

## 2024-2025 APPROVED DEPARTMENT PLAQUES AND AWARDS

### **PRESIDENT'S BEST - Recognition Citation/Blue Folder**

To the Unit that sends pictures and a narrative describing how they promoted the theme, "Building a Brighter Future for our Veterans"

One for a Unit with 10-150 members

One for a Unit with 151 and over members

One for a District

One for a Division

### **AMERICANISM**

**RICKY'S COUNTRY GIRLS AMERICANSIM PLAQUE** – to the Unit submitting the most outstanding participation in promoting the Americanism Program to the schools.

**THE DORIS SCHULTZ 'GOD BLESS AMERICA' PLAQUE** – to the Unit for the best overall participation in the Americanism program.

**SERVE AND PROTECT CADET OF THE YEAR PLAQUE** – to the outstanding cadet at American Legion Police School. The plaque and a picture of the cadet will be presented at the Youth Police School and reported during the Americanism report at Department Convention.

#### **Personal Awards:**

*\$10 to the Runner-up of the Ricky's Country Girls Americanism Plaque.*

*\$10 the Runner-Up of the Doris Schultz "God Bless America" Plaque.*

*\$10 to the District with the best overall Americanism Report to include a narrative/pictures*

*\$10 to the Unit that reports the best support of the National Emphasis to include narrative/pictures. (TBD)*

### **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY ILLINI GIRLS STATE**

**Unit raffle drawing** for one Unit to receive a \$300 registration refund if the completed application and check for the attending citizen arrive in the Department Office no later than April 1, 2025.

**Unit raffle drawing** for one Unit to receive a \$300 registration refund if the completed application and check for the attending citizen arrive in the Department Office no later than May 1, 2025.

Units will be notified by letter following the raffle drawings

#### **Personal Awards:**

*\$10 to the Unit, sponsoring the most citizens in 2025 All citizens must attend ALA IGS to qualify for this award. If a tie a drawing will be held.*

*\$10 to the Unit for the most unique way of promoting the ALA IGS program to inspire young ladies to attend, as provided to the Director in narrative form.*

### **AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND**

**ANN'S REPORTERS PLAQUE** – to the District with the highest contribution to the fund by June 1. This total does NOT include Unit donations.

#### **Personal Awards:**

*\$10 To the Unit with the highest contribution by June 1.*

*\$10 To the Division with the highest contribution by June 1.*

## CHAPLAIN

**PATTI'S CRAFTERS PLAQUE** – for the best Unit Book of Prayers.

**Personal Awards:**

*\$10 for the First Prayer received for President Arlene's Prayer Book.*

*\$10 to the Best Division Book of Prayers*

*\$10 to the Best District Book of Prayers*

## CHILDREN and YOUTH

**BEULAH M. UNFER PLAQUE** – to the Unit Chairman who submits the best overall participation in the Children and Youth program. The report should include pictures and a narrative, submitted by May 1, 2025.

**Personal Awards:**

*\$10 to the runner up to the Beulah M. Unfer plaque*

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

**Personal Awards:**

*\$10 and a certificate for the Unit, the District or Division that brings the most riders to hand out construction toys, or stuffed animals (Bob the Builder) etc. at the summer games. The entry to receive the award has to be reached by the following Friday in June.*

*\$10 and certificate for the Unit, District or Division that brings the most American Legion Family participants to work the hospitality between the State Tennis, Winter and Summer Games for Special Olympics. Please send a note of entry to be received by the following Friday after the Summer Games.*

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

**PAT'S SOLE SISTERS' PLAQUE** – to the Unit for the best overall participation in the Community Service Program. (Judged from all award application forms received).

**SR. VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD** - \$25.00 and a certificate to the senior member who volunteers the most in service to their community.

