

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS

PO BOX 140407, AUSTIN, TX 78714-0407



MONTHLY BULLETIN

512-476-7278

SECRETARY@ALATEXAS.ORG

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WWW.ALATEXAS.ORG



## INFORMATION FROM HEADQUARTERS

### JANUARY

- 1ST-31ST NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH
- 1ST HAPPY NEW YEAR (OFFICE CLOSED THROUGH 2ND)
- 9TH NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY
- 16TH MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)
- 21-22 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

### FEBRUARY

- 1ST-28TH NATIONAL CANCER PREVENTION MONTH
- AMERICAN HEART MONTH
- BLACK HISTORY MONTH
- 3RD FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY
- 14TH VALENTINES DAY
- 17TH NATIONAL RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS DAY
- 20TH PRESIDENTS DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)



Happy  
New Year



## President's Report January 2023

Happy New Year to all of the Auxiliary members of the Department of Texas. My first order of this report is to "Welcome you all to flight #2023. We are prepared to take off into the New Year. Please make sure your Attitude and Blessings are secured and locked in an upright position. All self-destructive devices should be turned off at this time. All negativity, hurt and discouragement should be put away. Should we lose Altitude and under pressure, or encounter some turbulence during the flight, reach up and pull down a Prayer. Faith will automatically activate prayers. Once your Faith is activated you can assist other passengers. There will be no Baggage allowed on this flight. The Captain (GOD) has cleared us for takeoff. Destination: Greatness. Again, welcome aboard."

I thought I would start with something that will give us a new out-look on the New Year. I have left all of my old pressures behind and would like for each of you to do the same.

I went to Eufkin on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December for wreaths across American. They had a wonderful program honoring the deceased Veterans. Thanks Unit 113 for the hospitality and wonderful basket. I was able to place a wreath on one of the Veteran's grave and meet some very wonderful Auxiliary members and Legionnaires.

*I would like to give a shout out to our new units San Angelo Unit 572, 21 District, 4<sup>th</sup> Division and Naples Unit 0092, 1<sup>st</sup> District, and 1<sup>st</sup> Division. Congratulations Units, District, and Divisions. You are doing an excellent job.*

*Lastly, I would like to thank you all for the cards and gifts that were sent. Read these words because I mean it from the bottom of my heart.*

*"Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair,*

*Perhaps you sent a Gift Card if so I appreciated it more than You will know*

*Perhaps you spoke the Kindest words as any Friend could say.*

*Perhaps you did nothing at all, just thought of me that day*

*Whatever you did to console my Heart,*

*I Thank you so much whatever the Part.*

*You all know that death is a part of our life cycle and to have good caring people to think about you when you are grieving or any difficult obstacle you are facing makes life easier.*

*Just know I Love each and everyone of you and so glad that you are in my life.*

*We are in a new year and we are going to do even better than we did the first 5 months.*

*Myra Cooper, President*



# Children & Youth

# 2023

## JANUARY



## What is the C&Y Program?

The Children & Youth program emphasizes protecting, caring for and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families.

## Promoting C&Y

"Star Spangled Kids" is a program to educate children on the history of the United States in the aspect of patriotism, Americanism and The US Constitution.

<https://www.legion-aux.org/Americanism-Essay-Contest>

### Youth Hero Awards/Good Deed Awards:

This is a way the ALA can recognize youth in our communities who demonstrate good citizenship, either through brave physical act or a good deed.

[https://www.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Awards/Youth\\_Hero\\_Good\\_Deed\\_Award\\_nomination\\_form.pdf](https://www.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Awards/Youth_Hero_Good_Deed_Award_nomination_form.pdf)

## Ideas

- Organize volunteer projects for youth to help the elderly with home projects or visitations
- Collect teddy bears for first responders
- Assemble emergency backpack cards (ask me how)
- Place a piggy bank in your post and collect change for Child Welfare Foundation (we are in a contest with the SAL for most collected. I will bring piggy banks to mid winter if you need one)
- Reach out to your local Child Protective Services or schools to identify any needs for the children
- Distribution of buttons to military children on the base (I will have at mid winter) and stickers for Kids Are Heros 2
- Conduct a "Kids of Deployed are Heros 2" ceremony (QR code has details)
- Donate \$1 per member to AL Child Welfare Foundation and receive a banner for your unit (*send to Dept and earmark for AL-CWF*)
- **Recognize a child for a Youth Hero or Good Deed Award**
- Collect coats, gloves and hats for children in need for the winter season
- Prepare Valentine's cards for the senior citizen centers



Scan the QR codes

C&Y WEB LINKS



BACKPACK CARD



C&Y FACEBOOK

### Your Committee

1st Division: Christi Barnicle  
cb479@hotmail.com

2nd Division: Kami Kemp, Chair  
kami@leasingtexas.com

3rd Division: Betty Bartosh  
davidandbettybartosh@yahoo.com

4th Division: Joan Crider  
j\_crider720@hotmail.com



# American Legion Auxiliary

## Youth Hero and Good Deed Award Nomination Form

**NAME OF YOUTH** \_\_\_\_\_

Youth's Age \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Male ☐ Female Date of deed \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. of \_\_\_\_\_

Description of bravery and/or deed performed by youth (to be completed by unit)

- **Good Deed Award** – Youth should demonstrate leadership role in community service, specific deed should be present
- **Youth Hero Award** - Youth should demonstrate a physical act of valor

Attach extra pages as need. Please attach news clippings or include website to verify the deed being recognized.

### UNIT CERTIFICATION (MUST BE CERTIFIED BY TWO UNIT MEMBERS)

Unit Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Units should send completed applications to their department secretary.***

### DEPARTMENT SECRETARY CERTIFICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department secretary mail nomination to ALA National Headquarters, 3450 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268, or email to [Children&Youth@ALAforVeterans.org](mailto:Children&Youth@ALAforVeterans.org). Awards will be shipped at no cost.

