

**2025-2026 American Legion Auxiliary
Department of New York
Membership**

Department Membership Chairman

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The role of the Unit/County/Department Membership Committee/Chairmen and ALL members is to encourage and support the nationwide effort to attract and retain a diverse, active membership and establish new units to ensure the future of the American Legion Auxiliary.

By honoring our veterans and military through meaningful service, the American Legion Auxiliary will grow our membership. We must let members know that they are the Auxiliary's most valuable asset.

There are several things' members can do to promote membership for the American Legion Auxiliary including enhancing the member experience, reaching out to former and expired members, attracting new members and understanding and respecting member rights.

Check out this year's membership awards.

Welcome to the 2025-2026 Membership team!

As we embark on a new Auxiliary year, I am excited for the opportunities available to our Units, Counties, and Districts to increase our membership. Dues can be paid for next year beginning right after the convention in July. If your dues are not paid by January 31, 2026, you are considered delinquent. Do not delay!

Did you know that there are new eligibility guidelines???

1. The Legion Act passed in 2019 allows all Veterans who have served since Dec. 7, 1941, to present to belong to the American Legion.
2. Also in 2019, the language was changed in our Constitution to allow **ALL** spouses of veterans to belong to the American Legion Auxiliary. This was done in honor of the 1.9 million US women Veterans.
3. In 2020 the US Air Force was reorganized and the first new independent military service since 1947 was created. This new arm of the Air Force is now called Air Force Space Command.

Renewal notices are set to be delivered by National according to the following schedule:

- September 15, 2025, the first mailed renewal notice will be sent out
- December 2025 the first email renewal will be sent
- February 1, 2026 the second mailed renewal will be sent
- Spring 2026 (TBD) the final renewal notice will be mailed out

Unit membership chairpersons: Please forward all dues in a timely manner to the Department office: American Legion Auxiliary, Department of New York, 1580 Columbia Turnpike, Bldg. #1 Suite # 3, Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033.

Members can also pay online at the National website: ALAforVeterans.org, and a credit card is required. Members can also pay multiple family dues by calling the National Headquarters at 317-569-4500 (credit card required). Cards will be sent from the National office when dues are paid in this manner. Remember, our members allow us to carry out our mission for our servicemen and women and their families and communities. I cannot wait to see our membership grow as a result of your efforts.

CAPTAIN MAUREEN'S ALA MEMBERSHIP ALL ABOARD TO GETTING BACK TO BASICS AND WORKING THE MISSION

Our Department President Maureen is our **Captain**. Maureen's knowledge will spread a ripple effect throughout the Department, bringing a message of encouragement and knowledge to all our ALA programs and members (pebbles). She will keep our ship on course.

First Mate Lora will be **"Rowe"-ing** in the right direction for our membership goal, along with **Second Vice President Mate and Third Vice President Mate**. All three Vice President mates will **"Rowe"** to make the boat smooth sailing for our Veterans, Military, their families, and our communities.

The District Presidents are the Quartermasters, who assist the Mates with maintaining the balance of all the membership. They coordinate the essential needs that are necessary for the Deck Hands to obtain our membership goal.

The District Vice Presidents are the Deck Hands; they will be responsible for making sure that our membership numbers grow all the way to 100% and beyond. They will keep the counties in tip-top shape whenever help is needed. They will be communicating between Department and County on a regular basis.

The County Membership Chairpersons are the Navigators, who point the compass in the right direction to achieve the mission of growing our membership.

The Unit Membership Chairpersons are the Lifeboats, which ensure all members' dues are saved by renewing their membership; and to rescue the members that are floundering in the water.

The Members are the Pebbles. Each member tosses a pebble to start the ripple effect for the betterment of all our ALA Programs. Some members' ripples are bigger than others, but every ripple spreads the ALA Mission.

The Past Department Presidents are the Anchors, which we need to keep the crew working the mission and to keep the ship **"Rowe"-ing** in the right direction.

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S AWARD: To the Unit that rejoins the largest number of members (Seniors and Juniors) by close of books June 2026.

AWARDS FOR UNITS

Units must have **12 members** to be eligible for awards. Membership awards are determined by the date RECEIVED at the Department office, not the postmark date. Winners will be announced at the Department Executive meetings and in the newsletters.

