

EDUCATION
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"Reconnect with our Heritage to Strengthen our Future!" is National President Rita Navarrete's theme. What better place than in "education" can this be accomplished? To make this happen, let's follow Nebraska President Carol Ulrich's plan of "Awareness" (knowing what can be done), "Action" (act on the plan), "Auxiliary" (that's YOU), and "Award" (you reward).

Our purpose in Education is "to promote quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion and support of education beyond high school." Our plan of action follows.

OBJECTIVES

National Education Objective 1: Increase applications for National scholarships to a minimum of one per department by increasing awareness in local communities.

Department Education Objective 1: Every Unit to submit one applicant per National scholarship (National President's Scholarship--Educating Children of Warriors," "The Non-Traditional Student," and "Spirit of Youth") to Department to ensure Nebraska submits one per scholarship to National.

ACTION STEPS

- A. Distribute scholarship applications to every high school. Be sure to include public, private, parochial, and home-schooled students.
- B. Use your local newspapers to publicize the American Legion Auxiliary and The American Legion Scholarship opportunities. Be sure to provide the supporting free link to www.needalift.org.
- C. Use your school's newsletter to promote the scholarships. This will get the word to the parents.
- D. Ask to be a part of the school's Parent/Teacher conferences. Have a table available with the scholarship information to hand out to the parents.

OBJECTIVES

National Education Objective 2: To promote oral and written communication skills by instilling a love of reading for both children and adults with increasing literacy and mentoring opportunities.

Department Education Objective 2: Every unit to participate in ONE activity to promote oral and written communication skills to instill a love of reading for both children and adults.

ACTION STEPS

- A. Every unit participates in the "Give 10 to Education" program. (Examples: 10 books; 10 minutes to read or to be read to; \$10 for 10 weeks for a scholarship)
- B. Senior and junior members volunteer at local library to read and share the gift of reading and writing with younger children. (Visit www.legion-aux.org for a citation form.)

- C. Locate or initiate a local adult literacy program. (Contact Americanism and Children & Youth Commission: American Legion, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or call 317-60-1200 for the free "Adult Literacy" resource.)
- D. Sponsor a community Book Fair for individuals to swap and share books.
- E. Sponsor a community writing contest using the 2009-2010 Americanism Essay Contest theme "What is My Patriotic Role as a U.S. Citizen?"

OBJECTIVES

National Education Objective 3: To emphasize to units and department participation in educational programs of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary.

Department Education Objective 3: Every Unit to participate in ONE educational program of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary and report it.

ACTION STEPS

- A. Promote and participate in American Education Week, November 15-21, 2009. Submit an article to your local or area newspaper to acquaint parents and all citizens with the needs of their schools. Recognize the teachers in some way (apples, donuts, special ribbon, etc).
- B. Promote the 2010 Constitutional Speech Contest sponsored by The American Legion. Volunteer to help at the local, district/county, and department level. Visit www.legion.org for additional information.
- C. Support The American Legion's Policy on education by recognizing the value of education, career development, and responsibility. (Contact Americanism and Children & Youth Commission: American Legion, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or call 317-60-1200 for the free "Policy on Education" resource.)
- D. Promote the Veterans in the Classroom program. Ask your local schools to include a local Veteran in their history curriculum to share with the students. (Contact Americanism and Children & Youth Commission: American Legion, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or call 317-60-1200 for the free "Veterans in the Classroom" resource.)
- E. Promote the educational and scholarship opportunities for military children--active duty, National Guard, and Reserve.

OBJECTIVES

National Education Objective 4: Assist in raising the remaining estimated \$400,000 to obtain the goal of \$1.2 million for the Endowment Fund "Educating the Children of Warriors" (aka National President's Scholarship Endowment Fund).

Department Education Objective 4: In honor of the 90th Anniversary of The American Legion Auxiliary, every Unit make a special "90-something" donation to the Endowment Fund "Educating the Children of Warriors (aka National President's Scholarship Endowment Fund).

