



Attract
Engage
Empower

**AN EXAMPLE OF A
NEW MEMBER PACKET
MAY 2026**

With thanks for the original to Earl Graham Unit 159, Bryan TX



Date

Name

Address

Address

Dear _____ (*New Member*),

Congratulations, you are now a member of the American Legion Auxiliary!

Unit ##### of the Department of _____ (*state*) was founded in ____ (*year*). Since then, we have _____ (*provide a little history about the unit including accomplishments such as volunteer hours, veterans and/or families served, awards, etc.*). Enclosed is some additional information that we hope you find useful. (*provide unit's calendar of events, constitution and bylaws, website address, Facebook page, etc.*)

The mission of the Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who served by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. We do this by (*explain some programs/events that your unit conducts*). Each member is very valuable to us and we welcome your participation in delivering our mission. We hope you can join us at our next meeting/event on _____ (*date*) at _____ (*time*). It will be held at _____ (*location of meeting/event*).

Thank you for joining Unit #####! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours for the veterans

Signature

Name, Unit President

WELCOME!

Thank you for becoming part of the exciting and rewarding American Legion Auxiliary. Included in this kit is information about being a member of the Auxiliary. Much of this guide, along with additional information, can be found in the Auxiliary Unit Handbook or on the National American Legion Auxiliary website: www.alaforveterans.org

WHAT IS A VOLUNTEER?

A volunteer is someone who gives time, energy, and talents to others, expecting nothing in return. Volunteers must have an open mind, be willing to embrace wisdom learned from others and let the experience of volunteering lead to personal inner growth. Volunteers realize the importance of time and kindness.

- A volunteer is someone who gives time, energy and talents.
- A volunteer is someone who is willing to learn,
- A volunteer is someone who has the freedom to choose.
- A volunteer is someone who makes a difference.

WHAT WE DO!

Mission Statement

In the spirit of service, not self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

There are 52 Departments and 7,760 Units Nationwide!

Total Volunteer Hours in 2025 8,004,728

Volunteer hours serving veterans and military 3,265,977

Volunteer hours serving military families 359,273

Volunteer hours serving youth, scholarships, communities 4,379,478

Total Raised and Spent in 2025 \$22,190,342

Resources raised and spent on veterans and military \$11,007,709

Resources raised and spent on military families \$1,350,722

Resources raised and spent on youth, scholarship, communities \$9,831,911

Total Impact of ALA Members' Volunteer Service in 2025 \$314,812,680*

* Hours and Money raised and spent are based on the 2021-2022 ALA Impact Report. According to Independent Sector, the 2021 estimated value of one volunteer hour of service is \$ 29.95.

AMERICAN LEGION

AUXILIARY

Welcome!

**AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY NATIONAL
HEADQUARTERS:**
3450 Founders Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268
P: (317) 569-4500
F: (317) 569-4502

**ALA WASHINGTON, D.C.
OFFICE:**
1608 K Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20006
P: (202) 861-1351
F: (317) 569-4502

EMAIL:
alahq@ALAforVeterans.org

ONLINE:
www.ALAforVeterans.org
www.ALAFoundation.org

OUR MISSION:

In the spirit of Service Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad.

For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

*A Community
of Volunteers
Serving Veterans,
Military, and their
Families*

Thank you for becoming part of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA)! Here is an overview of who we are and what we do, but there is so much more about why we matter. We encourage you to take our free online orientation, “ALA 101,” the first course in our ALA Academy. These online courses provide our members with information to help us better serve our mission. Log in today at www.ALAforVeterans.org/ALA-Academy.

We have so much useful information available for member the national ALA website. Accessing free information for members only is as easy as creating a username and password. Simply click on “Log In” at the top-right corner of our homepage at www.ALAforVeterans.org, and thousands of helpful resources are at your fingertips.



OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AMERICAN LEGION

The ALA was founded in 1919 to support The American Legion, the largest organization of U.S. wartime veterans. Our mutual purpose is to make life better for our veterans, military, and their families. We work steadfastly, side by side, promoting patriotism and national security while supporting youth and advocating for those who have served our country.

ALA UNITS

The American Legion Auxiliary unit is where grassroots work of the Auxiliary takes place. There are almost 8,000 ALA



units nationwide. At the local level, The American Legion is called a post, and the Auxiliary is called a unit. All ALA units are attached to a Legion post, taking its name, location, and number (e.g., John P. Hand American Legion Auxiliary Unit 250), but units are not obligated to meet at the Legion post. If the post is no longer active, a unit may continue to function as what's called a widow unit. Sons of The American Legion groups within Legion posts at the community level are referred to as squadrons.

A note about ALA membership dues

An American Legion Auxiliary member's dues are made up of three portions, representing the three levels of our organization — national, department (state), and unit. The dues amount listed on your renewal notice is a total of these three portions. Membership dues are paid annually and can be paid directly to your unit or by calling ALA National Headquarters at (317) 569-4570, or by logging in to your profile on the national website at www.ALAforVeterans.org and paying your dues online.



