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AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT of
NEBRASKA
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Lincoln, Nebraska
68528

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MARCH 2025 DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

UNIT PRESIDENTS

It is important that the information in this newsletter is shared with all members. Please share this newsletter at your meetings and inform others that all Newsletters are available on the Nebraska Website (nebraskalegionaux.net). Thank you!!

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

First, I want to thank all of the Units and members for their hard work in membership in the last month! On January 13 we were at 75.16% and on February 16 we were at 80.30%. That is a 5.14% increase, which is phenomenal! We are so close to reaching the 85% target mark by March 15. If you need any assistance with membership or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Department Secretary Roxanne, Membership Chair Loree, or me and we will do our best to get you the answer.

Please make sure you are sending in membership as it comes in. We have had some members reach out and say that they paid dues to their Unit, but it was never mailed in to Headquarters for payment. Members who were not paid by January 31 are now delinquent. There are programs that require three years of membership, so please don't be the reason a member is not eligible to apply. I am asking that all units reach out to their members to remind them to pay their dues. Especially Junior members, because there are some scholarships eligible to only Junior members and they have to be member for three consecutive years to qualify.

District Conventions are in full swing, and I know that the officer team is so excited to attend and see many of you there! We are encouraging as many members and Units to attend the meetings. Each of the Districts has to have at least 20% of their Units at the meeting for a quorum to conduct business. Contact your District President if you need any information or any other details.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my travels so far this year and am looking forward to the next ones! I have been able to meet so many members and hear the wonderful things that our members are doing. I know that Nebraska has a special group of members, and we are doing great things to support our veterans, active-duty military, and our children. It is really important that we report these activities on the year-end report and let everyone know what we are doing! The new report form is included in this newsletter, and I do hope that every Unit fills it out and mails it in. The fillable version is also on our website. The due date is April 15.

I know I have said it before, but please let me know if you would like me to come to your meeting or event and I will do my best to attend. Here is to a great 2025 for everyone!

"Always Remembering Their Service"
Amanda Washburn – 402-480-1472 (C)

From the Secretary's Desk.....Roxanne Hiatt
402-466-1808 – nealasec@gmail.com

We are in kind of in a lull here in the office since Mid-Year but don't worry, things will pick back up with a rush in March.

Girls State Applications should already be into Department, Units, be looking for acceptance letters and check with your delegate. They should be looking for their WELCOME LETTER with their code to finish registration and forms online.

Americanism Essays should be judged in your Units and in the hands of Americanism Chair Cie Kauth by March 15 for Department Judging.

Department Scholarship Applications are due into headquarters March 15. Units, we can't stress enough how important it is to review these applications before you forward them on to the Department. One omission of a required piece of the application and it will cost the applicant the opportunity to be in the judging. Take the time to check it over, please.

Your **Unit Data Form** is enclosed. Please note it is due back to Department by April 15. If your Unit votes to raise your Unit dues, this form ensures the correct Unit dues amount will be on the National dues notice in September. Please, return this form AND make sure the information for the dues remit (unit membership) person is on there.

Preparations are underway for **Department Junior Convention** in St Paul on April 5. Put it on your calendar.

Unit Report Forms are also here in this letter. Hopefully you have all recorded your activities and they are ready to be transferred into these forms. It would be nice to see many reports returned. We are sometimes unsure whether they are received or not. Report and let us know what you are doing in the programs most dear to you and then return to Department by April 20.

There are Units that are 100% in **Membership** and congrats to them. There is still quite a bit of unpaid membership out there. Please continue working on your Unit membership.

The office staff now have new email addresses. They are:

- Secretary Roxanne – nealasec@gmail.com
- Treasurer Jacki – nealatreas@gmail.com

They are now in use, and we would like everyone to begin using them. The Windstream email is still in use, and we are checking it daily, but we are notifying all our users and vendors to transition to the Gmail addresses. Letterhead and forms are beginning to reflect the new emails. Hopefully with the new address and now the new emails, we will soon catch up and improve our service to members. The phone remains the same as 402-466-1808.

You should be preparing for **Poppy Day** and **Memorial Day** in May. This is a good use of our Juniors and young Sons.

District Conventions are starting. Remember that here in the office we will need the new officer's information as soon as you have it.

You know after District Conventions that Department Convention in Columbus is not too far off. We are already working on those plans here in the office. As always, call if you have questions.

**Department Treasurer – Jacki O’Neill
(712) 574-5070 (C) - nealatreas@gmail.com**

Currently I am filing the 990’s for the units. You will receive a copy of the filing later in the year.

