



Secretary's Note

For God and Country,
Department of Alabama
Carol Tyson, Secretary



January 6, 2020

Mid-Winter: Mid-Winter will be held January 16-19, 2020 at the Embassy Suites in Huntsville. Please make plans to attend and send in your Registration form. You can pre-register for the Convention itself until 1/10/2020. We look forward to seeing everyone there. The hotel has no rooms under the block rate. Per Christy at The American Legion, there is a Homewood Suites just a couple of blocks down the road. Their phone number is 256-539-1445.

Resolutions (Constant reminder): At Convention, we had two Resolutions that were sent out in the Call to Convention – BOTH Resolutions passed. Membership dues owed to Department are now \$25/Srs and \$6/Jrs. Unit 1983, Headquarters dues are now \$30/Srs and \$8/Jrs. The new dues amounts were effective July 1, 2019.

Membership Cards: Units that did not get their 2020 Membership Cards picked up at Convention, please contact me so that arrangements can be made to get them to you.

Something Happening at Your Unit or in Your District: We want to know about it. If you have something going on, share it. Send me an email at ALAux.Sec@legional.org, and I will get the information out. This is a great way to share ideas with one another, as well as gain support for your events. Information needs to be to me by no later than the 3rd of each month.

Forms Available: Updated transmittal forms, New and Renewed have been uploaded to our Department website for your immediate use under Dept Links. These forms have the updated amounts, as well as places for you to deduct your credit memos that

many units have been receiving from me for members paying online and miscellaneous reasons.

Membership Chairs/Secretaries/Treasurers: Please make sure when you send in your transmittal forms that you include only the amount of money on the check for what is on the transmittal. Do not combine years on one transmittal or multiple transmittals on one check. Do not combine Bonding and Rehab fees, or any other donation/fee/payment on the same check as your membership dues. This makes for an accounting nightmare. **Please keep things separate.**

Membership Applications: Please make sure that your membership applications are complete AND LEGIBLE. New membership applications are available for download on our Department website; please be sure to download it. **Remember that the POST must verify the Veterans service. The only time an Auxiliary member may verify the eligibility of a Veteran is if it is a female veteran signing herself up as an Auxiliary member.**

New: Direct Descendant can no longer be marked as an acceptable option for member, so if you use an older application remember that no relationship to the veteran beyond granddaughter is eligible. (no great-granddaughters or great-great granddaughters will be accepted based on eligibility through the IRS as a Veteran Service Organization Auxiliary.

All information must be complete on the application, including phone numbers with AREA codes; we have several in AL and many people move and keep numbers from other areas so this is important. Getting phone number allows you to keep in contact with the new member and get them involved. Always make sure your UNIT number is on the application when you send it in, so I know which unit the applicant belongs to. The application does not always stay with the transmittal. Again, please make sure information is legible.

Important: *If your 2020 dues are not paid, you are not a member-in-good-standing. This means you are not current and your benefits through the ALA are null and void – i.e.: AEF, if you needed to apply for these benefits you would be denied.*

District Presidents: Reminder: If you picked up cards for the Units in your District at Convention – please get these cards to the Units ASAP – I still have Units calling asking for cards that District Presidents picked up in June. Make sure to keep your Units updated with the latest information from Department as well. Remind your units about Mid-Winter and encourage all to come.

ALA MIS: For Units looking to gain access to ALA MIS, please send me a letter with the following information: Your Name, Unit Name/Number, Your Member Number and Current Valid email address. Only Unit Presidents, Membership Chairs Secretaries and/or Treasurers should have access and only 2 people per Unit may access ALA MIS. The cost is \$10/person (2 people max, \$20 total) This gives Units access to view reports, as well as the ability to change names and addresses for members only. Units do not have access to make payments.

Districts are also eligible to sign up as well. Same rules apply as for units.

ALA Academy: Make sure and log into your ALA National Account and do the courses offered. The Academy has a wealth of information.

District/Dept Revitalizations: The American Legion has put out a Department wide District Revitalization schedule. They have been including the Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders in this process. When the Legionnaires sign up, they usually have a family which means expanded growth for our FAMILY. Get involved. The schedule is on our Dept Website under Calendar of Events.

War Memorial: Don't forget to purchase a brick in honor/memory of your beloved servicemember. This is a great way to honor their service and help restore the Alabama War Memorial in the process. Applications for the bricks can be found on our Department website under Dept. Links.

Tax Information – 990's: The instructions and a wealth of information for 990 filing has been uploaded to our Department Website and can be accessed at any time. Please check it out and make sure your unit is in compliance.

Department Website: Our Department Website – www.alabamaamericanlegionauxiliary.com – is constantly updating and changing. Make sure you check it out regularly for new information, so that you stay up-to-date with the latest happenings in the Department.

Office Hours: *NEW OFFICE HOURS:* *Effective January 6, 2020:* The office hours are Monday - Thursday 8a – 2p and Friday 8a- 4p. Please don't hesitate to email anytime at ALAux.Sec@legional.org.



American Legion Auxiliary MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name (First) _____ (M.I.) _____ (Last) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Date of Birth (Required) _____ Birth - 17 18 and over _____ Unit # _____ Location _____

Have you been a member previously? Yes No (If yes, fill in below.)

Previous Unit City/State _____ ALA ID # (if known) _____

Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18) _____ Date _____

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible Through—Name of Veteran (Female Veterans: List Your Own Name) _____

If Living: American Legion Member ID # _____ Post # _____ City _____ State _____

Deceased—If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records.
For Veteran's DD214 Discharge Papers: www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records

Veteran Served:

WWI (4/8/1917-11/11/1918)

Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):

Global War on Terror Panama Vietnam WWII

Gulf War Lebanon/Grenada Korea Other Conflicts

Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:

Male Spouse Female Spouse Mother Grandmother Sister Self

Daughter Granddaughter

To Be Completed By The American Legion Post Adjutant/Officer

I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.

Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification _____ Date _____

HELP US GET YOU CONNECTED!

I am interested in learning more about:

Volunteering for Veterans, Military, and Their Families

Youth Activities, Including ALA Girls State, Junior Member Programs, and Scholarships

Member Discounts and Services

Other

Please contact the following individual about volunteering or joining the American Legion Auxiliary:

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Recruiter's Name _____ Unit/Post # _____ City _____ State _____

Submit this application to the ALA unit you wish to join. If unit is unknown, contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 for assistance. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. *Membership pending approval of application.*