

Testimonial Dinner

Department Commander Barry Wood, Department President Georgia Downs, and Detachment Commander Mike Holley invites all American Legion Family members to join them at the Greenawalt-Flaherty Post 42 in Charlotte to celebrate their year

Greenawalt-Flaherty American Legion Post 42
1000 W. Lawrence Highway
Charlotte, MI 48813
Charlotte is approximately 18 miles southwest of Lansing off of I-69

Date: April 4, 2020
Social begins at 5 p.m.
Dinner begins at 6 p.m.
Cost: \$40 per person

Reservations Due March 20, 2020

Make and send checks to:
Margaret Wood
811 N. Kelly St.
Hastings, MI 49058

Please indicate if you would like Swiss Steak, or Baked Chicken

Include an email address for confirmation of receipt of reservation and payment

Hotel Information:

Holiday Inn Express
500 Meijer St
Charlotte, MI 48813
(855) 479-0732
\$98.99 + tax (king or queen)

Comfort Inn
1302 Packard Hwy
Charlotte, MI 48813
(844) 773-8179
\$75 + tax Queen
\$70 + tax King



Dear Department Chairmen and Members;

Spring and Easter provide good opportunities for us to show our patriotic spirit. Remember that our Year-end reports are coming due as stated in the plan of work (Year-End Reports Annual reports) reflect the program work of units in the department, and may result in a national award for participants if award requirements are met. Each department chairman is required to submit a narrative report to the division chairman, plus copy the national chairman. Members and units should follow their department's protocol and deadlines. So please ask your Unit and Districts to get them to you in time for you to make the National deadline of May 15.

Department chairmen, remember to copy me on your reports. I would like to see a narrative from all committee chairmen.

Thank you for all that you do for our Veterans and their families.

Georgia Downs - President

ALA Department of Michigan

GREEN SHEET

Instructions: This form is to be used only by **District Presidents or Chairmen** to submit the winning contest entries from your District to Department Chairmen. Please print neatly and provide all the information requested.

Entries are due no later than **April 15th**

Please do not send to Department!

DATE: _____

TO: _____
(DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN)

COMMITTEE: _____

NAME OF CONTEST: _____

CLASS OR AGE GROUP _____

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE ENTRY OF:

WINNER'S NAME (Name to appear on award/citation) - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

MEMBER ID (If Winner is an Auxiliary Member) _____

UNIT NAME: _____ UNIT #: _____

UNIT CHAIRMAN NAME: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY & ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: (_____) _____

WAS SELECTED AS THE WINNER FOR OUR DISTRICT FOR THIS CONTEST

SIGNED _____ DISTRICT # _____
(DISTRICT CHAIRMAN OR PRESIDENT)

EMAIL _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

PRINT NAME OF SIGNER _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
3450 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268

SPECIAL MEMORANDUM re: Candidates for ALA National Offices

TO: ALA Department Secretaries
FROM: *Auxiliary* magazine
DATE: February 11, 2020
SUBJECT: Candidates for 2020-2021 National Offices

Please complete this form to notify ALA National Headquarters of all announced candidates for national offices for the 2020-2021 Auxiliary national administrative year. If your department has more than two national office candidates, please submit a copy of this form for listing each candidate. Please provide a copy of the following instructions and information to all announced candidates in your department. All candidates must complete this form; please do not submit a separate document listing the candidate's biographical information.

Announced National Candidate(s) Form

(Department secretary: This Word document serves as your e-signature; you do not need to send a separate hard copy to ALA NHQ.)

From DEPARTMENT of _____

National Office sought: _____

Candidate's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email (required): _____

National Office sought: _____

Candidate's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email (required): _____

Signed: _____
Department Secretary (type name or insert e-signature) *Date*

INSTRUCTIONS: CANDIDATES for 2020-2021 ALA NATIONAL OFFICES

For announcement to be included in May 2020 issue of Auxiliary magazine:

Candidates for the national offices of president, vice president, national division vice president, historian, and chaplain who wish to have their photograph and biographical information included in the May 2020 issue of *Auxiliary* magazine must submit the following information via email, per the instructions below, by **March 10, 2020**.

Members who wish to send their candidacy announcements to fellow members:

- Candidate(s) for the office of national president are afforded the courtesy of mailing their announcement(s) prior to announcements from candidates for other offices.
- Candidates for all other national offices may send their announcements once they have received an announcement from a candidate for the office of ALA national president.
- The national officer candidate's announcement must include the name of the candidate, unit, and a summary of American Legion Auxiliary activities (unit, district, department, and national). Candidates also may include a picture of themselves, professional/career background, and other relevant information in the candidacy announcement.
- Announcements for candidates for national division vice president may be sent only to that candidate's respective ALA national division.

