

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS

PO BOX 1629, LITTLE ELM, TX 75068

BI-MONTHLY BULLETIN

214-733-7945

SECRETARY@ALATEXAS.ORG

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WWW.ALATEXAS.ORG



INFORMATION FROM HEADQUARTERS

MARCH

- 1ST-31ST NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
- 2ND TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 3RD NATIONAL ANTHEM DAY
- 9TH DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS
- 13TH NATIONAL K9 VETERANS DAY
- 14TH NATIONAL LEARN ABOUT BUTTERFLIES DAY
NATIONAL PI DAY
- 15TH AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY
- 17TH ST. PATRICKS DAY
- 20TH SPRING BEGINS
- 29TH NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY

APRIL

- 1ST-30TH MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH
- 1ST APRIL FOOLS DAY
- 5TH GOLD STAR SPOUSES DAY
- 9TH FORMER POW RECOGNITION DAY
- 15TH TAX DAY
PURPLE UP DAY
- 20TH EASTER



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Spring Forward with Service and Gratitude

As spring blooms around us, bringing new beginnings and fresh opportunities, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you. To those who attended my homecoming celebration—thank you for your warm words and unwavering support. Your presence made the event truly special, and I am honored to serve alongside such dedicated individuals in our mission to support veterans and our community.

Did you know March 14th is National Learn About Butterflies Day? This day encourages us to look for a blur of color as butterflies begin migrating across the country. Each year the celebration brings with it an awareness of the varieties of butterflies and their importance to our survival. Spring and summer are just right around the corner, so it is an excellent time to take a few minutes and learn something new about butterflies and appreciate their beauty.

With the new season comes an exciting lineup of events and opportunities for us to grow, learn, and serve. I am looking forward to attending upcoming District and Division Conventions, where we will have the chance to connect, share ideas, and strengthen our organization's impact. To ensure smooth coordination, I encourage everyone to submit their invitations using the President Visit Itinerary form. This will help streamline scheduling and maximize engagement at each event.

As we continue our efforts, I want to remind our units that impact reports are due to your District President by April 15th. These reports are vital in highlighting our collective achievements and shaping the future of our programs. Additionally, don't forget to share your narrative reports with the committees to ensure we capture the full scope of our efforts and successes.

Spring is a time of renewal and growth, and together, we will continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our veterans and communities. Thank you for your dedication, passion, and service. Let's embrace this season with enthusiasm and a commitment to making a lasting impact.

Advocating for Change
One Veteran at a Time
Sharon Phelps, President
ALA Department of Texas 2024-2025



END OF YEAR

DONT FORGET TO SUBMIT:



4/15

**IMPACT FORMS TO
DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

4/15

**UNIT DATA FORM
TO DEPARTMENT**

5/1

**NARRATIVES DUE TO
COMMITTEES**

6/30

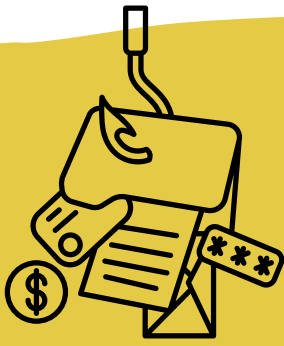
**CERTIFICATION OF
OFFICERS/BOND FEES DUE**



ATTENTION!

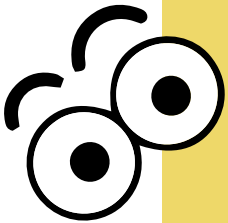
Due to the number of spam calls that Department President Sharon gets she does not answer numbers that she does not know. Please make sure that if you are calling leave a message and she will call you back. Or feel free to text her at the number and tell her who you are and ask her to call you back.





Scammers have recently sent to out emails pretending to be Chairman asking for Gift Cards for incentives. We rarely if ever ask for Gift Cards. Please make sure that you verify before purchasing anything of this nature. However never verify by replying to the email sent as that will go to the scammer. Either email in a new email thread or call the person. If all else fails email secretary@alatexas.org to verify.

