



ARLENE HOLTGRAVE

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Illinois President



Building a Brighter
Future for
Our Veterans

2024 ILLINOIS 2025

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR OUR VETERANS

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National President's Homecoming

(Right) Department President
Arlene Holtgrave with National
President Trish Ward.



(Bottom) Department President
Arlene Holtgrave and Membership
Chairman Joyce Huelsmann at
National President's Homecoming.





Arlene
Holtgrave



Joe
Lampert

Hello Everyone!

Well, it's fall according to the weather, one day it's cool, the next it's hot again! No one knows what the weather will be like by Thanksgiving.

November is a busy month with all the important dates. November 5th is election day, remember to vote!

Veterans Day, November 11, is fast approaching with all the important activities. Thank you to the planners for not having all Veterans Day services on the same day and time.

The 87th Haven Jamboree, November 15-16, is at THE HAVEN on Crab Orchard Lake, Carbondale IL and Knights of Columbus Hall, Marion. November 17 is the Egyptian Past Commanders and Past Presidents Clubs meetings. Past Commanders meet at the Haven, 10 AM and the Past Presidents meet at the Country Inn and Suites, 9 AM. Contact Bill & Ann Flanagan or a Fifth Division officer for more information.

November 28, 2024, is THANKSGIVING! Everyone has something to be thankful for!

November 25, 2024, the V A hospital Christmas Gift Shops start. The gift shops carry on into December. Volunteers are needed for all the gift shops.

National President Tish Ward's Homecoming, September 26-27-28, 2024, was an experience! I very much enjoyed it. Wichita, Kansas has the Eisenhower Museum and Library. I think I could have spent two whole days there and still not seen it all. We had lunch at the Brookville Hotel, built in 1870 and was moved to Legacy, Kansas. The down-home fixing of fried chicken and all the trimmings was good. Russell Stover's Candy Outlet was our next stop... OH! SO MUCH GOOOOD CANDY! Saturday was the Wichita Veterans Memorial Park with 17 memorials representing six wars. Then to Botanica for the botanical gardens and the migration of the Monarch Butterflies. Lunch was Wichita's oldest and

Please take a moment and donate to my special project -
The Auxiliary Emergency Fund!

(Continued on page 4)

Greetings,

October has been a very busy month. We conducted our Department and National Fall Meetings. While in Indianapolis, I attended the Department Commander / Adjutant Conference. I had the pleasure of attending the 5th Division meeting and thank President Judy for allowing me to speak. We also conducted our Division and District Officer training in Bloomington. The two major items of focus were COMMUNICATION & FAMILY! Without them, our organizations will not survive!

I am looking forward to all our November activities. There are many Veterans Day events as well as the Haven Jamboree and Thanksgiving. This month's Pillar is Americanism: Since 1919, the Americanism Commission has been committed to preserving the constitutional republic by educating the nation's youth in citizenship and social responsibility. As Legion Family Members, we ask Americans to actively participate in their communities, states, and at the national level to advance the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy for all. We must lead by example. One of the most sacred and valued freedoms in America is the freedom to choose our own government to work toward that more perfect union. In just a few short weeks, Americans will elect their representatives to lead their local, state, and national initiatives. It is important that we, as Legion Family Members, dedicated to fostering and perpetuating a 100% Americanism, not only vote personally but encourage our neighbors, friends, and loved ones to vote as well. It is time to get out and vote for your preferred leaders at every level of government! We, the people, are the custodians of our future. By our action or inaction, involvement or apathy, education or ignorance, we determine our own future.

Get out and Vote!



**Rick
Allen**



**Membership
Chairman**

Joyce Huelsmann

Hello Legion family! Let me start by wishing veterans a Happy Veterans Day and thank you for your service. We must do Buddy checks this time of year. It's a lonely time, give someone a call, go visit a veteran in a home or hospital a visit goes along ways towards happiness.

We must keep on working on membership. By this time we must realize that without membership paid, you can no longer Vote at Squadron, District, Division, or Detachment Meetings. The Squadrons are the heartbeat of the Sons. With you, nothing can stop us. We can get membership turned in by Dec 31st so we can work on programs.

