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AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY

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NOVEMBER 2023 DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

2023-2024 DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

Page 10	Delete Vicki Cyboron & Jim Costello from Resolutions
Page 17	Justina Birkel's phone number is her cell number
Page 20	Donna Hatfield's correct home phone is 308-324-3696
Page 22	Cindy Lukan's email should have a "c" at the beginning plus she is using CindyL_Dist11Pres2023@hotmail.com for her District 11 email
Page 22	Kathy Mazur's email address is mazur_kathy@yahoo.com
Page 24	Lori Reimers street address should be 2011 24 th Street
Page 25	Michele Tegtmeier's home phone number is 402-865-4235
Page 27	Barb Washburn's email should be bwashburn827@gmail.com
Page 27	Cathy Webbers' email should be catweb1971@gmail.com
Page 32	Juniors Chaplain is Kendall Kasl from Dorchester

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NATIONAL SECURITY

Vicki Ozenbaugh

Remember that National Security is our way to help our military and Veterans to be "free from care." As we move into the family holiday time of year, continue to do our part to provide for them.

- Host a food drive to provide items to the military installations or Veterans homes.
- Pack Christmas Stockings with goodies to send to those serving in foreign lands or to our Veterans in nursing homes or our Veterans homes.
- Clip coupons.
- Participate in packing and sending Care Packages.

Whatever you may do, please keep records (miles, hours, dollar amounts) so you can report it in April. Also, let this chair know what you are doing so it can be shared on the National Security ZOOM quarterly meetings.

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION (VA & R)

Beverly A. Neel, Chair – 402 369 0152 – bbneel1912@gmail.com

Veterans Dollar Days have begun, and I hope you have been able to get to at least one of the facilities to share our thankfulness to our beloved Veterans. Our presence alone is appreciated, and you can see that in the eyes of the Veterans. They so enjoy being remembered.

December is just around the corner, and we have more opportunities to serve and express our thankfulness. Gifts for Yanks celebrations are priceless experiences. Our facility chairs/representatives prepare some great memories for all of us at these events. If you are able, be there, volunteer to hand out the refreshments.

Remember to send greetings to “Any Veteran” at our Nebraska Veterans Homes and VAMCs. We can get Thanksgiving cards sent now and be ready to get Christmas greetings ready soon thereafter. Junior members are a great asset to creativity in this area. Provide the materials and they will provide the inspiration.

If you have not visited the Veterans facility in your area lately, please take time and carpool over and introduce yourself to the staff who help us do what we do best – volunteer and entertain. You may be able to sign up to do something special from your local Legion Family. As the seasons change, so does the ability to have the Veterans travel to your location. Therefore, you need to go to them. You will not regret the few hours you can spend with these special folks.

Reach out to your facility ALA chair or rep to see what items may be needed at the facilities that your Unit may be able to contribute to or purchase outright. Sometimes the Homes could use clothing items that are new or gently used, so check with the Homes first before you clean out your closets and drop items off. They may have specifics they wish to have on hand when a need arises. Tee shirts, socks and underwear may be such special items. Please do not just show up and drop off items. Prepare the Homes for your giving and ensure they can use what you have available.

Thank you to every ALA member for all you do. Please keep up the great work and remember your efforts and time are greatly appreciated by the Veterans and myself. We do know “Who we Are,” “What we Do,” and “Why it Matters.” You are the best. Blessings to all.

9 8 8 prompt 1 – BE – THE – ONE PREVENT VETERAN SUICIDE

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTERS (VAMC)

Grand Island VA Medical Center (GIVAMC at Grand Island)

Representative Vicki Cyboron 402 740 5665 vcyboron@aol.com

Nebraska & Western Iowa Health Care System (NWIHCS at Omaha) (VAMC) –

Representative Paula Pillen 402 630 6583 ppillen2@gmail.com

Papillion Community Living Center (PCLC at CHI Midlands Hospital, Papillion)

Representative Paula Pillen 402 630 6583 ppillen2@gmail.com

CBOC (Community Based Outpatient Center)

Lincoln Community Based Out Patient Clinic (CBOC at Lincoln)

Associate Presentative Linda Varejcka 402 580 2459 jfvarejcka@windstream.net

NEBRASKA VETERANS HOME

Central Nebraska Veterans Home (CVNH at Kearney)

Chair Kathy Fisher 308 627 4454 C 308 237 7234 H kmloskill1@charter.net

Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home (ENVH at Bellevue)

Chair Leatrice Doolen 402 547 7500 leatricedoolen@msn.com

Norfolk Veterans Home (NVH at Norfolk)