HERE'S WHAT TO LOOK FOR



- Suspicious sender addresses: Double-check the email address—fraudsters may use addresses that look similar but are slightly off.
- Urgent or alarming messages: Be cautious of emails that pressure you to act quickly or make immediate decisions.
- Unexpected requests: If you receive an email requesting gift cards, personal information, or financial details, it's likely a scam.
- Unusual attachments or links: Don't open files or click links unless you are sure the email is legitimate.
- Different domain: Phishing emails may include links that don't match the domain, or links to shortened URLs that you can't trust. You can hover your mouse over a link to see the actual address that it goes to.
- Poor spelling and grammar: Phishing emails may contain misspellings, incorrect grammar, or odd phrasing.
- Unprofessional appearance: Phishing emails may appear to be from a reputable organization, but may not be personalized.

If you suspect that an email is a phishing attempt, you should not click on any links or attachments. Instead, you can report the email as spam or phishing. You can also contact the sender using another method, such as phone, email, or instant message.

Important Reminder: We will never ask you to purchase gift cards or send codes via email. If you receive such a request, please report it immediately.

Stay safe and feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.



Auxiliary Emergency Fund

The purpose of the AEF Committee is to raise funds for and promote knowledge about the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

Are you or someone in the ALA you're aware of in need of AEF assistance?

There are two categories of grants available. There is a Hardship Grant and a Disaster Grant, The explanation of each and requirements are contained in the application which is available on alatexas.org. Please make sure to include backup documentation, ie., copies of receipts, utility bills, etc, The more information provided, the smoother the process.

Please express to the member applying that these applications are confidential and are only viewed and assessed by the AEF office at National.

The AEF Committee is Grateful and gives Thanks to our individual members and Units who have donated to the AEF Program up to this date.

We also thank our Texas members as Texas was recognized at the end of 2024 for being one of the states with the largest Contribution to date.

Your contributions continue to assist and support our fellow ALA members. Remember, in just the last few weeks there were fires that destroyed homes here in Texas, sadly fueled by high winds and continuing draught conditions.

Many Units will soon be closing out their year of work and beginning to prepare their End-of-Year reports and narratives. Before doing that, please consider sending a donation, or even another donation to Department earmarked "AEF". There is a continuing need of assistance.

Speaking of Reporting! Check your Program Engagement Plans to verify the due dates for the various ALA programs. The A.E.F. End-of-Year due date is MAY 1, 2025.

Things to remember for Year End!

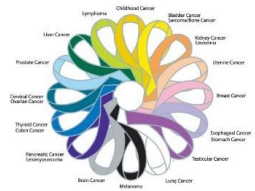
- The Unit's narrative report is due to the AEF Chairman by 5/1/25
- Your Unit can NOW submit their Unit Award Submission directly to National by going to the National Awards link.
The Texas 100 for \$100 drawing will be held at Dept. Convention in July.
- The AEF is also holding a 50/50 drawing at Dept. Convention. Contact Janice Winters or Candy Zavala to purchase tickets. Proceeds to benefit the AEF. (6 tickets for \$5)

For further details, committee members contact info, please review the Texas AEF Program Engagement Plan at alatexas.org

American Legion Auxiliary



Cancer Research Program



March - April

2024-2025

Cancer by Cause for March are:

COLON, KIDNEY, COLORECTAL, RECTAL

Cancer by Cause for April are:

**MALE REAST CANCER, ESOPHAGEAL, HEAD & NECK,
ORAL, & TESTICULAR.**

At this time of year, we look at the weather so that we can plant our gardens and watch all the blooms that make us smile.

Unfortunately, Cancer is not something that makes us smile. Here is what you can do to help eliminate this horrible disease. Please contact members of your family and friends to donate to this cause so that the researchers at MD Anderson can find cures for the multitude of cancers that plague each and every one of us in one way or another.