I would like to talk to the family members about volunteerism and the role it plays in making things happen in the Legion family. As members in Illinois and across America, we dedicate our time to various causes and programs without expecting any personal gain. Legion volunteers contribute in countless ways whether it's a Be the One Walk for Veteran Suicide prevention, or Buddy Checks, or a visit to a VA home. Maybe help in the Honor Fight Program as we go on to support the Veterans that made it possible for us to belong. I would like to thank all members for what they do. It is noticed by many.

As Commander, there are many places to attend. I will do my best to get around to see as many of you as I can. This organization is important to me. I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and keep up the good work!

Hope everyone had a fun & safe Halloween!

We had a fair attendance at the fall forums. President Arlene and I were happy to meet each of those in attendance. We added 2 extra forums this year trying to accommodate distance for members to attend. These forums are informative training meetings that are intended to benefit ALL members as we learn something new every time we attend.

Membership has been trickling in slowly. Our units did make a tremendous effort to reach our 49% target for October 19th, however we were short. We do have 44 units that are over 50% plus one that has achieved 103% - Congratulations #447! I am hoping by the time this publication gets printed, units will have sent in more membership. Our next target date is scheduled for December 7th, Pearl Harbor Day, with a proposed 75% goal in the department.

Remember that members may lose out on some of the benefits if dues are not paid by December 31st. Do not hold dues, please forward it on a weekly basis if possible.

Caravan dates have been set for the Legion family to do another big push to gain membership renewals in January. But hey! – Let's not wait until January, get those dues turned in. We are going to get Illinois to goal as soon as possible!

Greetings to all for a Happy Thanksgiving and time with family!!

(President's message cont'd from pg. 2)

most historic Legion Post. On Saturday afternoon most of the Illinois's group went on the Old Town Wichita shopping trip. A stop was the Nifty Nut House. Many vintage shops lined the old red brick streets. Saturday evening there was the western theme gala at Exploration Place. The evening ended with the view of the "Ring of Fire" around the "Keeper of the Plains" statue on the Arkansas River.

The last Fall Forum was held October 19 at Post 809, Springfield. I hope everyone that attended any Forum learned something. A special THANK YOU to Elburn Unit 630, Canton Unit 16, Sterling Unit 296, Franklin Park Unit 974, Rantoul Unit 287, Steeleville Unit 480, Springerton Unit 1126, and Springfield Unit 809 for hosting the Fall Forums this year and the department officers for their help.

I still have space on my calendar for a visit to your Unit, District, Division or special event in your area. Please contact me with details.

Have you paid your 2025 dues yet? Please do so if you haven't! It would be great to make the goals this year! Units please don't hold on to dues. Get them turned in quickly! Our first target date October 19, 2024, is 49%.

Please contribute to my special project, the AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND! Funds are always needed. Think and pray for those in the hurricane areas, they need lots of help!

Till next time!

STAY SAFE, BE HEALTHY and GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Constitution and Bylaws

Chairman Ann Flanagan

How do we...?

Are you a new member, or a member of many seasons, who wonders how or why things are handled a certain way? Do we need to have a motion, discussion and vote on projects discussed in a meeting that we want to implement? Read the Unit Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules. This document is the backbone of our organization and gives us the guidelines to follow to help our veterans, active military and their families, and our community through our projects and programs. The template for the Unit Constitution and Bylaws, which conforms with the Department and National documents and does not conflict, is available on the Department website: <https://ilala.org>, click on Programs, then Member Organizational Support, then Constitution and Bylaws, then Read More, then Unit Constitution. Also, written and video instructions are available.

Be sure to verify that the dues amount set by your Unit is sufficient to cover the per capita sent to Department and National.

I encourage ALL Units to update their Constitution and Bylaw's this year. Our wonderful department staff, and volunteers, have made this project so easy to complete. At district, county and division meetings, share the importance of this responsibility with all attendees. There are many Units who don't update their C&B's, and some don't even know if there is a copy available and where it might be.

Connie Boxleitner, Pat Kranzow, and I are all available to help you. We (and the officers of the Department) would like to see a really good response this year for updating Unit Constitution and Bylaws. If you have questions, contact one of us.

VA & R

Chairman Kate Weber

As members of the American Legion Auxiliary, we strive to support our veterans in their physical as well as their mental health/needs by “**BUILDING SUPPORT FOR OUR VETERANS**”

As “Be the One” has been our “Legion Family MOTTO”, the past two years, we must continue it by serving our Veterans by being involved and being AWARE!

