

2025 - 2026 / MARCH EDITION

## DEPARTMENT BULLETIN

 AMERICAN  
LEGION

AUXILIARY

(802) 223-341 / [vtalaux@talaofvt.com](mailto:vtalaux@talaofvt.com)

ALA Dept. Website: <http://www.vtauxiliary.org/>

### PRESIDENT



**John R. Tester**  
2024 -2025

Greetings American Legion Auxiliary,

It's almost March 15th and I need your help. March 15th is an extremely important date for us here in the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Vermont. March 15th is the deadline for our Department to get 85% membership. Not only is March 15th the deadline for 85% membership, it is also the deadline for us to achieve this goal and be eligible for National President Trish Ward's Department Merit Medallion Recognition.

Right now, we stand at 81% membership, this shows outstanding work by all units in getting their memberships in. Thank you! So, we have exactly 15 days from the date the bulletin is published to get that last 4%. **I am asking for your help.** Please reach out to your members who have not yet renewed and ask them to get their memberships in before March 15th. Call, text,

e-mail, Facebook message, or a personal visit. Whatever it takes, let's get the ball across the goal line and get 85% membership by March 15th!

Thank you for all your help!

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, our National Eastern Division Vice President, Lauren Lloyd, will arrive in Vermont for her official visit. Her itinerary is in this bulletin. I hope you will take the time to meet with EDNVP Lauren while she is here in the Green Mountain State. There are two dinners for her, one on Friday night the 21<sup>st</sup> at Bristol Post 19 and the other at Waterbury Post 59 on Saturday March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Reservations and other information for these dinners are included in this bulletin. If you cannot make the dinners, you are welcome to join us for breakfast or lunch at any of her stops. Please check out her itinerary and join us!

I am looking forward to my visits to numerous Units during the month of March. I really enjoy meeting the members in your Units and learning about all the great work you do!

Thank you for all you do every day as Auxiliary member. You make a difference, and it is appreciated.

John R. Tester  
Department President

### VICE PRESIDENT

Hello Auxiliary Members,

I hope those that were able to attend the Mission training on February 1 had a wonderful time. My apologies for missing. Those that were able to attend the Four Chaplains Ceremony on the same day I hope you all had a wonderful day as well.

I am still working on filling Chairmanships when I become President (fingers crossed because I don't like to jinx myself). So, if you are interested in holding a chairmanship, please let me know and what you are interested in. Thank you to those that have reached out so far.

Thanks  
Tasha Bouvier  
Vice-President

### NATIONAL EXEC. COMMITTEE

I hope you are all making the best of these cold temperatures and enjoying some of our beautiful snowy weather.

This month, I am reminding you to review the agenda for EDNVP Lauren Lloyd's visit to Vermont from March 21-23. President John would love for us to show some Vermont love to Lauren during her visit. Hope to see you all soon.

Kelly Donaldson  
NEC  
Past Department President  
American Legion Auxiliary

## CHAPLAIN

Hello everyone,

I'm looking forward in attending the dinner and meeting our National Eastern Division Vice President Lauren Lloyd on Saturday, March 22nd, at the Harry N. Cutting Unit #59 in Waterbury.

I recently participated in another Chaplain's chat webinar zoom meeting with our National Chaplain and over 25 fellow department chaplains. Following this productive meeting, we collaboratively initiated a project to create chaplain prayer boxes for each unit chaplain in our state.

These boxes will contain resources intended to support our unit members. All Vermont unit chaplains will receive a lovely Chaplains' Prayer Box from me which will include ten prayer cards, a Chaplain's Prayer Book, five blank get-well/sympathy cards, a small white Bible, and a small notebook with pen. I extend my sincere gratitude to all members who generously donated items for this initiative.

Lynda, the chaplain of Unit #1 in Saint Albans, has graciously provided the first two prayers for our Department President John's Prayer Book. These prayers will also be forwarded to our National Chaplain. I encourage all unit chaplains to continue submitting prayers for inclusion.

It is with deep sadness that I acknowledge the passing of Therese Stone, Unit #76 Barton Unit Chaplain for 2024-2025. Therese was a valued member and brought immense joy to our unit auxiliary meetings. She will be dearly missed.

In her memory, and in the spirit of community and support, I offer the following reflection:

May the road rise up to meet you—May the wind be always at your back, May the sunshine warm upon your face, And the rains fall soft upon the fields, And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen. (American Legion Auxiliary Chaplains' Prayer Book, p. 26)

Do to others what you would have them do to you. Matthew 7:12

For God and Country,  
Heather Morris  
Department Chaplain  
American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Vermont  
(802) 487-7153

[heathermorris\\_workhard@yahoo.com](mailto:heathermorris_workhard@yahoo.com)

## HISTORIAN

Hello everyone,

I hope you find yourselves happy and healthy. We are well on our way through the year. Please make sure that you send me printed pictures to my address so that I can make the history books. I want to see all you wonderful Auxiliary members working the mission and doing what you do best!

I want to thank Richford Unit 12 for sending me their year-end report. Please make sure you get them to me by May 1st. If you have any questions on how to fill them out, please let me know and I will help the best I can. I want to see a year-end report from every unit. Make sure not to leave anything blank. Write N/A on the report if it doesn't fit what your unit is doing.

I attended the mission training in Boston Massachusetts on February 1st this year. It was my very first mission training I have attended. I had so much fun. I was a little nervous being separated from the rest of our Vermont members until I met the wonderful ladies at my table. I met someone from the Department of Massachusetts, Department of Ohio, and Department of New York. They were so nice, and we worked very well together for the team-building exercises they had us do. I was happy to hear ideas from different

departments as well and hope to do some of them here in Vermont. I loved hearing stories of how they worked their mission. It was wonderful to learn that many departments have given out a Youth Hero Award and a Good Deed Award! We had so many Vermont members attend the mission, and I was even asked if we brought our whole state with us!! 😊

President John Tester is still out there visiting the units and having a great time while doing it!  
February 1 - Mission training in Boston  
February 5 - Arlington Unit 69 meeting  
February 10 - Town Hall meeting (zoom)  
February 18 - Finance meeting (zoom)  
February 24 - Hardwick Unit 7, played bingo  
Don't forget that we have the Eastern Division Vice President coming in March and the National President coming in April! Let's make sure to show them both what a wonderful state we have here and a wonderful Auxiliary Department!



I think in this message, I want to do something a little different. I want to do some History facts about the American Legion Auxiliary. I would love to know if any of you know any of these facts:

- The ALA was founded in 1919 at the National Convention of the American Legion.
- The ALA had 121,000 members in its first year
- Enrollment grew to about 500,000 at the beginning of World War II
- Enrollment reached a record of 1,001,545 in 1955
- The ALA has been an advocate for

education since its inception. In 1921, the ALA and the National Education Association co-sponsored the first American Education Week

- In 1947, the ALA members created a program to rehabilitate disabled veterans
- The ALA launched a Girls State program in 1937
- The ALA National headquarters is located in Indianapolis, Indiana

I hope you all have enjoyed these facts about our great organization. I knew some of these, but I didn't know them all. I was happy to learn some of these and enjoyed sharing them with you all. I hope that we can sign more members up, renew memberships, and beat the record of members! Let's get 100 percent membership and keep growing our ALA family!

I would like to end by saying stay warm and safe out there. I will hopefully see you all at one of the dinner banquets or lunches during the EDNVP visit in March! Have a Sparkling month everyone!

In the Spirit of Service, Not Self,

PDP Francisca Massey  
Historian  
[franciscacech@yahoo.com](mailto:franciscacech@yahoo.com)  
802-661-8690  
15 Cotter Avenue Apt. 2  
Northfield, VT. 05663



## EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Greetings ALA Members! It has been a busy short month starting with the Boston Mission Trainings and Junior Meetings that were well

attended by our Vermont Delegation with 16 attendees between our Legion, SAL & Auxiliary. The Junior Meeting which I had the pleasure of running as the National Vice Chair for Junior Activities with other National chairs & Committee members has 30 attendees with 8 coming from Vermont including one SAL member. It was a fun informative experience for all who attended and many connections with other ALA members were made.

Now March is upon us and we are preparing for our Eastern Division National VP Lauren Lloyd's visit with several dinners and visits around the state including one to the Rev. Geroge L Fox Chapel in Gilman. I truly hope you all are able to come meet this amazing lady who I call a friend.

Department HQ's is buzzing trying to get in the last-minute memberships, so keep those coming, and updating our officer and chairpersons in ALAMIS, so if you have not sent these into us please get them sent in. We only received 17 out of 40 Units originally so have had to reach out & have since gotten more but not all. These are crucial to update email addresses for communications including bulletin messages. Please be sure if you are a Unit President you are receiving your mailed copy and if you have paid to receive the bulletin sent to you via postal mail this is happening or contact Department to let us know.

The Department has been experiencing a lag in receiving mail due to staffing issues at the Post Office so if you send anything to us and have not gotten a response, please either email or call after two weeks which is the general turn around for mail. This is another reason why more Units should sign up for ALAMIS full access as transmittals can be done by membership chairs in the system and do not have to be sent into HQs.