Have you ever wondered how much our Units donate to our different programs? I thought you might be interested, so the following is what has been donated thus far.

August 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025

Scholarships

Little Red Schoolhouse - \$4,175

Career Tech - \$1,540

Past President’s - \$1,057

Department President

Units - \$2,754

Posts - \$3,513

Total - \$6,267

\$5,000 of these donations was sent to President Amanda’s project—the National Creative Arts

Junior President - \$1,265

Permanent Member - \$1,913

Poppy Revenue - \$7,812

Gold Star - \$370

Women Veterans - \$1,879

Gifts For Yanks

Units donations - \$6,910

Total donations - \$21,326

Veterans Affairs

Special Gifts – 14,274

Dollar Days - \$8,373

Assessments per Membership

Home Assessment - \$3,241

Gift Shop - \$4,847

If your unit has not sent in the donations, we accept them all year. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

At our Mid-Year Conference the DEC voted on a Department Fundraiser. See the flyer included in this newsletter for the details.

One more bit of information. If you have any questions specifically related to finances or need to contact me, you can email me at nealatreas@gmail.com.

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HISTORIAN – Vicki Cyboron – 402-740-5665 – vcyboron@aol.com

In the last STAR, I gave a challenge to each Unit finding out how your Post Family received their Post name. Boelus Post Family #201 name is Shipman Morgensen Post Family #201. The name is for two Veterans that was killed in WWI. *Schipman-Mogensen Post was named after Private Emil Shipman who was killed in France during WWI and Corporal Carl G Mogensen who was also killed in France during WWI within 5 days of one another.*

I think you will be surprised at the reason for your Post family official name if it is named after someone. I wanted to say thank you to the Units that have provided me with the history of their Post Family Name.

We had our quarterly National Historian Meeting in January, and I am requesting more assistance from each of you.

1. Do you have a copy of your Unit Charter? If you do, please send a copy of it or bring it to your District Convention and give the copy to the Department Officers who are visiting your District Convention. You can send them to the Department office, and I will ask them to keep them for me. Please provide the date you were chartered. This request is from National President Trish, and it goes well with my request of a history of your Post Family.
2. March is Women's History Month, and we want to recognize a woman each day. Please send me an auxiliary member, who you would like to honor and why you want to honor them. Is there a special member in your Unit who does a lot, and you want to recognize them? Or is there an auxiliary mentor who means a lot to you? We have amazing Auxiliary members and let's honor them. A picture of this person would be wonderful. These will be posted on the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary page. If you have not joined yet, please go out and join our page, Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary.

Please send me the details to my email address at vcyboron@aol.com.

Here and now is your time to
Investigate the
Story of
The Legion Post Family for the
Opportunity to
Retain
Years of Information

Thank you for all your assistance!

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CHAPLAIN – Lori Reimers – 402-6504-8636 – lljunker66@gmail.com

You are Beautiful – Psalm 139:14
Chosen – 1 Peter 2:9
Made for a Purpose – Ephesians 2:10
A Precious Child of God – John 1:12
Loved Forever – Jeremiah 31:3

My Daily Prayer: Today is my Day! Today is the day I put aside all that worried or upset me yesterday. Today is the day I say no to any thought, any feeling, or any remembrance of past hurt or disappointment. Today is the day I say yes to Life! Today is the day I see that I can do more, be more, live more. Today is the day I know that neither my happiness nor success depend on any person, place, or thing. Today is the day I see in myself all the qualities I need to be happy, to be fulfilled, to be successful in all that I undertake. Today my world is fresh and new! Today I am filled with self-confidence, with the assurance that I am the master of my life. Today I set about to accomplish Great Things, to live up to the high expectations I have set for myself. Today I will succeed for God is with me, and His Spirit in me is my inspiration and my Capability. Today Is My Day! And So It Is!

If you are submitting a Prayer Book for your District Convention, the information and rules were included in the November 2024 Newsletter.

Please send prayers for Amanda's Prayer Book to me by May 15. Send by mail—2011 24th Street Central City, NE 68826 or email lljuncker66@gmail.com.

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MEMBERSHIP – Loree Hendrickson, Chair
402-759-6016 (C) - loreeh@hotmail.com

729 members – as of this writing, that’s how many members Nebraska still needs to join or renew prior to March 15 (just 3 members per Unit) in order to meet the membership qualification for the National President’s Merit Medallion for Excellence. Hopefully, by the time you’re reading this, Nebraska will have already met that goal.

