



## American Legion Auxiliary News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN RECEIVES PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**

**INDIANAPOLIS**—The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin was awarded the National President's Award for Excellence Aug. 26 by the 2008-09 American Legion Auxiliary National President, Desireé Stoy. The ceremony took place at the Auxiliary's (ALA) 89th National Convention in Louisville, Ky.

The ALA Department of Wisconsin successfully implemented multiple community-based programs over the past year. Through the Americanism program, members of the department promoted patriotism and responsible citizenship. They presented more than 3,600 flags to schools, organizations and parades and collected \$19,455 and volunteered 8,693 service hours for their "Support Military Families" program. Members of the department also volunteered thousands of hours at welcome-home parties, donated quilts to those in need and raised funds for veterans' medical centers, homes and rehabilitation programs. Between volunteering in the community and promoting their department's activities, mission and goals, they raised awareness about the ALA which helped in gathering strength in donations and volunteers for the organization.

The National President's Award for Excellence is presented annually to five ALA units and one ALA department that represent the "best of the best" in planning and implementation of the ALA's mission. Each member of the Department of Wisconsin helped establish goals, create tactics to accomplish their goals and then reported on their programs or activities outcomes.

Founded in 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary is the world's largest patriotic women's service organization. With a membership of nearly 900,000, local ALA units have a strong presence in more than 9,500 communities nationwide. The ALA's mission to *serve veterans, their families and their communities* is carried out through its hundreds of outreach programs delivered by its members, volunteers and national headquarters.

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