

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Minnesota**

2024-2025

**Department President Judy Ackerman
September Unit Mailing**

State Veterans Service Bldg. 20 W 12th St #314
St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: 651-224-7634 Email: deptoffice@mnala.org
Website: www.mnala.org



We have started this year by getting “Back to the Basics – Recognize, Respect, Remember”.

Recognize - take the time to recognize that everyone is unique and special. We need to recognize everyone’s talents. We need to recognize all veterans, men and women.

Respect – Treat everyone with respect. Please be considerate and attentive to other people’s feelings, wishes, rights, or traditions. It’s a well-known fact that people will have disagreements for a variety of reasons. Please be respectful to all of our volunteers. They are volunteers. They are giving their time and talents to the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Remember - We can remember with fondness, appreciation and honor, the service of all our veterans. Veterans have defended this Country and protected our way of life since WWI. WWI veterans joined together to create the American Legion and those veterans, their spouses, friends and family through the years established our Auxiliary, Juniors, Sons of the American Legion and the Legion Riders. Together, we have served and continue to serve this Country, our veterans, our youth, and our communities.

By the time this mailing is received, Workshop for our new Department Chairman was held and they all worked hard to put the Basics of their individual programs together. Please take the time to read and share the information in this mailing with your members.

Membership Hope has the Member-opoly board ready to go for this year. You can pay your dues in several different ways. Online, mail, or drop off to the unit membership chairman. I attended the Hopkins Raspberry Festival parade and the Lino Lakes parade.

Junior Fun Weekend was held with 23 juniors in attendance. This year we tried something new. A huge THANK YOU to our Department Poppy Chairman, Lorinda Kies, who helped the chaperones make Poppies while the juniors were involved in their activities. These poppy makers were able to complete making 912 poppies. The juniors also were excited to pack the personal care kits for female veterans. Thank you to the units that donated items at Department Convention and those units that brought items to Legionville. The Juniors packed 139 personal care kits for female veterans.

Save the Date! Planning is under way for Fall Conference. National President Trish Ward will be attending and will be presenting to our American Legion Family on Thursday, October 24th, at 6:30 p.m. I am so excited for our members to hear National President Trish’s message.

The National Convention will be history by the time this mailing comes out. What an experience that was. New Orleans scenery, cuisine, and a few adventures. More on that in the next mailing.

President's Project –

Part 1 is to raise funds for rehabilitation equipment for the Veterans Homes. The two most requested pieces of rehabilitation equipment are the Kinevia Duo and the Scifit Stepper. These both allow residents in wheelchairs to access the equipment as well as those that are not in a wheelchair. Several of the other Veterans' homes have needs for other smaller rehab equipment. (Space is an issue.) The approximate cost for these pieces of equipment range from \$6,000 - \$8,500 each. Four of the homes have these on their wish list.

Part 2 is to raise funds and in-kind donations to help out our female veterans. The new women's clinic will be opening up in the spring of 2025. The VA is asking for Personal Hygiene kits to be given to our female veterans. This project will be started at the Junior Fun Weekend at Legionville the weekend of August 9-11th. (Depending on donations and where the required products are purchased.) I would love to be able to put together at least 300 of these kits.

I am looking forward to working with all of you this next year as we go Back to the Basics – Recognize, Respect, Remember.

Judy Ackerman
Department President



KINEVIA DUO



A choice of exercise modes

- Passive: a gentle and motor-driven mobilization of the muscles and joints. Ideal during the warm-up phase, it will also reduce spasms and tension.
- Assisted: the device will support the exercise training to mobilize even the weakest residual muscle strength. This mode will provide a continuous movement whether passive or active.
- Active: the 20 levels of resistance will ensure a progressive strength and muscle training to the patient.

Innovative and intuitive

This unique system comes with a number of innovative specifications, including:

- Tool-free adjustment, including quick adjustment of the pedals and a safety height adjustment feature.
- The high-quality, ball bearing transport wheels allow for easy transport of the Kinevia, even over asphalt.

Smart technology

Maintaining patients' engagement and motivation is the key to success. The Kinevia entertainment system has been designed specifically for this purpose, featuring interactive games and videos in real locations through an additional 10" tablet. Patient attention is enhanced and their motivation is significantly increased for longer and more intense therapy sessions. The smart technology also offers an individual patient progress report.

The benefits of movement therapy

- Physical exercise is an expression of personal freedom. Repeated, frequent, and consistent movements, whether performed directly by the patient or through a device, have been proven to help recover functional abilities and capacities, leading to improved well-being and independence. This includes:
 - Maintaining and building muscle strength
 - Regulating muscle tone and reducing spasms
 - Preventing joint stiffness and adhesions
 - Stimulating metabolism and blood circulation

SCIFIT STEPONE



The **SciFit StepOne** recumbent stepper features low starting resistance, direct wheelchair access, adjustable arm length and handle angle, customizable programs, and documentation to help users reach their goals. User-defined stride length from 2" to 11.5" and optimized 1:1 arm-to-leg ratio to promote natural movement. Arm length adjustments and rotating hand grips provide user comfort and custom fit.

FEATURES:

- Low starting resistance (6 watts) with 20 levels adjustable in 0.1 increments, providing 200 levels of resistance.
- Direct wheelchair access, step-through seating, and grab bar for easy on and off.
- A small footprint plus an integrated transport handle and wheels allow for easy placement.
- The Full-color touch screen is easy to operate and displays exercise readouts beneficial for users and clinicians (ex. stride length, ascent, watts, METs)

2024-2025 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: christie@mnala.org Fax: (651) 224-5241

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 _____	Juniors _____	SAL _____ Public _____
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 _____
Event Location	_____		
Complete Address of Event	_____		
Contact Name & Phone Number	_____		
Contact Email Address	_____		
Indicate all who will be in attendance:			
Auxiliary _____	Legion _____	SAL _____	Juniors _____ Public _____
Estimated in Attendance _____	Is a guest allowed? _____		
Expectations of President	Bring brief greetings _____	Main speaker _____	
	Other (explain) _____		

President Judy Ackerman 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 2024 Unit Mailing Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF)

The AEF was established in 1969 and is a national grant program to provide temporary monetary assistance (up to \$3000) to eligible members who have endured significant financial setbacks because of an act of natural or personal crisis.

This is possible all by donations. Members helping members.

AEF funds may be awarded to members whose primary residence has been devastated by disaster, flood, tornadoes, fires, hurricanes, earthquakes, or other catastrophic events.

Hardship Grants may be awarded to members that have past/overdue expenses pertaining to their primary shelter and basic household utilities due to medical or employment reasons.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Members who are current on dues and have been members for three (3) consecutive years.
- Cannot be used for medical expenses or debts from credit cards.
- Applicants for disaster assistance must apply within six (6) months from the disaster event.
- One grant (disaster or hardship) per grantee within a 12-month period.
- Must submit all qualifying documentation including pictures, invoices, bills, ECT.
- All applications must be submitted online at www.alaforveterans.org

This is such a great program and an awesome cause to donate to!
More information will be on the Department and National websites!

**Brandi Christensen,
Department AEF Chairman**

Silent Auction

The Silent Auction to support the Auxiliary Emergency Fund is back again this year for Fall Conference!! Time to get together as a unit/post/squadron or family to come up with a theme basket or maybe even 2!! You can also bring in quilts, books, patriotic items, pictures, jewelry, American Legion family items, decorations.