So, who has helped us in our effort to reach 85%? Every Unit who held a membership recruitment event and every member who individually recruited a new member(s). **THANK YOU, UNITS AND MEMBERS, FOR YOUR RECRUITMENT EFFORTS!**

One year ago at this time (mid-February), just 6 Units had reached **100% in membership. Yet this year, 19 Units (fully 3 times as many) have already met this mark.** Congratulations to the following:

Crawford Unit #138 – 142.31%	Broadwater Unit #312 – 100.00%
Morrill Unit #10 – 113.89%	Cortland Unit #253 – 100.00%
Loup City Unit #48 – 108.33%	Davenport Unit #335 – 100.00%
Bayard Unit #200 – 106.25%	Mullen Unit #109 – 100.00%
Arcadia Unit #251 – 105.06%	Overton Unit #277 – 100.00%
Cook Unit #360 – 103.23%	Plymouth Unit #243 – 100.00%
Shubert Unit #222 – 103.13%	Potter Unit #291 – 100.00%
Paxton Unit #303 – 102.38%	Western Unit #255 – 100.00%
Dodge Unit #122 – 101.69%	Wilcox Unit #377 – 100.00%
Beemer Unit #159 – 101.67%	

How many more Units will get to this goal before March 15? Keep recruiting, Nebraska!

To end this column, let’s once again check in with our Districts’ Husker teams. **7 of Nebraska’s 13 Districts (over half!) have passed the 85% mark for membership**, and another 2 are within a stone’s throw of doing so. All 13 Districts are above 75%.

- **District 11** has taken over the lead with 87.31%. Their corresponding team, Women’s Volleyball, finished the year in the Final Four at the NCAA Championships.
- **District 3** remains in second place, but are closing in at 87.22%. Men’s Baseball began their season this past weekend (as of this writing) and are off to a 2-1 start.
- **District 13** has moved into third place with 86.11%. Men’s Football ended its season with their first Bowl win since 2015.
- **District 9** jumped up one place to 85.85%. Men’s Wrestling is also working hard, compiling a 10-3 record thus far.
- **District 7** is nipping at District 9’s heels with 85.82%. Their team, Women’s Basketball, has pulled off some impressive wins, compiling a 17-9 record.
- Meanwhile, **District 5** is in the Top 4 mix as well with 85.76%. Men’s Basketball is mirroring their female counterparts by also compiling a 17-9 record.

- **District 2** is right there, too, with 85.59%. Men's Track & Field has had some impressive individual wins, but no team scores as of yet.
- **District 12** is at 84.78% and needs just 3 members to roll over to 85% (again, as of this writing). Their team, Women's Bowling, has finished in the Top 5 of every tournament they have participated in this year.
- **District 1** has now cracked the Top 10 with 83.85%. Like their male counterparts, Women's Track & Field has boasted some terrific individual accomplishments, but hasn't had a team score as of yet.
- **District 6** also reached the Top 10 at 81.32%. Men's Gymnastics lost a close meet to Illinois to start their season, but came back strong just two weeks later to make their record 1-1.

Districts 10, 8 and 4 are in 11th-13th place with 76.62%, 75.50%, and 75.44%, respectively.

Keep it up, Nebraska ALA members. We will make Husker Nation proud in 2025!

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POPPY – Elsa Knight – 402-762-5056 – knightelsa15@gmail.com

Poppy Centerpiece Contest

The 2025 rules were sent to your District President's in January to share with all Units. If you have any questions, please let me know and I can share the rules.

Poppy Poster Contest

A reminder that the Poppy Poster deadline is April 15. They are supposed to be mailed to: Elsa Knight
 Poppy Chairman
 1805 Ryons St
 Lincoln, NE 68502

The rules for the contest can be found on our website at nebraskalegionaux.net/poppy/.

Little Miss Poppy Contest

The Little Miss Poppy Contest is open to all Juniors age 6-12. The guidelines for the Little Miss Poppy Contest can be found on our website at nebraskalegionaux.net/poppy/.

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JUNIORS – Crys Bauermeister – 402-649-7028 – cbauermeister@gmail.com

JUNIORS MEETING NOT FOR THE BIRDS!

Join us for a day of fun at the Nebraska Junior Auxiliary Convention on Saturday, April 5, starting at 10 am in St. Paul.

Honorary Junior President Shia Rasmussen has chosen *Coming Together Like Birds of a Feather* as her theme, so expect some bird related fun. We will also have visitors from the Department of Nebraska there as well.

