

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA  
2022 – 2023**



# **BOOK**

**A GUIDE TO THE ALA PROGRAMS**





## **Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary**

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 in 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 good will 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 our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

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**NEVER FORGET  
EVER HONOR**

**SECTION 1**  
**DEPARTMENT OFFICERS**  
**DEPARTMENT CHAIRS**



**BOOK**

**2022 - 2023**

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT - VICTORIA (VICKI) OZENBAUGH  
515 Road 18 – Ohioa NE 68416 - 402-295-2505 (H) – 402-759-0411 (C)  
[ala.ozenbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:ala.ozenbaugh@gmail.com)

### **NEVER FORGET, EVER HONOR**

What an honor to introduce myself as your Department President for 2022-2023. I am a proud Paid Up for Life member of Franklin Unit #193 of Ohioa, Nebraska. I have been a member since 1977 and am eligible through the service of my former husband. For the last 45 years I have served in many aspects of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), beginning at the Unit level, to County and District, to many Department Program chairpersons, and the last three years as a Department officer. I consider it a privilege to belong to the ALA so that I can do my part in supporting our Veterans and their families, as well as our youth and communities.

What will my year as your President accomplish? My plan has two goals:

1. **Every Unit reaches their goal in membership.** Without members, we are unable to fulfill our mission to advocate for, help, and honor our military, veterans, and their families as well as support The American Legion.
2. **Every Unit submits the End-of-Year Reports.** These reports are important in that they tell the story of what your Unit did for the year and when combined with all 300 Units in Nebraska, it tells National what wonderful ALA work we have done.

This ABC Book will provide some guidance in making these two goals. THE STAR and monthly headquarter mailings will also keep you informed. No Unit or member is alone in working our many programs. Your Department Officers are here to help.

What is the key to being successful as a Unit? Accepting the fact that you cannot do every wonderful program that the ALA promotes. As a Unit, decide on a few programs that fit your Unit's aspirations and work to achieve them. Every Unit is different because of your numbers, age of members, community, and location in Nebraska. The main thing to remember is you are following my theme (**Never Forget, Ever Honor**) when you are working any of the ALA and The Legion programs. Our Veterans deserve to never be forgotten and always honored.

Finally, let's remember to communicate and to be kind. Nothing brings down an organization faster than a lack of communication among all levels as well as an unkind word of a fellow ALA member. Kindness shows itself in the way we speak to and about others. I have faith that together we can accomplish open communication lines and treat everyone with kindness.

One word might describe my dedication to ALA—**patriotism**. I have a love for my country and those who have and still do provide me with my freedoms.

**Patriotism should never end!**

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## **DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT - ANGIE FOSTER**

PO Box 93, Osceola, NE 68651

Call/Text: 308-520-5791 (after 9am) Email: [angiefoster214@gmail.com](mailto:angiefoster214@gmail.com)

Hello everyone! As your 2022-2023 Department Vice President, I am looking forward to working with all of you this year. I am a long time American Legion Auxiliary member and currently belong to the Silver Creek Unit. This year I am also serving as the Northwestern Division Community Service Chairman overseeing Community Service Chairpersons in Colorado, Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota. Supporting veterans is why I belong to this great organization because I am a mother, daughter, granddaughter, great-granddaughter and niece of a veteran. The American Legion Family is my extended family, and I can't wait to travel the State to see all of you and the great work you do. As Department Vice President, I want to focus on membership, communication and branding this year. Membership is a huge part of this organization and without its members then we would not be able to complete the mission of serving our veterans and communities. Communication is another area I would like to focus on because I feel that communication is the key to success. We need to break down communication barriers between the Department, District and Unit levels. Lastly, I want to focus on "branding" of the American Legion Auxiliary in our communities. This is done by displaying the ALA Emblem at events and wearing Auxiliary pins/shirts. Through communication and branding, I believe that it will help increase our membership. Website Administrator: This year I am also managing our Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary website. I encourage Units and Districts to email me with upcoming events and newsletters so I can upload them to the website. Please encourage members to use the website to get forms, keep apprised of events and much more! The website address is: [nebraskalegionaux.net](http://nebraskalegionaux.net) Let's have a great year!

Order items at: <https://emblem.legion.org>



## **DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN – AMANDA WASHBURN**

5230 N 148<sup>th</sup> Street – Lincoln, NE 68527

Phone: 402-480-1472 Email: amandafaye33@gmail.com

Hi everyone! My name is Amanda Washburn, and I am the 2022-23 Department Historian. I was signed up for the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary when I was an hour old and have been a member since. I belong to Cook Unit 360 in District 13. I am a member of the ALA to help veterans, our military, and our community's youth. My favorite veteran's program is "Gifts for Yanks" and being able to see the veterans face when we give them our gift. It is definitely something that everyone should experience at least once in their life.

This year my goal is to have each Unit report the activities that they are doing. I look forward to hearing what everyone is doing and record it so the generations to come know what we are doing. If we don't write it down, then how will we remember what happened. This can be in the annual history book, on a piece of paper, or just in a short email. I will take whatever you wish to send in! The written reports received will be used in the 2022-23 Department History Book as well.

I did update the Senior Unit History Book rules this year. I encourage all Units to make a History Book and submit it for judging at their District Conventions. The District winner must be submitted to me by June 1, 2023. The Wagenknecht-Snyder Plaque will be awarded at the 2023 Department Convention to the winning History Book.

### **Senior Unit History Book Rules**

**(History April 2022 to April 2023)**

**District winner must be submitted to the Department Historian by June 1**

**Cover (10 points):** Units may use a three ring binder or three ring folder that can hold 8 ½ X 11 paper for their entry. In the center of the first sheet should be a color American Legion Auxiliary Emblem (any size) and the words "History Book".

**Title Page (25 points):** Listed on the second page should be the Unit name, Unit number, Unit time, the District number, name of the Unit Historian, and History Book Year 2022 to 2023.

**Content (60 points):** The history narrative needs to be a minimum of five paragraphs and should start with the installation of officers and the close of your administrative year in chronological order. Within the narrative should be the unit officers, chairman, and other events or activities. Any font can be used, and it can be typed or handwritten.

**Unit Historian Signature (5 points):** Please have the Unit Historian sign the last page of the narrative.

**Bonus Points:** A Unit can earn one extra bonus point for including 3 photos of Unit Members participating in Unit Activities or one Unit Event Invitation or Program.



**Cavalcade of Memories - Amanda Washburn**  
**5230 N 148<sup>th</sup> Street – Lincoln, NE 68527**  
**Phone: 402-480-1472 Email: amandafaye33@gmail.com**

Many people see Cavalcade of Memories and wonder what that even means. It is similar to a box of treasures you might keep remembering specific events or memories that were important to you. Your Unit might keep items such as your Unit Charter, a list of charter members, a program from your first meeting or event, pictures of your Unit Presidents, the bell and gavel for your Unit, and many others.

The Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary has its very own Cavalcade of Memories located in the basement of the Department Headquarters building. It contains the pictures of each of the Past Department Presidents, pictures, flags, and items from our Past National Presidents, items from past and current members, and awards for both the Auxiliary and the Junior Auxiliary. You will find interesting reading from the history of Nebraska's American Legion Auxiliary for the past 100 years in the form of Department History Books and THE STAR. If you have never visited it, I highly recommend you stop by the next time you are in Lincoln. It is a treasure trove of history, and it shows the dedication, love, and commitment of our Auxiliary members.

This year I am challenging all Units in our Department to send in a picture or pictures of their Cavalcade of Memories to showcase what they have. I will share these pictures on our Facebook page for everyone to see. If you have any questions, please contact me.

**DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER PRO TEM – JACKI O'NEILL**  
Cell phone 712-574-5070 – [Neaux@windstream.net](mailto:Neaux@windstream.net)

I became a member in 1980 when my mother-in-law signed me up. I am eligible through my father, Jack Smith, a Korean era veteran and my husband Dan. Dan served in Germany during the Vietnam era.

We resided in Waterbury Nebraska and Sioux City Iowa. My American Legion Auxiliary history started slow I was a member on paper for many years. The Jackson Unit normally had many members attending the Dakota County Convention. I decided to go to one, and truly enjoyed it. There were knowledgeable members in attendance and the atmosphere was comfortable. Next step I went to a Mid-Year Conference, that was really interesting and educational. And then, the district 3 Convention. Elections were held and there was no one wanting the position of Vice-President. Past Department President 2000-2001 Donna Gana was attending the convention and convinced me to take the position.

I jumped in ready to serve. My biggest obstacle was that I seriously feared public speaking. I then served as District President and Vice-President. Not long after that the Department Secretary decided to leave the ALA so that position was open. My husband's retirement plan was to move to Lincoln where he had attended college. I wasn't crazy about the idea until I applied for the position of Department Secretary – Treasurer. I moved to Lincoln one year before he did.

I served for Gertrude Johansen, Gayla Schmid, Marva Kasl, Carol Ulrich, Charleen Walters, Donna Hatfield, Cheryl Vap, JoAnn Ward, Barbara Skillman, Barbara Washburn and Debra Albers. What a wonderful experience.

The Department American Legion Commanders and the Sons of the American Legion Commanders were dedicated and supportive. **We were The American Legion Family.**

**What is the Department Secretary – Treasurer to you?**

The duties in the office are not unusual. Answer calls, assist members, keep records updated, mail documents to units monthly and more situations that need immediate attention. Membership is critical for the organization. Member dues need to be processed as soon as they arrive at Headquarters, especially after January 1<sup>st</sup> when the new membership year begins. The dues that arrive prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> get processed as there are deadlines to meet. There were awards in August and more to be announced by the Membership chairperson, Beverly Neel.

This year you will receive monthly newsletters under the direction of our Department President, Vicki Ozenbaugh. If you'd like to add something that works for your unit and you want to share it send the information to Vicki so she can add it to her news. Simple as that.

The forms that are mailed to the units sometimes may seem redundant but they serve a purpose on the Department Level. Asking for unit chairmanships annually when you have held the same office for a decade or more seems unnecessary. Asking for an update on the 8822b form is another one. To make it easy you can call or email the information and get it taken care of immediately. I still have to ask, sorry.

Of course, the donation sheets are necessary so that you can help support our many programs for our veterans, communities and children and youth. You make it possible for our Veterans in facilities to receive gifts of money and even gifts for their family members.

The proceeds from your poppy distributions are also used for Veterans and Children and Youth programs. Auxiliary Emergency Fund donations help the members in your unit that are struggling financially or have suffered a disaster like a fire or flood.

You support the scholarships and Girls State program for our youth. You do so much!

I would like to see more members attend the January Mid-Year Conference and the June Department Convention.

There you can see and hear about what other units have been doing. You will meet the officers and the chairpersons. You are all welcome to attend. Mark your calendars...More news on that prior to the events.

There are many perks to being the Department Secretary... paid attendance to Mid-year Conference, Department and National Convention. There are meetings to attend in Indianapolis, city of the National Headquarters and much more. The best perk is to be an active part of this Veterans organization.

## DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN - RUTH HIETBRINK

735 Washington Street - Sterling NE 68443

402.239.6371 - rhietbri@gmail.com

I am Ruth Hietbrink. I have been a member of the ALA for 49 years. My eligibility is through my father, Paul Straube, who was a WWII veteran. Even though he passed several years ago, his passion for our country has kept me engaged in continuing to be an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary. Currently, I serve as the President of Sterling Unit 140. I have also held the position of Department Legislative Chairperson for the last 3 years. Past Positions within ALA include: • Past District 13 President • Past District 13 Vice President • Past District 13 Chaplain • Johnson County President. Positions outside of the ALA include: • Current Executive Board of Directors for Energy Solution Center, Washington DC • Past Board member of Home Builders of Lincoln • Past Board member for Friendship Home of Lincoln. I graduated from Sterling High School and have a A.A.S. in Business and an A.A.S. in Event Planning. I am a member of Hope Lutheran Church in Burr, Nebraska. I have been employed by Black Hills Energy for the last 26 years and I retired from BHE in July of 2022.

As Chaplain for the Department, I want to make sure that God is part of all business and all services for the ALA. I also want to offer my support and prayers for all veterans and their families.

Some items that I will be looking for are prayers, poems, devotions, and supportive messages from all Districts, Units, and Counties. I will be creating an unforgettable prayer book for our President Vicki Ozenbaugh. I want this book to be a special memorandum that Vicki can look back on and remember her time as Department President.

I would like these articles submitted to me either by mail or by email to the above address. If you could also include your District number, Unit number and your name at the top. Please look for the rules which have been included ~~the rules~~ at the end of this message.

Please look for my messages in The Star Article where we reflect on Vicki's theme and relate to the meaning.

I send blessings to all of you for this upcoming year. This will be a very special year, let's be nice to each other and pray for our Veterans that we Never to Forget, and Always Honor.

### Unit Chaplain Duties:

The office of Chaplain is very important for the wellbeing and spiritual support of the unit and each member. Many Units do not have Chaplains and just have someone provide a prayer. When electing or assigning officers, you are urged to have a Chaplain as one of them. We put God first in all we do. As Chaplain, you are responsible for promoting that promise. You invite God to your meeting with the opening prayer, and at the closing he is asked to be with you and the Legion family as we continue his mission and that of our organization.

### Unit Chaplain Duties:

- Open and close meetings with prayer
- Offer blessings at meals and events
- Lead and plan Unit religious services like draping the charter, or memorial services
- Provide and collect prayers, devotional poems, inspirational thoughts for members
- Have Unit members sign sympathy and get-well cards ahead of time, ready when they are needed
- Help to maintain a spirit of goodwill in the Unit
- Invite members to share requests for prayers
- Use American Legion table prayer cards at events
- Welcome new members, introduce and befriend them
- Assemble with the help of unit, a prayer book to use and enter in the district competition (guidelines provided on separate page)

### Resources:

- ✓ The American Legion Auxiliary web page: [WWW.alaforveterans.org](http://WWW.alaforveterans.org)
- ✓ The American Legion Auxiliary Unit Guidebook
- ✓ The American Legion Auxiliary Department of NE Constitution and Bylaws
- ✓ American Legion Auxiliary Chaplains Prayer Book
- ✓ Auxiliary Chaplains on Facebook: [WWW.facebook.com/groups/chaplains](http://WWW.facebook.com/groups/chaplains)
- ✓ Guidelines for the American Legion Auxiliary National Chaplain

## GUIDELINES FOR SENIOR PRAYER BOOK

**COVER** – White 3-ring folder/notebook with Auxiliary emblem  5 points \_\_\_\_\_

**PAPER** – Standard size typing/computer paper (8.5 X 11 inches) 5 points \_\_\_\_\_

**INTRODUCTION PAGE** – Centered on page 15 points \_\_\_\_\_

Includes following information in this format

Name of Unit #000

Address of the Unit

City, NE 00000

Department of Nebraska

Name of Unit Chaplain, Chaplain

Name of Unit President, President

2022-2023

### **CONTENTS (50 Points)**

- Books must be typed each page should be neat and clean. 5 points \_\_\_\_\_
- Use only one side of the paper per sheet. 5 points \_\_\_\_\_
- Two sections (**Prayers** and **Devotional Thoughts**) should be used with divider pages. Dividers may be decorated. Full page pictures or decorative graphics may be used on divider pages. 5 points \_\_\_\_\_

- Prayers may be original or of your preference. The Author's name or source must be listed. Member's name and unit must be listed on articles contributed "Source" at bottom right of piece. Member's name at bottom left. Author's name or source must be listed Member's name and unit must be listed on articles contributed. If the author or source is unknown type "Author Unknown." 15 points\_\_\_\_\_
- Devotional thoughts may be scriptures from the bible, poems, or other articles. 15 points\_\_\_\_\_
- Inspirational messages and captions are allowed on sheets with prayers or devotional thoughts. 5 points\_\_\_\_\_

**SPELLING** - Be sure to spell correctly. Check closely for errors. 10 Points\_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMARY PAGE** – Centered and double spaced 15 Points \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Name and number

Department of Nebraska

Number of members in Unit

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Unit Chaplain

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Unit President

**100 TOTAL POINTS**\_\_\_\_\_

## GOLD STAR PROGRAM

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever. Psalm 23*

*When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me? Psalm 56:3-4*

Let us Pray:

*Oh Lord,*

*We weep with those who weep and mourn with those who mourn. Please comfort these moms and dads, children, and spouses to ease the pain of their loss. Help them feel your strong presence, see your tender hand all around them and hear your voice comfort them in these ominous situations. Please give your reassuring word to handle their grief. Thank you, Lord, that you are our hope, and our salvation.*

*Amen*

### A Short History of the Gold Star

The next time you're driving through a neighborhood, you may see a banner hanging in a window: a white field with a thick red border and a blue star in the center. The Service Flag, which has been around since World War I, indicates that a family has a son or a daughter, a spouse, or a sibling, serving in the armed forces during a time of war. During World War II, it was not uncommon to see banners hanging in windows with three or four blue stars as multiple members of a family were fighting overseas.

Much less frequently you might see the same banner, only instead of a dark blue star, there will be a gold one meaning that family lost a loved one in the service of their country. Gold Star Mothers are women who have literally borne the troops that have made the ultimate sacrifice. For them, the war doesn't end.

On May 28, 1918, President, Wilson approved a suggestion made by the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defenses that, instead of wearing conventional mourning for a relative who had died in service of his country, American women should wear a black band on the left arm with a gold star on the band for each member of the family who had given his life for the Nation. That was the beginning of the Gold Star program. President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a proclamation designating the last Sunday in September as

Gold Star Mother's Day in 1940. In 2010 September 30 was designated by President Obama as Gold Star Mother's Day and Families Day.

The American Legion Auxiliary takes Gold Star Mother's Day one step further by honoring the mothers as well as the wives, daughters, and sisters of our "Fallen Heroes." The members of these families have made the "Ultimate Sacrifice." Today we salute our Gold Star members.

***(Sing or read as a poem)***

High on That Mountain Song by Vince Gill

Lyrics

I know your life  
On earth was troubled  
And only you could know the pain  
You weren't afraid to face the devil  
You were no stranger to the rain

Go rest high on that mountain  
Son your work on earth is done  
Go to heaven a-shoutin'  
Love for the Father and the Son

Oh, how we cried the day you left us  
We gathered 'round your grave to grieve  
Wish I could see the angels faces  
When they hear your sweet voice sing

Go rest high on that mountain  
Son your work on earth is done  
Go to heaven a-shoutin'  
Love for the Father and the Son

Go rest high on that mountain  
Son your work on earth is done  
Go to heaven a-shoutin'  
Love for the Father and the Son

Go to heaven a-shoutin'  
Love for the Father and the Son

Present each Gold Star member with a Gold Star Ornament, or a long stemmed Yellow Mum or Rose.