Everyone loves bake sales! I know we have some wonderful bakers out there. And I hope you come through for a huge bake sale that will go with the silent auction. Bake sale items will be a free will donation. I am even making some items. (And if you know me that is a huge task because I am not usually someone who bakes.) 😊😊

We will also be taking monetary donations. To go along with Department President Judy's symbol each monetary donation that comes in will be a Lego block (building blocks) to make towers.

I am hoping to have a great silent auction for an even greater cause!

Volunteers Needed!

If you would love to help with the auction whether it be setting up or working during the auction, please contact me or the Department Office.

Brandi Christensen
763-843-0873
Brandichristensen21@gmail.com

Department Office
651-224-7634
deptoffice@mnala.org



Each unit and district should have a chaplain. The chaplain is intended to be the spiritual leader of the group. Our duties include providing an opening and a closing prayer for each meeting as well as mealtime blessings when asked. We could also be asked to oversee any religious services we might have. It is expected that they will so dignify their office that all fellow members will follow their example.

Each of us has, in our lifetime, faced challenges. Some were mere bumps in the pathway, others were boulders. Through our faiths and/or beliefs we have maneuvered over or around them. What helped you to get through?

I would like your help to put together a book of prayers, poems and verses of encouragement. It would be great to include something from each of the officers, chairmen and committee members who are serving the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Minnesota this year as well as from each of the units of the Department. Often the words of a song can provide what we need to hear. One favorite of mine is from a movie. The words to the song "You'll Never Walk Alone" remind me that I never have to face a problem alone. Through prayer, there is always help. You can send your thoughts and prayers to me at: vbpic@newulmtel.net or mail them to Vida Bacon, 110 N. Payne St, New Ulm, MN 56073.

Unit chaplain, please keep an accurate list of deceased members so they can be remembered at District and Department memorial services.

***Vida Bacon,
Department Chaplain***



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Children & Youth



Children and Youth

The Children & Youth program continues to emphasize protecting, caring for and supporting children and youth, particularly veterans and military families!

Super excited to start another American Legion Auxiliary year and be able to recognize and celebrate the Children & Youth of our communities, veterans and military families together with our American Legion Family! With most schools in session in September, let's please focus on school supplies for the students in your area. Perhaps you could devote your next meeting to bringing school supplies for the children at the schools and churches in the area. Work together with your Education Chairman to get more ideas for the year to support Children & Youth and their education and development.

Halloween is right around the corner as well and we have the American Legion Auxiliary and safety first should be top of mind. You can utilize the "How To Be Safe" coloring book (which can be found on the American Legion Auxiliary National Website: [https://www.alaforveterans.org/Coloring_Books_\(legion-aux.org\)](https://www.alaforveterans.org/Coloring_Books_(legion-aux.org))) to have fun with and advocate safety for the children and youth as they get excited for the Halloween parties, events and trick or treating in the classroom, neighborhood or the local Trunk or Treat events at church, businesses and beyond!

You could have a contest or drawing at an upcoming event, geared for the children of your post, unit, church, school, etc! Make it fun for everyone to get involved. There are MANY adults that are kids/youth at heart and would LOVE to assist and who knows, could be an opportunity to grow membership at the same time! Perhaps you can have a drawing for those that bring the most children and youth to your next meeting, event, celebration, etc! An opportunity to educate on our Children & Youth Program and all that we support and have to offer, especially for our veterans and military families. You can download Pamphlets to utilize as a resource to hand out or display at your meetings or events, etc.!

Keep your eyes open and start considering amazing options for the awards that are offered, such as the Hero Award and the Good Deed Award as they can be right in our communities! You can find more information and criteria at the following link: [https://www.legion-aux.org/Youth_Hero_Good_Deed_Awards_\(legion-aux.org\)](https://www.legion-aux.org/Youth_Hero_Good_Deed_Awards_(legion-aux.org)) !

Watch for more details in upcoming communication of ways to support our children and youth and hope to see you at the Fall Conference as well! You can reach me via text or a call at 612-709-0588 and/or email to annesteffen320@gmail.com anytime with your feedback and/or amazing ideas this year! Be sure to take lots of pictures and share them on the Department Facebook page or send them my way and we will highlight what you are doing and be sure to brag about what is happening around the state!

I encourage you to partner with your local churches, schools, businesses and beyond to get involvement to identify the needs of the children and youth & encourage volunteer service and donations from the community! Be sure to connect with other units and collaborate with the Legion family to make a difference in the lives of Children & Youth. *The earlier we involve our youth the brighter our future will be!*

Anne Steffen, Department Children & Youth Chairman

612.709.0588



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Community Service

As Community Service Chairman this year I encourage each unit and individuals to record their activities and send me pictures and articles so I can share with other units. Some of the projects we can do are Blood Drives, Food Pantries, Meals on Wheels, and Clothing Drives. Auxiliary Community Service is an outreach program supporting our American Legion Posts. As the holiday season approaches your unit may want to consider doing Operation Troop Support. This program focuses on deployed troops and their families.

Becky Olson,
Department Community Service Chairman
rgilberyo21@gmail.com



Day of Service and Remembrance

“There is a light in this world, a healing spirit more powerful than any darkness we may encounter. We sometimes lose sight of this force when there is suffering, and too much pain. Then suddenly spirit will emerge through the lives of ordinary people who hear a call and answer in extra ordinary ways” ~Mother Teresa

September 11th is National Remembrance Day or 9/11 Day. It is a federally recognized National Day of Service in the United States on the anniversary of the 9/11/2001 terrorist attacks. As we all remember 9/11 was a day of devastation for the United States of America. The country became united in many ways.

How do you remember that terrible day? As the 9/11 day draws close, let us remember those who lost loved ones in this terrible event. Flying flags is an appropriate symbol of being unified. In 2004, I had the opportunity to seeing where Flight 93 went down, very emotional!

Let's Remember all those who perished in this event. Show support for our troops!



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Education

Hello Unit and District Chairman! WOW! Where did the summer go?! It's hard to believe that it's time to start another year of our American Legion Auxiliary Programs and as you can see, I'm your new Chairman for Education.

I don't want to overwhelm you with a lot of information right out of the gate so I am going to break down the information that we share into groups/categories. We know that school will be starting shortly if not already in progress, so for this first mailing we are going to talk about some programs you can participate in right now!

1) Give 10 to Education

This is an easy program and really a lot of fun, so it's my hope that all Units will take part in it. In your mailing you will receive a list of items that the schools/teachers would appreciate for their classrooms. All your Unit have to do is collect 10 items of the same thing, so if you spread out the list, each person could pick up those items or work in teams, then it's not so expensive for one person. Perhaps you have a member who is very creative/crafty who would be willing to make a display for your Post members to join in. (Idea: Get a tree branch and decorate with fall leaves or apples (both paper) and hang from the branches with items from the list you received- with a poster/signage that reads "10 to Education")

2) Another idea for you! If your Unit has funding perhaps you could purchase five/six (more if your Unit can afford it) backpacks and stuff them with the items you have collected. Keep in mind that some parents cannot afford to purchase a lot of items for their children. This would be beneficial to them. What a wonderful way to give back to our communities and families in need.