Any Junior member who is in good standing and present at the meeting shall be eligible for election to an office if she has not reached her 18th birthday prior to that election. Maybe a Junior you know could fill the roles of Honorary Junior President, Vice President and Historian. The Honorary Junior President will nominate someone to fill the chaplain position.

Remember you can bring your history, prayer and publicity books, poppy centerpieces, and crafts to be judged.

We hope to see at least twenty (20) junior members at the meeting, so plan to fill your vehicles and head to St. Paul on April 5.

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LEGISLATIVE – Barbara Washburn – 402-521-0016 – bwashburn827@gmail.com

Hopefully, you read the 2025 Nebraska Legislative Day article in the February/March issue of "The Nebraska Legionnaire". We are all responsible for educating ourselves about legislation at the State and National level. By visiting the Nebraska Legislature's website, <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/>, you can access our Unicameral's workings, including daily agendas, legislation being considered, and more. Be sure to contact your State Senator with questions and input about bills under consideration.

At the National level, you can visit the Grassroots Action center to sign up for alerts and search for veteran-connected legislation (<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>). Once you have signed up for alerts, watch your email for "calls to action." You are guided to a prepared letter about the topic, and by using your address, an email is sent directly to your Senator and/or Representative in DC. This is an easy way for our voices to be heard "on the hill."

The National Legislative Committee is holding a contest to determine which Departments respond to the most Action Alerts. If you haven't already signed up, please do so now.

The **ALA Legislative** Facebook page is an excellent tool if you're looking for ideas for your Unit. Please consider requesting membership to receive the latest information about the American Legion's Legislative Agenda.

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AMERICANISM – Cie Kauth, Chair – 402-369-2266 (C) – cie.kauth@gmail.co,

Hello. Hopefully everybody has been having a good year. I have been slowly getting in some of the essays. I can't wait to get everybody's to start looking over them. Don't forget to send me the essays by March 15. Here is my address: Cie Kauth, PO Box 97, Belden NE 68717. I'm also hoping that everyone has been working on anything and all things Americanism because Americanism is all over the place.

More Americanism from Vicki Ozenbaugh, NW Americanism Chair

Just a couple of items I would like to share from the National Americanism team. One is the "You're a Grand Old Flag" Challenge. Get your singing voices warmed up, be creative, and video tape your Unit, County, District, Juniors, or any group singing the song that was written by George Cohan in 1906. Submit your video by March 20, 2025, to National Americanism Chair Christine Trahan at christinet2121@yahoo.com. Your video will be posted on the National Americanism Facebook page. The winners (one from each Division) will be announced March 30. See the Nebraska website for complete information.

The second is when you complete your Unit's Year End Reports. plan to write a narrative to submit for the Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Unit Americanism Program. Your narrative cannot exceed 1,000 words and should include specific examples of how your unit delivered the mission service in Americanism. Be sure to include high-resolution action pictures and scans or links to news article. Your entry must be submitted via the electronic form that is found on the National website. The deadline is June 1, 2025.

Let's do this, Nebraska!!

**GIRLS STATE – Vicki Ozenbaugh, Chair
402-759-0411 (C) – ala.ozenbaugh@gmail.com**

As I shared in your last issue of *THE STAR*, volunteers are the key to a successful Girls State week. And ALA members are the best when it comes to volunteering! The following are the three areas that I am requesting volunteers for this year's Girls State.

Girls State Store—The Girls State Store is where the girls (and staff) can do their shopping from a variety of Girls State items. I am looking for volunteers to cover a two-to-three-hour period each day. The exact times will be determined by the daily schedule.

Ballot Election on Wednesday—To provide the girls with the experience of how elections are held, a ballot vote will be utilized for the General Election on Wednesday, June 4. If you would like to assist, I would like six to eight "Election Day Workers."

Sponsor a Town (floor)—This is new this year. Your Unit can volunteer to sponsor a "snack" night for one of the town floors. You would only provide for one floor on one night. Suggestions would be popped popcorn, cookies, snack mix, trail mix, fruit, etc. All items must be commercially made (store bought) and for approximately 30-35 people. This will require 40 units to volunteer. (Thank you to those who have contacted me already!)

If you or your Unit would like to volunteer for any of the above, please call me (402-759-0411) or email me (ala.ozenbaugh@gmail.com). I will have a schedule for the Girls State Store and Sponsoring a Town to fill out as well as the list of those wishing to work in the Election. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help!

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V A & R – Beverly Neel – 402-369-0152 – bbneel1912@gmailcom

(The following two articles were submitted by Beverly Neel.)