Please ship to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Please use this form for all Youth Hero and Good Deed Award nominations. For more information, contact National Headquarters at [Children&Youth@ALAforVeterans.org](mailto:Children&Youth@ALAforVeterans.org) or (317) 569-4500.*

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY** ☐ Youth Hero Award ☐ Good Deed Award

Date received \_\_\_\_\_ Date shipped \_\_\_\_\_





Your donations to the Child Welfare Foundation  
give youth-serving organizations across the nation  
the means to support the needs of children



# CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION

## PROVIDING COMFORT, CARE, AND HOPE FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN



Made with  
Your Donations

### CWF Donation Facts

Serving Size: A Full Heart

Servings Per Can: Thousands of Hearts

Amount/Serving	What U Can
Benefits from Donation	Boundless
% Daily Value	

Generating Kindness	100%
Enhancing Children's Lives	100%
Assisting Military Children	100%
Supporting The American Legion	100%
Making a Difference for Kids	100%

#### NO EXPIRATION DATE

**INGREDIENTS:** Established in 1954, The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation was developed as a repository of funds from individuals who wished to contribute to the betterment of children in this country.

- ★ Millions of dollars in grants awarded
- ★ Improving the quality of life for children
- ★ Contributing to the needs of children and youth
- ★ Making a difference one donation at a time

For more information, visit us online at  
[www.legion.org/childwelfare](http://www.legion.org/childwelfare)



American Legion  
Auxiliary

***“YOU’RE A KID HERO 2”***

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

Is hereby recognized as a Military Kid Hero 2

Pam Ray  
American Legion Auxiliary  
National Children & Youth Chairman

Vickie Koutz  
American Legion Auxiliary  
National President



# **Midwinter Community Service**

## **Teddy Bear Collection Challenge**



**Saturday Jan 21, 2023**

**Bring your bears for the count. At 10:30 a.m.,  
the first responders will come to pick up the  
donated bears and take pictures.**

**These bears will be given to children in crisis  
so bring your bears and winning smiles.**

**Your Division President is counting on you.**

**Let's show our National President that Texas  
cares about our children and our Communities.**





*The Finance Committee is very excited to continue the Italian Charm bracelet fund-raising efforts, and we thank all of you who have purchased one or started a second bracelet!*

*We have a few new charms including the Poppy flower, Minnie Mouse, Pink heart with “Hope”, Praying Hands, and more. The updated order form is available on the ALA Texas website. Feel free to scan it to me and I will have your bracelet ready to pick up at MidWinter.*

*We also have a new item that our vendor was overstocked in and offered to us - **purse hangars** with the Air Force, Army, Navy, or Marine Corps emblems. Only \$4 each!*

*Hope to see everyone in Austin but if you can't make it, we can mail your bracelet to you for a \$4 shipping fee....*

*The fiduciary stewardship of the ALA budget is a serious task and we appreciate your trust in us as we pave the way to simpler and more transparent reporting methods and organization. We are here to help in any way we can so please don't hesitate to call on us if you have questions or need assistance.*



NAME &amp; UNIT:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

\*\*limited quantities on some - will call or email if need to substitute

PRICES:

Bracelet with 2 free charms	\$12
Single charms	\$5
**Five charms special	\$20
PACKAGE DEAL - 1 bracelet with 7 charms	\$32

	ITEMS	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY
PATRIOTIC, MILITARY, 1ST RESPONDER	Bracelet	\$12 each with 2 free charms (indicate #1 & #2 below)	
	US Flag		
	Texas Flag		
	US Flag "Veteran"	Yellow background; "veteran" under US flag	
	US Flag with Cross	US flag with thin gold cross inside	
	Support Our Troops	Red & blue ribbon with stars or Yellow Ribbon	
	Army	Blue background with star and "US Army"	
	Army	Army seal (white, black, & gold)	
	Air Force	Air Force seal (white, gold, & blue)	
	Marine Corps	Marine Corps seal (red, gold, & black)	
	Navy	Navy seal (black & gold)	
	Blue or Silver Star		
	POW / MIA	black silhouette	
	Misc	101st Airborne, FDNY,	
MISC	Betty Boop		
	Praying Hands		
	Cancer Heart	Pink heart with HOPE in middle	
	Auxiliary	Emblem	
	Minnie Mouse	head shot with pink bow	
	Cowboy Hat and Boot	Cowboy Hat on Boot w/ silver background	
	Children & Youth	Circle of children holding hands	
PDP THEMED CHARMS	Poppy	Red Poppy flower	
	Bears (Myra Cooper)	Brown & Yellow Care Bear (circle the color you prefer)	
	Sunflowers - (Teresa Copeland)	Field of sunflowers	
	High Heeled Shoe - (Shay Kuehner)	Yellow shoe with blue sparkly background	
	Rosie the Riveter (Christine Trahan)	"We Can Do It (Rosie with fist raised)	
	Silver Heart (Katherine Morris)		
	Horse (Barbara Kundert)	brown horse head	
	Light Bulb & Elephant (Paula Raney)	Yellow light bulb or blue elephant	
	Bumble Bee (Mary Ann Paul)		
	Music Note (Marty Peters)	black music note on silver background	
	Owl (Donna Dillard)	brown & white owl	
	Smiley Face (Marion Odell)	smiley face with angels wings	
	Teapot (Brenda Towers)	Red, white, & blue teapot	
	Hummingbird (Vicki Pollard)	blue & white hummingbird on red flower	
NEW	**NEW** Purse Hangars	Marines, Army, Navy, and Air Force \$4 each	
	Shipping	\$4 if applicable	
	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:		