What can we do? **BY GETTING INVOLVED:**

- Supporting the therapeutic rehabilitation and healing of veterans by raising awareness of healing through arts, crafts, and hobbies. Remember the National Creative Arts Festival will be held in Indianapolis May 11-18, 2025. What a Great Opportunity to attend and it is close to us!
- Learn who is considered a caregiver. This will help you identify caregivers in your community and maybe even as a caregiver yourself.
- Volunteer at local VA facilities, including state VA facilities in your area. We need Volunteers at all facilities. Many were lost with the shutdowns of COVID and are desperately needed. Consider being one.
- Collaborate with organizations that support veterans and their families, such as Wreaths Across Americas, Honor Flight Inc., and the Military and Veteran Caregiver Network.
- Look in your community for opportunities to support veterans, their caregivers, their families, and their survivors. Take the Time to do Buddy Checks. You will be surprised what a simple phone call will do, to let them know you care.

Above all, report your ALA Service to Veterans hours to your Unit VA&R chair.

When donating to the VA&R Six Point program, remember to note which of the Six Point Program your donation is for. To be recognized for completion of the Six Point Program, each Point must be completed.

Any donations to Hospitals and Facilities, you must designate to whom your donation is for.

Six Point Program

VA&R Chairman Kate Weber

As we start our year, let us remember that we are Building Support for our Veterans. And as a new fiscal year begins, I would like to remind everyone of the Six Point Program! This program is consists of ways we can give to our veterans.

They are the Treasure Chest, Canteen Books, Fresh Fruit, Christmas Gift Shop, Easter Gift, and VA Nursing Homes. All of these are listed on your ALA Department of Illinois Master Snip Sheet. Monetary donations help support these programs and enable items to be purchased for the Christmas Gift Shops, as well as gift cards that enable the hospitalized veterans to purchase items for themselves that may not be available in the canteens. Poppy funds may be used for these programs.

Each Unit who gives to each of these programs by December 31st, will receive a Six-Point Program Certificate at the Patriotic Conference.

I hope this clarifies any questions you may have on this program.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Chairman Suzie Weiss

Hard times can fall upon us at any moment. That's when the American Legion Auxiliary in 1969 created the AEF program and is still helping fellow Auxiliary members get back on their feet. An Auxiliary Emergency Fund grant may provide immediate emergency assistance to eligible American Legion Auxiliary members in areas devastated by natural disasters, such as fire, flood, hurricane, tornado, earthquake, and/or other severe weather. It is also granted to provide temporary assistance to eligible American Legion Auxiliary members during a time of financial crisis when no other source of aid is readily available to pay for past due expenses related to their primary residence and/or for basic household utilities. Grants may be awarded up to \$3,000.00 with the intent to help members who have suffered a financial setback and offer a helping hand to help re-establish financial stability. Assistance will not be granted to pay medical expenses, credit card debt or any other expenses not related to shelter or basic household utilities.

For both, Disaster and Financial Assistance you must have maintained annual ALA membership for three consecutive years (the current year and immediate past two years). For Disaster, the application must be received within 6 months of the disaster. You should be able to provide information such as photos of damage to the residence, itemized receipts for emergency expenses, damage repair estimates and other information as requested. For Hardship, the applicant must be able to provide copies of past due bills for shelter, basic household utilities, documentation for loss of income, and other information as requested. And for both only one AEF grant per grantee will be awarded in a 12-month period.

Since the Auxiliary Emergency Fund was established, more than \$6 million has been awarded to more than 6,500 members. To continue providing this assistance, we need your generous support so please donate today and know that you are helping make a better tomorrow for you fellow Auxiliary members.

The application for assistance can be found on the National website at www.ALAforVeterans.org.

National Security

Chairman Linda Iberg

As we build this year, we must start out with a good foundation of national defense. The American Legion Auxiliary National Security Program includes supporting not only our veterans but active-duty military members and their families as well. Our program supports and promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military servicemembers and their families.

Auxiliary members can work with the National Security Commission supported by The American Legion, Department of Illinois. The commission studies the needs of the United States in armament, personnel, and military affairs along with problems with foreign relations. Hopefully with suggestions and programs to help the cause or conquer the problems.