Military and Veteran Caregiver Network

Are you a caregiver to a veteran? Do you know someone who is? Chances are you can say yes to one or both of these questions. Being a caregiver is a big job and recognizing PNP Kathy Daudistel's focus was on recognizing and supporting our veteran caregivers. Our caregivers need support, but where can they turn to when they need that support? There are a variety of resources out there, from your VA's to other community-based programs, such as the American Red Cross' Military and Veteran Caregiver Network (MVCN).

The mission of the MVCN is to provide our military and veteran caregivers of all eras with peer support to reduce isolation and increase connection, engagement, knowledge, skills and hope. The MVCN offers a variety of programs to further its mission, including online peer support communities, a peer mentor support program and both online and community-based peer support groups.

You can sign up to receive a weekly 10–15-minute wellness opportunity delivered to your inbox through the online calendar. These weekly practices are designed to teach mindfulness skills geared to enhance your whole health and decrease stress. You can also sign up to join various caregiver groups.

The MVCN also provides links to other resources such as food, housing, health and a myriad of other categories through its resource library. Simply enter the topic you are looking for help or support on and your zip code to see links to the various resources available either online or in your area.

This network offers a wide range of resources and support to help our military, veterans and those who are caregivers across all ages, eras and geographic locations. For more information on the MVCN go to www.redcross.org/get-help/military-families, or google Military Veteran Caregiver Network.

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"Veterans Honor Flights"

Linda Workman

Western Division VA&R Chairman

It's not only an Honor Flight for our brave men and women who have courageously served our country, but it's an honor for our members to be part of this exciting and amazing trip that our Veterans can go on.

Airports across the country have Honor Flight ground crews that actively assist the hubs as they make their way from the gate to the buses and again when they return to the airport and make their way from the buses to the gate. You and the members can become one of those ground crew members. You can also serve as a Guardian/chaperon to escort our Veterans through this amazing experience. If you are interested in serving in any of these you can email an application to the applicable Ground Crew coordinator. To find out where and when Honor Flights are accruing you can visit www.honorflight.org/schedule for information.

Another way that you can honor our veterans is to simply be at the airport when they depart or return from the trip and greet them with applause and handshake that many did not receive when they return home from war.

Get your members and Juniors involved writing Mail Call letters to those who are on the flight. Your thanks and appreciation for their service means so much to our Veterans and your simple note or letter not only will show that you appreciate them but the thanks they get is so heartwarming, it's something they will treasure for years to come.

Spread the word to your members, what a wonderful and exciting program this is with little to no cost for the members , but the riches it will bring to our Veterans is more than money can buy.

Thank you for Serving those who Served us.

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EDUCATION - Cathy Webber, 308-470-0689 - catwebb1971@gmail.com

NOW THAT YOU HAVE THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS. . .

With March 1 as the deadline for the Department Scholarships to be submitted to your Unit, what happens next? It is your responsibility to make sure the applications are completed properly prior to your submission to Headquarters by March 15.

So here are some tips on checking them.

- Has the applicant followed the directions?
- Have all questions and/or blanks been answered?
- Are the letters of recommendation in a sealed envelope? If so, YOU need to open them to check that one is from category "a" and one from category "b" as well as being on a letterhead and signed by the person writing the letter.

- Has the applicant signed where required?
- If a certified transcript is required, does it have a seal as required?

If any of the above are not completed, you can return it to the applicant to properly complete it. When they have and they return it to you, recheck for accuracy and complete the third page. Then submit it to Department Headquarters by March 15.

If the applicant does not have a unit in their community, have them contact me at the above phone or email, and I will find the closest unit for them to forward their application.

Each unit may submit applications for all three scholarships, but each scholarship must be for a different student.

If you need information about the scholarship applications, they can be found on the website at www.nebraskalegionaux.net.

The National Scholarships are located at www.alaforveterans.org.

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CHILDREN & YOUTH – Julie Schnitzler – 308-440-9218 – jschnitzler@gips.org

ENGAGING OUR YOUTH THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

As American Legion Auxiliary members, we're dedicated to serving our veterans, our communities, and especially our youth. One of the most impactful ways we can achieve this is by hosting events specifically designed for children and young people, fostering a sense of patriotism and civic responsibility. And the best way to maximize our reach and impact? Partnering with other community agencies!

