

History/Cavalcade of Memories
Program Action Plan 2017-2018
“WHO we are, WHAT we do and WHY we matter”

What is this program and why do we have it?

The History Committee preserves, displays, and shares the history of the American Legion Auxiliary at all levels of our organization. The heart of any organization’s history is in its records – items that officers, members, directors, staff, and volunteers have produced and compiled over the years. They provide unique testimony to the achievement of an organization, stimulate pride and enthusiasm among members and are valuable to society by serving as informative and educational resources to a variety of potential users. History and the 2014-2019 ALA Centennial Strategic Plan: Preservation of the ALA history helps us define our core values through time. (Goal 2)

What can you do?

Ideas for Members:

- ✓ Share Auxiliary Memorabilia with your Unit
- ✓ Ask longtime members or family members of deceased members if they would like to donate an item(s)
- ✓ Volunteer to be the History/Cavalcade chairman or committee member for your unit

Ideas for Units:

- ✓ Appoint a History/Cavalcade of Memories Chairman, invite members to participate
- ✓ Create displays that are attractive, interesting and relevant
- ✓ Include memorabilia of your honorary Junior Members
- ✓ Frame awards and hang them
- ✓ Use new technology to create and maintain digital images and records
- ✓ Periodically feature a cavalcade item in your newsletter
- ✓ Display pictures of your presidents and your annual history books
- ✓ Display pictures of members being honored for many years of service or having performed an outstanding service or activity
- ✓ Partner with libraries, historical societies or local museums for consulting and displaying

What if the unit does not have a Cavalcade? Initiate one

Ideas for Members:

- ✓ Look through your own collection
- ✓ Gather photos and documents of events at which they were taken as well as people in the photos
- ✓ Learn the history of your Unit, the Department and National Organization



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Ideas for Units:

- ✓ Search through memorabilia that may have been stored in boxes at the post home or a member’s home
- ✓ Collect decades of pictures and awards
- ✓ Find old pins, scrapbooks, history books and gather items of activities from years gone by
- ✓ Ask membership to look through their personal belongings for items that could be included
- ✓ Become visible throughout your community and let them know the ALA’s history and contributions to the community, state, nation and the world

Mid Year reports:

A Midyear narrative is due to Chairman Paula Raney by December 15, 2017.

Year End reports:

A Year End narrative is due to Chairman Paula Raney by May 1, 2018.

Awards:

- ✓ Award to a Unit that forms a Cavalcade of Memories this administrative year
- ✓ Certificates to all Units submitting a narrative report
- ✓ Certificates to Units making contributions to the Department or National organization for Cavalcade of Memories. Contributions must be reported in your narrative

What better way to show “WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO & WHY WE MATTER”?

Contact Information:

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