

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

PLAN OF ACTION 2011 – 2012



LIBRARIES OF LOVE for Our Veterans

Honoring our Veterans by Engaging the American Legion

Family in Service Not Self for God and Country

2011 -2012 American Legion Auxiliary

Honoring our Veterans by Engaging the American Legion Family
in Service not self for God and Country

“Libraries of Love for Our Veterans”

Department President

Head Librarian

Headquarters

Resource Room

Membership Chairman

Head Library Clerk

Membership Team

Assistant Clerks

Department Officers

Audio Visual Department

Department Chairman

Library Board Members

District & County Presidents

Mobile Library Unit

Unit Presidents

Card Catalogue

Senior Members

Books of Knowledge

Junior Members

Story Tellers

**Department of Wisconsin
Honorary Junior Officers
2011 – 2012**

Mariah Pursley, President
488 W Cornell Ave
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Unit 6 District 8 Stevens Point

Caitlin Rosemeyer, Vice-President
113 North Wilson Street
Thorp, WI 54771

Unit 118 District 7 Thorp

Anna Wilkinson, Secretary
PO Box 192, 616 Cty Rd M
Tigerton, WI 54486

Unit 239 District 8 Tigerton

Zabrina Mason, Chaplain
706 North Hinman Street
Marshfield, WI 54449

Unit 118 District 7 Thorp

Morgan Johnsen, Historian
5801 Granite Road
Wausau, WI 54401

Unit 10 District 8 Wausau

Katarina Petranovich, Sergeant-at-Arms
W9020 Hixwood Road
Thorp, WI 54771

Unit 118 District 7 Thorp

Department Chairman

Anna Rosemeyer
113 North Wilson Street
Thorp, WI 54771
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E-mail: amrhandinhand@yahoo.com

Co-Chairman

Joan Wilkinson
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Tigerton, WI 54486
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E-mail: budygram@frontiernet.net

Junior Activities Plan of Action 2011 - 2012

Department of Wisconsin

Purpose: To interest eligible young women (under the age of 18) in adult membership through positive experiences of mission-based volunteer opportunities that instill the ideals of the organization.

Welcome to the “**Libraries of Love**” for our Veterans as we open the doors to an exciting new year. Our **Books of Knowledge** (all Senior members who are filled with a wealth of information to implement the programs for our Veterans, Children, and Community) to **inspire and Mentor** our vibrant **Story Tellers** (all Junior Auxiliary member **protégés** eager to learn about our great organization and become the Leaders of our Future). Your Department Junior Activities Chairman, Anna Rosemeyer, and Co-Chairman, Joan Wilkinson, look forward to working with you in guiding and educating our energetic, enthusiastic Junior Auxiliary members.

National President, Kris Nelson’s theme “**Honoring Their Service**” through **membership** and her special project to raise money for the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation along with Department President Joan Chwala’s theme “**Libraries of Love**” for our **Veterans**” and her special project to raise money through Library or Read-Athon type activities and to do something for Veterans and troops in the Library area will inspire many creative ways for us to serve and honor the service of our veterans both past and present. Sharing your story and your passion for this great organization will encourage participation and may even lead to a new member or two.

The Juniors are encouraged to learn about the American Legion Auxiliary and the Importance of Americanism and Volunteerism by attending the 2011 Junior Activities Fall Conference in Neillsville on October 15th, the Armed Forces Day Open House at Ft. McCoy on May 19th, 2012, and the 2012 Junior Activities Spring Conference in June. Keeping your Juniors involved and informed and participation in these state gatherings as well as with your unit, county, and district meetings and events are important in the formation of Junior members and the American Legion Family and there will be nothing we can’t accomplish.

In our library you will find information on the Junior Activities Patch Program. Patches can be earned for Americanism, Community Service, Education, Field Service, Leadership, Membership, National Security, Physical Fitness, Poppy, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Technology, and the National President’s Scholarship patch. Regardless of where a member lives or whether she belongs to an active Junior group, she is able to serve veterans and her community and learn about patriotism, health and fitness and leadership through this incentive program. There are three levels of age appropriate patch criteria: **Red Level 1** for Kindergarten through 3rd grade, **Gold Level 2** for 4th grade through 8th grade, and **Blue Level 3** for 9th grade through 12th grade. The patch Program’s thirty three page document can be downloaded by visiting www.legion-aux.org. Completed Patch Program sheets need to be mailed to Department Chairman, Anna Rosemeyer, by May 1, 2012 so that the girls can receive the patches at their Spring Conference.