**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – BEVERLY A NEEL**  
7576 847<sup>th</sup> Road – Wayne NE 68787-7080 -- 402 369 0152  
[23nebrnec@gmail.com](mailto:23nebrnec@gmail.com)

*Welcome Members,*

*I am Beverly A. Neel and will be serving as a member on the National Executive Committee (NEC) for the 2022-2023 administrative year. This position is one by which I will be your Department liaison with the National organization. As information is received from the Committee it shall be shared with the Department for dissemination.*

*As the Department's member on the NEC, I will serve as the escort for the visiting National President or Vice President and/or Northwestern Division National Vice Chairman when either makes an official visit to the Department.*

*Note that I have a separate email address for my duties as the NEC member. Thank you.*

<b>DEPARTMENT DISTINGUISHED GUEST COMMITTEE (DGC)</b>
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*The current Department Distinguished Guest Committee is comprised of two Past Department Presidents (PDP). The Chair of the Committee also serves as Nebraska's member on the National Executive Committee (NEC). The second member is appointed by the Department President. The Department President has the ability to appoint additional members of the Committee if it is determined more would be better.*

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*PDP Beverly A. Neel 2018-2019*

*PDP Elizabeth Paes 2019-2021*

<b>PURPOSE OF THE DISTINGUISHED GUEST COMMITTEE (DGC)</b>
---

*The Committee has the special duty to ensure visitors to the Department events are comfortable, do our best to meet their preferences, establish with the guest those events most important to the guest, allowing members an opportunity to meet and visit with the guest and ensure the guest's preferences are met as best as possible.*

- ✓ *Coordinate with the special guest the program for the conference, convention or other special occasion occurring at the time of the official visit to the Department of Nebraska. Ensuring when, where and to whom the guest will be asked to speak such as general session, joint*

*session and/or gathering of Department Officers and those members having a National appointment.*

- ✓ *Coordinate with local media that a special guest will be in Nebraska and should time allow seek opportunity to do a personal interview with the guest and document the visit.*
- ✓ *Coordinate with the special guest those members who have held National and Divisional offices and will be present. Special mention of those members by the guest is always an honor to the members and for the guest.*
- ✓ *Coordinate preferences of the guest as to any special needs, special snacks and non-alcoholic beverages for the guest room. Determine schedule of the guest as to how much time is available during a multi-event visit so arrivals and departures are well met.*
- ✓ *Coordinate with the guest a special time to visit with the members on a very casual, relaxing manner; thus, not allowing any "business talk" as the guest has these visits.*
- ✓ *Coordinate down town for the guest so plenty of rest is given and the guest has ample time to relax and have special time to oneself.*
- ✓ *During official visits of a National Officer (President or Vice President) or Northwestern Division Vice President, the Committee coordinates airport arrivals/departures, transportation to and from the event, meals during the visit, personal gift to be in the guest room, poppy corsage is available, contact list of the DGC members should the special guest have a need or question and the Committee can address in a timely manner.*

*The coordination of the guest visit is with the Department President and Department Secretary and the DGC members. We are here to be of assistance to our guest during the official visit to the Department and to meet all preferences to the best of our ability.*

**DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – BEVERLY A NEEL, Chair**  
57576 847<sup>th</sup> Road - Wayne NE 68787-7080 – 402-369-0152  
[bbneel1912@gmail.com](mailto:bbneel1912@gmail.com)

The Department Advisory Committee is comprised of three Past Department Presidents (PDP), each of whom will serve on the Committee for a three-year term following the completion of their year as the Department President.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

PDP Beverly A. Neel 2018-2019 serving as Auxiliary  
Emergency Fund (AEF), Chair (3<sup>rd</sup> year)  
PDP Elizabeth Paes 2019-2021 serving as Past President Parley, Chair (2<sup>nd</sup> year)  
PDP Barbara Meyer 2021-2022 serving as National Security, Chair (1<sup>st</sup> year)

***Purpose of the Department Advisory Committee***

- ✓ The Committee first and foremost **does not have** any governing powers
- ✓ The Committee is simply an avenue whereby the Committee may be sought out for advice from any level of the organization upon request
- ✓ The Committee is here to guide and mentor any member, Committee and/or Officer/Chairman on all levels upon request
- ✓ The Committee, along with the Department Education Chairman and the Department President, assists with the review and the judging of applications for the Department-sponsored scholarships
- ✓ The Committee is available to review resolutions submitted for the Department Executive Committee's (DEC) action and provide commentary when applicable upon request
- ✓ The Committee performs other duties as proposed and/or recommended by the Department Executive Committee (DEC)
- ✓ The Committee is basically a silent partner of the Department of Nebraska with no direct responsibility or tasks except those brought to the Committee upon request
- ✓ Chairman of this Committee serves as officer with oversight of the Department's Whistleblower policy as is the Department Secretary

## **AMERICANISM - TINA NELSON**

503 North Brown Avenue - Clay Center, NE 68933 - 402-469-3367

[trnelson81602@gmail.com](mailto:trnelson81602@gmail.com)

I've been a member of Clay Center (Mills-Schroder) Unit #87 since 2015. I'm eligible through my husband, Don's, service in the Navy Seabees; but I could have joined sooner if I had been asked as both of my grandfathers served in the Army. I became a Proud PUFL (Paid Up For Life) Member as soon as I turned forty (a few years ago). I was always interested in flag etiquette even when I was young--the only thing besides miserable camping trips and selling cookies that I remember from Girl Scouts.

The Auxiliary Americanism program promotes patriotism and responsible citizenship. I look forward to hearing how your unit promotes Americanism in your communities.

"The Big 3" is what I'm looking to promote this year:

- 1) The Americanism Essay Contest
- 2) Flag Code/Etiquette
- 3) Voting

### **What should you do?**

#### **Help promote and increase participation in the Americanism Essay Contest**

- Essay title: ***What does patriotism mean to you?***
- Contact schools (work with administration to promote the contest and make sure to include homeschoolers in your area), local civic organizations (including but not limited to: 4-H, Young Marines, Girls & Boy Scouts), and encourage your junior members and youth in your family and community to all participate.
- Create an Essay Packet that has the cover sheet (see page 19), rules, deadline dates (Unit winners to Tina Nelson by March 15, 2023) and include award information if your unit provides one--if not suggest an award.
- Help judge the contest.
- Contact your local essay winners and their families. Invite them to join you at a meeting and have them read their winning essay. Or they could be part of your Veterans Day or Memorial Day program by reading their essay.
- Make sure to share winners on social media and contact local media outlets
- Department awards are issued per Standing Rules, Section F
  - ✓ A \$25 cash award will be given for first place in each class for the Americanism Essay Contest.
  - ✓ A \$15 cash award will be given for second place in each class for the Americanism Essay Contest.
  - ✓ A \$10 cash award will be given for third place in each class for the Americanism Essay Contest.
  - ✓ Monetary awards shall be taken from the Histories and Awards, General Fund.

### **Stay up to date on the current Flag Code**

- Conduct a Flag Retirement Ceremony with your American Legion Family, local scouts, and include an educational element regarding flag etiquette.
- Display your flag and encourage others, including businesses, to do the same (especially on patriotic holidays) and participate in local patriotic events.

### **Vote**

- Your Vote Matters!
- Volunteer to transport Veterans or other community members to the voting polls.

**## ## ##**

### **AMERICANISM AWARDS WITH DEADLINE DATES**

#### **Americanism Essay Contest**

Unit winning essays are due to Tina Nelson by March 15, 2023. Department winning essays are due to national division chairman by April 15, 2023.

#### **Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program**

Units are encouraged to submit a narrative describing their Americanism program. Due to Tina Nelson by May 1, 2023. Winning selection sent to national division chairman postmarked by June 1, 2023 or emailed by 4 pm on June 1, 2023.

#### **Department Award: Best Department Americanism Program**

Send to national division chairman postmarked by June 1, 2023 or emailed by 4 pm on June 1, 2023.

Additional information will be provided when it becomes available.



## AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST 2023 Cover Sheet

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund. National winners will be posted at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org) after convention.

**Essay Title:** *"What does patriotism mean to you?"*

**Essay Classes:**

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

**Essay Checklist:**

- ☐ Class competing in \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Sponsoring ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- ☐ Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- ☐ Word count of essay \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Due date for student to return to ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_

**To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):**

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit winner due to Department on: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Department Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

*Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2023*

**AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND (AEF) – BEVERLY A NEEL, Chair**  
57576 847<sup>th</sup> Road – Wayne NE 68787-7080 – 402-369-0152  
[bbneel1912@gmail.com](mailto:bbneel1912@gmail.com)

The purpose of the Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is to provide temporary financial assistance to eligible Auxiliary members during times of financial crisis or weather-related emergencies and natural disasters and to promote awareness and knowledge of the AEF program. This is the "Member Helping Member" program we can all get behind and lend that extra change in our purse or perhaps a \$5.00 bill. No matter the contribution, it will grow. In Nebraska we all know that our weather changes constantly and quickly many times. It is during these times we as members need to be aware of our fellow members and keep in touch to ensure we can account for each other and we can help meet their immediate need. If we can simply do that, that will fully define **"Who we Are," "What we Do," and "Why we Matter."** Thank you, members.

This year I am challenging all District Presidents to visit each of your Units and have a little bit of fun as you donate to the AEF. As stated before, donations of any amount are welcome.

What can the Unit and Unit members do to participate in the AEF campaign? Anything you want to. Remember these funds go towards our other members' needs and perhaps our own. We never know what any one is dealing with day-by-day so it is always prudent to be prepared to lend that helping hand. Thank you.

Various AEF resources you can access on the National website: [legion-aux.org](http://legion-aux.org)

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| ✓ AEF Brochure                     | AEF Roles & Responsibilities             |
| ✓ AEF Contribution Form            | AEF Application for Assistance           |
| ✓ AEF Certificates of Appreciation | Plan a local AEF fundraiser              |
| ✓ Give a personal donation         | Support your District President's effort |

**BEST UNIT AEF NARRATIVE REPORT**

- ✓ Use the Department reporting form to write your narrative
- ✓ How did you keep your members informed of this assistance-resource
- ✓ What did your Unit do to assist in raising funds for AEF
- ✓ How much did your Unit raise for AEF
- ✓ Recognize members/Units who donated \$50 or more by National organization
- ✓ Best Unit AEF Narrative Report due to this Chair by April 20<sup>th</sup> – photos help

National organization will recognize:

Department Award to the Department with the largest AEF contribution

Unit Award to local Unit contributing the Largest Amount per member

Department Award to the Department contributing the largest AEF contribution per member

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM - DEBRA ALBERS**  
1759 Rd 5200 - Davenport, NE 68335 - (402-364-3162)  
dalbers727@gmail.com

**Key goals of the Children and Youth Program:**

The Children & Youth program:

- emphasizes protecting, caring for, and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families.

Important date: "Purple up for Military Kids" - April 15, 2023

- recognizes and rewards the positive actions of our children and youth, the American Legion Auxiliary has two special national awards bestowed to youth nominated by units: the Youth Hero Award and the Good Deed Award.

Good Deed Award – Youth should demonstrate leadership role in community service, specific deed should be present

Youth Hero Award - Youth should demonstrate a physical act of valor

- recognizes Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDH2) is an initiative honoring military children who may be experiencing a separation from one or both parents, whether deployed to a war zone, having a short tour or on an extended temporary duty assignment.
- supports and promotes the Children & Youth programs of The American Legion.
- liaison to the Child and Welfare Foundation

Programs supported by the Children and Youth Program: (Source Youth Programs Brochure)

- ALA Girls State
- ALA Scholarships
- Americanism Essay Contest
- National Poppy Poster Contest
- American Legion Oratorical Contest
- American Legion Baseball
- American Legion Shooting Sports
- ALA Juniors

**Unit Report:** Due to Debra Albers by April 20, 2023. Email to [dalbers727@gmail.com](mailto:dalbers727@gmail.com) or mail to 1759 Rd 5200, Davenport NE 68335

**Unit Award:** Most Outstanding Unit Children & Youth Program (per division) Send to national division chairman postmarked or emailed by 4 p.m. CST on June 1. Laurie Kuntz, P.O. Box 782 Hudson, CO 80642 [laurie.auxiliary@yahoo.com](mailto:laurie.auxiliary@yahoo.com) (303) 732-4301

(Source : <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/children-and-youth>)



## **COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE – MERI HIETBRINK**

4816 Kingsley St – Lincoln NE 68524 – 402-239-3171

mhietbrink6@gmail.com

My name is Meri Hietbrink--the Committee Chairperson for the Community Service. I have been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) since 2000. The Unit #140 in Sterling, Nebraska is where I have been able to foster my patriotism and serve my community. My grandfather, Paul Straube, served in World War II. To honor him and his service to our country my grandmother Marvene joined the ALA along with her daughters Debra, Ruth, and Velda. My mother, Ruth, made sure to continue this with my older sister Lori and me. I have been an active member in my community and feel as though I am honoring my grandfather's memory by continuing to support and serve our service members in this way.

The definition of community service is work that is done without pay to help people in a community. The ALA emphasizes two main points when talking about community service:

- making our communities better places to live and
- demonstrating a longstanding commitment to supporting the work of American Legion posts and other organizations.

Every community needs are different. Take a moment and identify a few keyways to work in the community each year and make that a defining point of the unit's community service program.

- Host community outreach events (Welcome Home/Send Off's, Community Covenant, Fall Festival, etc.) to engage with people
- Partner with American Legion posts and assist them with their community outreach events.
- Host a blood drive or coat drive for veterans or underprivileged youth in the community.

In an effort to bring in the Department President's theme for this year (Never Forget, Ever Honor), I challenge each unit to think out of the box when it comes to community service. When I read "Never Forget, Ever Honor," I think of families who lost a loved one while serving; homeless veterans; and our active-duty service members who are not fortunate enough to come from communities, such as ours, that think of them while they are serving. Look outside of the unit's immediate community and think about different ways to spread the reach of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Make sure to document community service projects as they also serve as great publication topics. Reach out to any local media outlets, such as newspapers, TV stations, etc. and share the efforts being made. Also, remember to track your hours, miles traveled, and costs involved.

At printing time of the ABC Book, no information was available from National for the Community Service Program Awards, Unit Members Community Service Appreciation Awards, or Department Awards. Information will be made available via THE STAR and monthly newsletters.

**CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS - AMANDA WASHBURN**  
5230 N 148<sup>th</sup> Street – Lincoln, NE 68527 - Phone: 402-480-1472  
amandafaye33@gmail.com

Hi everyone! My name is Amanda Washburn, and I am the 2022-23 Department Historian. I was signed up for the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary when I was an hour old and have been a member since. I belong to Cook Unit 360 in District 13. I am a member of the ALA to help veterans, our military, and our community's youth. My favorite veteran's program is "Gifts for Yanks" and being able to see the veterans face when we give them our gift. It is definitely something that everyone should experience at least once in their life.

It is imperative for all levels of our organization to maintain up-to-date governing documents. Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules are the basis for governance of the Department, District, County, and Unit and offer a basis for educating members and reducing conflicts. Preparing and adhering to updated Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules will ensure a more successful organizational process and provide the structures to follow at all levels of our organization.

**What should Units do?** Units should annually review their governing documents to ensure that they are revised to comply with changes incorporated into the National and Department governing documents. They should also review the Unit's Standing Rules for accuracy and timeliness. A sample Uniform Unit Constitution Guide is available on the Department website for download and updating as needed. The revised Unit Guidebook from National also provides a sample Unit Constitution for review. Please remember that Unit Constitutions, Bylaws and Standing Rules cannot be in conflict with National or Department governing documents.

Some of the recent revisions made to both the National and Department Constitution and Bylaws dealt with a change to the Preamble, membership eligibility and holding virtual meetings. By the end of the 2022 administrative year, every Unit in Nebraska should have an updated Constitution, Bylaws & Standing Rules on file in your Unit and at Department Headquarters. This document requires the signature of the President, Secretary and date approved. Every member of your Unit should have access to a copy of the current governing documents, so they are aware of changes.

Below are some general guidelines: Constitution: The Constitution should rarely be amended. Is the foundational document and should be uniform, stating the fundamental reason the ALA unit was formed, its core purpose and its governance structure.

- It contains the most essential provisions relating to the organization, its name, purpose, membership, officers, meetings, governing board, committees, parliamentary authority and amendments to prescribe structure changes.

**Bylaws: Should only be amended every five (5) to ten (10) years.**

- Are the fundamental law/rules on governance of the Constitution.
- Should be reviewed, but not changed, every year.
- Has direct bearing on the rights of members.
- Should have a standard form and content.
- Define the primary characteristics of the organization.
- Prescribe how the organization is structured and functions.
- Includes all rules that are so important that they cannot be changed without prior notice.

**Standing Rules:**

Are specific rules and regulations relating to the details of administration for the organization.

Matters dealing with numbers, dates and monetary amounts should always be placed in the standing rules as these items may/will change more frequently.  
May be adopted by a majority vote.

Standing Rules may be amended or rescinded at any regularly scheduled meeting: with prior notification, by a majority vote, unless the bylaws stipulate otherwise, without prior notification by a two-thirds vote.

**Parliamentary Authority** -The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised provides an orderly process of conducting meetings and shall govern this organization in all cases that are not in conflict with state statute, the constitution, the bylaws, or any special rules of order adopted by the organization.

**Definitions:**

**Resolution:** An elaborate, formally written motion. A resolution may contain a preamble that lists the reasons for adoption. Each reason is listed in a separate paragraph starting with the word "whereas." A resolution must have at least one "resolved" clause that specifies the action or position being proposed.

**Amendment:** Proposes a change to the Constitution, Bylaws, Special Rules of Order, or Standing Rules. It is also used to modify a motion under consideration.

