



**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Minnesota**

2025-2026

**Department President
Robin Dorf**

September 2025 Unit Mailing

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Welcome to the 2025-2026 American Legion Auxiliary Department of Minnesota year!



I am honored to represent the members of the Department of Minnesota. This organization, and you the members, have given me opportunities to grow, learn and contribute in ways I never thought possible. We need to continue to encourage each other, support new ideas, and celebrate both individual achievements and collective success of our department.

Our theme this year is

"Promoting our Mission by Working our Programs"

The Department Presidents Project (our Minnesota Project) this year will be Honor Flight. Participation in an Honor Flight trip gives our veterans the opportunity to share this significant occasion with other comrades, remember the fallen, and share their stories and experiences with other veterans.

The goal is to raise \$35,000 to split evenly between the six hubs and Lone Eagle that support our Minnesota veterans, so that each gets \$5,000. There is a flyer in the unit mailing, and it will be on the website about the project and what hubs support the surrounding counties.

Let's talk about **Fall Conference October 23-25, 2025**, in St Cloud. Plans are being made, and the conference will have a different look this year, but with some favorites. More information will be in the unit mailings. We will add some outside speakers, and our program chairman will have a focus for their reports. Resource information will be available.

There will be a Poppy Making Contest again this year between sister districts on Friday night. What an opportunity to volunteer and give back! We are asking all of the American Legion Family to come over on Friday night to help. There is a continued poppy shortage. Poppy distribution helps with donating funds back to our veterans. Poppy Chairman Hope Wilson will have more information in the unit mailing.

The American Legion Family Service Project this year will be for the St. Cloud StandDown. The St. Cloud StandDown assists veterans in Minnesota with resources and needed items free of charge. They provide food, clothing, accessories, footwear, job connections, and housing information and resources for veterans in need, at risk, or homeless.

We will be collecting new (not used) men's and women's underwear, men's and women's socks, men's and women's winter jackets, hats, scarves and gloves, full size toiletries including body wash,



deodorants, razors, lotions, brushes/combs, women's tampons, and sanitary pads (light/medium).

The year started back in May when me, Department Membership Chairman Kollett Kaehlert, Department Executive Secretary Christie Avant, and National Chairman Norma Tramm attended the Department Leadership National Conference in Indianapolis. A lot of information to learn and share with our members this year.



It was a warm sunny day at the Hopkins Raspberry Festival Parade. Hopkins always does a fabulous job hosting. The next day I had the opportunity to volunteer at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Minneapolis. We went to check in and we were upgraded from water/towel girls to official timers and scorekeepers of bocce ball. I was a nervous wreck as I knew nothing, but this was such an awarding day. I am telling you every time I volunteer, I feel like I am rejuvenated to serve.

At the Wright County Fair, I was able to attend their Military Day and hear Commander Linda speak. That night I had the opportunity to attend the American Legion Riders Fund 85 ending in Paynesville and make a donation in honor of parents. Thank you to the riders who travel the state to collect the funds. Thank you to all of the Legion Posts, Auxiliary Units, SAL Squadrons, Rider Chapters, community members and businesses who supported this ride.

I was honored to be invited to the American Legion Baseball State Tournament Division 1 Banquet in Medina. What a great group of young men and coaches who made the finals. Thank you to everyone who works so hard to put this program together.

Your Department Chairman worked hard on Saturday of the Department Chairman Workshop and on Sunday they reported to the Department Executive Committee about their program plans for the year.

Thank you to Brandi Christensen for planning a great Junior Fun Weekend for juniors. They were a small group this year, but they were mighty. They did so much and worked together. Make sure to see Brandi's article about their weekend.

A trip to Lino Lakes for the Blue Heron's Day parade and picnic was on the agenda before taking off to National Convention in Tampa!

Congratulations to American Legion Commander Linda Dvorak, Sons of the American Legion Commander Jeremy Copher, American Legion Riders Director Duane Mabon, and our Honorary Junior President Anastasia Donnelly. I am looking forward to working with you this year.



To our outgoing leadership, thank you for your tireless service and the strong foundation you have built this past year. We are grateful for your service and the positive changes you have brought about during your year. A special thank you to Past President Judy Ackerman for your leadership and service this past year.

To our incoming leadership congratulations on your election. I look forward to serving with you. Your dedication, skills, and fresh perspectives will be invaluable in guiding us toward a brighter future for our department. Let us remember that our strength lies in our shared commitment to our mission.

Thank you again for this honor. I promise to continue working hard, supporting our members, and representing our department with pride. Together, we will keep building something special that makes a real difference for our veterans, military and their families.

2025-2026 American Legion Auxiliary Department of Minnesota President's Project



Honor Flight Network is a national nonprofit organization with independent hubs working together to achieve the Honor Flight mission.

The Honor Flight Mission

To celebrate America's veterans by inviting them to share in a day of honor at our nation's memorials.

The Honor Flight Vision

A nation where all of America's veterans experience the honor, gratitude, and community of support they deserve.

In 2021, the American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters entered a formal partnership with Honor Flight Inc. to support their mission to celebrate America's veterans by inviting them to share in a day of honor at our nation's memorials by enabling our units and departments to directly donate funds generated from the distribution of our poppy — the symbol of the sacrifice of service made by our veterans, military, and their families.

Participation in an Honor Flight trip gives veterans the opportunity to share this momentous occasion with other comrades, remember the fallen, and share their stories and experiences with other veterans. Honored veterans always travel free of charge, thanks to generous donations.

While initially focused solely on America's World War II era veterans, Honor Flight Network has expanded its mission to include those who served during the Korean War and the Vietnam War eras. The Honor Flight TLC program also honors veterans of any service era who are critically ill.

20 years in operation

- ♥ Over 128 hubs across the country form Honor Flight Network.
- ♥ As of July 4th – 317,128 veterans honored since 2005
- ♥ As of July 4th - 46,380 veterans on waiting list
- ♥ 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

Minnesota

- ♥ 87 counties with 295,703 Minnesota veterans
- ♥ 6 hubs that support Minnesota counties
- ♥ Lone Eagle - program of Honor Flight that serves veterans not served by a hub

Goal to raise \$35,000 to split evenly between the 7 so that each gets \$5,000

FREEDOM HONOR FLIGHT, INC.

Home City: La Crosse

Departing Airport: La Crosse Regional Airport (LSE)

Minnesota counties: Houston, Wabasha, and Winona

HONOR FLIGHT NORTHLAND

Home City: Duluth

Departing Airport: Duluth International Airport (DLH)

Minnesota counties: Koochiching, Itaska, Aitkin, St Louis, Carlton, Pine, Lake, and Cook

HONOR FLIGHT TWIN CITIES

Home City: Minneapolis/Saint Paul

Departing Airport: Minneapolis/ St Paul MN Airport (MSP)

Minnesota counties: Anoka, Benton, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright.

