



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

**DEPARTMENT OF UTAH
NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2020**



Mid year report information is due to the office by January 5th. See the e-mail sent earlier this week.

SILVANA'S SPACE:

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of you and your families. Thank you for what you continue to accomplish for our veterans, active duty military and their families, and those in your community. May next year be one where we can actually visit in person.

Sincerely,
Department of Utah ALA Interim President
Silvana Watanabe
Silvanaw@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP NOTES:

The 2019-2020 membership cards will expire on Dec 31, 2020. Members who have not renewed before January 4th will receive a second renewal notice. Members are not renewed until they are processed in the Department office. **The office needs these renewals by December 29th.** Even in this weird year, we are getting in new members. Keep up the good work!

CHAPLAIN:

Please send me a copy of the deceased member forms to me. We want to remember these members. Also, I am collecting copies of hymns, poems and spiritual thoughts for Stacey's and now Silvana's prayer books. Please send me information about your members who are ill or who have passed away so we can send out cards to them or their families. I have received so far 11 deceased ladies. 7 sympathy cards. 2 get well cards. I need help from you ladies. Thank you. Utah Department Chaplain.

Linda Schwartz
Lmschwartz51@outlook.com
801-465-3938

HISTORIAN:

100 years, 100 photos

For my history project I wanted to do a power point presentation for the history of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA). I want to show people the reason why all of us stay in the Auxiliary. Here are some guideline on what I want the photos to show or be. ★ Why do you stay in the Auxiliary? ○ Family ○ Veterans ○ Social Aspect ○ Husband/Wives being part of the Legion ○ Grandfather/Grandmothers in the service ○ Kids or grandkids that are serving now ○ Other family

members that have been part of the Auxiliary ○ Anything that inspires you to continue to stay ○
Histories of the Units ○ Please send us pictures!!!

SECRETARY-TREASURER NOTES:

Please remember to use the latest version transmittal when you send in your memberships and assessments/donations. The new senior dues amount to send in is \$27.50. There were some changes to the assessments and donations section.

PLEASE make sure that your Unit Officers have paid their current ALA dues. A member cannot hold an office if they are not current with their dues.

New membership applications are available with the new eligibility dates and adding the words “male spouse” and “female spouse”. I have ordered new ones but you can still use your older forms.

Check us out at the website or on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/deptutah/>

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Utah

www.aladeptutah.org/2701.html

Normally I am in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Feel free to e-mail at alautah@yahoo.com or call and please leave a message if I don't answer – 801-539-1015. There are many pamphlets and resources available to you as Units and members to use for the Auxiliary programs. Let me know what you need and it may be something we already have. I sent all the Units a Department Resource Order Form in your membership packet.

Cary Fisher

Department Executive Director

alautah@yahoo.com

801-539-1015

ALA UPDATED WEBSITE:

Have you toured the brand-new www.ALForVeterans.org yet? Please pass this information on to your members.

The redesigned American Legion Auxiliary website was built for you – our community of volunteers! The member portal is now named MyAuxiliary. Developed with ALA members in mind, the MyAuxiliary portal on our refreshed site is a go-to location for members-only content: forms, national committee information and documents, policies and procedures, training information, how-to resources, and downloadable recruitment tools.

MyAuxiliary also offers members the option of paying dues online and updating their name, mailing address, or phone number at any time. To access this portal, members must have an account. Any member who already had a login for www.ALForVeterans.org can use that same login for the portal on the refreshed site. Any member who does not already have an account will have to create one.

Only current members can establish MyAuxiliary portal accounts. Former members, and those who let their membership lapse, cannot access this portal or their member profile until they've reinstated their ALA membership. If you know anyone in this situation, please have them call National Headquarters at 317- 569-4570.

If you are having difficulties connecting to the national website, the problem could be your internet browser. Try updating your browser, or download a different one (Chrome, Safari, or Firefox are best). If you still need additional help accessing the MyAuxiliary portal, please contact the help desk at alamishelp@ALAforVeterans.org.

Using MyAuxiliary, members can now access the following information about themselves:

- The unit they belong to
- Member ID number
- Join date
- Their membership category - PUFL, Life Member, Honorary Life Member
- When their membership expires
- Whether they are due for renewal
- Their prior years' dues paid
- Their donation history

Members can also take the following actions in the member portal that were not previously possible:

- Pay dues for the current year and the previous year
- Print a current year membership card
- Print membership cards from previous years
- Update contact information
- Add additional addresses (such as a seasonal address) – even adding starting and ending dates
- Opt out of national and department publications and mailings (Communications Tab)

Stay a while – click around today and see all of the ways your member experience was made better with the newly redesigned www.ALAforVeterans.org!

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND:

Just a short note to ask every unit to think about donating to the AEF this year. 2020 has been so messed up with all the storms, fires, pandemics that, without a doubt, I know that some of our members are in need of help. Every dime that is donated will be put to very good use.