Additional Resources (\*available through Emblem Sales [emblem.legion.org](http://emblem.legion.org))

National Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules\* (available for download at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org))

Department of Nebraska Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules available for download at [www.nebraskalegionaux.net](http://www.nebraskalegionaux.net)

Policies and Procedures Manual\* - Unit Guidebook\* - Parliamentary Procedure\* - Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised\* - ALA Department Operations Guide at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org)

## **COUNTY GOVERNMENT DAY - PATRICIA WISEMAN**

PO Box 58 - Homer NE 68030 - 712-251-5602

[patkwise@gmail.com](mailto:patkwise@gmail.com)

I am Pat Wiseman and although I was born in Iowa, I have lived in Nebraska for the last 53 years. I am the chairperson for County Government Day. I joined the American Legion Auxiliary in January of 1973 to the Buckland Unit 97 in Homer, NE. I joined because of the people in my family who have been part of the military. My dad was Navy at Okinawa on the USS Menard and then they took occupation troops in to Nagasaki harbor one month after the bomb. My husband was Navy and was stationed in downtown Saigon with a radio crew when we were advisors. Later he was on a ship patrolling between Russia and Alaska. My oldest son was a member of the 185<sup>th</sup> Air National Guard for 33 years. My youngest son was in the Army for 14 years and served in Iraq, South Korea, Afghanistan, and several other places. My granddaughter and her husband are serving in the United States Air Force and at present are serving overseas for 4 years. My grandson is a member of the Nebraska Army National Guard.

County Government Day was started by Chief Justice Robert G. Simmons of the Nebraska Supreme Court. He heard a Boy's State citizen saying that if he couldn't win a state office, he would just have to run for one of those old county offices. Realizing what an important part of the governmental puzzle the counties are, he made it his mission to create a program that would educate our youth about county government and just how important it is to every county. Each county sets up their own program according to their unique situation. Local high school students learn about each county office/position and their duties and responsibilities. Some conduct lectures, question and answer sessions, jeopardy games, visits to the county offices and court, and many other ideas.

If you wish to start a county government program in your county or just need help revitalizing it, contact Assistant Adjutant at the Nebraska American Legion (402-464-6338) for more information. Be sure to notify him as well when you have set the date and place for you County Government Day.

**EDUCATION – CRYSTAL BAUERMEISTER**  
85803 553<sup>RD</sup> – Pierce NE 68767 – 402-649-7028  
cbauermeister@gmail.com

Welcome to the Education section of your ABC book. I, Crystal Bauermeister, am serving as your education chairperson for the 2022-2023 year. Education is near and dear to my heart, as I am a lifelong learner. For the past 21 years I have taught at Pierce Public Schools in Pierce, which is in the northeast part of Nebraska.

I first became a member of the Legion Auxiliary when one of my great aunts gifted me a membership during my college days. I moved a couple of times after college, but when I finally settled again, I felt it was important to become an ALA member again. Why? This was a way I could honor my family members, specifically my grandfathers who served in our armed forces. Both were stationed overseas during WW2, one off the coast of Japan, and one in Africa. I feel we need to honor those who serve, have served, or continue to serve. I believe this wholeheartedly, as I fully support my former students who have joined our military family. An additional reason I am an active member of our auxiliary is for children and youth—they are our future.

What's the purpose of Education in the ALA? Well, since you asked, our key program statements are:

- To promote quality education for children, especially for military children, and adults
  - To encourage schools to invite veterans to speak in their classrooms
  - To provide scholarships for students who desire a college education
  - To support legislation that establishes new scholarship opportunities
  - To support the Education program and scholarship opportunities of The American Legion
- As your education chairperson, I'm here to support your unit with knowledge about our six department scholarships, Give 10 to Education, and national scholarships.

March 1 is a good deadline to stick in your head as scholarships are due to department and national on this date. For good measure, your unit could make this a time to submit your unit's hours.

**Department Scholarships:**

- 1) **Averyl Elaine Keriakedes Memorial Scholarship**
- 2) **Career & Technical Education Scholarship**
- 3) **Healthcare Professional Scholarship**
- 4) **Roberta Marie Stretch Memorial Scholarship**
- 5) **Ruby Lorraine Paul Scholarship**
- 6) **Ruby Paul Campaign Fund Scholarship**

The scholarship advisory committee met and made every attempt to simplify the scholarship applications for not only the applicants, but also for those of you at the unit level. Please remember, all pages (there are 3) of each scholarship must be submitted. Also, each unit may only submit ONE of each of the six department scholarships.

## National Scholarships

### 1) Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship

<https://member.legion-aux.org/Scholarships/Children-of-Warriors>

It is important to acknowledge the sacrifices of our servicemembers who preserve our freedom, but that is not enough. The sacrifices of the children of those who served should also be honored. Providing funds to assist these children so they can pursue higher education is a concrete way of showing how much we, as a nation, care.

The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship to support the children of our warriors. These scholarships are awarded to 15 students annually who excel in academics and volunteer in their communities.

### 2) Spirit of Youth Scholarship

<https://member.legion-aux.org/Scholarships/Spirit-of-Youth>

The Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund is an umbrella that supports three separate scholarship opportunities for participants in American Legion Auxiliary programs. One is for American Legion Auxiliary Junior members, another for the Honorary National Junior Division Vice Presidents, and one is for participants in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation program.

### 3) Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

<https://member.legion-aux.org/Scholarships/Children-of-Warriors>

Getting a job or staying competitive in today's workplace involves showing employers you have the skills and experience to get the job done. In many cases, returning to college is a must. The American Legion Auxiliary's goal is to do all we can to make that happen, and that's what the Non-Traditional Student Scholarship is all about. This scholarship helps people who are part of The Legion Family pursue a college degree later in life or allow them to pick up where they left off when their studies were interrupted. If you're at this place in life, this may be the right scholarship for you.

### 4) Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship

<https://member.legion-aux.org/Scholarships/Junior-Member-Loyalty>

American Legion Auxiliary Junior members are the future of our organization. To reward those who retain their membership into adulthood, the American Legion Auxiliary offers the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship to current college students. Ten scholarships, in the amount of \$2,500 each, will be awarded to a current college students. Two scholarships will be awarded in each division of the American Legion Auxiliary. The scholarship is a grant; not a loan.

**AVERYL ELAINE KERIAKEDES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$200**

Sponsored by

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY—DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

P.O. BOX 5227, LINCOLN, NE 68505-0227

402-466-1808

[www.nebraskalegionaux.net](http://www.nebraskalegionaux.net)

[neaux@windstream.net](mailto:neaux@windstream.net)

The **Averyl Elaine Keriakedes Memorial Scholarship** of \$200 will be awarded, preferably, to a female enrolled at the University of Nebraska who plans to teach middle school or junior high school social studies.

Applicants must:

- be a resident of Nebraska
- must be or have a Veteran connection

The completed application (including requested documents) must be submitted to and received (postmarked by March 1) by your local American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit.

ALA Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Unit Officer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City

State

Zip

*If the above is blank, your High School Counselor should be able to provide the name and address of the local ALA Unit where applications must be submitted or call the American Legion Auxiliary Headquarters at 402-466-1808.*

If selected, the scholarship must be used within the year selected. Funding not released by January 1 will not be awarded.

The application is on page 2 and must be completed by being typewritten or using legible printed handwriting.

**The Scholarship Application must include all three (3) pages included with this packet when submitted.**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  

PO Box or Street
City
State
ZIP
2. Name of school you are currently enrolled or last enrolled? \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_  
 If not in school, what is your current occupation \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name of Veteran connection: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check their Branch of Service:  

\_\_Army
\_\_Navy
\_\_Air Force
\_\_Marines
\_\_National Guard
\_\_Coast Guard
\_\_Reserves
\_\_Space Force

 Dates of Service (can be found on DD214 discharge paper) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Veteran named above is my: \_\_\_\_Parent \_\_\_\_Grandparent \_\_\_\_Great Grandparent
4. Institute of higher education you plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Length of course study: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tuition cost (estimated): \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter; \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Semester; \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Year
5. Narrative must be provided from applicant stating what field of study and why you have chosen it. This narrative must be printed on a separate page, double spaced, signed, and be less than 300 words.
6. **Applicant must provide all the following items**, assembled in the order given below, with this completed application form:
  - Two letters of recommendation on their letterhead and **must be signed** from:
    - a. One (1) letter from an employer, clergy, or businessperson in the community
    - b. One (1) letter from an administrator, guidance counselor, or teacher
  - A high school resume which includes a list of community involvement, church activities and school activities/honors/awards. Include community service completed which includes a description of work, hours served, and a contact person with phone number.
  - Letter of acceptance from chosen institute of higher education
  - Certified Transcript (with seal) of high school (or college) grades      GPA \_\_\_\_\_
  - Include one of these documents showing your score: ACT, SAT, Accuplacer

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Applicant**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_



**THIS PAGE MUST BE COMPLETED BY YOUR LOCAL  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT**

Applications must be submitted on or before March 1 (postmarked by March 1) to your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit where they will be judged locally. Again, all three (3) pages of this application packet must be submitted along with other items as mentioned in #5 and #6 on page 2. One scholarship application will be chosen from the local Unit to be submitted to the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters for final judging and awarding.

- ✓ The local Unit scholarship selection must be submitted to the Department Headquarters on or before March 15 (postmarked by March 15).
- ✓ ALA Units should make certain that all requested letters and documents are enclosed with the application to the Department Headquarters.
- ✓ An American Legion Auxiliary Unit may submit only **ONE Averyl Elaine Keriakedes Memorial Scholarship**.
- ✓ Individual students are welcome to apply for multiple ALA Nebraska Department Scholarships, but students may only be submitted for one Department Scholarship by the ALA Unit.

The undersigned confirms that this scholarship application has been selected by:

**ALA UNIT #** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOCATED in** \_\_\_\_\_, Nebraska,  
and that this application was reviewed in its entirety by an officer/chairperson of the ALA Unit aforesaid and contains all information in the correct order as required in #5 and #6 on page 2.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of ALA Unit Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone number

**ALA UNIT shall MAIL or DELIVER before March 15 to:**

**American Legion Auxiliary  
PO BOX 5227  
Lincoln, NE 68505-0227**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP****\$500**

Sponsored by

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY—DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

P.O. BOX 5227, LINCOLN, NE 68505-0227

402-466-1808

[www.nebraskalegionaux.net](http://www.nebraskalegionaux.net)[neaux@windstream.net](mailto:neaux@windstream.net)

Career and Technical Education programs are offered through community colleges, trade schools and/or colleges/universities offering two (2) year programs for students who have the intention of going to the workforce after two years or less of higher education. These program areas are typically:

- Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree program (2 years in length)
- Diplomas (1 year)
- Certificates less than one (1) year
- **This Scholarship excludes applicants enrolled in a school of nursing.**

Applicants must:

- be a resident of Nebraska
- must have a Veteran connection or be a Veteran

The completed application (including requested documents) must be submitted to and received (postmarked by March 1) by your local American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit.

ALA Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

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

Local Unit Officer Name

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City

State

Zip

*If the above is blank, your High School Counselor should be able to provide the name and address of the local ALA Unit where applications must be submitted or call the American Legion Auxiliary Headquarters at 402-466-1808.*

If selected, the scholarship must be used within the year selected. Funding not released by January 1 will not be awarded.

The application is on page 2 and must be completed by being typewritten or using legible printed handwriting.

**The Scholarship Application must include all three (3) pages included with this packet when submitted.**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
PO Box or Street City State ZIP
2. Name of school you are currently enrolled or last enrolled? \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_  
If not in school, what is your current occupation \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name of Veteran connection: \_\_\_\_\_  
Check their Branch of Service:  
\_\_Army \_\_Navy \_\_Air Force \_\_Marines \_\_National Guard \_\_Coast Guard \_\_Reserves \_\_Space Force  
Dates of Service (can be found on DD214 discharge paper) \_\_\_\_\_  
Veteran named above is my: \_\_\_\_Parent \_\_\_\_Grandparent \_\_\_\_Great Grandparent
4. Institute of higher education you plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Narrative must be provided from applicant stating what field of study and why you have chosen it. This narrative must be printed on a separate page, double spaced, signed, and be less than 300 words.
6. **Applicant must provide all the following items**, assembled in the order given below, with this completed application form:
  - Two letters of recommendation on their letterhead and **must be signed** from:
    - a. One (1) letter from an employer, clergy, or businessperson in the community
    - b. One (1) letter from an administrator, guidance counselor, or teacher
  - A high school resume which includes a list of community involvement, church activities and school activities/honors/awards. Include community service completed which includes a description of work, hours served, and a contact person with phone number.
  - Letter of acceptance from chosen institute of higher education
  - Certified Transcript (with seal) of high school (or college) grades GPA \_\_\_\_\_
  - Include one of these documents showing your score: ACT, SAT, Accuplacer

---

**Signature of Applicant**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS PAGE MUST BE COMPLETED BY YOUR LOCAL  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT**

Applications must be submitted on or before March 1 (postmarked by March 1) to your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit where they will be judged locally. Again, all three (3) pages of this application packet must be submitted along with other items as mentioned in #5 and #6 on page 2. One scholarship application will be chosen from the local Unit to be submitted to the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters for final judging and awarding.

- ✓ The local Unit scholarship selection must be submitted to the Department Headquarters on or before March 15 (postmarked by March 15).
- ✓ ALA Units should make certain that all requested letters and documents are enclosed with the application to the Department Headquarters.
- ✓ An American Legion Auxiliary Unit may submit only **ONE Career and Technical Education Scholarship**.
- ✓ Individual students are welcome to apply for multiple ALA Nebraska Department Scholarships, but students may only be submitted for one Department Scholarship by the ALA Unit.

The undersigned confirms that this scholarship application has been selected by:

**ALA UNIT #** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOCATED in** \_\_\_\_\_, Nebraska,  
and that this application was reviewed in its entirety by an officer/chairperson of the ALA Unit aforesaid and contains all information in the correct order as required in #5 and #6 on page 2.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of ALA Unit Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone number

**ALA UNIT shall MAIL or DELIVER before March 15 to:**

**American Legion Auxiliary  
PO BOX 5227  
Lincoln, NE 68505-0227**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP****\$500**

Sponsored by

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY—DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

P.O. BOX 5227, LINCOLN, NE 68505-0227

402-466-1808

[www.nebraskalegionaux.net](http://www.nebraskalegionaux.net)[neaux@windstream.net](mailto:neaux@windstream.net)

The **Healthcare Professional Scholarship** of \$500 will be awarded to a person enrolled in a four-year healthcare professional program.

Applicants must:

- be a resident of Nebraska
- must be or have a Veteran connection

The completed application (including requested documents) must be submitted to and received (postmarked by March 1) by your local American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit.

ALA Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Unit Officer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City

State

Zip

*If the above is blank, your High School Counselor should be able to provide the name and address of the local ALA Unit where applications must be submitted or call the American Legion Auxiliary Headquarters at 402-466-1808.*

If selected, the scholarship must be used within the year selected. Funding not released by January 1 will not be awarded.

The application is on page 2 and must be completed by being typewritten or using legible printed handwriting.

**The Scholarship Application must include all three (3) pages included with this packet when submitted.**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
PO Box or Street City State ZIP

2. Name of school you are currently enrolled or last enrolled? \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

If not in school, what is your current occupation \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name of Veteran connection: \_\_\_\_\_

Check their Branch of Service:

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Air Force ☐ Marines ☐ National Guard ☐ Coast Guard ☐ Reserves ☐ Space Force

Dates of Service (can be found on DD214 discharge paper) \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran named above is my: ☐ Parent ☐ Grandparent ☐ Great Grandparent

4. Institute of higher education you plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Narrative must be provided from applicant stating what field of study and why you have chosen it. This narrative must be printed on a separate page, double spaced, signed, and be less than 300 words.

6. **Applicant must provide all the following items**, assembled in the order given below, with this completed application form:

- Two letters of recommendation on their letterhead and **must be signed** from:
  - a. One (1) letter from an employer, clergy, or businessperson in the community
  - b. One (1) letter from an administrator, guidance counselor, or teacher
- A high school resume which includes a list of community involvement, church activities and school activities/honors/awards. Include community service completed which includes a description of work, hours served, and a contact person with phone number.
- Letter of acceptance from chosen institute of higher education
- Certified Transcript (with seal) of high school (or college) grades GPA \_\_\_\_\_
- Include one of these documents showing your score: ACT, SAT, Accuplacer

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Name

**THIS PAGE MUST BE COMPLETED BY YOUR LOCAL  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT**

Applications must be submitted on or before March 1 (postmarked by March 1) to your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit where they will be judged locally. Again, all three (3) pages of this application packet must be submitted along with other items as mentioned in #5 and #6 on page 2. One scholarship application will be chosen from the local Unit to be submitted to the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters for final judging and awarding.

- ✓ The local Unit scholarship selection must be submitted to the Department Headquarters on or before March 15 (postmarked by March 15).
- ✓ ALA Units should make certain that all requested letters and documents are enclosed with the application to the Department Headquarters.
- ✓ An American Legion Auxiliary Unit may submit only **ONE Healthcare Professional Scholarship**.
- ✓ Individual students are welcome to apply for multiple ALA Nebraska Department Scholarships, but students may only be submitted for one Department Scholarship by the ALA Unit.

The undersigned confirms that this scholarship application has been selected by:

**ALA UNIT #** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOCATED in** \_\_\_\_\_, Nebraska,  
and that this application was reviewed in its entirety by an officer/chairman of the ALA Unit aforesaid and contains all information in the correct order as required in #5 and #6 on page 2.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of ALA Unit Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone number

**ALA UNIT shall MAIL or DELIVER before March 15 to:**

**American Legion Auxiliary  
PO BOX 5227  
Lincoln, NE 68505-0227**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**ROBERTA MARIE STRETCH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP****\$400**

Sponsored by

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY—DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

P.O. BOX 5227, LINCOLN, NE 68505-0227

402-466-1808

[www.nebraskalegionaux.net](http://www.nebraskalegionaux.net)[neaux@windstream.net](mailto:neaux@windstream.net)

The **Roberta Marie Stretch Memorial Scholarship** of \$400 will be awarded to a qualified applicant enrolled or accepted into an undergraduate or graduate (Masters only) program at a four-year college or university. Preference will be given to former Nebraska Girls State Citizens.

Applicants must:

- be a resident of Nebraska
- must have a Veteran connection

The completed application (including requested documents) must be submitted to and received (postmarked by March 1) by your local American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit.