ID \_\_\_\_\_ CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK \_\_\_\_\_ WILL PICK UP AT COVENTION/DEC  
 \_\_\_\_\_ CREDIT CARD \_\_\_\_\_ MAIL TO ADDRESS ABOVE (include \$4 shipping)

Scan order form to: Shay Kuehner at Shay1956@sbcglobal.net

Finance  
Committee



# MEET AND GREET

COME MEET OUR NATIONAL PRESIDENT VICKIE KOUTZ

SATURDAY JANUARY 21, 2023, MIDWINTER

4:00 – 5:30  
PM

SOUTHPARK AUSTIN  
MADAM PRESIDENT MYRA COOPER ROOM ON THE 14<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR

TAKE A PICTURE WITH PRESIDENT VICKIE AND MYRA

APPETIZERS AND PUNCH WILL BE SERVED

SPONSORED BY THE GOODWILL COMMITTEE

CARLENE  
TERESA  
DOROTHY  
CHRISTINE





# American Legion Auxiliary Texas Bluebonnet Girls State

## **2023 INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Location: Texas Lutheran University – Seguin, TX

Dates: Sunday, June 18, 2023 – Saturday, June 24, 2023

Fee: \$425.00 per delegate (does not include transportation to and from Girls State)

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of American Legion Auxiliary Texas Bluebonnet Girls State is to educate young women in the duties, privileges, rights, and responsibilities of American citizenship. We teach that a well-informed, intelligent, participating citizenry serves to protect and preserve our American institutions and democracy. Girls State is a mythical 51st State in which its citizens organize their own city, county, and state governments. The young citizens “learn by doing.”

### **THE PROGRAM**

Each day is carefully planned so that each student will have a part in the function of Girls State and the opportunity of learning for herself that her government is what she makes it. A visit to the State Capitol is included which offers an opportunity to assemble in the halls of our legislative bodies and meet state officials. The entire program is non-partisan -- the “National” and “Federal” political parties organized during the session are purely mythical and for the sole purpose of enabling the students to set up their own city, county, and state governments, using the existing constitution and laws as guides.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- Eligibility is limited to any female student currently enrolled in the junior or third year of senior high school. All Texas high schools are eligible whether public or private.
- Students may not participate in more than one session of Girls State as citizens.
- Participation in Girls State is not confined to daughters of members of the American Legion Auxiliary.
- A student whose religion does not permit her to pledge allegiance to the U.S. flag is not eligible to attend.
- Students must be able to participate in all scheduled activities.
- The Girls State Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any application for citizenship in Girls State.
- To qualify for a certificate and pin, the student must attend the entire session. She may not leave the campus except on scheduled trips of the entire group.
- All registration materials sent to a student and her parent/guardian by Girls State must be completed and submitted in a timely manner or the reservation will be cancelled without refund of fee.

### **SELECTION OF STUDENTS**

- The basic qualifications for Girls State citizenship are leadership, citizenship, scholarship, and character. Selection should be based on these qualifications rather than on a single achievement such as excellence in scholarship or proficiency in athletics.
- Selection should be determined by nominations from the faculty of the school attended by the candidate and approved by a school official. Please do not select a student and request the school to approve.

### **SPONSORSHIP**

- The fee to reserve a spot may be funded by an ALA unit, school, or any interested community organization.
- Under no circumstance shall a student or her parent/guardian/family pay the registration fee.
- The cost for the entire session is \$425.00 exclusive of transportation to and from Seguin.
- An alternate delegate should be selected in the event the student who is chosen is unable to attend.
- Each student, if invited, is expected to appear before her sponsoring group and describe her experiences at Girls State after the session.
- Students should not be instructed to return from Girls State with “high honors” or election to a particular office.

### **REGISTRATION DATES**

- **February 1, 2023 – May 1, 2023** Reservations open for ALA Units. Reservation Forms post-marked earlier than February 1st will not be accepted.
- **February 15, 2023 – May 1, 2023** Reservations open for schools to reserve spots directly.

### **REGISTRATION RULES**

- No more than 6 students from any single school may be registered.
- A school may be sponsored by an ALA unit in an adjacent city or district if no unit within close proximity participates.
- A school may register for delegate spots directly without ALA sponsorship.
- An ALA unit may sponsor a home school student if she meets all eligibility requirements and qualifications.
- Reservations tend to fill up quickly. If reservations are full, you will be notified, and your reservation will be added to a waitlist. As spots become available, reservations will be moved from the waitlist in the order received.

### **REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS/PROCESS**

- Mail Fee and completed "Reservation Form" to American Legion Auxiliary Dept Headquarters in Austin. Upon receipt, the Girls State Registrar will send to you "Delegate Information Forms" for the number of spots reserved. Please do not notify a student of her selection until you have received a "Delegate Information Form" as this form verifies that space is available for the student.
- Complete the "Delegate Information Form" for each student and return to the Girls State Registrar. Be sure all email addresses provided on the form are accurate and legible. This form must be signed by a School Official.
- Upon receipt of the "Delegate Information Form", Girls State will email the student and her parent/guardian directly with a link and instructions for completing the registration process on-line.
- With-in a few days of the student completing and submitting the on-line registration form, she will receive a "Girls State Citizen Instruction Packet" via email. These instructions will also be sent to the parent/guardian.
- The parent/guardian will receive an additional, separate email to electronically fill out and sign a health information form, a travel form, a media release, and a waiver of claims.
- Once all the above items have been completed, the student will be fully registered for the Girls State program.

### **CANCELLATIONS**

- Contact the Girls State Registrar by phone or email to cancel a reserved spot or delegate. Cancellations must be followed up in writing. Any cancellation on or before May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 will receive a full refund.
- Cancellations after May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 will receive a two-thirds refund so long as the Girls State session opens with 500 delegates.
- No-shows are not eligible for a refund.