We in the Auxiliary can support these issues through involvement with:

1. The disaster relief programs on the National and State levels.
2. Collaborate with the Red Cross and other blood bank programs such as Impact Life.
3. Start, join or maintain a "CERT" program for your local area. "CERT" is the Community Emergency

(National Security cont'd on pg. 7)

Holiday Gift Shop

Chairman Laurinda Kidd

“BUILDING HOLIDAY MEMORIES FOR THE FUTURE”
CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP SCHEDULE FOR 2024 –UPDATED

ILLINOIS VETERANS HOME-QUINCY	DECEMBER 4	9:30 A.M.
ILLINOIS VETERANS HOME-ANNA	DECEMBER 6	10:00 A.M.
MARION VA MEDICAL CENTER	DECEMBER 2	9:00 A.M.
ILLIANA VA-DANVILLE	DEC 3 rd and DEC 5 th	9:00 A.M.
JESSE BROWN MEDICAL CENTER	NOVEMBER 20 th	10:00 A.M.
HINES VA HOSPITAL	NOVEMBER 25 th	10:00 A.M.
JAMES LOVELL FEDERAL HCC	NOVEMBER 23rd	9:00 A.M.
ILLINOIS VETERANS HOME-LASALLE	DECEMBER 4 th	9:30 A.M.
JEFFERSON BARRACKS HOSPITAL	DECEMBER 11 th	9:00 A.M.
ILLINOIS VETERANS HOME-MANTENO	DECEMBER 4 th	9:00 A.M.
JOHN COCHRAN VA	DECEMBER 12 th	9:00 A.M.

(National Security cont'd from pg. 6)

- Response Team and there are courses to train volunteers to be prepared in times of natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, and blizzards, as well as during human-caused disasters. www.ready.gov
4. Supporting the military spouse not only on the “Military Spouse Appreciation Day” but every day. You can reach out and offer childcare or a “shoulder to lean on with an open ear”.
 5. Sending cards & letters or care packages to the deployed troops.
 6. We can bring awareness to the agencies working to bring home POW/MIA personnel. Visit the website for Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency
 7. Support your USO, Emergency Responders (law enforcement, fire fighters, EMS) and Blue Star and Gold Star families.
 8. “Be the One” suicide prevention program needs us to step in and help.
 9. TAPS (Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors)

Department National Security Awards online or in the President packets you will receive the 1st of November.



Reminders!

- There are still membership packets in the office. They will be sent out when the office receives the unit's 2024-2025 officer's list.
- **Unit Presidents:** the fall packet went out the third week of October. It includes the Americanism brochure, scholarship information and applications, and much more! **PLEASE** share with your unit members.
- Check the Snip sheet (pg. 15-16), there are so many great programs your unit can support. Our veterans and facilities are still in need.

ATTENTION: UNIT PRESIDENTS AND UNIT TREASURERS!!

Bonding fees are due to your District Treasurer.

This year it is \$16.50. Please send to your District Treasurer as soon as possible.

If you need Treasurer information, contact your District President or call the Department Office.

If you would like to receive the ALA Today, General Department Communications and/or the Membership report, via email please go to the department website: www.ilala.org, scroll down and select "Subscribe". You then can choose the information you would like to receive by clicking the box next to the item. If you do not receive the ALA Today or the Membership report via email, you can always find them on the website listed above as well. Please check your SPAM box in case you do not receive emails from us.

ATTENTION DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS MEMBERS

It is Illinois' turn to have a National Central Division Vice President. The election will take place at our Department Convention in July. We will announce our candidate at the caucus at National (2025) and they will be elected at the National Convention 2026 to serve for the 2026-2027 administrative year.

The candidate (s) will be in the ALA today May-June issue. They will follow the same deadline of having a picture and information to the office no later than April 1st.

If you have any questions, please notify the Department office.

Sharon Conatser sconatser44@live.com 217-369-6211

Part-Time Bookkeeper Needed

The Department Office is looking for a part-time bookkeeper. 20 hours a week with more hours during peak times. Send your resume to executivesecretary@ilala.org if you are interested. Hope to have one in place by January 1, 2025.

Sharon Conatser
Managing Director/Department Executive Secretary

Poppy Chairman Sandra Kirby

Time to make plans for **NATIONAL POPPY DAY May 25, 2025.**

Poppy day is celebrated in countries around the world. The America Legion Family brought National Poppy Day to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day as National Poppy Day.

