



**American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Minnesota**

**2026-2027**

**Department President**

**Linda Kelly**

**September 2026 Unit Mailing**

State Veterans Service Bldg. 20 W 12th St #314  
St. Paul, MN 55155

By the time you read this, our annual Department Convention will have been six weeks ago. I have been busy since and I will tell you that the time as your President is moving way too fast already. Thank you for putting your confidence in me. I am looking forward to the year.

Thank you to Hopkins for inviting and allowing me to ride in an Army jeep at the Hopkins Parade with our 10<sup>th</sup> District President, Barb. The driver had so much information about what the jeep had been used for. It has also been driven to Kansas City – all at 35 miles per hour. Thanks for the ride and all the tidbits of information.

We recently held our workshop for our program chairman and I am so happy to tell you that your program chairman are ready for the year. I can't wait for you to read about their plans. Please remember that some units do not participate in all the programs and that is OK. We encourage you to work the programs that work for you – the ones that your members are passionate about. You can always add another program to your schedule – just check out our chairman's ideas.

Our discussions at workshop were about unit mailings, the impact report, annual reports, and future forms. I realize that most of us don't get really excited about the reporting, but they are truly important. We are here for our veterans and the numbers of hours and dollars that come out of those reports go to the US Congress to encourage them to pass bills that support our veterans.

Our ten District Presidents also presented their theme, symbol, and project. They have picked great projects for our veterans and I thank them for coming up with unique ideas for our veterans.

I also had the privilege to attend the Junior Fun Weekend at Legionville last weekend. It was my first, as it was for a few of our juniors. They learned about raising and lowering our flag. Denise Milton (one of our chaperones) told us about her experiences as a woman veteran. Poppies were made and they made greeting cards for the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. I reluctantly joined their water balloon toss and I hardly got wet – some got drenched – I think they were easy on me (THANKS). They also let me make a tie-die pillowcase – something that I hadn't ever done. I plan to collect t-shirts thru the year and have a quilt made out of all my memories – I think my pillowcase will be a cool addition. I meet some amazing

young ladies and I have high faith in them as they grow and join us as senior auxiliary members. I hope some of our units will suggest their juniors attend the junior fun weekend next year.

We are in the planning stage For Fall Conference in St. Cloud in October. You have always been so giving to a collection held at Fall Conference and I hope you will continue. Since my project this year is Creative Arts, I am looking for donations of supplies that our twelve VA facilities can use in their rehab department. There is a list in this unit mailing of the items that they use to promote creativity among our veterans, while helping them with their rehabilitation. Hopefully, some of their designs will be submitted to the annual Creative Arts Contest. A lot of the items are everyday school supplies and can be purchased easily now as our kids are getting ready for back to school.

*There are a lot of days that we can celebrate our veterans. I plan to remind you of them in my articles over the next year:*

Sept 2: V-J Day (Victory over Japan)

Sept 11: Patriot Day – This is the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States. It honors the nearly 3,000 people who lost their lives. It is a National Day of Service and Remembrance. It is a great day to plan an event or just provide service in your community.

Sept 18: Air Forces Birthday and Air National Guard Birthday

National POW/MIA Recognition Day (always the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September)

Sept. 27: Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day (always the last Sunday of September). Congress set Gold Star Mother's Day in 1936 and in 2011 it was expanded to include all family members. It honors parents and families who lost a child or loved one while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Do you have any gold star families in your community? This would be a great time to honor them and their lost one.

I really appreciate all of you. I look forward to hearing from you with comments and questions, visiting your units, and attending your activities.

## 2026-2027 Department President Projects

**Veterans:** The 2026-2027 Department project is to raise funds for the Creative Arts program. This program is open to ALL veterans, with the only stipulation that they are registered with the VA. They do not need to live in a veterans' home, nor do they need to receive medical services through the VA – just be registered.

The VA's Creative Arts Program uses therapeutic arts—including art, writing, music, drama, and dance—to help Veterans heal from physical and emotional trauma. Part of the VA's Recreation Therapy Service, it aids in managing PTSD, reducing social isolation, and improving motor skills.

Any donations will be split between the eight veterans' homes in Minnesota to be used for supplies to offer this program to its residents. My goal is \$32,000 - \$4,000 for each home. Any extra money may be awarded to the four VA medical centers.

Gambling funds may be used for this project.



**Current Military:** I am challenging our units to find names and addresses for our military and send them a card. My reasoning is that we need to let them know that we care – in other words, “thank you for your service” or “thinking of you”

The cards can be purchased or home-made. Ask your local elementary classes to color cards for them. They can include a gift – but don't need to. The biggest cost will be postage.

I have been told due to the HIIPA rules, it may be hard to find names and addresses. I think “word-of-mouth” will probably be

the most successful. Our unit started this program a few years back starting with relatives and friends of our members. We do not limit the names to only our city's residents – but it may be grandchildren, nieces and nephews, friends.

My suggestions would be flyers, cable announcements, an article in your local paper, talk to other organizations, ask churches to put it in their bulletins – just to mention a few.

To jump start your efforts, I will be providing enough supplies to make 1000 cards at Fall Conference. It will be in the same room where we are making poppies. Come join the fun.

## 2026-2027 Request for Department President's Visit

Please complete all information and return to:  
*American Legion Auxiliary - Department of Minnesota*  
 State Veterans Service Building - 20 West 12th Street #314 - St. Paul, MN 55155  
 Email: [deptoffice@mnala.org](mailto:deptoffice@mnala.org)

Unit Name and Number \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

| 1st Choice                              |                       |                       |              |              |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Name of Event                           |                       |                       |              |              |
| Date of Event                           |                       | Time of Event: Social |              | Lunch/Dinner |
|                                         |                       | Meeting               |              |              |
| Event Location                          |                       |                       |              |              |
| Complete Address of Event               |                       |                       |              |              |
| Contact Name & Phone Number             |                       |                       |              |              |
| Contact Email Address                   |                       |                       |              |              |
| Indicate all who will be in attendance: |                       |                       |              |              |
| Auxiliary                               |                       | Legion                |              | Public       |
|                                         |                       | Juniors               |              |              |
|                                         |                       | SAL                   |              |              |
| Estimated in Attendance                 |                       | Is a guest allowed?   |              |              |
| Expectations of President               | Bring brief greetings |                       | Main speaker |              |
|                                         | Other (explain)       |                       |              |              |

| 2nd Choice                              |                       |                       |              |              |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Name of Event                           |                       |                       |              |              |
| Date of Event                           |                       | Time of Event: Social |              | Lunch/Dinner |
|                                         |                       | Meeting               |              |              |
| Event Location                          |                       |                       |              |              |
| Complete Address of Event               |                       |                       |              |              |
| Contact Name & Phone Number             |                       |                       |              |              |
| Contact Email Address                   |                       |                       |              |              |
| Indicate all who will be in attendance: |                       |                       |              |              |
| Auxiliary                               |                       | Legion                |              | Public       |
|                                         |                       | Juniors               |              |              |
|                                         |                       | SAL                   |              |              |
| Estimated in Attendance                 |                       | Is a guest allowed?   |              |              |
| Expectations of President               | Bring brief greetings |                       | Main speaker |              |
|                                         | Other (explain)       |                       |              |              |

President Linda Kelly would love to visit and participate in your unit events - it doesn't matter what they are.  
 Don't hesitate to request her to attend one of your activities, programs or unit meetings.