ACTION STEPS

- A. Encourage each member to give **90** times a dime (\$9.00) to the Endowment Fund.
- B. Encourage every unit to donate **90 cents** for each member to the Endowment Fund.
- C. Sponsor a soup supper during American Education Week and give **90%** of the proceeds to the Endowment Fund.

D. Give a memorial to the Endowment Fund in memory of a specific veteran. Memorials will be listed in the Annual Report section of the National Convention Program.

E. Honor an educator or mentor by making a donation in their name to the Endowment Fund. A listing of Honor Gifts will be listed in the Annual Report section of the National Convention Program.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

- Local Unit Presidents must receive completed applications by **March 1, 2010**
- Winning entry for each Unit must be certified by Unit President and mailed to Department Secretary (American Legion Auxiliary, PO Box 5227, Lincoln NE 68505-0227) by **March 15, 2010**.
- Follow National guidelines. Submit no more than what is asked for--example, no pictures, no special folders/binders, etc. unless indicated in the rules.

President's Scholarship "Educating Children of Warriors"

- Awarded to children of veterans who served in Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for The American Legion.
- Scholarships in the amounts of \$2500, \$2000, and \$1000 will be awarded from the Northwest Division.
- Applicant must complete 50 hours of community service during his/her high school years to be eligible.

The Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

- Applicant must be a member of The American Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion.
- Applicant must have paid dues for the two preceding years and for the calendar year in which application is made.
- Scholarship in the amount of \$1000 will be awarded from the Northwest Division.

Spirit of Youth Scholarship

- Applicant must be a Junior member.
- Applicant must have held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the immediate past three years, currently hold a membership card, and continue to maintain her membership throughout the 4-year scholarship period.
- Scholarship in the amount of \$1000 per year for four years (\$4000).

Girl Scout Achievement Award

- Applicant must have earned Girl Scout Gold award.
- Scholarship in the amount of \$1000.

Samsung American Legion Scholarship

- Applicant must have participated in and completed American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Program
- Applicant must be a direct descendant or a legally adopted child of a US wartime veteran during the eligibility dates for The American Legion.
- Scholarship amounts vary and are the result of interest income from a \$5 million endowment fund by The Samsung Group.

The American Legion Legacy Scholarship

- Applicant must be a child or legally adopted child of active duty US military and Guard, and Reserve personnel who were federalized and died on active duty on or after September 11, 2001.
- Applicant must be a high school senior or high school graduate.
- Scholarship is for undergraduate study at a US school of higher education.
- Scholarship amount depends upon the income derived from the trust.

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

- Local Unit Presidents must receive completed applications by **March 1, 2010**
- Winning entry for each Unit must be certified by Unit President and mailed to Department Secretary (American Legion Auxiliary, PO Box 5227, Lincoln NE 68505-0227) by **March 15, 2010**.
- Follow each scholarship's guidelines. Submit no more than what is asked for--example, no pictures, no special folders/binders, etc. unless indicated in the rules.

Averyl Elaine Keriakedes Memorial Scholarship

- Applicant preferably female enrolled at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln
- Applicant plans to teach middle school or junior high school social studies

Graduate Scholarship

- \$200 Scholarship
- Applicant must be veteran connected
- Applicant must hold a Bachelor's degree
- Applicant interested in teaching special education students

Practical Nursing Scholarship

- Gift Scholarship not exceeding \$300
- Must be used at the next session of a school of practical nursing
- Applicant must be veteran connected.
- Applicant must be a resident of Nebraska at least three (3) years immediately prior to application date

Ruby Lorraine Paul Fund Scholarships

- Awarded to a daughter, son, granddaughter, grandson, great-granddaughter or great-grandson of an American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary member who has held Nebraska membership for two (2) years
- Applicant may be a member of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion who have Nebraska membership for two (2) years
- Applicant enrolled in an accredited college or university for the current year
- Applicant must be a Nebraska resident for previous three (3) years
- Scholarship NOT available to applicants enrolled in a school of nursing
- Applicant must be a high school senior OR a graduate of an accredited high school