Thanking you in advance

Donna Sibert

Department Chairman

AMERICANISM:

The time is right to contact the schools in your area for the 2020-21 Americanism Essay Contest. Due to COVID, our national chair has decided to continue our current theme another year *“How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military and their families.”* This theme addresses a very important need, not just for Utah, but nationally. Utah's deadline will be March 31, 2021 for your unit's 1st place essays.

There is a new cover sheet to put with the winning essays – essays written last year MAY NOT be used again.

Let's try to increase our Americanism efforts this year. We seem to be doing well in the essay contest. But there is so much more we can be doing in other aspects of our ALA Americanism program.

If you have any questions, concerns/comments, please give me a call @ 435-851-4304.

Donna Birk
Americanism Chairman
donna.birk@snow.edu

CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

I was honored to present Hunter Olsen from West Jordan Middle School a Youth Hero Award at his school last week. Please continue to look for those children who deserve a Good Deed Award or a Youth Hero award. You hear them on the news or see them in the newspaper. It takes some research to find out who they are and how to contact them, but we need to recognize the good things done by our youths.

Cary Fisher
Children and Youth Chairman
Fisher98@yahoo.com

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS:

Due to all the recent changes, all Units need to update their Constitution and ByLaws/standing rules, or write them if your Unit is new and doesn't have them. Part of it is easy – it is the National American Legion Auxiliary constitution. The by-laws/standing rules portion needs to reflect your Unit specific information such as meeting place and time, dues amounts for senior and junior members, how long your officer's terms are, etc. The office has copies of many Unit constitution and bylaws if you need a starting point. Please also send a copy to the office when you update yours. Remember, you need to publish the changes to your members – then invite them to a meeting and/or send out the changes to them for a vote. If you need help, contact me or the office.

Nancy Aerts, Constitution and ByLaws Chairman
tigerlillynan@msn.com
801-809-6158

EDUCATION:

National Scholarships available:
Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship - \$2,500
Spirit of Youth Scholarship - \$5,000
Children of Warriors National President Scholarship - \$5,000
Non-Traditional Scholarship - \$2,000

The Department also gives scholarships in these categories – now is the time to get this information to the schools so students can begin applying for these. The National deadline is March 1st, so we need to have the applications in February. Applications are on-line at <https://www.alaforveterans.org/scholarships/> and need to be submitted through the local Auxiliary Unit if there is one.

Jeannie Twitchell
Education Chairman
jeantwitchell57@gmail.com

GIFT SHOP:

Covid 19 certainly made Gift Shop a challenge this year. We were not able to physically have an event at the VA Medical Center. We did send out information to the VA clinics and gave Veterans the opportunity to come to Post 112 and select gifts for themselves and their families. Unfortunately no one took advantage of this opportunity. The Christofferson Veterans Home in Salt Lake and Ivins Veterans Home did have successful events. 150 Veterans at the facilities were able to select 300 gifts for themselves and their families. Thanks for all those Auxiliary members who helped this year. The donations including Gift cards were used to replenish items that were used this year as well as used to purchase items to be used at the VA Medical Center next year.

Thanks for all your support

Judy Daybell – VA&R Chairman

ALA UTAH GIRLS STATE:

A final decision has been made to hold the 2021 Utah Girls State session virtually. I understand that it will take some time to digest and to grieve the loss of another in-person session. It has taken myself and the entire Executive Committee several weeks to do the same.

Communication will be sent to Unit and District Presidents and Girls State Chairmen about program cost, recruitment and interview information, and registration deadlines.

The dates for the 2021 session will remain June 7-12th.

Thank you for your patience as we develop this new virtual program.

Sincerely,

Jenn Hinton

2020-2021 ALA Utah Girls State Director

byujenn96@gmail.com

435-830-3345

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES:

There is a Junior badge program that is on-line at <https://www.alaforveterans.org/Resources/Junior-Member-Activities/> It is split into age levels. Even if your Unit doesn't have an active Junior program, girls can still earn these on their own.

If you have Juniors in your area providing service please acknowledge their service in your units through emails, newsletters or community newspapers. You can also nominate them for the Auxiliary's Good Deed Award. I would also love to have you email me these stories. I will post them on our Facebook page as well as acknowledge them in this newsletter.

Thank you for all your hard work and for loving this program and these Juniors.

Jacci Christensen

Junior Activities Chairman

Jacci.yei@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP:

Even if we can't have meetings, you can still take advantage of the [ALA Academy](https://www.alaforveterans.org) training program. You can get to these by signing in to the National website at www.alaforveterans.org

- *How to Deal with Conflict*
- *The ALA Fundraising Course*
- *ALA Juniors E-Learning Course*
- *ALA Branding and Why it Matters to Me*
- *Establishing an ALA Culture of Goodwill*
- *ALA Leadership: Living our Motto of Service Not Self*
- *ALA Communication Methods*
- *ALA 101*

There have also been some webinars offered on different subjects. Courses are useful for anyone in the ALA, from juniors and new volunteers to experienced leaders. Encourage other members of your unit to take courses too!

