



May is a busy month for the Auxiliary. Many units are planning National Poppy Day and Memorial Day events, holding elections for officers, and installing new officers. As we wrap up another wonderful Auxiliary year, remember that if you have extra money you would like to donate, please consider the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation. [www.ALAFoundation.org](http://www.ALAFoundation.org) Click on ways to give.

Please pay special attention to our Department's May/June mailing. Remember, the Mailing is now delivered by email. Important information about our Department Convention will be in the mailing. Including details on making room reservations. The last day to reserve a room is May 19<sup>th</sup>. I understand

the rooms are going fast, so it's crucial not to delay. There will be information in the mailing about your delegation strength. You must register your delegates and pay the \$10 fee per delegate to be able to vote. There are several elections this year with multiple candidates requiring a ballot vote. I know each candidate would greatly appreciate your support.

Don't miss the fascinating pages 32-34 in the May Issue of the American Legion Auxiliary Magazine. These pages are dedicated to the service of our women veterans, who share their unique stories and perspectives. Did you know that women have served in the military since the Civil War? It's a testament to their courage and dedication. On June 12, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed the Women Armed Services Integration Act, a landmark moment that allowed women to serve as regular military members. Let's take a

moment to appreciate and honor their service.

I am Looking forward to seeing you at the Convention.

For God and Country,  
ALA Proud and Strong,  
Julie

### Lunch and Learn Webinars presented by our National Organization

I hope you have enjoyed the Lunch and Learn Webinars that National has provided this year. Compliance matters, Month of the Military Child, and National Poppy Day. They are informational and allow you the opportunity to ask questions. If you missed one or all you can view them on the ALA Academy.

**Remember to order your Poppy supplies and swag from Flag & Emblem Sales. These items not only show your support but also help raise awareness. If you're interested in the Poppy Lady Book by Barbara Elizabeth Walsh, it's available on Amazon for \$11.99**

### Up-Coming Events

National Poppy Day is Friday, May 24. Don't forget to post pictures of your event on the National Poppy FB page. Memorial Day Monday, May 26  
**Department Convention June 19-22**  
**Legion College August 1-3 North Raleigh Hilton**  
**American Legion World Series Aug. 15-20 Shelby NC**  
ALA 104<sup>th</sup> National Convention August 23-29 New Orleans,  
[www.ALAforVeterans.org/meetings/national-convention](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org/meetings/national-convention).



“Be the One” crisis #988 and press 1. Counselors are available 24/7 or text 838255. Remember, the objective of the BE the One Campaign is to prevent suicide.



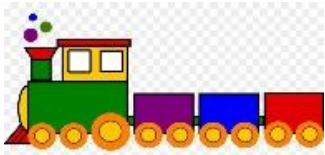
*The national president’s focus is to increase awareness about the veteran and military suicide epidemic while embracing The American Legion’s “Be The” mission.*

**Remember that “Be The One” is not to be used for anything but suicide prevention.**

### All Aboard the NC Membership Train.

**Team North Carolina is in the race to win it. Please keep sending in your renewals. Here is an idea to help get those last renewals in. Plan a fun event for your members both paid and unpaid. No business just fun.**

There are three ways to Renew: Online at [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org), By Phone at 317-569-4570, or by mail, send your renewal notice.



**Community Service  
Karen Butler, Chair  
quiltprn@gmail.com**

Community Service is another way of showing that the American Legion Auxiliary is part of and supportive of our local businesses, parks, and agencies. Wear your branding when out in the community at an event.

Remember to look for opportunities to partner with other organizations such as the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, the United Way, and so many more groups. Consider the following organizations as a great way to expand your horizons, build connections, and be a part of: Meals On Wheels, Habitat for Humanity, Adopt a Road, volunteer at your local animal shelter, library, Senior Center, Nursing home, Food Bank/Food Pantry. CERT and a community garden are also good choices. The Red Cross will give you many different choices: working in military hospitals, VA hospitals, redeployment briefings, blood drives, giving blood, installing free smoke alarms, and responding to local disasters. You can also volunteer to help with elections (volunteering for a specific political group is not consistent with the American Legion and Auxiliary’s impartiality stance.), school boards, and go to Town Hall meetings.

The VFW are not to be considered our competition but instead to be embraced as a fellow patriotic group. Join forces as a unit when they have a project. Support DAV, MOOA, Wounded Warriors, Marine League or any other patriotic group and they will be there for you when you have a project.

If you don’t want to join another organization? How about baking goodies for your local fire department or police station? Knitting or crocheting hats and scarves for the homeless or needy. (You can find a place to put up a clothesline for gloves, scarves, etc., free to whoever needs them.) Call a shut-in, plant flowers at your Post to beautify the area, donate premier baby clothes to your local hospital, donate baby items to your local military hospital, and practice random acts of kindness.

