



2nd District Newsletter



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Amy's Angle....

Would you like to....

- Be the first to see the newly elected Department officers?
- Hear first-hand from Department chairs about their programs?
- Have a voice about important decisions?
- Learn who gets recognized for their outstanding achievements and why?
- Meet our National President?
- Catch-up with old friends and make new friends?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, then Department Convention is where you need to be! This year's convention will be held in **Green Bay July 14 -17**. Sign-up now to secure your spot. All units are asked to send at least one representative. Details can be found on the Department website: <https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/department-convention>

National President Kathy Daudistel will be conducting her official visit to Wisconsin during Department Convention. A *Parade of Checks* will be held on Thursday, July 14th at 5:00 pm with proceeds going to the ALA Foundation. Anyone interested in participating should bring a check payable to "ALA-Wisconsin." If you are unable to attend but would like to participate, please contact me to make arrangements. I will present the check on your behalf and mention your unit name to the National President.

Milwaukee will be hopping August 26 – September 1. The National Convention will be in our home state and this will be the most economical way ever for you to attend a National Convention. The first step is to register and then secure a hotel if needed. Volunteers are needed to act as greeters and other duties. If you volunteer for a shift, Department will reimburse your registration fee. Win-win for everyone! Registrations details are on the Department website <https://www.amlegionauxwi.org/copy-of-department-convention>

All members are encouraged to sign-up for an ALA In the Know session. This is the best way to learn about our programs and any upcoming changes. Yes, there are things changing...and you can be the first to find out! Space is limited so sign-up soon! Our District is hosting a session in Grafton so take advantage of the easy access and join the fun!

Blessings,

Amy

Salute, Serve, Celebrate

NATIONAL SECURITY

Danie Wilson, 2nd District Chair

The purpose of the American Legion Auxiliary's National Security program is to promote a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military service members and their families.

Within our individual communities there are many ways to work this mission - whether or not we are near a military installation or National Guard unit. Below are a few ideas for you to consider:

- Assist police, first responders and fire personnel with comforting children in stressful situations by donating stuffed animals and cuddly toys. You can also recognize and thank these civil servants by dropping off occasional baked goods.
- Locate a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in your area. CERT offers a consistent nationwide approach to training and organization that professional responder can rely on during disaster situations. CERT became an American Legion program in 2006.
<HTTPS://www.ready.gov/cert>,
- Inquire with your local County Veteran Service Officer of possible needy families your unit could adopt.
- Donate group style games to homeless shelters or the VA to promote a sense of community.
- Provide meals or entertainment to the Fisher House Wisconsin.
- Recognize Gold Star and Blue Star families in your community. Offer services like child care, rides to the doctor or grocery shopping.
- Salute Armed Forces enlistees; hold an event for students and their parents at the end of the school year.
- May 6 is Military spouse Appreciation Day – invite them to a special luncheon or dinner.

Looking for more ideas? Join the ALA National Security Face Book group. This group serves as a place to share service activities and events, ask questions, obtain information, and network for those interested in the American Legion Auxiliary and how the ALA National Security programs works.

ALA National Security

Private group · 825 members



Joined ▾

+ Invite



About

Discussion

Featured

Rooms

Topics

Members

Events

Media



There's additional information on the Department website under Program Plans of Action. Whatever area of National Security you decide to promote, make sure that you keep track of your hours, dollars and mileage for your year-end reporting. Our military and community will thank you!

Our Veterans, Military, their Families & Our Community

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Angie Dedlow, 2nd District Chair

Even though most schools are out for the summer, there is still time for your units to support children and get them active with the fun and interesting projects that align to our mission.

Below are several ideas. All you need are a few members who are willing to lend a hand, a space for your activity (if necessary) and a fun and joyful attitude! Make your summer matter for our kids!

Coordinate a Service Project



Does your local community need some attention? Gather the team to beautify your community and get local kids to help. Everyone plays a role in keeping their city and parks clean and free of litter.

Do Your Own Project Stuff Sack



Acquire bags that are colorful and fun. Gather your members and urge them to bring fun items for children. Stuff the bags as a team and donate to local children or daycare facilities.

Summer Bake Sale for CWF



Organize a summer bake sale and earmark proceeds for donation to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Kick off the summer by supporting CWF.

Host a Patriotic Party at Your Post



Show your community that your American Legion Post is the "go to" for the best patriotic experience. Plan an event for kids to teach flag etiquette and why honoring veterans is important.

Recognize Outstanding Kids



Don't forget about the ALA Youth Hero, Good Deed and Youth Caregiver Awards. When you see a young person doing outstanding things, be sure to recognize them with an ALA award.

Organize a Child Safety Night



Invite Fire Department, Police, EMT, Sheriff to come deliver safety tips to children and their families. Offer games, membership tables, food, and fun activities for all to enjoy.

The summer months are also the perfect time for you to keep your eye out for youth who are doing something meaningful in our communities. The Good Deed Award and the Youth Hero Award are great ways for you to acknowledge a youth in your community who has gone above-and-beyond in helping some special way. Information about both awards can be found on the Department website.

I'm happy to assist you so please keep me informed about any nominations. It is also important for you to reach out to your county and district presidents so they can let Department and National know about your efforts and help get the word out. Together we can do great things for our children & youth!