ALA Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Unit Education Chair Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City

State

Zip

*If the above is blank, your High School Counselor should be able to provide the name and address of the local ALA Unit where applications must be submitted or call the American Legion Auxiliary Headquarters at 402-466-1808.*

If selected, the scholarship must be used within the year selected. Funding not released by January 1 will not be awarded.

The application is on page 2 and must be completed by being typewritten or using legible printed handwriting.

**The Scholarship Application must include all three (3) pages included with this packet when submitted.**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_



1. Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
PO Box or Street City State ZIP

2. Name of school you are currently enrolled or last enrolled? \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

If not in school, what is your current occupation \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name of Veteran connection: \_\_\_\_\_

Check their Branch of Service:

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Air Force ☐ Marines ☐ National Guard ☐ Coast Guard ☐ Reserves ☐ Space Force

Dates of Service (can be found on DD214 discharge paper) \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran named above is my: ☐ Parent ☐ Grandparent ☐ Great Grandparent

4. **Are you a graduate of "Cornhusker Girls State"?** YES ☐ What year? ☐ NO ☐

5. Institute of higher education you plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Narrative must be provided from applicant stating what field of study and why you have chosen it. This narrative must be printed on a separate page, double spaced, signed, and be less than 300 words.

7. **Applicant must provide all the following items**, assembled in the order given below, with this completed application form:

- Two letters of recommendation, preferably on their letterhead and **must be signed** from:
  - a. One (1) letter from an employer, clergy, or businessperson in the community
  - b. One (1) letter from an administrator, guidance counselor, or teacher
- A high school resume which includes a list of community involvement, church activities and school activities/honors/awards. Include community service completed which includes a description of work, hours served, and a contact person with phone number.
- Letter of acceptance from chosen institute of higher education
- Certified Transcript (with seal) of high school (or college) grades GPA \_\_\_\_\_
- Include one of these documents showing your score: ACT, SAT, Accuplacer

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Applicant**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS PAGE MUST BE COMPLETED BY YOUR LOCAL AMERICAN LEGION  
AUXILIARY UNIT.**

Applications must be submitted on or before March 1 (postmarked by March 1) to your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit where they will be judged locally. Again, all three (3) pages of this application packet must be submitted along with other items as mentioned in #6 and #7 on page 2. One scholarship application will be chosen from the local Unit to be submitted to the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters for final judging and awarding.

- ✓ The local Unit scholarship selection must be submitted to the Department Headquarters on or before March 15 (postmarked by March 15).
- ✓ ALA Units should make certain that all requested letters and documents are enclosed with the application to the Department Headquarters.
- ✓ An American Legion Auxiliary Unit may submit only **ONE Roberta Marie Stretch Memorial Scholarship.**
- ✓ Individual students are welcome to apply for multiple ALA Nebraska Department Scholarships, but students may only be submitted for one Department Scholarship by the ALA Unit.

The undersigned confirms that this scholarship application has been selected by:

**ALA UNIT #** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOCATED in** \_\_\_\_\_, Nebraska,  
and that this application was reviewed in its entirety by an officer/chairman of the ALA  
Unit aforesaid and contains all information in the correct order as required in #6 and #7  
on page 2.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of ALA Unit Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone number

**ALA UNIT shall MAIL or DELIVER before March 15 to:**

**American Legion Auxiliary  
PO BOX 5227  
Lincoln, NE 68505-0227**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**RUBY LORRAINE PAUL SCHOLARSHIP****\$200**

Sponsored by

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY—DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

P.O. BOX 5227, LINCOLN, NE 68505-0227

402-466-1808

[www.nebraskalegionaux.net](http://www.nebraskalegionaux.net)[neaux@windstream.net](mailto:neaux@windstream.net)

The **Ruby Lorraine Paul Scholarship** of \$200 will be awarded to a daughter, son, grandchild, or great-grandchild of an American Legion or an American Legion Auxiliary member who has held Nebraska membership for two years or to an American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion member who has held Nebraska membership for two years. Applicant must be enrolled in an accredited college or university for the current year and be a Nebraska resident for the previous three (3) years. This scholarship **excludes applicants enrolled in a school of nursing**.

Applicant must be a high school senior or a graduate of an accredited high school and have maintained a "B" or better average for the past two (2) semesters of high school.

Applicants must:

- be a resident of Nebraska
- must have a Veteran connection

The completed application (including requested documents) must be submitted to and received (postmarked by March 1) by your local American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit.

ALA Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Unit Officer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City

State

Zip

*If the above is blank, your High School Counselor should be able to provide the name and address of the local ALA Unit where applications must be submitted or call the American Legion Auxiliary Headquarters at 402-466-1808.*

If selected, the scholarship must be used within the year selected. Funding not released by January 1 will not be awarded.

The application is on page 2 and must be completed by being typewritten or using legible printed handwriting.

**The Scholarship Application must include all three (3) pages included with this packet when submitted.**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
PO Box or Street City State ZIP
2. Name of school you are currently enrolled or last enrolled? \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_  
If not in school, what is your current occupation \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name of Veteran connection: \_\_\_\_\_  
Check their Branch of Service:  
\_\_Army \_\_Navy \_\_Air Force \_\_Marines \_\_National Guard \_\_Coast Guard \_\_Reserves \_\_Space Force  
Dates of Service (can be found on DD214 discharge paper) \_\_\_\_\_  
Veteran named above is my: \_\_\_\_Parent \_\_\_\_Grandparent \_\_\_\_Great Grandparent
4. \_\_\_\_I am a member, \_\_\_\_my parent, \_\_\_\_my grandparent, \_\_\_\_my great-grandparent  
is a member of (check all that apply)  
\_\_\_\_American Legion \_\_\_\_American Legion Auxiliary \_\_\_\_Sons of the American Legion
5. Institute of higher education you plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Narrative must be provided from applicant stating what field of study and why you have chosen it. This narrative must be printed on a separate page, double spaced, signed, and be less than 300 words.
7. **Applicant must provide all the following items**, assembled in the order given below, with this completed application form:
  - Two letters of recommendation on their letterhead and **must be signed** from:
    - a. One (1) letter from an employer, clergy, or businessperson in the community
    - b. One (1) letter from an administrator, guidance counselor, or teacher
  - A high school resume which includes a list of community involvement, church activities and school activities/honors/awards. Include community service completed which includes a description of work, hours served, and a contact person with phone number.
  - Letter of acceptance from chosen institute of higher education
  - Certified Transcript (with seal) of high school (or college) grades GPA \_\_\_\_\_
  - Include one of these documents showing your score: ACT, SAT, Accuplacer

---

**Signature of Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS PAGE MUST BE COMPLETED BY YOUR LOCAL  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT**

Applications must be submitted on or before March 1 (postmarked by March 1) to your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit where they will be judged locally. Again, all three (3) pages of this application packet must be submitted along with other items as mentioned in #6 and #7 on page 2. One scholarship application will be chosen from the local Unit to be submitted to the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters for final judging and awarding.

- ✓ The local Unit scholarship selection must be submitted to the Department Headquarters on or before March 15 (postmarked by March 15).
- ✓ ALA Units should make certain that all requested letters and documents are enclosed with the application to the Department Headquarters.
- ✓ An American Legion Auxiliary Unit may submit only **ONE Ruby Lorraine Paul Scholarship**.
- ✓ Individual students are welcome to apply for multiple ALA Nebraska Department Scholarships, but students may only be submitted for one Department Scholarship by the ALA Unit.

The undersigned confirms that this scholarship application has been selected by:

**ALA UNIT #** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOCATED in** \_\_\_\_\_, Nebraska,  
and that this application was reviewed in its entirety by an officer/chairperson of the ALA Unit aforesaid and contains all information in the correct order as required in #5 and #6 on page 2.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of ALA Unit Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone number

**ALA UNIT shall MAIL or DELIVER before March 15 to:**

**American Legion Auxiliary  
PO BOX 5227  
Lincoln, NE 68505-0227**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Name

**RUBY PAUL CAMPAIGN FUND SCHOLARSHIP****\$200**

Sponsored by

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY—DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

P.O. BOX 5227, LINCOLN, NE 68505-0227

402-466-1808

[www.nebraskalegionaux.net](http://www.nebraskalegionaux.net)[neaux@windstream.net](mailto:neaux@windstream.net)

The **Ruby Paul Campaign Fund Scholarship** of \$200 will be awarded to a daughter, son, grandchild, or great-grandchild of an American Legion or an American Legion Auxiliary member who has held Nebraska membership for two years or to an American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion member who has held Nebraska membership for two years. Applicant **MUST** be enrolled in an accredited college or university for the current year and be a Nebraska resident for the previous three (3) years.

Applicant must be a high school senior or a graduate of an accredited high school and have maintained a "B" or better average for the past two (2) semesters of high school.

Applicants must:

- be a resident of Nebraska
- must have a Veteran connection

The completed application (including requested documents) must be submitted to and received (postmarked by March 1) by your local American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit.

ALA Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Unit Officer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City

State

Zip

*If the above is blank, your High School Counselor should be able to provide the name and address of the local ALA Unit where applications must be submitted or call the American Legion Auxiliary Headquarters at 402-466-1808.*

If selected, the scholarship must be used within the year selected. Funding not released by January 1 will not be awarded.

The application is on page 2 and must be completed by being typewritten or using legible printed handwriting.

**The Scholarship Application must include all three (3) pages included with this packet when submitted.**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
PO Box or Street City State ZIP
2. Name of school you are currently enrolled or last enrolled? \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_  
If not in school, what is your current occupation \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name of Veteran connection: \_\_\_\_\_  
Check their Branch of Service:  
\_\_Army \_\_Navy \_\_Air Force \_\_Marines \_\_National Guard \_\_Coast Guard \_\_Reserves \_\_Space Force  
Dates of Service (can be found on DD214 discharge paper) \_\_\_\_\_  
Veteran named above is my: \_\_\_\_Parent \_\_\_\_Grandparent \_\_\_\_Great Grandparent
4. \_\_\_\_I am a member, \_\_\_\_my parent, \_\_\_\_my grandparent, \_\_\_\_my great-grandparent  
is a member of (check all that apply)  
\_\_\_\_American Legion \_\_\_\_American Legion Auxiliary \_\_\_\_Sons of the American Legion
5. Institute of higher education you plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Narrative must be provided from applicant stating what field of study and why you have chosen it. This narrative must be printed on a separate page, double spaced, signed, and be less than 300 words.
7. **Applicant must provide all the following items**, assembled in the order given below, with this completed application form:
  - Two letters of recommendation on their letterhead and **must be signed** from:
    - a. One (1) letter from an employer, clergy, or businessperson in the community
    - b. One (1) letter from an administrator, guidance counselor, or teacher
  - A high school resume which includes a list of community involvement, church activities and school activities/honors/awards. Include community service completed which includes a description of work, hours served, and a contact person with phone number.
  - Letter of acceptance from chosen institute of higher education
  - Certified Transcript (with seal) of high school (or college) grades GPA \_\_\_\_\_
  - Include one of these documents showing your score: ACT, SAT, Accuplacer

---

**Signature of Applicant**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS PAGE MUST BE COMPLETED BY YOUR LOCAL  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT**

Applications must be submitted on or before March 1 (postmarked by March 1) to your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit where they will be judged locally. Again, all three (3) pages of this application packet must be submitted along with other items as mentioned in #6 and #7 on page 2. One scholarship application will be chosen from the local Unit to be submitted to the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters for final judging and awarding.

- ✓ The local Unit scholarship selection must be submitted to the Department Headquarters on or before March 15 (postmarked by March 15).
- ✓ ALA Units should make certain that all requested letters and documents are enclosed with the application to the Department Headquarters.
- ✓ An American Legion Auxiliary Unit may submit only **ONE Ruby Paul Campaign Scholarship**.
- ✓ Individual students are welcome to apply for multiple ALA Nebraska Department Scholarships, but students may only be submitted for one Department Scholarship by the ALA Unit.

The undersigned confirms that this scholarship application has been selected by:

**ALA UNIT #** \_\_\_\_\_ **LOCATED** in \_\_\_\_\_, Nebraska,  
and that this application was reviewed in its entirety by an officer/chairperson of the ALA Unit aforesaid and contains all information in the correct order as required in #5 and #6 on page 2.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of ALA Unit Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone number

**ALA UNIT shall MAIL or DELIVER before March 15 to:**

**American Legion Auxiliary  
PO BOX 5227  
Lincoln, NE 68505-0227**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_



**FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN – ADELINE HANEL**  
706 E Sherman St - West Point NE 68788 - 402-380-1528  
[kahanel@msn.com](mailto:kahanel@msn.com)

I became a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 70 West Point, Nebraska 30 years ago. My eligibility comes from my husband Ken who served in the United States Army during the Vietnam conflict. My eligibility is also from my father who served in the Army and was a World War II Veteran.

I'm proud to be an American and proud to be an American Legion Auxiliary member. I encourage my fellow Auxiliary members and members of all communities to fully support and honor all our veterans, our military and their families. I try to let our Veterans know that we appreciate the sacrifices they made for our country and thank them for our freedom.

The purpose of the Finance Committee is to oversee the general financial policy of the American Legion Auxiliary and to prepare and monitor the annual budget and its expenditures.

It is the responsibility of the Finance Committee to ensure that proper internal controls are designed, implemented, and maintained. An adequate budget ensures there will be funds earmarked for all purposes necessary to participate in the various Auxiliary programs throughout the year. Since the American Legion Auxiliary is a membership organization, we rely on member dues to cover our expenses. This year with the upcoming increase in dues, it will be very important that additional funds be generated to curb the impact of the increase. The Finance Committee will discuss various ways to raise additional funds and to lower the dependence on dues and/or reserves alone to meet our obligations.

The Finance Committee will make recommendations to the governing body, and that body is responsible for the actual policy decision. The finance committee also must present clear, timely and accurate information regarding the financial status of the organization at each of their meetings.

Members: Barbara Skillman and Eileen Gentrup

**JUNIOR ACTIVITIES – LISA MOORE**  
318 N Railroad – Wilber NE 68465 – 402-821-7077  
moore1986@hotmail.com

Hi, I am Lisa Moore. I get to be the Junior Activities Chairman for the 2022-2023 year. I became a member in 1997 and am currently a PUFL member of Unit 238 Red Cloud. I became a member to be a warm body, as I learned more about the Auxiliary, I fell in love with its purposes and programs. I am eligible for membership through the service of my Dad and Mom, I was an Army brat and had put in 18 years when I graduated from high school. I joined through the service of my Grandfather, who was in the Navy in World War II. Today I am a member to honor our veterans and help our community and its legacy – our children.

**AWARDS:**

National awards and submissions are not updated yet, but be on the lookout, they will be sent as soon as possible.

- Unit Award – Most Outstanding Unit Junior Activities Program – National Award
- Unit Award – The best utilization of our Juniors – Department - This is a narrative sent to this chairman by June 1. This is a Departmental award.

The main goals of the Junior Activities Program are:

- To inspire active participation in members age 17 and under so that they will become engaging, productive members who will want to continue their American Legion Auxiliary membership into adulthood.
- To build the Junior Activities program one member at a time by giving Junior members a voice and an opportunity to participate.
- To promote and encourage Junior participation in the Patch Program in order to teach them about the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.
- To make Junior meetings fun and informative.

I would like to see all units utilize their juniors – active groups or not. The juniors can make tray favors, lead the pledge, work on the patch programs and as they learn from you wonderful and knowledgeable members, they can even open a meeting or read minutes. It is our responsibility to be mentors to our juniors so that they are prepared to take over and carry the torch and keep our organization strong. Juniors can lead programs, make cards for veterans in the area, and even help with the dreaded Facebook page. Just remember to have fun.

## **JUNIOR HONORARY PRESIDENT – CARLY RAINES**

Hi! I am Carly Rains of Dorchester. I am the 2022-2023 Honorary Department Junior President of the Department of Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary.

I am a senior at Wilber-Clatonia High School, where I am active in volleyball, basketball, track, Future Business Leaders of American (FBLAO), Drama, and I am an officer in Future Farmers of America (FFA). I show cattle in 4-H and am a member of the Catholic Church.

I live on a farm with my parents, Cory and Amy. I have twin siblings, Brody and Chloe.

I have been in Junior Auxiliary since I was born. I am eligible through my great-grandfather, Bob Kasl. I have held all Unit and District offices. I have participated in many Poppy Days, Veterans Day programs, our special Christmas programs, and helped with many raffles and meals, as well as making many favors for our Veterans.

My theme will be "Games and Food – Make a Happy Veteran." We will collect money for special food nights, such as pizza, and for prizes for games the Veterans play, such as Bingo.

Tentatively, my Junior Department Convention will be in Dorchester on Saturday, March 11, 2023.

**LEADERSHIP – JUSTINA BIRKEL**  
PO Box 64 – North Loop NE 68859 – 402-389-0537  
jrbirkel@gmail.com

I am Justina Birkel and I am serving as the Leadership Chairperson. I became a Junior member at the age of 5 in 1985 with the Springview Unit #98. Then in 2006 I became a Senior member in the Springview Unit #98 and was a member there until I transferred to North Loup Unit #285 in 2017. I was a Junior member for 13 years and have been a Senior member for 17 years. I am currently the Unit President for the North Loup Unit, and I am also the District 6 Vice President. I am eligible through my grandfather, Harley Jack Snyder. He served in the Korean War.

**WHAT IS THIS PROGRAM AND WHY DO WE HAVE IT?**

- To raise awareness of ALA leadership development opportunities.
- To promote participation in the ALA Academy.
- To enhance knowledge about ALA history, programs, and organization

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

- The first thing that I would recommend doing is to reach out to your members and invite them to meetings and events. Try to get your members involved without overwhelming them. Sometimes all it takes is a phone call to get people to participate.
- Once you get your members to come to meetings and events, you can start small, choose a program that your members want to learn more about and educate them on that program.
- Ask questions and get to know your members. Also when your members have questions, make sure you get them an answer. If you do not know the answer, reach out to someone that might. We are given a lot of contact information for this reason.

Leadership and education go hand in hand. Educate your members of the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary. Use the programs the ALA already has in place. If you go to [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org), go under Committees tab, and to the Leadership tab, there are resources there to help educate our members.