MIDWEST HONOR FLIGHT

Home City: Sioux Falls, SD

Departing Airport: Sioux Falls Regional Airport (FSD)

Minnesota counties: Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Pipestone, Murray, Cottonwood, Rock, Nobles, Jackson

NORTH STAR HONOR FLIGHT

Home City: Adams, MN

Departing Airport: Rochester International Airport (RST)

Minnesota counties: Blue Earth, Dodge, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Mower, Olmsted, Steele, and Waseca

VETERANS HONOR FLIGHT OF ND/MN

Home City: Fargo

Departing Airport: Hector International Airport (FAR)

Minnesota counties: Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, Beltrami, Polk, Red Lake, Pennington, Clearwater, Norman, Mahnommen, Hubbard, Clay, Becker, Wilkin, Ottertail, Douglas, Grant, Traverse, Stevens, Swift, Big Stone, Pope, Todd, and Wadena

LONE EAGLE

Program of Honor Flight that serves veterans not served by a hub.

Departing Airport: Closest to Veteran

Minnesota counties: Brown, Cass, Chippewa, Crow Wing, Goodhue, Kanabec, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lake of the Woods, Lesuer, McLeod, Martin, Meeker, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Nicollet, Renville, Sibley, Stearns, Watonwan, and Yellow Medicine.



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing District Presidents

Wanda Prescher 1st District President



Greetings from the Mighty 1st District!

My Symbol is the Poppy.

My Theme is Serving those who Served.

My Project is to raise \$5000 to do a golfing green for the Preston's Veterans Home.

I am also a proud ALA Dept of MN Representative for the Preston Veterans Home. It has been a joy working with staff and our veterans. I look forward to an exciting year with our units by hosting several coffee time chats for all auxiliary members. We have much to learn from one another by sharing past successes and new ideas to make our units stronger.

Kristen Donnelly 2nd District President



A little bit about myself, Kristen Donnelly. I have been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary since birth. I come from a long line of Proud American Legion Family members and am looking forward to serving with you. I am sure you have heard many things about me over the years. I have been the District President in the past 2017-2019, my daughters have been active in the Junior Auxiliary on the District, Department and National Levels.

I work full-time for Kossuth County EMS as an Advanced EMT. My youngest daughter is a senior in high school and the Honorary Department President of MN ALA Juniors. I am the proud grandma to two beautiful granddaughters under 2 years old.

My official project is to raise \$4000 to be split between the Eagles Healing Nest in Redwood Falls and the Bravo Zulu House in Martin County. This would

be so it can be split between the two of these facilities and they can purchase what is needed for their facilities to help these veterans and their families.

I would like to challenge all of you to donate to your local food pantries or set one up if you do not have one local to your community. Please keep track of the in-kind donations throughout the year. For the unit or units that donate the most to your local food pantries there will be a drawing at the District Convention.

The reason for this challenge is that no matter what our profession or status is, time gets tough sometimes. We should not have to feel embarrassed if we need to ask for help. If we can be the helping hand to those in need, it can make all the difference that day for that person and that is what matters.

Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing District Presidents

Ann Bovy 3rd District President



Symbol Is three roses with the Auxiliary ember
Project (Hasting) Garden with Landscaping and (St. Peter) is the Dis Golf
Couse

Amount for the two projects is \$4,000.00

I enjoy going with fellow Auxiliary members to meet with the other units at
different events. Help veterans who need little more help. That what
inspire me to become 3rd District President.

Sandy Gibson 4th District President



Greetings from the Mighty 4th District Auxiliary

My theme is Let Freedom Soar, My Symbol is An American Eagle carrying
an American Flag, my projects are Money for a monthly Bingo Game at
VAMC and Special Meals at Minneapolis Veterans Home.

I hope to raise \$ 1800.00

I am also the proud Representative to the Mpls Vets Home for ALA Dept of
MN. Why do I like this appointment? I LOVE IT! It is a joy talking and
visiting with the 321 Resident and there is always a hug or two involved. It
gives me great pleasure to represent the ALA. I get the Thank You's for the
clothing and personal care items the Residents get to choose at no cost! It
is a great pleasure seeing the smiles on their faces. It is ten times better

when Gift Shop comes. That is when the tears come from the Resident, knowing they can pick out a gift for a
loved one. The remarks are "I never thought I would be able to give my loved one a gift again." Thank you,
President Robin, for this appointment

Becky Nelson 5th District President



I'm honored to be the 5th District President For the 2025-2026 year. My
theme is Red White and Blue the color of Freedom. My symbol is the
American Flag, and my project is the Mpls VA Home.



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing District Presidents

Wendy Grittner 6th District President



My motivation for being here this year is for several different reasons. Mine,...is to honor my father, my husband, and all my relatives who have served our country and an uncle who had given his life for our country. I have been a part of the military in a different capacity, whether it be as a military brat, a wife, or as a bartender in an American Legion Post who was willing to just listen and give no judgement. The Auxiliary has given me an opportunity to expand my knowledge, learn new things and make lifelong friendships. I am hoping that this year I will be able to accomplish all of these things..

Mary Kuperus 7th District President



I am Mary Kuperus, I enjoy camping, making crafts with my Cricut, collecting gnomes, and participating in an organization that promotes antique cars.
THEME- HONORING OUR PAST EMPOWERING OUR FUTURE
SYMBOL- Dog Tag with Patriotic Minion
PROJECT- Joint project with the 6TH District Commander for ATVs and Safety Equipment, new canoes and putting in a Full-size Sand Volleyball Court at Legionville
GOAL - \$10,000

Tamara Martin 8th District President





Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing District Presidents

Denise Milton 9th District President



Denise Milton, Unit #16, Bagley

Theme: Reach for the Stars for Veterans

Symbol: Star

Project: Legionville (joint with 9th District Commander. Goal is to raise \$7,000.00 total)

9th District had an Organizational meeting on August 10th at the Bagley American Legion with 14 units present. Upcoming event is our Past Presidents Parley on September 21st at the Golden Link in Crookston with social at 11:30, dinner at 12n with program to follow.

Brandi Christensen 10th District President



Theme: P.O.P.P.Y Preserving Our Past for Protecting Your future

Symbol: Poppy

Project: Raising money for Gift Shop and MN Veterans Pantry I would like to raise \$3000 for each

Special Project: Revitalizing the Junior Activities Program in the 10th District. The 10th District used to have a very active large group of juniors. The juniors are our future of the organization. And I would love for it to keep going. And have my daughter grow up in the program like I did.

