



The Genesee County Convention Corporation  
and the Holiday Inn Gateway Centre in Flint, Michigan presents  
The American Legion Department of Michigan  
Annual Winter Meeting  
February 14-16, 2020



# 2020 WINTER MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

All room reservations, requests and special needs are to be placed through the Holiday Inn Gateway Centre, 5353 Gateway Center, Flint, MI 48507 - (810) 232-5300.

A block of rooms will be available at the Holiday Inn Gateway and the Courtyard Marriott until January 23, 2020. Mention reservation code **TAL** to secure the special room rate of \$97.00 + 11% hotel tax.

Contact Tim Hernandez with any questions at 810-653-0314 or 810-444-2502.

Registration fee is **\$15.00 per person**.

Make your check payable to:

**Genesee County Convention Corp.** or simply to: **GCCC**.

**Mail to:** Tim Hernandez, 719 E Chelsea Cir.  
Davison MI 48423-1204

The American Legion requires that each person attending must register with the corporation and be issued an official badge to be allowed to attend any meeting, session or event.

## 2020 Winter Meeting Registrant Information

Please print legibly or fill out the form online and print it out.

LEGION   AUX   SAL   ALR

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/ST/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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### ADDITIONAL REGISTERING NAMES:

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
5. \_\_\_\_\_

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\$15.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ (number of people registering) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Please enclose).

Hotel reservations are confirmed with the Holiday Inn Gateway (810-232-5300): Yes ☐ No ☐

If not, then the Courtyard Marriott (810-232-3500) ?; Yes ☐ No ☐

Best Western Plus (810-233-9000) ?; Yes ☐ No ☐ Hyatt Place (810-424-9000) ?; Yes ☐ No ☐

Other accommodations? \_\_\_\_\_ I am commuting daily; Yes ☐ No ☐

Please provide the following contact information for registration confirmation:

Cell Ph: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_





## 2020 WINTER BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

Friday February 14, 2020

Social: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 7:00 pm

\$30.00 per person

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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Please select for type of dinners and quantity of each:

Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

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Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable and send to:

**The American Legion, Department of Michigan – Attention Kim**

212 N. Verlinden Lansing, MI 48915

Questions? [kim@michiganlegion.org](mailto:kim@michiganlegion.org)

**Deadline for reservations is January 13, 2020**

**No Refunds after this date**



## **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

I'm not sure where to even begin, there are not enough words for me to express my gratitude for all who volunteered and made our NVCAF the greatest! We were a committee of 5 and worked well together with coordinating the hosting of the Hospitality Room and the Game Room. There were at least 45 volunteers working a variety of schedules to accommodate the staffing needs for both the Hospitality and Game Rooms.

- There was a total of 915 who signed in throughout the week in the Hospitality Room:
  - Mon 10/28 – 95
  - Tues 10/29 – 98
  - Wed 10/30 – 142
  - Thurs 10/31 – 153
  - Fri 11/1 – 161
  - Sat 11/2 – 175
  - Sun 11/3 - 91
- There was a total of 178 who signed in throughout the week in the Game Room
- We kept an itinerary for the week in the Hospitality Room that helped keep us on track each day with what needed to be done
- We provided fresh lemon slices, lemon drops and Ricola cough drops to the Performers throughout the week. They were very appreciative.
- Each day in the Game Room, we provided 2 gallons of regular coffee and 1 gallon of decaf coffee for those that came in
- Our total expenses for the event totaled \$11,493.74 (thanks to Canteen and their generous donation, which totaled approximately \$11,000.00 – they provided all of the snacks and beverages for the week)
- Hungry Howies donated the pizza luncheon for the volunteers on Sunday, Oct. 27.

**MICHIGAN ROCKS! WE RECEIVED THE HIGHEST COMPLIMENTS FROM OUR NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AT THE AUXILIARY AND THE NATIONAL VA., OUTSTANDING JOB DONE BY ALL.**

If you have not had the opportunity to attend NVCAF, I recommend you put it on your bucket list. This has been one of the most intense experiences of my life. I'm sure it will be awhile before those of us who participated come down from our feelings of the overwhelming experience.

Once again, thank you Chris Reed, Mary Ann Yuncker, and Barb Hoaglund of our Auxiliary for all the work that you did putting this together. God Bless.

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

Even though we are now past November 10, 2019, which was the “official anniversary” of the American Legion Auxiliary, we should not be done celebrating our 100-year legacy of our service to veterans. November 10<sup>th</sup> was the day designated as the ALA anniversary because The American Legion created an auxiliary as part of their constitution at their first National Convention on November 10, 1919.