The Auxiliary membership year is January 1 to December 31. Members pay dues prior to the start of the upcoming membership year, and many units start collecting dues six months in advance.

UNIT OFFICERS

Each ALA unit has a set of officers. Your unit can tell you more about the members who hold these offices, along with their specific responsibilities.

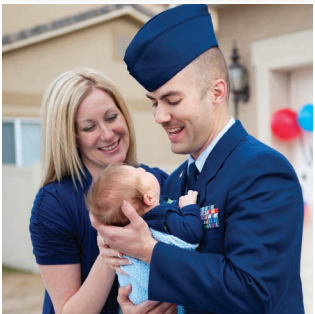
The American Legion Auxiliary Unit Guidebook, available at www.ALAforVeterans.org, also provides information about how a unit functions.



ALA NATIONAL PROGRAMS/ COMMITTEES

The following is a list of all national-level programs/committees in the ALA. Departments and units may have all of these programs, some, or additional committees included in their activities. Please visit www.ALAforVeterans.org for more information on ALA programs.

- ★ Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
- ★ Legislative
- ★ Poppy
- ★ Children & Youth
- ★ Community Service
- ★ Junior Activities
- ★ Education
- ★ Americanism
- ★ ALA Girls Nation
- ★ National Security
- ★ Membership
- ★ Auxiliary Emergency Fund
- ★ Leadership
- ★ Public Relations
- ★ Constitution & Bylaws
- ★ Finance
- ★ Risk & Compliance



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is The American Legion Family?

The American Legion Family is comprised of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion. The Legion Family also includes American Legion Riders, a program of American Legion Family members for motorcycle enthusiasts. While members of The American Legion Family are individually unique, collectively we are a multimillion-member powerhouse of caring advocates dedicated to service.



What are the advantages of American Legion Auxiliary membership?

The ALA is a remarkable organization with nearly 100 years of service to veterans and the nation's communities. In addition to the personal gratification and rewards gained in voluntary service, there are many tangible benefits for members of the ALA. Members receive a complimentary subscription to the Auxiliary's national quarterly magazine and have exclusive access to a wide variety of discount services and supplemental insurance products. Members also have access to free classes, webinars, and trainings through the ALA Academy. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency help to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have suffered a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or other personal crisis.

What if I need to update my name and/or address? Can I do this online?

Members whose dues are current can create an account to log in to the MyAuxiliary area on the national website to update their mailing address, phone number, and email address at any time. For log-in assistance or a name change, email ALAMIShelp@ALAforVeterans.org.

I paid my ALA dues. Why haven't I received my membership card?

Units are to provide members their card upon payment of dues. Members who renew either online or by phone with national headquarters are mailed a membership card to the home address on file. Members can log in to their MyAuxiliary account online at any time to print a copy of their most current ALA membership card.

How do I find my member ID number?

New senior members receive a 'Thank you for joining' email or postcard after they join. Their member ID number is located in the body of the email or on the address label of the postcard. A member's ID number is also listed on the address label of their quarterly *Auxiliary* magazine. Members can email membership@ALAforVeterans.org to request their ID number. Members will need their ID number in order to create their online profile on the national website.

Member Benefits

As an American Legion Auxiliary member, you bring untold value to the organization and America's veterans through your service to our mission. To show our appreciation for your membership, the ALA has partnered with businesses that share our values to bring you exclusive discounts and savings!

DISASTER AND HARDSHIP ASSISTANCE

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides disaster and hardship assistance to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have endured a significant financial setback as the result of a disaster or other qualifying incident.

RETAIL DISCOUNTS

BENEFITHUB

Enjoy discounts, rewards, and perks on 1,000s of brands including Hertz, Sam's Club, Walt Disney World, Toyota, Skechers, and more! Enter the exclusive ALA member referral code HZE7XG when creating your account.

SCRIPTSAVE® WELLRX PREMIER PRESCRIPTIONS SAVINGS PROGRAM

USE YOUR PRESCRIPTION SAVINGS CARD FOR ANY PRESCRIPTIONS NOT COVERED BY INSURANCE OR YOU MAY EVEN FIND A LOWER PRICE THAN YOUR INSURANCE COPAY.



INSURANCE

LIBERTY MUTUAL

Liberty Mutual has partnered with the American Legion Auxiliary to offer members special savings on quality auto and home insurance. Liberty Mutual offers customized auto insurance so you only pay for what you need.

ALLEGIANCE ACCIDENT PROTECTION PLAN OFFERED BY THE HARTFORD

Allegiance Accident Protection Plan is a guaranteed issue plan that pays a policy holder when they have an accident. It will pay an amount per day spent in the hospital up to 365 days. Choose from three different plans to fit your budget.

LONG TERM CARE RESOURCES (LTCR)

Did you know the average cost of a nursing home is over \$87,000 per year? Protect yourself with Long Term Care insurance. Members are able to obtain plans at discounted rates not available to the general public for a variety of services to meet health or personal care needs over an extended period of time.