**Department of Minnesota  
September 2026 Unit Mailing  
2026-2027 Dept of MN Honorary  
Junior President**

Hey everyone!

I'm Abigail Koltjes, the new Honorary Junior Department President of Minnesota for 2026–2027. I am a member of Melrose Unit 101 and part of the 6th District. I am eligible through my grandfather, who served in the Army. I also have many other family members who are part of various military branches and the Auxiliary.

A little more about me: I am 15 years old and going to be a sophomore at Melrose Area High School. I take part in many activities, including Student Council, Media Team, FFA, Tennis, Knowledge Bowl, Speech, Track and Field, and Trap Shooting. I also work at my school helping with musicals, as well as at a local coffee shop, Some Like It Hot, and the Greenwald Pub.

My project has been approved! My symbol is "Legos," and my theme is "Let's build a brighter future for our Veterans." My project focuses on raising money for safe housing for our veterans through MACV (Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans). Through this organization, we can help provide our veterans with a firm foundation to stand on.

This August, the Junior Fun Weekend was held at Legionville in Brainerd. It was another successful weekend with many memories made, fun crafts, delicious food, and plenty of activities to keep us busy.

An upcoming event for Juniors is the National Juniors Meeting on November 14th in Omaha, Nebraska. I encourage all Juniors to attend to make new, long-lasting friends and learn more about what we stand for!



**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**Americanism Chairman,**  
**Barbara Klehr**  
**babsklehr@hotmail.com**

The purpose of Americanism is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship. "Standing Rules #6 of the Core National Standing Committees". We are to be knowledgeable on flag history, etiquette and proper disposal methods, and promote the observation of patriotic holidays so our communities will look to the ALA for information.

We can achieve these goals by working with the American Legion on flag etiquette, working with our schools to promote the handling and display of our flag as well as our National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance. Organizing patriotic events, supporting Legion Baseball and Softball, Junior Shooting Sports, the Oratorical Contest, the Americanism Essay Contest, Girls/Boys State and our Star Spangled Kids Program.

Our Star Spangled Kids program is a great way to incorporate many of the above ideas. It hopes to educate our youth on the history of the United States from the aspect of patriotism, Americanism and the U.S. Constitution. Check out our National website for the Star Spangled Kids Program at <https://www.legion-aux.org/star-spangled-kids> . You can find the "America the Beautiful" coloring book to download, comic books for the Pledge of Allegiance, Our Country's Flag, the Legion Flag Etiquette hand out and a mini-Constitution book. <https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Committees/Americanism/Star-Spangled-Kids-Kits>

Remember 9-11 Patriots Day is coming up and to fly your flag at half-staff. Plan something with your post even if it's only an evening of remembrance. Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> is our National Anthem's Composition Anniversary and Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> is Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. Sept, 21<sup>st</sup> is POW/MIA recognition day. At your post or community center, set up a table with our Constitution displayed and have a list of the 64 signers there. Maybe have a separate list where students and/or parents could be a "signer of the Constitution" to pledge our renewed allegiance to our country. Have your volunteers dress as one of the signers to "catch" people's attention. Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> the first Bill of Rights was voted on. You could have a copy of our Bill of Rights there too. Remind people to vote on Nov. 3 and that it is a duty and privilege of citizenship. Always wear your branding when you host public events to remind people who we are.

Now think, you have just covered patriotism, constitution, education, and community service at this type of event. This activity in cooperation with your other chairmen could cover Education, Community Service, Memorial and maybe even your Junior Activities if your Juniors were involved. Americanism is "grounded in our roots" of patriotism.



**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF)**  
**Chairman, Joanie Krantz**  
[jkrantz@wiktel.com](mailto:jkrantz@wiktel.com)

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency help to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have suffered a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or another personal crisis. The AEF was established in 1969 with a bequest from the estate of Auxiliary member Helen Colby Small of Burlington, Wisconsin. The Fund continues today solely through generous donations from the Auxiliary members.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Members of the American Legion Auxiliary whose dues are current and who have maintained membership for three consecutive years (the current and immediate past two years) are eligible to apply in the wake of a monetary crisis. Temporary assistance may be considered when:

- ❖ A fiscal crisis hits, leaving a member without resources for shelter, food or utilities, and no other source of aid is readily available.
- ❖ A natural disaster or weather emergency leaves a member without shelter or food.
- ❖ In extreme circumstances, educational training is needed by a member lacking the necessary skills for employment.

In the case of a natural disaster, an expedited application can be found at [www.ALForVeteran.org](http://www.ALForVeteran.org). The completed application can be submitted directly to ALA National Headquarters.

ASSISTANCE INFORMATION - Emergency assistance grants may be awarded by the AEF Grant Committee on a case-by-case basis up to the maximum of \$3,000. Grant funds may be used only for shelter, food, or utilities. AEF funds may not be used for medical expenses or debt such as that on credit cards. To ensure the integrity of the program, the national AEF Grant Committee directs payments to a provider such as a mortgage or utility company. Education grant payments are directed to the educational institution.

APPLICATION PROCESS - Members may request an application by contacting their unit or department headquarters and must submit their completed applications to an officer of the ALA unit to which the member belongs. The unit president, secretary, and investigator will complete the unit portion and forward the application to the department secretary. After verifying the member's eligibility, the department secretary will submit the application to ALA National Headquarters for consideration by the AEF Grant Committee. The national AEF case manager reviews applications. The national AEF Grant Committee, which consists of representatives from the headquarters of the American Legion Auxiliary and The American Legion, meets to review each application and awards AEF assistance according to case findings. The AEF maintains the confidentiality of all applicants. AEF applications, supporting documents and case files are not disclosed or released to anyone outside the AEF Grant Committee.