Even though we have just passed the November 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, nationally the Auxiliary will be celebrating 100 years of Service, Not Self through the end of the 2020 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. After all, 100 years is a long time to celebrate on just one day. The Department of Michigan celebration will continue through Department Convention in June, 2020.

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Michigan’s charter was signed on August 29, 1922 by the 1<sup>st</sup> National President, Edith Hobart. That charter hangs at Department Headquarters along with pictures of both the current National and Department Presidents. The first Department President of Michigan was elected at the organizational meeting at the Pantlind Hotel in Grand Rapids January 26, 1920 and the first Department Convention was held September 19 – 20, 1920 in Kalamazoo. At this time, research is being done to determine the date that the Department of Michigan was actually chartered and how to determine the same for Units within the Department. Watch for information in future Unit Mailings once an answer and explanation is available.

As you can see, there will be many opportunities coming up in the next several years for the ALA to celebrate 100 years. Many of the very early Posts and Units have or will reach those important milestones soon; for others it will be several years. If you are a Unit newly organized, take the opportunity to celebrate smaller milestones – 5 years, 10 years, etc. Celebrating the existence of a Post or Unit is an excellent way to get some PR and promote the Legion Family in your community.

As you celebrate your milestones, please remember to send in write-ups and pictures of your celebration. We would love to include them in our year end celebration at Department Convention in June. I would ask that you have someone take a sharp, clear picture of your Unit charter and send it to me as well as a picture of your Post. If you have other items of historical significance that you think might be of interest, don’t hesitate to send pictures or written accounts of them. Let’s make our year end celebration one to remember for many years to come.

Items (pictures or written accounts that you have) may be sent to me via my email: [marcyjorae1952@gmail.com](mailto:marcyjorae1952@gmail.com) or copies may be sent to me at 5122 Alward Rd., Laingsburg, MI 48848.

Marcy Jorae, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee Chairman



## ***“AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND”***

It's that time of the year to ask your unit “what are we doing to promote the “AEF”?

Since the holiday season is getting into full swing it might be a great time to give a “gift” (donation) to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

I am asking all units to inform me on what your unit has done so far this year to promote this program. You may phone, text, e-mail or mail me this information.

**I will need your replies to me no later than December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

I want to include in my mid-year report any fundraisers or activities that your unit has done to raise awareness for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Consider using the “AEF” canisters for collecting donations at your unit meetings or post functions.

The “AEF” guide is a very resourceful tool for information about this program.

Remember when sending donations to Department that your check should be made out to “American Legion Auxiliary – Department of Michigan” and in the memo line write “AEF” donation.

Again by December 15<sup>th</sup> I will be looking forward to hearing from your unit any ideas and activities that you have done so far this year.

Let's make Michigan a major contributor by helping our auxiliary family when in need!!!!

Linda Wallace – Dept. “AEF” chairman  
8597 Farley Road  
Pinckney, MI 48169  
734-878-6633 (H) 313-580-2185 (C)  
e-mail - [firedog73@juno.com](mailto:firedog73@juno.com)



## National Security

As you work the National Security program, here are some tips offered by Anne Parker, Western Division Chairman passed on by our Central Division Chairman Joan Chwala.

1. Your unit can go to **[www.anysoldier.org](http://www.anysoldier.org)** and find a unit that can give their address to you along with their needs. This is an easy way to put a smile on a soldier's face.
2. If a unit is near a base or have a National Guard unit or Reserve unit in your county, these young men and women could certainly use holiday cheer with gifts for their children, help with a holiday dinner, and last but not least, a big thank you for what they are doing. Another idea is to engage children to make Christmas cards that can be placed in these boxes. Popular items in holiday boxes include small artificial Christmas trees, Santa hats, protein bars, Little Debbie holiday cakes, and beef jerky. When you use **[www.anysoldier.org](http://www.anysoldier.org)**, the soldiers who have signed up often tell you of requested items.
3. And speaking of National Guard units look on **[www.yellowribbon.mil](http://www.yellowribbon.mil)** and locate these events in your state. If you are not familiar with this program, it is a reintegrataion program for the Guard that promotes the well-being of these soliders during and after deployments. Many times there are opportunities to share membership with these families in the American Legion Family at these events as well as help with the actual events.
4. Another component of National Security is CERT (Community Emergency Response Training) which educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Check out this website for resources on providing such training for your community:  
**<https://www.fema.gov> › media-library › resources-documents › collections**