Think about the power of collaboration. By joining forces with local organizations, we can pool resources, expertise, and networks to create truly memorable and meaningful experiences for our youth. Here are some ideas to spark your imagination:

Partnering for Success: Event Ideas & Community Connections

- **Patriotic Story Time & Craft Day (Partner with Libraries & Schools):** Invite children to a reading of patriotic-themed books followed by a craft activity. Imagine children creating red, white, and blue handprints, designing poppy wreaths, or writing letters to deployed service members. Libraries offer ideal spaces and often have children's programming staff who can help with planning and promotion. Schools can help reach a large number of students, and teachers can integrate the theme into their lessons.
- **Junior Poppy Sales & Community Education (Partner with Youth Groups like Scouts & 4-H):** Engage young people in the tradition of distributing poppies and educating them about the symbolism behind these powerful flowers. Partnering with youth groups allows us to teach them about the sacrifices of our veterans while also raising funds to support vital Auxiliary programs.
- **"Planting Seeds of Service" Community Garden Project (Partner with Parks & Recreation Departments & Local Nurseries):** Engage youth in a community garden project, teaching them about service while beautifying their community. Partnering with parks and recreation departments provides access to land and resources. Local nurseries can donate plants and offer gardening expertise.
- **Flag Day Celebration & Educational Program (Partner with Local Civic Organizations & VFW Posts):** Host a Flag Day celebration that includes a flag folding ceremony, a presentation on the

history and meaning of the flag, and patriotic songs. Collaborating with other civic organizations and VFW Posts strengthens community involvement and ensures a wider audience.

- **"Operation Gratitude" Care Package Assembly (Partner with Schools & Community Centers):** Organize a care package assembly for deployed troops. Children can write letters, create artwork, and help pack essential items. Schools and community centers offer ideal spaces for these events and help reach a larger number of participants.
- **Purple Up! Day Celebration (Partner with Schools & Military Families):** Join the nation in recognizing our military children by hosting a Purple Up! Day event. Encourage children to wear purple and create thank you cards for military families to show their support and hold activities that honor the sacrifices and resilience of military kids.

Tips for Successful Partnerships:

- **Identify potential partners:** Think about organizations whose missions align with yours and who serve the youth in your community.
- **Reach out and build relationships:** Schedule meetings to discuss potential collaborations and identify shared goals.
- **Clearly define roles and responsibilities:** Create a written agreement outlining each organization's contributions.
- **Promote the event together:** Utilize each organization's communication channels to reach a wider audience.
- **Evaluate and celebrate success:** After the event, discuss what worked well and how to improve future collaborations.

By working together, we can create impactful experiences that instill patriotism, civic responsibility, and a deep appreciation for our veterans and their families, especially our military children. Let's plant these seeds of service and watch them grow!

Take pictures and enter into the Auxiliary C&Y poster contest at Department Convention in June. Monetary prizes are available for first and second place. For more information, email jschnitzler@gips.org.

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CALENDAR OF DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

March 1	District 13 – Tecumseh	March 15	District 12 – NE City
March 8	District 6 – Grand Island	March 16	District 2 – Creighton
March 15	District 3 – Hartington	March 22	District 1 – Crawford
March 15	District 7 – Columbus	March 22	District 5 – North Platte
March 15	District 8 – Herman	March 22	District 11 – Crete
March 15	District 9 – McCook	March 23	District 4 – Morrill

HEADQUARTERS HOLIDAY DATES

The ALA Headquarters are closed on specific holidays.

Please note that the office will be closed on:

Monday, May 26 – Memorial Day

Thursday, June 19 – Juneteenth Day

Friday, July 4 – Independence Day

Effortless fundraising, endless earnings

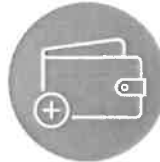
Join the 50,000+ organizations that trust RaiseRight as their #1 fundraising platform.

The Nebraska ALA is participating in a fundraising activity through Raise Right. The best part about the fundraiser is that you don't have to sell anything. Raise Right offers gift cards and other shopping codes for purchase. When people purchase items, a portion of the purchase price is sent back to the ALA.



BUY A GIFT CARD

Buy a \$100 GAP eGift card from RaiseRight with 14% earnings. Pay with your bank account, debit card, or credit card.



USE IT

Your \$100 eGift card is delivered to your online RaiseRight Wallet instantly.



EARN AUTOMATICALLY

With a 14% rebate, you automatically earn \$14 for your fundraising account. Way to go!



THANKS, GAP!

Your earnings come from the brand, so no extra money comes out of your pocket.



Fundraise faster, with multiple ways to earn

Fundraise faster with multiple ways to earn—using gift cards and online shopping through RaiseRight.

Click through to your favorite brands' websites, go shopping, and earn by completing a purchase. Plus, you can earn extra by using a gift card from RaiseRight as payment! No extra fees, just extra earnings.