- Unit Guide Book
- ALA Academy
- Senior Auxiliary Basics Course
- Program Facebook Pages

And, of course, visit our website, [www.nebraskalegionaux.net](http://www.nebraskalegionaux.net), for the Nebraska ABC Book.

## **AWARDS**

### **Most Outstanding Unit Leadership**

**Deadline: To Department Chair by April 20, 2023**

#### **Award Presented to:**

- One Unit Leadership Chair who best demonstrates what the Unit did to build leadership skills of unit members during the year.
- **Materials and Guidelines:** Narrative not to exceed 1,000 words; should include number of members attending Department's Leadership Workshop in October and Mid-Year Conference in January. Pictures and examples are encouraged.

### **Unit Member of the Year**

**Deadline: To Department Chair by April 20, 2023**

#### **Requirements:**

- Open to senior members who are not currently, nor have ever been, in an elected or appointed leadership role higher than unit president.
- Units must submit a narrative of 1,000 words or less describing the nominee's accomplishments and activities together with the nominee's name and address.

### **Reporting**

- Each Unit should submit a narrative report to the Leadership Chair detailing the Unit's accomplishment and/or activities.
- Be specific with details as what you share may be useful to others. Tell what your Unit has done (attendance at leadership meetings, ALA Academy Courses and mentoring).
- Also, please let me know in your report what you like or disliked after a Department leadership meeting (Leadership school, October 1, 2022 and Mid-Year Conference, January 13-15 2023). This information will help determine what you want in future leadership meetings.

**Department Year End report due April 20, 2023**

**LEGISLATIVE – LOREE HENDRICKSON**  
511 Rd 3 Unit 1 – Shickley NE 68436 – 402-759-6016  
loreeh@hotmail.com

Hello Members of the American Legion Auxiliary! My name is Loree Hendrickson, and I am honored to serve as the Department of Nebraska's Legislative Chair for the coming year. I am a member of American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit #164 in Shickley, Nebraska, which is a very small town about 30 miles south and 10 miles west of York. My eligibility is through my father, A. LeeRoy Hendrickson, who served in Korea with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from 1950-52. He loved being a member of the American Legion and encouraged our family to always respect America and her veterans.

After joining the ALA in 1993 in an effort to honor my father's service, I made sure to pay my dues, but lived away from my unit – first in Lincoln and then in Washington, D.C. – for many of those years. When I moved back to my hometown in 2013, my mother, a charter member of our Auxiliary unit, encouraged me to become more actively involved with the ALA. The core members of our unit proved to be a very welcoming and hard-working group, who taught me so much about working together as a group and serving our veterans. I thank God for all those lovely people who have helped me in my ongoing quest to be a good Auxiliary member, and I encourage all Units to send a representative(s) to President Vicki's Homecoming in October, the Mid-Year Conference in January, and/or the Department Convention in June. I guarantee you will return to your Units with a better understanding of the American Legion Auxiliary's programs, a bigger appreciation for our Department and its members, and a greater respect for the debt we all owe to America's veterans.

**WHAT IS THE ALA LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM, AND WHY DO WE HAVE IT?**

In Nebraska and in Washington, D.C., ALA members work to keep veterans' issues in front of legislators, strengthening our mission to serve veterans, servicemembers, and their families. One voice may not make a difference on its own, but by joining together, ALA members can make a difference when we advocate for America's veterans.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

The ALA supports the public policy positions of The American Legion. The Legion publishes and disseminates material to communicate said positions. These materials are available at the Legion's Legislative Center ([www.legion.org/legislative](http://www.legion.org/legislative)). Some legislative issues which are recurring for The American Legion Family include:

1. **VETERANS PROGRAM FUNDING.** Provide adequate funding for:
  - **Veterans Affairs** – the programs and services of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

- **Housing and Urban Development** – the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s housing program for homeless veterans (HUD-VASH).
- **Labor** – the U.S. Department of Labor’s Veterans’ Employment and Training Services (VETS).
- **State Veterans Homes** – veterans’ long-term care facilities in all states.

**2. VETERANS HEALTH CARE.** Ensure that:

- **Care** – availability and quality of veteran health services are top-notch.
- **Women Veterans** – treatment is available for women veterans.
- **Caregivers** – support benefits are available for caregivers to veterans.

**3. TROOPS AND FAMILY SUPPORT.** Provide adequate funding for:

- **Defense** – our nation’s military operations, equipment, maintenance of facilities, pay and benefits, and retiree health care.
- **Housing** – housing costs, especially having the Basic Allowance for Housing keep pace with those costs.
- **Transition Assistance** – opportunities for servicemembers to participate in pre-deployment, pre-separation, and transition assistance briefings and services.

ALA members can also participate in the annual Legislative Day at the Nebraska State Capitol in February. On the federal level, ALA members can attend the Washington Conference from February 26 – March 1, 2023, at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C.

## WHAT SHOULD YOU REPORT?

### LEGISLATIVE REPORTING:

<b>Ongoing Reports:</b>	Celebrate the program work of your Unit by sharing stories and photos throughout the year.
<b>Year-End Reports:</b>	Each Unit should submit a narrative report, detailing the Unit’s accomplishments and/or activities. Be specific with details since what you share may be useful to others.
<b>Deadline:</b>	<b>TO DEPARTMENT CHAIR BY APRIL 20, 2023</b>

### LEGISLATIVE AWARD:

<b>Unit Award:</b>	<b>MOST OUTSTANDING UNIT LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM</b>
<b>Citation Presented To:</b>	One Unit Legislative Chair who best demonstrates what the Unit did to advocate for America’s veterans during the year.
<b>Materials &amp; Guidelines:</b>	Narrative not to exceed 500 words, telling the story of legislative activism and how it made a difference in the lives of veterans and their families. Pictures and examples such as newspaper articles are encouraged.
<b>Deadline:</b>	<b>TO DEPARTMENT CHAIR BY APRIL 20, 2023</b>

**MEMBERSHIP – BEVERLY A NEEL**  
57576 847<sup>th</sup> Road – Wayne NE 68787-7080 – 402-369-0152  
[bbneel1912@gmail.com](mailto:bbneel1912@gmail.com)

### **2023 SOARING IN MEMBERSHIP**

I am Beverly A. Neel and will be serving as the Department Chair of Membership. I became an American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) member at Cameron MO in October 1981; transferred to Dakota City NE Unit 0376 in 1983; and final transfer to Winside NE Unit 0252 in 1990. I am a Paid Up For Life (PUFL) member. Member of 42 years. My eligibility for membership in the ALA can be traced to my father, John James Gallop, Sr., World War II Army Air Corps, Guadalcanal and Bougainville; my brother, Warren Micheal Gallop, Vietnam Era Navy Corpsman; my husband, Robert Grayson "Bud" Neel, Vietnam-Desert Storm USMC Sergeant Major, Retired; and son, John Grayson Neel, USMC, Persian Gulf/Iraq.

**Why** "soaring in membership" you may ask. Because we are still on the runway and have yet to lift off the downward slope in membership and the number of Units choosing to call it quits. **Who** do we believe will take the place of those Units/members in the community to continue to do what the ALA has been doing for over a century? We cannot answer that question. It all comes back to knowing our **"WHY"**, demonstrating our **"WHY"** and sharing our **"WHY"** so others would know this is the organization to become invested in.

Today our over-all Objective/Goal for the Department of Nebraska is 17,091 members. This figure is 1,293 members away from the membership total of 15,798 on July 31, 2022. Where do we begin? **Renewals are the most valuable asset to all Units.** When we fail to collect renewal dues each year, we continue to slide down the slippery slope of membership. We must put the brakes on that process here in Nebraska. We are better than that. We value our **"WHY"** and our community. We need to get ready in 2023 and be visible in the community and let others know you are a proud ALA member even when we ALA members are volunteering with other organizations. Just because we are ALA members does not bar us from being community service volunteers where the need is known and we have the ability and talents to get the job done. That is one area we need to pay more attention to. How many non-ALA volunteers are working this event and are they eligible to be an ALA member? Have you asked? Be ready with your **"WHY"** and have an application at hand.



<b>DEPARTMENT AWARD CERTIFICATES</b>
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**PRESIDENT VICKI O's HAPPY BIRTHDAY AWARD  
67% UNIT GOAL REACHED  
AUGUST 18, 2022**

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**PRESIDENT VICKI O's HAPPY BIRTHDAY AWARD  
77% DISTRICT GOAL REACHED  
AUGUST 18, 2022**

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**MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING AWARD  
100% UNIT GOAL REACHED  
DECEMBER 29, 2022**

<b>Departments in Northwestern Division (NWD) &amp; Goal &amp; Chair Theme</b>
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<b>Colorado</b>	<b>4,390</b>	<b>Family Serving Together</b>
<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>28,957</b>	<b>Serve &amp; Honor Every Day</b>
<b>Montana</b>	<b>2,997</b>	<b>Working Hand-in-Hand is the Heart of Membership</b>
<b>Nebraska</b>	<b>17,091</b>	<b>Veterans – Our Soul &amp; Inspiration</b>
<b>North Dakota</b>	<b>8,241</b>	
<b>South Dakota</b>	<b>10,092</b>	<b>Racing for Our Family</b>
<b>Wyoming</b>	<b>2,724</b>	

<b>National Goal Deadlines:</b>
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<b>75%</b>	<b>December 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Pearl Harbor</b>
<b>85%</b>	<b>March 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>American Legion Birthday</b>
<b>95%</b>	<b>May 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>National Poppy Day</b>

The Department Membership Chairs in the Northwestern Division (NWD) have challenged each other to meet these three goal deadlines. The NWD Department Chairs that do not reach the set deadlines, will make a personal \$5.00 donation to the Departments reaching the goals per deadline. The “giving” Department Chair will select what ALA program the \$5.00 will be applied to in the “receiving” Department. No Department of Nebraska funds will be used in this challenge.

Nebraska, please work hard to get your Unit dues transmittals into the Department in a timely manner. As Nebraska’s Membership Chair I have great expectations that Nebraska will come through with flying colors!!!

Quote by Henry Ford:

***“Coming together is a beginning –***

***Keeping together is progress –***

***Working together is success”***

2023 National Membership Chair Linda Tome (Dept. NY) gave this quote at DLNC and I believe Nebraska can use it for its diligent efforts in Membership. (**Tome** pronounce as in home)

Linda also strongly encouraged the first dues transmittals from any Unit should be their PUFL (Paid Up For Life) members and all other Unit members who hold an office/chairmanship on the Unit, County, District, Department and National. Why? Simply – lead by example. For Nebraska our State Life Members (SLM) would be on the first transmittal sheet into the Department. **Do it today.**

### ***SETTING UNIT GOALS IN NEBRASKA***

How are Unit membership goals created? Through the Department Membership Chair and Department Secretary collaboration.

National sets our Department Goal by taking the National Goal from the previous year (2022) (16789) and adding one member for each Unit (302) in the Department which gives us a Department Goal for 2023 at 17091 members.

For 2023 the Department started with the Close of Books (COB 7/31/2022) number of paid 2022 dues and the number of unpaid 2022 dues per Unit and assigned each Unit 2 new members to sign up. **Remember during this past six months, I have been mindful “Do not leave renewals on the table.”**

Unfortunately, we far exceeded our 17091 goal from National. So, we took away the 2 new members from the Units that ranged from 46 to 6 unpaid renewals in 2022, they are expected to get the renewals in 2023 and not a new member.

That left Units having 5 to 0 unpaid renewals and they were randomly assigned 1 or 2 new members.

Is this fair across the board? No. But we must take charge and bring in the renewals then we can address signing up new members. In the past, **it has always been** "add 1 new member to every Unit." That is not good enough for Nebraska. For many Units that was impossible to do. Many Units had no carry-over renewals from 2022, just an accumulation of "add 1 new member each year." So, by approaching our Goal method in this manner, we hope all Units will be able to reach or exceed Goal in 2023. We have to be positive in growing membership, and the old practice just seemed to be a hinderance to many Units. Keep in mind that National does not take into account death when setting goals; thus, the Department does not either. (Need to work on that practice in Nebraska.)

<b><i>Strategy for 2023 will have great expectations</i></b>
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- Verify and report all PUFL and/or SLM changes in address, phone, emails, etc. (Member Data form) - **Do this today!**
- Verify and report all deceased members in a timely manner (Member Data form) - **Do this today!**
- Verify and report all members' contact data is accurate (Member Data Form) - **Do this today!**
- Report/record all PUFL and/or SLM names on Membership Dues Transmittal sheet and sent to the Department – this is an annual expectation – this listing gets Unit out of the Zero "0" category – **Do this today! This should be the Unit's first transmittal to the Department!!!**
- **Collect all RENWALS – do not leave them on the table – WITHOUT them we do not grow – their knowledge and experiences are a valuable tool for the Unit**
- Keep in touch with your members regularly – keep everyone aware of your Unit activity
- Create a Unit member email address bank to communicate instantly and less costly
- Share Department and District newsletters at your meetings – we need to really improve upon this – many Units do not have a sharing attitude
- Create interesting and fun activities for Unit meetings – we do not have to be stuffed shirts – relax and enjoy your membership
- Mentor/train Junior members to do what you do – let Juniors conduct a couple Unit meetings a year – it may not be perfect – but they need to learn – you and I had to learn it through trial and error – in fact I am still using that trusted practice

- Respect each member – share ideas – do not discount the wisdom of others – we may just learn something new – we all have worth and merit – do not snuff it out of yourself or others
- Get into the community as an ALA member – even if you are working with other local organizations – that is just fine – just think of the possibility that there may be one or two new members among those whom you are working
- Share what you know – what you have experienced – do it in an informative manner rather than a “look at me” manner – pride in our organization is great – in oneself not so much so
- Ask questions – too many of us wait until after a meeting to ask or comment – that is not fair to the membership – everyone needs to know the question and the answer – keeping everyone on the same page is a best practice
- Above all else – be yourself – share yourself – be good to yourself – others will follow

The year of 2023 will be what you make it to be – Nebraska Strong – is a good motto for each of us. Do not forget your **“WHY”** because without the sacrifices of our beloved Veteran(s) in our family we would not be the ALA. Do not let their sacrifices vanish – keep the torch lit for generations to come.

There is a lot of **“WHY”** in **“WHO we are” “WHAT we do” and “WHY we matter.”** Believe in that and we will grow and prosper with each of us doing our fair share.

Thank you for being an ALA member and for keeping your Units afloat. We all struggle, but to quit, leaves the big question – **“If not for the ALA who will do what we have done for over a century?”** We are all Unit members first and foremost. Blessings to all!!!

### **MUSIC – JEAN VACKINER**

35878 Boiling Springs Road – Cody NE 69211 – 402-376-4648  
vackinere@yahoo.com

My name is Jean Vackiner, and I am honored to be the Music Chair for the 2022-2023 year. I have been a member since 1998, all through the Cody Unit 319, and am a past District One President. I am eligible through the service of my late father, Sgt First Class Eugene Kurpgeweit of Ewing, who served in the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry in the Korean Conflict.

Music is not an “official” program; that means, true to my nature, that anything goes! Music is universal, music is inside of all of us, and is as necessary to our spirit as air is to our bodies. All I ask of you is to remember that, as tough as things seem, music is the one constant we can turn to for souls that need soothing, memories that need renewing, and, my favorite, fun to be had!

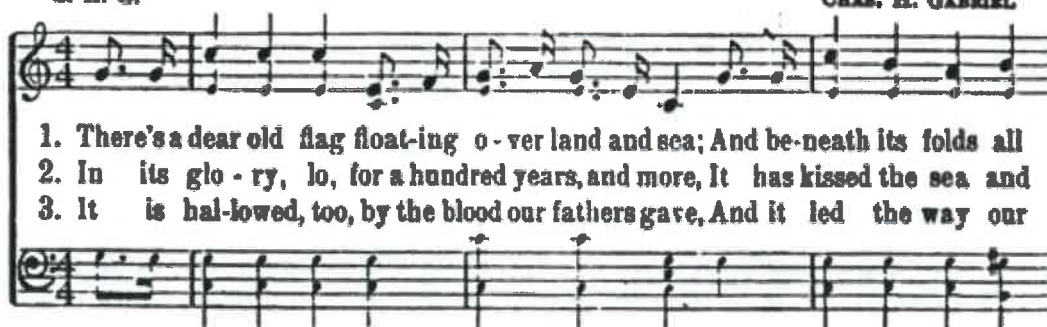
Remember to incorporate music in your meetings. Are you singing “The Star Spangled Banner” to begin your meeting and “God Bless America” to close? And remember Department President Vicki’s chosen song, “The Old Red, White and Blue.”

This year, I will be giving an award for the Unit who provides the most support to help support music in our schools. It’s as simple as an email or a phone call to the local instructor and ask, “What can we do to help?” It can be as simple as paying for a piece of equipment or hosting the hospitality room for a music conference. As technology is ever-changing, keeping the most up-to-date equipment is taxing all budgets, and a busy Unit can surely make a big impact. Good luck and KEEP SINGING!