If you have yet to pay your 2025 dues, please get these paid as it is almost time for the 2026 dues to start and these cards are being sent to us in early June which is not that far away. President Tester is really trying to work to ensure we receive the Department Merit Recognition Medallion from National President Trish Ward this year and membership is top of the criteria for this medallion.

Department HQ's is on top of our part for these criteria items with the 990 being worked on as we

speak and the formation of an audit committee in the works, but the membership piece has to come from our members...so please step up and pay yours so we can meet that goal. Below is the National Presidents criteria for the Merit Recognition Medallion:

- Achieve 85% membership benchmark goal
- Submit department impact report.
- Governance excellence (Constitution & Bylaws annual review, board responsibilities, disciplinary process, meeting and voting authority).
- Financial policies and process (990 compliance, audit standards).
- Financial donation obligations (ALA Foundation Veteran Projects Fund, Auxiliary Emergency Fund).

Anyone interested in joining the Audit Committee that has not held a position at the Department level please let us know. If you have a background in accounting/finance, we need a couple more grassroots members to step forward and be on the committee to review Department financial records.

Corrinna E. Colson  
Executive Director  
American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Vermont  
[ExecutiveDirector@talaofvt.com](mailto:ExecutiveDirector@talaofvt.com)  
(802) 223-3141  
[ccolson.alavt@gmail.com](mailto:ccolson.alavt@gmail.com)  
(802)274-8333

## **TREASURER**

It has been a fairly quiet month with finance matters this month. I have reviewed the accountant's final report for the 2023 fiscal year and matched our records with it so we are ready to move forward with the FY 2024 tax return. Once that is done, we should be in a position to do the 2-month tax return which will change our fiscal year to end June 30 rather than April 30. It also completes the transition from the old over-complicated accounting system to one that conforms to the national Generally Accepted Accounting Practices recommended by our

accountant.

I will be asking the finance committee to look at our practice of securing our different funds in separate CDs which complicates the movement of money into and out of the funds as required by our standing rules due to the penalties applied if monies are moved during the term of a CD. There are ways to maintain the "labels" of the money in each fund but allowing more flexibility.

Membership is going well. It is wonderful to see the resurgence of interest and commitment to our organization. We should end well within our budget for this year.

The finance committee is working on the budget for fiscal year 2026. (Can you believe May 1<sup>st</sup> starts FY 2026?!) We expect to recommend it to the DEC before the end of April so we start off the year smoothly. Keep up the gook work.

For Service not self.  
Marilyn Davis  
[vermonter@charter.net](mailto:vermonter@charter.net)

## PARLIAMENTARIAN

(No Bulletin Message omitted)

Candy Huseman, Parliamentarian, PDP PNEC  
224 Shattuck Hill Rd. Lot G1  
Newport, Vermont 05859  
Tel. 802-624-4183  
[Sw1candy@yahoo.com](mailto:Sw1candy@yahoo.com)

## POPPY

Hi everyone,

We recently attended mission training in Boston, and we had a great turnout. We came back with valuable information. I want to remind everyone that we should wear a poppy at all our events and in other public places. This will help start conversations about the significance of the poppy for the ALA. We need new members and let's get some jr's in our units.

DON'T FORGET THE POPPY POSTER CONTEST

In the Spirit of Service Not Self,  
Lillian Perry  
Poppy Chairman

[Tanbrett1@aol.com](mailto:Tanbrett1@aol.com)  
802-244-5004/802-760-8112

## 1<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT

Greetings All, I hope everyone is staying warm. Come on First District we are in 3rd place. We Can Do It! We need to be 85% in March!

**Green Mountain Unit #1** - Breakfast Buffet  
Sunday, March 9, 2025 8 AM to 11 AM  
\$10.00 12 and Up. \$5.00 under 12 year old.  
Sunday, April 6th 2025 they are doing a  
Basket Party Tickets \$10.00 for 20.

**Vergennes Unit #14** - Friday, March 21,  
2025 6 PM ALA Eastern Division Vice  
President is visiting.

**Bristol Unit #19** - Cabin Fever Steak Shoot  
March 16, 2025 1 PM - 4:00 PM.  
Friday, March 21, 2025 6:45pm Ham or  
Turkey Dinner \$15.00 a ticket 6:30 PM  
Cocktails, Dinner 7 PM welcome ALA  
Eastern Division National Vice- President  
Dinner.

**Middlebury Unit #27** - Sunday, March 16,  
2025 2 PM to 4 PM Flag Folding w/ Girl  
Scout Troop!

Sunday, March 16, 2025 Corn Beef &  
Cabbage 1 PM to 4 PM  
Sunday, March 23, 2025 106th American  
Legion Birthday Dinner we are doing an  
Emergency Fund Raffle.

Tickets - \$5.00 Each or 5 tickets For \$20.00

**Enosburgh Unit #42** - Sunday, March 2,  
2025 500 card Party snacks Provided \$20.00  
per person

**Colchester Unit #91** - Friday, March 21,  
2025 4:30 PM ALA Eastern Division Vice  
President is visiting.

For God & Country And Our Veterans  
Rebecca Moricette  
First District President  
29 Griswold Dr.  
Rutland, VT 05701  
(802)-377-0231 - Cell  
[rebeccamoricette@yahoo.com](mailto:rebeccamoricette@yahoo.com)

## 2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT

(No Bulletin Message omitted)

Shori McKinnon,  
District 2 Auxiliary President  
[mckinnonshori@gmail.com](mailto:mckinnonshori@gmail.com)  
603-331-5585

## 3<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT

Hello everyone

The Department Bulletin aims to share important information and updates about the American Legion Auxiliary. We want to ensure that all units are informed about past events and future plans. As your District President, I want to highlight our dedicated work and let other districts know about our activities throughout the year. Please provide me with your monthly updates so I can include them in the bulletin. It's important that our members stay informed about ways they can support The American Legion Auxiliary.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership is a shared responsibility, if we are having difficulties collecting membership dues. Please make sure to discuss this in your monthly meeting.

As your District President I am here to collaborate with all my units to achieve our goals. I often say that if I don't hear from you, it means everything is going well.

I want to thank Unit #10 (President Shannon Capron of Barre for keeping me informed about what is happening in the unit. Shannon your work amazes me.

In The Spirit Of, Service Not Self,  
Lillian Perry  
Third District President  
[Tanbrett1@aol.com](mailto:Tanbrett1@aol.com)  
802-760-8112  
802-244-5004

## 4<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

Greetings to all,  
With thoughts of spring dancing in my head, here is what's going on in District 4.

Unit 13 had a busy month. They presented the "Four Chaplains" ceremony for our veterans in the chapel at the VVH. For Valentine's Day members delivered beautiful handmade Valentines for our veterans, some to be displayed on the tables in the dining room from our local learners. Unit 13 had their 1st "Children's Bingo" on Feb. 20th. A special thank you goes to Phyllis Blanchard and Christine Pouliot for their guidance. March 7th they are having a "Basket Raffle" and SAVE the date = April 18th! Unit 13 is hosting a dinner for our National President Trish Ward. Details will be coming soon.

Unit 90 in Pownal reported. There are only 2 members left to pay their dues. They welcomed 2 new members. Amelia Clermont and Suzette Martel Lyons. Nice to have these young ladies in our Auxiliary. Unit 90 Auxiliary along with the Legion and the Sons held a Valentines dinner Dance and Basket raffle on February 15th. The children at the Elementary school made Valentines for Veterans at VVH. Unit 90 members delivered them on Valentine's Day.

Unit 87 in West Rutland is had a Soup off on February 22nd. Unit 87 is hosting the National Vice President's Luncheon on March 23rd.

Unit 50 in Castleton is having a St. Patrick's Corned Beef Dinner on March 14th. It starts at 5 Pm until sold out. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Includes Corned Beef, Potatoes, Carrots and Cabbage, rolls, and Dessert. Coffee and Tea. On April 4th unit 50 will hold our next free Veterans luncheon. 12:00 pm to 2 pm shepherd's pie is on the Menu with rolls and Dessert. Stay tuned for a Quilt of Valor presentation coming soon. We are awaiting entries in the Essay contest from CES to be received by March 15th.

Unit 50 membership is at 81 Percent, but District 4 is in 4th place for membership among the Districts in Vermont. We can do better, let's Go! Sorry I'm a football fan Lol. That's all for now. In anticipation of a Spring thaw, I remain...

Yours in the Spirit of Service not self,

Christine Pouliot  
ALA District 4 President  
Phone: 774-254-2091  
E-mail: [horsewoman5454@yahoo.com](mailto:horsewoman5454@yahoo.com)

## 5<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

Greetings members of 5th district,

I have not received any news from any units in 5th district, therefore I have nothing to report.

I want to encourage all members to consider running for the office of President for 5th District. This office will give you a greater insight into the organization. Elections are held at the convention in June. Please attend to show your support for the American Legion Auxiliary.