**JR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD** - \$25.00 and a certificate to the junior member who volunteers the most in service to their community

**Personal Awards:**

*\$10 to the runner up to the Pat's Sole Sisters Plaque.*

*\$10 to the Division with the most Unit submitting Community Service Project involving Seniors and Juniors.*

*\$10 to the District Chairman organizing a community service event for your area like a food drive, clothing drive, blood drive...and sent a narrative with pictures.*

*\$5.00 to the Division Chairman whose Units have submitted the most narratives*

## EDUCATION

**RUBY'S CANTEEN DANCERS PLAQUE** – to the Unit with best overall participation in the Education Program.

**JANET'S HUGGIE BEARS PLAQUE** – Recognition for the largest donation from a single source to the Education Fund by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Personal Awards:**

*\$10 to the runner up of the Ruby's Canteen Dancers Plaque.*

*\$10 to the runner up of the Janet's Huggie Bears Plaque*

*\$10 to the Unit with the largest donation to the Education Fund by March 15<sup>th</sup>.*

**Certificate of Appreciation** to all Units contributing a full scholarship of \$1000 or more including memorials.

## **GOLD STAR**

**STARR'S HEARTWARMERS GOLD STAR MEMBER OF THE YEAR** – to the selected Gold Star Member of the Year.

***Personal Awards:***

*\$10 to be given to the Unit chairman submitting the best report*

*\$10 Award to be given to the person submitting the best Gold Star Poem to Department Chairman by May 1, 2025*

## **HISTORIAN**

**PRO-BOWLERS PLAQUE** – for the best Unit History.

**RAMONA'S INDIANS PLAQUE** – for the best District History.

**BASKETBALL SHOOTERS PLAQUE** - for the best Division History.

**Awarded at Junior Conference**

**IRENE LOFTON'S EAGLETES PLAQUE** – for the best Unit Junior History

**DOT'S APPLE DUMPLING GANG PLAQUE**--for the best District Junior History.

***Personal awards:***

*\$10 and a Certificate to the runner up of the Pro Bowlers Plaque.*

*\$10 and a Certificate to the runner up of the Ramona's Indians Plaque.*

*\$10 and a Certificate to the runner up of the Basketball Shooters Plaque.*

*Citation given to any Unit, District or Division submitting a history (Seniors and Juniors) to the Department Historian for competition.*

*\$10 and Certificate – To the Unit Historian who submits to Department Historian the most information throughout the year.*

*\$10 and Certificate- To the District Historian who submits to Department Historian the most District information throughout the year*

*\$10 and Certificate – Basis: To the Division Historian who submits to Department Historian the most information throughout the year*

## **JUNIOR ACTIVITIES**

**DEB'S WILD ONES PLAQUE** – to the Unit for the best overall participation in the Junior Activities Program.

***Personal Awards:***

*\$5 to the Unit bringing the most participants to JR/SONS Conference.*

*\$5 Runner up to the Deb's Wild Ones Plaque*

## **LEADERSHIP**

**DIANA'S HATS OFF TO YOU PLAQUE** – to the Unit Member of the Year.

Use the Unit Member of the Year Award form. Must be an active member of her Unit.

Due May 1, 2025. To a senior member who are not currently, nor have been, in an elected or appointed leadership role higher than Unit President. Look for accomplishments and activities they involve themselves in that helps impact the American Legion Family, and the community through-out the year.

***Personal Awards:***

*\$10 and a certificate to the unit that follows and participates in the National new plan of action for Leadership.*

*\$10 and a certificate to the unit that follows and participates in the National new plan of action for Leadership.*

## LEGISLATIVE

**ANGIE'S SUPERHEROES LEGISLATIVE PLAQUE** – to the Unit for the best overall participation in the Legislative Program.

**Personal Awards:**

*\$10 to the runner up of Angie's Superheroes Plaque*

*\$10 to the Unit member receiving the most replies from their legislators both National, state, and local as reported to this chairman.*

*\$10 to the Unit with the Most Members receiving replies from their legislators, both National, State, and Local as reported to this chairman.*

## MUSIC

**MARY'S FLEURETTES PLAQUE** – to the District Chairman for the best overall participation in the Music Program.

**Personal Awards:**

*\$5 to the runner up of the Mary's Fleurettes Plaque*

*\$5 award to the Senior member who submitted the best Parody of a patriotic song based on the Dept President's theme, written or video.*

*\$5 award for the Best Unit, District or Division participation in the music program.*

*\$5 to the Best Division, District, and Unit with the best video parody.*

**Music Awards Presented at Junior Conference**

Parody (First Place) ages 1-12.