### **PREPARING YOUR DELEGATES FOR GIRLS STATE**

- Provide delegates with your contact information in the event they have questions or need to cancel their participation.
- Work with your delegates to arrange for transportation to and from Seguin. Transportation must be provided by the unit, school, or parents. Girls State does not provide transportation, including transportation to or from area airports.
- Encourage delegates to visit the Girls State website ([www.girls-state.org](http://www.girls-state.org)) for additional information including an overview of the program, the schedule of events and packing suggestions.
- Do not tell a delegate that she may leave the program early to attend another camp or that she may leave the program to attend another event and then return to Girls State as full-time participation is required.
- Contact the Girls State Registrar or a member of the ALA Girls State Committee with questions.
- Two citizens from the 2023 session of ALA Texas Girls State will be selected to attend ALA Girls Nation in Washington DC. To be eligible to attend, the delegate may be required to provide proof of citizenship or legal residency.

#### **GIRLS STATE REGISTRAR**

American Legion Auxiliary  
PO BOX 140407  
Austin, TX 78714  
512-476-7278  
[registrar@alatexas.org](mailto:registrar@alatexas.org)

#### **ALA GIRLS STATE COMMITTEE**

Ann Doan, Division I, Chairman  
817-366-0754  
  
Karen Rodriguez, Division II  
281-546-9202  
  
Phyllis Janke, Division III  
979-793-5244  
  
Martha Collis, Division IV  
806-282-4309

#### **GIRLS STATE DIRECTORS**

Lori Swann, Director  
713-449-4138  
[GirlsState@alatexas.org](mailto:GirlsState@alatexas.org)  
  
Connie Bridges, Co-Director  
210-262-2771

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**  
**Department of Texas**  
**2023 GIRLS STATE SESSION**

PLACE: TEXAS LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY, SEGUIN, TEXAS  
DATES: Sunday, June 18, 2023 – Saturday, June 24, 2023  
RESERVATIONS OPEN: February 1, 2023 (POSTMARK DATE)  
RESERVATION FEE: \$425.00

IMPORTANT: Fee for **each** reservation and this completed form must be sent to American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters. The form may be duplicated as needed to reserve additional spots. There are a maximum of 6 reservations per school.

**RESERVATION FORM**

UNIT# \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ (ALA use only)

TO: **Girls State Registrar (512) 476-7278**  
**American Legion Auxiliary**  
**PO Box 140407**  
**Austin, Texas 78714-0407**

ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_, registration fee(s) for \_\_\_\_\_ student(s).

1. NAME OF SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_
2. NAME OF SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_
3. NAME OF SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_
4. NAME OF SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_
5. NAME OF SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_
6. NAME OF SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
SPONSORING ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

**GIRLS STATE CONTACT** \_\_\_\_\_  
(name)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(street or box) (city) (zip)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(email)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(phone#)



## **Junior Auxiliary Mid-Winter Service Project**

We will be collecting the Following for the  
ASYMCA Killeen Food Bank

Diapers – All Sizes

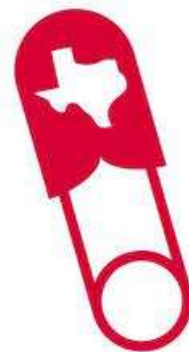
Wipes

Diaper Rash Cream

Baby Powder

Baby Wash

Baby Lotion



Let's Help our Military Moms start the year out  
with a little less stress!!!

Please email Mid-Year Reports to Nicole Ebner at  
[nicolerebner@yahoo.com](mailto:nicolerebner@yahoo.com)



# TEXAS LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

Have you signed up for ACTION ALERTS??  
This is the most recent way that YOU can  
make a difference in the lives of our VETERANS!

## Protect our Camp Lejeune Veterans from Predatory Lawyers

After the passage of the Camp Lejeune Justice Act, veterans and family members who used contaminated water at Camp Lejeune can finally file lawsuits to recover damages for toxic exposure - but now unscrupulous lawyers are seeking to get rich off of them.

Attorneys are bound by U.S. code to charge "reasonable fees" when representing cases before the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Under the Federal Tort Claims Act, attorneys may also not charge a contingency fee in excess of 25 percent. While protections against excessive legal fees exist in other areas, none of the aforementioned statutes or regulations apply to those seeking a cause of action under the CLJA.

Consequently, predatory law firms have blanketed the airwaves of television, radio, and social media with marketing campaigns targeting veterans through sponsored content. With no federal limits on contingencies, lawyers can charge fees upwards of 60% to sick veterans. We cannot allow this exploitation to persist.

In response to this, The American Legion National Executive Committee passed [Resolution No. 15: Oversight of Camp Lejeune Justice Act](#) at its Fall meeting, urging Congressional oversight to ensure veterans' protections against predatory law firms. This means setting reasonable caps on attorney fees, and we ask that you write your Senators today to demand they pass legislation instituting them!

### **American Legion VoterVOICE QR Code**



Scan this code with your smartphone and Sign up for VoterVOICE

Help our Veterans

Sign up Today

Share this page with others!

### **SOUTHERN DIVISION E-MAIL CHALLENGE**

Beginning January 1, 2023 through May 1, 2023, keep a tally on the number of e-mails sent by your members and send to me by May 1, 2023. (pretty tight deadline but we'll give it our best shot)

Southern Division Chairman will be awarding three \$25 gift certificates to the departments with the most reported e-mails sent to their members of Congress.

The large departments will not be competing against the smaller units. She has divided the department into small, medium, and large departments.

TEXAS, WE CAN  
WIN THIS, RIGHT??