- Applicant must have maintained a “B” or better average the last two (2) semesters of high school

Ruby Paul Campaign Fund Scholarship

- Awarded to a daughter, son, granddaughter, grandson, great-granddaughter or great-grandson of an American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary member who has held Nebraska membership for two years
- Applicant may be a member of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion who has held Nebraska membership for two (2) years
- Applicant enrolled in an accredited college or university for the current year
- Applicant must be a Nebraska resident for previous three (3) years
- Applicant must be a high school senior OR a graduate of an accredited high school
- Applicant must have maintained a “B” or better average the last two (2) semesters of high school

Roberta Marie Stretch Memorial Scholarship

- Scholarship in the amount of \$400
- Applicant must be enrolled or accepted into an undergraduate or masters graduate program at a four (4) year college or university
- Applicant must be veteran connected
- Applicant must be a resident of Nebraska
- Preference given to former Nebraska Girls State Citizen

Student Aid Grant or Vocational Technical Scholarship

- Scholarship shall not exceed \$300
- Scholarship will be paid in two halves
- Applicant must be a resident of Nebraska
- Applicant must be a veteran or veteran connected
- Recipient required to send one letter per quarter that includes the grades for that quarter to: American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters, PO Box 5227, Lincoln, NE 68505
- Recipient leaves school, Department Secretary must be notified immediately

Nurse's Gift Tuition Scholarship

- Applicant must be veteran connected
- Applicant must be enrolled in any approved school of nursing
- Applicant must be a Nebraska resident
- Previous recipients are eligible to apply

AWARDS

Most Outstanding American Education Week Program

- Plaque awarded to Unit Education Chairman for winning entry
- Submit double-spaced narrative of your American Education Week Program
- Narrative must not exceed 1000 words

- Cover page includes:
Most Outstanding American Education Week Program
Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary
(Your Unit name and number)
(Your Unit Chairman Name & Address)
- Submit a copy of your Unit's Department report
- Do NOT include any pictures, newspaper clippings, etc
- Entry must be received by **May 1, 2010**
- Mail entry to: Vicki Ozenbaugh, Department Education Chairman, 515 Road 18, Ohioa, NE 68416

Most Outstanding Literacy Program

- Plaque awarded to Unit Education Chairman for winning entry
- Submit double-spaced narrative of your Literacy Program
- Narrative must not exceed 1000 words
- Cover page includes:

Most Outstanding Literacy Program
Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary
(Your Unit name and number)
(Your Unit Chairman Name & Address)

- Submit a copy of your Unit's Department report
- Do NOT include any pictures, newspaper clippings, etc
- Entry must be received by **May 1, 2010**
- Mail entry to: Vicki Ozenbaugh, Department Education Chairman, 515 Road 18, Ohioa, NE 68416

Most Outstanding Scholarship Program

- Plaque awarded to Unit Education Chairman for winning entry
- Submit double-spaced narrative of your Scholarship Program
- Narrative must not exceed 1000 words
- Cover page includes:

Most Outstanding Scholarship Program
Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary
(Your Unit name and number)
(Your Unit Chairman Name & Address)

- Submit a copy of your Unit's Department report
- Do NOT include any pictures, newspaper clippings, etc
- Entry must be received by **May 1, 2010**
- Mail entry to: Vicki Ozenbaugh, Department Education Chairman, 515 Road 18, Ohioa, NE 68416

Most Outstanding Veterans in the Classroom Program

- Plaque awarded to Unit Education Chairman for winning entry
- Submit double-spaced narrative of your Veterans in the Classroom Program

- Narrative must not exceed 1000 words
- Cover page includes:

**Most Outstanding Veterans in the Classroom Program
Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary
(Your Unit name and number)
(Your Unit Chairman Name & Address)**

- Submit a copy of your Unit’s Department report
- Do NOT include any pictures, newspaper clippings, etc
- Entry must be received by **May 1, 2010**
- Mail entry to: Vicki Ozenbaugh, Department Education Chairman, 515 Road 18, Ohioa NE 68416

Give 10 to Education

- Citation awarded for Unit participation
- Submit report showing hours and/or donations made
- Entry must be received by **May 1, 2010**
- Mail entry to: Vicki Ozenbaugh, Department Education Chairman, 515 Road 18, Ohioa, NE 68416.