3) Box Tops for Education

This program has become easier if you have a computer, that is. All you need to do is download the app and scan your receipt within 14 days of your purchase and the app does the rest. We no longer must cut the box tops and bring them to the schools. There is a website that you can go to for these items the schools collect. Go to www.boxtops4education.com Again just 3 easy steps: Buy Box Tops Products, scan your receipt, and Earn cash for Schools. If you have a Wal-Mart Account, you can connect the two programs together so every time you shop the Box Top items will be added to your school account. Just looking over the list of Box Top merchandise products there are so many that I use already. Going to have to start scanning!

If you have any questions, please reach out: Sharon.voltz63@gmail.com or 218-259-4711

*Sharon Voltz,
Department Education Chairman*



American Legion Auxiliary Give 10 to Education Suggested Donation Items and Tracking Sheet

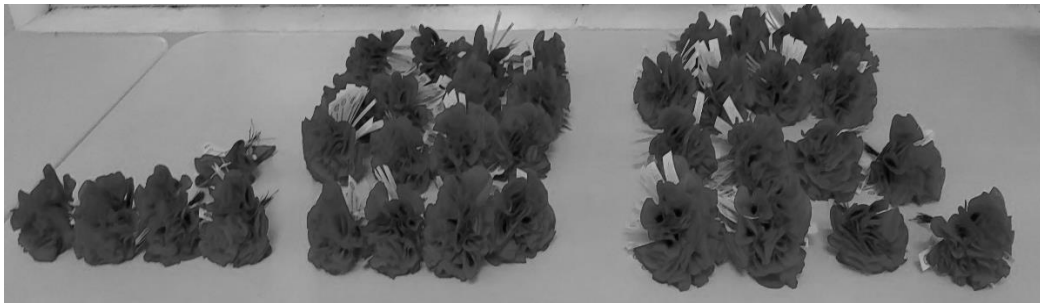
Suggested Item	Quantity	Monetary Value
Books		
Backpack/Book bag		
Loose Paper		
Notebooks		
Folders		
3-Ring Binders		
Pencils		
Pens		
Erasers		
Highlighters		
Crayons		
Colored Pencils		
Markers		
Pencil Box/Pencil Case		
Scissors		
Glue/Glue Sticks		
Ruler		
Calculator		
Craft Supplies		
Kleenex/Paper Towels		
Hand Sanitizer		
Disinfecting Wipes/Baby Wipes		
Mentoring/Reading		
Donation to School		
Donation to Library		
Donation to Scholarship		
Clothing		
Patriotic Item		
Sports Equipment/Games		
Box Tops 4 Education		
Totals:		



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Fall Conference

Fall Conference American Legion Family Challenges

With the Poppy crisis that we faced last year trying to fill the poppy orders for our units and posts, there will be an opportunity on Friday night of the Fall Conference to assist with making poppies. Please attend and bring your friends. Commander Moon and President Judy will be offering a prize for the winning team.



WOMAN VETERAN PERSONAL CARE KITS

- ❖ The VA is asking for Personal Hygiene kits to be given to our female veterans.
- ❖ Care kits will be distributed to both inpatient and outpatient veterans.
- ❖ The care kit should be packed into an oversized 8 x 11” zippered pouch.

Please consider donating these items for the personal care kits. Bring them to Fall Conference and we will pack the care kits on Friday night. The items required are listed below. The Juniors were able to pack 139 of these kits at Jr Fun Weekend. It would be fantastic if we could pack an additional 150+ at Fall Conference. Zippered Pouches and thank you cards will be provided.

Required items		Optional Items
Shampoo	Lip Balm	Travel-size Kleenex
Conditioner	Chapstick	Pen/Pencil
Deodorant (non-aerosol)	Emery Board	Small Journal/Notepad
Bar Soap	Large Comb	Word Search/Puzzle Book
Body Wash	Hairbrush	Stress Ball/Fidget Item
Toothbrush	Lotion	Slipper/Cozy Socks
Toothpaste		Handwritten Note of Thanks/Encouragement



Judy Ackerman, Department President

**2024 Fall Conference
Special Guest Speaker
2024-2025 National American Legion Auxiliary
President Trish Ward**



Fall Conference will once again be held at River's Edge Conference Center in St. Cloud October 24-26, 2024. Besides our annual Poppy Contests and the awesome AEF Silent Auction we are excited to announce

Incoming 2024-2025 National President Trish Ward

will be speaking Thursday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the main auditorium of the Convention Center.

The Department of Minnesota American Legion Family
is invited to hear Trish's message. Trish is an engaging and dynamic speaker.
You won't want to miss it!

More details about Trish's presentation will be available soon.

Registration and hotel information for Fall Conference follows.

2024 Fall Conference - Official Registration

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

Registration sliding fee:
Registration received by October 14: \$15
Registration at mnlegion.org: \$15 + \$2.85 service fee
(Online registration is available until noon October 18)
Registration at the door: \$25
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 25-26, 2024
Various committees meet October 24.

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 _____

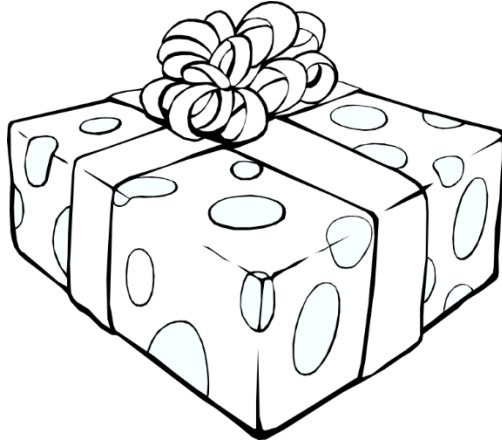
Address _____

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 with your check which
meals you desire. The deadline is October 11. Meals are
available to purchase at mnlegion.org until then, too



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Gift Shop



This 2024-2025 year is going to be exciting with the new homes in Montevideo, Preston, and Bemidji having their first Christmas gift shop for our veterans. We have three new representatives that have been working hard to help the staff with the activities. The Department of Minnesota works with 8 Homes and 4 VA Hospitals.

Please ask your Unit, Posts, and Son of the American Legion Squadron for a donation of money, as we work together as a Legion family, to give our veterans a better Christmas.

This year as your units make out the budget. PLEASE increase the account you gave to the gift shop with the three new homes. Preston, Montevideo and Bemidji, all have veterans living there. Take time to stop by one of the facilities and spend some time with our veterans.

A cherished tradition since 1928, American Legion Auxiliary volunteers collect donations or purchase items as gifts for veterans. ALA Gift Shops may be placed in a specific location within a VA facility, may take the form of tables full of gifts, or a gift card or money in their canteen account. While Gift Shops may look different at each location, the experiences for volunteer and veteran are very similar. ALA volunteers make sure that veterans confined to their rooms can participate and offer to shop for them. The Veteran fills out an information sheet that is given to an ALA volunteer member to do the shopping and wrapping. Those who may not see their loved ones over the holidays can ship their gifts at no cost to them. Last year some of the VA hospitals and homes had traditional gift shops, with items like flannel shirts, gloves, pajamas, socks, gloves, hats, slippers, blankets, watches, lotions, toys, games, and much more to choose from. All items were new and one of the favorites were the boxes of candy.