President’s Theme: “**Libraries of Love for our Veterans**” Honoring our veterans by Engaging the American Legion Family in Service not Self for God and Country.

Special Project: to raise money through Library or Read-a-thon type activities and to do something for Veterans and troops in the Library area

Department Level Objectives

1. Objective: To encourage participation (in service projects) that helps our military veterans and their families.

Action Steps

- a. Juniors create and implement a service project centered around helping service members and their families during the holidays such as veterans gift shop, adopt a deployed company, babysit for a deployed soldier's spouse, book fairs, reading or tutoring at school or with a deployed soldier's children, participate in Read Across America, etc. (remember the homeless women veteran)
- b. Volunteer with your local Operation: Military Kids, VA , hold a mini-Kids Canteen, or hold a Read-Athon
- c. Invite friends and family to participate when you volunteer. You just might end up with a new member and new friend.
- d. Participate in the **Library** of Congress' Veterans History Project by interviewing a veteran's family member or friend to help collect, preserve and make accessible personal accounts of American war Veterans so that future generations may hear directly from them and better understand the realities of war.

2. Objective: To promote the National Presidents' Scholarship peer-to-peer, by raising awareness of the rules and application process in schools/communities.

Action Steps

- a. Post information about the Scholarship on your social networking sites.
- b. Distribute scholarship information to your high school counselors/school districts, youth organizations and churches.
- c. Promote the scholarship to your friends and family members and get them to tell five of their friends or family members. **Communicate!**

3. Objective: To empower our Junior members by seeking their assistance to American Legion Auxiliary programs.

Action Steps

- a. Have Junior members teach Unit leaders the basics of e-mail and the internet.
- b. Have Junior members help create and educate Unit leaders about social networking sites such as Face book, MySpace, Twitter, etc.
- c. Have Junior members work with Unit leaders to create and maintain ALA websites.
- d. Teach and actively practice Internet Safety.

Programs and Activities

1. **Junior Patch Program:** Requirements and patch forms available at www.legion-aux.org. Working on patch requirements is a great way for Junior members to learn the ALA programs. They are motivated by earning the incentive patches which are presented during the Junior Activities Spring Conference. Be sure to mail completed Patch Program sheets to Department Chairman, Anna Rosemeyer by May 1, 2012.
2. **National Junior Meeting:** Held each year in conjunction with National Convention. The National Junior Meeting is an opportunity for Auxiliary Juniors to interact with each other, participate in service projects and elect Honorary Officers. In August, 2012, the National

Junior meeting will be held Indianapolis, IN. Let's have a record number of juniors in attendance!

3. **Spirit of Youth Scholarship for Junior Members:** Five four-year scholarships will be awarded in 2011-2012. One four-year scholarship will be awarded in each division in the amount of \$1,000 per year. Requirements and applications available at www.legion-aux.org.
4. **Scholarship for National Honorary President:** The Junior member elected National Honorary Junior President is presented a \$2000 scholarship.
5. **Joint Action Projects:**
 - a. Americanism Pocket Flag Project <http://pocketflagproject.com> this program promotes hope and encouragement to our troops while serving overseas and lets them know we are thinking of them. Sponsor the Pocket Flag Program at your Unit/County/District Meetings for the purpose of folding and distributing them to deployed troops.
 - b. Americanism/Patriotism Basic Education www.legion.org or www.legion-aux.org Check the American Legion Americanism Program for materials and ideas. Promote, encourage and teach the Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem and proper flag etiquette to every junior member. The American Legion flag & Emblem catalog have appropriate items for patriotism basic education.
 - c. Veterans History Project <http://www.loc.gov/vets/> Record the memories and collect the documentation of war veterans and those who served to support them during wartime and preserve the records for the future. Help Junior members set up an interview with a veteran and record his/her story. Have Juniors write a report and make a display board and display at your local Library (don't forget to include a picture of the Junior along with the Veteran)
 - d. National Security Support Our Troops and Families Projects durango1@wi.rr.com Contact Diana Sirovina, Chairman of National Security, for projects Unit and Junior members can do to support our active troops and their families.
 - e. VA&R Voluteen Program Contact your nearest VA facility. Encourage teen volunteers to participate with the VAVS system to help stabilize the decline n volunteers at the VA Medical Centers, Veteran Homes, Nursing Homes, and Fisher Houses. Have Junior members sing, play Bingo, visit or just read to the veterans. Provide rewards for active volunteers.
 - f. Leadership Mentoring Projects lwendres@charter.net Contact Department Leadership Chairman, Joyce Endres, for specifics on Leadership training. Promote the use of the Leadership Course for Junior members. Use the Junior Activity Handbook. Provide information on Auxiliary Scholarships including the National President's Scholarship. Encourage Junior members to attend the 29th Annual National Junior Meeting to be held in Indianapolis, IN August 2012. Provide activities for Junior members that will peak their interests and encourage their friends to join. Encourage older Juniors to adopt younger members and teach them through their actions an encouragement (this may also retain older Junior involvement)
 - g. Operation: Military Kids www.operationmilitarykids.org