### How to scan a QR code

1. Open the built-in camera app on your phone
2. Point the camera at the QR code
3. Tap the banner that appears on the screen

### Sites to create a QR code

- QRCode Monkey, [qrcode-monkey.com](https://qrcode-monkey.com)
- QR Code Generator, [goqr.me/](https://goqr.me/)
- QR Stuff, [qrstuff.com/](https://qrstuff.com/)
- Beaconstac, [beaconstac.com/qr-code-generator](https://beaconstac.com/qr-code-generator)
- Canva, [canva.com](https://canva.com) (Canva users can use the app within the software to generate QR codes in their designs.)

### What to avoid when using QR codes

- Research what size is best for your media. Going too big or too small with the QR code can cause scanning errors.
- Don't put it on the web. Visitors on your site are already there and scanning a QR code is harder than tapping a link. The same applies for email.

So, Active and Concerned Texas ALA members,

1. Follow the instructions above

“How to scan a QR code”

2. Fill out the information

And you will receive notifications when there is an issue that NEEDS our input to our elected officials to LET THEM KNOW how we feel about the matter and what we want them to do!

3. Share the Q.R. Code with all your neighbors and friends – the more the merrier and the more impact we will have to help our veterans!

**ADDITIONALLY, UNIT PRESIDENTS**

*Please be SURE to have your members while they are in your next meeting*

*Use their smart phones and sign up.*

*Then each month as you meet find out how many sent emails to their elected officials between January 1, 2023 and May 1, 2023.*

*Send me the totals so that we can submit our HUGE TEXAS NUMBERS to our Southern Division Legislative Chairman and WIN, WIN, WIN!!!*

Please know how much we appreciate each of you.

~Your Texas Legislative Committee, Marty and Mary



## TEXAS MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN

January 2023

The holidays are over and we are through juggling all those gifts, parties and family gatherings. Now is the time we turn and start to really focus on membership, by looking at our membership rosters and calling all those members who have not renewed their membership for 2023. This is the new calendar year and members not holding a 2023 membership card are now past due.

Remind them WHY they joined and ask them to honor the one WHO gave them the privilege to belong, and WHY their membership counts. Let them know our Veterans are counting on each of us and with their support we can continue to achieve all the wonderful things we do for our veterans.

Department convention and the end of our membership year are rapidly approaching. As a Unit and as a Department we want to achieve 100%. We can do this! Yes we can!

Working membership together by recruiting new members, renewing those that have not renewed and retaining members are our goals, as we gather under the big top at department convention.



REMEM-BEAR WHO YOU HONOR!!!

Happy New Year from the membership team,  
Mary Waddell, Division III

Carlene Ashworth, Division II  
Paula Raney, Division 1  
Gayle Simpson, Division IV

# Past President's Parley

## Happy New Year!

As we move forward into the New Year, let's briefly take a look at the last two years. 2020 through 2022 were difficult years due to Covid – but we pulled through and became even stronger Units.

During 2023 let's focus on our culture through our Mission Statement. Let's continue to cultivate an environment of ideas, positivity, inclusiveness, innovation and collaboration and to unify and strengthen our Units.

The Unit Member of the Year award recognizes those serving at the Unit level who exemplify the values and ideals of the Auxiliary and whose accomplishments significantly impact the program work in their Units.

Unit Member of the Year deadline application is May 1, 2023 on the Department level. Department winner will be announced at our Department Convention with recognition at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention.

Past Presidents Parley Scholarship applications are also due by May 1, 2023. Thank you to the Units and Districts that have made generous donations allowing us the opportunity to award these scholarships. Unit that donations the most money for PPP scholarships will win a "tie" quilt. Second highest Unit wins a "tie" apron. Donations have to be received by May 15, 2023.

Salute to Servicemember award nomination forms are due by May 1, 2023. Established in 2003, this award has evolved from honoring women veterans to honoring active-duty women to honoring all enlisted personnel who are currently serving our country in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, and the National Guard/Reserve.

The forms are attached in this bulletin and can also be found on our Department website at [www.alatexas.org](http://www.alatexas.org). Please feel free to reach out to any of the PPP committee members should you have questions.

### Our 2022-2023 Committee Members:

#### Division 1

MaryAnn Paul – **Chairman**  
9916 Nixon Dr.  
McKinney, TX 75072  
214-629-8529  
[mapminmol@gmail.com](mailto:mapminmol@gmail.com)

#### Division 2

Brenda Towers  
3901 Montgomery  
Granbury, TX 76049  
817-578-0270  
[bjingranbury@aol.com](mailto:bjingranbury@aol.com)

#### Division 3

Betty Rohan  
6439 Kamas Lane  
Needville, TX 77461  
281-341-9966  
[brohan@msn.com](mailto:brohan@msn.com)

#### Division 1

Donna Dillard  
105 Pawnee Tr  
Lake Kiowa, TX 76240  
903-870-8770  
[threedtexas@gmail.com](mailto:threedtexas@gmail.com)

WE LOVE OUR VETERANS ~ WE TREAT THEM LIKE DIAMONDS



## Unit Member of The Year 2022-2023

Rules for honoring a "Unit Member of the Year" who provided outstanding service to our organization.

- Only "Senior" members in good standing are eligible. Current membership dues must be paid. Years of membership are **not** a part of the criteria. Nominee may be a new member. **Nominee cannot have obtained a leadership role higher than Unit President.**
1. Selection is based on accomplishments, activities, etc. for the current (2022-2023) administrative year.
  2. The Unit must submit a narrative of 1,000 words or less describing the nominee's accomplishments and activities together with the nominee's name and address.
  3. The President and Secretary must sign the entry form unless the nominee is one of them, in that case, a Past Unit President must sign the entry form.
  4. Each Unit may submit only one entry for its "Unit Member of the Year nominee."
  5. All entries must be received no later than **May 1, 2023** and sent to the Department Past Presidents Parley Committee Chairman, MaryAnn Paul.