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



**ATTENTION:**

## FALL CONFERENCE SILENT AUCTION

Support the Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Where: River's Edge Convention Center  
10 Fourth Ave S St. Cloud, MN 56301

When: Friday, Oct. 23, 2025

Time: Receiving & setting up items from 3 pm to 7 pm. Thursday  
Open for bidding, 8 am to 4:30 pm Friday

Bring new or slightly used items, theme baskets, quilts, patriotic items, jewelry, jams, jellies, baked goods, munchies, pies & etc.

**\$2 Grab Bags & more!**

Also, Units, Districts and Individuals bring your monetary donations.



There will also be a District Challenge, results will be posted on Saturday morning.



A special Thank You will be given to individuals donating \$50 or more.





**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**Community Service Chairman,**  
**Brandi Christensen**  
brandichristensen21@gmail.com

This is rooted in the American Legion Auxiliary motto "in the spirit of service...". Community Service is to better our communities that we live in. And there are many ways that we as Auxiliary members already do that or can do that.

Some ideas are:

- Park Clean Up
- Roadside Clean Up
- Support/Donate to local Food Shelves
- Support/Donate to Domestic Violence Shelters and Homeless Shelters
- Volunteering at local libraries
- Community Meals

Coming up is the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Your unit or American Legion Family could do a prayer vigil or appreciation ceremony to honor the brave men and women in the military and who also serve on home front such as police, firefighters, and EMS. Thank them for their countless and unwavering service in making our communities safe.



**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**Finance Chairman,**  
**Cavalene Regan**  
**ala100yrs@gmail.com**

### **Welcome to the 2026 – 2027 Budget Year**



I am so excited to begin the planning and continue to be working with my great team.

We just completed our August planning meeting at the DEC Training in Anoka. It was a very busy two days, but I feel we accomplished a great deal.

A big thank you to all your new Committee Chairpersons for their input and ideas to help us reduce expenses. As you all know we are non-profit organization but much like your Units and your households we are all on a tighter budget these days. You will be seeing some changes coming your way, as always, you may love them or disagree with them. However, we are all working to keep the mission going, provide services and support to all of you in the best way we can. If you have questions on solicitations, spending or just what we do with the Finance Committee please feel free to reach out to me. If you have ideas, you want to share the same applies, drop me an email or just pick up the phone. We will be accepting questions and solutions at the upcoming Fall Conference in October. It would be great to see as many of you there as we can fit in the room.

I look forward to working with all of you in the upcoming months. Always look to the blessings in your life,



**Department of Minnesota**  
September 2026 Unit Mailing  
**Girls MN ALA State Chairman,**  
**Jennifer Stolz**  
jstolz.de@gmail.com

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**Minnesota Girls State 2027 will be held June 13-18, 2027**

Planning is already underway for another exciting year of Minnesota Girls State, one of our premier programs dedicated to developing future female leaders. Through hands-on experiences in leadership, government, citizenship, and public service, participants gain valuable skills, build confidence, and create lasting connections.

Last year, 194 citizens attended, thanks to the generous support of units across the state. As you prepare your annual budgets, we encourage every unit to include Girls State in its planning and contribute as generously as possible to help make this outstanding leadership opportunity available to more young women.

We're also excited to continue enhancing the program. The CampWise registration system will remain in use, with new features and improvements designed to make the experience even easier and more efficient for units and participants.

The impact of Girls State extends well beyond the week-long session. Units are encouraged to invite recent citizens to share their experiences at local schools this fall. Their stories can help inspire future participants and highlight the value of the program throughout the year.

Several exciting program enhancements are currently in development, and we look forward to sharing more details soon. Regular Girls State Zoom meetings will also be scheduled, with additional information available in next month's update.

Thank you for your continued support of Minnesota Girls State and your commitment to developing the next generation of leaders. Together, we can make Girls State 2027 our strongest year yet!

Your 2026-2027 Girls State Committee members are:

Jennifer Stolz, Girls State Chairman

Robin Dorf, Girls State Director

Renee Suess, Education Director

Kelli Frederickson, Committee Member

Ashley Kuperus, Committee Member

Yolanda Dailey, Americanism



**Department of Minnesota**  
September 2026 Unit Mailing  
**Junior Activities Chairman,**  
Sharon Cross  
sharon.6thdistala@yahoo.com

September already and our programs are in full swing. The program of emphasis this month is Junior Activities. Please remember to include your Juniors in your meetings and your events. Juniors can do anything the senior members can do. Give your Juniors the opportunity to participate, learn and bring new, fresh ideas to our organization. Remember to record the Junior's participation so everything gets included for their Junior History. Keep it fun and informative and keep them involved. They are our future leaders!

Let's encourage our Juniors to participate in the Americanism Essay Contest, the Poppy Poster Contest and the Junior Patch Program. The young Sons of The American Legion may also participate in the Junior Patch Program. Information is on the website [alaforveterans.org](http://alaforveterans.org). We are family, The American Legion Family. Our Juniors should also remember to apply for scholarships. Check [mnala.org](http://mnala.org) for scholarship information. Our 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students can also participate in the Oratoracle Contest. Now is the time to check with your school counselors for The American Legion Oratoracle information, also available at [mnlegion.org](http://mnlegion.org) for the Minnesota competition.

The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Junior Fun Weekend was held August 14-16, 2026 at Legionville on Long Lake in Brainerd. Your Honorary Department Junior President Abigail, Department President Linda and myself were also in attendance. What would an auxiliary event be without poppies, cards for veterans and flag etiquette? We also had fun with games inside and outdoors and a movie night with treats.

And what have your Juniors doing? Keep a record so we don't miss a thing. Inquiring minds want to know.



**Department of Minnesota**  
September 2026 Unit Mailing  
**Membership Chairman,**  
**Wendy Grittner**  
wgrittner@gmail.com

Hello Tribal Survivors,

We had a great first "tribal council." Many new ideas were exchanged, and I hope we can continue to share membership ideas between Districts.

While the competition for the most members is exciting, it is equally important to retain our current members. For every existing member we keep, we should look ahead and strive to add a new one. Think about the reason you chose to join and share your story when approaching potential new members.

Additionally, I hope our District Membership Chairmen are working on your new tribe names for the fall conference. I am hoping all the torches will remain lit!