Researchers goal = END CANCER.

CHALLENGE

* For each unit to include the entire American Legion Family to donate to Cancer Research.

One way to do this is to place a container and label it Change for Cancer.

American Legion Auxiliary

AWARDS

PLAQUE , RIBBON, and MEDAL

- **Districts** that have all units within their District donate to Cancer Research.
- **Units** that achieve the Challenge of including the entire American Legion Family within their posts to donate.

CERTIFICATE AND RIBBON

- **Units** providing a narrative and/or the following Cancer Research Reporting Form to **Ann Pugliano by May 1, 2025:**

CERTIFICATE

- **All Units** in Texas American Legion Auxiliary donating to Cancer Research.

If your Unit does not want to create a narrative, please fill out the following:

CANCER RESEARCH REPORTING FORM 2024-2025

Did your **Unit** donate to the Cancer Research Program in 2024-2025?

(YES)

(NO)

Unit Name _____

Unit # _____ Amount \$ _____

Did your **Unit** submit a narrative for the Cancer Research Program?

(YES)

(NO)

Unit Name _____

Unit # _____ Amount \$ _____

American Legion Auxiliary

NOTE: The Cancer Research Program is a Texas based one of a kind program, and is not reported to National, therefore **please include your volunteer hours on your Education reporting form.**

2024-2025 Cancer Research Committee:

Division 1 Ann Pugliano, Chair
apug52@yahoo.com

Division 2 Penny Honaker
pennyhoaker9@gmail.com

Division 3 Melba Villareal
harlingenunit205@gmail.com

Division 4 Lori Docter
vickidocter@yahoo.com

REMEMBER ALL DONATIONS COUNT

Together, let's find a cure



Community SERVICE

Narratives

It's that time of year Let's get those reports and narratives in.

**An award will be given to the best narrative report according to the unit size. So even if your unit only has as few as 10 members you could possibly take home an award for best narrative
Be sure to include photos.**

The size breakdown is as follows

**Small Unit: 10-50 members
Medium Unit: 51-99 members
Large Unit: 100-200 members
X-Large Unit: 201 and higher**

DEADLINE MAY 1, 2025

**EMAIL your reports to all committee members
div. 2—Melissa Martin - hlm217@yahoo.com**

**Div. 3-- Linda Correa-Garcia
linda_correagarcia@vahoo.com**

**Div 4-- Joan Crider - Chairman
j_crider720@hotmail.com**



Constitution and Bylaws

The Committee has been busy reviewing Unit Constitutions and Bylaws. We are pleased to see so many doing their annual review and making changes. Remember if you make changes they must be reviewed by the Department Committee member from your Division.

I have been reviewing 2nd Division due to the death of Bertha Torres; she was chairman last year and she personal told me she loved serving on the Department Constitution and Bylaws.

Please send to:

1st Division Diana Birdow dianabirdow@sbcglobal.net

2nd and 3rd Division to Rosie Cherry, Chairman rrosie@aol.com

4th Division Gayle Simpson grandesimpson@yahoo.com

The suggested Unit Constitutions and Bylaws can be found on the Department of Texas website under "forms". It is in a word document making it easy to download and add the information needed and delete where needed.

1. Only Unit delegations in good standing shall be seated at a Department Convention. To be a Unit in good standing, the Unit must: a) have a minimum of ten (10) members with current dues paid and recorded at Department Headquarters two weeks prior to the convening of said convention; and b) be current in their payments of the Christmas Assessment and the Bonding Fee.

Remove highlighted area.

2. Footnote from the American Legion Constitution Is a footnote and a footnote goes at the foot of the page where the section on membership ends. NOT in the middle of the page.

Remember Department increased Member dues to \$31 for 2026 and after. If you specify the amount in dollars only you will need to change your Standing Rules with an update this year or next year. The dues renewal notice must specify the amount in your unit current Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules.