I love this organization, and I want to show it to the world how awesome it is! Helping veterans and military makes me feel like I am doing something great in the world and helping my daughter see the greatness in the world.



CHAPLAIN / MEMORIAL

Marsha Bible – Department Chaplain
5602 West Oakes Drive – St. Cloud, MN 56303
(320) 492-8977 marsha.bible@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 2025

As members we open our meetings with our Preamble and the words “For God and Country”. Remember God is always with us.

The Chaplain should attend all meetings and be prepared with an opening and closing prayer at each meeting. It is also helpful to have a grace prayer available in case food will be served. Prayers may come from any source: Reflections in the quarterly Auxiliary magazine, from our national website <https://www.legion-aux.org>, self written prayers or those found anywhere else. An important reminder for all chaplains is that the American Legion Auxiliary does not promote one religion. Our American Legion members, the veterans who have served and protected our country, come from a variety of religious backgrounds. Be aware of your unit membership or the group you will be offering prayers to when selecting your prayers.

Some ideas that chaplains might consider:

- Report the names of members who are ill or have entered alternative care facilities (nursing homes, assisted living, etc.) to your members and send them cards signed by your members at a meeting;
- When a member dies, send a sympathy card and/or memorial to the next of kin. If the family requests, visit the funeral home and have members present a Memorial Service for the deceased member or serve as honorary pallbearers at their funeral;
- Drape your Unit’s charter at a Unit meeting and invite the family members to attend for the draping. (This sometimes works as a great membership tool for longtime members who always paid their children and grandchildren’s dues. They realize how important their family member was to the Auxiliary and want to continue to pay their own dues!)
- Recognize Gold Star Families whenever you can;
- Keep in contact with members and veterans in nursing homes or those who live alone

Your Unit and/or individual members might consider making memorial donations to honor the service of deceased members. Memorials can be made to any of the programs that are found on our donation form. There is a special form to use when sending in a memorial. It has a space to indicate who the donation is in memory of and information on notifying next of kin. This is a great way to honor our deceased while maintaining some very special programs.

This year I am asking members and units to help create a prayer resource for all of our members. Everyone is encouraged to send me prayers, inspirational poems, etc. Each month, I will print as many as I can on this Chaplain's page. Prayers can be sent to marsha.bible@gmail.com or mail them to me at the address above.

TODAY

Outside my window, a new day I see
And only I can determine what kind of day it will be.

It can be busy and sunny, laughing and gay,
Or boring and cold, unhappy and grey.

My own state of mind is the determining key,
For I am the only person I let myself be.

I can be thoughtful and do all I can to help,
Or be selfish and think just of myself.

I can enjoy what I do and make it seem fun,
Or gripe and complain and make it hard on someone.

I can be patient with those who may not understand,
Or belittle and hurt them as much as I can.

But I have faith in myself, and believe what I say,
And personally intend to make the best of each day.

Author unknown
submitted by Vivian Miller
(Vivian was Robin Dorf's aunt)
75th Anniversary Book of Prayers



PRAYER FOR PATRIOT'S DAY – September 11th

O God, on the anniversary of September 11th, we call on your spirit to empower us to shape a world marked by ways of life that lead to justice and peace.

We are still aware of the fear and violence that has permeated our world since September 11, 2001.

As we pray in remembrance of that tragic day, help us to be people of nonviolence and hope.

Form us into a people determined to heal wounds rather than inflict them.

We ask this in your name. Amen



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Children & Youth

The Children and Youth program emphasizes protecting, caring for, and supporting children and youth. Particularly those of veterans and military families.

As your unit works on budgets for the upcoming year, consider making a donation to the following funds:

Child Welfare Being Foundation– To educate members and the general public about the Child Well-Being Foundation (CWF), its mission, and to provide financial assistance to The America. Legion in their efforts to award grants to youth-serving nonprofit organizations.

Legionville - Is a safety educational center offering quality instruction in school safety patrol methods and areas such as swimming, canoeing, first aid, intro to firearm safety, cyber safety, bus safety and much more.... Any organization or parent can sponsor a camper.

American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) - Awards cash grants up to \$1,500 to current active-duty service members or American Legion members with minor children at home. Helps families in need meet the cost of shelter, food, utilities, and health expenses. [Legion.org/FinancialAssistance](https://legion.org/FinancialAssistance)

Items to collect and report on at year end: Ronald McDonald Pop Tabs, total pounds collected.
Kids of Deployed are Heros 2 (KDH2): This is a recognition program for military children who experience extended separation from their military parent or parents.

National has two awards to recognize and reward the positive actions of our children and youth.
Good Deed Awards: For youth 18 years of age or younger who have contributed in a special way to society thought a community project that demonstrates leadership in community service by planning, organizing, and executing a service project.

The Youth Hero Award: Recognizes someone less than 18 years of age who performs a heroic act of physical bravery.

April is the month of the Military child. April 15th is Purple Up Day, it is the official day for military children.

Resources a Unit can use: www.alaforveterans.org

More information coming, watch your unit mailing. If you need help working this program email or call me. Have a wonderful year working the Children and Youth Program.

Sandy Wersal
Children and Youth Department Chairman
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New London, MN 56273
Email: sandywersal@gmail.com
Phone: 320-354-4517 cell 320-310-9417



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Community Service

Community Service Program Newsletter Article – September

Theme: “Service with Purpose – United in Remembrance and Action”

As we step into September, we also step into a new year of impact through the American Legion Auxiliary’s Community Service Program. Across Minnesota, our communities rely on the compassion, creativity, and dedication of Auxiliary members—and there’s no better time than now to show what “Service Not Self” truly means.

September 11 – National Day of Service and Remembrance

This month, we honor the memory of those we lost on 9/11 and the spirit of unity that followed. All Units are encouraged to participate in the 9/11 National Day of Service by organizing or joining a local service activity that benefits your community or honors our nation’s heroes.

Suggested Activities:

- Deliver thank-you baskets to local fire, police, or EMS departments
- Host a blood drive or community cleanup event
- Place flags in memory of the fallen and in support of current first responders
- Include Junior members in simple acts of kindness—chalk messages, cards for military or healthcare workers
- Promote your activities on social media using #911Day and #ALAMNService

Let us not only remember but continue to build a legacy of service in their honor.

POW/MIA Recognition Day – Friday, September 20

They are not forgotten. That’s the promise we make every year as we observe POW/MIA Recognition Day. Community service projects honoring POWs and MIAs are meaningful opportunities to engage with schools, civic groups, and your entire community.