Sandy Wersal -Gift Shop Chairman
16667 Co Rd 9NE
New London, MN 56273
320-354-4517
sandywersal@gmail.com

Becky Nelson—Committee Member
3217 19th Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55407
612-968-6179
mnp/sn@aol.com



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Girls State



We had our American Legion Auxiliary MN Girls State kickoff meeting, and we are looking forward to the week of June 15 - 21, 2025 at Bethel University! The cost this year will be \$350 due to rising costs as well as no increase since 2010.

One of our goals is to try for 300 citizens. Since COVID we have gone from 400 to 200 citizens. The more citizens we recruit, the more cities and counties we have, the more fun we all will have during their week at Girls State. We will look at getting information out to home school and charter school students in addition to our high schools by the end of December. Many of the oratorical students we get are home schooled, let's try and recruit them, they certainly understand government. During Mid-Winter Rally, try to get some of your citizens in the district to come and talk to the American Legion Family.

We are going to implement doing as much electronically with registration, medical, media release forms especially, which will help GS staff and save time and money in the department office. Our citizens do everything electronically, hoping this will help with getting the forms more readily before the week begins.

A new dress code will be worked on with more clarification with pictures, this came from this year's citizens.

We will be doing a couple Zoom meetings prior to the January mailing, with district chairman for them to share information and how we all can help each other and the units. We welcome any good ideas you may have! Please share!

The SCRIP program will continue as in the past with \$25 gift cards from Target, Walmart, Cub Foods, Kwik Trip, Amazon and many more. They will be available at the Fall Conference and Rally's, great holiday gifts and stocking stuffers! The card can be reloaded on www.raiseright.com. This is a great way to donate to the ALA MN Girls State program!

Wanda Prescher, Girl's State Chairman, w.prescher1951@gmail.com

Peggy Tesdahl, Girl's State Director, ranpegt0814@hotmail.com

Amelia Tesdahl, Girl's State Education Director, ametes2014@hotmail.com

Renee Suess, Girl's State Committee Member, rsuess3@gmail.com

Jen Stolz, Girl's State Committee Member, jstolz.de@gmail.com

Kollett Kaehlert, Americanism Chairman, kkaehlert@gmail.com



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Junior Activities

The 2024 Junior Fun Weekend was held the second weekend in August, and we had 23 Juniors attend. Department Honorary Junior President, Terianna helped lead the juniors in our activities this year. We did some coloring, cards, flag folding, made pins to honor our Veterans, service project for President Judy and Robin had an activity on Bulling/Emotions. We also had some fun swimming, playing games outside and a movie night with a campfire and s'mores to end a great weekend. We were honored to have Department Commander Carl attend, and he also helped with the service project along with our Department President Judy. The service project this year was packing personal hygiene items for female veterans for the new female clinic for the MPLS VA. This year our chaperones had a project of their own while the Juniors were busy, they were busy making poppies for the Department, they made over 900 poppies over the weekend.

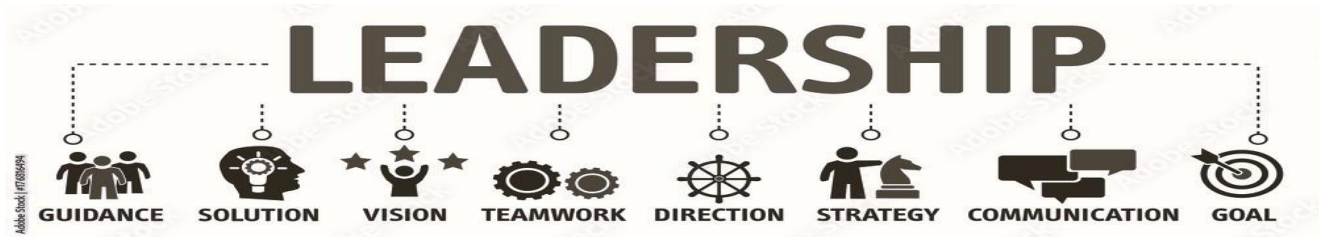


September is Junior Activities Month. As we start the new year please remember to include our juniors in your events, they are our future leaders. This year let us all help build the Junior Activities program one member at a time by giving Junior members a voice and an opportunity to participate. Juniors can do anything the Seniors can do and even contribute new ideas and suggestions.

We can promote and encourage Junior participation in the Patch Program, poppy poster contest, Junior History, Americanism essay contest, and apply for scholarships, which in turn will teach them about the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary. To make Junior meetings fun and informative.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the below information, let us all have an awesome year working with our Juniors.

Jean Walker, Department Junior Activities Chairman
218-686-1829
jmwalker1992@hotmail.com



1. What subject would you like to discuss at the workshop?
 - a. History
 - b. Accounting
 - c. ALA Programs – be specific
 - d. Unit Guide – what subject
 - e. Department Operations Guide – what subject
 - f. Constitutions, Bylaws, Standing Rules
 - g. Parliamentary Procedure
 - h. ALAMIS
 - i. Guest speakers – who would you like to hear from or what subject would you like covered?
 - j. Other – explain
2. Is Saturday the best day?
3. Is your Post willing to host the event?

Juniors will be invited to attend. What would your Juniors like to hear about?

Depending on the interest shown by our members, I am currently planning 3 or 4 workshops in various parts of the State. Remember, everyone is a leader, and all are invited to attend. Fees will be included in future correspondence.

Part of the classes will be an open forum. Any and all questions are welcome. If no one in attendance can give us the answer, we'll find someone who can and get the information back to the attendees.

Please contact your District Leadership Chairman with your responses and copy me at one of the methods indicated above. I'd appreciate a response ASAP to enable the "planning to begin".

Thanks, and looking forward to a fun-filled year with our members.

Carol Kottom, Department Leadership Chairman



This program is going to be a learning opportunity for all of us. We know our votes determine our state and Federal legislators on Election Day, but our determination should not stop there. You may be saying that you are only one person, but as a family – “the American Legion Family”, we can make a difference.

Our Legislation Program is very important to our mission to help our military and veterans. Their benefits are based on the bills that our Federal and Minnesota Congresses pass. If we don't tell our Senators and Representatives which bills we support for the benefit of our veterans, who will??

Last year some bills were passed, but some will be on the new year agenda. I will provide that information when it is available. While we are waiting for that information and this is an election year, this may be the time to invite your local, state, or Federal legislative candidates to one of your meetings. It could also be a meeting for the entire Legion Family and even the public. Have specific questions regarding their views on the bills benefiting our veterans.

There is a vast amount of available information.

<https://www.legion-aux.org/Member/Guides/Advocacy-Guide> has a downloadable copy of the Auxiliary's Legislative Advocacy Guide.

<https://www.legion.org/publications/223496/legislative-handbook> has a downloadable copy of the Legion Family Legislative Handbook

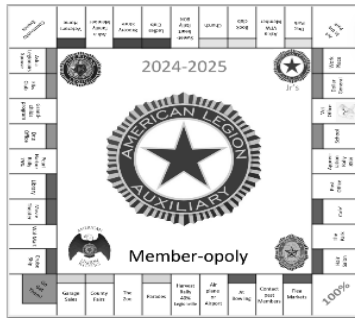
<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Register> is where you can sign up to receive American Legion legislative alerts when Family members are asked to act

I am not asking for any money – I am asking for your time, your interest, and your determination to help convince our legislators to help our veterans.

**Linda Kelly
Department 2nd Vice President
Department Legislation Chairman**



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Membership



Minnesota Member-Opoly

Well, the race is officially on. Membership is starting to roll in. The questions have started. Where do I look, who do I ask, who is eligible, when are rallies, what are these Judy Bucks I keep hearing about and how do I get mine?? All great questions.