The authority under which all Departments, Units, and affiliated entities of the American Legion Auxiliary shall function is vested in the National Constitution and Bylaws and in such Standing Rules as have been adopted. Any provision of any Department or Unit Constitution or Bylaws, or affiliated entity's bylaws, or any regulation of any Department, Unit, or affiliated entity in conflict with the foregoing authority shall be void.

Education Committee Department of Texas



...Education Transforms Lives!

The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Texas offers a scholarship award to a resident of Texas, child or grandchild of a Veteran who served in the Armed Forces during eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion.

Gift Scholarships of \$500 each will be given, based on contributions received from Units. Final determination shall be vested in the Education Chairman and her Committee. Recipients will be announced at the annual State Convention and checks will be mailed to the college or university the applicant will be attending. Additional applications and information may be obtained from the American Legion Auxiliary Unit in the community where the applicant resides.

The completed application packet must be received by the Unit Chairman no later than March 31, 2025.

The Unit's winning application must be received by the Department Education Chairman no later than April 15, 2025, for review and judging.

Help us help as many deserving students as possible. Support the Education Committee with your donation today!

Education Committee 2024 - 2025

- Division 1: Kathy Richeson Kathyala297@gmail.com 817-995-3435
- Division 2: Linda Malsbary, Chair Linda.malsbary@yahoo.com 713-304-5502
- Division 3: Mary Lee Waddell cookiewaddell@gmail.com 409-771-4668
- Division 4: Jeanette Saucedo jjsaucedo@sbcglobal.net 832-591-6782

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
TEXAS BLUEBONNET GIRLS STATE 2025**

The 2025 session of ALA Texas Bluebonnet Girls State will be held at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, Texas.

Dates: Sunday, June 15, 2025 through Saturday, June 21, 2025

Fee: \$475.00 per reservation (This does not include transportation.)

Girls State Registration 2025 is open to ALA Units, AL Posts, and schools. In the event that you have not received 2025 GS Information/Instructions, visit the Department website, pull down the Program tab, and click on Girls State registration. Please read all of the information carefully as some of the rules, processes, and dates have changed. Please be sure that the information gets to the GS Contact as quickly as possible.

In June, another great session of Girls State will be presented to approximately 600 qualified young women of Texas!



LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

MARCH 2025-APRIL 2025

ALA ACADEMY LEARN AT YOUR OWN PACE:

Did you know there is an opportunity for our ALATX members to learn about many aspects of the American Legion Auxiliary on-line with many of your electronic devices.?

Here are a list of topics that are available to explore:

ALA 101

ALA Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

How to Deal with Conflict

ALA Fundraising Course

ALA Juniors E-Learning Course

ALA Branding and What It Matters to Me

ALA Leadership: Living our Motto of Service Not Self

ALA Communication Methods 201

Along with the above listed opportunities, they also offer Live Virtual webinars. These webinars are free to our ALA members

But they do require registration.

For these learning experiences and others, you can log into the members only section of the National Website:

<https://www.legion-aux.org/ala-academy>

The National website offers many resources to our members including available benefits, templates for banners, letters and press releases. As well as information about each program and how to support our mission.

As always, your leadership team is ready to help support, mentor and assist our members to empower and educate our most precious asset.....YOU! OUR MEMBERS



Districts: Spring conventions will be here before you know it. Consider including your leadership team on your agenda. We will customize our program to fit what your units need.

Units: We want to visit you as well. We can concentrate on a specific need or a general session for you.

Contact your team:

Holly Heatly-chair
heatly453@gmail.com

Carlene Ashworth
carlene@flash.net

Myra Cooper
myracoper11@yahoo.com

SPRING TIME IN THE ALA
MEANS IT IS :
TIME FOR REPORTS!!!!

**Reports are due to the
Department Chairman
May 1, 2025!!!**

AWARDS:

☑ An award will be given for the best Leadership program narrative from each Division.