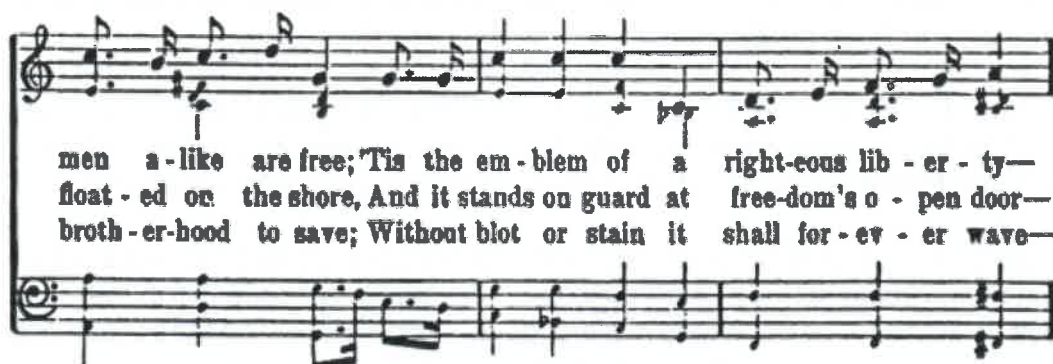
## The Old Red, White and Blue

G. H. G.

CHAR. H. GABRIEL



1. There's a dear old flag float-ing o-ver land and sea; And be-neath its folds all  
 2. In its glo-ry, lo, for a hundred years, and more, It has kissed the sea and  
 3. It is hal-lowed, too, by the blood our fathers gave, And it led the way our

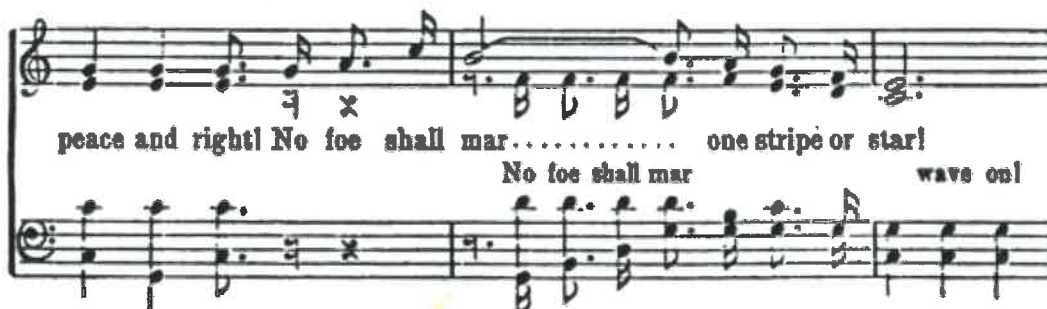


men a-like are free; 'Tis the em-blem of a right-eous lib-er-ty—  
 float-ed on the shore, And it stands on guard at free-dom's o-pen door—  
 broth-er-hood to save; Without blot or stain it shall for-ev-er wave—

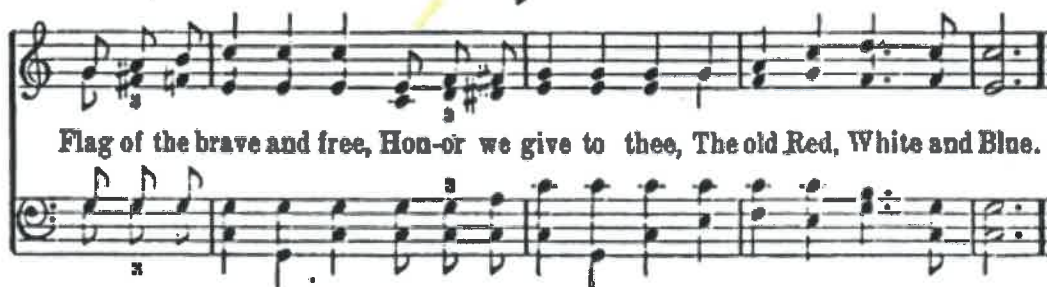


CHORUS

The old Red, White and Blue. Beau-ti-ful banner bright, Emblem of



peace and right! No foe shall mar..... one stripe or star!  
 No foe shall mar wave on!



Flag of the brave and free, Hon-or we give to thee, The old Red, White and Blue.

## **NATIONAL SECURITY - BARBIE MEYER**

12455 Riverdale Rd - Riverdale NE 68870 - 308-893-2200 – H - 308 – 233-0382 - C  
[meysheep@aol.com](mailto:meysheep@aol.com)

I am a 25-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary. My sponsor is my husband, Larry, a Vietnam veteran, Army Retired. We are retired and live on a farm by Riverdale, NE, raising sheep and cattle. I belong to Miller Unit 351, Miller NE. I have served as Unit President, District 6 President, Department Membership chairperson, Department Chaplain, Historian, two-year Vice President, and President, 2021-2022. I am currently a PDP and Department National Security chairperson, and a member of Department Advisory committee. My reason for belonging to the ALA is to honor, respect and remember the veterans who sacrificed so much for the freedoms and opportunities given to everyone in our country. I am a 49-year member of First Presbyterian Church in Kearney, serving three terms as a Deacon and Deacon moderator, usher, liturgist and Sunday School teacher for 14 yrs. I am retired from 14 years at Cookbooks by Morris Press, a 1969 graduate of Kearney High School and attended UNK.

### **Key Program Statements:**

- The National Security program maintains and promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military servicemembers and their families.
- Support active-duty military families by working with an installation Family Readiness Group (FRG). Contact the Family Readiness Center on your nearby military installation for more information.

National Security is a very important program of the American Legion Auxiliary. Taking care of Active-duty Military, their families, and communities is much needed and fulfilling. Our service personnel need to know loved ones waiting at home will get the support and assistance on the home front, during deployment and after.

Our care packages sent to those serving bring a touch of home. I have included resources to assist you with getting these tasks accomplished. A few ideas that Units can get behind are:

- Connect with a local Guard Unit Family Readiness group if you are not near a military installation.
- Your church and other social groups may have loved ones who are currently serving.
- Deployment and Welcome home events, baby showers and coupons for commissaries.

I have also added a challenge award for Units. \$25 for every Unit who takes an accredited CPR, Life Support or First Aid course before April 20, 2023. This must be a Unit event.

Also, the NEW mental health/ suicide helpline is 988. Please get that information shared.

Always be on the lookout for families of those in active duty. They truly need our support!

The National Security Committee on the [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) has a multitude of resources. Please check out these guides and resources:

ALA USO Action Guide

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/guides/ala-uso-action-guide>

ALA Operations Homefront Action Guide

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/guides/ala-operation-homefront-action-guide>

ALA Military Family Readiness Action Guide & Related Downloads

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/guides/family-readiness>

How to Welcome Home Separating Servicemembers

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/national-security/how-to-welcome-home-separating-servicemembers>

How to Support Troops and their Families on Military Installations

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/national-security/support-the-troops-and-their-families-on-military>

How to Train for FEMA's Community Emergency Response Teams

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/national-security/how-to-train-for-community-emergency-response-team>

How to Collaborate with the American Red Cross' Service to the Armed Forces

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/national-security/how-to-collaborate-with-the-american-red-cross-ser>

How to Collaborate with the Tragedy Assistance Programs for Survivors (TAPS)

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/national-security/how-to-collaborate-with-taps>

Planning a Powerful POW/MIA Remembrance Service

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/national-security/planning-a-powerful-pow-mia-remembrance-service>

How to Collaborate with the Hiring Our Heroes Military Spouse eMentor Program

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/national-security/military-spouse-ementor-program>

How to eMentor Women Veterans and Military Spouses with the Business & Professional Women's Foundation

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/national-security/how-to-ementor-women-veterans-and-military-spouses>



## **AWARDS**

### **UNIT AWARD**

- Most Outstanding Unit National Security Program
- Share what your Unit has done that had an impact on our Military or their families.
- Deadline April 20, 2023

### **SALUTE TO SERVICEMEMBERS AWARD**

- Nomination Form online
- [https://member.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Awards/Salute to Servicewomen award for m.pdf](https://member.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Awards/Salute%20to%20Servicewomen%20award%20for%20m.pdf)
- Deadline April 20, 2023

The Year End Report will be due April 20, 2023.

At the time of printing the ABC Book, the National website had not yet uploaded the guidelines for the awards. As soon as they become available, they will be distributed.

## **PARLIAMENTARIAN - BARBARA WASHBURN**

455 Co Rd 7 – Ashland NE 68003 – 402-944-7762 H / 402-521-0016 C  
doughbarb1993@gmail.com

A Parliamentarian's role is often described as a “scary one”, and one which many members do not feel qualified to hold. However, the president of every Unit, County, and District should appoint someone to fill that role. Let's pull back the curtain and learn more about the role of a Parliamentarian.

### **What are the duties of a Parliamentarian?**

- Advises the presiding officer and other officers, committees, and members on matters of parliamentary procedure. A Parliamentarian does not make rulings, only advises when asked
- Utilizes *Robert's Rules of Order* to form opinions and advise
- Understands the governing documents of the organization
- Assists with revisions to governing documents (Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules)
- Assists with preparation/review of presiding officer agendas and scripts
- Remains impartial and does not make motions, participate in the discussion, or vote unless there is a ballot vote

### **Who can serve as a Parliamentarian?**

- Someone familiar with parliamentary procedure
- Someone who can remain impartial during a discussion
- Does not need to be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary
- Does not need to be a registered parliamentarian

During meetings, the Parliamentarian should be seated adjacent to the presiding officer to unobtrusively offer help and guidance during a meeting. The presiding officer is not required to follow the advice of the Parliamentarian; however, in most cases, the advice was requested because the presiding officer was unsure of how to rule.

Many members are qualified to serve in this role based on their extensive experience in our organization, and their knowledge of parliamentary procedure. I am happy to assist in any way that I can, and the National Parliamentarian for the American Legion Auxiliary is also available as a resource.

**PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY – ELIZABETH PAES**  
501 E God Rd Apt 3E – Papillion NE 68046 – 402-677-0268  
elizapaes@hotmail.com

Member, teacher, advisor, mentor, historian and counselor. Becoming a Past Unit, District or Department President does not mean your job stops. It simply means you have taken on a different job. The list above is just a few of the ways you can help your new officers and members get started on their new journey.

Having a Past Presidents Parley may be a useful tool for your Unit/District. Showing support for the new officers would have several benefits. As a Past Unit/District President your first responsibility is as a **member**. Attend your Unit and District meetings. The work of the Unit should not rest on the shoulders of just a few members. Valuable information is given and received at these meetings. Changes are taking place that will affect every member.

**Teach** your new Unit/District President what is expected of them. Remember when you first came into your office? You had questions, many questions. Make a list of what you feel is valuable for this new officer to do their job. If they have never led a meeting, help them make an agenda and make sure there is a script for the officer to follow.

Make yourself available to **advise**. Make yourself available to answer questions that arise. Having a Past President's phone number and or email address is making sure the officer knows how to reach you.

As a Past President, you have the **history** of the Unit/District. Going backwards sometimes helps you move forward. Look back and see what used to be done in the area. Because that event stopped working at that time, does not mean it will not work at this time. Try not to say, "that is the way we have always done it," without adding the words, "but we could always try it this way."

There are always situations that become tense. Try to find ways to help ease the tension that break apart a Unit/District. **Counsel** your new officers to find a way to find a consensus on how this issue might be handled. There are always two sides to every issue. Try to understand both sides of the problem.

At the Department level, the Past Department Presidents (PDP) meet yearly. The meeting takes place at a luncheon during the Mid-Year Conference. The Chairman makes all arrangements for this event. The Past President Parley (PPP) has scholarship funding available to award to one or more applicants for the Health Care Professional scholarship. The recipient is selected by the Department Advisory Committee from the scholarship applications received for the annual judging. There is no separate PPP Health Care Professional scholarship application.

The PPP also is responsible for the Ex-Servicewomen's Fund. These funds are derived from Unit contributions and are for the purpose of the gifts for ex-servicewomen who are residents of the Nebraska Veterans Home (4) and the two Nebraska Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC.) Typically, \$20 is deposited in each ex-servicewoman's account and in certain facilities one check is mailed to the home with the names of the woman receiving the gift and the home distributes the gift.

PPP also maintains a courtesy fund. PDPs donate \$5 to \$10 annually to the courtesy fund. If the fund remains above \$100, donations need not be collected during the annual meeting. Individual donations are accepted any time and deposited in the Department PPP fund earmarked "Courtesy Fund."

Courtesy funds provide for:

- A memorial to be sent to the family of a deceased PDP and a memorial contribution to the PPP Scholarship Fund in the name of the deceased PDP.
- Courtesy Department PPP lunch tickets for the Department President and the National President or Northwestern Division National Vice President.
- A card and gift sent by the Department PPP Chairman to a hospitalized or seriously ill Past Department President upon notification received from the Department Secretary. The PPP Chairman is reimbursed by a voucher submitted to the Department Treasurer following the report to the members during the annual meeting.

Donations to special projects may be considered by vote of the members attending the annual meeting when the fund balance allows. Special projects may be categorized as special projects for current National officers; support for the PPP members who hold a National Chairmanship or for candidates for Northwestern Division or National office.

**POPPY – MARLA FURROW**  
57105 Hwy 8 – Fairbury NE 68352 – 402-587-0927  
marlamae58@yahoo.com

Hello members. I am Marla Furrow, a proud member of Schopp/Ewing/Nispel Post 243's Auxiliary in Plymouth Nebraska. I have been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #243 since 2004 and am eligible through my dad who served in the Navy on the USS Hooper Island during the Korean War. He was a proud member of the American Legion Post #243 for 67 years and I strive to be the American Legion Auxiliary member he would be proud of. In my unit I serve as Membership Chairman. The past few years I have been the Jefferson County American Legion Auxiliary Secretary/Treasurer and this coming year I will serve as the Jefferson County ALA President.

As the 2023-2024 Department Poppy Chairperson my plan is to increase unit awareness and participation reminding units that it is our mission "to support the American Legion and it's programs for veterans, youth and community".

My goals are to contact each Unit Poppy Chairperson and provide information and ideas for them to use to promote poppy awareness for their members, their schools, and their communities. Information and ideas such as:

- The symbolism of the poppy and Flanders Fields
- Poppy Poster Contest
- Poppy Centerpiece contest
- Miss Poppy Contest
- Working with the local schools
- Working with local businesses
- Working with the media
- Poppy funds collection cans

My biggest goal is to increase involvement in this program!

National Poppy Day is held on the Friday prior to Memorial Day. The date is May 26, 2023. Units are encouraged to plan special events for that day.

Please contact me with any questions or ideas you have and would like to share!

## **POPPY POSTER CONTEST RULES**

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

### **Contest Classes**

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

### **Poppy Poster Requirements**

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. Articles "a", "and," "an", "the" are not to be counted as words. The words "buddy" and "buy" cannot be used.
2. The words "American Legion Auxiliary" must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.
3. Each poster must include a picture of the red Flanders Field poppy.
4. The department shall determine the closing date of the unit contest. The poster shall be on 11x14" poster board. (Drawing paper will not be accepted).
5. The United States flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the flag code.
6. Posters will be judged using the following criteria:

- 50% - poster appeal (layout, message, originality)
- 40% - artistic ability (design and color)
- 10% - neatness

7. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils and markers.

8. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the class in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age and grade of the contestant and the name of the department.

9. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians' grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.

10. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.

11. The label "In Memoriam" from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.

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

1. Each Unit will judge their poppy posters and may submit **ONE** entry per class.

2. Mail your winning posters to this chair: Marla Furrow, 57105 Hwy 8, Fairbury NE 6835.

3. Do not roll or fold the posters when mailing.

4. **Deadline** to submit them is April 15, 2023.

5. A citation will be given for the most outstanding poster in each classification within the five divisions.

6. Department winners will be submitted by this chair to the Northwestern Division Poppy Chair. They are due to the NW Division Poppy Chair by June 1.

7. While ALA representatives will do their best to return all posters, it is not guaranteed. We recommend participants take a picture or scan their poster for their records.

8. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians grant nonexclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.

## **NATIONAL MISS POPPY CONTEST**

### **Little Miss Poppy (Ages 6-12)**

- Participant must be between six (6) and twelve (12) years of age and be a Junior member in good standing of the American Legion Auxiliary.
- Promotional activity of the Poppy story must occur through the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary and the community.
- Selection of Little Miss Poppy is at the discretion of the unit.
- For National Little Miss Poppy consideration, participant must submit a Little Miss Poppy scrapbook (8½" x11") containing photographs and clippings illustrating how she promoted the American Legion Auxiliary poppy in her department.
- Only those scrapbooks that contain a self-addressed envelope with postage will be returned. Although every effort will be made to return the scrapbook, accidents do happen, so all entrants must allow for that risk.

### **Criteria for judging Little Miss Poppy Scrapbook entries**

- Costume (there is no specific dress code or dress color for Miss Poppy).
- Promotion of the Poppy program: What did you share and do?
- Publicity of poppy activities (newspapers, radio/TV, etc.).
- Narrative report on "What I Have Learned Being Little Miss Poppy."
- Essay on "Memorial Poppy" not to exceed 100 words.
- The memorial poppy must be visible in all promotion and publicity submitted.
- Neatness and creativity.
- Cover page to include member name, unit name, state, age division and year.
- Judging scale should be 1 through 10 for each area of judging for entire entry.
- Entries are to be sent to the Department Chair, Marla Furrow, 57105 Hwy 8, Fairbury NE 68352 by April 15, 2023.
- If the Poppy scrapbook is to be returned, members must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Although every effort will be made to return the scrapbook, accidents do happen so all entrants must allow for that risk.
- The Little Miss Poppy (age 6-12) winner will be invited to appear at the ALA National Convention in Charlotte, SC, immediately following her selection, and if she so chooses, will travel at her own expense.



## POPPY CENTERPIECE CONTEST

The following rules apply to both the Senior and Junior Poppy Centerpieces.

- Remove the labels from the poppies used in the centerpiece.
- **SENIORS**—use Department President Vicki Ozenbaugh's theme—**Never Forget, Ever Honor**
- **JUNIORS**—use Honorary Department Junior President Carly Raines' theme—**Games and Food – Make a Happy Veteran**.
- Poppies must be predominant, using a sufficient number of small or large poppies or a combination of both to make a nice arrangement.
- The American Flag **MAY NOT** be used in the centerpiece.
- Centerpieces should have a maximum height of 12 inches and width of 12 inches to allow for viewing from all sides.
- **SENIOR** centerpieces are the work of a member of the Unit displaying it.
- **JUNIOR** centerpieces may submit a centerpiece created by the entire Junior group rather than an individual Junior.
- Unit name, number, and town should be securely affixed to the bottom of the centerpiece.
- Each District winning centerpiece will be eligible for the Department winning centerpiece.

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### **IN FLANDERS FIELDS**

*In Flanders Fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders Fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders Fields.*

—Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae December 8, 1915

**PUBLIC RELATIONS – KIMBERLY GURLEY**  
PO Box 277 – Milligan NE 68406 – 402-629-4580 H / 402-366-6118 C  
gurley.kimmy@gmail.com

Kimberly Gurley – I am a 32 year member of Milligan HSSK Unit 240. I joined due to the eligibility through my father James Hinz, who was a Korean war veteran and active in the Ruskin, NE Post. I am also eligible through my grandfather, Edward Meier, who served in WW II, and my husband, Dennis Gurley, who served during the Vietnam era and a member of the Milligan Post 240. I am a member to support our veterans and their families. Photos are my passion and telling stories with them is my personal mission.