DENTAL INSURANCE

DentalInsurance.com is the easiest way to compare and purchase individual dental insurance and discount dental plans.

VISION INSURANCE

Affordable vision plans from VSP and Ameritas for members of the American Legion Auxiliary are offered through top-rated carriers and provide regular exams and many other important benefits.



GUARANTEED ACCEPTANCE SENIOR TERM LIFE INSURANCE

The American Legion Auxiliary Guaranteed Acceptance Senior Term Life Insurance Plan, underwritten by the Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company, covers you for up to \$10,000 in benefits - without having to take a medical exam or answer questions about your health.

LIFE SELECT

Life Select can protect your loved ones and your hard-earned assets. Life Select can be up to 30% less expensive than traditional final expense policies and includes valuable advocacy and non-insurance services.

OTHER HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

TRUHEARING - FAMILY HEARING BENEFITS

TruHearing has been providing hearing care services for over 18 years, helping members get the best value and follow-up care possible. This plan is at no cost to members and includes coverage for all family members. The plan includes a free annual hearing screening, deep discounts on the purchase of hearing aids, and many other value-added services.

MEDICARE CONCIERGE

Boomers are aging into retirement at a rate of more than 10,000 per day and many are not prepared to make the proper retiree health benefits decisions they will face. Amwins' Voluntary Medicare Concierge program offers retirees a valuable resource, helping them understand Medicare and providing guidance to help them secure proper medical and prescription drug insurance. The Medicare Concierge program exclusively offers a private Medicare Exchange platform which provides access to individual Medicare Supplement, Medicare Part D and Medicare Advantage plans available throughout the country. Every retiree deserves to secure a plan that meets both their financial goals and health needs.



RETAIL DISCOUNTS

LANDS' END BUSINESS

Lands' End Business is your one-stop shop for high quality clothing and merchandise that can be customized with the ALA logo. You can also get apparel and accessories with the ALA Foundation logo. Everything in the custom ALA/ALAF storefront is made to last and designed to keep you comfortable and looking your best all day long.

SHIPTHRIFTY

ShipThrifty is the easiest way to compare shipping prices and print shipping labels from home. Whether you ship to family members or friends, ship for your business, or want to host a military care package event, use ShipThrifty to save time, money, and hassles. Use the exclusive member code, "ALA" at sign-up.

R. Riveter

Discover R. Riveter, where American craftsmanship meets purposeful innovation. From chic handbags to cozy sweatshirts, R. Riveters' collection boasts style with substance. Each bag is proudly assembled in the USA by a workforce of military spouses, embodying the spirit of opportunity and resilience. When you shop at R. Riveter using the ALA's exclusive link, 15% of your purchase will be donated back to ALA programs. Additionally, ALA members will get 20% off by using the code: WELCOMEALA.

Wyndham Hotel Group

American Legion Auxiliary members receive up to 20% off at over 9,000 participating hotels worldwide. Call 877-670-7088 to connect with a dedicated travel expert – be sure to mention you are an ALA member or tell them our organization code: 1000002807.



GUARANTEED ACCEPTANCE SENIOR TERM LIFE INSURANCE

The American Legion Auxiliary Guaranteed Acceptance Senior Term Life Insurance Plan, underwritten by the Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company, covers you for up to \$10,000 in benefits - without having to take a medical exam or answer questions about your health.

LIFE SELECT

Life Select can protect your loved ones and your hard-earned assets. Life Select can be up to 30% less expensive than traditional final expense policies and includes valuable advocacy and non-insurance services.

Contact Information

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND:

317-569-4500

AEF@ALAFORVETERANS.ORG

R. RIVETER

WWW.RRIVETER.COM

SCRIPTSAVE WELL RX

800-407-8156

LANDS' END BUSINESS

1800-587-1541

SHIPTHRIFTY OR 501 TECHSTACK

800-544-4992

CONTACTUS@SHIPTHRIFTY.COM

WYNDHAM HOTEL GROUP

877-670-7088

AMWINS GROUP BENEFITS

**(BENEFITHUB, LIBERTY MUTUAL, THE HARTFORD,
LONG TERM CARE RESOURCES, DENTAL
INSURANCE, VISION INSURANCE, GUARANTEED
ACCEPTANCE SENIOR TERM LIFE INSURANCE,
TRUHEARING, MEDICARE CONCIERGE) :**

844-363-1726

PROGRAM-INFO@AMWINS.COM



Meeting Basics

At the beginning of each meeting, the President calls the meeting to order. The Chaplain leads us in prayer; the Pledge of Allegiance is recited; the POW/MIA Empty Chair ceremony is performed, then the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary is recited.

INFORMATION TO REMEMBER

By attending Unit meetings, you have a voice in how our Unit operates and how you can help deliver our mission. The Executive Board, which consists of unit officers, past unit presidents and Executive board members at large, typically meets prior to the Unit meeting.