On the Friday before Memorial Day, wear a red poppy to honor those fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

The red poppy is the nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans, while protecting our freedoms.

Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, each year members of The American Legion Family distribute poppies with a suggestion that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veteran's active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.

Educate your community using the image and story of the Flanders Field poppy to educate people about the sacrifices our military and service members. This helps us raise awareness of the Legion Family and connect us to the mission in the eye of the public. Encourage the American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, Legion Riders, and ALA Junior members to join poppy distribution in your community.

Offer to speak at local civic engagements about the meaning and significance of the poppy and how Poppy funds help veterans and their families. There are many ways individuals and groups can help bring greater awareness for the symbolic flower, honor our fallen and support heroes on National Poppy Day.

EVERYONE CAN HELP!

Wear a poppy all day and tell everyone why!

REMEMBER: To Share on Social Media, where and when you will be distributing Poppies.

Still have questions regarding the Poppy usage and distribution? Check out the Department website ([Department Poppy](#)) or go to the National website ([National Poppy](#)) for more answers.



Children & Youth

Chairman Susan Heinz-Wojcik

The Children and Youth Program emphasizes protecting, caring for and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families.

The District Children and Youth Christmas Gift Cards form was due on October 20, 2024. I am hoping that all the districts that have facilities in their areas remember to send in their forms. If not, put this on your calendars for next year.

National Chairman Children and Youth Chairman Lisa Chaplin wants to encourage everyone to look at the Children and Youth Program Engagement Plan which you can access at <https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Committees/Children-and-Youth/Get-Involved-Children-Youth>

It is time for Units, Districts and Divisions to plan Holiday Parties for our children and youth. Holidays can be a hard time for some of our children for various reasons for them. Consider making cookies for them as a group.

Please encourage your Units, Districts and Divisions to send in donations to the Department office for the Child Welfare Foundation. Let's help National Children and Youth Chairman Lisa Chaplin to be able to say that the Auxiliary collected the most funds this year. Let's make Illinois proud! Remember to earmark all donations when sent in the Department office.

Start looking around for children or youth to award for their good deeds or heroic actions. The National American Legion Auxiliary has two special awards to give to youth nominated by Units, they are the Youth Hero Award and the Good Deed Award. The National goal is to have at least one from every Department.

Remember those and their families currently serving our country. Have a great holiday season and an awesome new year.

Past President's Parley

Chairman Angie Golightly

This year all past presidents are "Building a Better Future off the Blueprints from the Past". Together we'll share what we've learned in the past and help others to grow in whatever position they hold today in our organization. Find someone to mentor. Check in with them to see if you can be of some help with any challenges they are having at this time. You've been there. You know what difficulties may arise.

My hope is that each Unit will put a gas allowance in their budget to assign a representative to attend their District and/or Division meetings. This could be the key to passing on important information. I'm sure many are thinking about any college student in their lives, to apply for the scholarships that we have available. Don't forget to donate to your Past Presidents Parley to fund those programs. Always remember female veterans during holidays. You may be a 'past' president but you're a 'current' wealth of help to others. Thank you for sharing your knowledge.

American Legion Auxiliary Warsaw Unit 682 ALA Illini Girls State Delegate Delaney Brunenn

Congratulations to Warsaw Unit 682 on the outstanding Girls State selection of Delaney. The Unit's progress and growth to attract the younger generation is inspirational! Delaney represented Warsaw and the ALA very well!

Congratulations to Warsaw Unit 682 on looking for individuals to help their Unit grow into the future.

Photo from *Daily Gate City*

Click [here](https://www.mississippivalleypublishing.com/daily_gate/delaney-brunenn-shines-at-girls-state/article_d6c65156-5b23-11ef-b493-972648e47fa3.html) or go to https://www.mississippivalleypublishing.com/daily_gate/delaney-brunenn-shines-at-girls-state/article_d6c65156-5b23-11ef-b493-972648e47fa3.html to read more about Delaney's experience!



Team Illinois Shirts for Pam Ray!

Small to XL \$55

2XL-4XL \$65

We will be wearing them at installation in Tampa on August 27, 2025.

Get your order in now!!