Ideas include:

- Set up a Missing Man Table at a local event, library, or community center
- Host a candlelight vigil or educational display
- Distribute literature to raise awareness of Minnesota’s POW/MIAs
- Collaborate with the American Legion Post or SAL on a public remembrance

These events educate, inspire, and reinforce the ALA’s commitment to honoring all who served.

Mobilizing for Fall and Beyond

September is also the perfect time to:

- Start a Fall community outreach project (yard cleanup for veterans, food shelf drive, coat collection)
- Launch a “Service Team” within your Unit to help plan and execute quarterly projects
- Collaborate with local schools or Scout troops on flag education or joint service events
- Recognize and support Blue Star Families in your area with cards, banners, or care packages

And don’t forget: American Legion Family Day is coming in April! Begin brainstorming now for how your Unit can showcase community service in that celebration.

Reporting and Sharing

Please document your projects, collect volunteer hours, and take photos! We encourage all Units to:

- Submit community service stories to the Department for the newsletter or website
- Keep track of hours and impact—every small act adds up!
- Share on your Unit’s social media to raise awareness and encourage new membership

Together, we are the hands and hearts of the American Legion Auxiliary. Let’s make this a year filled with meaningful service, stronger communities, and unwavering support for those who served.

In service and unity,

Tamara Martin

Department of Minnesota – Community Service Chairman

American Legion Auxiliary



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Finance

Budgets and Donations: As each Auxiliary year begins, your Unit should have a budget to submit to your members for approval. It will make the fiscal year so much easier. The approved budget will become your unit's financial guideline. As you begin your budget process take some time to estimate the unit's yearly income. This will be important as you list the Unit's obligations and donations to the Unit, District, Department and National organization. There may also be some American Legion and Community programs that you include in your list of donations. When you finish you will have a budget to guide you through the year. Some of the American Legion Auxiliary programs receive funds from ONLY the American Legion Auxiliary Units and members. Please make sure "our American Legion Auxiliary programs" are your top priority programs. Check the Unit Guide for program solicitations that have been approved for 2025-2026.

Checks sent to the Department Office need to be made payable to the "American Legion Auxiliary". Include a copy of the donation sheet that the Unit President received in the Unit mailing and indicate the amount you are donating per line item. You can mail in one check with each sheet; there is no need to write a separate check for each program. Send the check and donation sheet to: American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota, State Veterans Service Building, 20 W. 12th Street, Room 314, St. Paul, MN 55155.

When donations are from the American Legion Gambling Fund, please make checks out to the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation for the following programs:

ALA \$5.00 Bill Shower
ALA Hospital Program
ALA Gift Shop
ALA Department President's Project
Department Junior President's Project
ALA Foundation

ALA Dept. Scholarship Fund
Armed Forces Service Center
Minnesota Fisher House
Auxiliary Emergency Fund
ALA Minnesota Girls State
American Legion Child Wellbeing
Foundation

Donations from Auxiliary Gambling Funds, please make check payable to: American Legion Auxiliary, Dept of MN and send to the Dept Office.

Membership should be sent to the Department office as soon as possible after collection along with the transmittal sheet and a check for the correct amount of money. Membership is recorded only when the transmittal information is correct. Membership dues are submitted to the Department Office at the address above.

District dues vary by District and are paid to the District Treasurer. This is not part of the dues that are sent to the Department office. Check with your District Treasurer for the amount per member that your Unit owes and for the address to send your payment.

Poppy Funds are generally maintained in the Unit checking account along with the general funds. You must, however, track the poppy funds separate as these funds are regulated by the National American Legion Auxiliary and are to be used for Veterans and their families only.

Budget items from Poppy Funds:

- American Legion Auxiliary Hospital Programs
- Department Children and Youth Programs (Veterans children)
- Department Scholarship Program
- Department Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Program (VA&R)
- Poppy orders
- National Creative Arts Festival

Budget items from General Funds:

- American Education Week
- American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund
- Any Department program or approved project (unless for Veterans)
- Delegate expense to Conventions and Fall Conference
- Department dues
- District dues
- Expenses of Juniors to Conferences
- Fisher House
- Girls State Registration Fee
- Unit Administrative Expenses (postage, etc.)
- Unit Bonding Fee

The Department Executive Committee approved the Honorary Department Junior President's Project for this year. **Also approved** were the 10 District Presidents' Projects. (Check with your District President to see if Poppy funds may be used for the project.)

EVERY UNIT AND DISTRICT IS REQUIRED BY LAW TO FILE A 990 EACH YEAR WITH THE IRS.

Please remember to develop a budget. Please remember to support our MN American Legion Auxiliary programs first. No matter how small the donation might be, every penny or dollar, keeps our programs worthwhile and relevant. Our Veterans and their families are our cause and our concern.

Judy Ackerman
Finance Chairman
Judya2002@gmail.com
507-848-0145

Finance Committee members are:

Cavalene Regan 612.867.4248 ala100yrs@gmail.com
Tonia Betterman 507.456.2315 betttm88@outlook.com
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Patti Coleman 763.354.8644 pjc3555@aol.com



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Girls State

The Girls State Committee is starting on working our Girls State 2026 session. We want to encourage units to budget for the program as you are planning your year now.

This is one of our premier programs, we would like to see more units to consider sponsorship this year! Our 174 young ladies that attended this past session greatly appreciated the sponsorships they received.

Our CampWise Program will be used going forward with some changes and adding some new features which will help the units this coming year!

We should consider getting our girls from this past session back into their schools to talk about their week at Girls State this fall not just when it becomes time to recruit.

There will also be a new video with this year's Girl State Citizens talking about the program and their experience at Girls State that units will be able to use early with recruitment.

We will also continue with our Girls State monthly zoom meetings. Please get involved with these meetings, we received some great ideas from them this past year!

Your committee looks forward to another exciting year and working with you!

Wanda Prescher - Girls State Chairman

Peggy Tesdahl - Girls State Director

Amelia Tesdahl - Education Director

Renee Suess - Committee Member

Jen Stolz - Committee Member

Tamara Thayer - Americanism



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Junior Activities

September is Junior Activities Month!

How are you recognizing your junior auxiliary members?

Do you have junior members?

Are they active?

How can you get juniors active?

Some great questions to think about.

If you have a small group, you can always get together with another unit that is near you or as a whole District and do a Fun Day and a service project. You can also invite young Sons of American Legion members to join you as well. This way they can make friends and get together with old friends and do something fun and meaningful as well.

Be mentors to junior members. Include them in your meetings and fundraising or any other events you do as a unit. Make them memorable and fun. Most if not all just want to feel included.