Keep cell phones turned off or in silent mode during meetings.

Three raps of the gavel means to stand up, one rap means to sit down.

The area in front of the President's podium between the American flag and the American Legion Auxiliary banner is hallowed ground. During a meeting you should not step between or reach across this area for any reason. This area symbolizes the unity between America and our organization.

The presiding officer is referred to as "The Chair."

If you have a question during a Unit meeting, raise your hand and wait to be recognized. Address our Unit President as Madam President. Please refrain from speaking until others are finished talking and you are recognized by the President. Sarcastic or personal remarks are prohibited in our meetings.

To speak to another member on a subject in a meeting, rise, address the presiding officer and state, "I wish to speak through the Chair to _____."

When you have a question about the Auxiliary and we are not in a meeting format, we prefer you discuss outside of the lounge area. You can always contact the officers by phone or email to ask your question. A listing of home numbers and/or emails for our officers is included in this handout.

Try to attend conferences and district meetings to learn more about Auxiliary programs and activities and how you can contribute.

Don't fret -- attendance at meetings is not mandatory but you could miss out on important information, volunteer opportunities and a good time.

**PREAMBLE TO THE
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY CONSTITUTION**

(We repeat this Preamble at the beginning of every Membership Meeting)

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America

To maintain law and order

To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism

To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations during All Wars

To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation

To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses

To make right the master of might

To promote peace and goodwill on earth

To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of Justice, Freedom, and Democracy

To participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion

To consecrate and sanctify our association by devotion to mutual helpfulness.

THE "BETWEEN THE FLAGS" TEXAS TRADITION



Between these flags that proudly fly
Let no man dare to stand,
For here our fallen comrades lie A
symbol, yes, but mark it well; Here
let us humbly pause
In memory of the lads who fell In
fighting for our sacred cause.
On sea or land these buddies died.

Some lie beneath a foreign sod
In graves caressed by winds and tide, In
spots unknown to all but God.
And so, this place is hallowed ground.
And it shall be forever blest As
tho it were a grassy mound
Beneath which gallant heroes rest.

Be ever watchful, Legionnaires, Of
these two flags which signify
That we should guard this spot with care
Where our departed comrades lie.
And, if a man should dare to tread This
spot where lie our gallant brave, He
desecrates those noble dead
As tho' he walked upon their grave.



**It is our Texas tradition that we do not reach
between, lean between, walk or stand
between the colors when posted.**

THE EMBLEM OF THE AUXILIARY

When the American Legion Auxiliary was formed to support the work of The American Legion, one of its first acts was to adopt an Emblem similar to that of the Legion, yet distinctive and true to the work of the Auxiliary. Under this Emblem, the Auxiliary has worked for almost 90 years with the Legion in constructive service to country, America's veterans, children and youth, and community.



Set against a gold background, symbolic of rays of the sun and standing for the principles of Justice, Freedom, Democracy and Loyalty, dispelling the darkness of violence, strife and evil.

Unity and loyalty are represented by the unbroken circles in blue and gold.

On a blue circle in letters of gold stands the name of the organization...American Legion Auxiliary, a proud name, made significant by service to God and Country in war and in peace.