Pro-Tip! Install the RaiseRight Earnings Browser Extension and never miss an opportunity to earn while shopping online.



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Contact Jacki with any questions.

<https://www.raiseright.com/enroll/SRBXQ1S3F2G5>

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2024 – 2025 Nebraska ALA Year End Report Form

Answer the following questions for each of the committees. Check the box if your Unit participated in the activity. Use the area below to share more about what you did and if there is anything you want your Chairman to know. We love to hear what you do!!

Reminder that these are due to Department by April 20th!

Americanism

Does your Unit have an Americanism Chairman?	
Does your Unit teach flag etiquette to local children?	
Does your Unit hold a flag retirement ceremony?	
Does your Unit sponsor the Americanism Essay Contest?	
Does your Unit promote "Star Spangled Kids"?	
Does your Unit say the Pledge at meetings?	
Does your Unit provide flags for local classrooms?	
Does your Unit participate in patriotic holidays?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF)

Does your Unit have an AEF Chairman?	
Do you donate to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund?	
Have you helped ALA members apply for an AEF grant?	
Did you hold an AEF Fundraiser? If so, please share more information on what you did.	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Chaplain/Gold Star

Does your Unit have a Chaplain?	
Does your Unit have any Gold Star Members? If so, do you recognize them? Explain how below.	
Does your Unit say a prayer at your meetings?	
Does your Unit submit a Prayer Book for competition?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Children & Youth

Does your Unit have a Children & Youth Chairman?	
Does your Unit wear purple for Purple Up! Day for Military Children? April 15	
Does your Unit submit any Youth Hero or Good Deed Awards?	
Does your Unit use the ALA coloring books with local youth?	
Does your Unit use the Military Child's Table Setting?	
Does your Unit recognize military children with the Kid of Deployed are Heroes 2?	
Does your Unit hold any special events for local children? If so, please share more information on what you did.	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Community Service

Does your Unit have Community Service Chairman?	
Does your Unit support local food bank?	
Does your Unit support your local backpack program?	
Does your Unit volunteer in your community?	
Does your Unit participate in American Legion Family Day?	
Does your Unit sponsor safety programs?	
Does your Unit participate in blood drives?	
Does your Unit provide food/clothing for people in your community?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Constitution and Bylaws (C&B)

Does your Unit have a C&B Chairman?	
Did your Unit review your C&B this year?	
Does your Unit use Robert's Rules of Order at your Meeting?	
Did your Unit have to make any changes to your C&B this year?	

County Government Day

Does your County have a yearly meeting?	
Does your County host County Government Day?	
Does your Unit assist with your County Government Day?	
Do you report what your Unit does at your County Government Day?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Education

Does your Unit have Education Chairman?	
Does your Unit participate in American Education Week? November 18-22, 2024	
Does your Unit participate in Teacher Appreciation Week? May 5-9, 2025	
Does your Unit share scholarship information with your local school?	
Do you have a Unit level scholarship? If so, how many and how much \$?	
Did you submit scholarships to Department?	
Did your Unit participate in Give 10 to Education?	
Does your Unit speak to students in the local school?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Cornhusker Girls' State

Does your Unit have Girls' State Chairman?	
Does your Unit go to the local school(s) to talk about Girls' State?	
Did your Unit sponsor a Girls' State delegate(s)?	
Does your Unit help with the Cornhusker Girls' State?	
Does your Unit offer a scholarship to your Girls' State delegates?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Music

Does your Unit have a Music Chairman?	
Does your Unit sing patriotic songs at your meetings?	
Does your Unit sing the National Anthem at your meetings?	

Junior Activities

Does your Unit have Junior Activities Chairman?	
Does your Unit have Junior members?	
Does your Unit have the Junior members participate in events?	
Does your Unit give a scholarship to a graduating Junior member?	
Does your Unit encourage your Junior members to apply for national scholarships?	
Does your Unit do a graduation ceremony for Junior members who are becoming Senior members?	
Does your Unit let Junior members help with meetings?	
Does your Unit Junior members participate in the Patch Program?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Leadership

Does your Unit have Leadership Chairman?	
Does your Unit recognize a Unit Member of the Year?	
Did any of your Unit members attend an ALA Mission Training or Department Leadership School?	
Did your members mentor new members or encourage someone to take a leadership role?	
Did anyone in your Unit talk about the ALA at a community event?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Past President's Parley

Does your Unit have a Past President's Parley group?	
Does your Unit participate in a County or District PPP group? If so, please include some more information.	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Legislative