Good Luck Tribes



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**  
**Membership Bulletin 3 as of 9/11/2026**  
**2027 Membership**  
**Survivor Minnesota**  
**Outsmart~Outmaneuver~Outlive**  
**Leading the Tribes Wendy Grittner**

| DISTRICT                             | # of Units | Goal   | Period Gain | Membership To Date | Percent of Goal | Membership LY 9/9/2025 | Difference from Last Year |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| One                                  | 47         | 3,137  | 19          | 235                | 7.49%           | 351                    | -116                      |
| Two                                  | 68         | 3,099  | 24          | 235                | 7.58%           | 383                    | -148                      |
| Three                                | 42         | 3,280  | 23          | 119                | 3.63%           | 421                    | -302                      |
| Four                                 | 5          | 418    | 1           | 24                 | 5.74%           | 38                     | -14                       |
| Five                                 | 7          | 324    | 2           | 22                 | 6.79%           | 12                     | 10                        |
| Six                                  | 57         | 4,270  | 16          | 305                | 7.14%           | 526                    | -221                      |
| Seven                                | 47         | 2,204  | 34          | 72                 | 3.27%           | 191                    | -119                      |
| Eight                                | 20         | 1,006  | 0           | 54                 | 5.37%           | 129                    | -75                       |
| Nine                                 | 42         | 2,685  | 1           | 123                | 4.58%           | 203                    | -80                       |
| Ten                                  | 40         | 3,014  | 44          | 170                | 5.64%           | 399                    | -229                      |
| 1982                                 | 1          | 350    | 1           | 9                  | 2.57%           | 67                     | -58                       |
| Depart. Total                        | 376        | 23,787 | 165         | 1,368              | 5.75%           | 2,720                  | -1,352                    |
| Group 1 (Even)<br><i>Hope Wilson</i> | 190        | 11,807 | 85          | 788                | 6.67%           | 1,475                  | -687                      |
| Group 2 (Odd)<br><i>Jodi Hassing</i> | 185        | 11,630 | 79          | 580                | 4.99%           | 1,245                  | -665                      |

**RANKINGS**

|                      |                     |                     |                     |                      |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>1st</b><br>7.58%  | <b>2nd</b><br>7.49% | <b>3rd</b><br>7.14% | <b>4th</b><br>6.79% | <b>5th</b><br>5.74%  |
| <b>2nd District</b>  | <b>1st District</b> | <b>6th District</b> | <b>5th District</b> | <b>4th District</b>  |
| <b>6th</b><br>5.64%  | <b>7th</b><br>5.37% | <b>8th</b><br>4.58% | <b>9th</b><br>3.63% | <b>10th</b><br>3.27% |
| <b>10th District</b> | <b>8th District</b> | <b>9th District</b> | <b>3rd District</b> | <b>7th District</b>  |



**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**Updated Membership Eligibility**  
**Passed at the 2026 National Convention**

At the 2026 American Legion National Convention, delegates adopted new membership eligibility language for the American Legion Auxiliary — expanding eligibility and allowing more family members to join the ALA.

The Legion has authority over the ALA's membership eligibility; this language change allows more people into our organization — strengthening our ability to better serve our veterans, military, and their families. Following is the updated text from The American Legion that reflects the updated eligibility provisions for membership in the American Legion Auxiliary:

**OFFICIAL LANGUAGE:**

Section 2. Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to:

(1) grandparents, parents, siblings, spouses, and direct or adopted descendants within two degrees of consanguinity of members of The American Legion; and

(2) grandparents, parents, siblings, spouses, and direct or adopted descendants within two degrees of consanguinity of all servicemembers who served in either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918, and any time after December 7, 1941, who, being a citizen of the United States at the time of their entry therein served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge;

(3) grandparents, parents, siblings, spouses, and direct or adopted descendants within two degrees of consanguinity of all servicemembers who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during either of the following periods: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941, who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States during either eligibility period and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge; and

(4) to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

The revisions to the ALA's eligibility mentioned above allow individuals the potential to be members of both the Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. The Legion's national judge advocate has confirmed that this dual membership does not constitute a conflict of interest with The American Legion.

The eligibility changes are effective immediately. Updated membership applications, brochures, and additional membership resources are available at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org).



# American Legion Auxiliary MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

|                                                                                                                      |            |                                      |                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Name                                                                                                                 | (First)    | (M.I.)                               | (Last)                               |
| Address                                                                                                              |            |                                      |                                      |
| City                                                                                                                 | State      | ZIP                                  |                                      |
| Home Phone                                                                                                           | Cell Phone | Email Address                        |                                      |
| /                                                                                                                    | /          | <input type="checkbox"/> Birth to 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 and over |
| Date of Birth (Required)                                                                                             |            | Unit #                               | Location                             |
| Have you been a member previously? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If yes, fill in below.) |            |                                      |                                      |
| Previous Unit City/State                                                                                             |            | ALA ID # (if known)                  |                                      |
|                                                                                                                      |            | / /                                  |                                      |
| Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18)                                                               |            |                                      | Date                                 |

## ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible Through—Name of Veteran (Female Veterans: List Your Own Name)

If Living: American Legion Member ID # (Required) Post # City State

☐ Deceased—If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records.  
For Veteran's DD214 Discharge Papers: [www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records)

**Veteran Served:**

☐ WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)

Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):

|                                               |                                          |                                  |                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror | <input type="checkbox"/> Panama          | <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam | <input type="checkbox"/> WWII            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War             | <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada | <input type="checkbox"/> Korea   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts |

**Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:**

|                                 |                                                                  |                                  |                                      |                                     |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sibling | <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent | <input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child  | <input type="checkbox"/> Self (Veteran or Current Servicemember) |                                  |                                      |                                     |

### To be Completed by an Officer of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary

I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.

Officer Membership Verification / Date

## HELP US GET YOU CONNECTED!

### I am interested in learning more about:

- ☐ Volunteering for Veterans, Military, and Their Families
- ☐ Youth Activities, Including ALA Girls State, Junior Member Programs, and Scholarships
- ☐ Member Discounts and Services
- ☐ Other

Please contact the following individual about volunteering or joining the American Legion Auxiliary:

|                  |             |            |
|------------------|-------------|------------|
| Name             | Phone       | Email      |
| Name             | Phone       | Email      |
| Name             | Phone       | Email      |
| Recruiter's Name | Unit/Post # | City State |

Submit this application to the ALA unit you wish to join. If unit is unknown, contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 for assistance. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. **Membership pending approval of application.**



Date Rec'd: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Entered: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2027 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-\$35.00 | 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!



