

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT’S AWARD FOR
EXCELLENCE 2018-2019**

Total Qty	Recipient	Submitted By	Deadline Date
11 Unit Awards	Unit	Unit President (Collaboration with unit members and chairmen)	June 1, 2019
1 Department Award	Department	Department President (Collaboration with department chairmen)	June 1, 2019
Hard Copy Submitted To:		American Legion Auxiliary NHQ Attn: NPAE 3450 Founders Road Indianapolis, IN 46268-1334	
Electronic Entry Submitted To:		natlpres@ALAforVeterans.org	

Criteria & Details

Your unit or department can win this award simply by working the ALA Programs! One National President’s Award for Excellence winner will be chosen from each program’s five division winners. BONUS: Tell us about how you incorporated the National President’s Focus into your mission outreach activities!

National President’s Focus – Women veterans and the specific issues they face, especially homelessness.

Forms: ALA National Award and Report Cover Sheet – this standardized award/report entry sheet can be used for all member, unit, and department awards. Please note the three different sections on the form (members, unit, and department) and use only the unit or department section when applying for the National President’s Award for Excellence.

Tips to Win:

- Tell us your story with words AND photos. Winning submissions have two things in common – a fantastic narrative and great photos!
- Highlight how your unit/department incorporated the national president’s focus into your mission outreach work.
- Correctly complete the ALA National Award and Report Cover Sheet.

Award Description

- The National President’s Award for Excellence will be presented during the ALA National Convention with a spotlight on each winning entry.
- All winners will be featured in ALA national media.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Outreach Ideas for 2018-2019

Focus: Issues facing women veterans

Americanism - Invite women veterans and their families to participate in Flag Etiquette Awareness Events at posts/units, local schools, or at other public functions. Encourage military children to enter the Americanism Essay Contest by contacting Family Readiness Groups and creating information packets containing deadlines, cover sheets, criteria, etc., for distribution.

Children and Youth - Seek out the children of women veterans through local schools, the VA, or homeless shelters. Be sure to include them in all your C&Y events and programs. Preference will be given to those unit and department award submissions that emphasize helping women veterans.

Community Service - Days of Service have a focus on empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and creating solutions to social problems. Be sure to reach out to local women veterans in your area and include them in your Day of Service Projects. Examples: Ask women veterans to speak in classrooms about their service, clean a facility that serves women veterans, or offer an employment mentoring workshop. ALA members should visit www.ALAforVeterans.org and the ALA Community Service Facebook group to learn more about how to get involved.

Education - Assist veterans and military youth pursuing higher education and vocation educational opportunities, with special emphasis on women veterans. Identify educational gaps that could be filled such as transitioning military, US Guardsman, military spouses, or women veterans' need for childcare at the department and unit levels. Check in regularly on the ALA Education Facebook group and monthly eBulletins for ideas and examples of those we help.

Junior Activities - Include your Juniors in all you do, especially when helping women veterans and homeless women veterans. Juniors can be a big help and often bring fresh ideas and youthful enthusiasm to a project.

Leadership - Mentoring is a great way to provide support and assistance to women veterans who are transitioning back into the civilian community. Offering to assist with job interviewing skills, resume building, and clothing needs will help prepare individuals to succeed and achieve. Search local businesses that are owned and operated by women veterans. Assist these businesses by promoting and financially supporting the products and services they offer. Connect with local homeless shelters and VA outreach programs to discover if women veterans have specific needs to enable them to safely enhance their living conditions and maximize employment opportunities.

Legislative - Focus areas while advocating for the legislative priorities: instituting gender-specific health care for women veterans, defending veteran education benefits, and ending veteran homelessness. Visit www.legion.org/legislative, the ALA Legislative Facebook group, and the *ALA Legislative Advocacy Guide* to learn more about our positions on these topics.

Together, we'll work to ensure government funding is available to end veteran homelessness, VA medical centers have increased their access to care for women veterans, and that the GI Bill is protected and its use leads to meaningful employment.