For Our Veterans,  
Sandra Brown  
5<sup>TH</sup> District President  
802-478-4704  
[sb1122id@gmail.com](mailto:sb1122id@gmail.com)

## AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

We are well into our Department fiscal year and I hope that all of you have designed some type of fundraiser for the AEF Fund, which includes grants for members for Hardship or Disaster. No matter how small the amount, I would ask that each Unit allocate some funds or complete one fund raiser and send the monies raised to Department Headquarters before May 1, 2025.

It is our goal to have 100% participation by all Units in Vermont. I have previously sent out some suggestions about fund raisers that you can do either with donation cans with labels available on the ALA website or with a square where you sell dates and raise amounts for AEF. I have a special prize that will be given to the most unique fund raiser among our Vermont Units.

Please also encourage your members to familiarize themselves with the criteria for both the Hardship & Disaster grants so that they can avail themselves of this benefit if needed. Proper

documentation and adherence to the rules each category is necessary in order to receive a grant. As not only your Department of Vermont AEF Chair but also the Eastern Regional AEF Chair, I am asking all of you to please dig deep and show that Vermont ALA members not only take care of our own but also show compassion for ALA members nationwide when disaster strikes.

Thank you.

Jacqui C. Hood, Esq.  
Department of Vermont AEF Chair & Eastern Regional AEF Chair  
e-mail – [jacquih@comcast.net](mailto:jacquih@comcast.net)  
Phone – (802) 782-8766 and Cell – (949) 400-8714  
Mailing Address – PO BOX 1414, St. Albans, VT 05478

## AMERICANISM

Greetings All, Hope everyone is staying warm. Americanism Essay is due to me by Saturday, March 15, 2025.

We Are Going to Continue Our Flag Picture Contest Again. Please send me your Flag Pictures 4 inch by 6 inch - 3 pictures per person.

### Dates Coming up:

Tuesday, March 4th, 2025 - Marti Gras  
Monday, March 17th, 2025 - St. Patrick's Day  
Saturday, March 29, 2025 - National Vietnam War  
Sunday, March 30, 2025 - Vietnam Veterans Day.

For God & Country And Our Veterans  
Rebecca Moricette  
Americanism Chairman  
29 Griswold Dr.  
Rutland, VT 05701  
(802)-377-0231 - Cell  
[rebeccamoricette@yahoo.com](mailto:rebeccamoricette@yahoo.com)

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

(No Bulletin Message omitted)

For God, Country and Our Veterans  
Charith Zickmund  
Barre Unit #10  
[cez913@gmail.com](mailto:cez913@gmail.com)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Mid-Winter Conference was well done. Thank you, Department President - John Tester. Year-end reports are now due to each Chairperson no later than May 1st of each year. Please keep track of all of your Community Service activities for year-end reporting.

Some Community Service ideas are:

- \* Shoveling out walkways and driveways for our Veterans
- \* Put ice melt down on slippery spots so no one falls
- \* Maybe even taking a Veteran to a medical appointment or shopping so they don't have to drive and go out in the cold
- \* Doing Buddy Checks on our Veterans if it gets really cold and you don't see them out and about

Thank you for all you do for our Veterans.

For God, Country, and our Veterans,  
Sharon L. Corey

[Vtlambhill@vermontel.net](mailto:Vtlambhill@vermontel.net)

802-325-3234

## CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS & STANDING RULES

Please send in the latest copy of your Units C&B's to Department HQs and myself for review. ALA HQ's needs to have a copy on file for the purpose of ensuring these can be found by the Units in case there is a change in leadership and these are not passed along.

A review of these should be done annually by Units, and I am available to assist with any questions.

The most updated copies of the Departments Constitution and bylaws has been sent to post to our website & the standing rules are bring updated with

changes from our Mid-Winter DEC and will soon be posted.

Pam Norton

C& B Chair

[norton@middlebury.edu](mailto:norton@middlebury.edu)

802.349.6866

## EDUCATION

- **ALA Eastern Division Education Committee Zoom Meeting.**

Every few months I have an ALA Eastern Division Education Committee Zoom Meeting. At last month's meeting, we discussed the ALA websites that have Education Planning Information. Here is a website with important information for you to use and share.

Free online tutoring for military children:

[www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military)

- **FLAG ETIQUETTE**

Are you planning a **FLAG ETIQUETTE** Assembly for your area schools? Here's a question you could ask when you begin the Flag Etiquette lesson. **WHAT DID ONE FLAG SAY TO THE OTHER FLAG? Then you remind the learners to pay attention and listen for the answer.** During this assembly, learners answer a few questions, ask a few questions, learn how to properly display the flag and learn about the meaning of the 13 folds made when folding the flag. It takes 30-40 minutes for this assembly.

Here's an idea from ALA VT Unit 13. At the end of one of their **FLAG ETIQUETTE** lessons, ALA VT UNIT 13 gave each learner a small flag, and gave the classroom teacher and the school library many copies of the American Legion booklet, "**Let's Be Right on Flag Etiquette**".

Then you conclude the lesson by asking the opening question again. **WHAT DID ONE FLAG SAY TO THE OTHER FLAG? Nothing, they just waved!** Have a fun time learning about our Flag!

- **SCHOLARSHIPS**

**By now, you should have received the ALA VT 2025 SCHOLARSHIP and AWARDS Booklet.** You will find all **ALA SCHOLARSHIP and AWARDS information, applications and due dates in this Booklet.** **Scholarship reminder:**

ALA Department of VT Award UNIT  
EDUCATION Chairman Award \$1,000  
DUE May 16, 2025

- **PLANNING AHEAD to APRIL!**

Encourage schools to participate in **Month of the Military Child and Purple Up! Day in April** to honor their students who are military children.

Here are a couple ideas.

- Sponsor a Purple Up! Day on **April 15** in your school by providing purple items for students to wear. You could cut purple cloth into strips for all in a school to wear around their wrist or upper arm!
- Present the Military Child Table at your school, unit meeting, or at your post.

Please remember to email me a photo of the ALA EDUCATIONAL activity that your Unit does and I will post the photos in my monthly ALA VT Report. Thanks.

**GO ALA VT EDUCATION!**

For God and Country,

Donna Stone

234 Simeon Dean Road Shaftsbury, VT 05262

802-442-4314

[dlstone764@gmail.com](mailto:dlstone764@gmail.com)

## **FINANCE**

Finance Committee Update

The committee held its monthly meeting and found that the department is on budget. Treasurer is working on the IRS paperwork. The committee is working on the budget for 2025-2026 year, so it is ready to be presented to the DEC.

We are asking any members who would like to be on an internal audit committee to contact me to set up a meeting to get this new committee organized.

Thank you,

Christine Brown

Finance Committee chairman

[christine.brown1069@gmail.com](mailto:christine.brown1069@gmail.com)

## **GREEN MOUNTAIN GIRLS STATE (ALAGMGS)**

Hello,

ALAGMGS 2025 Session will be June 22-27, 2025. Staff Arrives on June 21/22 (depending on your schedule). Staff and Delegate applications are available on the website. All unit Presidents and Girls State Chair people should have received the details by now. If you haven't, please let me know. The only two units that haven't been sent are Unit 80 & 29 due to no email.

If you are interested in being a staff member, please let me know. I understand taking off a full week of work may be tough, so if you can only commit a couple of days that is great too. We just need you to fill out the application and commit to being there on the days you say you are available (pending any emergency heaven forbid might happen). We rely on staff to be there because otherwise we are unable to hold our session since we need staff (aka chaperones). We require a background check and Sexual & Molestation (SAMs) training as well.

Please feel free to give me a call or text me. Your best bet to contact me is text, call, then email. I don't check my emails during the day if I'm working for the most part, so texting is best or a phone call.

Can't wait to see all the delegates that apply for session !!!

Thanks

Tasha Bouvier

ALAGMGS Chairperson

## **JUNIOR ACTIVITIES**

Good Afternoon members. I saw some really nice pictures from the Jr training in Boston from FB. I hope ones who went had a great time. If you could please send me your pictures and how many of your Juniors want. Please & thank you.

The year-end Reports are due next month. I am looking forward to what you have to report. I am looking forward to hearing what you have all done for the year.

Thank you  
Deborah (Debbie) Gilmond  
ALA Dept. Junior Activities Chairperson  
cell phone 802-578-5995  
911 Georgia Mtn Rd, Fairfax, VT 05454  
email; [mimi2ninedg@gmail.com](mailto:mimi2ninedg@gmail.com)

## LEADERSHIP

**“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.”**

**—John C. Maxwell**

I recently started taking the ALA Academy courses. This month, I completed the ALA 101 course. It provided some good information about the history, an overview of the programs, and an opportunity to have a canned elevator speech given to me. An elevator speech is a two-minute introduction to the American Legion Auxiliary. How would you describe your involvement with the American Legion Auxiliary or what it does for you while riding up or down in an elevator with someone?

I challenge each member to access the ALA Academy at [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) and strive to complete one topic per month. Some of the recent releases include How to Deal with Conflict, Fundraising, and Junior e-learning.