20 W. 12 St. Room #314  
 St. Paul, MN 55155  
 Email: deptoffice@mnala.org  
 Phone: (651) 224-7634

## Member Data Form

\*Does this person hold a Unit / District Officer / Chairmanship?\*

☐ Yes

☐ No

|                |       |        |                             |                             |
|----------------|-------|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Unit Position: |       | and/or | District Position:          |                             |
| Member ID #    | Date: |        | Current Unit#               |                             |
| Member Name:   |       |        | <input type="checkbox"/> SR | <input type="checkbox"/> JR |

### Change Information (select one)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Deceased</b><br>Date: _____                                                                                                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>HLM</b> (Honorary Life Member)                                                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Drop/Cancel Membership</b> (see below)                                                                                                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rejoin</b> (New application required after 3 years expired membership)                               |
| Please select a reason for cancellation. If you choose " <b>Other</b> ," provide an explanation, as the National Database requires it.<br>Memberships cannot be cancelled without a stated reason. |                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Cancellation Reasons</b>                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Department Problem                                                                                                                                                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Health/Age                                                                                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Distance to Unit                                                                                                                                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Unit Problems                                                                                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dues Unaffordable                                                                                                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Meetings Inconvenient                                                                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Found other VSO                                                                                                                                                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Member Expelled                                                                                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other with Explanation: _____                                                                                                                                             | <input type="checkbox"/> No Contact from Department                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> No Contact from Unit                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Problems                                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Work/Other Commitments                                                                                  |
| <b>Member's Old Information</b><br>Name _____<br>Address _____<br>City _____<br>State & Zip _____<br>Phone# _____<br>Email _____                                                                   | <b>Member's New Information</b><br>Name _____<br>Address _____<br>City _____<br>State & Zip _____<br>Phone# _____<br>Email _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuous Years Correction _____                                                                                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Join Date Correction _____                                                                              |

### Unit Transfers

| Previous Unit Information     |              | New Unit Information                                |               |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Unit#                         | Dept.(State) | Unit#                                               | Dept. (State) |
| Signature - Member (required) |              | Signature - New Unit Membership Chairman (required) |               |

Signature of Person Submitting this Form

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**  
**Department of Minnesota State Veterans Service Building**  
**20 W 12<sup>th</sup> Street Room 314 – St Paul, MN 55155**  
**Phone: 651-224-7634 Email: [deptoffice@mnala.org](mailto:deptoffice@mnala.org)**  
**[www.mnala.org](http://www.mnala.org)**

## **2027 MEMBERSHIP SUPPLIES ORDER FORM**

Please use this order form to request membership material for the current year. All membership materials listed below are at NO COST to the Units. Please use the space before each item for the amount you are requesting. **DO NOT** mark the space with an "X". All forms are also on our web page – [www.mnala.org](http://www.mnala.org) – under Forms.

Please give us your complete address. If you have both a street address and a box number, include both of them. If we need to ship to your UPS instead of mailing it, we must have your street address as UPS will not deliver to a box number.