Does your Unit have Legislative Chairman?	
Did your Unit attend a statewide Legislative Day?	
Did anyone in your Unit sign up for the Grassroots Legislative Action Center? These alert you on legislation that is supported by The American Legion, help you contact your Senators and Representatives, and allow you to report on meetings with your Senators and Representatives.	
Did your Unit host a Meet the Candidates night?	
Did your contact your Senators and Representatives about any veteran legislation?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Membership

Does your Unit have Membership Chairman?	
Did your Unit recruit new members this year? If so, tell what worked for recruitment.	
Did your Unit rejoin a past member this year? If so, tell what worked for getting them to rejoin.	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Historian/Cavalcade

Does your Unit have a Historian?	
Does your Unit have a Cavalcade of Memories at your building?	
Does your Unit keep records for your meetings and events?	
Does your Unit submit a History Book for competition?	

National Security

Does your Unit have a National Security Chairman?	
Did your Unit send care packages to Active-duty military members?	
Did your Unit hand out any Blue Star Banners? If so, how many?	
Does your Unit do the White Table Ceremony?	
Does your Unit observe POW/MIA Recognition Day? If so, what do you do?	
Does your Unit volunteer at your local USO or military base?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Poppy

Does your Unit have a Poppy Chairman?	
Does your Unit participate in the Poppy Poster Contest?	
Does your Unit distribute poppies? If so, how many and what do you do?	
Does your Unit share the Poppy Story with your community youth? If so, what do you do?	
Does your Unit celebrate National Poppy Day? The Friday before Memorial Day. If so, what do you do?	
Does your Unit promote the Little Miss Poppy Contest?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Public Relations

Does your Unit have a Public Relations Chairman?	
Does your Unit use social media to promote your activities? If so, what do you do?	
Does your Unit use the radio or newspaper to promote your activities? If so, what do you do?	
Does your Unit submit a Publicity Book for competition?	
Does your Unit members wear the ALA brand out in the community?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) / Service to Veterans

Does your Unit have a VA&R Chairman?	
Do you send your home and hospital assessments to Department?	
Do you donate to Dollar Days and/or Gift for Yanks?	
Do you donate items or money to the VA Hospitals or Veterans Homes?	
Do you volunteer at the VA Hospital or Veterans Homes?	
Do you donate to the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival?	
Do you provide transportation for veterans?	
Do your Unit do tray favors or centerpieces for the VA Hospitals or Veterans Homes?	
How many hours did your Unit donate towards this program?	
How many dollars did your Unit donate towards this program?	



District # _____ Unit # _____

Unit Town _____

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

150 NW 40 Unit B, Lincoln NE 68528 - Phone 402-466-1808 – Email nealasec@gmail.com or nealatreas@gmail.com

NOTE: This form determines the information that will be printed on the renewal notices your Unit Members receive.

2026 UNIT DUES DATA FORM – RETURN BY APRIL 15, 2025

Standing Rule Q – Membership #2 was amended to increase the Nebraska dues portion by \$2 beginning with the 2024 year. In addition, at the 2022 National ALA Convention an amendment was approved to increase the National dues portion by \$6 beginning in 2024. When setting your Unit Members’ dues, you will need to vote on the portion your Unit will keep. Junior dues are NOT affected by the dues increases noted. Only Senior dues.

All Senior dues collected must be \$30.25 or more to cover the Department and National portions.

National Portion of Dues	\$ 18.00
Department Portion of Dues	\$ <u>12.25</u>
Total SENIOR DUES to be mailed to Department	\$ 30.25
Unit Portion of SENIOR DUES (stays in Unit)	\$ _____
Total 2026 SENIOR DUES per Unit Member	\$ _____ (not SLM, VIM, PUFL)

National Portion of Dues	\$ 2.50
Department Portion of Dues	\$ <u>1.25</u>
Total JUNIOR DUES to be mailed to Department	\$ 3.75
Unit Portion of JUNIOR DUES (stays in Unit)	\$ _____
Total 2026 JUNIOR DUES per Unit Member	\$ _____ (not PUFL)

The Remit To/Membership Chairman information is necessary, so membership dues are submitted to the correct person as well as to have on file who is responsible for receiving and processing dues for each member.

2025-26 Remit to/Membership Chair: _____ Member ID# _____

Address Unit membership payments sent to: _____
PO Box or Physical Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Signature : _____ Title _____

If you have any questions, please email nealasec@gmail.com, nealatreas@gmail.com or call 402-466-1808.