*\$10.00 to the Junior member for best Patriotic or Department President's Theme written or video. To Department Chairman by March 1, 2025*

Parody (First Place) ages 13-17.

*\$10.00 to the Junior member for the best Patriotic or Department President's Theme written or video. To Department Chairman by March 1, 2025*

Parody (Second Place) ages 1-12.

*\$7.50 to the Junior member for the best Patriotic or Department President's Theme written or video. To Department Chairman by March 1, 2025*

Parody (Second Place) ages 13-17.

*\$7.50 to the Junior member for the best Patriotic or Department President's Theme written or video. To Department Chairman by March 1, 2025*

Parody (Third Place) ages 1-12.

*\$5.00 to the Junior member for the best Patriotic or Department President's Theme written or video. To Department Chairman by March 1, 2025*

Parody (Second Place) ages 13-17.

*\$7.50 to the Junior member for the best Patriotic or Department President's Theme written or video. To Department Chairman by March 1, 2025*

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**FIREHOUSE CREW NATIONAL SECURITY PLAQUE** – to the Unit for the best overall participation in the National Security program.

**Service member of the year** - a plaque for each winning service member of the year – one per branch of service.

**Personal Awards:**

*\$10 to the Runner-up of the Firehouse Crew National Security plaque.*

*\$10 to the Unit with the Best CERT program report.*

*\$10 to the Unit that donates the most to the USO*

## PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY

**MARION'S BALLOONITICS PLAQUE** – to the Unit for best overall participation in the Past Presidents Parley Program.

**PAM'S TV LANDERS PLAQUE** – to the District with highest contribution to the Nurses Scholarship Fund by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Does not include Unit donations.

***Personal Awards:***

*\$10 to the runner up of the Marion's Balloonitics Plaque.*

*\$10 or a gift to the Unit for the most unique way to raise money for the nurse's scholarship fund as provided by written report*

*\$10 or a gift to the Unit raising the most funds for the nurse's scholarship program*

*\$10 or a gift to the Division with the most unique way of celebrating their Past Presidents at any level...Department Division, District or Unit as reported to me in a written report.*

## PHOTO BOOK

***Personal Awards:***

*\$10 To the Unit with the best picture and narrative of President Arlene and her theme*

*\$10 To the District with the best picture or pictures and narrative of President Arlene and her theme*

*\$10 To a Junior Unit with the best picture and narrative of President Arlene and her theme*

*\$5 runner up to a Junior Unit with the best picture and narrative of President Arlene and her theme*

## POPPY

**MARSHA'S ATHLETES PLAQUE** – to the Unit with the best overall participation in the Poppy program.

**JUDY'S CIRCUS PERFORMERS POPPY AWARD** – for the most new and innovative way or idea of raising funds for the Poppy Program.

**POPPY CONTESTS (Senior and Junior):** Poppy Corsage, Poppy Floral Arrangement, Poppy Tray Favors, Poppy Hat, Poppy Apparel, Poppy Holiday Hanging (wreath, wall, etc.),  
Poppy Hanging – Non-Holiday (wall, wreath etc.)

***Personal Awards:***

*\$10 to the runner up of the Marsha's Athletes plaque*

*\$10 to the runner up of the Judy's Circus Performers Plaque.*

**Awarded at Junior Conference:**

**LITTLE MISS POPPY AWARD** - \$50, Sash and Tiara.

**MISS POPPY AWARD** - \$50, Sash and Tiara.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**BURN'S REEL STARS PLAQUE** – for the best Unit Press Book submitted.

**JULIA'S MUSICIANS PLAQUE** – for the best District Press Book submitted.

**Personal Awards:**

*\$10 to the runner up of the Burn's Reel Stars Plaque.*

*\$10 to the runner up of the Julia's Musicians Plaque.*

**Awarded at Junior Conference.**

\$10.00 First Place for the most outstanding Media Book by Juniors (Class I and II).