Membership (Department Only) - Follow National's lead and encourage your unit/department to offer our "Honor Our Women Veteran" discounted/free membership by waiving the first year's dues

for all women veterans. Ask ALL women veterans to join our organization. Locate homeless women veterans by contacting local shelters and support groups in your community. Waiving their first year's dues can be a valuable recruiting tool for our organization when recruiting these dedicated veterans. Identify local businesses that are owned, operated, or managed by women veterans and offer the veteran our discounted/free membership, plus request permission to leave a display featuring ALA membership information.

National Security - Ensure male military spouses that are seeking employment have and maintain meaningful employment in order to prevent or reduce financial hardship for our military families. Participate in the career e-mentoring network through Academy Women. Get involved with military spouse job fairs in your community and offer to staff an information booth about the ALA. Deployed servicewomen are often in need of care packages specific to them. Consider preparing women specific care packages or work with an organization like Operation Courage is Beautiful, which provides high quality products for deployed servicewomen. For more information visit www.operationcourage.org and join the ALA National Security Facebook group.

Poppy - Put the face of the woman veteran to the forefront of the Poppy program in Auxiliary activities. Work the poppy program with an active duty or woman veteran – this could be an avenue to new membership! You could ask women veterans to be a part of your National Poppy Day® activities or help judge the Poppy Poster Contest. Think about arranging for a woman veteran and active duty servicewoman to speak to students at your local school for Veterans Day, promote and publicize your events with The American Legion Family, including your Juniors. Invite your active duty or woman veteran to help in an event, and then ask her to your meeting. This way she will also have a glimpse of what we do and an understanding of our mission.

Public Relations - Work with your local U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Vet Center Program on ways to utilize their Mobile Vet Center. Vet Centers around the nation provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to veterans and their families. The Mobile Vet Center is a special outreach effort capable of bringing specific resources to women veterans including military sexual trauma counseling, post-traumatic stress disorder counseling, disaster relief, services that help veterans transition to civilian life, and more. ALA units should identify ways to utilize the Mobile Vet Center in community outreach efforts. One idea would be to host a women veterans event or retreat and invite the Mobile Vet Center to attend. Your ALA unit could then publicize the collaboration in local media. Learn more about the Mobile Vet Center and view resources and locations at www.vetcenter.va.gov.

VA&R - Work with VA transitional housing coordinators specifically assisting women. Establish a rapport with local coordinators. They need extra assistance when they have female veterans come in because they are harder to place due to having different needs and are more likely to have children with them. The good news is that many states have women veteran only shelters so members can help out by: adopting a shelter, providing meals, providing child-care, donating clothing, providing welcome baskets with female hygiene products, and/or donating baby items and toys/books for younger children. When planning a Stand Down, work with coordinators to provide services specifically for women such as: having a woman healthcare provider on site, provide female hygiene products, and access to mental health resources like crisis counseling.



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 to 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 Supplement to the Programs Action Plan to determine where to send this form.



American Legion Auxiliary National Report and Award Cover Sheet

PLEASE BE AWARE THE AWARDS AND REPORTING PROCESSES HAVE CHANGED. READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CLOSELY TO ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE SUPPLIED ALL NEEDED INFORMATION.

Member: The National Report and Award Cover Sheet should be attached if you are reporting. Submission may make you or your unit/department eligible for a national award.

Department Chairman and Unit Chairman: This cover sheet should be attached to each narrative submitted as a year-end report or if you are applying for a department or unit national award.

- Send all award entries/year-end narrative reports to the appropriate program's division chairman unless otherwise noted in the Annual Supplement to the Programs Action Plan.
- All year-end narratives will be judged as award entries.
- Award winners are announced in the respective committee “pre-con” meeting prior to the start of ALA National Convention. All awards will be mailed to the winners’ department headquarters at the close of ALA National Convention.

To all submitting this form:

Submissions become 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.

Please fill out the information as completely and accurately as possible. Award certificates will be completed using the information given on this sheet, so please be sure to complete the form in its entirety. For your convenience, a fillable version of this form is available online at www.ALAforVeterans.org.

For the award for which you wish to be considered, please refer to the 2017-2022 Programs Action Plan at www.ALAforVeterans.org for the specific criteria such as photographs, narrative length, submission deadline, and point of contact. Please include all required documentation along with your submission of the National Report and Award Cover Sheet. All awards will be mailed to the department office after ALA National Convention. Department presidents may wish to recognize award recipients by presenting them with the award at a department function.