Chair LaRee Kubes 402 841 6813 lareekubes@yahoo.com

Western Nebraska Veterans Home (WNVH at Scottsbluff)

Chair Cecil Doshier 308 631 7092 cddoshier@charter.net

Hot Springs Veterans Home (HSVH at Hot Springs SD)

Associate Representative Karol Lockmon 308 327 2687

EDUCATION – Cathy Webber
Catweb1971@gmail.com – 308-470-0689

As you notify your schools of the Nebraska ALA Scholarships (included in the October Newsletter and available on nebraskalegionaux.net), please include information about the scholarships available from the National level. For the ones that the student must apply for online, National will send any submissions back to our Department for judging.

Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship

Three \$5,000 scholarships are awarded annually per geographic division, for a total of fifteen scholarships. These scholarships are for undergraduate study only at a four-year accredited college or university, and may be used for tuition, books, fees, room, and board. Apply online (alaforveterans.org).

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

One \$2,000 scholarship is awarded annually per Auxiliary geographic division. Applicants may be pursuing training in a certified, trade, professional, or technical program, or a two-year or four-year degree program. Apply online (alaforveterans.org).

Spirit of Youth Scholarship

The Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund is an umbrella that supports three separate scholarship opportunities for participants in American Legion Auxiliary programs. One is for American Legion Auxiliary Junior members, another for the Junior Members of the Year, and one is for participants in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation program. Apply online (alaforveterans.org).

Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship

American Legion Auxiliary Junior members are the future of our organization. To reward those who retain their membership into adulthood, the American Legion Auxiliary offers the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship to current college students. Ten scholarships, in the amount of \$2,500 each, will be awarded to current college students. Two scholarships will be awarded in each division of the American Legion Auxiliary. The scholarship is a grant, not a loan. Student can complete the application online, print it, and present it to the Unit or the Unit can download the application to make available to the student (alaforveterans.org).

The James H. Parke Memorial Scholarship

Each Veterans Affairs medical center may nominate one Veteran Affairs Volunteer Services (VAVS) Student Volunteer to be considered for this scholarship. Recommendations may be made by any VA staff member who acts as a supervisor of the student volunteer or member of the local VAVS Committee. This recommendation should be discussed with the Chief, Center for Development & Civic Engagement, before submission to the Medical Center Director. To be eligible, candidates must have completed one hundred hours of regularly scheduled VAVS volunteer service during the calendar year prior to September 1; be a student in the 10th grade or above; and have not reached their 19th birthday. This scholarship is initiated by the VA Medical Center, not the student.

2023-2024 CENTERPIECES AND TRAY FAVOR ASSIGNMENTS – Mary Krause

MONTH	Grand Island VA Med Centerpieces 11 Centerpieces	Central NE Veterans Home 175 tray favors	Bellevue Eastern NE VA Home 24 Centerpiece	Norfolk VA Home 20 Centerpieces	Western NE VA Home 13 Centerpieces	Western NE Home 70 Tray Favors	Omaha Med Center 75 Tray Favor
Nov '23	#283 Platte Center	#218 Exeter	#168 Pawnee City	#357 Brunswick	#10 Morrill	#10 Morrill	#160 Polk
Dec '23	#257 Eustis	#11 Hastings		#302 Leigh	#10 Morrill	#133 Culbertson	#243 Plymouth
Jan '24	#288 Farnum	#377 Wilcox	Girl State 2023	#16 Norfolk	#7 Alliance	Girl State 2023	#264 Dorchester
Feb '24	#251 Arcadia	District 6 Juniors	#353 Louisville	#80 Humphrey	#301 Dalton		#354 Pleasant Dale
Mar '24	#126 Broken Bow	#285 North Loup		#70 West Point	#213 Wallace	#213 Wallace	#374 Millard
Apr '24	#225 Eddyville	#288 Farnum					#264 Dorchester
May '24		#52 Kearney	#264 Dorchester				
Jun '24				#127 Craig			
Jul '24	#310 Gibbon			#283 Platte Center	#7 Alliance		
Aug '24				#175 Harty-McNally			
Sept '24							
Oct '24				3307 S. Sioux City			
Nov '24							
Dec '24					#7 Alliance		



CHAPLAIN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Vicki Cyboron

With Christmas Season coming upon us, I am looking forward to the wonderful memories from past years. Growing up we did a lot of Christmas decorations, baking, singing, and most importantly celebrating the meaning of Christmas. One item that my mom would make each year was Peppermint Bark. My mom's recipe is simple, but the main ingredient was crushed candy canes. This year when I see a Candy Cane, I am going to think of my mom. When researching different items for the Christmas Program, I found this flier and fell in love with 'The Meaning of the Candy Cane' and I would like to dedicate this to my mom, for her love of Christmas.