So, as your Rich Aunt Pennybags, to answer a few of the questions I have created the Member-Opoly board. It is a simple tool that has a host of everyday places that you can look for members in or people you can ask. Example... the Elks Club, Book Club, The Café or a Legionnaires spouse, a VFW member, or your child’s teacher. These are just a few on the board. I am hoping that you will find the many places or people I have missed so that at the rallies I can write them on my Big Game Board to share with everybody.

Below is a list of the four Rally dates. I am hoping to see many of you there as that is where your Judy Bucks come into play. Your Membership Chairmen have copies of the Judy Bucks and when you sign up a new member you hand that application over to her. She will then give you a Judy Buck for every member you sign up. You will put your name, unit number and date on the back of the Judy Buck and bring it to the Rallies for a Prize. The more members you sign up for membership the more dollars you will receive in Judy Bucks’ Example... 1 member = 1 Judy Buck, 5 members = 5 Judy Bucks etc.

Rally Dates and Places

- September 21, 2024 – Harvest Rally at Fridley Post 303 – Dept. goal of 40%
- December 7, 2024 – Pearl Harbor Rally at Spicer Post 545 – Dept. goal of 75%
- February 8, 2025 - Sweetheart Rally at Royalton Post 137 – Dept. goal of 80%
- March 8, 2025 – Appreciation Rally – TBA – Dept goal of 85%

Lottery drawings at the end of membership turn in for \$75 for all units that have reached goal designated for each rally. (one winner each rally).

The Department of Minnesota’s Goal this year is 26,014 members. This is down from last year’s goal of 29,370.

!!!IMPORTANT!! THROW OUT YOUR OLD FORMS!!!

There are NEW forms for 2024-25:

- Membership Application (white)**
- Member Data Form (white)**
- Transmittal Form (white)**



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Membership

Also, 1 Correction that needs to be pointed out:

Unit Procedure for Charter Cancellation. Policy #18. Please be aware that when the charter cancellation paperwork went out to the units, the MN1982 Dues amount was incorrect. **It should be corrected to \$30 not \$25.** (Step #5) Our current 24-25 National Dues are \$18, and Dept Dues are \$12 for a total of \$30.

Units, you are the main players to increasing membership In Minnesota. You have a great District Team and a Go Get-Um Department Chairman on your side who are willing to assist you this year. Please, units that need help or have questions, call your District Chairman or me, before you call the Department office. Use us to help with questions or if you need a visit to a unit.

Here is a listing of our great team this year. If we don't have the answer for you right away, we will get it for you.

Dist #	President	Email	Membership	Email
1	Michelle Weaver	weaver.michelle595@gmail.com	Rosalie Trom	1stdistmembership@gmail.com
2	Kollette Kaehlert	kkaehlertaux@gmail.com	Pam Sandland	djs1947@charter.net
3	Tamara Thayer	tlthayer@gmail.com	Ann Bovy	abovyauxiliary@centurylink.net
4	Sandra Gibson	kensan2k22@gmail.com	Teri Rieger	sunnie55126@gmail.com
5	Cari Lamb	crlmb74@gmail.com	Jill Davis	alajilldavis@gmail.com
6	Dori Hamilton	dorihamilton61@gmail.com	Wendy Grittner	wgrittner@gmail.com
7	Sandy Wersal	sandywersal@gmail.com	Jennifer Hurst	jenhurstaluxiliary@gmail.com
8	Tamara Martin	tamaramartin1104@gmail.com	Jessica Hanna	jessicajoreinhardt@gmail.com
9	Donnarae Jacobson	drjacobson@gctel.com	Denise Milton	kuuky@hotmail.com
10	Bethany Dickert	bethany.a.dickert@gmail.com	Michelle Lesch	pmlesch@hotmail.com

*******Unit Awards from National*******

- ❖ Units reaching 100% by January 31, 2025, will receive a Unit Flag Ribbon
- ❖ New Chartered Units between 9/1/2024 thru 7/31/2025 will receive a \$25 gift card to Emblem Sales
- ❖ Recruit 10 -Any combination of Jr & Sr members by 6/24/2025- will receive a special gift selected by the National Membership Chairman (1 entry per recruiter/member)

Membership is a constant battle. We need everyone to help in this fight. But we want to make it fun again. Let's make new friends, recruit old friends, ask friends that we see every day but have never thought to ask to join. We need people to ASK. Or if you have asked years before, things may now have changed, try asking again. The answer may now be different. It can't hurt to ask. What is the worst they can say? No or Not Now. Things to think about. **WE ARE AUXILIARY, WE ARE STRONG!!!!**

Hope Wilson, Department Membership Chairman
aka: Rich Aunty Pennybags
320-304-0809
hزابroski@yahoo.com



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing National Security

National POW/MIA Recognition Day is the third Friday in September, which is the 20th in 2024. Many Americans across the United States pause to remember the sacrifices and service of those who were prisoners of war (POW), as well as those who are missing in action (MIA), and their families. It is most associated with those who were POWs during the Vietnam War.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day is so important. It is in memory of loved ones who defended our freedoms. It helps us to look back on the history of the United States. It helps us to value our freedoms knowing that families are suffering because of the consequences of fighting for those freedoms we have today.

From the DPAA website, there are so many still missing and unaccounted for.

For more information go to www.dpaa.mil

Years	War	Missing	Accounted For	Unaccounted
Dec. 1941-Dec 1946	WWII	73.677	1635	72042
June 1950-July 1953	Korean	8157	692	7465
July 1959-May 1975	Viet Nam	2641	1066	1575
Sept 1945-Aug 1991	Cold War	128	2	126
Apr 1986-Present	Gulf Wars/Libya	6	0	6

Important Dates in September

Patriot Day is the remembrance for the victims and heroes of the 9/11 attacks on September 11, 2001.

Constitution Week is celebrated every Sept. 17-23 to commemorate the adoption of the US Constitution.

Gold Star Mother’s Day is Sunday, September 29th to honor the families who have received the Gold Star.

National Suicide Prevention Month, the month of September, is a time to raise awareness to shift public perception, spread hope and share vital information to people affected by suicide. The goal is to ensure that individuals, friends and families have access to the resources they need to discuss suicide prevention and to seek help. Be the One!

The 2024
National POW/MIA
Poster

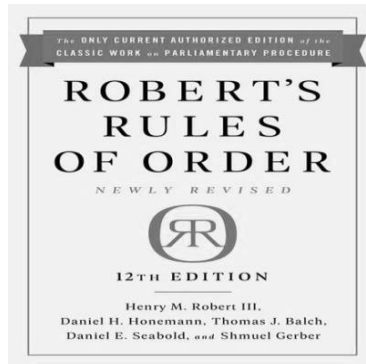


The POW/MIA flag is black and white with a silhouette bowing their head in front of a watch tower and a wreath of barbed wire to represent POW camps.

Mary Kuperus,
Department National Security Chairman



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Parliamentarian



Many units are just starting meeting again in September, this is a good time to look at your unit's Standing Rules.

What are Standing Rules?

They are rules that are related to the details of administration rather than parliamentary procedure. Many units have special customs that are special to that unit. Such as what their dues are, when they meet, if they pay the dues for anyone, or have a door prize at each meeting. Some units have a standard way of selecting delegates to Convention or if the unit has a stipend for attending. These rules should be put together, and they form what are called Standing Rules of the Unit.