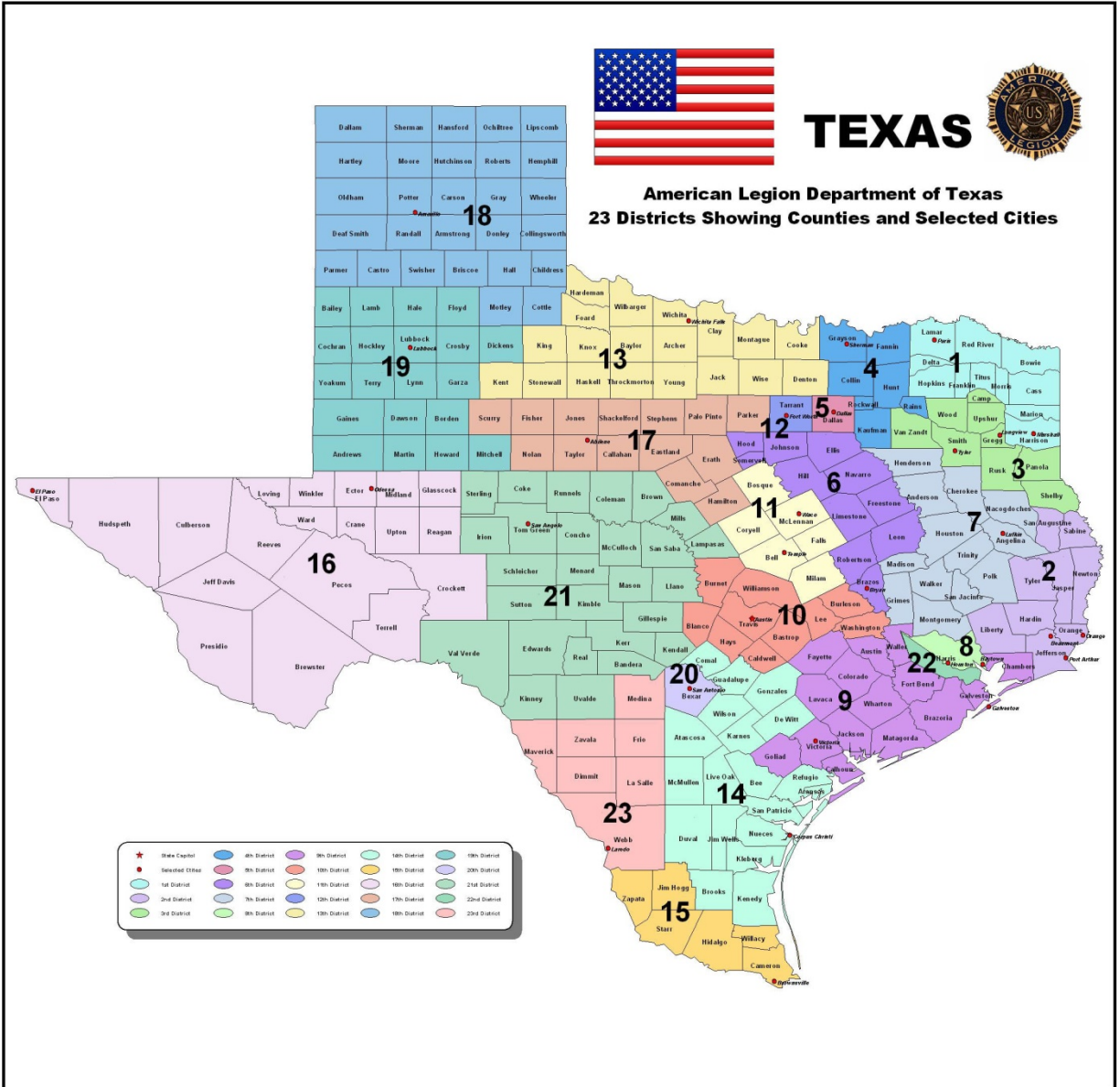
The words emphasize Americanism and service.

The field of white exemplifies the hope of freedom.

The Star of Blue is the Emblem of service in war;

it is no less the Emblem of service in the time of peace.

MAP SHOWING AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DISTRICTS IN TEXAS



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



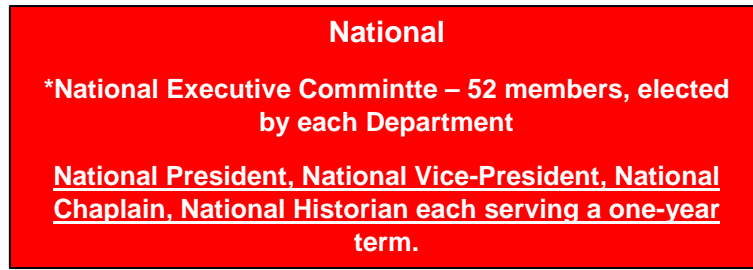
The American Legion – A Veteran who has served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or is still serving active military duty honorably.

The American Legion Auxiliary – Membership includes grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion; and grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of all veterans and active military who served in either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918 and any time after December 7, 1941; those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

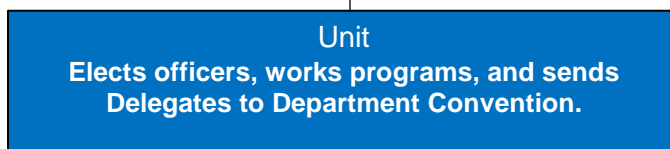
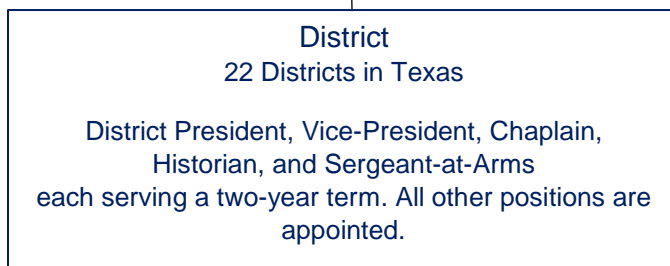
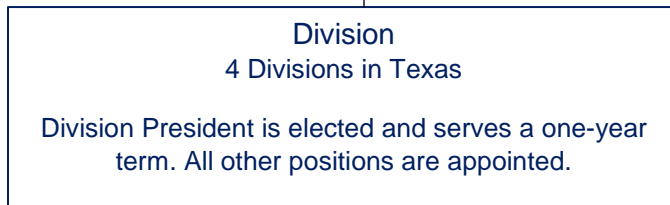
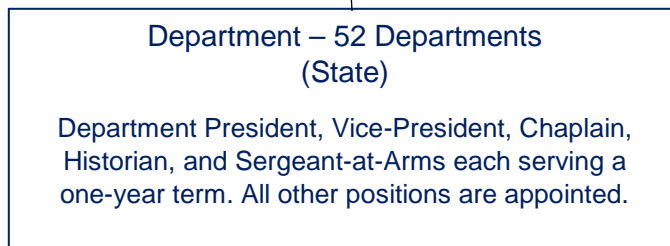
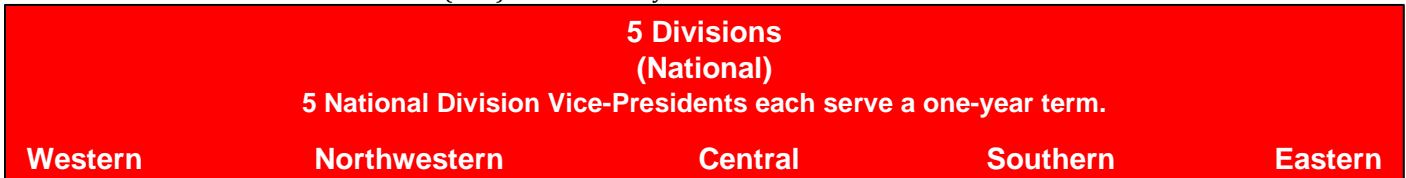
Sons of the Legion (SAL) - SAL members include males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the U.S. military and were eligible for American Legion membership.