The purpose of the Public Relations is to establish and maintain a positive public image of the organization by encouraging ALA members to be visible in their communities through branding and informing the public about the mission of the organization. Spread the word about the American Legion Auxiliary: *A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families*. By utilizing your Local media including the local Newspapers, Radio, Television stations, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

What can you do?

### **Members**

- Maintain a positive image of the American Legion Auxiliary by continually using the Distinct Branding on publications and being visible in your communities through wearing and displaying valuable, distinct branding.
- Spread the word about the American Legion Auxiliary: *A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families*. Share the latest news from the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) from the Unit, District, Department and National Level with other members and the public.
- Log on and use “My Auxiliary Member portal” <https://member.legion-aux.org>

### **Units:**

- Reward and recognize those that use the ALA Distinct Branding while in the community
- Maintain communication in the Local Newspapers, and Media.
- Have and maintain a Unit Facebook page, twitter, and Instagram. (the more posts you have the more visible you are.) You can share your photos, awards, news, unit minutes, online just as you do in the local paper. Also share on the National Facebook pages.

## Districts

- Compile a list of media contacts, share them with the Units. Include email address for newspapers, Television, Facebook page, and other social media and frequently used “#” (hashtags)
- Use the ALA Distinct Branding on all publications.
- Share your Districts news with Units utilizing Newsletters, Email, and social media
- Maintain a District Facebook, twitter, and Instagram. Update it regularly with photos and information for the unit members and the public. Share the latest news from ALA volunteer national leadership and ALA National Headquarters.

National Awards have not been released at the time of this publication. Once they are known we will share them utilizing public relations to distribute them.

### Department awards:

- Photo: - **one award** department wide for the best photo submitted and used in the Star, newspaper, or social media, that shows the ALA mission.
- ALA Brand Ambassador -Citation for **One member in each District** – Shows Excellence in Showcasing ALA's unique branding.
- Outstanding Public Relations Program Award - Citation for **one unit in each District** – Most outstanding program overall use of Public relations that Includes newspapers and social media
- New Unit website or social media – Citation **Any Unit** that develops a new website or social media

## RESOLUTIONS - VICKI CYBORON

5152 N 155<sup>th</sup> Ave – Omaha NE 68116 – 402-740-5665

vcyboron@aol.com

My name is Vicki Cyboron, and I am from the Boelus Unit #201. I will be your Resolution Committee Chairperson this 2022-2023 year. My committee also has Past Department Commander Jim Costello (who is an auxiliary member to honor his wife, Janey's, service) and my mom, Kathryn Cyboron. I have been a member for 42 years, which I started out as a Junior member. My membership eligibility is through my dad, Past Department Commander George Cyboron. Honoring my dad's service, and all my other family members who served, is the main reason I am an active member. Another reason is when you see a veteran put a smile on his/her face because we were able to provide something to help them, like a phone card, is everything. This memory is always there; and when I think of helping this veteran out and the many more our organization helps, it reminds me that helping our Veterans is priceless.

### What does Resolutions mean to you?

Per Robert's Rules and Resolutions - dummies

A *resolution* is a main motion that needs to be expressed formally in writing, to attach a special level of importance. Because of the form — beginning with the word *Resolved* and following with either a statement of opinion or a statement authorizing or directing some action — such a motion is called a resolution.

Or

When you google the word “resolutions,” it may come up with the three meanings below:

1. A firm decision to do or not to do something
2. The quality of being determined or resolute
3. The action of solving a problem, dispute, or contentious matter

Are you still having difficulty understand what a resolution? Think of it as we are pretty much creating a rule except that it appears to be more formal. However, we can not use a resolution to amend the bylaws, you will need to do an amendment to make the change to the bylaws. When you are changing your constitution, please make sure you are making it in a formal format by including it in your minutes. This is another step to make the changing binding.

Another translation for resolutions is we are using to make changes that are not permanent or do not require amending the bylaws.

Please let me know if you have any questions as I will be happy to assist you on understanding the difference. If you have any resolutions that you would like to submit, please get them to department or me by April 15. Please see the new resolutions form as this form will be the only form that will be accepted when submitted.

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA**

**RESOLUTION**

*Office use only:* Proposal # \_\_\_\_\_ Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

**Location and Description:** \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED RESOLUTION	IF ADOPTED, WILL READ

**Rationale:**

Proposed by: \_\_\_\_\_

## **SERVICE TO VETERANS - ALICE VIESELMEYER**

112 S Pine St - Friend NE 68359 – 402-947-9001

alicevies@aol.com

I am Alice Vieselmeyer serving as your Service to Veterans Chair for a second year. I joined Friend Ford-Bans Unit #183 American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) in 1980. I am eligible for the ALA through my husband, Jerry, who served in the US Navy. I am a proud member of ALA and have served in the Unit, County, District, and Department levels, where I have held various chair positions. I enjoy serving and supporting veterans and children's programs offered in the Auxiliary.

What is Service to Veterans? This program provides service to veterans, service members, and their families without the structure of a VAMC. The Volunteers conduct projects and work for veterans/military and/or families from their own homes or in their communities. It is important that as a volunteer you keep record of the hours and dollars spent to be reported at the end of the reporting year. Anything done directly for a veteran outside of a VAMC is considered Service to Veterans.

Hours can also be earned through work done in your home for the benefit of homebound, sick or injured servicemembers and veterans. These activities might include sewing, mending, and/or babysitting while the veteran attends medical appointments or rehab sessions, or making quilts or knitting for hospitalized or homeless veterans. Anything done directly for a veteran outside of a VAMC is considered Service to Veterans.

These hours can be counted only once and not reported again under another committee such as National Security or Community Service. If you are unsure which committee your hours belong to, just pick the one that makes the most sense. The most important thing is that hours are counted only one time for your department.

As your Service to Veterans chair, I work with Units in assigning tray favors, centerpieces, and door hangers for the VA facilities in Nebraska. There are other ways to "Service our Veterans." Here are some other ideas:

- ★ Visit with veterans and remember them on special occasions.
- ★ Offer to drive veterans to doctor appointments.
- ★ Offer to stay with a veteran while his/her primary caregiver goes shopping or out for a break.
- ★ Take a veteran for a Sunday drive, picnic, or maybe to see one of his/her friends.
- ★ Treat veterans to tickets for sporting events or movies.

★Transitional housing programs have many needs. Secure donations for staple items such as laundry soap, cleaning supplies, kitchen items, new undergarments, etc.

★Donate a membership to The American Legion. Arrange an outing to a Legion meeting for special events such as a Veterans Day dinner, memorial service, etc

★Furnish a room in transitional housing programs as a special project.

★Help furnish new living space for a veteran graduating from a transitional housing program. This might include the veteran and his/her family. School supplies for children or meals might be extra touches.

When making tray favors or centerpieces, remember safety. Do not have anything sharp or edible. Your items will need to be mailed or delivered to the facility at least two weeks (or even a month) in advance to the month assigned.

FACILITY	ITEM	CONTACT	PHONE	ADDRESS
Central NE VA Home	200 Tray Favors*	Heidi	308-865-3472	4510 E 56th Street Kearney NE 68847
Eastern NE VA Home	24 Centerpieces or 90 Door Hangers	Leatrice Doolen	402-547-7500	12505 South 40th Street Bellevue NE 68123
Norfolk VA Home	20 Centerpieces	Laree Kubes	402-841-6813	600 East Benjamin Ave Norfolk NE 68701
Western NE VA Home	13 Centerpieces	Cecil Doshier	308-631-7093	1102 West 42nd Street Scottsbluff NE 69361
Western NE VA Home	90 Tray Favors	Cecil Doshier	308-631-7093	1102 West 42nd Street Scottsbluff NE 69361
Grand Island VA Medical Center	10 Centerpieces	Kathryn Cyboron	308-996-4470	2201 N Broadwell Ave Grand Island NE 68803
Omaha VA Medical Center	75 Tray Favors	Paula Pillen	402-630-6583	Volunteer Services 4101 Woolworth Avenue Omaha NE 68105

\*Please do not use anything that resembles food or outdoor items (like pinecones).

## **THE STAR – LORENE BARTOS**

7441 San Mateo Lane – Lincoln NE 68516 – 402-423-7644 H / 402-310-3481 C  
lb32906@windstream.net or [Lbartos1@unl.edu](mailto:Lbartos1@unl.edu)

Hi! I'm Lorene Bartos, Editor of *THE STAR*.

I am a 65-year member of St. Edward Unit 226. I belong to help support veterans and youth programs --- and also to honor my father and husband, both of whom served our country in the Army.

My mom and dad were both very active members of the American Legion and Auxiliary and instilled in me the importance of community service. I attended meetings with my mom and always helped with whatever needed to be done. Memorial Day was always important, and we all participated in some way. Placing poppies during the program was always special.

The ALA Girls State program is very special to me as I attended in 1964 and have been privileged to help with the program since the 70s. I served as Secretary for several years and Chairman for 2 years.

*THE STAR* is the publication of the Nebraska ALA. It is published 8 times a year --- January/February, March, April/May, June, July/August, September, October/November, and December. *THE STAR* is the pull-out center fold of the *Nebraska Legionnaire*. When the paper comes, be sure to pull out *THE STAR*. You will then have all the information handy.

Any Legion Family member may submit articles and pictures for inclusion in the paper. All issues will include articles from the Department President, Vice President, Historian, Chaplain, Secretary, Membership Chair, and Music Chair. It will also include Thank-Yous, In Memoriam, Service to Vets, and a Calendar.

Guidelines to follow:

- Any member may submit an article or pictures for *THE STAR*.
- Articles are due to the editor by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication date
- All levels are encouraged to submit (Unit, County, and District).
- Original pictures only!! (Copies of pictures in a newspaper cannot be used.)
- Get permission to publish the pictures from those in the pictures.
- Adhere to patient/resident privacy for those in any facility.

Any questions? Contact Lorene Bartos, Editor, at 402-310-3481 or Vicki Ozenbaugh, Department President, at 402-759-0411.

Let's share what is happening in our American Legion Family!



**VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION – RENEE VAN WINKLE**  
2063 Ninth Ave – Farwell NE 68838 – 308-336-3202 H / 308-750-3591 C  
[momrenee@hotmail.com](mailto:momrenee@hotmail.com)

I am a 33-year member of Dannebrog American Legion Auxiliary Unit 241. I am eligible through my husband, John Van Winkle, a Green Beret. Throughout these years, I have been a Chairman of several ALA programs. As a Legion Rider member, we have had many poker runs to help with the Legacy Run or Fallen Soldiers family. As a District 6 President, I enjoyed meeting so many lovely ladies. Being involved with Girls State for 17 years and seeing the girls change their lives for the better has been rewarding. Now being VA&R Chairman allows me to do more for the Veterans and their families. All of these have brought many memorable events.

The VA&R will focus on:

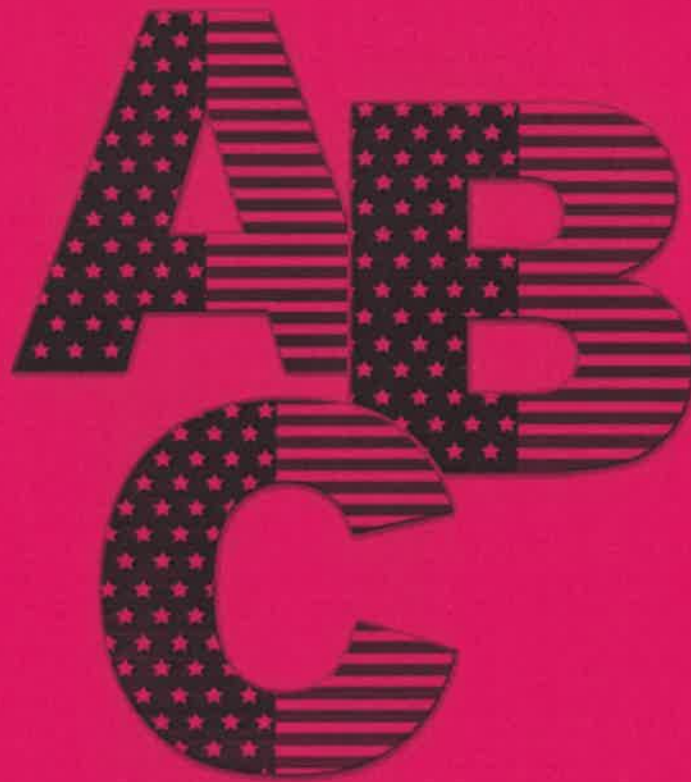
- Promoting our mission to enhance the lives of Veterans, military, and their families.
- Provide opportunities for Auxiliary members to Service VAVS.
- Find opportunities for Auxiliary members to provide volunteer hours in service to Veterans and their families in local communities.
- Assist Veterans in accessing VA benefits and activities that help homeless Veterans.
- Support rehabilitation and helping Veterans through arts, crafts and hobbies.
- Assisting and supporting caregivers of Veterans.

Additional at the Unit member level, we will:

- Encourage members to participate in activities at the VA Homes and Hospitals.
- Saying thank you to a Veterans and their families goes along way. With a big smile and thank you, you are warming your own heart and give yourself a good feeling too.
- Get more members involved with Veterans.

Please call me if you need my help for anything. You can call me at 308-750-3591 (cell), 308-336-3202 (home) or email me at [momrenee@hotmail.com](mailto:momrenee@hotmail.com). Remember there is no dumb question, just an unanswered one!

**SECTION 2**  
**DISTRICT PRESIDENTS**



**BOOK**

**2022 - 2023**

### **DISTRICT ONE – MARY KRAUSE**

339 N Osborne St – Ainsworth NE 69210 – 402-382-8689  
marykrause8689@gmail.com

I am Mary Krause and am serving my second year as District 1 President. I am a member of Ainsworth Unit #79. My dad was in WW II and served as a lineman in the US Army. My mother signed me up as a tiny tot, so I have been a ALA member for 58 years. I have served as Unit President and been on several committees.

I have two children, two grandson and one granddaughter. I have been married to my second husband, Nick, for seven years. In my spare time I enjoy scrapbooking and making cards and other crafts, which I sell at craft fairs.

The District 1 Vice-President is Marilyn Anderson. District 1 consists of 12 units in Brown, Cherry, Dawes, Keya Paha, Rock and Sheridan counties

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### **DISTRICT TWO – CAROLYN CONROY**

90557 490<sup>th</sup> Ave – Spencer NE 68777 – 402-568-1334

I am Carolyn Conroy, and I am District 2 President for the next two years. I am also President of Spencer Unit 78. I am eligible for the Auxiliary through my husband, Gary Conroy. Gary is the current Commander of Spencer American Legion Post 78. We live on a farm north of Spencer and have 8 children and 13 grandchildren. I work full time at a medical clinic and part time opening for coffee drinkers at the County Café in Spencer. My hobby is collecting antiques to put in my little antique village.

District 2 Vice-President is Marlene Meyer. District 2 consists of 35 units in Antelope, Boone, Boyd, Holt, Knox, Madison, Pierce and Stanton counties.

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### DISTRICT 3 - BEVERLY A. NEEL

57576 847<sup>th</sup> Road – Wayne NE 68787-7080 - 402 369 0152  
d3alaprez2224@gmail.com

#### **THIRD DISTRICT OFFICERS:**

*Beverly A. Neel, President, Winside Unit 252,*  
*Laura Neel Novak, Vice President, Winside Unit 252*  
*Adeline Hanel, Secretary/Treasurer, West Point Unit 70*  
*Cheryl Schultz, Chaplain, Beemer Unit 159*  
*Jacki O'Neill, Parliamentarian, Jackson Unit 175*  
*Vicky Gullicksen, Junior Past District President, Coleridge Unit 114*

I am Beverly A. Neel and will be serving as President of the Third District comprised of seven counties: Burt, Cedar, Cuming, Dakota, Dixon, Thurston and Wayne; and 22 Units in the northeast corner of the state.

I became an American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) member at Cameron MO in October 1981; transferred to Dakota City NE Unit 376 in 1983; and final transfer to Winside NE Unit 252 in 1990. I am a Paid Up For Life (PUFL) member with 42 years. My eligibility for membership in the ALA can be traced to my father, John James Gallop, Sr., World War II Army Air Corps, Guadalcanal and Bougainville; my brother, Warren Micheal Gallop, Vietnam Era Navy Corpsman; my husband, Robert Grayson "Bud" Neel, Vietnam-Desert Storm USMC Sergeant Major, Retired; and son, John Grayson Neel, USMC, Persian Gulf/Iraq.

My President's project is the purchase of two 2' wooden/metal benches, seats one each, for the Norfolk Veterans Home. The items will be purchased locally from Sugar Plum Oak where the Home purchases its quality furniture for its pavilion outdoor patio. Total cost for these two chairs nears \$1,200 and would include a 10% discount upon ordering. We will have the chairs labeled as donated by members of the "Third District – American Legion Auxiliary." The Home has these chairs in use and they have been a welcomed item by which the Veterans are able to go outside and enjoy the fresh air.



My theme is the same as that which was used during my first two years as Third District President (1999-2021) ***"Veterans – Our Soul & Inspiration."*** This theme will carry throughout the Membership Program as well. Note I do have a separate email address for Third District business.

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**DISTRICT FOUR – LUAYNE WEISGERBER**

1119 Hudson Ave – Alliance NE 69301- 308-762-5240 H / 308-763-8441 C  
maxine69301@yahoo.com

My name is Luayne Kaye Weisgerber. I have been a member of The American Legion Auxiliary Alliance Unit 7 for about 34 years – a Paid Up For Life (PUFL) member since 2002. I am eligible through my father Ray O. Andersen, US Army, World War II and my husband Raymond J. Weisgerber, US Marine Corps, Vietnam. This is my third round as District President, and I am a Past Department President (2002-2003). I also am the Alliance Unit 7 President and Treasurer. I was born and raised mostly in the Northport/Bridgeport/Dalton area, with the exception of three years in Oregon. I am a 1967 graduate of Bridgeport High School and a 1988 graduate of Chadron State College with a Bachelor of Arts Business Comprehensive degree with majors in accounting, management, and real estate. I have two sons, a daughter and six grandsons. Morgan, Jakob and all six grandsons are members of Sons of The American Legion Squadron 7, and Brandy is a PUFL member of Unit 7. My husband is a member of Post 7 and serves regularly on Honor Guards for funerals. My reason for membership is to honor my father and husband and those with whom they served, and in gratefulness that my children and grandchildren enjoy their freedoms due to the service of others.