Remember that Standing Rules are unique to your unit!

Standing Rules should be reviewed annually so that they can be updated. From time-to-time things change or become outdated or you may need to add a standing rule to coincide with how you changed a practice that is being done at the unit level.

When a new member joins, give them a copy of the Standing Rules, after reading them it gives them a better understanding of what some of the customs of the unit are.

When you finish reviewing and updating your Standing Rules you will need to send a copy to the Department Office, your District may also request a copy of them.

Why do I need to send a copy?

The Department Office will often receive a phone call from a member or unit officer. They have questions concerning the unit – all Units do not do everything the same, such as compensation for travel to meetings, without specific unit information the Department Office or Department Chairman will have a difficult time helping the member find the answer to her question.

It is my hope that each unit will either update their Standing Rules or if you do not have any Standing Rules yet, your unit will prepare one.

I have included the guidelines for writing unit standing rules. Remember not all items need to be listed in your standing rules.

Raleen Tolzmann, Department Parliamentarian
507-317-3240
raleen44aux@gmail.com



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Past President's Parley



November is Past President's Parley month. Units here is an opportunity to recognize your Past Unit Presidents. Most have continued to be active by coming to meetings, taking chairmanships, holding an office and volunteering for committees or answering questions.

I want to tell you a little about the American Legion Auxiliary Department of MN Past President Scholarship. It has been established to assist 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 pr other technician, dieticians, physical or other therapist, dental hygienist or dental assistant, etc.

It is a one year \$1,000.00 scholarship. The applicant must be a member of an American Legion Auxiliary unit in the Department of Minnesota, for a minimum of three (3) years; and maintain a C average or better in school if a student. The scholarship must be used for the purpose of continuing education, beyond high school, in a post-secondary educational facility. Put this information in your newsletter, let your members know about this at your meetings. **Applications must be received into the American Legion Auxiliary Office by March 15th.** Applications will be sent out to units when they send the 2024-2025 Plaques and Award material.

What is this Past President's Parley?

Who can belong?

What do they do?

A Unit Past President's Parley is made up of members who have served their Unit as President.

A District Past President's Parley is made up of members who have served as a District President.

And a Department Past President's Parley is made up of members who have served as Department President.

The purpose of the Past President's Parley is for their members to use their experience and knowledge as Auxiliary leaders for the training and encouragement of future Auxiliary leaders. Through the Past President's Parley, we are here to mentor, answer questions and help develop knowledgeable leadership to ensure a strong leadership for the future of our organization. The same purpose continues in the District and Department Past President's Parleys.

Shirley Frederick, Past Presidents Parley Department Chairman

218-409-5556

shirley.a.frederick@gmail.com



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Poppy

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

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

- ❖ Increase the number of Veteran poppy makers.
- ❖ Celebrate National Poppy Day in May -what does your Unit plan on doing.
- ❖ Have units get out in the community to promote/educate them on what the "Poppy" is used for.
- ❖ Best ways to promote the poppy program to increase revenue.
- ❖ We will also schedule some poppy making classes.

In doing some digging on the national website there is a ton of information on how units can bring awareness to this very important program. Anyone who is an auxiliary member has access to the poppy program, you might even learn something new.

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

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

Poppy entries must be brought to the Department Fall Conference at the Rivers Edge Convention Center by Friday October 25th, 2024, at 10:00am. Let's see how many tables we can fill.

President Judy and Commander Carl have decided not to have a grand march on Friday night. But some fun will still be had by all. This fun event is for the whole American Legion Family.

Gather up your best or worst poppy makers and let's see which District's will come out on top. Remember that the veterans will get paid for the poppies they make, it will be very fun.

How this is going to work each team will be made up of sister districts so five (5) teams total. The teams are 1 & 3, 2 & 7, 4 & 5, 6 & 9 and 8 & 10, they will work together to see which team will come out on top. We are hoping to get a lot of poppies made on Friday night. How many can each team make?

Lorinda Kies-Department Poppy Chairman

Contest #1-Poppy Crown

Using the ALA Poppy create a "CROWN" not a hat. You must be able to wear it, as there will be a crown parade, won't that be fun. Try and use President Judy's theme "Back to the basics-Recognize, Respect, Remember". White tags must be removed.

Contest #2-Wearable Sash

To go along with the Crown, using any poppies of any color or material, as long as it can be worn. Be creative! White tags must be removed if you are using the ALA Poppy.

Contest #3-Friday Night

Team Competition
Gather your poppy makers and team up with your sister district and let's see which team can make the most poppies. THIS IS AN AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY EVENT!!!



Department of Minnesota
September 2024 Unit Mailing
Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)

The purpose of the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee is to promote programs and services that assist and enhance the lives of veterans and their families, ensuring restoration and/or transition to normally functioning lives.

Minnesota is blessed to have eight beautiful veterans' homes, and we work with four VA Health Care Systems that serve our veterans and their families through quality care and an environment of community. President Judy Ackerman has appointed the following to serve as the home representatives this year:

Bemidji Veterans Home	Denise Milton	Bagley Unit 16
Fergus Falls Veterans Home	Doris Lafayette	Barnesville Unit 153
Hastings Veterans Home	Darlene Wondra	Montgomery Unit 79
Luverne Veterans Home	Jeannette Mertens	Redwood Falls Unit 38
Minneapolis Veterans Home	Sandy Gibson	Rosetown Unit 542
Montevideo Veterans Home	Jennifer Hurst	Montevideo Unit 59
Preston Veterans Home	Wanda Prescher	Stewartville Unit 164
Silver Bay Veterans Home	Nancy Hopper	Two Harbors Unit 109
Fargo VA Health Care System	Becky Olson	Moorhead Unit 21
Minneapolis VA Health Care System	Janet Thompson	Apple Valley Unit 1776
Sioux Falls VA Health Care System	Diane Strassburg	Adrian Unit 32
St Cloud VA Health Care System	Jan Benson	Waite Park Unit 428

We will be meeting in September for our annual VA hospital and home representatives meeting. I am excited to be working with, and learning, from each of them. They are a wealth of knowledge and dedicate their time for our veterans. If you visit one of the facilities or see them at an event, make sure to thank them for their time with our veterans. They are many times the first face of the American Legion Auxiliary to these veterans and their families.

Mark your calendar and support the Veterans Creative Arts Festivals in Minnesota!

Minneapolis VA Health Care System	1 st floor auditorium	September 9– 12, 2024	
St Cloud VA Health Care System	Building 8	September 12, 2024	noon-6pm
	Building 8	September 13, 2024	9am-4pm
	Canteen area	September 14, 2024	9-11am
National Veterans Creative Arts Festival	Indianapolis, IN	May 11-18, 2025	



Department of Minnesota
September 2024 Unit Mailing
Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)

Please consider first, when formulating your unit's budget, to donate to our Department of Minnesota American Legion Auxiliary programs. The following was approved by the Department of Minnesota Executive Committee for solicitation of funds:

American Legion Auxiliary Hospital Program

Money received is to the fund allows the hospital and home representatives to provide clothing, personal care items, special outings, events, treats, cards and much more for all the veterans utilizing our facilities.