☑ An award will be given to the Best Overall Leadership program narrative.

☑ The criteria for the awards will be based on the submitted narrative and pictures



DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS MEMBERSHIP



What a great group we are!!!! Our 2nd milestone was 75% by February 14th – we are excited to share that 131 Units met or exceeded that goal, 53.46% of the Department of Texas! Thank you so much for all your hard work. I know that many of our Units have concerns that may keep them from meeting these goals but please know that we understand and we are proud of the efforts you are making.

At MidWinter, Membership Committee Chair Shay offered to come to upcoming District and/or Division Conventions to recognize these Units who met the 75% goal – give her a call if you are interested.

Unfortunately we still have 16 zero units – District & Division Presidents, please reach out to these Units and see what we can do to help them. Our committee has received numerous phone calls asking for information and assistance. They are all important and we are glad you are reaching out. Remember – if we don't know the answer we will find out and get back to you. Please don't hesitate to call on us.

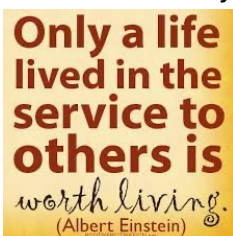
Before we know it the year will be closing in on us – our next MILESTONE IS 100% by Memorial Day, May 25, 2025. Let's send Madam President out in style by making the Department of Texas 100%!

Year end awards will include something new this year. We will have ribbons, certificates, etc. but have added another award that will make things more equitable for Units struggling to meet their goals while recognizing their efforts. A special award will be given to the Unit in each group below with the highest percentage.

- *Small – 0-25 members (85 units)*
- *Medium – 26-100 members (117 units)*
- *Large – 101-571 members (42 units)*

Don't forget that you can post reports, pictures, questions and comments on Facebook by going to <https://www.facebook.com/AlaMembershipinTexas> We would love to see you there!

Please remember to share your **Butterfly Effect / Transformation Story** with us (flyer attached). We would love to hear how our organization has “transformed” you from your first days/years to where you are now, in service to others. We know that all of you have an amazing story to tell!! Please share at your meetings, upcoming District & Division conventions, etc.



Division 1 Shay Kuehner (Chair) 817-300-2043 Shay1956@sbcglobal.net
Division 2 Gillian Woodstrom 281-615-5670 gwoodstrom@woodborne.com
Division 3 Shelli Creech 210-237-7399 Atomicglitter84@gmail.com
Division 4 Shawna Dunlap shawnaleighdunlap@outlook.com

The Butterfly Effect – Your Story



The Butterfly Effect is the concept that small actions can have big results, originating from the idea that a butterfly can cause a typhoon simply by flapping its wings! In human terms, we all have the power to make a lasting impact on those around us with small acts of kindness. By joining the American Legion Auxiliary, you are making a positive impact on the lives of those we serve.

What's your **Butterfly Effect Story**? In keeping with President Sharon's butterfly transformation theme, we would love to hear YOUR Transformation Story! **Send us a narrative telling how your membership in the American Legion Auxiliary has 'transformed' you.** From the caterpillar stage (first meeting jitters, 'what's a District?', 'how long can one meeting be?', 'which way do I exit the podium?'); to the cocoon (you've memorized the Preamble, helping around the Post, sharing ideas, making motions); to the beautiful butterfly emerging confident, strong, and empowered (a typhoon!) ready to take on a leadership role, supervise a benefit, or teach a class! How and when did your transformations take place? Who helped you get there and how do you feel now? Your words may encourage others and you could win an awesome prize!



Narratives will be due to the Membership Committee by April 15, 2025

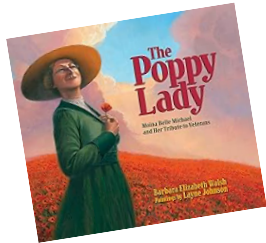


Poppy
Committee

Every Day Is Poppy Day

We can all make a difference for our veterans and their families...
one poppy at a time.