American Legion Auxiliary
YEAR-END IMPACT REPORT FORMS
2018-2019

Why report these numbers?

Every hour, every dollar ALA members invest in our mission of helping veterans adds up. It not only gives each member a sense of pride in belonging to the world's largest patriotic women's organization, but it allows us to demonstrate our effectiveness to the world. Each small sum of numbers gets added into the collective numbers that are called Impact Numbers. These numbers proclaim our impact and help make membership in the ALA meaningful.

These numbers are also reported to The American Legion, which includes them in its annual report to Congress. To make this process easier for you, it has been simplified and the form has been condensed to include only essential information. If you aren't sure, giving an estimate is better than not reporting at all.

How to complete the Impact Report Form

1. **Each ALA member** should fill out the Member Form and give it to her unit president. This usually happens in April, but check with your unit.
2. The unit president (or her designee) compiles all of the member data on the Unit Form and adds any additional data not reported individually by unit members. This form then gets forwarded to either the district/county (if applicable) or department which compiles all the records.
3. It is more important that you report information in one section of the form only, rather than worry if you have selected the right category. For example, if you provide a service for children, it should go in either Service for Military Families (for example, camps for military children only) or Service for Children & Youth (Legion Family camps for all children), but not in both places. Just report it somewhere.
4. Please round to whole dollar values (for example, \$149.50 should be \$150).

Report Simplifications

1. All service for all military whether active duty, retired, or reserve is now combined in one section.
2. Each section has better defined examples of the service that should be reported.
3. **For units, districts, divisions, and departments:**
“Line numbers” and “Obtain Total From” columns assist in transferring data from form to form. For example, units can find the number of Volunteer Hours for Military Families on Line 5 of the Member Form.

A downloadable fillable monthly tracking worksheet is available on the national website under the Members Only, Annual Report Forms section: www.ALForVeterans.org.

Thank you for taking the time to REPORT your VALUABLE SERVICE and helping us TELL OTHERS about our INCREDIBLE IMPACT!

MEMBER Year-End Impact Numbers Report

I am a member of Unit # _____ Unit Name _____

Department _____

My name _____

Here is what I did in the 12 months from APRIL 1, 2018 TO MARCH 31, 2019.

1. **My ALA Service for Veterans/Active Duty/Reserve Military** (Examples: shopping for and preparing care packages for deployed troops, helping wounded warriors and elderly veterans at home, providing transportation, military send-off and welcome-home events, parades, projects for homeless veterans, activities related to distributing poppies, recording veteran histories, raising money for the Veterans Creative Arts Festival, fundraising events that benefit veterans (such as Walk, Run & Roll), assisting with veterans hiring fairs, advocating for The American Legion legislative agenda that supports veterans and the military.)

Line 1 Hours I volunteered: _____

Line 2 Dollars I personally spent/donated: \$ _____

Line 3 Number of veterans/military I assisted: _____

Line 4 Number of "Veterans in Community Schools" presentations I facilitated: _____

2. **My ALA Service for Military Families:** (Examples: programs for military and veterans' children, helping Family Support Groups, supporting adopt-a-military-family projects, military spouse hiring fairs, organizing and delivering hero packs, providing child care for military activities, distributing Blue Star Banners, providing G.I. Josh dogs)

Line 5 Hours I volunteered: _____

Line 6 Dollars I personally spent/donated: \$ _____

Line 7 Number of military families I served: _____

3. **My ALA Service for Youth** (Examples: Jr. Activities, classroom and patriotic activities for children, camps open to all children, raising funds for or promoting Legion Family activities like ALA Girls State)

Line 8 Hours I volunteered for ALA Girls State: _____

Line 9 Hours I volunteered for all other Legion Family youth activities: _____

Line 10 Dollars I personally spent on goods for youth activities (parties, backpacks): \$ _____

Line 11 My direct cash aid to help a needy child: \$ _____

Line 12 Number of children/youth served: _____

Line 13 Dollars I donated to all other child service charities (ex: Make a Wish, St. Jude's): \$ _____

Do not include donations to American Legion funds—these are reported by the Legion.