Contact:

Sharon Conatser

Email: sconatser44@live.com Cell: 217-369-6211



Des Plaines Unit 36 Young Son Lincoln Kahney

On October 15, 2024, our Unit (Des Plaines Unit 36) presented 3rd grader Lincoln Kahney, a Young Son of Squadron 36, with patches he earned through the Junior Activities Patch Program. The first photo is of our Unit President Fran Strossner, myself, and the Post 36 family members with Lincoln and his parents. The second photo is of the patches he earned.

-Karen Jacobs, Des Plaines Unit 36 Vice President



Pam Ray for National President, Leadership Fund
Wear Navy to Show Our Support of Pam
We have several styles available
ILLINOIS WILL THRIVE IN 2025

Navy Jacket/Cardigan

- Sizes XS to 4XL - S to XL Price is \$55.00; 2XL - 4 XL \$65.00

Navy Ladies Polo – Team Illinois on sleeve

- Sizes XS to 4XL – XS-XL Price is \$55.00; 2XL- 4XL \$65.00

Navy Men's Polo – Team Illinois on sleeve and pocket

- Sizes S to 4XL – S-XL Price is \$55.00; 2XL- 4XL \$65.00

Navy Men's Polo – Team Illinois on sleeve and NO pocket

- Sizes S to 4XL – S-XL Price is \$55.00; 2XL- 4XL \$65.00

Navy Ladies Tunic $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeve

- Sizes XS to 4XL - S to XL Price is \$55.00; 2XL - 4 XL \$65.00

Navy Ladies Tunic Button Down short sleeve

- Sizes XS to 4XL - S to XL Price is \$55.00; 2XL - 4 XL \$65.00

If you need your items shipped, please add \$10.00 to your payment

Ladies

Mens

Quantity

Size(s)

Size(s) Needed Men's with pocket

____ Jacket

Size(s) _____

Size(s) Needed Men's no pocket _____

____ Polo

Size(s) _____

____ $\frac{3}{4}$ Sleeve Tunic Size(s) _____

____ Button Down tunic Size(s) _____

Total Items Ordered _____

Amount of Payment _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Phone #: _____

Make checks payable to: Pam Ray Leadership Fund
Mail to: 1122 N 2550 East Rd, Strasburg, IL 62465-4037

Pam Ray For National President Shirts!
(See order form on pg. 12)



**17th District American Legion Family
Quarter Auction**

To Benefit Pam Ray for National President 2025-2026

Saturday, November 9, 2024

Cullom American Legion



**Doors open at 11:00 am - Auction Starts at
1:00 pm**



Silent & Live Auction Items Will Also be Available

Paddles will be \$2.00 each, 3 for \$5.00

Cash donations may be sent to Cullom Unit, P.O. Box 124, Cullom, IL 60929

Many items to bid on!

Food will be available

Come join the fun and support a great cause

Items will range from \$0 to over \$50 retail:

1 quarter bid – Item value \$0-\$15

2 quarter bid – Item value \$16-\$30

3 quarter bid – Item value \$31 & up

VA & R Needs

John Cochran:

- Winter Coats and Jackets (All Sizes)
- Tennis shoes (Sizes 9-13)

Marcia Ziska, Rep.

Jefferson Barracks:

- Winter Coats
- Hats & Gloves
- Hygiene Products (must be alcohol free)
- Shoes (all sizes)
- Undergarments (Men & Women)
- Sweatshirts & Sweatpants (M-XXL)

Barb Rose, Rep.

Bloomington VA:

- Men's socks
- Men's Underwear (M-2XL but the greatest need is for L/XL)
- Men's T-shirts
- Coats
- Travel size hygiene items
- Non-perishable food items
- Women's and Men's gloves
- Hand and Foot Warmers
- Small bottle of hand sanitizer
- Small bottles of water

Sue Winger, Rep.

Lovell FHCC:

- Axe Hygiene Products
- Shampoo and Condition
- Lotion and Shaving Cream
- Deodorant
- Puzzle books
- Gift Cards (Fast food)
- 2025 Wall Calendars (extras you may have)
- Bingo prizes

- Gloves, hats, socks, sweatshirts (S-XL)
- Hand and foot warmers

LaVera Davis, Rep.