\$8.00 Second Place for the most outstanding Media Book by Juniors (Class I and II).

\$5.00 Third Place for the most outstanding Media Book by Juniors (Class I and II).

## **VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION**

**TERI'S FIRECRACKERS PLAQUE** – to the Unit for best overall participation in the VA&R Program submitted in narrative form.

**CAROLLEE'S COOKIES PLAQUE** – to the District with the best overall participation in the VA&R Program submitted in narrative form.

**Personal Awards:**

*\$10 to the runner up of the Teri's Firecrackers Plaque*

*\$10 to the runner up of the Carollee's Cookies Plaque*

*\$10 to the Unit with the most donations to the Creative Arts Festival.*

*\$10 to the District with the most Quilts made for the Quilt of Valor program*

## **SERVICE TO VETERANS/HOSPITAL SERVICES**

\$25.00 to **VA/VS Volunteer** serving the greatest number of hours, **excluding Reps/Dep.**

\$25.00 to **VA/VS Volunteer** serving the greatest number of hours, **for Reps/Dep.**

\$25.00 to the **"Service to Veterans" Junior Volunteer** serving the greatest number of hours.

\$25.00 to the **"Service to Veterans" Senior Volunteer** serving the greatest number of hours.

\$25 to **IL Veterans Home Volunteer** serving the greatest number of hours, excluding Reps/Dep.

\$25 to **IL Veterans Home Volunteer** serving the greatest number of hours, for Reps/Dep.

**Personal Awards:**

*Citation to honor years of service*

## **HOLIDAY GIFTS - NONE**

## MEMBERSHIP

**KATHY'S KITTENS THE CATS MEOW PLAQUE** – to the Unit with the highest percentage of membership by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**SUE CC'S TWO TIMERS' PLAQUE** – to the Unit with the highest numerical gain in membership by July 1st. (10-150 members)

**JO'S STARLIGHTERS PLAQUE** – to the Unit with the highest numerical gain in membership by July 1st. (151 and over members)

**DOUBLE D BOOT KICKERS PLAQUE** – to the District with the highest percent of membership by July 1st. Vice President gets citation in a blue folder. (Districts up to 1000 members)

**DEPARTMENT PLAQUE** - to the District with the highest percent of membership by July 1st. Vice President gets citation in a blue folder. (Districts 1001 and above members)

**SHARON'S HALOS PLAQUE** – to the Division with the highest percent of membership by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice President gets citation in a blue folder.

**PAT'S KNIGHTS PLAQUE** – for Unit with highest numerical gain in Junior membership by July 1st.

### Traveling Pin Awards:

To the President and Vice President of a Division and one District in each Division with the highest percentage of members on the following dates. Pins will be returned prior to the next target date for distribution to the new winners.

October 19, 2024

March 21, 2025

December 7, 2024

July 11, 2025

**Goal Units** by Department Convention get 2 brick red pins and a certificate.

**Family Caravan (January 9-19, 2025)** – to the Unit that brings the most membership at each stop will receive an award. To be determined.

**Lincoln Pilgrimage awards** – to the Division and the 2 Districts with the highest percentage in membership on January 24, 2025. To include the President and Vice President. Winners will receive a Jacket and a breakfast ticket **if they are present** for the program on February 11<sup>th</sup> and the breakfast on February 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Patriotic Conference Membership Awards** – to any District President/Vice President and Division President/Vice President that are goal by opening of Patriotic Conference.

Will receive 1 free night at hotel or monetary equivalent if not staying in hotel because of location (live in area). **MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN**

The first Division to reach 102%, the President and the Vice President will receive \$150.00 each. The first District to reach 102%, the President and the Vice President will receive \$75.00 each.

### **Personal Award:**

*\$10 personal award to the Unit with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest numerical gain as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.  
(10-150 members)*

*\$10 personal award to the Unit with the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest numerical gain as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.  
(151 and over members)*