4. **My Service Representing the ALA in My Community** (Examples: blood drives, walks/runs, food pantries)

Line 14 Total number of hours for any service not included in Sections 1 through 3: _____

Line 15 Total dollars spent for any service not included in Sections 1 through 3: \$ _____

5. Mileage

Line 16 Miles driven in providing my above ALA service (not attending regular meetings): _____

When completed, send to: Unit President by April 1, 2019

(Get name and date from unit)

**CONGRATULATIONS – YOU DID IT!
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO AND FOR REPORTING YOUR SERVICE!**

UNIT Year-End Impact Numbers Report

Unit # _____ Unit Name _____

Department _____ Unit President _____

Your Name (if other than president) _____

Your Email _____

Number of Member Impact Reports _____

Here is what our unit did in the 12 months from APRIL 1, 2018 TO MARCH 31, 2019.

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active Duty/Reserve Military

	Service for Veterans/Military	Obtain Total From	Member	Unit	Total
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	Member Form Line 1		N/A	
Line 2	Total dollars spent	Member Form Line 2	\$	\$	\$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted	Member Form Line 3			
Line 4	Total number of "Veterans in Community Schools" presentations facilitated	Member Form Line 4			
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	Unit Records	N/A	\$	\$
Line 6	Number of poppies or poppy items distributed	Unit Records	N/A		
Line 7	Dollars raised from poppies	Unit Records	N/A	\$	\$

*Estimated cash value of non-cash donations from NON-MEMBERS of goods (like paper goods, clothing) or services (like pro-bono CPA services from a local firm)

2. Our ALA Service for Military Families

	Service for Military Families	Obtain Total From	Member	Unit	Total
Line 8	Total hours members volunteered	Member Form Line 5		N/A	
Line 9	Total dollars spent	Member Form Line 6	\$	\$	\$
Line 10	Number of military families served	Member Form Line 7			

3. Our ALA Service for Youth

	Service for Children & Youth	Obtain Total From	Member	Unit	Total
Line 11	Total hours for ALA Girls State	Member Form Line 8		N/A	
Line 12	Dollars spent for ALA Girls State	Unit Records	N/A	\$	\$
Line 13	Total hours for other Legion Family youth activities	Member Form Line 9		N/A	
Line 14	Dollars spent on goods for youth activities	Member Form Line 10	\$	\$	\$
Line 15	Dollar amount of direct aid to help a needy child	Member Form Line 11	\$	\$	\$
Line 16	All other UNIT expenses (parties, dinners, paper goods, trophies)	Unit Records	N/A	\$	\$
Line 17	Total number of children/youth served	Member Form Line 12			
Line 18	Donations to all other child service charities	Member Form Line 13	\$	\$	\$

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Community

	For any service not included in Sections 1-3	Obtain Total From	Member +	Unit =	Total
Line 19	Total number of hours	<i>Member Form Line 14</i>		N/A	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	<i>Member Form Line 15</i>	\$	\$	\$

5. Mileage

		Obtain Total From	Total
Line 21	Total miles driven in providing ALA service	<i>Member Form Line 16</i>	

6. Scholarships Presented/Awarded by Our Unit

	Scholarships	Obtain from	Total
Line 22	Number of unit scholarships presented/awarded	<i>Unit Records</i>	
Line 23	Total dollar amount of unit scholarships	<i>Unit Records</i>	\$
Line 24	Total dollar amount donated to department scholarships	<i>Unit Records</i>	\$

*When completed, send to: your District President _____ by April 15, 2019
(Get name and date from district or division, if applicable, or department)*

**CONGRATULATIONS – YOU DID IT!
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO AND FOR REPORTING
YOUR UNIT’S IMPACT!**

DISTRICT/DIVISION Year-End Impact Numbers Report

District/Division _____ Department _____

Number of Units in District/Division _____ Number of Units Reporting _____

Total Number of Members Reporting _____

Your Name _____ Email _____

Here is what our units did in the 12 months from APRIL 1, 2018 TO MARCH 31, 2019.