\$5 Bill Shower

Provides a \$5 bill to all veterans in our facilities for personal use

Overall Minnesota Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program

Supports all activities we do in the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program

Gift Shop

Provides gifts to hospitalized veterans, nursing home residents and their families during the holiday season.

Minnesota Fisher House

Donations help cover support supplies, food, personal hygiene items, and other special needs for the families.

Silent Auction for our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program at the 2025 Department Convention

There will be a silent auction at the 2025 Department Convention. As the year goes by, please set aside items, or start thinking about a basket that your unit can put together.

Resources to start planning your year ~

- Department of Minnesota American Legion Auxiliary Website
www.mnala.org
- National American Legion Auxiliary Website
www.alaforveterans.org
- Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation: A Guide for Volunteers
Available on the National American Legion Auxiliary Website to download or Emblem sales to purchase
- American Legion Auxiliary Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Facebook Group
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAVAR>

Robin Dorf, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Chairman

RobinLDorf@yahoo.com

(612)483-4076



Becker Sons of the American Legion
invite you to their annual

Fall Concert

September 28 6:00-10:00pm



Music by
KAT BLUE



Benefitting Veterans families through



Minneapolis Fisher House Foundation

"Building comfort homes where military & veteran families can stay free of charge while a loved one is in the hospital."



Bravo Zulu House

"Declaring War on PTSD. We are building the first all-military sober living home uniquely designed for the needs of veterans suffering from PTSD and addiction."

Tickets sold at the door

\$10 per person \$20 per household
kids under 14 free



Food and Refreshments will be
available for purchase

This is an alcohol free event



Becker American Legion 12155 Hancock Street Becker, MN

More information on our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/squadron193/>



Department of Minnesota September 2024 Unit Mailing Treasurer

Welcome to 2024-2025

For those of you that don't know me, my name is Shannon Brown. I am your Department Treasurer. I am here to help, so please feel free to call the department office at 651-224-7634 or you can email me at shannon@mnala.org if you have any questions. I am eligible through my grandpa, Hjalmer Fredrickson, who served during WWII. My 1st article for the year will cover some key points, I won't go into a lot of detail, so if you see something that you have questions about, I would love to hear from you.

The Effects of Continued Increases in Postage and Printing Costs

As you all probably know, a 1st class letter went up another \$.05, again! This has a huge impact on the department office budget. We are trying to tread very lightly with these costs, but we will need your help to effectively manage the budget and achieve fiscal responsibility. You have a very Diligent and knowledgeable finance committee, and they are committed to getting on track and staying on track. The recommendation was made to start charging a nominal fee for copies and the full postage amount for mailing those copies. The following was presented and passed by the Finance Committee:

Black & White Copies

\$.04/Sheet Single Sided
\$.07/Sheet Double Sided

Example:

100 Single Sided B&W 100 x .04 = \$4.00
100 Double Sided B&W 100 x .07 = \$7.00

Color Copies

\$.08/Sheet Single Sided
\$.15/Sheet Double Sided

Example:

100 Single Sided Color 100 x .08 = \$8.00
100 Double Sided Color 100 x .15 = \$15.00

The full postage cost will be charged to you, but we will be using a media mail classification with USPS which will lower the cost.

Remember, all department forms and communications are online at www.mnala.org all the time, so you always have the option to print them yourselves to save money.

Get Compliant and Stay Compliant

990 HELP IS OUT THERE!! We have several volunteers that have signed up to help units with their 990 statuses, if you need it. Here is a list of those volunteers:

Jill Davis Email: alajilldavis@gmail.com

District 5 Unit 435 Richfield

Kollett Kaehlert Email: kkaehlertaux@gmail.com

District 2 Unit 11 Mankato

Sharon Voltz Email: sharon.voltz63@gmail.com

District 8 Unit 60 Grand Rapids

Roberta Elvecrog Email: relvecrog@frontiernet.net

District 6 Unit 86 Aitkin

Jen Stolz Email: jstolz.de@gmail.com

District 3 Unit 57 Chaska

Bethany Dickert Email: bethany.a.dickert@gmail.com

District 10 Unit 303 Fridley

Shannon Brown Email: shannon.n.brown@hotmail.com

District 10 Unit 334 Coon Rapids

They are expecting you! Let's make compliance a non-issue for the Department of Minnesota.

Some Key Points

- We have poppy kits in stock, so you can order and have them shipped right away. Poppy orders need to be at the department office no later than December 1st, so that we plan our poppy needs for this year. The new poppy order form is enclosed. **ALWAYS LOOKING FOR VETERAN POPPY MAKERS!**
- **THROW OUT ALL YOUR OLD FORM!!** They have been updated. The following new forms have been included: ALAMIS Request Form, Gambling Donation Form, Memorial Donation Form, Regular Donation Form & Poppy Order Form. There are also electronic forms available on our website and we are happy to email them to you upon request.
- Make sure to always check your email. There are many communications sent electronically.
- All credit memos for members that pay their dues online will be EMAILED to the membership chairman, unless otherwise requested.



American Legion Auxiliary

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

2024-25 Unit Request for ALAMIS

Member Name

Email Address

Phone #

Member ID #

Unit #

District #

Request to Replace ALAMIS User to the Member Listed Above

Request to Add a New ALAMIS User, Member Listed Above

Requested Access Level

Unit Full Access **\$20.00**

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

Unit Write Access **\$15.00**

This allows you to make profile & address changes ONLY

Unit View Access **\$10.00**

This allows you to view ONLY. You can not make any change with the level access.

**** Units are allowed to have up to 2 users****

District View Only **\$10.00**

This access is for District Officers. It allows you to veiw ONLY.

Please note the annual ALAMIS fee covers January 1st to December 31st.

Each spring you will receive an invoice from the department for the following year.

Remit your payment to:

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



American Legion Auxiliary

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

Donations Using Charitable Gambling Funds

Unit/Post #:		District #:		Location:	
Contact Name:				Phone #:	
Email Address:				Date:	
<p>Please note: This is a newly revised process that is effective immediately. There are multiple ways the donation checks need to be written. It is highly important that all donation checks be made payable to the correct entity for us to process them.</p>					
<u>Program</u>	<u>Make Check Payable to</u>				<u>Donation Amount</u>
ALA \$5.00 Bill Shower	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
ALA Hospital Program	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
ALA Gift Shop	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
ALA Dept President's Project	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
Dept Junior President's Project	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
ALA Minnesota Girls State	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
ALA Dept. Scholarship Fund	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
Armed Forces Service Center	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
Minnesota Fisher House	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
Auxiliary Emergency Fund	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
American Legion Child Welfare Fdn	Child Welfare Foundation or CWF				
Legionville	Legionville				
ALA Foundation	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation				
American Legion Family Hospital Assoc	American Legion Family Hospital Assoc or ALFHA				
Brain Science Foundation	Brain Science Foundation				
American Legion Veterans & Childrens Fdn	Veterans & Childrens Foundation				
Minnesota's - Fund #85	Minnesota American Legion Fdn (Memo Fund #85)				
Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)	The American Legion - TFA				
Total Donation					\$ -

Send all donations to the address below.

American Legion Auxiliary - Department of Minnesota
 State Veterans Service Bldg - 20 W. 12th St. Suite 314 - St. Paul - MN - 55155

Phone: 651-224-7634 or 888-217-9598

Email: deptoffice@mnala.org Website: www.mnala.org

Thank you for your generosity!