An upcoming live virtual webinar is on: **March 20 @ 12pm ET - Leading the Way Through Mentoring**

This webinar will present ideas and best practices for mentoring fellow ALA members. We will explore ways to incorporate former leaders' ideas into ALA programs, utilize governing documents to establish a level playing field when controversies arise, and investigate ways to support and encourage members entering leadership positions.

### **Deadlines/Important Dates:**

- March 20 at noon ET: Leading the way through mentoring live virtual webinar. Registration is required ahead of time through the ALA Learning Center
- April 15: Unit Report due to Department Chair

- April 26: Unit Member of the Year recipient's luncheon
- May 15: Department Chairman Report due to the National Committee

Krista Chadwick  
Leadership Chairman  
[kristachadwick577@gmail.com](mailto:kristachadwick577@gmail.com)

## LEGISLATIVE

As you are reading this month's message, I will have travelled to and from Washington, DC as part of The American Legion's 65<sup>th</sup> Washington Conference. I am honored to have received an invitation from the National American Legion Auxiliary to attend. Agenda follows:

Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> fly out of Albany to Reagan  
Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>  
7 a.m. Mandatory American Legion Auxiliary National Meeting  
9 a.m. – 2 p.m. or when complete: National Security Commission Meeting with other ALA members  
3 – 5:30 p.m. National Commander's Call with all attendees  
Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 a.m. National Commander's Rally  
11:00 a.m. Meeting with Senator Sanders with two Department of Vermont Legionnaires: Bill Brothers and Larry Thompson  
1:30 p.m. Meeting with Representative Becca Balint, she is not available and will have Xitali Pacheco Ramirez meet with the three Vermont attendees.  
3:00 p.m. Meeting with Senator Welch's office, he is not available and will have Brooke Grams stand in to meet with the three Vermont attendees. We were told he would try to step in for a photo op.  
Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> fly home

All attendees have been asked to complete a report and share information with our departments and asked to submit reports about their assigned commission meeting, reports are due by March 14<sup>th</sup>. Other details: National has graciously paid for airfare, hotel, transportation and allowed a food stipend daily.

The American Legion Legislative Priorities

The American Legion, largest organization of U.S. military veterans, operates out of more than 12,000 local posts worldwide. Combined with the Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, the American Legion Family consists of more than 3 million dedicated volunteers and advocates for those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Since its inception in 1919, The American Legion has achieved multiple legislative accomplishments, working closely with Congress, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Pentagon and other arms of government at the federal, state and local levels. Grassroots American Legion advocacy has strengthened the United States through such achievements as the GI Bill, accountability to military veterans exposed to toxic contamination, diagnostic recognition of post-traumatic stress disorder, the U.S. Flag Code and more. This publication provides a synopsis of priorities the organization has identified for the 119th Congress.

It is divided into four parts:

- Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
- National Security
- Veterans Employment & Education
- Americanism

In addition to priorities expressed here, The American Legion stands ready to respond to new and evolving issues, as well as others that comply with resolutions passed by the all-volunteer veteran membership.

American Legion Family members can support these top-level issues by signing up for the Legion's Grassroots Advocacy Center [here](#).

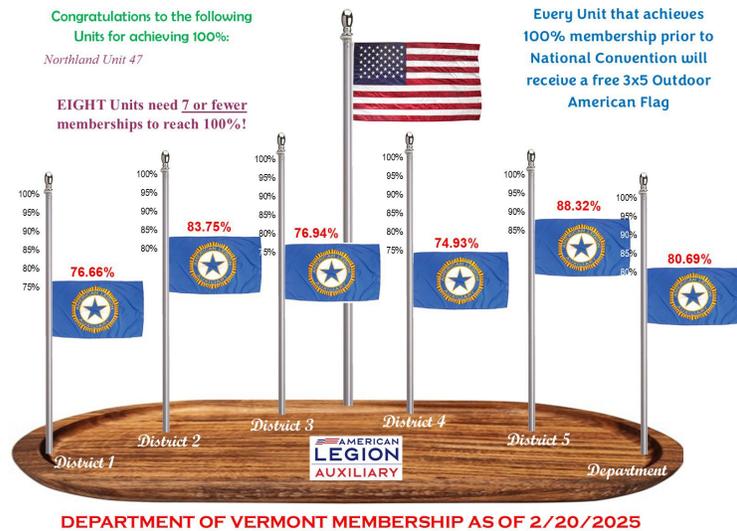
I am looking forward to visiting Capitol Hill and meeting with our Vermont Legislators. My next bulletin message will include my written reports.

"For God and Country"

Dee Colety, Legislative Chair, Dept. of VT  
 Denise M. Colety (Dee) Bennington Unit 13  
 -President, Green Mountain Hometown Heroes a  
 501(c)3 [greemountainhometownheroes@gmail.com](mailto:greemountainhometownheroes@gmail.com)  
 -Member of ALR, Chapter 13, Bennington,  
 Vermont  
 -4th District Rep, ALR, Department of Vermont

## MEMBERSHIP

85% is our Membership Goal due March 15th, 2025! That's mid-THIS-month, less than two weeks to go! Not only does it help keep us all on track for 100%, attaining this goal qualifies us for awards. So how close is your unit, and what are you doing to help achieve one hundred percent? 💧 Water 💧 you waiting for?



We talk a lot about carrying American Legion Family Membership Applications to seek out new members when out and about. Equally as important is retaining the members we have.

What can your Unit offer its members? This could look different for everyone. Monthly meetings are an excellent opportunity to try out a new option! A regularly scheduled get-together could offer pre or post meeting options such as; bring a dish or snacks to share, offer a door prize for attendees, offer a movie option for guests/children during meeting, encourage attendees to bring gardening seeds to swap, invite juniors to attend and assist with a service project, recognize others and connect with community by hosting guests speakers, just a few ideas to get the suggestions flowing! Can't wait to hear what other ideas you all have to share as we raise our Membership Flags upward towards 100%, soaring past 85% by 3/15/25!

~Danielle Jerry  
ALA Colchester Unit 91 Member and Unit  
Historian  
ALA Dept of VT Membership Chair  
802)989-1816  
[DanielleMany3@gmail.com](mailto:DanielleMany3@gmail.com)

## **NATIONAL SECURITY** (No Bulletin Message Remitted)

Christine Bousquet  
[bousquetc879@gmail.com](mailto:bousquetc879@gmail.com)  
603-333-7248

## **PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY**

Greetings Members,

I hope all is well with everyone after our back 2 back snowstorms brought us quite a bit of snow! It's that time of year again for "Year End Reports" and Awards Applications! I hope every Unit has a service member in mind for our "Salute to Service Members Award"! This award is for honoring women Veterans and Active-Duty women who are currently serving in any of our Military Service Branches including the National Guards. Let's Honor these brave women!

Just a reminder to put your Unit's name and number, along with the Chairmans name on all "End of Year Reports" and Award/Scholarship Applications/Cover letters included.

In the Spirit of Service, Not Self...

Debi Graziano  
Past President's Parlay  
[debispot@gardener.com/802-868-7920](mailto:debispot@gardener.com/802-868-7920)  
4253 VT RTE 78 Highgate Center, VT 05459

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

(No Bulletin Message Submitted)

Melodie Ashford – McGrath  
Public Relations Chair  
[melodielynn@gmail.com](mailto:melodielynn@gmail.com)

## **SERVICE TO VETERANS**

Burr, it's been cold. Spring will be here before we know it 🌸, I hope.

I hope you were able to see/take part in the "Four Chaplains" ceremony this February. Unit 13 presented the ceremony in the chapel at the VVH. It is such a beautiful moving ceremony.

### **Holidays and Observances March:**

**March 1st** – Navy Seabee Birthday

**March 3rd** – Navy Reserve Birthday

**March 4th** – Hug a GI Day – G.I. Is an informal term that refers to "a soldier in the United States armed forces, especially the army". It is mostly deeply associated with [World War II](#) but continues to see use.

**March 13th** – K-9 Veterans Day

**March 15th** – American Legion Birthday

**March 21st** – Rosie the Riveter Day – My Mom worked in Remington Arms in Ilion, NY, testing firearms during WWII ❤️

**March 25th** – Medal of Honor Day - Medal of Honor Day is a United States federal observance that is celebrated every year on March 25th. It was created to honor the "heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients.

**March 29th** – National Vietnam War Veterans Day  
From the list above, what are your ideas to celebrate our veterans? Will you celebrate the American Legion's Birthday at your posts?

In our posts today, many of our veterans are from the Vietnam Era. Celebrate them. A simple thank you, a goodie bag, a breakfast, if there is a dinner at your post, recognize them. Welcome them home.

It will soon be time to turn in your ALA Tracking Worksheet to your unit. Check it over to make sure you did not miss something.



Many veterans struggle with depression and never ask for help. **BE THE ONE.** Reach out to our veterans. Veterans Crisis 988 then Press 1.

Wishing you all a Happy St Patrick's Day!

Say a Prayer for our veterans, our military, and their families.