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active Duty/Reserve Military

	Service for Veterans/Military	Obtain Total From	Total
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	Unit Form Line 1	
Line 2	Total dollars spent	Unit Form Line 2	\$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted	Unit Form Line 3	
Line 4	Total number of "Veterans in Community Schools" presentations facilitated	Unit Form Line 4	
Line 5	Value of in-kind donations received*	Unit Form Line 5	\$
Line 6	Total number of poppies or poppy items distributed	Unit Form Line 6	
Line 7	Total dollars raised from poppies	Unit Form Line 7	\$

*Estimated cash value of non-cash donations from NON-MEMBERS of goods (like paper goods, clothing) or services (like pro-bono CPA services from a local firm)

2. Our ALA Service for Military Families

	Service for Military Families	Obtain Total From	Total
Line 8	Total hours members volunteered	Unit Form Line 8	
Line 9	Total dollars spent	Unit Form Line 9	\$
Line 10	Total number of military families served	Unit Form Line 10	

3. Our ALA Service for Youth

	Service for Children & Youth	Obtain Total From	Total
Line 11	Total hours for ALA Girls State	Unit Form Line 11	
Line 12	Total dollars spent for ALA Girls State	Unit Form Line 12	\$
Line 13	Total hours for other Legion Family youth activities	Unit Form Line 13	
Line 14	Total dollars spent on goods for youth activities	Unit Form Line 14	\$
Line 15	Total dollar amount of direct aid to help a needy child	Unit Form Line 15	\$
Line 16	Total other UNIT expenses (parties, dinners, paper goods, trophies)	Unit Form Line 16	\$
Line 17	Total number of children/youth served	Unit Form Line 17	
Line 18	Total dollars to other child service charities	Unit Form Line 18	\$

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in Our Communities

	For any service not included in Sections 1-3	Obtain Total From	Total
Line 19	Total number of hours	<i>Unit Form Line 19</i>	
Line 20	Total dollars spent	<i>Unit Form Line 20</i>	\$

5. Mileage

		Obtain Total From	Total
Line 21	Total miles driven by members in ALA Service	<i>Unit Form Line 21</i>	

6. Scholarships our Units & District/County Presented/Awarded

	Scholarships	Obtain Total From	Units	District or Division	Total
Line 22	Total number of scholarships presented or awarded	<i>Unit Form Line 22</i>			
Line 23	Total dollar amount of scholarships	<i>Unit Form Line 23</i>	\$	\$	\$
Line 24	Total dollar amount donated to department scholarships	<i>Unit Form Line 24</i>	\$	\$	\$

When completed, send to: District/Division President by May 1, 2019

Get name and date from division/division, if applicable, or department)

**CONGRATULATIONS---YOU DID IT! THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO
AND FOR REPORTING YOUR DISTRICT/DIVISION’S IMPACT!**

DEPARTMENT Year-End Impact Numbers Report

Department _____

Number of Units in Department _____ Number of Units Reporting _____

Total Number of Members Reporting _____

Your Name & Title _____ Email _____

Here is what our department did in the 12 months from APRIL 1, 2018 TO MARCH 31, 2019:

1. Our ALA Service for Veterans/Active Duty/Reserve Military

	Service for Veterans/Military	Obtain from Unit or District/County Forms	Total
Line 1	Total hours members volunteered	Line 1	
Line 2	Total dollars spent	Line 2	\$
Line 3	Total number of veterans/military assisted	Line 3	
Line 4	Total number of "Veterans in Community Schools" presentations facilitated	Line 4	
Line 5	Total value of in-kind donations* received	Line 5	\$
Line 6	Total number of poppies or poppy items distributed	Line 6	
Line 7	Total dollars raised from poppies	Line 7	\$
Line 8	Total number of veterans who made the poppies for distribution <i>(Does not apply to pre-assembled poppies)</i>	Dept. Records	
Line 9	Total amount paid to veterans who made poppies	Dept. Records	\$

*Estimated cash value of non-cash donations from NON-MEMBERS of goods (like paper goods, clothing) or services (pro-bono CPA services from a local firm)

2. Our ALA Service for Military Families

	Service for Military Families	Obtain Totals from Unit or District/County Forms	Total
Line 10	Total hours members volunteered	Line 8	
Line 11	Total dollars spent	Line 9	\$
Line 12	Number of military families served	Line 10	