|                                                    |         |                          |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| _____ 2027 Transmittal Forms                       | (White) | _____ Member Benefits    |
| _____ Blank Membership Cards                       |         | _____ ALA Emergency Fund |
| _____ Blank Membership Application                 |         | _____ ALA Foundation     |
| _____ At A Glance (Brochure/Application)           |         | _____ PUFL Applications  |
| _____ Your American Legion Family (3 Applications) |         | _____ Dues Statements    |
| ----- Member Data Forms                            |         | _____ Other:             |

~~~~~

### **PLEASE PRINT**

Ordered by \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ District # \_\_\_\_\_



# American Legion Auxiliary

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

## 2027 Unit Request for ALAMIS

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Member ID# \_\_\_\_\_

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

District# \_\_\_\_\_

### Request Type (*check one*)

☐ **Replace ALAMIS User** - New user is the member listed above

Name of user being replaced: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Add New ALAMIS User** - Member listed above

### Requested Access Level (*check one*)

☐ **Unit Full Access** **\$20.00**

Allows you to pay dues, make member profile changes, add new members, and run reports

☐ **Unit Write Access** **\$15.00**

Allows you to make profile and address changes only

☐ **Unit View Access** **\$10.00**

Allows view-only access. No changes can be made at the unit level.

*Note: Units may have up to 2 users.*

☐ **District View Only** **\$10.00**

For District Officers. Allows view-only access.

### Important Information

- The annual ALAMIS fee covers January 1 - December 31.
- Each spring, you will receive an invoice from the Department for the following year.
- If you already paid and decide to upgrade your access level, you must pay the full cost of the new access.

### Remit payment to:

**MNALA**

**20 W 12th Street, Room 314**

**St. Paul, MN 55155**



**Department of Minnesota**  
September 2026 Unit Mailing  
**Memorial Chairman/Chaplain,**  
**Sandy Wersal**  
sandywersal@gmail.com

This year I am hoping members or units will send me prayers, poems, and scriptures, to help create a prayer book for President Linda. This will be posted on the department websites in a printable form so members and units can print a copy if they wish.

Let's have some fun, if you bring prayers, poems, and scriptures and hand them to me at Fall Conference, I will hand you a pin to wear with the tree of life and cross on it.

The first 60 members will receive one. I will have a trifold board at the conference with ideas for your unit to use this year to make it extra special.

### **I SAID A PRAYER FOR YOU TODAY**

I said a prayer for you today. And know God must have heard. I felt the answer in my heart. Although He spoke not a word. I didn't ask for wealth or fame. I knew you wouldn't mind. I asked Him to send treasures. Of a far more lasting kind. I asked that He'd be near you. At the start of each new day. To grant you health and blessings. And friends to share your way. I asked for happiness for you. In all things great and small. But it was for His loving care. I prayed the most of all. (Unknown Author)





**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**National Security Chairman,**  
**Wanda Seidler**  
**claricekeith2014@gmail.com**

September 11<sup>th</sup> is Patriot Day and is designated as the National Day of Service and Remembrance. Through your Unit's community charitable acts and volunteerism, you honor the victims and first responders of the September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, terrorist attacks.

September 18<sup>th</sup> is National POW/MIA Remembrance Day. In 1979 a resolution was passed making the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of September National POW/MIA Remembrance Day. An important mission of the National Security program is to raise awareness of POW/MIA's and the work being done by the Defense Accounting Agency (DPAA) in search of missing personnel. Visit the DPAA website at [www.dpaa.mil](http://www.dpaa.mil) to read announcements, stories, and learn more about the work of the DPAA. Observe a moment of silence, plan to host or attend a remembrance event. More than 81,000 American service members remain missing or unaccounted for.

September 26<sup>th</sup>- October 4<sup>th</sup> is Blue Star Welcome Week. According to information on the Blue Star Welcome Week website more than 600,000 military families move each year, with 70% moving to homes not on military installations. Contact your local Blue Star Mothers organization to see what your Unit can do to assist military families living in your community. When a servicemember is deployed, sometimes the spouse and children relocate back with parents or grandparents. Helping these families is part of our mission.

September 27<sup>th</sup> is Gold Star Mothers and Family's Day. Observed on the last Sunday of September, we honor and remember those families whose service members made the ultimate sacrifice. Remembering these local families with cards will honor their loved ones.

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. Support Be the One, The American Legion's top priority. Go to The American Legion website to learn more about resources, download a brochure, view videos and podcasts, or donate money. If you or someone you know needs help, call or text the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline 24/7 at 988.

September is National Preparedness Month, sponsored by FEMA's Ready Campaign. Visit the website [www.ready.gov/September](http://www.ready.gov/September) for resources. Preparedness starts at home so know your risk, make a family emergency plan, build an emergency supply kit, and get involved in your community by taking action to prepare for emergencies.



**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**Past Presidents Parley Chairman,**  
**Darlene Wondra**  
[news4darlene@earthlink.net](mailto:news4darlene@earthlink.net)

Each Unit has Past President's, the purpose of the Past President's Parley is for your Unit members to use your Past Presidents experience, knowledge and training to mentor the Unit members by answering their questions of the who, what and why of our organization.

Focus points for the year;

- November is Past President Parley month – plan on a way to recognize your Past Presidents
- November 10<sup>th</sup> HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
- Put into your Unit's budget a donation to the Past President Parley Health Care Scholarship
- Recognize your communities Female Veterans
- Keep your Honorary Past Junior Presidents active
- Review what is needed for the Department KIENHOLZ WALKER PLAQUE

The **Past Presidents Parley Health Care Scholarship** has been established to assist needy and deserving students or adults to commence or further their education in any phase of the health care field including the entire medical, nursing and dental support fields such as registered nurses, nursing assistant, licensed practical nurse, X-ray or other technician, dieticians, physical or other therapist, dental hygienist or dental assistant, etc. The Scholarship is a one-year scholarship for \$1,000.00. The applicant must be a member of an American Legion Auxiliary in the Department of Minnesota, for a minimum of three (3) years; APPLICATIONS MUST BE SIGNED BY THE UNIT PRESIDENT AND RECEIVED BY MARCH 15TH to the department office. Complete Rules and Regulations are included in this Unit mailing.

"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, the other for helping others." – Audrey Hepburn



**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**Poppy Chairman, Mary**  
**Kuperus [wmkuperus@tds.net](mailto:wmkuperus@tds.net)**

The Poppy Program was designed to promote and educate members and our communities about the history of the poppy and to make them aware of the sacrifices of our veterans.

We can do this by promoting the Poppy program and increasing poppy revenue. There are tools available on the national website at [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) to help us all. We can invite our city Mayors to write a proclamation for our Poppy Day. Working with your Unit Public Relations chairman, spread the word about what Poppy funds can and cannot be used for. Invite the American Legion Family to participate with spreading the word and help with distribution. Read the Poppy story at a Unit meeting to inform your members of the story behind the Poppy. Spread the word of the meaning of the little red poppy.

Fall Conference will have two Poppy contests. The first one is to make a 4X6 greeting card using art supplies you may have with a picture of a poppy included. No actual poppy is to be used. Make sure to include a greeting and an envelope to meet the challenge of Department President Linda wanting us to send greeting cards to our military members to let them know we care about them.

The second contest will use the symbol and theme of Department President Linda. Her symbol is a tree, and her theme is "Grounded in our Roots, Growth Through Renewals and New Members." Using a small tree, no more than a foot high, decorate it with small poppies and other items using her symbol and theme. Be sure to remove the white tags before using the poppies. You can use fake trees or even just a branch. Use your imagination!

Please be sure to bring an envelope with your name, Unit number, and your District number on the inside. The envelope should not be attached to the contest submission. Place it under your poppy contest item.

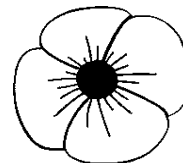
Have fun with the contests. I am looking forward to seeing all your creativity!





# American Legion Auxiliary

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



## 2027 Poppy Order Form

**Please note:** Shipping will be fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis.  
Orders will be processed and shipped in the order they are received.