Candidate appearances at National Convention/division caucuses:

Candidates for the offices of national president, national vice president, national chaplain, and national historian will appear either before the National Constitution & Bylaws Pre-Convention Meeting or at the division caucuses at the 2020 National Convention in Louisville, Ky., as determined and shared in advance.

AUXILIARY MAGAZINE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR 2020-2021 ALA NATIONAL OFFICE CANDIDATES

1. For a candidate's information to be included in the May 2020 issue of *Auxiliary* magazine, the following must be submitted **via email by March 10, 2020**, to ALAMagazine@ALAforVeterans.org:
 - a. Candidate Information Form completed in Microsoft Word.
 - b. Color, high-resolution photograph (head-and-shoulders portrait-type) in JPEG format. Photocopies will not be accepted. Please do not send your picture in a Word document or PDF; it must be sent as a separate JPEG file attachment.
2. All information **must** be received **via email by March 10, 2020**.

Faxed forms or paper copy forms, mailed or carrier delivered, will **not** be accepted.

A confirmation email acknowledging National Headquarters' receipt of a candidate's information will be emailed to the candidate.
3. Candidate information not received by ALA NHQ by the deadline will not be published in the magazine, but will be posted on the American Legion Auxiliary national website. Candidate information submitted for inclusion in *Auxiliary* magazine may be edited due to space limitations.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION FORM FOR 2020-2021 ALA NATIONAL OFFICES

Email completed form to Auxiliary magazine at ALAMagazine@ALAforVeterans.org by March 10, 2020.

Name: _____ for National Office: _____

Unit: _____ Department: _____

Eligible for Auxiliary membership through _____

Unit-level offices and chairmanships served _____

District-level offices and chairmanships served _____

Department-level offices and chairmanships served _____

National-level offices and chairmanships served _____

Professional/personal background (career, education, memberships, family information)

This section may not exceed 75 words.

!! NEWSFLASH !!

Greetings!

What a great team we have, our membership is moving up, but we have a long way to go to get to 100%. 84.65% as of Feb. 19th, worse yet, Kansas just passed us up 😞 that means, we are CURRENTLY losing the challenge. Let's ramp up our efforts. We have a great opportunity in our one week of caring and sharing challenge for April. Details are on our website, in the membership 'guide', and it was covered at conference. Speaking of, I will put a summary of the membership presentation and our brainstorm session both on the website, and in next month's mailing, as I can't get it organized before the deadline to be included here 😞.

A note from National: We are currently working on a campaign to reach out to expired and former members of the ALA that we have an email address for, to keep our membership momentum going! At this point we are looking to reach out to expired members (not paid since 2018) and former members not paid since 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Once implemented, that should also help with our efforts to reinstate members.

I want to thank the area chairpersons for all their work and guidance. Membership IS everybody's job, however we all need guidance at some time or another :

Keep reaching out, and PLEASE, start now on your reports! Deadlines are quickly approaching

R~R~R

Anita Mennel
2019-20 Membership Chair

100th Anniversary Celebration

As we continue to celebrate our legacy, please keep working within your Units to celebrate the 100 years of *Service, Not Self* that our organization has built upon since the beginning.

Many Units in the Department of Michigan have spent this past year looking into their histories and finding interesting information. I encourage all Units to continue working on this as we go throughout the rest of this year and even into future years. Many Units have not had active Historians in the past and unfortunately that means that some of their history has gone unrecorded. As we celebrate this 100th Anniversary, now is the time to assemble this information and the materials to get us back on track with preserving all the accomplishments of the past.

At Winter Meeting, the DEC voted to celebrate with cake at our Department Convention. The cake will have 100 birthday candles which will be available to members for a \$5.00 donation per candle. That money will be used to help with the expense of a Time Capsule that will be kept at Department Headquarters. We have requested permission from the Legion DEC to bury this Time Capsule beneath the “Tree of America” on the grounds of Department Headquarters. This tree is a metal sculpture that adorns the landscape there. We are encouraging Units to consider sending in pictures, articles, etc. that they would like preserved in the Time Capsule which is to be opened at the 150th Anniversary Celebration of the American Legion Auxiliary. The Time Capsule will be assembled sometime after the conclusion of the 100th Anniversary celebration at the 2020 National Convention. What picture or article of significance does your Unit have to donate? Watch for more information as to how and when to contribute to this project.

Please continue to spread the word in your communities about The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary – proudly serving Veterans for over 100 years. The more they know, the more we can grow.