### **ALA National Security Facebook Group Page**

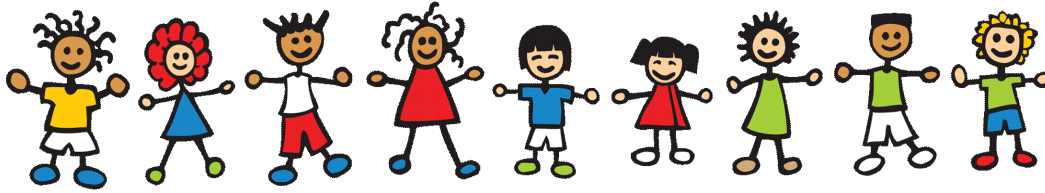
If you use Facebook, please join our group called "ALA National Security" as we have photos posted there already, and want to chat back and forth and share

our ideas and successes. It is a closed group, so there is no need to worry about sharing pictures of members. You may invite your friends and our moderators can approve them.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALANatISec/>

**Units : Mid-Year reporting** is just around the corner. Please send me a brief narrative of what you have accomplished this year ( go back to March if you have things not reported on last year's reports) so that I can let our Central Division Chairman know the great things that members in the Department of Michigan have been doing in the National Security program. If you have any pictures, that would be a bonus. Please send to me by December 20<sup>th</sup> at either [marcyjorae1952@gmail.com](mailto:marcyjorae1952@gmail.com) or 5122 Alward Rd, Laingsburg, MI 48848. I look forward to having many activities to report for the Department of Michigan.

Marcy Jorae, National Security Chairman



Children & Youth  
Unit Mailing  
November 2019

Children & Youth mission,

“The Children & Youth program emphasizes protecting, caring for and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans’ and military families – their health and well-being.”

The following is information gleaned from the National President, Nicole Clapp, the Children & Youth National Chairman and Vice Chairman. And, I intend to share their bulletins to me with you in our Unit mailing

From National Children & Youth Chairman, Lisa Williamson, (Sept. 11, 2019)

“Our Centennial National President Nicole Clapp was recently installed as the leader of the American Legion Auxiliary. This year, National President Nicole’s special emphasis will be “The Health and Well-being of our Veterans and Their Families.” One hundred years ago, our Mission was to take care of our veterans, military, and their families, and that purpose remains. Remember ‘well-being’ reaches beyond the health status of an individual; it encompasses all aspects of someone’s life. We should frequently refer to the 2017-2022 Program Action Plans, the 2019-2020 Supplement (included in our Department Guide) and the National President’s Award for Excellence to support this endeavor.”

DATE: October 9, 2019 Bulletin, FROM: Anselma Obremski, National Children & Youth Vice Chairman SUBJECT: Celebrating 100 Youth Hero and Good Deed Awards

“The ALA Youth Hero award recognizes children who place themselves in difficult circumstances to help others, typically demonstrating a physical act of valor. These young people exemplify the motto “Service Not Self”. They deserve to be recognized for their actions. The ALA Good Deed award is given to those children

who show kindness and thoughtfulness to others without expecting anything in return.” Let’s support at least 100, but many more.

Remember to discuss the history of our country with our children and help them understand the Constitution. Share it often and how it supports Patriotism. Why we say “Freedom isn’t Free”.

On December 7, 1941 the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on our soil and this country fought to end this war and war on our land has not happened since. Share this upcoming event with our children. Give them correct information so as not to confuse them and the age appropriate. This Victory helped make this country what it is today.

Follow your Guides

Josh Dogs / G I Josh has closed operations

**Star Spangled Kids is to be reported under AMERICANISM**

Promote The American Legion Oratorical contest

Search for our Youth Heroes and Youth for Good Deed Awards

Promote good citizenship in children through teaching the ideals of the Constitution

Track what you are doing and Report, Report, and Report!

**Mid-Year Reports are due to me by December 15, 2019**

Call me with any questions and I will try to assist you.

I wish for all of you a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!



Kathy Copeland,  
Chairman  
586-574-0044

# Community Service CHALLENGE

## **ONE PAIR CAN MAKE A Difference**



Collect new or gently used shoes, any type  
Children, teens, women, men  
Reports due January 1st

### **Rules**

Collect shoes in Units  
Take pictures

### **Report:**

how many pairs collected?  
How many members participated?  
Value of contribution

Donate to area homeless shelters or warming centers

**TAKE PICTURES TAKE PICTURES TAKE PICTURES**

Report how many centers donated to if more than one  
Are any of the center's veterans related?