Jesse Brown VA:

- Mens: winter hats and gloves, coats, jackets, sweatshirts and pants, shoes/boots, belts, long sleeve shirts, jeans. (all must be clean)
 - Women: shoes/boots, gloves, knit hats, slacks, sweaters, long sleeve tops, sweatshirts. (all must be clean)
 - New Travel size Hygiene products (lotiom, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, roll on deodorant, lip balm, body wash, soaps).
 - Large Word searches, playing cards, small pads of paper, pens/pencils.
 - Small baggies with tide pods and dryer sheets (label on outside and place in a box)
- make a list of how many items of each. Contact Jo Ann for pick up.
- Jo Ann Keenan, Rep.

Illiana VAMC:

- 3 n 1 body wash**
- Nonalcoholic mouthwash**
- Stick deodorant (men and women)**
- Body lotion**
- Puzzle books
- Adult coloring books
- Car models
- Model glue and paint
- Acrylic paint
- Paint brushes
- Paint by numbers
- Black fuzzy poster kits

Patti Williamson, Rep.

(** most urgent)

ALA - Department of Illinois 2024-2025 Master Snip Sheet**Mail to:** American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Illinois, P O Box 1426, Bloomington, IL 61702-1426

Dept. President's Special Project	Auxiliary Emergency Fund	\$
Americanism	Americanism Fund	\$
	Spirit of Youth Fund	\$
Auxiliary Emergency Fund	AEF Fund	\$
Children & Youth		
	Children's Miracle Network	\$
	Chicago/	
Christmas Gift Program	Rockford	\$
Children & Youth		
Scholarship	Peoria	\$
	Springfield/	
Special Olympics	Champaign	\$
	St. Louis	\$
Education	Education Scholarships	\$
Junior Activities	Dept. Junior Conference	\$
	Junior Group Donations	\$
Illini Girls State	IGS Program Donation	\$
	IGS Registration	\$
National Security	National Security Fund	\$
	USO Centers ***	
	Great Lakes Center	\$
	Midway	\$
	O'Hare	\$
	Marseilles Training	
	Center	\$
	St. Louis	\$
Past Presidents		
Parley	Nurses Scholarship	\$
	Parley Dues - \$1 per Past President (include Parley Dues Form)	\$

Total \$**Date** _____ **Unit Name** _____ **Unit #** _____**Submitted by** _____ **Phone** _____ **email** _____

ALA - Department of Illinois 2024-2025 Master Snip Sheet**Mail to:** American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Illinois, P O Box 1426, Bloomington, IL 61702-1426

Veterans Affairs & Rehab	\$ _____
Six Point Program ***	
Treasure Chest/Hospitality\$ _____	Christmas Gift Shop\$ _____
Canteen Books\$ _____	Easter Gift\$ _____
Fresh Fruit\$ _____	VA Nursing Homes\$ _____
Vets Medical Transport***	\$ _____
Fisher House***	\$ _____
Hospitals and Facilities ***	
Anna Veterans Home\$ _____	General Donation\$ _____
Bloomington Outpatient Clinic\$ _____	Jesse Brown VA\$ _____
Bob Michel Outpatient Clinic\$ _____	LaSalle Veterans Home\$ _____
Decatur Outpatient Clinic\$ _____	Capt. James Lovell FHCC\$ _____
Hines VA\$ _____	Manteno Veterans Home\$ _____
Illiana VA\$ _____	Marion VA\$ _____
Jefferson Barracks St. Louis VA\$ _____	Mattoon Outpatient Clinic\$ _____
John Cochran St. Louis VA\$ _____	Quincy Veterans Home\$ _____
	Springfield Outpatient Clinic\$ _____

Please list if Hospital/Facility donation is for a special purpose or program

The American Legion	Gifts to the Yanks ***	\$ _____
	American Legion Child Welfare Foundation	\$ _____
TAL Commanders Special Project	Vet & Children Relief Fund/Illinois Disaster Fund	\$ _____
SAL Commanders Special Project	Operation Comfort Warriors ***	\$ _____
National Organization	American Legion Auxiliary Foundation	\$ _____
	National President's Special Project	\$ _____
	National Creative Arts Program ***	\$ _____
Memorial Donation to (program) _____		\$ _____
In honor of _____		
Acknowledgement Sent to _____		
Total\$		\$ _____

*** Poppy funds may be used for these programs ***

Date _____ Unit Name _____ Unit # _____

Submitted by _____ Phone _____ email _____



*American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Illinois
PO Box 1426
Bloomington, IL 61702-1426
Telephone: (309)663-9366*