Teach them to be future leaders I know that Minnesota has some great juniors who will some day serve this wonderful organization and be very proud to do so. They are amazing girls.

This year I want to highlight what makes this program so great and why these junior auxiliary members are amazing. I am going to highlight (sunflower blossoms) junior members throughout the year so we can get to know them.

If you know a junior member, please have her write down what is her favorite part of being a junior auxiliary member and what it means to her. And then send it to me.

I am also calling on senior members. If you were a junior auxiliary member what was your favorite part and what kept, you are going onto your senior membership. Write it down and send it to me. I wish to highlight those throughout the year as well. I am doing this in hopes to increase our active junior auxiliary members.

They are our future!

Brandi Christensen

Brandichristensen21@gmail.com

15780 30th Street Watertown, MN 55388

763-843-0875



Department of Minnesota
September 2025 Unit Mailing
2025-2026 Dept of MN
Honorary Junior President

SUNFLOWER BLOSSOM SPOTLIGHT

My name is Anastasia or "AJ" Donnelly. I am a senior in high school at North Union High School in Armstrong IA. I am active in color guard, I work at Taco Johns in Fairmont. I have been in the Junior Auxiliary since I was born. I have held many positions on the district and Department levels.

This year my symbol is the Sunflower.

My theme is "Be the SUN in a Veterans Life"

My project is to raise funds for Legionville to help with the plumbing expenses and whatever else they need.

The reason for this project is due to **ALL** of the good times at Junior Fun Weekend over the years. It has been a great place to learn about the programs that the American Legion Auxiliary has to offer. This is a place that deserves to be around for a long time to come but without funds for updating that will not be possible. I attended my last Junior Fun Weekend , it was a fun time but a sad time as we said see you later at the end of the weekend.

I look forward to seeing you this year. If you have any questions please let me know and I will do my best to answer them and if I do not know the answer I will figure out the answer.



Department of Minnesota
September 2025 Unit Mailing
Leadership Chairman, Mary Kuperus
wmkuperus@tds.net

Purpose: The purpose of the Leadership Committee is to better equip members to serve in leadership positions with confidence and skill. *Standing Rules #6, National Committees – Member/Organizational Support*

As we get into the 2025-2026 Auxiliary year, we will learn how to serve in leadership positions or to support a leader in other ways.

I am planning at least two Leadership workshops. Osseo and Hutchinson Units have shown interest in hosting a workshop. Dates have not been finalized at this time.

The subjects of the workshops may include National Security, Americanism, Children and Youth, and VA&R. Other subjects may include basic protocols, reviewing the donation form, use of poppy funds, and the submission of reports to Units, Districts, and National. Other subjects might pop up at a workshop. Of course there will be fun along the way.

The "Unit Member of the Year" falls under the Leadership Program. Start thinking of someone who you can nominate. Nominations can be resubmitted from last year (other than the winners of previous years). Let's promote the hard workers in our Units.

Department President Robin Dorf has chosen a department theme of "Promoting our Mission by Working our Programs". We will learn about some of the programs at the Leadership Workshops. I hope to see many of you at a workshop.

The key to success is not through achievement but through enthusiasm. -Malcolm Forbes



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Membership

Hello, I am Kollett Kaehlert your 2025-2026 Department Membership Chairman. I am from Mankato Unit 11 in the Second District and have been an Auxiliary member for 43 years. If you would like to reach me my email is kkaehlertaux@gmail.com.

Our great country turns 250 years old on July 4, 20026 and we are going to celebrate all year long with our members. We will be bringing together our current members, past members and of course new members. The goal is to get to 100%. Where do I look, who do I ask, and how do I get members to sign up? All excellent questions. We need to look in everyday places that you may not have thought to look at before. The best line when you are meeting someone new is "Do you have anyone in your family who has or is serving in the military? Start the conversation. Tell them about the great programs we work and how we support our Veterans. If you had someone that was eligible at one time but wasn't ready to join, try asking them again, maybe things have changed in their life. Remember to ASK!

Department Goal Awards

50%	October 25, 2025	Fall Conference – St Cloud
75%	December 6, 2025	Pearl Harbor Rally - Buffalo
85%	March 14, 2026	Appreciation Rally - Bloomington
95%	May 23, 2026	National Poppy Day

I am excited to see us work together in Legion Family style as we gain new members. We can do this! I am looking forward to being able to encourage and motivate the members! Let's have a FUN year as we play together! There will be a lottery drawing at each of the Rally's, the Units that have reached the goal for the rally by the end of membership turn in will be placed in the drawing for \$75.00. (One Winner per rally)

I am honored to be your Department of Minnesota Membership Chairman for 2026. I look forward to a successful year with all ten districts and getting to know you all more! Feel free to contact me anytime. I am always open to hearing your ideas and finding ways to make them happen!

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Bulletin #3 as of 8-29-2025

2026 Membership

Celebrating Members







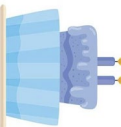

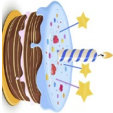
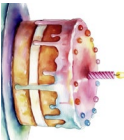
"Finding Members in Everyday Places"

Leading the Celebration is Kollett Kaehlert

DISTRICT	# of Units	Goal	Period Gain	Membership To Date	Percent of Goal	Membership LY 8/8/2024	Difference from Last Year
One	47	3,240	203	221	6.82%	213	8
Two	68	3,230	163	164	5.08%	176	-12
Three	45	3,390	223	262	7.73%	146	116
Four	5	456	15	17	3.73%	37	-20
Five	7	344	5	5	1.45%	17	-12
Six	57	4,370	251	253	5.79%	323	-70
Seven	49	2,427	48	57	2.35%	55	2
Eight	20	1,092	61	80	7.33%	59	21
Nine	43	2,786	93	114	4.09%	96	18
Ten	40	3,145	154	201	6.39%	182	19
1982	1	408	10	13	3.19%	9	4
Depart. Total	382	24,888	1,226	1,387	5.57%	441	946

Group 1 (Even)	190	12,292	644	715	5.82%	777	-62
Jodi Hassling							
Group 2 (Odd)	191	12,188	572	659	5.41%	536	123
Linda Kelly							

RANKINGS

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
7.73%	7.33%	6.82%	6.39%	5.79%	5.08%	4.09%	3.73%	2.35%	1.45%
District 3	District 8	District 1	District 10	District 6	District 2	District 9	District 4	District 7	District 5
									





Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Past President's Parley

Welcome to our 2025-2026 Auxiliary year. I am honored to serve our members as the Past President's Parley Chairman and I would like to get to know you, yes I would! Did you just sing those last few words? Let's have some fun in our Units this year.