NATIONAL SECURITY:

The National Security Program promotes a strong national defense by supporting service members and their families. Activities include Blue Star Banners, POW/MIA Remembrance, CERT teams and more.

Best Regards,

Ellen Nathan
 National Security Chairman Department of Utah
 435-652-8333 or 435-862-6087 arneen@infowest.com

POPPIES:



Greetings from your Utah American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Chairwoman

Well as we all know we are staying at home. We are hopeful that there will be a vaccine very soon and we can all get on with our lives. We have ordered 10,000 poppies this year and have distributed most of the kits. The poppy money goes right back into our communities and helps our Veterans and their families. This is also the time of year to prepare to visit your schools and get them involved in

Best Regards,
 Ellen Nathan
 American Legion Auxiliary - Utah Poppy Chairwoman
 435-652-8333

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Remember to be “branded” and advertise the American Legion Auxiliary when you are in your community giving service. There are many social media outlets where you can advertise your events

or needs. Please remember to use the American Legion Auxiliary emblem. Let us know if we can assist you.

Lenda Leek
Public Relations Chairman

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION:

This year we received donations for gift shop at the VA Medical Center as well as Ivins and Christoffersen Veterans homes. In addition donations were received for the veterans homes in Payson and Ogden. Money donated for Bennion and George Wahlen homes was spent to purchase cookies and puzzles for the residents to put together. Door tags as well as Christmas cards were made and sent to three of the Veterans homes. Don't forget the veterans in your local communities this holiday season. The Happiness for Heroes project is still an option for your unit to participate in all year long.

If you have questions or need information, feel free to contact me

Judy Daybell
VA&R Chairman
Email: Judy.Daybell50@gmail.com
Phone Number 801-633-7730



Report of Deceased Member

UNIT CHAPLAIN: Please make copies of this form for your use. Upon the death of a member, complete this report. Send one copy to the Department Chaplain listed below and keep a copy for your files. The Unit Membership Chairman or Unit Secretary must complete a "Member Data Form" and send to the Department. Please add the address of Next of Kin so our condolences can be sent. Thank you

Unit Name/Number: _____ District: _____

Name of Deceased Member: _____

Date of Death: _____ (Please attach copy of obituary)

Next of Kin/Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Was she a Charter Member: _____ Sr. Member: _____ Jr. Member: _____ Past President: _____

Gold Star Mother: _____

Significant Information:

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Utah Chaplain
Linda Schwartz
621 S 1150 E
Payson, UT 84651



American Legion Auxiliary

Youth Hero and Good Deed Award Nomination Form

NAME OF YOUTH _____
First Middle Initial Last

Youth's date of birth ____ / ____ / ____ Age ____ Male Female

Date _____ Submitted by Unit # _____ Dept. of _____

Description of bravery and/or deed performed by youth (to be completed by unit)

- **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

Please attach news clippings or include website to verify the deed being recognized.

UNIT CERTIFICATION (MUST BE CERTIFIED BY TWO UNIT MEMBERS)

Unit Member _____ Date _____

Unit Member _____ Date _____

Units should send completed applications to their department secretary.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY CERTIFICATION

Name _____ Date: _____

Department secretary mails nomination to National Headquarters, 8945 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46260. Awards will be shipped at no cost to unit or department.

Please ship to:

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please use this form for all Youth Hero and Good Deed Award nominations. For more information, contact National Headquarters at children&youth@ALAforVeterans.org or (317) 569-4500.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY

Date received _____

Date shipped _____

Youth Hero Award Good Deed Award

By _____

Poppy Poster Contest

- 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.
- The contest shall have seven classes:
 - o Class I: Grades 2 and 3
 - o Class II: Grades 4 and 5
 - o Class III: Grades 6 and 7
 - o Class IV: Grades 8 and 9
 - o Class V: Grades 10 and 11
 - o Class VI: Grade 12
 - o Class VII: Students with special needs defined as:
 - § Those in special education classes. A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors. 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:
 - o 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.
 - o The words “American Legion Auxiliary” must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.
 - o Each poster must include a picture of the red Flanders Field poppy.
 - o The department shall determine the closing date for the unit contest. The poster shall be on 11x14” poster board. (Drawing paper will not be accepted).
 - o The United States flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the flag code.
 - o Posters will be judged using the following criteria:
 - § 50% - poster appeal (layout, message, originality)
 - § 40% - artistic ability (design and color)
 - § 10% - neatness
 - o Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils and markers.
 - o 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.
 - o 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.
 - o The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
 - o The label “In Memoriam” from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.

Winning Unit Posters are due to the Department Office no later than May 1st, 2021 so they can be judged.



**AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST
2021 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 after convention.

Essay Title: *"How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?"*

No re-submission of a 2019-2020 Essay will be accepted.

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, 2021