American Legion Riders (ALR) -To become a member, you must be a current member in good standing of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion, be the owner of a motorcycle of at least 350cc engine and possess a valid driver's license in your state of residence ~or~ you must be a current member in good standing of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion and must be the legal spouse of an ALR member in good standing within the Chapter of application.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



*The National Executive Committee (NEC) is the Auxiliary's Board of Directors



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY COMMITTEES/PROGRAMS

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: The purpose of the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee is to promote programs and services that assist and enhance the lives of veterans and their families, ensuring restoration and/or transition to normally functioning lives.

Legislative: The mission of the Legislative Committee is to advocate open communication with local, state, and nationally elected officials, to ensure our members are aware of and informed on issues central to the support and well-being of our veterans and their families and to promote grass-roots levels of advocacy and action.

Poppy: The mission of the Poppy Committee is to educate our membership and the public concerning the Poppy's significance and the financial benefit realized by our nation's veterans as a result of its distribution.

Past Presidents Parley: (This is not a National program, but Texas still participates) The mission of the Past Presidents Parley Committee is to recognize and honor female veterans and to utilize the experience and knowledge of past Auxiliary leaders for the training and encouragement of future Auxiliary leaders. Through the Past Presidents Parley Committee, the women who have served as Unit, Department, and National President can continue in active service in the Auxiliary.

Children & Youth: The purpose of the Children & Youth Committee is to work collaboratively with The American Legion to promote programs that protect, care for, and support children and youth, especially those of our military and veterans.

Community Service: The mission of the Community Service Committee is to mobilize and work in cooperation with The American Legion family, the veteran and military community, and the general population to provide service to benefit veterans, service members and their families.

Junior Activities: The mission of the Junior Activities Committee is to promote volunteerism through community-based programs and services that involve veterans and to teach the principals of loyalty to God and country, justice, freedom and democracy to our young members.

Education: The mission of the Education Committee is to promote quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion and support of education beyond high school.

Americanism: The purpose of the Americanism program is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship.

Girls State: The mission of the Girls State Committee is to provide an outstanding, unique and coveted educational opportunity to the young women of our nation that instills the basic ideals

and principles of American government through the Girls State and Girls Nation citizenship training programs.

National Security: The mission of the National Security Committee is to maintain and promote a strong national defense by providing the necessary means to strengthen our military families and prepare our citizenry for response to natural and man-made disasters.

Membership: The purpose of the Membership Committee is to promote the benefits of membership and to promote retaining and recruiting a diverse, active membership to carry out the American Legion Auxiliary mission and programs.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund: The mission of the Auxiliary Emergency Fund Committee is to raise funds for and awareness of the Auxiliary Emergency Fund, to promote knowledge about the program, to disseminate information to members about the application process, and to assist members in need.

Leadership: The mission of the Leadership Committee is to develop and prepare knowledgeable and capable leaders to carry on the growth and success of the Auxiliary by promoting activities and resources that educate, motivate and mentor members of all ages on all levels and phases of our programs.

Public Relations: The mission of the Public Relations Committee is to work collaboratively with all levels of the organization to create, implement and support a proactive communication network that advances the objectives and programs of the American Legion Auxiliary and positively projects our image and programs to the general public.

Constitution & Bylaws: The purpose of the Constitution & Bylaws is to inform members about having proper governing documents at all levels.

Finance: The mission of the Finance Committee is to oversee the general financial policy of the organization and to prepare and monitor the annual budget and its expenditures.