***A Unit Member of the Year from each Department is recognized annually at the National Convention.***

### NOMINATION FOR UNIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Nominee Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Address \_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_

Division # \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Name and Location \_\_\_\_\_

Unit required signature \_\_\_\_\_ Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Unit required signature \_\_\_\_\_ Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form with narrative to:

MaryAnn Paul  
9916 Nixon Dr.  
McKinney, TX 75072

Or email – mapminmol@gmail.com

**Entry Must be received no later than May 1, 2023**



## **Salute to Servicemember Award**

Established in 2003, this award has evolved from honoring women veterans and to honoring all enlisted personnel who are currently serving our country in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corp and Coast Guard (includes National Guard and Reserve components of each branch).

One enlisted servicemember from each branch of service will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention in Austin, Texas in July 2023. Each one will then be forwarded to the American Legion Auxiliary National organization to compete where one servicemember from each branch as well as the National Guard/Reserve will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention. Recipients of the honor will attend the National Convention as guests of the Auxiliary.

### **Nomination Criteria:**

- A servicemember currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces with six months or more of federal service and National Guard/Reserve with less than six months of federal service and willing to attend the 2023 Nation Convention.
- A servicemember who demonstrates a track record of exemplary service, both in and out of uniform.
- Entry must be either a written narrative of 750 words or less or a YouTube video of 3 minutes or less that shows the nominated member demonstrating exemplary service both in and out of uniform.
- If you choose a You Tube video, it can take the place of a written narrative (see video checklist below).
- Entry must have nominees name and address, Unit name and number and signature of Unit President or Past Presidents Parley Chairman.
- One applicant for each branch of service per Unit may be entered. All entries must be received no later than May 1, 2023. Send entries to Texas Past Presidents Parley Chairman: MaryAnn Paul, 9916 Nixon Dr., McKinney, TX 75072 or emailed to mapminmol@gmail.com.
- If chosen as a Department honoree, and if she desires to be recognized and to address the American Legion Auxiliary assembly at the state convention in Austin, Texas, the servicewoman would do so at her own expense (or that of the Unit).

### **You Tube Video Checklist:**

1. Does not contain any copyrighted music, video, images or texts (not legally owned)
2. Is not set to "Private," as video must be public
3. Is under 2 GB in size
4. Is in .AVI, .MOV, .WMV, .MPG file format
5. Is three (3) minutes or less in length

**SALUTE TO SERVICEMEMBER  
AWARD NOMINATION FORM**

**Deadline for submission to PPP – May 1, 2023**

Servicemember's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Servicemember's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Servicemember's Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Servicemember's Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Servicemember's Date of Enlistment: \_\_\_\_\_

Servicemember's Awards & Decorations (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person making Nomination, if not the Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Email and Phone # of Person Making Nomination if not Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Will nominee be willing to attend the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention if chosen to represent there branch of service as the guest of the National Organization? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative \_\_\_\_\_ You Tube Video \_\_\_\_\_ (video link \_\_\_\_\_)

Unit Name Submitting Nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ District #: \_\_\_\_\_ Division #: \_\_\_\_\_

Required Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Unit President or Past Presidents Parley Committee Chairman)

Unit Contact: Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: This entry form must be accompanied by a Narrative of 750 words or less and include picture or a You Tube Video showing a track record of exemplary service. Remember, each Unit can send only one Nominee per branch of service . . . but may send one nominee from each branch, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corp or Coast Guard, Space Force (includes National Guard or Reserve).

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS  
PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY SCHOLARSHIP**

**Scholarship Application Rules:**

- Applicant shall be a resident of Texas.
- Applicant plans to attend a Texas Education Institution, studying in the field of medicine.
- Applicant is the child, grandchild, or great grandchild of a veteran or a veteran in their own right who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion.
- Selection of recipients shall be based on financial need, goals of Applicant, character, citizenship and objective.
- Application may be obtained from the American Legion Auxiliary website at [www.alatexas.org](http://www.alatexas.org) or from a Past Presidents Parley committee member or an Auxiliary Unit in the community in which the applicant resides.

**Application Requirements:**

1. A letter not more than 500 words from the applicant stating their qualifications and intentions.
2. Three (3) original letters of recommendations which must be written within ninety (90) days of submission. (Example: acquaintances, present or previous employer or educator)
3. Copy of DD214 of Veteran(s) referenced on application.
4. Copy of high school or college transcript.
5. Application **MUST** be signed off by an American Legion Auxiliary Unit.
6. Application packet must be received NO LATER than May 1, 2023.

Mail Medical Scholarship Applications to:

MaryAnn Paul, Chairman

Past Presidents Parley Committee

9916 Nixon Dr.

McKinney, TX 75072

Or email [mapminmol@gmail.com](mailto:mapminmol@gmail.com)

Final determinations shall be vested in the Past Presidents Parley Chairman and Committee at the annual state convention and checks will be mailed to the college or university the applicant will be attending. If the applicant decides not to attend, monies must be returned to the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Texas, P.O. Box 140407, Austin, TX 78714-0407

**American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Texas  
Medical Scholarship Application  
Past Presidents Parley**

***To be used if Applicant is "Not" Dependent on Parents***

Full Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant's Major \_\_\_\_\_

Has applicant received a Medical Scholarship from the Past Presidents Parley in the past? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, when \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Income \_\_\_\_\_

Application for Scholarship is being made on Military Service of: (Circle One)

Father    Mother    Self    Grandfather    Grandmother    Great Grandfather    Great Grandmother

Name of Veteran if different from the applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date entered Active Service \_\_\_\_\_ Discharge Date \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Separation or Discharge \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ (if Deceased) \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: Married \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_\_

Record of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Income \_\_\_\_\_

If Veteran, give dates of service \_\_\_\_\_ If spouse is deceased, date of death \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children in family: Under 18 years of age \_\_\_\_\_ Over 18 years of age \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Dependents in the home other than immediate family \_\_\_\_\_

Date of High School graduation \_\_\_\_\_ Grade average last four years \_\_\_\_\_

Name and location of High School \_\_\_\_\_

Name and location, including exact mailing address of College or University applicant plans to attend or is currently attending.