District 4 Vice-President is Jeanine Tyree. District 4 consists of 13 units in Box Butte, Cheyenne, Garden, Grant, Morrill and Scottsbluff counties.

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**DISTRICT 5 PRESIDENT - DONNA HATFIELD**

PO Box 481 – Lexington NE 68850 – 308-324-2696 H / 308-325-1718 C  
donna68850@aol.com

Greetings from the 2022/2023 American Legion Auxiliary District 5 President, Donna Hatfield. I live in Lexington, Nebraska and am a member of Unit 111. My eligibility for this great organization is through my husband Mike's Army service. I have been employed by Dawson County Weed Control for 28 plus years.

It is my honor to serve ALA District 5 as their president (again!!). In the late 1980's I served as ALA District 5 President. I have held many Department Chairmanships and served as ALA Department President in 2011/2012 (which is why I may be familiar to many of you). District 5 was without a Vice President for ALA District 5 President, Terrie Hayworth's first year and when no one stepped up for her second year, I agreed to serve as her vice president. I hoped that an individual who has not served as district president would step up to serve in that capacity, but no luck on that, therefore, I will serve as District 5 President. I too, am without someone to serve as District Vice President and am hoping someone from District 5 will step up to serve as vice president.

American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) District 5 consists of nineteen units (Arthur, Lexington, Eddyville, Overton, Farnam, Mullen, Paxton, North Platte, Maxwell, Sutherland, Wallace, Hershey, Stapleton, Tryon, Grant, Venango, Madrid and Thedford) in nine counties (Arthur, Dawson, Hooker, Keith, Lincoln, Logan, McPherson, Perkins, and Thomas Counties). District 5 covers 9,172 square miles. Highway 92 is the north border; Highway 23 is the south border and on Interstate 80, Overton is the east edge and Ogallala is the west edge. The district is a little bit west of the middle of Nebraska and on each side of Interstate 80. This is a lot of miles to cover the whole district. Oh, and there are two time zones in the district – Central and Mountain time zones.

#### **DISTRICT SIX – NANCY HARROLD**

959 Myers Road – Broken Bow NE 68822 – 402-870-3217  
nancy.harrold@yahoo.com

Greetings from District 6. I am Nancy Harold and live in Broken Bow. I was born in Jamaica, Vermont. In 1964 we moved to Nebraska, the state my mom was born in. My dad was a WW II Veteran. I joined the Auxiliary under him. My husband is a Vietnam Veteran who was in the Navy. Our daughter is a Army Veterans. We, also, have two sons, five grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. I was asked by Broken Bow Unit President Deb Sonnichen to become a member in 2011. I said “yes.” In 2017 I became President of Unit #216 and still am. I served as Custer County President for four years.

My theme is The American Legion Family: Stronger Together. My project this year is to purchase three Blue Ray DVD players and HMDI cords for the Central Nebraska Veterans Home in Kearney.

The District 6 Vice-President is Justina Birkel. District 6 consists of 37 units in Blaine, Buffalo, Custer, Garfield, Greeley, Hall, Hamilton, Howard, Merrick, Nance, Sherman, Valley and Wheeler counties. There are 2,235 members and we are the largest district.

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#### **DISTRICT 7 – NANCY K NIEMANN**

3100 Trudy Ann Cir – Raymond NE 68428 – 402-417-8792  
niemann05@gmail.com

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to introduce myself. I am Nancy Niemann and am the incoming District 7 President. I am a 49-year member of Weston Auxiliary Unit 308 being eligible through my father, Arnold Machacek, who served in the Army during the Korean War. My mother, Rose Machacek, was a Gold Star Sister to her brother, Charles Snitily, who died in World War II. Those two connections are my personal reasons for being an auxiliary member, as well as “to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion”. I live near Raymond

with my husband, Don, where we raised three children Brandon, Courtney, and Jack. In addition, I have a granddaughter, Myah, and son-in-law Denton. I work for The City of Lincoln Aging Partners and the Village of Raymond.

“Behind every son or daughter killed in action, there’s a Gold Star Mother.” (emblem.legion.org). My project this year will be to work to identify Gold Star Mothers and hope to place GSM grave markers and flags at their graves in order to “Honor these women who gave up their children that we may enjoy freedom.” (emblem.legion.org). District 7 Vice-President Nancy Patras. District 7 consists of 33 units in Butler, Colfax, Dodge, Platte, Polk and Saunders counties.

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**DISTRICT EIGHT – PAULA PILLEN**

6001 N 147<sup>th</sup> Street – Omaha NE 68116 – 402-630-6583  
ppillen2@gmail.com

As District 8 President, I cover Douglas, Sarpy, and Washington Counties. I am a member of Elkhorn/West Omaha Area Unit 362 since 2018, when my spouse, Russell G Quimby, became Commander of the Post 211 – Elkhorn. In 2019 I became President of the Unit, which is officially called “Rural Douglas County.” I have been newly elected as the NE-Association of Public Affairs Area A chairperson.

In 2021 I was appointed as the representative for the Omaha V.A. Medical Center. This is particularly appealing to me because my grandfather, Henry Pillen, and my father, Eugene Pillen (who passed there) have used the services. In addition, I must give tribute to West Point US Military Academy during football season since Russ is an extremely faithful alumni member.

From input received from Unit Presidents in the District, we will focus on the Community Living Center needs. A player piano is requested, as it is soothing to those in the skilled and mental health units.

I truly appreciate the District’s knowledgeable and sincere Unit Presidents. These ladies have held the course during such a difficult two years with COVID, which in our area has still hit high numbers in late 2022.

District 8 Vice-President is Lindsay Brown. The district consists of 17 units.

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**DISTRICT NINE – MARIA ATTERBERRY**  
704 Rochelle St – Elwood NE 68937 – 308-325-2863  
m\_atterberry@hotmail.com

My name is Maria Atterberry. I am District 9 President. I am from Elwood, which is in South Central NE. I am eligible for the American Legion Auxiliary through my husband, who was in the Marine Corp and a Vietnam era Veteran. I have been a member for 18 years. I have 4 daughters and 11 grandchildren. I enjoy crocheting, knitting, and watching my grandchildren.

My project will be to continue making the cover-ups for Veterans in the area VA Homes.

District 9 consists of 16 units in Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Gosper, Hayes Center, Hitchcock and Red Willow counties.

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**DISTRICT 10 – CATHY WEBBER**  
201 18<sup>th</sup> Ave - Franklin NE 68939 – 308-470-0689  
catwebber@hotmail.com

I am Cathy Webber of Franklin, NE. I have been married to my husband, Don, for 49 years and blessed with two wonderful children, a son, Jon, who is deceased, and a daughter, Jenna (Mark) and two grandchildren, Riley and Haley.

I am proud to hold the office of District President for the Tenth District with this being my first year serving. I have held the office of District Vice President and Chaplain also. I have been unit Treasurer and Membership Chairman for several years as well.

I became a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Anno Sanger Unit #209 in Franklin NE in 2004 in honor and memory of my father, Ignatius Flax, Tech Fifth Grade, who served in Co H 406<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Battle Rhineland WWII in the US ARMY. He received a Purple Heart and a Victory and Bronze Medal for his service.

I also have extended family members and friends who have served our country, and I want to honor them and thank them for their service as well.

My President's Project for 2022 – 2024 is for Central Nebraska Veteran's Home in Kearney ~ the Veterans will choose their activities and request what their activity needs are. I will put funds towards those activities requested and also supply the Library with additional books requested by the veterans. I am working with Jessica Modlin at CNVH on this project.



**My Theme: "Helping a Veteran – Keep Their SMILE!"**

I have a great team to work with including my Vice President Deanna Tuttle; the Secretary- Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian, VA&R and county and unit teams to make the Tenth District run smooth. All our Department leaders will be helpful in guiding me if needed.

There are units who have had big turnovers with officers who are in need of help in understanding and assistance in setting up the books and their units including Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules and just how to operate as a new set of officers. My goal is to help these units accomplish some of these steps in making their units understand how to make things flow a little better for them. All unit officers are welcome to call me with any questions and I will try to answer them as best as I can and if I don't know the answer I will find the answer for them. If you don't ask the question, you don't learn the answer. I hope to be able to visit all the units in the Tenth District as time allows and my job allows me to participate in all the activities.

I spent 43 years working at the Franklin County Memorial Hospital as Health Information Manager and Social Services Director. Now I am Executive Director of Franklin Housing Authority for the Elderly and Disabled in Franklin.

I was the chairman for the Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society for 15 years. I am a committee member of the Franklin County Cancer Committee to help our county residents who are fighting their battle of cancer. I belong to a Homemakers Club, the Atlanta Neighborly Neighbors and was secretary of the club. I am a certified SHIP Counselor and SMP (Fraud and Abuse) as I assist people in Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security Disability/Retirement, and Part D enrollment.

I volunteer at the Central Nebraska Veterans Home in Kearney for special events when I am able, which I enjoy visiting with the veterans.

We honor our Veterans on Veteran's Day with a supper and invite the veterans and spouses County wide in Franklin County which is a huge success. Each county unit takes turns hosting the yearly event with a great menu and entertainment.

I enjoy meeting new people and learning different ideas.

District 10 consists of 26 units in Adams, Clay, Franklin, Harlan, Kearney, Nuckolls and Webster counties.

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**DISTRICT 11 – VICKY THOMPSON**

PO Box 31 – Milligan NE 68406 – 402-629-4571 H / 402-366-2427 C  
vsbunker@hotmail.com

My name is Vicky Thompson, and I am the District 11 President. This will be my second year. My home unit is ALA Unit 240, Milligan, Fillmore County. I am also the current secretary for Unit 240 and have served as Fillmore County President. I was District 11 secretary/treasurer for two years. I also served as Department Community Service chairman for one year.

In 1972, I was eligible through my first husband, Dorian J. Bunker, who was in the Army during the Viet Nam War. I am also eligible through my father, Ernest L. Johnson, who served in the Navy during World War II. I now have a son-in-law who was in the Marines and then re-enlisted into the Army. He served during Desert Storm. This year is my 51<sup>st</sup> year in the Auxiliary.

My president's theme is Remember, Honor & Respect our Veterans. My symbol is the Flag. This year my project is to raise funds for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

I am currently married to Robert D. Thompson and have a son and a daughter and one granddaughter that will turn two this December.

It is an honor to serve our veterans. It is important to "remember and honor" those who are no longer with us but especially important to "honor and respect" all living veterans of any age.

In my spare time I enjoy reading and putting together quilts. My greatest joy now, though, is spending time with my granddaughter.

District 11 Vice-President is Sue Goodson. District 11 consists of 35 units in Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Saline, Thayer and York counties.

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**DISTRICT TWELVE – CHARLENE HOBELMAN**  
4800 SW 12<sup>th</sup> St – Lincoln NE 68523 – 402-430-3651  
charleneh@windstream.net

Greetings from Charlene Hobelman. I am the president for District 12 and live in Lincoln. I am an Auxiliary member because of my late husband, Lance L. Hobelman. He served his country in the United States Army from April 1968 thru April 1970. While in the Army he served with the 497<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company Port Construction along the coast of Vietnam.

I was raised on a farm near the town of Ewing, Nebraska and have six siblings. I graduated with a class of sixteen from Ewing High School in 1967. I attended and graduated from Grand Island Business College and worked 42 years for American General. I retired in 2010.

I have been a member of the Denton ALA Unit 355 for nineteen years. I also belong to 8 & 40, Miller Long VFW 3606, Denton Historical Society, Denton Sweat Shop, and Cathedral of the Risen Christ. Lance and I were married for 49 years and had three children. I have eight grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

My theme and project is the same as Department President Vicki Ozenbaugh. Let us “Never Forget, Ever Honor” our Veterans and support the need to locate and identify our POW/MIA’s as well as honoring the Nebraska thirty-five Medal of Honor recipients buried in Nebraska.

The District Vice-President is Lois Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer Sheryl Wright, and Chaplain Barbara Skillman.

District 12 consists of 23 units in Cass, Lancaster, Otoe and Seward counties.

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**DISTRICT THIRTEEN – ANITA LANG**  
1442 5<sup>th</sup> Street – Pawnee City NE 68420 – 402-852-6830  
anitalang1959@hotmail.com

District 13 Vice-President is Michele Tegtmeier. District 13 consists of 13 units in Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee and Richardson counties.

**SECTION 3**  
**GIRLS STATE**



**BOOK**

**2022 - 2023**

## **GIRLS STATE - BRITTANY MASEK**

15706 W 80<sup>th</sup> Terrace - Lenexa KS 66219 - 308-882-0280

[bmmasek@outlook.com](mailto:bmmasek@outlook.com)

I would like to introduce myself. I'm Brittany Masek, Chairmen for Cornhusker Girls State (CGS) 2023. A little about myself. I reside in Lenexa, Kansas with my husband Kyle and our son Walsh. I work as an Analyst for the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. I have been a member of the ALA for my entire life. I've always belonged to the Unit in Elsie, Nebraska, near where I grew up. My grandfather was a veteran and a Legion member which led to my grandmother encouraging us to get involved. I first attended the Cornhusker Girls State program in 2007 thanks to my hometown unit Madrid, NE. I fell in love with what CGS stands for, and I returned as a counselor and other volunteer positions for ten years. Whitey Shirley of Perkins County was a mentor to my father and Legion member who had great impact in my life. He and his daughter, CJ, among other local friends, continued to share their support for me year after year which always meant a lot. My goal has been to share my passion for policy at our local levels as well as being a proud and grateful young American with the girls of Cornhusker Girls State to help foster a positive future in Government.

Last year we returned to having Cornhusker Girls State in person and are more than excited to continue building our program towards future generations. It comes with its challenges each year as technology and generational difference meet; however, we always try to meet the demands of the ever-changing future in balance with the traditions of the past.

The program is offered to girls who have completed their Junior year of high school and will be entering into their Senior year. It takes place the first week of June each year. This year it will be June 4-10, 2023. Each girl is sponsored by an Auxiliary unit who selects the delegate and an alternate to represent them. While attending they are asked to file for a state/county/city office, campaign, debate, and vote. At the same time they participate in sessions where they learn to build party platforms, run judicial hearings, and propose legislative bills. It's a wonderful experience and teaches them how our State and Local Governments run.

Through the years I have seen many girls form lifelong friendships, find college roommates, and even create business partnerships. One of my favorite parts of the week is seeing the excitement of new friendships and watching the respectful debate on many topics.

Girls State is an Auxiliary sponsored program with its own Constitution and Bylaws. It has its own chairs, advisory, secretary, and treasurer. The same format will be followed for Unit's receiving the packet of information and forms to be completed and returned by the deadline of March 1, 2023.

**CORNHUSKER GIRLS STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - RENEE VAN WINKLE**  
2063 9<sup>TH</sup> Avenue - Farwell Nebraska 68838 - 308-336-3202 H / 308-750-3591 C  
momrenee@hotmail.com

**What is this program and why do we have it?**

The Advisory Committee consists of five members. One member is appointed each year by the Department President of the American Legion Auxiliary. The term of office is for five (5) years. A member serves as the Chairperson during the fifth year of her appointment.

Advisory Committee members are expected to attend the Girls State planning meeting held in the fall. Members are also expected to attend the Girls State for the entire week, arriving on Saturday to finalize plans for the week with the Girls State staff and prepare for the arrival of the girls on Sunday.

Advisory Committee members will be given special assignments throughout the week to help with Girls State sessions as well as helping in the Girls State office whenever needed. After each session, Committee members will help with the clean-up of meeting rooms.

Following the general election on Wednesday morning, the Advisory Committee meets at 1:00 p.m. to make office appointments for those girls not elected to an office.

The Advisory Committee is responsible for the Inaugural ceremony held on Thursday afternoon at the Capitol. The Chairperson, with the help of other assigned Committee members, oversees the Inauguration. There is a special seating arrangement for all those in the Inaugural party, and the Chairperson has a copy.

The Committee is responsible for getting the following items to the Capitol for the Inaugural ceremonies: Judges' black robes, American Flag and Girls State Banner, flag standards, gavel and bell, red music bag, paper ribbons, scripts for all participating in the Inaugural ceremony and alphabetical letters. Flags, standards, bell and gavel, and red music bag are to be returned to the meeting room on campus; other items should be returned to the Auxiliary Department Headquarters after the ceremony. They arrange with the Girls State Secretary to secure entrance to Department office if it is after normal business hours.

On Friday, the Advisory Committee members serve with other staff members on the Girls Nation interview panel. The Chairperson of the Advisory Committee presides.

On Saturday, the Advisory Committee is again responsible for seeing that the following items are taken to the meeting room for the Closing Session: programs to be distributed to visitors, American Legion Auxiliary Banner for front of table, Girls State pins, Girls State

certificates, Top Town trophy, medals for top in Current Events Quiz and Government Exam, and Samsung Plaque.

Stage is set-up according to the diagram provided to each of the Advisory Committee members. Certificates are laid out according to towns (Floors 2 - 9). Girls State pins are unwrapped, and special medals are laid out. The Chairperson organizes seating arrangements.

On Saturday, the Advisory Committee serves as greeters for guests and hands out programs (if available). Just prior to the start of the Closing Ceremony, the Advisory Committee will take their assigned seats.

After the Closing Ceremony, the Committee returns the following items to the Girls State office in the dormitory or American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters: American Flag and Girls State Banner, flag standards, red music bag, bell and gavel, and the American Legion, Auxiliary Banner that is used for the front of the table. The key can be secured from the Girls State Secretary for office admittance.

While the specific tasks mentioned above are primary duties, the Advisory Committee members may be asked to assist with other jobs, including providing ice for floors each night, check-out of Girls Staters, packing up the Boutique items and assisting with packing of the Girls State Office.

A meeting of Girls State Staff and Advisory Committee members shall be held Friday evening or immediately after the conclusion of Girls State and prior to the Department Convention (Constitution and Bylaws of the Girls State Constitution, Article IX) to discuss the week's activities while they are fresh in everyone's mind.

Advisory Committee members may be asked to participate in a Girls State Orientation in any of the thirteen (13) American Legion Auxiliary districts. Members of the American Legion Auxiliary may be asked to help with the orientations if they have been active in the program in the past. The Girls State Chairman and Vice Chairmen makes the district assignments.