Audit: The purpose of the Audit Committee is to provide oversight assistance to the National Executive Committee in fulfilling its responsibilities regarding accounting and reporting practices, reliable systems of internal control, the corporate responsibility program, and the quality and integrity of the Auxiliary's financial reporting. Audit Committee members shall be financially literate, and the chairman shall have the necessary background to be considered an "audit committee financial expert" in matters of accounting and auditing.

For more information about Unit Committees/Programs of the American Legion Auxiliary, please consult the American Legion Auxiliary Unit Handbook. A copy may be downloaded from the American Legion Auxiliary for free at: <https://www.alaforveterans.org> . Bound copies of the Unit Handbook can be ordered from The American Legion Emblem Sales at

<http://emblem.legion.org/>

American Legion Auxiliary Glossary of Terms

A

- AEF Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Created in 1969, the Auxiliary Emergency Fund assists eligible members with food, shelter and utilities. Grants are also disbursed for emergency needs due to weather-related catastrophes and educational training. ***See the AEF brochure for further information.***
- ALA American Legion Auxiliary, the largest women's patriotic service organization in the world, with nearly 800,000 members. Founded in 1919 as an Auxiliary to The American Legion.
- ALA Girls Nation A continuation of Girls State is Girls Nation where two "senators" from each state are selected to participate in a simulated National government program in Washington, D.C. ***See Girls State***
- ALA Girls State The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Program has provided High School Juniors all across the country the opportunity to participate in a hands-on citizenship training program for over 60 years. These young women learn about local, state and federal government by actually creating their own policy through the election of public officials on local, county, and state levels and then by carrying out the duties of these respective offices.
- ALAMIS American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System. It is currently in use by ALA Departments and many units.
- Auxiliary* American Legion Auxiliary's quarterly magazine that is distributed to every current senior member.

B

- Blue Book A list of ALA contact information for units and those in leadership positions. This book is produced annually and given to Unit Presidents, District Presidents and Division Presidents.
- Blue Star Families Blue Star Family is a military family with a loved one who is serving in the U.S. military during a time of conflict.

Boys Nation ***See Girls State/Girls Nation***

Boys State American Legion Boys State is a participatory program where each participant becomes a part of the operation of his local, county and state government. At American Legion Boys State, participants are exposed to the rights and privileges, the duties and the responsibilities of a franchised citizen. This program coincides with the American Legion Auxiliary's Girls State program.

C

C&Y Children and Youth Committee

C&B Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Century Club The Century Club is an annual giving program in which Auxiliary members and friends of the national organization donate \$100 or more to become members of the Century Club. Contributions are used to support the operations and programs of the Auxiliary such as Girls Nation, scholarships, Auxiliary Emergency Fund and much more.

Chairman Members may be selected to serve as a committee chairman on the unit, department or national level. The incoming National President prior to the start of the next administrative year selects national chairmen.

Charter A Charter is, essentially, an application to start a new unit within a department. It also serves as a piece of history. Charters may be cancelled and revoked. *See Unit Handbook for more information.*

Christmas Assessment This is a mandatory fee based on membership and assessed to each unit to be paid to the Department of Texas. The purpose is to provide hospitalized veterans with gifts for Christmas.

Commander Title given to the leader of The American Legion post, district, division, department, or national organization.

Consolidated Report Form Implemented in the 2010-2011 year, this report captures the mission related outcomes from unit activity so that the Auxiliary and Legion family can demonstrate our impact on the veteran community. The information reported is sent to The American Legion National Headquarters to include in their annual report to Congress.

D

DEC	Department Executive Committee. The Board of Directors for the Department.
Department	Within the Auxiliary, each state (as well as Puerto Rico and District of Columbia) is known as a "Department." Each department has their own constitution and is governed by a Department Executive Committee. Department Presidents typically change annually; however, each department has a secretary who typically handles day-to-day business and is usually the first point of contact for the department. There are currently 52 Departments in the ALA.
Detachment	The Sons of the American Legion's equivalent to an Auxiliary Department.

E

Emblem	The Auxiliary's symbol is referred to as an emblem, not a logo. Permission to use it must be given by the National Secretary.
Emblem Sales	The Emblem Sales Division of The American Legion National Headquarters not only sells Legion merchandise; they also stock many Auxiliary items. Some of these items include pins, jewelry and clothing. Additionally, supply items such as the Unit Handbook are available for purchase. Each fall, Emblem Sales produces a new catalog.

G

Gold Star Mothers	This is an organization of mothers whose sons or daughters served and died that this world might be a better place in which to live. The biological mothers of sons or daughters who died while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America or its Allies, or died as a result of injuries sustained in such service, are eligible for membership in the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. An adoptive mother or stepmother who parented the child, whose biological mother is deceased, from the age of five years is also eligible under the above conditions.
-------------------	---

J

Junior	Auxiliary members who have not yet reached the age of 18.
--------	---

Junior Handbook A resource for Junior members and Senior members who work with Juniors. It is available for free on the American Legion Auxiliary national website; hard copies may be purchased through Emblem Sales.