Has your unit thought about visiting a school or retirement center? Or has your unit considered reading The Poppy Lady to students or to senior citizens? Has your unit considered scattering poppy seeds around a retirement center or a school...or what about around your post? Some units prepare ahead of time and purchase poppy seeds--then when the appropriate weather arrives, they will be ready to go. This is a great time to incorporate Auxiliary junior members and the younger SAL members to help. There may also be some high school students who are looking for volunteer hours. Let's reach out to the younger generation so they can experience the joy in giving back to others.



Poppy seeds are very reasonably priced...

~NATIONAL POPPY DAY IS FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2025~

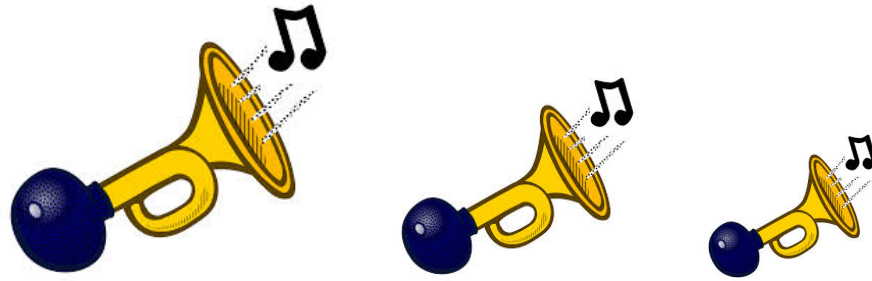
Are you getting ready? Poppy supplies can be ordered from Emblem Sales.

Our department poppy committee:

- Division 1 Janey Arista, chair
- Division 2 Ann Nicholson
- Division 2 Judy Garrett
- Division 3 Elizabeth Tamayo

- igkbar@gmail.com
- annhas92140@yahoo.com
- madviller@sbcglobal.net
- etamayo47@yahoo.com





Units -- Toot Your Own Horn!

We are hoping you are documenting your poppy activities. Reporting time is soon approaching and we are anxious to read-see-hear what you are doing. You may be an encouragement and inspiration to others. Your unit's report is due before May 1st...your report needs to be emailed to the chair and your division committee member. Please include photos, which should be in a high-resolution format (at least 300 DPI). When attaching the photo to the email, select "actual size".

Do you need any help preparing for Poppy Day?

Donation Can Labels are available on Emblem Sales.

Help support our veterans
and their families

**AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**

HONOR
THEIR
SERVICE

Your poppy donations help the ALA assist veterans, military, and their families

Providing comfort and care for America's heroes

Poppy Donation Facts

Servings Per Can: Large Portions of Love

Servings Per Can: Unlimited Donations

Amount/Serving	What U Can
Benefits from Donation	Limitless
	% Daily Value
Saturated Smiles	100%
Enhancing Veterans' Lives	100%
Honoring Military Service	100%
Raising Community Awareness	100%
Opening People's Hearts	100%

CONTRIBUTE AFTER OPENING

INGREDIENTS Since 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary has provided support for veterans, servicemembers, and their families. Last year, your donations helped:

- ★ \$5 bought socks for hospitalized veterans
- ★ \$10 provided transportation for a veteran to a VA medical center
- ★ \$25 bought a veteran clothing for a job interview
- ★ \$50 provided a holiday dinner for a veteran's family

For more information, visit us at www.ALAbveterans.org

Made with
Your Donations

Remember your Poppy Day Media Release...

* * *

Poppy Day Media Release

Street Address, City, State ZIP Code

www.ALForVeterans.org

(and your unit's website and contact information, if available)

[DATE]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**American Legion Auxiliary Unit [UNIT #] encourages [INSERT CITY NAME] to
honor fallen warriors on National Poppy Day®**

[CITY]— Honor our fallen warriors and contribute to the continuing needs of our veterans on National Poppy Day®, May [FRIDAY BEFORE MEMORIAL DAY] from [INSERT TIME a.m./p.m.] at [LOCATION] when members of American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit [INSERT UNIT #] distribute red poppies in exchange for a donation. The Flanders Fields poppy has become an internationally known and recognized symbol of the lives sacrificed in war and the hope that none died in vain. The American Legion Family called upon Congress to proclaim the Friday before Memorial Day as National Poppy Day, which was officially designated as such in 2017.