In the Spirit of Service, Not Self

Darlene Cumm, VT Service to Veterans Chair

Bennington Unit 13, President

(802) 442-8680 or [darlencumm@gmail.com](mailto:darlencumm@gmail.com)

## TROPHIES & AWARDS

Greetings Members,

Well, it's that time of year again! Yuppers, it's time for "End Of Year Reports" and applications for Member of the year, scholarships, Service Member of the Year, etc... Please make sure all entries are sent to the proper Chairman and/or Headquarters. All Dept Chairman will pick the top 3 reports and send them to Headquarters where they will be judged in private by 2 PDP's and 1 Unit President. So, let's get those reports and applications in on time! Make sure your Unit name, number and chairperson are on the cover letters/reports.

Thank You Everyone! Good Luck and see you all in June at Convention for presentations!

In the Spirit of Service, Not Self...

Debi Graziano/Trophy & Awards Chairman

4253 VT RTE 78

Highgate Center, VT 05459

[debispot@gardener.com](mailto:debispot@gardener.com)

802-868-7920

## VETERANS REHAB

(No Bulletin Message Submitted)

**Cindy Ell:**

Are you "The One?" Saving Vermont Veteran Lives

Today, the No. 1 issue facing the veteran community is suicide. The mission of The American Legion's Be The One initiative is to reduce the rate of veteran suicide. We're actively working on lessening the stigma associated with mental health treatment and empowering everyone to take appropriate action when a veteran or service member may be at risk – one life at a time. Whether you're a veteran or the friend or family-member of a veteran, you can Be The One.

In Vermont, an effort is underway to establish a

"Be The One Team." Founding team members Corrinna Colson, Mark Cloutier, Stephen Frost and I are spearheading the challenge to share the Be The One program, resources and referral process for assistance for our members and their families. We are seeking team representatives in all regions of the Green Mountain State to disseminate information and serve as a point of contact with us. We are designing a program for Vermont that requires a minimal time commitment with great reward.

Wondering how you can make a difference? Begin by adding the phone #988 (Press 1) to your phone book for the 24/7 Veterans Crisis Line. Learn more about Legionnaire "Buddy Checks." Join The American Legion's mission to prevent veteran suicide by attending a free online class so you can "Be The One" and help save the life of a veteran. Request a Be The One presentation for your Unit or Post.

Won't you consider helping fellow Vermonters in changing lives and saving lives in the mission to prevent veteran suicide.

For more information, please contact:

Cindy Ell

Direct cell: (302) 420-8348

Email: [EnviroEthos@gmail.com](mailto:EnviroEthos@gmail.com)

## VAVS

Greetings: Now this is the Vermont I remember I Update on construction at VA hosp. one wing is open in medical center. The rooms are made for two Veteran's, more space. They will now receive a menu that they can choose their meals. They won't be doing a formal tour until the construction is complete, probably this summer. But, if you would like to check out, you can do the tour yourself, just let Stacey know when and if there is a limit on # at one time. 802-296-5190. Also, masking is mandatory for now due to the outbreaks of infectious diseases.

Please check these following items needed at the hospital. Remember all item should be new. Comfort Items: New reading glasses =1.0 - 3.0, hair brushes for men, small shaving creams, men's razors and men's roll on deodorant

**Entertainment Items:** Adult craft kits, large print activity books and fidget devices

**Women Center support:** New unisex baby items for new moms gift bags

**Homeless Veteran's Support:** Grocery, gas and Department Stores gift cards on small increments

Any questions, please feel free to call me at 802-525-6565, 1-802-673-8125 or email me at [riley917@myfairpoint.net](mailto:riley917@myfairpoint.net)

Patsy Tompkins

VAVS

[riley917@myfairpoint.net](mailto:riley917@myfairpoint.net)

1-802-525-6565

## UD&R

(No Bulletin Message Submitted)

Anne Marie MacEachern

UD&R chairman

[Anne.maceachern@mail.com](mailto:Anne.maceachern@mail.com)

## WAYS & MEANS

(No Bulletin Message Submitted)

Sarah Touchette

Dept. Ways N Means

## POLICY & PROCEDURES

Hello everyone! The Policy & Procedures committee has met a couple of times to discuss clearing up some of our Policy & Procedures. If anyone has any suggestions for what they would like in our Policy & Procedures, please feel free to reach out to me and I will be glad to bring it to the committee.

All department Chairmen, please reach out and give me a description of any tasks you must complete during your year as chair. For example, any contest you hold, scholarships you give out, etc. This will help us for future chairmen to know what will be expected of them as a chairman. I appreciate any help you can give to make things smoother for all future volunteers.

I would also like to hear what you would like in the job description that you may feel was overlooked and not in the description already. This

will help our committee to be more effective in rewriting the policy & Procedure documents for possible improvement. Thank you kindly everyone. In the Spirit of Service, Not Self....

PDP Francisca Massey

802-661-8690

[franciscacech@yahoo.com](mailto:franciscacech@yahoo.com)

# MEMORIAM

**In memory of our departed**

**Auxillary Members:**

VT UNIT 0064	Barbara Scribner	1/24/2025
VT UNIT 0014	Beverly Tesar	2/9/2025
VT UNIT 0001	Kathy P Maxfield	2/11/2025
VT UNIT 0037	Carol V Reeve	1/31/2025
VT UNIT 0063	Janice Quimby	2/11/2025
VT UNIT 0005	Deborah J Tomasi	1/28/2025
VT UNIT 0049	Charlene M Gregory	2/14/2025
VT UNIT 0013	Joyce E Turner	2/12/2025

**REST IN PEACE...THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE**



**Eastern Division Mission Training & Junior Meeting  
Boston Massachusetts  
February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**



Vermont ALA Mission Training attendees: 11 Auxiliary members including President John R. Tester (Front Center), SAL Alt. NEC Jeremy Revell, and 4 Legionnaires including NEC Tom Scanlon, Senior Vice Commander William Brothers, and PDC's Mark Cloutier & Catherine Tester also ALA Sgt at Arms.



Vermont ALA Junior Meeting attendees: National Junior Vice Chair, Corrinna E. Colson, Department of Vermont ALA President John R. Tester, and 7 Junior Auxiliary Members and one Youth SAL.



**Department of Vermont**

**SCHEDULE**

Date	Day	Event	Who	Time	Where
3/10	Monday	Town Hall Meeting	All members	7:00pm	Zoom
3/17	Monday	St. Patrick's Day			
3/18	Tuesday	Finance Meeting	Finance Committee	7:00pm	Zoom
<b>3/21-23</b>	<b>Fri-Sun</b>	<b>EDNVP Visit</b>	<b>All Members</b>		
4/14	Monday	Town Hall Meeting	All members	7:00pm	Zoom
4/15	Tuesday	Finance Meeting	Finance Committee	7:00pm	Zoom
4/16-20	Wed-Sun	National Presidents Visit	All Members		
4/20	Sunday	Easter	Unit Easter Egg Hunts!		
5/11	Sunday	Happy Mother's Day!			
5/12	Monday	Town Hall Meeting	All members	7:00pm	Zoom
5/20	Tuesday	Finance Meeting	Finance Committee	7:00pm	Zoom
5/26	Monday	Memorial Day			
6/9	Monday	Town Hall Meeting	All members	7:00pm	Zoom
6/14	Saturday	Flag Day			
6/17	Tuesday	Finance Meeting	Finance Committee	7:00pm	Zoom
6/19	Thursday	Auxiliary Convention	All Members	TBD	Hampton Inn
6/20	Friday	Auxiliary Convention	All Members	TBD	Hampton Inn
6/21	Saturday	Auxiliary Convention	All Members	TBD	Hampton Inn
6/22 – 6/27		Girls State			



# Department of Vermont Monthly Town Hall Meetings

The Town Hall meetings will take place on the second Monday of every month, except November, where it will take place on the third Monday (Veterans Day is the second Monday). They will start at **7:00pm**.

These meetings will be 100 percent virtual (Zoom). Zoom information will be emailed the first week of each month for each group attending their Town Hall meeting and will also be published monthly in the Department bulletin.

On even numbered months (August, October, December, February, April and June) the attendees will be all Unit Officers, District Presidents and any member who would like to attend.

During odd numbered months (September, November, January, March, and May), the attendees will be all Department Chairman, Department Officers and any member who would like to attend

During these meetings, we will ask each Chairman to give an update on their program, and talk about any issues, concerns, or seek advice from the President or Department Officers.

Rules for the Town Hall meetings:

1. All attendees will be put on mute by the meeting administrator.
2. If you would like to speak, please raise your hand using the Zoom function. If you are attending via phone only, the administrator will unmute you when we ask if anyone else has anything they would like to say.
3. The Town Hall meetings are not debates, nor will any motions or votes take place. They are designed for the sharing of positive information only.
4. If there are a lot of people attending the Town Hall meeting, please be respectful of their time by keeping your comments to under three minutes.
5. Ridiculing, complaining about, or demeaning any one individual or Unit will not be permitted. These types of conversations should be held privately with the appropriate parties. Town Hall meetings should **ALWAYS** be positive.
6. When it comes to talking about events, programs, or activities that are taking place, BRAG, yell from the rooftops. We want to know what's happening!