2025 DUES REMITTANCE

Date: _____

Unit Name _____ Unit # _____ Dist # _____

Person preparing membership remittance:

Name: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of Seniors: _____ @\$29.00 \$ _____

Number of Juniors: _____ @\$ 3.35 \$ _____

Total Due \$ _____

Credit/Debit Used \$ _____

Amount of Check Enclosed \$ _____ Check # _____

Reminders:

List all members in alphabetical order

If a member is new please write "New" in member number space

All new junior members must have a birthdate

Member ID# is required for everyone, but new members

Any member transferring must have a completed transfer included with transmittal

If paying previous years dues, please fill out prior year transmittal

Unit Name: _____**Unit** _____

- 1) List ALL members you are paying for **ALPHABETICALLY** on this sheet.
- 2) List only the members you are paying for-**DO NOT** List PUFL's, Deceased or Paid up Transfers
- 3) List ALL ID#s (except new members-leave ID# blank)
- 4) Junior members that turn 18 on December 31, 2024 or before, must pay Senior dues for 2025 membership.

	Member ID#	Name as it appears on the National Roster (If there has been a recent name change please include both names.)	2025 Renewal		2025 New		Former/ rejoin	
			SR	JR	SR	JR	SR	JR
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
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26								
27								
28								
29								
30								

Total Sr 's this page _____

Total Jr's this page _____

American Legion Auxiliary Membership Report - 10/23/24

District	Division	President	Units	Goal	Total Members	Goal %
7	1		3	145	76	52.41%
13	2	Jerri Akins	15	559	272	48.66%
16	3	Teri Miller	25	1209	557	46.07%
14	3	Dona Kenney	11	539	245	45.45%
12	2	Janet Bacon	25	1648	739	44.84%
17	4	Crystal Black	33	1346	603	44.80%
8	1	Lea Morsovillo	11	635	283	44.57%
11	2	Barbara Howe	34	1822	807	44.29%
23	5	Diana Owens	24	1479	635	42.93%
18	4	Debbie Myles	28	1180	486	41.19%
4	1	Gailwyn Starr	7	201	81	40.30%
15	3	Michelle Gorsage	27	998	385	38.58%
10	2	LaVera Davis	13	564	210	37.23%
24	5	April Parkhurst	14	607	226	37.23%
3	1	Karen Atkins	7	135	50	37.04%
25	5	Doris Bartolotti	14	762	259	33.99%
9	1	Lois Kurowski	7	551	185	33.58%
19	4	Sandra Kirby	33	1790	585	32.68%
5	1	Balvina "Bo" Ranney	11	363	117	32.23%
22	5	Marge Leezy	26	986	308	31.24%
20	3	Sophia Reavley	19	646	184	28.48%
21	4	Yvonne Caudle	16	633	166	26.22%
2	1		4	68	15	22.06%
		Headquarters 2910	1	550	355	64.55%
		TOTALS	408	19416	7829	40.32%
		Department Stretch		667		
		Illinois' National Goal		20083		0.00%

2	Karen Heller	4593	2028	44.15%
3	Catherine Reavley	3392	1371	40.42%
1	Cathy Zito	2098	807	38.47%
5	Judy Zimmerman	3834	1428	37.25%
4	Nora Hanaver	4949	1840	37.18%

Goal Units **3**

Joyce Huelsmann
Department Membership
Chairman

Arlene Holtgrave
Department President

The American Legion Auxiliary — Department of Illinois

P.O. BOX 1426

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702

Phone: 309-663-9366

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Web: www.ilala.org

Email: executivesecretary@ilala.org

Department President

Interim Managing Director

Arlene Holtgrave

Sharon Conatser

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

American Legion Auxiliary

★ *A community of volunteers* ★

Serving veterans, military, and their families

NON-PROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Bloomington, IL

Permit No. 18

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| November 15-17 | Egyptian Past Commanders Club Jamboree - Carbondale, IL |
| January 9-19 | American Legion Family Membership Caravan |
| January 24 | Lincoln Pilgrimage Award Deadline |
| February 11-12 | Abraham Lincoln Pilgrimage - Springfield, IL |
| March 21-22 | Patriotic Conference and Spring Board Meeting—Springfield, IL |
| June 15-21 | ALA Illini Girls State—Charleston, IL |