“Wearing the poppy on National Poppy Day and throughout Memorial Day weekend is one small way to honor and remember our fallen warriors who willingly served our nation and made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom,” said ALA Unit [INSERT UNIT #] President [INSERT NAME]. “We must never forget.”

When The American Legion Family adopted the poppy as its memorial flower in the early 1920s, the blood-red icon became an enduring symbol of honor for the sacrifices of our veterans from the battlefields of France in World War I to today's conflicts. The American Legion Auxiliary raises millions of dollars each year distributing poppies throughout the nation, with 100 percent of the funds raised going directly to help veterans, military and their families.

For more information, call [preferably a number where media or interested persons can reach someone during day and evening hours].

The American Legion Auxiliary, founded in 1919, is a community of volunteers serving veterans, military, and their families. ALA members assist veterans in hospitals, advocate for veteran issues, support therapeutic creative arts festivals, distribute poppies for remembrance, and much more. In addition to serving the military community, the American Legion Auxiliary hosts ALA Girls Nation and the ALA Girls State programs that teach future leaders about government and civic responsibility. Learn more at www.ALForVeterans.org and @ALForVeterans on Instagram and Facebook.

Public Relations March 2025

TX ALA Units working together

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 424 Represents at North Texas Irish Festival

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 424 proudly secured a booth at the North Texas Irish Festival, a major event drawing visitors from across Texas and beyond. Recognizing the opportunity to reach a broad audience, Unit 424 extended an open invitation to fellow Legion Family members from surrounding areas to join them in engaging with festival-goers

Auxiliary, Legion, and SAL members from American Legion Posts 424 (Dallas), 597 (Carrollton), 511 (Dallas), and 624 (Mansfield) came together to support the initiative. Their booth featured a fun and interactive "Adopt a Duck" activity, inspired by Amarillo, TX Unit 54 and introduced to the Department of Texas as a creative way to engage the community. Visitors were drawn to the colorful selection of rubber ducks, giving members the perfect opportunity to share information about the American Legion and its mission. In exchange for any donation amount, participants could choose a duck to take home, making the experience both fun and meaningful.

Beyond the ducks, the booth served as a vital resource for spreading awareness about local American Legion Posts and the ways they support Veterans, their families, and the community. The weekend was a shining example of Legion Family unity, with members from multiple posts coming together to educate, engage, and expand the American Legion's reach.

With a successful turnout and enthusiastic participation, Unit 424 and its partnering Posts showcased the strength and camaraderie of the Legion Family, ensuring that more people walked away with knowledge of the organization's invaluable work. It was truly a weekend to remember!



Scrapbook/Memory Board
Program Action Plan
2024-2025

The role of the Scrapbook Program is to collect, chronicle, and preserve the history of the American Legion Auxiliary through photographs, documents, personal mementos and other artifacts. It is through learning from the past that the future can be properly planned. This is why scrapbooks and histories are established at the local **unit level, district level and division level.**

A scrapbook may be entered for activities for the year 2024-2025 in each of these levels: **Unit, District, Division and Juniors.**

SCRAPBOOK GUIDELINES:

1. Continuity through all scrapbooks is a must. The **scrapbook theme** can either be the President's Theme or Membership Theme. This theme must be followed throughout the scrapbook.

President's Theme: "Advocating for Change One Veteran at a Time"

Membership Theme: "Transforming Lives Through Our Membership"

2. Emblem Sales is no longer carrying the Scrapbook Album or the pages. If you have already bought your scrapbook from them you may use it this year. If you have not bought it you will need to use a 12X12 scrapbook. You do not have to have the name of the unit on the cover but please make sure you have all the required information for "FIRST PAGE" otherwise we won't know whose book it is.

