



The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Virginia

February 2020 e-Newsletter “100 Years of Honoring Service”

President's Message

Greetings everyone!

This month's newsletter takes a look at several important items, and one of those is scholarships. On this page I provide you with a complete list of the scholarships available that we as members of the Legion Family should be promoting now to those who are eligible. Share the information to your Post and SAL members as well. Please get the word out soon as deadlines are fast approaching!

The next is to report that we had a most successful *Day on the Hill* on January 15th. Legion Family from across the Department came out to advocate for support of the priorities set by the Joint Legislative Council of Veterans Service Organizations of which the American Legion, Department of Virginia is a part. Check out some of the photos. Post 327 hosted their *51st Annual Law & Order* event on January 28th, recognizing and honoring first responders. A few photos from that event are included here as well.

We have a message from our Public Relations chair with tips that everyone should practice that will also benefit our internal relationships, and an important message from the Americanism Chair. And lastly reminders about membership and the upcoming Spring Conference!

For God and Country,

Dr. Lisa Chaplin
Department of Virginia
President 2019-2020

Focus on Scholarships

Did you know that The ALA National organization has several scholarship opportunities, or that The ALA Department of Virginia has some of our own?

Here follows a list of the Scholarships and their application due dates:

National ALA Scholarships

March 1st

- Non-Traditional Student Scholarship
- Spirit of Youth Scholarship
- Children of Warriors Scholarship
- Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship

Department of VA ALA Scholarship

March 15th

- Veterans Scholarship
- Dr. Kate Waller Barret Scholarship
- Past Presidents Parley Medical Scholarship

American Legion Department of VA Lucien Butler Scholarship

- Due to the American Legion Department of Virginia by **March 1st**

Links to all requirements, submission criteria and applications are available on The ALA Department of Virginia website at vaauxiliary.org

Be sure to check it out and share to all who may be eligible to apply!



Day on the Hill 2020

Top: Legion Family preparing to meet with lawmakers

Bottom left: Meeting with Delegate Roxann Robinson

Bottom right: Department Commander and Department President





More from *Day on the Hill*

Above: TALA Members

Right: Legion Family meeting with Delegate Carrie Coyner

Below: Legion Family calling on Delegate Todd Gilbert





What's new in PR?

Here are a few tips to optimize the image we project to the public...

that's what PR really is...

that we should also keep in mind among ourselves no matter the setting.

Hello everyone!

I hope 2020 is off to a great start for you! In light of all the recent negativity in the media, ranging in a variety of topics, I wanted to take the time to provide some tips for you, so you and/or your unit can stay "Positive In PR!"

- *Remember our mission:* our goal for PR is to promote *who* we are, *what* we do, and *why* we do it. Be proud, be positive, and promote all of the wonderful things we accomplish!
- *Build Relationships:* building relationships with each other and in the community only helps to strengthen our organization.
- *Gratitude:* looking for the positive in others helps to bring out the positive in yourself. When one tears down another (verbally or in print), you are not only bringing negativity to the organization, but to yourself as well.
- *Respond:* Whether it is verbally or a simple reply to an email; be sure to be positive and respond in a timely manner! Some information needed could be time sensitive.
- Most important: SMILE - smiling is contagious! When out and about, please remember to show your ALA pride!

Each of us is a reflection of the organization as a whole. One negative encounter, whether in person, print, or social media, can make or break the image we are working so hard to promote. If you have any other tips to help us stay "Positive In PR", I would love to hear them! Looking forward to seeing you at the Spring Conference!

For God and Country,

Darla Lisbon

Public Relations Chair, 2019-2020

Did you know that February is Americanism Month for The ALA?

Members,

I am very happy to report that I received so many midyear reports that the mail man had to bundle them as they would not all fit in my mailbox. I am so very proud of the work the American Legion Auxiliary Dept of Virginia has been doing this year. But we still have a lot of work to do before the end of the year, so let's keep up the momentum we have started!

Americanism essays are due to me postmarked or emailed by March 15th, 2020. This is just around the corner so please look at the Department Plan of Action for Details. If you have questions or I can be of assistance please feel free to contact me at sndorfman@me.com.

I hope to see you all at Spring Conference. The Americanism Committee has some fun surprises up their sleeves. Stop by the Americanism table for a chance to win fun prizes by trying your hand at a new trivia game.

Also, we will be selling chances to win a handmade poppy quilt. All proceeds will go to the President's special project, and the winner will be announced at Spring conference.

We will also have a representative from the Freedom Flag Foundation on hand selling lapel pins, and garden flags!

For God & Country,

Sarah Markel

Americanism Chair 2019-2020

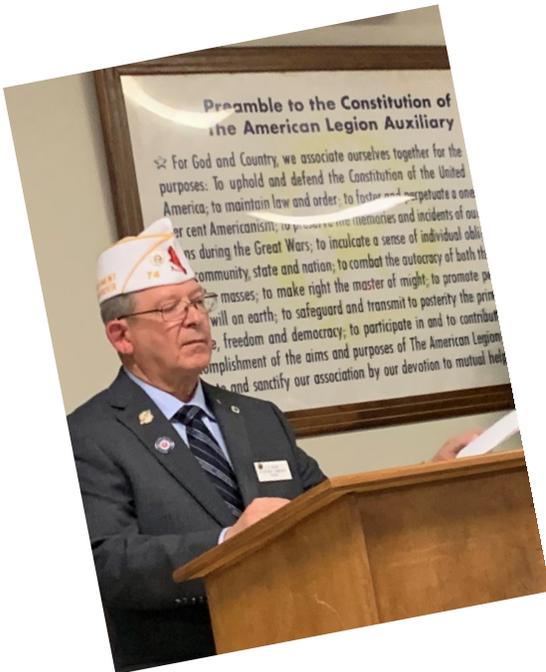


51st Law and Order event at Post 327, Norfolk VA

Honoring First Responders

A special presentation was made to K9 of the Year and his Handler





Have you renewed your Membership for 2020?

If you already have, thank you!

**If you haven't yet renewed, you can easily do that
through one of these options:**

- **Renew through your Unit at your next meeting or contact your Unit Membership Chair**
- **Renew on-line using the National Headquarters website**
 - **Go to alaforveterans.org**
 - **Log in to your account. If you don't already have one, set up an account by selecting "Sign up" on the homepage. Be sure to have your membership card available - you will need your membership number. Then you will receive further instructions.**
 - **Once you have your account, the "Pay Dues" button will appear next to your name.**
- **You can also call the National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 and renew by phone.**

Do it today...don't delay!

Attention Members!

The Annual Junior Bazaar

will be held at the Spring Conference

Come prepared to Shop or Donate!

Please bring or send items that you wish to donate.

Juniors will be pricing these items at their Friday evening meeting.

Look for a sign in the Conference Registration area for the designated drop-off location.

Thank you in advance for helping to make this a wonderful and successful event for our Juniors.

Department Spring Conference
February 28-March 1, 2020
Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Hotel
Portsmouth, VA



Meet the 2019-2020 TALA
National President Nicole Clapp
Learn more about The ALA
Get program updates
Network with other members
We hope to see you there!

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