit award or submit a year-end unit narrative report, please complete this section.** Be sure to give the complete name of your unit. The award certificate will be prepared using the information you include below.

Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Full official unit name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of department: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit president/chairman (circle one) name: \_\_\_\_\_

Above listed person's ALA member ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**For a department award or to submit a year-end department narrative report, please complete this section:**

Name of department: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of department chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman's phone number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ ALA member ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman's email address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please see your committee's annual Programs Action Plan supplement to determine where to send this form.*

# STAR-SPANGLED KIDS

As you may know Star-Spangled Kids was moved from the Children and Youth program to the Americanism program last year. When you hear Star-Spangled Kids, don't you think of red, white, and blue.... Americanism...Patriotism...fireworks.... excitement! Well that is what we are going to build, Star-Spangled Kids for the future.

In the past this initiative was used to promote the education of the Constitution. We are now going to broaden the initiative to include all teachable moments of Americanism and Patriotism. It will include but not be limited to the following.

- ✓ Flag etiquette
- ✓ 13 folds of the flag
- ✓ Flag retirement and disposal
- ✓ Patriotic parades
- ✓ Promoting Holidays such as, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, etc.
- ✓ Veterans in the classroom to talk about what the Flag means to them.
- ✓ Educating on any of the US Governing documents including the Constitution
- ✓ Teaching good citizenship and why community involvement promoting Americanism is so important
- ✓ Teach our youth why everyone eligible to vote should exercise their right, become informed on the issues, learn about candidates for office, and then VOTE!

This should make it easier for Units to report on what they did for the Star-Spangled Kids initiative when they write their Unit Year-End Report.

What will your Star-Spangled Kids look like? Will your Unit present certificates to community members, teachers, and Kids who help to promote this initiative?

There will be no specific National Award, however, think about what your Best All Around Narrative would look like with the inclusion of Star-Spangled Kids and how you promoted it. The possibilities are amazing. Let's see how many Units will include the Star-Spangled Kids in their 2020-2021 Mid-Year Report or Year-End Report for 2019-2021. Let's go Americanism TEAM. Let's help build Star-Spangled Kids for the future.

# ***AMERICANISM FOREVER***

- F** Promote FLAG etiquette, proper disposal, and proper folding. Participate in the Pocket Flag Program.
- O** Organize or participate in patriotic community events such as Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 9/11 Remembrance, Veterans Day, etc.
- R** Contact your Representatives at all levels of Government and promote The American Legion Legislative Agenda.
- E** Educate our youth and communities on the importance of Americanism and Patriotism.... FOREVER.
- V** VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! Encourage all citizens to exercise their right to vote, secured by all those who have fought, and some who have died, for this freedom.
- E** Promote the ESSAY CONTEST. The topic and cover sheet (2020-2021) with all necessary guidelines are in the Program Action Plan Supplement for 2019-2021.
- R** Remind members and our communities to support the American Legion Youth programs such as Legion Baseball, Shooting sports, The Oratorical Contest and of course Boys/Girls State and Boys/Girls Nation.