L

Legion Family Members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion and Legion Riders comprise the Legion family, which has a combined membership of nearly 4 million.

N

NEC The National Executive Committee is the governing body for the national organization. The NEC meets proceeding National Convention, immediately following National Convention and also at mid-year, typically prior to the Washington D.C. Conference.

NPAE National President's Award for Excellence --the Best of the Best. One Department and Five Units are awarded the National President's Award for Excellence each year at National Convention.

NVCAF National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. Held annually, the Auxiliary is a national co-sponsor of this event (along with the Department of veterans Affairs). This program is specifically for veterans in the VA healthcare system who use art as a form of rehabilitative therapy. Departments and Units raise funds to support this annual program at the local and national levels.

P

Page There are three different types of pages: Local Page, Department Page and President's Page. All three play a role in the national convention. A local page serves in conjunction with the local convention committee and assists with directions, locations, etc. A department page assists their delegation and may present department's colors. A president's page accompanies the President and serves as an aide (i.e. running errands, delivering messages, etc.) When serving at events, they generally wear white and blue.

PDP	Past Department President. Once a department president completes her annual term, she becomes a past department president. Most continue serving, particularly as mentors to future leaders at the unit, district/county and department levels. Many go on to serve on national committees and other national leadership positions.
PNP	Past National President. Once a national president's annual term ends, she is referred to as a past national president. A PNP will typically continue to remain active in the Auxiliary, serving on committees and as a mentor to future leaders at all levels.
Poppy	The poppy became a symbol of the sacrifice of lives in war and represented the hope that none had died in vain. The American Legion Auxiliary poppy has continued to bloom for the casualties of four wars, its petals of paper bound together for veterans, reminding America each year that the men and women who have served and died for their country deserves to be remembered.
Poppy Poster Contest	Units in their local schools sponsor the Poppy Poster Contest. Specific requirements and rules guide winner selection. Local winners are judged by national division chairmen and divisional winners are featured in the national <i>Auxiliary</i> magazine.
Post	The American Legion's equivalent to an Auxiliary Unit. Legionnaires belong to a Post. Auxiliary members belong to a Unit.
PPP	Past Presidents Parley. While no longer on the national level, it remains a committee for the Department of Texas. The purpose of the committee is to recognize and honor female veterans through the "Outstanding Female Veteran" award and the "Unit Member of the Year" award. This committee also raises funds for the PPP Medical Scholarships.
President	Title given to the leader of an auxiliary unit, district/county, division, department, or national organization.
PUFL	Paid Up For Life membership. Members who are current on dues may complete a PUFL application and pay a one-time fee, based upon the member's age and total dues at the time of application, to become a member for life. The one-time payment is placed in a trust to pay the member's dues each year.

Public Spirit Award Established in 1983, this award recognizes outstanding individuals or organizations for contributions that positively impact our communities, particularly efforts that benefit our military, veterans and their families. It is awarded at the annual Auxiliary Washington, D.C. Conference. The recipient is selected by the American Legion Auxiliary national president and must be present to accept the award.

R

Reps/Depts Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Representatives and Deputy Representatives.

Roster A list of members in a specific department or unit, available via ALAMIS.

S

SAL Sons of The American Legion. Founded in 1932, SAL members include males of all ages who are dependents of those who served in the U.S. military and eligible for American Legion membership.

Senior A member age 18 or older.

SOY Spirit of Youth. Established in 1983, the Spirit of Youth Fund provides scholarships to Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary; said member to have held Junior membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the past three years and must hold a membership card for the current year.

Squadron The Sons of The American Legion's equivalent to an auxiliary unit.

Stand Down In times of war, exhausted combat warriors are removed from the battlefields to a place of relative security and safety to take care of personal hygiene, get clean uniforms, enjoy a warm meal, receive medical care, and receive and send letters. Now refers to grassroots, community-based intervention program to help the nation's homeless veterans "combat" life on the streets. Homeless veterans are brought to one location for one to three days and are provided access to community resources to begin addressing individual problems. Homeless veterans are provided with necessities including food, clothing, medical, legal and mental health assistance, and job counseling.

T

TAL The American Legion, also call The Legion. Members referred to as Legionnaires.

TX Bluebonnet Girls State: This is the name of the Girls State Program for the Department of Texas. ***See ALA Girls State***

U

Unit A unit is the grass roots level of membership. Each unit has their own constitution, bylaws and officers. The ALA has more than 8,000 units. The State of Texas currently (2026) has 248 units.

Unit Handbook A resource for Senior members in the American Legion Auxiliary. It is available for free on the American Legion Auxiliary national website; hard copies may be purchased through Emblem Sales.

V

VA&R Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee

VAMC Veterans Administrative Medical Center

VAVS VA Voluntary Services

W

Washington D.C. Conference Formerly known as Awareness Assembly. Annual meeting conducted in February/March in Washington D.C., in conjunction with The American Legion, focusing primarily on legislative issues.