RESOURCES

- National Auxiliary Scholarships are available on the Auxiliary’s web site, www.legion-aux.org
- Educational products are available from American Legion Flag & Emblem Sales at www.emblem.legion.org
- Educational resources available at no cost by contacting Americanism and Children & Youth Commission of The American Legion or visit www.legion.org
- Additional resources on program page on www.legion-aux.org
- Nebraska Auxiliary Scholarships are available on Nebraska’s Auxiliary web site www.nebraskalegionaux.net
- Contact Dept. Education Chairman Vicki Ozenbaugh, 402-295-2505, or 515 Road 18, Ohioa, NE 68416

SAMPLE - EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT FORM
2009-2010

Complete this form and submit by **MAY 1, 2010** to Department Secretary, American Legion Auxiliary, PO Box 5227, Lincoln NE 68505-0227.

Unit Name _____ Unit Number _____ Unit Chairman _____
Chairman’s Mailing Address: _____
City/State/Zip _____ Zip Code _____

PARTICIPATION WITH SCHOLARSHIPS & EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- 1) List number of applications submitted to Department
 - a) National President's Scholarship_____
 - b) Spirit of Youth Scholarship _____
 - c) Non-Traditional Scholarship _____
- 2) Department Scholarships
Number awarded_____
- 3) Total value of scholarships \$_____
- 4) Unit Scholarships
Offered scholarship—yes or no____
- 5) Total value of scholarships awarded \$_____
- 6) Donations made to other scholarship funds \$_____
- 7) Number of “Need a Lift” distributed _____
- 8) Number of “Guide for Parents & Students” distributed _____
- 9) Amount donated to Education Children of Warriors
(Nat'l Pres Scholarship) \$_____

A. LITERACY

1. Unit participated in adult literacy program—yes or no ____
 - a) Total volunteer hours _____
 - b) Number of people served _____
 - c) Amount of donations or dollars spent \$_____
2. Unit participated in classroom reading programs—yes/no ____
 - a) Total volunteer hours_____
 - b) Number of schools served _____
 - c) Amount of donations or dollars spent \$_____
3. Unit participated in “Give 10 to Education”—yes or no
 - a) Amount of donations or dollars spent \$_____
 - b) Identify what activities your Unit did in “Give 10 to Education”

4. Number of Junior groups participating in Literacy Program_____

B. VETERANS IN THE CLASSROOM

1. Unit participated in Veterans in Classroom Program- yes/no____
 - a) Number of volunteer hours_____
 - b) Number of schools served_____

c) Amount of donations or dollars spent \$ _____

C. NATIONAL GUARD PROGRAM

1. Unit participated in National Guard Program—yes/no _____
2. Describe activities: _____

D. SUPPORTING AMERICAN LEGION PROGRAMS

1. Unit participated in American Education Week—yes/no _____
 - a) Number of volunteer hours _____
 - b) Number of schools served _____
 - c) Amount of donations or dollars spent \$ _____
2. Unit participated in Constitutional Speech Contest—yes/no _____
 - a) Number of volunteer hours _____
 - b) Number of schools served _____
 - c) Amount of donations or dollars spent \$ _____
3. Unit recognized outstanding schools or students—yes/no _____
 - a) Number of schools awarded citations _____
 - b) Number of students awarded citations _____

COMPLETED FORM SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 1, 2010 **TO: DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
PO BOX 5227 LINCOLN NE 68505-0227**

CITATION POINTS - 20 points assigned

- 5 pts...Unit contributed to Scholarships
 - 5 pts...Unit participated in Literacy “Give 10 to Education”
 - 5 pts...Unit participated in classroom mentoring and reading programs
 - 2 pts...Unit participated in Veterans in the Classroom
 - 3 pts...Unit supported Oratorical Contest, or PACT or American Education Week
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