"The Meaning of the Candy Canes" by Helen Haidle-The Candymaker's Gift
SeedFaithBooks.com

Hard Candy

Reminds us that Jesus is like a 'rock,' strong and dependable.
(Read Psalm 31:3)

Peppermint Flavor

Reminds us of the gift of spices from the wise men.
(Read Matthew 2:11)

White Candy

Stands for Jesus as the holy, sinless Son of God.
(Read 1 John 1:7)

Cane Shape

Is like a staff used by shepherds in caring for sheep.
Reminds us of Jesus, our “Good Shepherd.”
(Red John 10:1-18, 27:30)

The Letter “J”

Is the first letter in the Name of Jesus, our Savior.
Read Matthew 1:21)

The Color Red

Reminds us that Jesus is the Gift of God’s love.
Reminds us that Jesus shed His blood for us.
(Read John 3:16 and Revelations 1:5)

The Stripes

The large stripe reminds us of the cross on which Jesus died.
Three small red stripes remind us of His sufferings from
the whip on his back, the crown of thorns on his head,
And the nail wounds in His hands and feet.
(Read John 19:1-30)

I wish you a blessed holiday season with your family and remember the reason we
celebrate each year. God Bless You All and Merry Christmas to each one of you!



2023-2024 National Community Service Program Awards Information

Marla Furrow

402-587-0927 – marlamae58@yahoo.com

There are three national awards for this program. Two of them are Unit Awards and one is a Department Award. When submitting your ALA Nebraska Report Form for End-of-Year Reports, also submit a narrative of one of your special Community Service Projects, along with photographs and any other supporting information you may have. These reports are due to the Department in **mid-April**. From the entries submitted, I will select the best in each category to submit from the Department of Nebraska to National. Entries must be submitted by me to National (electronic form) on or before June 1, 2024.

- Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Community Service Program (per division)
- Unit Award: Best Promotion of American Legion Family Day (last Saturday of April) which was April 29, 2023
- Department Award: Best Department Community Service Program.

Excellent sources of information and ideas are:

- legion-aux.org (National website)
- nebraskalegionaux.net (State website)

Please go to the National website, search Community Service, click on the “Community Service Program Awards.” You can print this page and add it to your ABC Book.

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ATTENTION – ATTENTION – ATTENTION NEBRASKA JUNIOR MEMBERS

A reminder that any Junior that is eight years old or older should be making plans to attend the National Junior Meeting in Lincoln on Saturday, February 3. They will have the opportunity to meet new friends, do a service project for caregivers, and have tons of fun!

Registration is an online process. Visit the National website (alaforveterans.org) under the events tab. Select the “Register” tab to be directed to the page with the five choices. Be sure to select the “Lincoln Registration Click Here” link. The cost is \$65.

Do not let the cost stop them from going! Remember, President Lisa’s project is to reimburse each Nebraska Junior’s registration cost once they have attended the meeting.

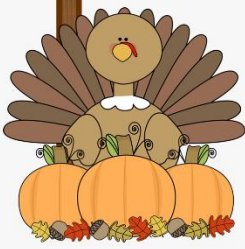
Is this Junior meeting right for your Juniors?

- Yes - if they are interested in meeting other Junior members and national leaders outside of our local area who share their passion for helping veterans!
- Yes - if they want to share great ideas with other Junior members across the country and learn more about what it means to be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary!

Register your Juniors TODAY!

From the ALA Department Office...

We are
Thankful for
YOU!



Grab your mittens – it's snow time! The Department wishes to thank all the units for sending in donations. Our VA Facility reps are tuning up for Veterans Days and Christmas celebrations. Your generosity is a blessing for our Veterans.

Also, scholarship donations are helping our children with continuing their education.

All the 990's have been filed. If you have any updates for the 8822b, be sure to send them this year. Every document that you receive from this office is important to us. The information you send to us gets updated as soon as possible.

We sent out the checks for Online payment refunds to the unit membership chair. The paperwork shows who has paid online, date and the amount owed to the unit. The smallest check amount was \$2.75. If you did not receive a check, your membership chair will still receive the names of the members from your unit that did pay online.

The deposits we received from National shows online payments only through the first week of October. When we receive the next online report and deposits, we will send Units their payment refunds.

With access to ALAMIS you can view the online payment report under Unit Reports.