|                 | 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, 2026**
- Mail checks and order forms to:

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

### 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. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Room 314, St. Paul, MN 55155

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



**Department of Minnesota**  
September 2026 Unit Mailing  
**Education Chairman,**  
**Kelly Kauss**  
kelly.kauss@gmail.com

## **Scholarships**

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) proudly supports the educational goals of students through a variety of scholarship opportunities. These scholarships are designed to help ease the financial burden of higher education and encourage the pursuit of academic and career dreams. By investing in future generations, the Auxiliary continues its mission of service, honoring veterans by empowering young people to achieve their full potential.

2026-2027 Applications will open September 2026. Please find more information on the following websites.

[www.mnala.org/scholarships](http://www.mnala.org/scholarships) or [www.alaforveterans.org/scholarship](http://www.alaforveterans.org/scholarship).



**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**VA&R Chairman,**  
**Jody Hassing**  
jodyhassing@gmail.com

VA & R is a program that offers Units, regardless of size, and members the opportunity to show our Veterans how much we appreciate their service to our Country. There are many ways to work the VA & R program. Members can volunteer in one of Minnesota's eight Veteran Homes or 4 VA Medical Facilities. There is no minimum time requirement for individuals volunteering in a facility. Units, small or large, can host an event for the Veterans in their nearest home or facility. Whether the Unit volunteers to host an event once a month or once a year, it is a great opportunity to give back to our Veterans. Individuals or Units can donate goods or monetary donations to support Veterans in our Homes and Hospitals.

Volunteering to help a Veteran or Veterans in the community is another way to work the VA & R program. Members or Units can give back by offering to shovel snow, mow a lawn, or drive them to their appointments and any other activity that is done to help a Veteran. Remember to track your time. National provides a monthly tracking form to help you track your time (<https://www.legion-aux.org/member/forms>). If you download the excel version, it will automatically add your hours each month to provide your year-end total. Individual, Unit, District, and Department tracking forms are available.

Other ways to work this program include participating with partner organizations:

- Wreaths Across America – around Christmas place wreaths on Veterans graves
- Honor Flight Program – flies Veterans to their memorial in Washington DC
- Quilts of Valor – presents quilts to Veterans in honor of their service
- President Linda's project – the Creative Arts Program - uses art, music, dance, and drama as rehabilitative treatment

The VA & R program offers something for everyone, whether you want to donate goods, volunteer your time, or make a monetary donation. I am looking forward to seeing all the activities our Department participates in to support our Minnesota Veterans.



## 2026 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 11: \$20  
Registration at mnala.org: \$20 (using Zeffy)  
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 22-24, 2026

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 2026 Fall Conference

The 2026-2027 Department project is to collect supplies for the Creative Arts program. This program is open to ALL veterans, with the only stipulation that they are registered with the VA. They do not need to live in a veterans' home, nor do they need to receive medical services through the VA – just be registered.

The VA's Creative Arts Program uses therapeutic arts—including art, writing, music, drama, and dance—to help Veterans heal from physical and emotional trauma. Part of the VA's Recreation Therapy Service, it aids in managing PTSD, reducing social isolation, and improving motor skills.

All donations will be split between the eight veterans' homes and four VA Hospitals serving Minnesota.

## Wish List

Colored pencils, Gel pencils  
Crayola crayons  
Crayola washable markers, Sets of colored SHARPIE markers (Sharpie brand in particular), Dry erase markers, Watercolor markers, Chalkboard markers  
Pencil sets for sketching and small sketchbooks  
Unlined and Lined journals  
Erasers  
Glue gun and hot glue sticks  
Elmer's Glue, Roll on glue sticks, Tacky glue, Wood glue, Non-toxic model glue  
Mod Podge  
Scotch tape, Glue tape, Painters tape  
Adult Coloring books (simple, mandala patterns and wildlife)  
Stencils  
Assortment of colored pipe cleaners  
Reams of construction paper  
Cardstock (12x12) prints, designs, and colored  
Non-toxic model paint, Craft paints-all colors  
Variety sizes of paint brushes, including foam brushes  
Stickers  
Cotton balls  
Colored Pom Poms  
Color by sticker books  
Paracord & Buckles  
Aprons (for both male & female veterans)  
Wooden craft kits  
Craft kits from oriental trading all together for certain holidays, time of the year, etc.  
Simple ceramic pieces to paint  
Stain glass projects

**Please bring your items from Thursday, October 22nd to 9am on Saturday October 24th to the Glen Carlson Exhibit Hall where the Auxiliary session will be held.**



# DONATIONS USING CHARITABLE GAMBLING FUNDS

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

|                      |  |                 |              |             |  |
|----------------------|--|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| <b>Unit #</b>        |  | <b>Location</b> |              | <b>Date</b> |  |
| <b>Contact Name</b>  |  |                 | <b>Phone</b> |             |  |
| <b>Email Address</b> |  |                 |              |             |  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>IMPORTANT PROCESSING NOTES</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make each donation check payable to the entity shown in the payee column.</li> <li>• Department President Project and Department Junior Project donations support the project for the fiscal year received.</li> <li>• The ALA fiscal year runs August 1 through July 31.</li> </ul> |

| MINNESOTA ALA PROGRAMS                                                                                                                | MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO | AMOUNT |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| Department Scholarship Fund                                                                                                           | ALA Foundation        | \$     |
| Department President Project                                                                                                          | ALA Foundation        | \$     |
| Department President Junior Project                                                                                                   | ALA Foundation        | \$     |
| Girls State Support                                                                                                                   | ALA Foundation        | \$     |
| Fisher House                                                                                                                          | ALA Foundation        | \$     |
| Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)<br><i>*Supports Minnesota veterans' hospitals and homes, the Bill Shower, and Gift Shop.</i> | ALA Foundation        | \$     |

| MINNESOTA LEGION PROGRAMS                   | MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO                       | AMOUNT |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------|
| American Legion Family Hospital Association | American Legion Family Hospital Association | \$     |
| Armed Forces Service Center                 | ALA Foundation                              | \$     |
| Brain Science Foundation                    | Brain Science Foundation                    | \$     |
| Legionville – General Fund                  | Legionville                                 | \$     |
| Minnesota's Fund #85                        | MN American Legion Foundation               | \$     |

| NATIONAL ALA & LEGION PROGRAMS                  | MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO            | AMOUNT |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| American Legion Auxiliary Foundation            | ALA Foundation                   | \$     |
| Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF)                  | ALA Foundation                   | \$     |
| American Legion Veterans & Childrens Foundation | Veteran's & Childrens Foundation | \$     |
| Child Welfare Foundation                        | Child Welfare Foundation (CWF)   | \$     |
| Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)            | The American Legion – TFA        | \$     |

|                                                                                                                                                   |                       |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----|
| <p><b>PLEASE SEND ALL DONATIONS TO:</b></p> <p>American Legion Auxiliary – Dept. of MN<br/>20 W. 12th Street, Room 314<br/>St. Paul, MN 55155</p> | <b>TOTAL DONATION</b> | \$ |
|                                                                                                                                                   | <b>CHECK #</b>        |    |

We appreciate your generosity in honoring our veterans!

# DONATION FORM

(This does not include gambling fund donations)

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

|               |  |          |       |      |  |
|---------------|--|----------|-------|------|--|
| Unit #        |  | Location |       | Date |  |
| Contact Name  |  |          | Phone |      |  |