**MONDAY**

**March 10, 2025**

**7:00PM**

Zoom information:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83908546129?pwd=AbjgpromLx07Ioa8BKp3UfZdZ4L7qk.1>

Meeting ID: 839 0854 6129

Passcode: 212124

## President John Tester's Department of Vermont Presidents Project

### The Rev. George L. and Rev. Isadore H. Fox Museum



One of the immortal Four Chaplains, Rev. George L. Fox, was a resident of Vermont, and preached at a church in Gilman, Vermont. He also served as the American Legion Department of Vermont Chaplain. His wife, Isadore, was also a minister and served as the Department of Vermont Auxiliary President from 1960 to 1961 and as the ALA National Chaplain from 1970-1971.

In 2022-23, many, many organizations donated money to purchase the church that George and Isadore preached in, successfully completing the purchase in 2023. Since then, the church has been making renovations, just completing a new roof, and is planning to add a lift to reach the main floor. Part of the church building has been set aside to house the Rev. George and Rev. Isadore Fox Memorial Museum, but to date, they have no funds to remodel that museum space or to preserve the many articles that will be in it.

President Tester's project is to raise money to be used to obtain, restore, and preserve the documents and artifacts of George and Isadore Fox, to ready the dozens of pieces of memorabilia, and to physically remodel and customize the museum space located at the George L. Fox Memorial Chapel in Gilman.

There are three rooms and one common area just off the main chapel that will be used for the museum. The common area can be used as a meeting space and may house a slide show of the many pictures of George and Isadore Fox.

Some of the remodel work that will take place include fixing the walls (they are currently lath and plaster and are in pretty bad shape), installing a security system and upgrading some of the infrastructure to help keep the museum space cool and dry.

As you know, preserving history is incredibly important and with Vermont being the home of one of the most famous sailors and chaplains in American Legion lore, it is very important we help build a museum in his and his wife's honor.





# Eastern Division Vice President

## Lauren Lloyd Visit

Friday – Sunday March 21 - 23, 2025

<b>Friday, March 21</b>	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Leave</b>
- Arrive BTV	11:58am	12:30pm
- Visit Unit 3 - Montpelier – <b>Lunch</b>	1:15pm	2:50pm
- Visit Department Headquarters (Montpelier)	3:00pm	3:20pm
- Visit Unit 91 – Colchester (light snacks)	4:30pm	5:00pm
- Visit Unit 14 – Vergennes	5:45pm	6:15pm
- Visit Unit 19 – Bristol – <b>Dinner</b>	6:35pm	

Will be staying at the home of President John Tester (Orwell, VT)

<b>Saturday, March 22</b>	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Leave</b>
- Depart for <b>Breakfast</b>		7:05am
- Breakfast at Sugar and Spice, Rutland	8:00am	9:15am
- George Fox Memorial Chapel	11:30am	
- <b>Lunch</b> at the Chapel	12:00pm	1:20pm
- Visit Unit 30 - Lyndon (light snacks)	2:00pm	2:30pm
Visit Unit 7 – Hardwick	3:10pm	3:40pm
- Visit Unit 59 – Waterbury – <b>Dinner</b>	4:30pm	
- Return to President Testers Home		

**Sunday, March 23**

	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Depart</b>
- Depart for Breakfast		7:45am
- <b>Breakfast</b> at Wheel Inn, Benson	8:00am	9:10am
- Visit Rocky Ridge Sugar Works, Benson	9:20am	10:30am
- Visit the Dodge House	11:10am	11:45am
- Visit Unit 87 – West Rutland - <b>Lunch</b>	11:55am	1:10pm
- Visit New England Maple Museum, Pittsford	1:30pm	2:35pm
- Visit Unit 49 – Fair Haven (light snacks)	3:15pm	4:00pm
- <b>Dinner</b> at President Tester's Residence	4:20pm	

**Monday, March 24**

	<b>Arrive</b>	<b>Depart</b>
- Depart for breakfast		9:00am
- Breakfast at Birds Eye Diner – Castleton	9:25am	10:30am
- Arrive at Rutland Regional Airport	10:50am	
- Depart Rutland		12:00pm

*Eastern Division National Vice President Lauren Lloyd will be visiting Vermont from March 20-23.*

*Her itinerary is published in this month's bulletin and will be published again in the March Bulletin. Two of our Units have graciously agreed to host a dinner for the EDNVP while she is here.*

*I would love to see you at one (or both) of these dinners.*

**BRISTOL UNIT 19**

56 Airport Dr., Bristol, Vermont 05433

**FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025**

Cocktails at 6:30pm - Dinner at 7:00pm

Choice of Ham or Turkey Dinner w/ all the fixings

\$15.00 per person

*Mail your check (made out to ALA Unit 19) and dinner selections to  
Tasha Bouvier, 65 Pine Street, Bristol, VT 05443*

Deadline is February 28, 2025

**HARRY N. CUTTING UNIT 59**

16 Stowe St, Waterbury, Vermont 05676

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025**

Cocktails at 4:30pm - Dinner at 5:30pm

Pot Roast, mashed potatoes, veggie, salad, roll

\$15.00 per person

*Mail your check (made out to Unit 59) to  
Harry N. Cutting Post 59, 16 Stowe Street, Waterbury, VT 05676*

Deadline is February 28, 2025

**Save the date for National President Trish Wards official banquet  
Thursday, April 17, 2025  
Castleton American Legion**

**THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT  
ALA EASTERN DIVISION NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT DINNER**

**Where:** American Legion Post 19 Bristol  
56 Airport Dr  
Bristol, VT 05443

**When:** Friday March 21, 2025

**Cocktails:** 6:30 p.m.

**Dinner:** 7:00 p.m.

**\$15 per person. Make checks payable to: ALA Unit 19**

**Mail check to:**

Tasha Bouvier  
65 Pine St  
Bristol, VT 05443

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS: February 28, 2025**

\*\*\*\*\*

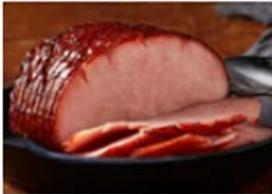
**PLEASE RESERVE:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **HAM**    or    \_\_\_\_\_ **TURKEY**

Only one meat choice per person

**Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Post/Squadron/Unit: \_\_\_\_\_**





# DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT ALA EASTERN DIVISION NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT DINNER

HARRY N. CUTTING POST 59  
16 STOWE STREET, WATERBURY, VT 05676

## MARCH 22, 2025

HAPPY HOUR 4:30 PM | DINNER 5:30 PM

\$15 PER PERSON. MAKE CHECKS  
PAYABLE TO: ALA UNIT 59 & ADD  
"ALAEDNVP" ON THE MEMO LINE

**DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 28, 2025**

POT ROAST, MASHED POTATO, VEGGIE,  
SALAD AND A ROLL

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$\_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

POST/SQUADRON/UNIT \_\_\_\_\_





**AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST  
2025 Cover Sheet**

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund.

**Essay Title:** *"What does America the Beautiful mean to me (regarding veterans and our military)?"*

**Essay Classes:**

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement*
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

**THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES SHALL BE FINAL.**

**Essay Checklist:**

- Class competing in \_\_\_\_\_
- Sponsoring ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_
- Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- Word count of essay \_\_\_\_\_
- Due date for student to return to ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_

**To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):**

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit winner due to Department on: April 1, 2025 Department: Vermont

Signature of Department Chairman: Rebecca Moricette

*Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2025*

**AMERICAN  
LEGION  
AUXILIARY**

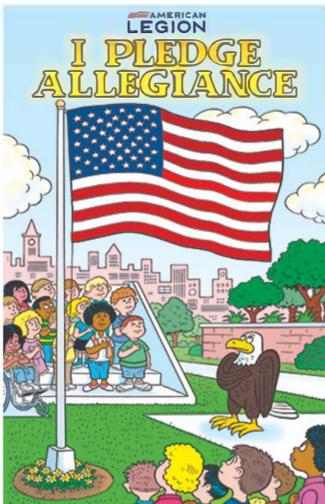
**STAR-SPANGLED KIDS KITS**

**ALA's "How to Promote Star-Spangled Kids"  
information sheet available at**

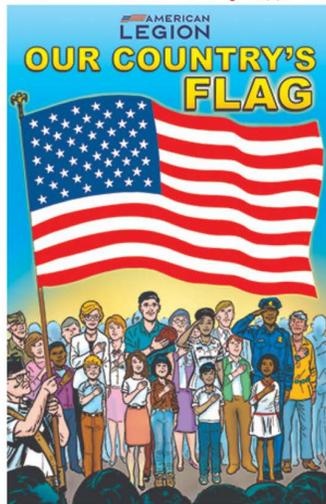
**<https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Committees/Americanism/How-to-Promote-Star-Spangled-Kids> .**

**Star Spangled Kids: Educate youth on the history of the United States from the aspect of patriotism,  
Americanism and the U.S. Constitution.**