Let me introduce myself. Won't you guess my name. Yep, another song reference :) I am a lifelong member of the American Legion Auxiliary. Originally a member of the Portage Park American Legion Auxiliary as a Junior member, in Chicago and transferred in 1999 to Bemidji Unit 14. I have served as Unit, District and Department President with many other responsibilities and chairmanships along the way. I would not be where I am today without the awesome mentors I have had throughout my life.

Each Unit has Past President's. The purpose of the Past President's Parley is for its members to utilize the experience and knowledge of past Auxiliary leaders to help ensure a strong leadership for the future of our organization. We are here to help by mentoring, answering questions and develop knowledgeable leadership within the Unit, District and Department. By doing these things we are helping members to become officers and/or chairmen in their Unit, District and Department.

Here are some suggestions for Units to have some fun and fellowship this year:

First of all, what will you plan and how will you accomplish recognizing our female veterans? Maybe you have a female veteran in your community that needs some assistance. Take action pictures and include a couple sentences about this activity. Get it in your local paper.

Plan a fundraiser for the Past President's Parley Scholarship Fund. Are you aware that this scholarship is only for Auxiliary members and covers **any** phase of the healthcare field. If you know someone that could use this scholarship encourage them to apply. If they are not a member and qualify have them join your Unit!

Keeping your Unit Past President's involved in your future. Pick their brains, what worked in their Past. Unit Past President's should also remain open minded to younger members ideas. The only constant in life is change. Never say never and always be willing to try.

Remember to take action pictures and a small narrative of who, what, where, why and how as you record, share and report your activities. Remember to save these for your end-of-year reports!

Yours in service for God and Country,
Sharon Cross Chairman
sharon.6thdistala@yahoo.com
218-209-1124



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Poppy

We have the tradition of doing two (2) poppy contests at Fall Conference and Department Convention. I hope to make them fun so everyone will feel like participating. We again will have prizes and people's choice. The fund from the people's choice will go to Department President Robin's project – Honor Flights. Hopefully you will all be inspired to get your junior members involved with one or both contests. I can't wait to see what you all will come up with.

Contest 1 – Poppy Holiday Display

Using the ALA poppy, create a holiday display of your choice. The white tags should be removed from the entry. Be creative! Think outside the box.

Contest 2 – Poppy Craft Project

Using a poppy theme but not using any of our ALA poppies, create a craft project depicting the poppy/poppies. This project can be sewn, knitted, crocheted, embroidered, painted, drawn, diamond dots, etc. – the skies the limit. Let's show that we can promote the poppy without using our precious poppies since we are in such short supply.

1st Place -\$20.00

2nd Place - \$15.00

3rd Place – \$10.00

People's Choice - \$20.00 -with funds going towards President Robin's Project – Honor Flights

Poppy entries must be brought to the Department Fall Conference at the Rivers Edge Convention Center by Friday October 24th, 2025, at 10:00 am. Let's see how many tables we can fill.

Friday Night Fun will be a Poppy Making American Legion Family Competition Team Rematch! This fun event is for the WHOLE American Legion Family. Gather up your best or worst poppy makers and let's see which District's will come out on top. Remember that the veterans will get paid for the poppies they make, it will be very fun.

How this is going to work each team will be made up of sister districts, so five (5) teams total. The teams are 1 & 3, 2 & 7, 4 & 5, 6 & 9 and 8 & 10, they will work together to see which team will come out on top. We are hoping to get a lot of poppies made on Friday night. How many can each team make? Let's see if we can beat last year's numbers. We had 154 participants and a whopping 3,729 Poppies were made.

The Poppy program is the American Legion Auxiliary's major source of income where all the funds must only be used for Veterans, active-duty military and their children.

This year we will work on the following areas to increase poppy revenue:

- ❖ Increase the number of Veteran poppy makers. See info on:
District Poppy Paloosa's Challenge
- ❖ Celebrate National Poppy Day in May -what does your Unit plan on doing.
- ❖ Have units get out in the community to educate them on what the "Poppy" is used for.
 - ✓ Utilization of Poppy funds for Honor Flight
- ❖ Best ways to promote the poppy program to increase revenue.

Same as last year we are down to a few Veteran poppy makers. The last few years we have had to purchase more poppies from other departments. This will cost the department to use funds that would be better spent on our veterans, because that is why we all are here.

SOOOOO

Each District will be challenged to schedule a Poppy Paloosa Class.

(It's Easy)

- ✓ Invite surrounding Posts/Units/Interested Poppy Makers to join us
 - Remember, Veterans get **paid** to make poppies!!
 - ✓ Poppy Snacks / Poppy Trivia / Poppy History / Large & Small Poppy Making
 - ✓ These are just a few of the things we can do.
-
- Each District that hosts a Poppy Paloosa will be placed into a drawing for a gift to be selected by President Robin which will be presented at Department Convention.
 - The District that makes the MOST poppies between (September 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026) will receive a gift selected by President Robin and will be presented at Department Convention. (These are poppies that are made for **our Department** to help us from purchasing from other departments. All poppies made **MUST BE** verified with the Department Poppy Chairman for an accurate count. Call me or email me with your made poppy total that you have sent to Department.)

If you have any questions about the Poppy Paloosa or would like help setting one up, please reach out to me, and I will be happy to help.

Thank you,

Hope Wilson
MN ALA Poppy Chairman
hزابroski@yahoo.com
320-304-0809



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Public Relations

Strengthening Our Story

A Public Relations Plan for the American Legion Auxiliary

◆ Why Public Relations Matters

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) has a powerful legacy—but many still don't know who we are. Public relations is our invitation to be seen, heard, and joined. It's how we amplify our mission and open doors to new members, supporters, and opportunities.

♡ ALA Mission & Vision

Mission: To honor those who serve by enhancing the lives of veterans, military, and their families.

Vision: To be the premier service organization in every community—shaping a positive future through fellowship, patriotism, peace, and security.

📢 Call to Action

- Each unit: Set 1–2 outreach goals for the next quarter
- Submit stories and photos for statewide sharing (email them to me for a book I'm putting together.

🎯 Strategic Goals

Goal	Focus
Youth Engagement	Connect with teens and young adults through outreach and education
Leadership Development	Highlight youth leadership and involvement in ALA programs
Membership Growth	Grow Junior membership and volunteer participation

Michelle Weaver

Department Public Relations Chairman

✉ Weaver.michelle595@gmail.com | 📞 507-850-2407 | 📠 507-221-2023



Department of Minnesota September 2025 Unit Mailing Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)

As a program chairman, I have learned so much with each new program I chaired. VA&R is not going to be any different – I have already learned a lot, I am learning, and I will continue to learn throughout the entire year. I hope you will join me on this adventure.