**Send them to your Community Service Committee**

**Peggy Nolff, Chair**

**734-755-3156**

**pegnolff1956@gmail.com**





# AUXILIARY JUNIOR SLEEPOVER JANUARY 18, 2020



This Photo by Unknown Author is

**CLIO, MICHIGAN**

**BEGINS AT 1PM SATURDAY**

**ENDS AT NOON SUNDAY**

**POPPY AND AMERICANISM PRESENTATION**

**SCAVENGER HUNT**

**COOKIE DECORATING**

**VALENTINE CARDS FOR TROOPS**

**MUCH, MUCH MORE**

**ALL NECESSARY PAPERWORK TO ATTEND WILL BE  
AVAILABLE ON MICHALAUX.ORG DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>**



## LEGISLATIVE

The American Legion Auxiliary is a proud supporter of the American Legion Legislative agenda. The American Legion provides a web-site—The Legislative Action Center—to help keep members informed about all things pertaining to their legislative agenda.

You can sign up for Legislation Action alerts by going to the American Legion web-site at [capwiz.com/legion/home](http://capwiz.com/legion/home) (<http://capwiz.com/legion/home/>). These alerts will come to your email and keep you informed. This link will also take you directly to the American Legion Legislative Action Center which has an amazing amount of information that you can check out that will allow you to be informed. By clicking on the Issues & Legislation, you are able to see all current Action Alerts, that need our help by contacting the members of the Senate and House of Representatives, as well as current legislation the American Legion supports. By clicking on a specific bill, you can get more details about that bill, and why the Legion is supporting it, who the co-sponsors are, and who originally introduced the legislation.

Please help your fellow members by providing them with this information as well, especially those who do not have access to a computer. Encourage your members to write letters, emails, or make phone calls to their respective legislators. You can even take one letter or email and copy it for everyone to use. Members can add their own comments if they like.

Currently the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress is in session. After the first of the year when the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress convenes, the information for the legislative agenda will be updated and the bills/resolutions that are being worked on will be updated.

Are you on Facebook? Have you joined the American Legion Auxiliary Legislative facebook page? The National Legislative Chairman, Norma Tramm, has requested that when you sign up, please answer the questions. It will make it much easier for them to approve you and get you access to their page.

Don't forget to also speak with your local and State officials about Veteran related issues as well.

In celebration of the 100 years of the American Legion Auxiliary, the National Organization is also asking us for stories from our members on how legislation, such as the GI bill, or the Blue Water bill, made a difference in the life of a veteran. Perhaps they were able to go to college where they might not have been able to, buy a home, etc.

Your Mid-Year Legislative report is due to the Department Chairman by December 15, 2019. This is so that I can meet my deadline to National. I look forward to hearing from all of you on what you have done so far this year, who you have spoken to, and what bills you are supporting whether it be on a local, state, or national level.

Mary Dubay  
Legislative Chairman  
922 Huntington  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043  
[Rdubay1@aol.com](mailto:Rdubay1@aol.com)



## Membership Announcements

Congratulations to the two members who achieved the 10 X 10 Award! The winners will be announced at Winter Meeting!

As we carry forward in the membership year, a reminder about the next National membership award deadline. R/R 5 -February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Our Department membership pin: CHANGE... who likes change? This is one I believe all will like. Since we haven't had a membership pin in some time, and in the spirit of giving, there is an update to the 2019-20 membership pin. It Starts With One... retain or recruit 1 member. It was 2, however for many that is next to impossible. This includes Juniors as well as Seniors. This will certainly help fulfill "many hands make light work". I have always believed that if we want to keep our dues down, increase our numbers. If we want to work more of our great programs, increase our numbers. Wouldn't it be great if our Department President had to order more pins?? She said she would, let's make that happen. Together we can make a difference!

Don't forget, membership dues MUST BE PAID by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December or you will be delinquent, AND worse, your benefits will be gone.

Also, start thinking about April's challenge: 2020 Week of Caring and Sharing April 1-7, 2020

Where has the time gone? Hope you all have an amazing holiday season, and maybe a few days rest, and now ready to start a new year- 2020!!!

"R/R/R"

Anita Mennel  
2019-20 Membership Chair



## ***SAVE THE DATE MARK YOUR CALENDAR***

Southeast Michigan Four Chaplains Memorial Service will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 2:00 p.m. at the Walter Fraser American Legion Post 108, Oxford. As a reminder, **this is not an American Legion Family Only event.** ALL are welcome, bring your family, friends, neighbors. Let's keep their story alive.