| Email Address |  |          |       |      |  |

## IMPORTANT PROCESSING NOTES

- Department President Project and Department Junior Project donations support the project for the fiscal year received.
- The ALA fiscal year runs August 1 through July 31.



*Poppy funds may be used for programs marked with this symbol*

| Auxiliary Programs                                                                                                            | Amount |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Department Scholarship Fund                                                                                                   | \$     |
| Past President's Parley Healthcare Scholarship Fund                                                                           | \$     |
|  Department President Project                | \$     |
| Department Junior Project                                                                                                     | \$     |
| Girls State Support                                                                                                           | \$     |
|  Fisher House                               | \$     |
|  Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)* | \$     |
| <i>*The VA&amp;R Program Supports Minnesota veterans' hospitals and homes, the Bill Shower, and Gift Shop.</i>                |        |
|                                                                                                                               |        |
|                                                                                                                               |        |
| Auxiliary Total                                                                                                               | \$     |

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

|                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>SEND ALL DONATIONS TO:</b></p> <p>American Legion Auxiliary – Dept of MN<br/>20 W. 12th Street, Room 314<br/>St. Paul, MN 55155</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Grand Total      | \$ |
| Donation Check # |    |

## OPTIONAL - TRIBUTE DONATION

Complete this section if your donation is being made in someone's memory or honor.

This donation is: ☐ In memory of ☐ In honor of

Honoree's name \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTIFICATION RECIPIENT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*We appreciate your generosity in honoring our veterans!*

## Minnesota and National Programs 2026–2027

| MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY PROGRAMS              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ALA Department of Minnesota Scholarship Fund</b>       | Awards up to eight \$1,000 scholarships each year to American Legion Auxiliary members and to the sons, daughters, and grandchildren of veterans. The program is funded through donations.                                                                                                |
| <b>Past Presidents Parley Healthcare Scholarship Fund</b> | Awards up to two \$1,000 scholarships each year to American Legion Auxiliary members and to the sons, daughters, and grandchildren of veterans who are pursuing education in a healthcare field. The program is funded through donations.                                                 |
| <b>Department President Project</b>                       | President Linda Kelly's 2026–2027 project supports the Creative Arts Program, helping veterans heal through art, writing, music, drama, and dance. The \$32,000 goal provides \$4,000 to each of Minnesota's eight veterans' homes; additional funds may support four VA medical centers. |
| <b>Department President Junior Project</b>                | The Junior President of fiscal year 2026-2027 is raising general funds for the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV) to support safe housing for veterans.                                                                                                                     |
| <b>ALA Minnesota Girls State Support</b>                  | Supports a government-in-action program for high school juniors and may help cover registration when a sponsoring unit lacks sufficient funds. Assistance depends on available funds and may be requested only once in a three-year period.                                               |
| <b>Minnesota Fisher House</b>                             | Provides a "home away from home" for veterans and military families receiving specialized VA care, allowing patients and families to focus on healing.                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Veterans Affairs &amp; Rehabilitation</b>              | Provides personal-care items for VA hospital patients and supports events and activities led by Department Hospital Representatives at 12 Minnesota VA homes and hospitals. Includes the Bill Shower and Gift Shop programs.                                                              |

| MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION PROGRAMS                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>American Legion Family Hospital Association</b>          | Helps eligible members pay medical bills when a need for financial assistance has been established.                                                                                                |
| <b>Armed Forces Service Center — Minneapolis Airport</b>    | Offers traveling military personnel a 24/7 volunteer-staffed place to rest, with food, beverages, beds, and toiletries. The center is funded entirely by donations.                                |
| <b>Brain Science Foundation</b>                             | Supports neuroscience research into brain health and disease, including the Women Veterans Healthy Brain Project.                                                                                  |
| <b>Legionville — General Fund</b>                           | Supports a school safety patrol training center offering instruction in swimming, canoeing, first aid, bus safety, and pedestrian safety. Donations maintain the center and fund needed equipment. |
| <b>Minnesota Veterans Assistance Fund (MVAFF) — Fund 85</b> | Allows an American Legion post to request cash assistance from the Minnesota American Legion Foundation for a veteran, a deployed service member's family, or eligible surviving minor children.   |

| NATIONAL AUXILIARY & LEGION PROGRAMS        |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>American Legion Auxiliary Foundation</b> | Protects the ALA's service work for future generations. Donations remain as endowment principal, while investment income supports programs that benefit veterans and their families.       |
| <b>Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF)</b>       | Provides temporary emergency grants to eligible ALA members facing significant financial hardship caused by a natural disaster, loss of income, or another personal crisis.                |
| <b>Veterans &amp; Children Foundation</b>   | Uses investment income to fund Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation programs and Temporary Financial Assistance for minor children of active-duty service members or American Legion members. |
| <b>Child Welfare Foundation</b>             | Established in 1954 to fund nonprofit organizations that educate the public about the special needs of children across the nation.                                                         |
| <b>Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)</b> | Provides cash grants for minor children of eligible veterans to help families maintain a stable home and cover shelter, utilities, food, and medical expenses.                             |



**Department of Minnesota**  
**September 2026 Unit Mailing**  
**Secretary's Notes**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sept. 18: National POW/MIA Recognition Day, Central Park in Greenfield  
Sept. 18: POW/MIA Recognition Day, local observances Sept.  
19: Nation of Patriots Tour ends on north side of Albert Lea, hosted by ALR Chapter 264  
Sept. 29-30: John Zgoda Memorial Disabled Veteran Deer Hunt, Legionville  
Sept. 30: Minnesota Veteran Suicide Prevention Summit, Bloomington Armory  
Oct. 3-4: Disabled Veteran Turkey Hunt, Legionville  
Oct. 22-24: Department Fall Conference, River's Edge Convention Center & Kelly Inn, St. Cloud  
Nov. 9-11: Veterans Day Observance, displays of military items over the years, Willmar City Auditorium  
Nov. 11: Veterans Day, local observances  
Nov. 26-27: Thanksgiving – Department Office Closed  
Dec. 5: Pearl Harbor Rally, Brewster Post 464  
Dec. 24-25: Christmas Eve & Christmas Day – Department Office Closed  
Dec. 31 & Jan. 1 – New's Eve & New Year's Day – Department Office Closed

Please ensure all forms being sent to the Department Office are filled out completely. Especially, the membership applications. It's important that the eligibility section is completed and the new member has signed the form. Recently we've had several membership forms returned to the Unit because they were incomplete. Transmittals must accompany paid membership being processed from the Unit.



**Jessica Lynch keynote speak at Fall Conference**  
**Rivers Edge Convention Center**  
**Friday October 23, 2026 - 3:00 pm**

The Department of MN Legion Family are invited to hear Jessica speak during a joint session of the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL.

On March 23, 2003, Lynch was serving as a unit supply specialist with the 507th Maintenance Company when her convoy was ambushed by Iraqi troops during the Battle of Nasiriyah; Lynch was seriously injured during the offensive and captured by Iraqi soldiers shortly afterwards. Her subsequent recovery by U.S. special operations forces on April 1, 2003, received considerable media coverage as it was the first successful rescue of an American prisoner of war since World War II and the first ever of a woman. She received the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and POW medals.