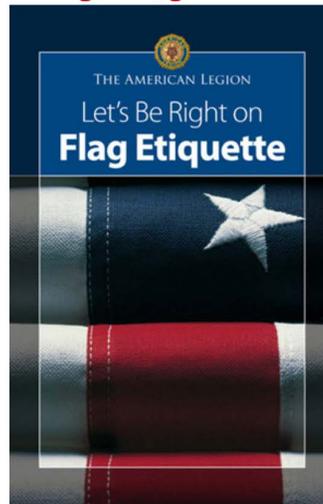
**All the items listed are available from The American Legion Flag & Emblem at  
<https://emblem.legion.org>**



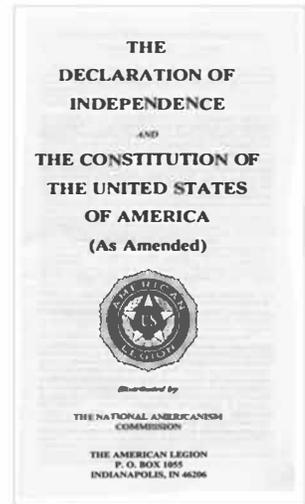
Item Number: 755.302  
\$1.00  
Special Pricing:  
→ Buy 100 for \$0.79/each



Item Number: 755.300  
\$1.00  
Special Pricing:  
→ Buy 100 for \$0.79/each



Item Number: 755.200  
\$1.00  
Special Pricing:  
→ Buy 100 for \$0.80/each



Item Number: 755.206  
\$0.75  
Special Pricing:  
→ Buy 100 for \$0.50/each



Item Number: 100.200G  
\$109.00  
Price is for one gross (144)



Item Number: 815.613  
\$1.99



Key Chain available  
on Amazon.com



Patriotic Sticker  
available  
on Amazon.com

**Please add any other resources you have that will help educate our youth.**



## STAR-SPANGLED KIDS KITS 1ST - AMERICANISM CHALLENGE



*Who will win this challenge?  
The Central Division?  
The Eastern Division?  
The Northwestern Division?  
The Southern Division?  
The Western Division?*

*The Division that reports the most Star Spangled Kids Kits Promoted in schools by May 15, 2025, will receive a Trophy at their Division Caucus at the 2025 National Convention. Your National Americanism Chairman will surprise the Division that won, the winner will not be announced until National Convention  
“So Who Will It Be”?*

*Do not forget to include your numbers in your year-end report to your Division Americanism Chairman.*



**AMERICAN  
LEGION  
AUXILIARY**

## **You're a Grand Old Flag Challenge**

**February 06, 1906 You're a Grand Old Flag was written by George Cohan, one of the most popular patriotic song.**

### **Here is your "CHALLENGE"**

**The best overall creative video will receive a certificate from your National Americanism Committee Team and a special gift from your Chairman.**

**One winner from each Division**

**Include your - Name, Unit Number, Division, Department**

**All videos will be posted when received**

**Divisional Chairman will pick the "Best Overall Video" in their Division.**

**Winners will be announced March 30, 2025**

#### **Visual quality**

**"Make sure your video is clean" means to ensure that your video footage is visually clear, with no unnecessary distractions or blemishes, including things like background clutter, shaky camera movements, poor lighting, audio noise, or any visual elements that might detract from the main focus of the video**

**Sharp focus: Ensure your subject is in focus throughout the video.**

**Proper lighting: Use adequate lighting to avoid excessive shadows or blown-out highlights.**

**Steady camera: Minimize camera shake by using a tripod or stabilization techniques.**

**Clean background: Keep the background clutter-free and relevant to the content.**

#### **Audio quality**

**Clear sound: Record audio with minimal background noise.**

**Proper microphone placement: Position the microphone close to the sound source for optimal audio capture.**

#### **Examples**

**Involve your Unit, District, Division, County, Department, The American Legion, SAL, Juniors, your local elementary (make sure you get permission from the parents to share the video) "Think out of the box".**

#### **Be Creative**

**2024 - 2025**

**Americanism Committee**



## POPPY POSTER CONTEST COVER SHEET

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors a Poppy Poster Contest for students in grades 2-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into seven classes. One award in each of the seven classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund. National winners will be posted at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org) after national convention.

Poster Classes:	
Class	Grade Level
I	2 and 3
II	4 and 5
III	6 and 7
IV	8 and 9
V	10 and 11
VI	12
VII	Students with special needs

Class competing in: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring ALA unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Due date for student to return to ALA unit: \_\_\_\_\_

### To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State of School: \_\_\_\_\_

### Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit Poppy Chairman/President: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit winner due to Department on: May 1, 2025 Department: Vermont

Signature of Department Chairman: Lillian Dow Perry

*Department winner due to National Poppy Division Chairman by June 1*

## Poppy Poster Contest Rules

Units shall sponsor contests in local schools. When schools do not conduct activities, other youth groups — including Junior members — may participate under direct supervision of the unit.

### Contest Classes

- Class I: Grades 2 and 3
- Class II: Grades 4 and 5
- Class III: Grades 6 and 7
- Class IV: Grades 8 and 9
- Class V: Grades 10 and 11
- Class VI: Grade 12
- Class VII: Students with special needs defined as:
  - a. Those in special education classes.
  - b. A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors.
  - c. A child identified as having a disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities; identification contingent upon discretion of school officials.

### Poppy Poster Requirements

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. Articles “a”, “and,” “an”, “the” are not to be counted as words. The words “buddy” and “buy” cannot be used.
2. The words “American Legion Auxiliary” must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.
3. Each poster must include a red poppy.
4. The department shall determine the closing date of the unit contest. The poster shall be on 11x14” poster board. (Drawing paper will not be accepted).
5. The United States flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the flag code.
6. Posters will be judged using the following criteria:
  - 50% - poster appeal (layout, message, originality)
  - 40% - artistic ability (design and color)
  - 10% - neatness
7. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils, and markers.
8. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the class in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age, and grade of the contestant and the name of the department.
9. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.
10. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
11. The label “In Memoriam” from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.

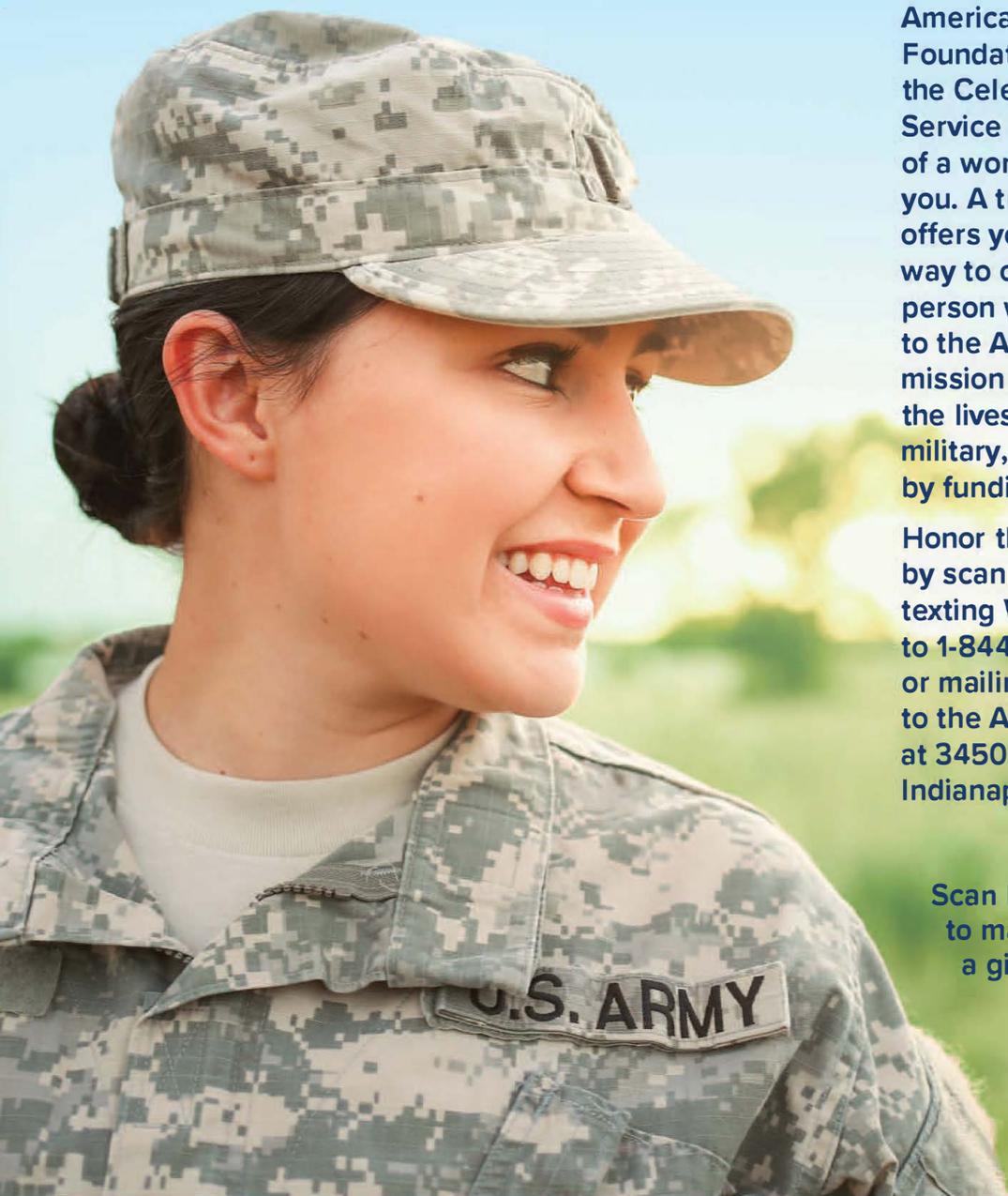
 **AMERICAN  
LEGION**  
**AUXILIARY  
FOUNDATION**

# *Celebrating Women of Service*

International Women's Day is March 8. Support the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation by donating to the Celebrating Women of Service campaign in honor of a woman who inspires you. A tribute donation offers you a thoughtful way to celebrate a special person while contributing to the ALA Foundation's mission to positively impact the lives of veterans, military, and their families by funding ALA programs.