Remember: When you are completing your pages if you have the Auxiliary Emblem on the page NOTHING IS TO APPEAR ABOVE THE AUXILIARY EMBLEM.

4. PAGES within the scrapbook:

a. **FIRST PAGE:** Identification Page: Name, number, and address of unit, district or division. At the bottom of the page the name(s) and address (only one is necessary) of the person (s) that compiled the scrapbook.

b. **SECOND PAGE:** President's Page: An introduction and picture of the unit, district or division president should appear on this page. Be creative using the theme.

c. **THIRD PAGE:** Theme Page. Let your imagination go, be creative, and come up with an unusual theme page using either the president's theme or members hip theme. Remember to use this idea throughout the scrapbook.

d. **PAGES FOUR to LAST:**

1. Use the chosen theme throughout the scrapbook
3. The event/activity and date should be entered at the top of the first page of each event/activity. If more than one page is used for an event/activity indicate on the other pages that they are a continuation of the event
4. Identify those in the pictures if possible but it is not required. Remember everyone likes to see their name in print. Points will be given if each picture is labeled.
5. Newspaper or other publications should have the name of the newspaper or magazine and the date of publication.
6. All scrapbook information should be placed in chronological order starting with Department Convention 2024 and ending prior to the start of the 2025 Department Convention
7. Starting with the President's page (page 1) each page should be numbered.
8. Scrapbooks are judged based on criteria outlined above along with neatness, quality of pictures and creativity.

Scrapbook/Memory Boards will be accepted on Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm. Scrapbooks must be picked up between 1PM and the closing of session on Saturday. All Scrapbooks/Memory Boards must be signed in and signed out.

If you are unable to attend the Department Convention **PLEASE DO NOT MAIL YOUR BOOK TO DEPARTMENT or to CONVENTION**. Everyone working the convention is very busy, and it would be a shame for your entry to get misplaced and not make it to the correct area. Contact someone to bring the book/memory board to convention.

MEMORY BOARD

A memory board highlights special projects or something that was special for your unit. The following are guidelines for the memory boards:

1. A 36"x48" Tri Fold Foam Core Board should be used.
2. Place an index card on the back of the center section with the following information:
 - a. Name and number of unit, address of unit/district/division
 - b. Indicate if this board is a unit, district, division or junior board
 - c. Name and address of person(s) that constructed the board.
3. Display on the board the name of the event/activity with the date.
4. Names of those in the pictures is not necessary but is an added plus.

JUDGING of SCRAPBOOKS and MEMORY BOARDS

Your entries will be eligible for **2 different awards**:

- (1) Judges Award using a scoring system and
- (2) Member's Choice Award (one ballot per attendee)

For the **judges award** we will have one judge from each district who will use a scoring sheet to score the scrapbook/memory board based on whether they followed the criteria above and their creativity. We will judge for each category (unit, district, division, juniors, memory board)

Judging will take place Saturday during the convention lunch break. Anyone interested in being a judge needs to let the Scrapbook Chair know or come to the room where the scrapbooks are at the beginning of the lunch break.

For the **member's choice award** each attendee to the convention will have an opportunity to vote.

1. In order to vote you must have your convention badge
2. Your badge will be stamped showing that you received a ballot and where able to vote
NO BADGE--NO STAMP--NO VOTE--ONE BALLOT PER PERSON
3. Your ballot will have 5 votes on it. You have one vote in each category. Any ballot with more than one vote in any category will not be counted.
4. Categories are: Unit, District, Division, Juniors, Memory Board
5. You will then place the ballot in the scrapbook/memory board ballot box
6. Votes will be counted at 12 noon on Saturday.

There will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category.

Beverly Sloan, Scrapbook Chairperson
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