

## 2014-2015 American Legion Auxiliary Plan of Action

### Junior Activities

The Junior Activities Program inspires active participation in members under the age of 18 so that they will become engaged, productive members who will want to continue their American Legion Auxiliary membership into adulthood.

#### What can you do?

1. Increase Junior membership in all units
  - Reach potential junior members from senior members giving educational and leadership programs of the ALA
  - All senior members should make personal contact with potential junior members in their community while doing community service projects
  - Encourage current junior members to invite their friends to participate in unit service projects, volunteer at a VAMC, visit veterans in their homes, babysit or ask to help a military family
2. Engage Juniors in programs of the American legion Auxiliary
  - Include juniors in your regular unit functions
  - Give Juniors a purpose during your meetings: Teach Juniors to “Lead the Way.”
  - Recognize and applaud the achievements of Juniors
  - Bring your Juniors to Christmas shops and or other unit functions or activities that involve helping veterans
3. Create service projects for your Juniors
  - Make and deliver holiday cards, tray favors or ditty bags for veterans
  - Babysit or become a Mom’s Helper for a military family
  - Become a VolunTeen by volunteering for the VA Student Volunteer Program
    - ❖ Students who volunteer with the VA may be eligible for a Parke Scholarship
    - ❖ [www.volunteer.va.gov/ParkeScholarship.asp](http://www.volunteer.va.gov/ParkeScholarship.asp)
4. Promote and encourage Junior participation in the Patch Program
  - Give Juniors opportunities to work on requirements for patches at unit and department functions
  - Work with a group or individually on patches
  - Help younger members earn their patches
  - Encourage use of electronic patches on Juniors’ social media sites
5. Increase awareness of the Children of Warriors National Presidents’ Scholarship, the Warren Ragan Scholarship and the Nannie Norfleet Scholarship to Junior members.

- Post information about scholarships on your social media sites, or unit information board or in units mailings
- Be familiar with rules and application requirements of scholarships

### **Junior Activity Reporting**

Mid-Year Reports – Unit Junior Activity chairman should submit a narrative report to arrive to department chairman by December 10, 2014.

Year End Reports- Unit Junior Activity chairman should submit their report to arrive to department chairman by May 1, 2015.

### **Resources You Can Use**

1. [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org):
  - a. Junior Activities Chairman Guide
  - b. Junior Activities Handbook - free on the ALA website; printed copies for purchase through Emblem Sales at <http://emblem.legion.org>
  - c. Junior Leadership Course
  - d. Junior Patch Program - information by level
  - e. ALA Unit Handbook (free on the ALA website; printed copies for purchase through Emblem Sales at <http://emblem.legion.org>)
  - f. ALA Annual Impact Report Form (part of the Plan of Action)
  - g. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: A Guide for Volunteers
2. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs information on student volunteers: [www.volunteer.va.gov/StudentProgram.asp](http://www.volunteer.va.gov/StudentProgram.asp)
3. American Legion Auxiliary Junior Activities Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/alajuniors](http://www.facebook.com/alajuniors)

### AWARDS

National Awards- Department Award: Patch Program Award

National Awards- Unit Award: Best Overall Unit Junior Activities Award; National Junior Service Not Self Award; Junior Member of the Year; Million Member Award. Rules and guidelines can be found in the National POA or contact department chairman for copies

NC Department Chairman Personal Awards: Units that participate in the Patch Program following national guidelines; Units that report active junior participation in at least three of the ALA programs. Please include a written report and photos of events.

Send all information to:

Gale Jones, Chairman, 324 Rocky Ford St, Morganton, NC 28655 - 828-433-7276

Committee Members:

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