NATIONAL AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

We need to increase participation in all age categories for the Americanism Essay Contest.
This year's Essay Title:

"How can we address the health and well-being of our Veterans, military and their families"

*****This year we would like to encourage all entries to be done in same font and size. Our recommendation is: 12PT font and in Times New roman or Arial Style, no borders or emblems***

STUDENT AWARD-AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

Type of award: Citation, \$50 prize and additional \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship Fund.

Awards will be presented to: One winner in each class for a total of six classes, all entries sent to Department will be receive a Participation Certificate.

All the guidelines and forms are on the National website and may be downloaded so the correct form may be presented for the correct age group.

Essays are to be judged by Districts - Check with your District for the deadline!

District Americanism Chairman must send to Department Chairman

**Districts - Send to Department Chairman by
March 30, 2020**

Mary Tyler
17259 Pringle St.
Sand Lake, MI 49343
616-443-4101
chrimsu63@yahoo.com

For more information, download the Americanism Program Guide from the Department website - <https://michalaux.org/programs-2/>



Children & Youth
Unit Mailing
March 2020
Happy Saint Patrick's Day!



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.”

Note from Central Division C&Y Chairman;
We are well on our way to spring. April will be here soon and it will be time to celebrate our Children & Youth. April 3rd is the day to set aside to Honor the Military Child, so please remember to “PURPLE UP” to show your support. We must remember to honor and celebrate our children.

Start trying to approach school administrators to get into schools to work our programs. How about Flag Etiquette to get ready for June and Flag Day and every day. Discuss some Constitutional facts according to their age, maybe the right to vote since it is an election year.

Our National website has many ideas and suggestions on how to reach out to our military children and youth,

Central Division C&Y,
Sue Hembrook

Reminders...

Follow your Guides

Work the Star Spangled Kids and report what you do under AMERICANISM

Support the Youth Hero Award and the Youth Good Deed Awards.

Submit all of your Youth nominations to National Children and Youth Chairman.

Goal of at least 100 Awards in celebration of our 100th birthday (more would be great!).

Follow the AWARD information/qualifications as required

April is Children and Youth month

Have a 100th Birthday party with cake and ice cream and invite children

Report, Report, Report

Please go back and capture any project your unit did from the time after your 2019 reports were sent in to the time that your 2020 reports are due, include what you did for our children and military families over the summer too. Units have your annual report in to your District Chairman and District Chairman report to me by APRIL 15, 2020.

Share the Military Children Table setting with your members often in support of the child's sacrifices while their loved one(s) are away.

Kathleen Copeland,
Department of Michigan
Children & Youth Chairman
586-574-0044

Literacy is a Key Life Skill

Carol Burke
Education Chairman.

In 1921 the American Legion was seeking ways to generate public support for education and literacy, as 25 percent of the country's World War I draftees were illiterate. This concern led to the American Legion co-sponsoring, with the NEA, the first American Education Week. The simple truth is that the United States is ranked 12th in literacy worldwide and 25% of children in America, grow up without learning how to read. Students who don't read proficiently by the 3rd grade are 4 times more likely to drop out of school. Literacy is a key life skill. Promoting literacy should be a core mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

One of the ways that our organization can help promote literacy is by supplying books to our youth. The Reading Rockets website, <https://www.readingrockets.org/article/search-free-books>, offers these suggestions plus more.

The Literacy Empowerment Foundation (LEF) is dedicated to assisting educational programs by providing inexpensive children's books. (\$88 per set of 100 books).

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Through the program, all young children in a participating community are eligible to be enrolled at birth, to receive books in their homes each month.

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) the nation's oldest and largest children's literacy organization, Book Drives sponsor a book drive to collect gently used children's books for your organization to distribute.

Encourage your Juniors to read to either younger children or older adults. Encourage your Auxiliary sisters who are unable to physically participate in Unit activities to remain active and contribute, by reading to others. In the words of Dr. Seuss "You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."

Department of Michigan Education Program

Teachers are Out of This World!

How to participate in Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4-8, 2020 and this year's theme is "Teachers are Out of This World!" Your Unit may wish to show your appreciation during Teacher Appreciation Week. To help you thank our teachers, the PTA has created certificates, flyers, thank-you cards, web ads and social media graphics! These are available @ <https://www.pta.org/home/events/PTA-Teacher-Appreciation-Week>

The website also list additional ways to get involved.

- Send heartfelt letters, cards and messages of appreciation
- Create artwork, poems and video messages
- Recognize teachers with awards
- Decorate schools and teacher's lounges
- Host surprise assemblies and other events
- Volunteer in classrooms to help teachers
- On Thursday, upload a #TBT of you and your favorite teacher and thank them using the official hashtag #ThankATeacher.

Please consider using this opportunity to thank those who instrumental in the development of our future adult citizens and leaders.

Carol Burke
Chairman
ck323@msn.com