American Legion Auxiliary

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

2024-25 Memorial Donation Form

Unit #:	District #:	Location:	
Submitted By:			Date:
Phone #:		Email Address:	
Auxiliary Programs			
\$5 Bill Shower (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)			
ALA Hospital includes Veterans Rehabilitation (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)			
Gift Shop (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)			
Girls State Support			
Department Junior President's Project			
Department President's Project (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)			
Department Scholarship Fund			
Past President's Parley Healthcare Scholarship Fund			
Total Auxiliary Program Donations			\$ -
Affiliated Programs			
American Legion Auxiliary Foundation			
Auxiliary Emergency Fund			
Armed Forces Service Center (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)			
American Legion Family Hospital Association			
Child Welfare Foundation			
Brain Science Foundation			
Legionville			
Fisher House			
TFA (Temporary Financial Assistance) (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)			
American Legion Veterans & Childrens Foundation			
Minnesota's - Fund 85 (POPPY FUND ALLOWED)			
Total Affiliated Program Donations			\$ -
Donation Check #:		<input type="text"/>	Grand Total Donation
			\$ -

The programs listed above are those that have been approved for solicitation for the 2024-2025 year. Please NO NOT cross off names and submit other programs. When making your Unit's donations, please consider the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary first (they are in bold print). If your unit chooses to donate to other programs that are not listed on this sheet, please do so by mailing the donation directly to the entity.

1. Make checks payable to the **American Legion Auxiliary**
2. Mail the donation paperwork to the following:
American Legion Auxiliary - Department of Minnesota
20 W. 12th St. Suite 314
St. Paul, MN 55155
3. Donation checks MAY NOT include any other payment. DONATION PAYMENT ONLY!
4. Charitable gambling donations must be submitted with the CHARITABLE GAMBLING DONATION FORM & THE CHECK MUST BE MADE OUT TO THE PROPER ENTITY INDICATED ON THAT FORM.

Donation in Memory of:

Please send notification of donation to:
(Include Mailing Address)

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip Code



American Legion Auxiliary

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

2024-25 Donation Form *(THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE GAMBLING FUND DONATIONS)*

Unit #:	District #:	Location:
Submitted By:		Date:
Phone #:	Email Address:	
Auxiliary Programs		
\$5 Bill Shower (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)		
ALA Hospital includes Veterans Rehabilitation (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)		
Gift Shop (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)		
Girls State Support		
Department Junior President's Project		
Department President's Project (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)		
Department Scholarship Fund		
Past President's Parley Healthcare Scholarship Fund		
Total Auxiliary Program Donations	\$	-
Affiliated Programs		
American Legion Auxiliary Foundation		
Auxiliary Emergency Fund		
Armed Forces Service Center (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)		
American Legion Family Hospital Association		
Child Welfare Foundation		
Brain Science Foundation		
Legionville		
Fisher House		
TFA (Temporary Financial Assistance) (POPPY FUNDS ALLOWED)		
American Legion Veterans & Childrens Foundation		
Minnesota's - Fund 85 (POPPY FUND ALLOWED)		
Total Affiliated Program Donations	\$	-
Donation Check #: <input type="text"/>	Grand Total Donation	\$ -

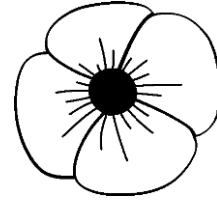
The programs listed above are those that have been approved for solicitation for the 2024-2025 year. Please NO NOT cross off names and submit other programs. When making your Unit's donations, please consider the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary first (they are in bold print). If your unit chooses to donate to other programs that are not listed on this sheet, please do so by mailing the donation directly to the entity.

1. Make checks payable to the **American Legion Auxiliary**
2. Mail the donation paperwork to the following:
American Legion Auxiliary - Department of Minnesota
20 W. 12th St. Suite 314
St. Paul, MN 55155
3. Donation checks MAY NOT include any other payment. DONATION PAYMENT ONLY!
4. Charitable gambling donations must be submitted with the CHARITABLE GAMBLING DONATION FORM & THE CHECK
MUST BE MADE OUT TO THE PROPER ENTITY INDICATED ON THAT FORM.



American Legion Auxiliary

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



2024-25 Poppy Order Form

Order Date:

Ship Date:

Shipping Address & Contact Information

Name:

Street Address:
NO P.O. BOX ADDRESSES

City, State & Zip:

Phone #:

Email:

Unit Information

Unit #:

District #:

Location:

Item	Cost		Quantity	Total
Small Poppies - Assembled (Bundles of 100 @ \$25/Bundle)	\$ 25.00	x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Large Poppies - Assembled (Bundle of 12 @ \$18/Bundle)	\$ 18.00	x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Small Poppy Kit - Unit Keeps Poppies for Own Distribution	\$ 250.00	x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
SM Poppy Kit-Returning Completed Poppies for Department Orders	\$ -	x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
LG Poppy Kit-Returning Completed Poppies for Department Orders	\$ -	x	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total Value of Ordered Poppies				<input type="text"/>

Shipping & Handling Charges

Orders up to \$50	\$ 7.00	<input type="text"/>
Orders \$51 to \$200	\$ 12.00	<input type="text"/>
Orders \$201 to \$500	\$ 17.00	<input type="text"/>
Orders \$501 to \$800	\$ 22.00	<input type="text"/>
Orders over \$800	\$ 27.00	<input type="text"/>
Grand Total Poppy Order including Shipping & Handling		<input type="text"/>

Make checks payable to: **MNALA**

Mail the order to the following address by **December 1st, 2024**

American Legion Auxiliary - Department of Minnesota
20 W. 12th St. Suite 314
St. Paul, MN 55155

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT POPPY FUNDS

The Legion set forth five criteria for the use of poppy funds:

1. For the rehabilitation of veterans honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces after April 6, 1917;
2. For the welfare of the families of veterans of the above named period;
3. For the rehabilitation of hospitalized military service personnel returning home and awaiting discharge who require treatment in service hospitals;
4. For the welfare of veterans, active military personnel, & the families of veterans & active military personnel of the above named period where financial & medical need is evident or;
5. For the purpose of poppy kits and supplies used to make symbolic poppies and poppy items that will be distributed for donations to the Poppy Fund.

Poppy Funds CANNOT be used for:

1. Any general operating fund of a department, unit, or post.
2. Any community service project that does not strictly benefit the welfare of an individual veteran/military servicemember or the welfare of his/her family.
3. General maintenance, beautification, or improvement projects of American Legion or Auxiliary facilities, including adding ramp(s) to a post home.
4. Investments, even those that would bring profit to the unit or post.
5. POW/MIA programs.
6. Memberships, including other veteran support organizations such as Gold Star Mothers.
7. Contributions to, or payouts from, the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.
8. ALA Girls State/ALA Girls Nation fees.
9. Flags or flagpoles.
10. Scholarships which do not restrict eligibility solely to military servicemembers or their children, or where financial need is not evident.
11. Mileage, travel, or lodging expenses; registration of conference fees; or costs incurred by a person – including ALA members, volunteers, and staff – to attend any meeting, conference or event, even if it is about veterans, military, or any other topic.
12. Attire or uniforms used by volunteers or staff in promoting or conducting ALA program activity or business

For more information on the Poppy Program & to view the entire Poppy Program Guide, please visit the ALA website:

www.legion-aux.org