Honor their service today by scanning the QR code, texting **WOMAN** to 1-844-940-3450, or mailing a check to the ALA Foundation at 3450 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268.

Scan here  
to make  
a gift:



# Green Mountain Girls State

June 22 - 27, 2025

**Leadership and civic-  
education summer  
program for rising  
high school seniors  
across Vermont**



**Students will meet  
Vermont leaders, learn  
how government  
works, and make  
lifelong friends!**



**For more info:**

[alagmgs.com](http://alagmgs.com) [director@alagmgs.com](mailto:director@alagmgs.com)



**@American Legion Auxiliary  
Green Mountain Girls State**



**@alagmgs**



Two students from every Girls State in the country are chosen to participate in Girls Nation in Washington, D.C.

For seven days, ALA Girls Nation senators hold mock Senate sessions which require them to write, caucus, and debate bills; campaign for elected office; elect an ALA Girls Nation President and Vice President; and work together to pass legislation.



## Samsung Scholarship

The Samsung Scholarship is awarded to one participant of Girls State to compete regionally, and nationally for a \$10,000 scholarship.

**You must be a direct descendant of a wartime veteran and demonstrate volunteer activity and financial need.**

You can find out more information at:

[legion.org/scholarships/samsung](https://legion.org/scholarships/samsung)

**SAMSUNG**



**June 22 - 27, 2025**

Leadership and civic-education summer program for students entering their senior year of high school!



# At Green Mountain Girls State, students



become civically-engaged



learn leadership skills



and make life long connections!

## Frequently Asked Questions



### Who can apply?

High school **juniors** interested in government, leadership, and civic engagement may apply.

### How can I apply?

Students can apply on our website, at their high school, or their local American Legion Auxiliary Unit. **Applications open in January.**

### How much does it cost?

For students, **it is \$30**, ALA units sponsor \$400 per student.

Student applications are due **by Friday, April 4.**



"I loved learning about Vermont's Government and running campaigns; I even wrote my college essay, for every single school, about ALAGMGS and ALA Girls Nation, because it marked a turning point in my life that gave me a new passion. It taught me that I belong anywhere that I believe I belong, and nobody can take away my confidence."

**Lindsay Bernard**  
ALAGMGS Lt. Governor and  
Girls Nation Senator 2021

## Connect with us!

 [director@alagmgs.com](mailto:director@alagmgs.com)

 [alagmgs.com](http://alagmgs.com)

 [@alagmgs](https://www.tiktok.com/@alagmgs)

 [@alagmgs](https://www.instagram.com/alagmgs)

 [@American Legion Auxiliary Green Mountain Girls State](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionAuxiliaryGreenMountainGirlsState)

 [@ALAGMGGirlsState](https://twitter.com/ALAGMGGirlsState)



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

January 19, 2025

Dear Unit Presidents & Unit AEF Chairs:

Attached please find a fundraising template in Word that you can modify to change out the name of the person and address where you want the funds to be sent for record keeping purposes.

This is a simple fundraiser where you print the page out on card stock after you have made your changes and ask Unit members to "sell" each date until the calendar is full. For example, if someone chooses the 5th, they would pay \$5.00 and put an "x" through the box for the 5th. More than one person can share the larger boxes so that you can fill all of them. Once you have sold all of the boxes you will have raised \$496.00 for the AEF on behalf of your Unit!

I would recommend that you print out a sample application for both the disaster and hardship funds so that you can educate your members and any others who are willing to donate on what the fund covers and how to apply. Please emphasize that all applications can be made directly to National on line in order to protect the privacy of the applicants. In addition, please make sure you educate your donors on what information must be provided in order to submit a complete application and receive a determination as quickly as possible.

Please contact me if you have any questions or if I can help in any way and thank you for your continued hard work on behalf of the National Auxiliary Emergency Fund!

Sincerely,

*Jacqui C. Hood*

Eastern Division AEF Chair & Department of Vermont AEF Chair

**Jacqui C. Hood, Esq. ALA Eastern Division AEF Chair**

**Department of Vermont AEF Chair**

**PO BOX 1414, St. Albans, VT 05478**

**Phone – (802) 782-8766; Cell – (949) 400-8714. E-mail – [jacquih@comcast.net](mailto:jacquih@comcast.net)**



# AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND FUNDRAISER

*Department of Vermont*

Pick a Date to Donate

HOW IT WORKS: Pick the date and pay that amount; i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> = \$1 24<sup>th</sup> = \$24

1 \$1	2 \$2	3 \$3	4 \$4	5 \$5	6 \$6	7 \$7
8 \$8	9 \$9	10 \$10	11 \$11	12 \$12	13 \$13	14 \$14
15 \$15	16 \$16	17 \$17	18 \$18	19 \$19	20 \$20	21 \$21
22 \$22	23 \$23	24 \$24	25 \$25	26 \$26	27 \$27	28 \$28
29 \$29	30 \$30	31 \$31				

100% of the proceeds will be donated to the American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund to assist Auxiliary members who are fire, flood and disaster victims or hardship applicants.

**DONATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 1, 2025**

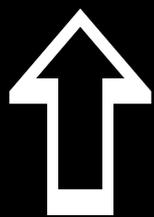
Make check payable to American Legion Auxiliary AEF Fund and mail to Department Executive Secretary Corrinna Colson, ALA Department HQ, 126 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

Department AEF Chairman: Jacqui Hood, PO BOX 1414, St. Albans, VT 05478  
(802) 782-8766 Cell (949) 400-8714 e-mail – [jacquih@comcast.net](mailto:jacquih@comcast.net)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ck# \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Help \$upport ALA members  
in crisis with your donations



## Auxiliary Emergency Fund

# MEMBERS IN CRISIS NEED YOUR HELP!



### AEF Facts

Serving Size: Large Portion of Love  
Servings Per Can: Unlimited Donations

Amount/Serving	What U Can
Benefits from Donation	Limitless
<b>% Daily Value</b>	
Saturated Smiles	100%
Generous Contributions	100%
Providing A Helping Hand	100%
Heartwarming Support	100%
Improving Members' Lives	100%

#### CONTRIBUTE AFTER OPENING

**INGREDIENTS:** American Legion Auxiliary members selflessly serve veterans and military families in need. But when need strikes home, the Auxiliary Emergency Fund is available to members for temporary emergency assistance.

Since its establishment in 1969, the AEF has been available to members experiencing radically life-changing events whether from personal crisis to acts of nature.

The AEF is here to help thanks to your generous contributions — members helping members in the truest form. But, it will only be here with your continued assistance. Any amount helps.

For more information, visit us online at  
[www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org).



*Made with  
Your Donations*

**AMERICAN LEGION AUX. UNIT27  
EMERGENCY FUND RAFFLE  
SEE LIST OF PRIZES**

**TICKETS: \$5/ea. Or 5/ \$20.**

- Weber Cooker Smoker- \$500.**
- Carrara's- Load crushed gravel-\$250.**
- Greg's Meat Pack & Grocery Basket -\$130.**
- Fire & Ice Restaurant & Coles Gift Card- \$60.**
- Green Peppers & Gas Card-\$60.**
- Agway & Shaw's Gift Card-\$50.**
- Pratt's Store Gift Card-\$50.**
- Rosie's Restaurant & Visa Card- \$50.**
- Hannaford Gift Card- \$50.**
- Maple Cutting Board & Subway Gift Card-\$35.**
- Maple Cutting Board & Subway Gift Card-\$35.**
- Kinney Drug Entertaining Essential Basket-\$30.**
- Kinney Drug Entertaining Essential Basket-\$30.**

**Tickets On Sale At:**

**American Legion Post#27**

**49 Wilson Road**

**Middlebury, VT.**

**802-388-9311 - Mon- Sun. 12 p.m-8 pm**

**Questions Email**

**[Americanlegionauxiliary27@gmail.com](mailto:Americanlegionauxiliary27@gmail.com)**

**Phone number - 802-377-1168**

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT  
PO BOX 192 MONTPELIER, VT 05601-0192**