h. More Scholarship Opportunities www.legion-aux.org

- **Americanism Youth Conference** – A scholarship awarded to one representative per department to students in grades 10, 11, and 12 to attend Freedoms Foundation. This annual conference is hosted by Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. See Americanism Plan of Action for details.
- **Junior Volunteer Scholarship Award** – A \$1000 scholarship awarded to a Junior Member Volunteer in each division serving the greatest number of volunteer hours in a VA facility, through home or field service. See the VA&R Plan of Action for details or on-line at www.legion-aux.org.
- **National President's Children of Warriors Scholarship-** www.legion-aux.org or www.ALAforVeterans.org. These scholarships are awarded to children of veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for the American Legion. One \$2500 scholarship, one \$2000 scholarship, and one \$1500 scholarship is awarded in each division... fifteen outstanding students awarded a total of \$30,000 to further their higher education. Applicants must complete 50 hours of community service during his/her high school years to be eligible for one of these scholarships.

i. **Membership**

President Joan's Membership Team (which includes 4 Junior members) and the twelve District Junior Activities Chairman will be challenging all Senior and Junior members to bring many more Junior members (storytellers) into our Library. The Unit and District that bring in the most NEW Junior members will be recognized in a special way at the Department Convention in July 2012.

Junior Activity Awards:

1. **Unit Award** - A citation plaque will be presented to the Unit Chairman in each division reporting the Best Junior Activities Program with at least one Action Step from each of the three Objectives as stated in the Plan of Action. Entry must be typewritten in narrative form not to exceed 1000 words. Please include pictures.
Mail Unit Award entries to: Anna Rosemeyer, 113 North Wilson Street Thorp, WI 54771 by **May 1, 2012**.
2. **National Plaque Award** An engraved plaque will be presented to Unit reporting the Best Overall Junior Activities Program. Entry must be typewritten in narrative form that demonstrates superior execution of at least two Action Steps from each of the three Objectives in the Junior Plan of Action. The narrative should not exceed 1,000 words. Please include pictures.
Mail national Plaque Award entries to: Anna Rosemeyer, 113 North Wilson Street Thorp, WI 54771 by **May 1, 2012**.
3. **Junior Member of the Year Award** An engraved plaque presented to the National Junior Member of the Year in recognition of her dedicated service, efforts and talents. The Department of Wisconsin Junior Activities Chairman will submit a nominee to the National Junior activities Vice Chairman.

Each Unit may submit one nominee for Junior Member of the Year to Department Chairman, Anna Rosemeyer. The Department Chairman and her committee will select one nominee to represent the Department of Wisconsin. At minimum, criteria should include the following:

1. Consideration of only Junior members in good standing for 2011 -2012.
2. Each Unit is limited to one nomination
3. Outstanding contribution the Junior has made through a program or project outlined in the Plan of Action and other than the office she may be holding (based on current year ONLY.)
4. Her Junior group will select the Junior nominee with the assistance of the Unit Junior Activities advisor.
5. Nominee should NOT be serving as Honorary Department Junior President.
6. Length of membership is not a criterion.
7. Name, complete address, and Unit affiliation of the nominee must accompany nomination.
8. A narrative, typed, double-spaced essay not to exceed 500 words describing nominee's accomplishments during the CURRENT administrative year. Please include pictures.
9. Department Chairman shall establish judging committee judging committee and procedure to determine who will represent Wisconsin as the Department's Junior member of the Year for 2011 -2012.
10. Nomination must be signed by Unit Junior Activities advisor, the Junior group president and submitted to Department Junior Activities Chairman by May 1, 2012.
11. Wisconsin's Junior Member of the Year will be acknowledged at the State Convention.

Mail Junior of the Year entries to: Anna Rosemeyer, 113 North Wilson Street, Thorp, WI 54771 by **May 1, 2012.**