3. Our ALA Service for Youth

	Service for Children/Youth	Obtain Totals from Unit or District/County Forms	Enter Totals from Units or District/County Forms	Enter Department Amount	Total
Line 13	Total hours for ALA Girls State (include non-member volunteers)	Line 11			
Line 14	Total dollars spent for ALA Girls State	Line 12	\$	\$	\$
Line 15	Total hours for other Legion Family youth activities	Line 13		N/A	
Line 16	Total dollars spent on goods for youth activities	Line 14	\$	\$	\$
Line 17	Total dollar amount of direct aid to help a needy child	Line 15	\$	\$	\$
Line 18	All other expenses (parties, dinners, paper goods)	Line 16	\$	\$	\$
Line 19	Total number of children/youth served	Line 17			
Line 20	Total donations to other child service charities	Line 18	\$	\$	\$

4. Our Service Representing the ALA in our Communities

	For any service not included in Sections 1-3	Obtain Totals from Unit or District/County Forms	Total
Line 21	Total number of hours	Line 19	
Line 22	Total dollars spent	Line 20	\$

5. Mileage

		Obtain Totals from Unit or District/County Forms	Total
Line 23	Total miles driven by members in providing ALA service	Line 21	

6. Scholarships Our Units, Districts, Counties, and Department Presented/Awarded

	Scholarships presented by Units, Districts/Divisions and Department	Obtain Totals from Unit or District/Division Forms	Enter Totals from Units or Districts/Divisions	Enter Department Amount	Total
Line 24	Total number of scholarships presented/awarded	Line 22			
Line 25	Dollar amount of scholarships	Line 23	\$	\$	\$
Line 26	Dollar amount donated to department scholarships	Line 24	\$	\$	\$

CONGRATULATIONS---YOU DID IT! THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO AND FOR REPORTING YOUR DEPARTMENT'S IMPACT!

Department Impact Numbers are due to ALAREports@ALAforVeterans.org by June 1, 2019.

Department Presidents: Remember - This ALA Impact Numbers Report is separate from your Department President's Report.

END OF YEAR IMPACT REPORTING

FAQs

- Question: Where do I report my service for a National Guard “Welcome Home” activity?
Answer: *Service for ALL members of the military, whether they are retired, active-duty or in the reserve component such as the National Guard is now reported in “Section 1: My Service for Veterans, Active-Duty, and Reserve Military.”*
- Question: Do I report my VAVS (Veterans Administration Voluntary Services) on the Impact Form since I already sign in at the VA when I volunteer?
Answer: *No, the ALA receives those hours from the VA on a yearly basis.*
- Question: Does time shopping for care packages for deployed military count as service?
Answer: *Yes, shopping for care packages not only counts as service hours under Section 1, but also mileage associated with shopping for care packages may be reported under the new section “Section 5: Mileage.”*
- Question: So.... does driving my daughter to Junior meetings count as service?
Answer: *Sorry, that falls within your responsibility as a parent. You get kudos for being a great ALA parent though!*
- Question: My unit volunteered at a summer camp for military kids. Where should I report this service?
Answer: *You may report service for summer camps open only to military kids under “Section 2: My ALA Service for Military Families.” If the camp is open to ALL children, then your service would be reported under “Section 3: My ALA Service for Youth.” But don’t worry if you don’t remember. Just report it somewhere.... once!*
- Question: My neighbor is deployed, so I help her husband by babysitting their children once a week. Does this count?
Answer: *Absolutely! Report this under “Section 3: My ALA Service for Military Families.”*
- Question: What if I don’t know exactly where on the form to report my service?
Answer: *You can always report it under “Section 4: My Service Representing the ALA in MyCommunity.”*
- Question: Can I count hours spent taking care of a veteran who lives with me but is not a blood relative?
Answer: *As long as you are not receiving compensation in return for your role as a care-giver (such as when you care for your spouse), you may report it under “Section 1: My ALA Service for Veterans, Active-Duty and Reserve Military.”*
- Question: Can I count hours spent preparing meals for Legion meetings and administrative support for TAL commanders as hours spent in Service to Veterans?
Answer: *Those hours count but should be reported under “Section 4: My Service Representing the ALA in My Community.” Some of our members aptly describe those activities as family chores.*

THANK YOU FOR SERVING *AND* REPORTING!