You have probably heard me sing (not out loud) the praises of each of my previous chairman programs, but I am looking forward to the VA&R and I will be singing its praises, too. Not that you can always believe what you read on the internet, but it did know that we had eight veterans home, which makes us very fortunate because it also told me that there is a total of 173 in the United States, which means we have a lot more than the average of 3.3. We also have four VA Medical Centers that serve our Minnesota veterans with their medical needs.

Our eight veteran facilities are home to over 700 veterans and spouses, all with long waiting lists. Our four VA Medical Centers can house over 600 patients at any one time. Every one of these twelve facilities has an Auxiliary representative that works within their walls to ensure that help is available. They cannot do it alone and I know that lots of our Auxiliary members volunteer at the facilities. I would like to encourage more of our members to volunteer. There is no minimum time requirement because any time spent volunteering is so worthwhile for our veterans and for ourselves.

VA&R is an opportunity for members and units to give financially to those brave men and women that served our country. The VA&R program varies within the homes. Some provide personal items they need; some provide for daily activities. I hope over the next months to introduce our 12 ALA home reps. They can tell us what they do and what our veterans need. No matter what we provide for our veterans, donations are always welcome. Some units donate money to a specific home, which is fine. General donations to the VA&R program go to support our ALA programs within our state's homes. Either way, I ask that you send any donations to the Department Office, so it counts towards our donation dollars.

All national program chairman put out their program plans and VA&R has a few and they are very doable in Minnesota. How many of you quilt? How many of you or your unit have been involved in a Quilt of Valor? I know that quilting is popular in Minnesota. I plan to be sure all units understand this program and I would like to list all veterans that are honored with a quilt this year.

Several of our auxiliary members participated in the Wreaths Across America at Fort Snelling. It is a national program that places wreaths on graves (in the snow, by the way). Again, I am sure that they will be looking for volunteers again later this year.

Robin's project is the Honor Flight program. This has been around for many years and the stories I have heard about those that were privileged to go are heartwarming. Please support her project.

Any time that you or your unit participate in any of our programs that work with veterans, you are honoring them. Your membership in the American Legion Auxiliary honors your family member who served our country. The possibilities to accomplish this are endless. Many don't take a lot of funds – just your time. I hope to encourage all units to get involved.

I encourage all units to submit a VA&R report to your District Chairman. That way the chairman can submit her report to me. I hope to receive a report from each district this year. Thanks in advance.

Linda Kelly, VA&R Chairman



American Legion Auxiliary
A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families

2026 Donation Form

(This **DOES NOT** include Gambling Fund Donations)

Unit # :	District #:	Location:	
Contact Name:		Date:	
Phone #:	Email Address:		

Please Note: Poppy Funds may be applied to programs indicated with an asterisk (*)

Auxiliary Programs	Donation Amount
* \$5.00 Bill Shower	
* ALA Hospital Program	
* Department President Project (Robin Dorf's Flight Project)	
* Department Junior Project (Legionville - Plumbing Expenses & Repairs)	
* Department Scholarship Fund	
* Gift Shop	
* Girls State Support	
* Past President's Parley Healthcare Scholarship Fund	
Auxiliary Total	\$

Affiliated Programs	Donation Amount
American Legion Auxiliary Foundation	
* Auxiliary Emergency Fund - AEF	
Armed Forces Service Center	
American Legion Family Hospital Association	
American Legion Veterans & Childrens Foundation	
Brain Science Foundation	
Child Welfare Foundation	
Legionville - General Fund	
Minnesota's - Fund 85	
* Temporary Financial Assistance - TFA	
Affiliated Total	\$

Please note:
1) Make checks payable to: American Legion Auxiliary 2) Mail donation paperwork & check to: American Legion Auxiliary - Dept of MN 20 W. 12th St., Room 314 St. Paul, MN 55155 3) Donation checks MAY NOT include any other payment. DONATION PAYMENT ONLY! 4) Charitable gambling donations must be submitted with the CHARITABLE GAMBLING DONATION FORM. 5) Please use separate checks for Poppy orders, supply orders, and membership transmittals.

Donation Grand Total Amount	\$
Donation Check #	

We appreciate your generosity in honoring our veterans!



American Legion Auxiliary

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

2026 DONATION FORM

(Using Charitable Gambling Funds ONLY)

Unit # :	District #:	Location:	
Contact Name:		Date:	
Phone #:	Email Address:		

**** Please Note:** To ensure proper processing, all donation checks must be made payable to the **correct entity** as indicated.

Programs	**Make Check Payable to	Donation Amount
\$5.00 Bill Shower	ALA Foundation	
ALA Hospital Program	ALA Foundation	
Department President Project (Robin Dorf's Flight Project)	ALA Foundation	
Department Junior Project (Legionville - Plumbing Expenses & Repairs)	ALA Foundation	
ALA Department Scholarship Fund	ALA Foundation	
Gift Shop	ALA Foundation	
Girls State Support	ALA Foundation	
American Legion Auxiliary Foundation (Department of MN)	ALA Foundation	
Auxiliary Emergency Fund - AEF (Department of MN)	ALA Foundation	
Armed Forces Service Center <i>*Funds to be returned to Dept of MN</i>	ALA Foundation	
American Legion Family Hospital Association	American Legion Family Hospital Association (ALFHA)	
American Legion Veterans & Childrens Foundation	Veteran's & Childrens Foundation	
Brain Science Foundation	Brain Science Foundation	
Child Welfare Foundation <i>*Funds to be kept by ALA National HQ</i>	Child Welfare Foundation (CWF)	
Legionville - General Fund	Legionville	
Minnesota's - Fund #85	MN American Legion Foundation	
Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) <i>*Funds to be kept by ALA National HQ</i>	The American Legion - TFA	

Please send all donations to:

American Legion Auxiliary - Dept of MN
20 W. 12th Street, Room 314
St. Paul, MN 55155

Total Donation

\$

Donation Check #

We appreciate your generosity in honoring our veterans!



Date Rec'd: _____

Entered By: _____

Date Entered: _____

2026 Membership Transmittal

Unit#:	Location:	District:	Date:
Person Completing Form:			
Phone:		Email:	

Please list all members in alphabetical order via last name

DO NOT list any PUFL members or on-line dues payments

	ID Number	Last Name	First Name	JR-\$6.00	SR-\$30.00	Back Dues	Back Dues Year
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							

Total # Members: _____

Total Amount of Dues Paid: _____

Minus Available Credit: _____

Total Check Amount: _____

Check# _____

Remit Dues to:

American Legion Auxiliary
20 W. 12th St., Room 314
St. Paul, MN 55155

Please Print Legibly... Thank you!