College grade average last year \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Note to Applicant**

**Scholarships are valid for twelve (12) months from issue date. Checks not processed within that period are deemed null and void and are not replaceable.**

**Please be sure to attach all required materials to this application and submit too the American Legion Auxiliary Unit in your community for Unit Sponsorship and Signatures.**

\*\*\*\*\*

To be completed by sponsoring American Legion Auxiliary Unit President or Unit Scholarship Chairman.

Name of Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Number \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address of Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Unit's Recommendation \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit President or Unit Scholarship Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Application packet must be received NO LATER than **May 1, 2023**,

**Mail to: MaryAnn Paul, Past Presidents Parley, 9916 Nixon Dr., McKinney, TX 75072 or email  
mapminmol@gmail.com**



***To be used if Applicant is Dependent on Parents***

Full Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant's Major \_\_\_\_\_

Has applicant received a medical scholarship from Past Presidents Parley in the past? \_\_\_\_\_

If Yes, When \_\_\_\_\_

Application for Scholarship is being made on Military Service of: Circle One

Father   Mother   Self   Grandfather   Grandmother   Great Grandfather   Great Grandmother

Name of Veteran (if other than self) \_\_\_\_\_ Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date entered active service \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Discharge \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Separation \_\_\_\_\_ If Veteran deceased, date of death \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_\_

Profession/Occupation of (Step) Father \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Income \_\_\_\_\_

Profession/Occupation of (Step) Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Income \_\_\_\_\_

Income in home, other than parents' earnings (Pension, Social Security, VA Benefits, Retirement, Rental, Investments, Royalties, etc.) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children in family: Under 18 years of age \_\_\_\_\_ Over 18 years of age \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children currently attending college or university other than applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Number of dependents, other than immediate family in the home \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's date of graduation from high school \_\_\_\_\_ grade average last four years \_\_\_\_\_

Name and location of High School \_\_\_\_\_

Name and location, including mailing address of College or University applicant plans to attend or is currently attending \_\_\_\_\_

College grade average last year \_\_\_\_\_

Has applicant been accepted by this College or University? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe additional sources of financial support which will be used to pay for education. Example: grant, student aid, Other scholarships awarded. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE TO APPLICANT: SCHOLARSHIPS ARE VALID FOR 12 MONTHS AFTER ISSUE DATE. CHECKS NOT PROCESSED AFTER THAT PERIOD WILL BE CONSIDERED NULL AND VOID AND NON-REPLACEABLE.**

**PLEASE BE SURE TO ATTACH ALL OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS TO THIS APPLICATION AND SUBMIT TO THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT IN OR NEAR YOUR COMMUNITY FOR SIGNATURE AND SUBMISSION.**

\*\*\*\*\*

***Must be Completed by Sponsoring Unit's President or Scholarship Chairman***

Name of Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Number \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Recommendation \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit President or Unit Scholarship Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Application packet must be received **NO LATER** than **May 1, 2023**

**Mail Medical Scholarship applications to: MaryAnn Paul, Past Presidents Parley Chairman**  
**9916 Nixon Dr., McKinney, TX 75072 or**  
**[mapminmol@gmail.com](mailto:mapminmol@gmail.com)**



# ALA POPPY PROGRAM

**HELPING VETERANS, MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES!!**

Happy New Year everyone!!

Now that we are done with all of the hustle and bustle, it is time to get back to working our Poppy program. Believe it or not, May will be here before we know it!

It is the Southern Division's goal to have a Poppy Poster Contest in every Department this year. Please talk this up and encourage all Units to participate. I will attach the Poppy Poster Rules. One other thing to remember, when mailing your entries to me, please mark the envelope if chalk was used. Please send me your entry NTL than May 15th. I have to submit them to Division Chairman NTL than June 1st.

National Poppy Day is the Friday before Memorial Day in May. Some Units are experiencing some difficulty in finding poppies to purchase. Please reach out to me as the Department of Texas does have some poppies that we can sell. Also, be thinking about how you can decorate your poppy table/display. Think creatively! Draw people to you! Offer coloring books, bookmarks, stickers, etc. Offer Poppy education material. I cannot wait to see what all the units do for National Poppy Day!!

Friendly reminder to use the Poppy Guidelines that can be found on the National website. This tells you what you can use Poppy funds for and what you can't.

It is also a good time, if you haven't already, to start tracking your hours and money spent/raised for Year End Reports! Believe me, you do not want to wait until the last minute to get all of this information from your Unit members. Make sure you are bragging about yourself and all of your Unit members! We want to know what you have been up to and what great things you did this year!

## **2022-2023 Poppy Committee**

Div. 1 – Kathy Wons [jastk@twc.com](mailto:jastk@twc.com)

Div. 2 – Robbie Scott [Robbie.I.scott@hotmail.com](mailto:Robbie.I.scott@hotmail.com)

Div. 3 – Michelle Muth (Chairman) [michellemuth74@gmail.com](mailto:michellemuth74@gmail.com)

Div. 4 – Pat Hernandez [pc7161917@icloud.com](mailto:pc7161917@icloud.com)

## **Poppy Poster Contest Rules**

Units shall sponsor contests in local schools. When schools do not conduct activities, other youth groups, including Junior members, may participate under direct supervision of the unit.