American Legion Auxiliary

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

2026 Memorial Donation Form

Unit # :	District #:	Unit Location:
Donor's Name:		Donor's Full Address:
Phone #:		Email Address:

Auxiliary Programs	Donation Amount
\$5.00 Bill Shower	
ALA Hospital Program	
Department President Project <i>(Robin Dorf's Flight Project)</i>	
Department Junior Project <i>(Legionville - Plumbing Expenses & Repairs)</i>	
Department Scholarship Fund	
Gift Shop	
Girls State Support	
Past President's Parley Healthcare Scholarship Fund	
Auxiliary Total	\$

Affiliated Programs	Donation Amount
American Legion Auxiliary Foundation	
Auxiliary Emergency Fund - AEF	
Armed Forces Service Center	
American Legion Family Hospital Association	
American Legion Veterans & Childrens Foundation	
Brain Science Foundation	
Child Welfare Foundation	
Legionville - General Fund	
Minnesota's - Fund #85	
Temporary Financial Assistance - TFA	
Affiliated Total	\$

Please send all donations to:

American Legion Auxiliary, Dept of MN
20 W 12th Street, Room 314
St. Paul, MN 55155

Donation Grand Total Amount

Date

Check #

The attached donation is in Memory of:

Name of Honoree

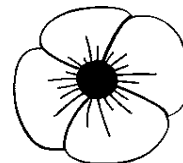
Send notification of donation to:	
Name:	
Address:	
City:	
State:	Zip Code:

We appreciate your generosity in honoring our veterans!



American Legion Auxiliary

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



2026 Poppy Order Form

Order Date: _____

Ship Date: _____

	Item	Cost	Quantity	Total
Small Poppies	Assembled - 100 per bundle (\$25 each)	\$ 25.00	x	=
Large Poppies	Assembled - 12 per bundle (\$18 each)	\$ 18.00	x	=
Small Poppy Kit	Unit keeps poppies for own distribution	\$ 250.00	x	=

IMPORTANT

- Please include full payment with your orders
- Make checks payable to: **MNALA**
- Orders must be mailed by: **December 1, 2025**
- Mail checks and order forms to:

**American Legion Auxiliary, Dept of MN
20 W 12th Street, Room 314**

Shipping and Handling Charges

Orders up to \$50	\$ 7.00	
Orders \$51 to \$200	\$ 12.00	
Orders \$201 to \$500	\$ 17.00	
Orders \$501 to \$800	\$ 22.00	
Orders over \$800	\$ 27.00	

TOTAL AMOUNT OF ORDER

\$

Shipping Address & Contact Information

First & Last Name

Phone Number

Street Address

Unit Location (City)

City

Zip Code

Unit #

District#

American Legion Auxiliary - Department of Minnesota

20 W. 12th St., Room 314, St. Paul, MN 55155

deptoffice@mnala.org | Website: www.mnala.org | P: (651) 224-7634

Fall Conference – Poppy Contests



We have the tradition of doing two (2) poppy contests at Fall Conference and Department Convention. I hope to make them fun so everyone will feel like participating. We again will have prizes and people's choice. The fund from the people's choice will go to Department President Robin's project – Honor Flights. Hopefully you will all be inspired to get your junior members involved with one or both contests. I can't wait to see what you all will come up with.

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2025 Fall Conference - Official Registration

Mail to:

Minnesota American Legion Convention Corp.
P.O. Box 166
Princeton, MN 55371

Registration sliding fee:

Registration received by October 14: \$20

Registration at mnlegion.org: \$20

Registration at the door: \$30

Only the pre-registered will receive a booklet.

Registration fees are for each person attending, except for Junior SAL and Junior Auxiliary members.

Please copy and send a separate form for each person attending. Everyone must pay the registration fee.
Checks only by mail; bank cards are accepted online. Please indicate "Fall Conference" on the memo line.

Please make checks payable to:

Minnesota American Legion Convention Corp.

Conference dates:

October 24-25, 2025

Various committees meet October 23.

Contact the hotel directly for your reservations:

Headquarters hotel:

Best Western Plus Kelly Inn, St. Cloud

320-253-0606

Nearby hotels:

Courtyard by Marriott, St. Cloud

320-654-1661

Grand Stay Residential Suites St. Cloud

320-251-5400

District

Post

Unit

Squadron

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State____ Zip_____

Meals: Pre-purchased meals are available for \$15 each.

The meals are breakfasts on Friday and Saturday and a

lunch on Friday. Please indicate which meals you desire:

Breakfast Friday _____ Lunch Friday _____ Breakfast Saturday _____

Department of Minnesota American Legion Family Service Project at the 2025 Fall Conference



The St. Cloud StandDown assists veterans in Minnesota with resources and needed items free of charge. They provide food, clothing, accessories, footwear, job connections, and housing information and resources for veterans in need, at risk, or homeless. They are staffed by veterans and volunteers who donate their time. The St. Cloud StandDown location consists of multiple operations including the StandDown Warehouse, Lady Veterans Boutique, Clifford Beck Veteran Resource Center, Gentlemen's Quarters Barbershop, and the Frontline Food Pantry.

We will be collecting the following NEW items (no used items):

Men's underwear (boxers or briefs)

Women's underwear

Men's socks – much needed they distributed over 3,000 last year.

Women's socks

Men's thermal wear

Men's winter jackets

Women's winter jackets

Men's winter hats, scarves, and gloves

Women's winter hats, scarves, and gloves

Full size toiletries including body wash, deodorants, razors, lotions, brushes/combs, women's tampons, and sanitary pads (light/medium)

Please bring your items from Thursday, October 23rd to 9am on Saturday October 25th to the Glen Carlson Exhibit Hall where the Auxiliary session will be held.

Let's Fill the Room for Our Veterans!!

American Legion Commander Linda Dvorak

American Legion Auxiliary President Robin Dorf

Sons of the American Legion Commander Jeremy Copher

American Legion Riders Director Duane Mabon

American Legion Auxiliary Honorary Junior President Anastasia Donnelly



Department of Minnesota
September 2025 Unit Mailing
Memory Book

Hello everyone! It's a new Auxiliary year full of new opportunities. As the memory book Chairman this year, I am asking everyone to send me pictures of President Robin Dorf during her year in office. Please include details such as the date and location where the photo was taken, as well as a brief description of the activity or event. I ask you to only send digital pictures as President Robin has asked for her memory book to be digital this year. Thank you in advance!

Ashley Kuperus
Memory book Chairman

Send photos to: deptoffice@mnala.org