### **Contest Classes**

- Class I: Grades 2 and 3
- Class II: Grades 4 and 5
- Class III: Grades 6 and 7
- Class IV: Grades 8 and 9
- Class V: Grades 10 and 11
- Class VI: Grade 12
- Class VII: Students with special needs defined as:
  - a. Those in special education classes
  - b. A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors.
  - c. A child identified as having a disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities; identification contingent upon discretion of school officials.

### **Poppy Poster Requirements**

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. Articles “a”, “and,” “an”, “the” are not to be counted as words. The words “buddy” and “buy” cannot be used.
2. The words “American Legion Auxiliary” must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.
3. Each poster must include a picture of the red Flanders Field poppy.
4. The department shall determine the closing date of the unit contest. The poster shall be on 11x14” poster board. (Drawing paper will not be accepted).
5. The United States flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the flag code.
6. Posters will be judged using the following criteria:
  - 50% - poster appeal (layout, message, originality)
  - 40% - artistic ability (design and color)
  - 10% - neatness
7. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils and markers.
8. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the class in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age and grade of the contestant and the name of the department.
9. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians’ grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.

10. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
11. The label "In Memoriam" from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.

### **Poppy Poster Contest Judging and Awards**

1. Each department shall establish its own procedure for judging.
2. A citation will be given for the most outstanding poster in each classification within the five divisions.
3. Unit members should follow deadlines and process for the department. All department entries are due to the division chairman by June 1.
4. While ALA representatives will do their best to return all posters, it is not guaranteed. We recommend participants take a picture or scan their poster for their records.
5. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians grant nonexclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted, and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.



# Public Relations



## TIPS FOR CREATING YOUR NEWSLETTER

Your Unit/District/Department's Newsletter can be one of your greatest advertising tools. Here are some helpful tips for creating your newsletter

### What goes into your newsletter? •

- The message you want your members to receive should be your main focus, listed first and up front always keeping the ALA mission first and foremost.
- Have a monthly calendar, include meetings, events, and volunteer opportunities. This will give members the opportunity to participate in events.
- In the monthly newsletters, share what Unit/District/Department has done in the previous month. Include pictures, news releases.
- Maintain your members' engagement with a newsletter of 2 to 3 pages.
- If you have the space, include educational pieces, such as the meaning behind the poppy.
- Have a fun area which can have members' birthdays and anniversaries.

### Distribution: What works for your Unit/District/Department?

Email or USPS mail, what is the most cost-effective method to get your newsletter out to your members?

- Email is great, but will it reach all members?
- U.S. Postal Service offers bulk mailing rate. It may be a viable option.



## IS YOUR FACEBOOK PAGE A LITTLE SAD?



Facebook was encouraged as a great tool to share information with our members and the public. There were lots of pages created and information shared. Some of the Facebook pages are monitored and continue to share great information each month. These pages have administrators that enjoy posting and keeping their viewers informed on the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Other Facebook pages are like ghost towns. They have not been updated for years and when the public reaches out for information, they find old posts and no real assistance for the information desired.

The American Legion Auxiliary prides itself in being the "Go To" organization for information. Outdated information is a detriment rather than a benefit to the ALA.

### Division 1

Mary Kate Troxclair, Chairman  
txalaweb@gmail.com

### Division 2

Rita Redd  
Ala113@consolidated.net

### Division 3

Connie Thomas  
thomasconnie551@gmail.com





# VA&R

## Did You Know?

The Veteran's Legacy Program has some great resources to share with our members. Check out this website for more information:

[#BeThere: Help save a life | #BeThere for Veterans and Servicemembers during Suicide Prevention Month. Your actions could save a life. Watch and share this new video to show how... | By U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs | Facebook](#)

If you know a Homeless Veteran you can refer them to the nearest VA Medical Center or contact 877-4AID-VET to get them connected with the VA program.

Here is a link to additional information regarding how to help our Homeless Veterans.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Ngor\\_HOn5A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Ngor_HOn5A)

***If you would like to be a Dep or Rep at your local VA Hospital or Clinic please email Beverly Sloan VA&R Chair at [bev.sloan@gmail.com](mailto:bev.sloan@gmail.com) to let her know you are interested along with the name of the facility you would like to volunteer at. We need your help***



Please remember to share what you are doing for our Veterans either by emailing your VA&R committee member or via our facebook page. Everyone loves to see what is others are doing!!!!

**Reminder: Year End Reports are due May 1**

**Don't forget to check out the VA&R facebook page to see all the exciting things units are doing for their veterans**

## VA&R Challenges This Year:

**Donate \$25 to the general fund by June 30th to enter a drawing**

**Participate at a VA Hospital/Clinic event such as the Gift Shop, Ice Cream Social, and Christmas Party etc and send photos to [bev.sloan@gmail.com](mailto:bev.sloan@gmail.com) by April to enter a drawing.**

**All drawings will be done at Department Convention**

**If you need anything from us please reach out to us. Your Texas VA&R Team Members Are:**

- Div 1 Kathy Richeson (817) 995-3435 [kathyala297@gmail.com](mailto:kathyala297@gmail.com)
- Div 2 Beverly Sloan (936) 581-4462 [bev.sloan@gmail.com](mailto:bev.sloan@gmail.com) Chairperson
- Div 3 Mariana Sutherland (210) 834-4318  
[marianasutherland227@gmail.com](mailto:marianasutherland227@gmail.com)
- Div 4 Lucy Barrington (806) 786-8011 [lkbarrington11@gmail.com](mailto:lkbarrington11@gmail.com)