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Milestone #1 | 75% by October 01, 2025 | (5) \$100 drawings |
| Milestone #2 | 85% by November 11, 2025 | (5) \$100 drawings |
| Milestone #3 | 100% by January 14, 2026 | (5) \$75 drawings |
| Milestone #4 | 100% by March 15, 2026 | (5) \$50 drawings |
| Milestone #5 | 100% by April 28, 2026 | (5) \$25 drawings |

AWARDS FOR COUNTIES

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Milestone #1 | 50% by October 01, 2025 | (1) \$100 drawing |
| Milestone #2 | 60% by November 11, 2025 | (1) \$100 drawing |
| Milestone #3 | 75% by January 14, 2026 | (1) \$75 drawing |
| Milestone #4 | 95% by March 15, 2026 | (1) \$50 drawing |
| Milestone #5 | 100% by April 28, 2026 | (1) \$25 drawing |

Captain Award: To the County with the highest percentage of membership goal by June 1, 2026, \$100.

Lifeboat Award: To the Unit Membership Chairman with the highest percentage of goal 10 (ten) days prior to Mid-Winter, \$250.

Quartermaster Award: To the District with the highest numerical gain over goal by the close of books June, 2026, \$150.

Navigators Award: To the County Membership Chairman with the highest percentage of goal by December 7, 2025, \$250.

Deck Hands Award: To the District Membership Chairman with the greatest number of new members by May 15, 2026, \$150.

All checks for Awards will be issued to the Unit, County, or District to be used for the advancement of the ALA mission.

**DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS IN
HONOR OF PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS**

UNIT:

- **The Past National President Louisa Williams Award** – To the Unit with the greatest percentage of Membership gain 30 days PRIOR to the Department Convention.
- **The Past National President Phyllis Bachman Sickmond Award** – To the first Unit with the highest numerical increase of NEW Junior Members by March 1.

COUNTY:

- **The Past National President Doris Corwith Award** – Awarded to the County that first reaches goal.
- **The Past National President Agnes Kennedy Award** – Awarded to the County with the GREATEST numerical increase in membership over their goal prior to Department Convention.

DISTRICT:

- **The Past National President Betty Burdett Award** – Awarded to the District Membership Chairman with the highest percentage of goal by May 1.

For the 2025-2026 Dues Year

Member Dues are based on a member's age on January 1 of the Membership year.

If a junior is born in 2008, they will be a junior member for the 2026 dues year. On their 18th birthday, they will automatically become a senior member.

Anyone who was born in 2007 and will be 18 years old by 11:59 pm on December 31, 2025; is a senior for the 2026 year. National has already updated those members to senior status before the April printing of the 2026 membership cards and rosters. It should say "MAM" instead of "MYM" under Member type.

Example: A member that is 17 on January 1, 2026 will be billed as a junior member for 2026.



2026 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Member Award: Recruit/Rejoin 10

- **Award:** Special gift selected by the National Membership Chairman.
- **Presented to:** Members who recruit and/or rejoin 10 Senior and/or Junior members. Rejoined members must not have renewed since 2022 or earlier.
- **Deadline:** Members must be entered and paid in ALAMIS member database by June 1, 2026.
 - FORMS must be received at National HQ by June 6, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Form can be printed from the ALA national Membership Committee page of the national website (www.ALAforVeterans.org). You must be logged into the *MyAuxiliary* area to access the page.
 - One entry per recruiter.

Member Award: Family 3

- **Award:** Special gift selected by the National President.
- **Presented to:** Members who recruit 3 *New* Legion members, 3 *New* Auxiliary members & 3 *New* SAL members.
- **Deadline:** Members must be entered and paid in the database by June 1, 2026.
 - FORMS must be received at ALA National HQ by June 6, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Form can be printed from the ALA national Membership Committee page of the national website (www.ALAforVeterans.org). You must be logged in to the *MyAuxiliary* area to access the page.
 - One entry per recruiter.

Unit Award: 100% Unit Award

- **Award:** ALA Key Chain with phone stand and cleaner, 2 per unit for the unit president and unit membership chairman.
- **Presented to:** Units that reach 100% of their 2026 membership goal by January 31, 2026.
- **Deadline:** January 31, 2026
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - This award will be based on units that reach 100% of their reported goals by January 31, 2026, as verified by ALAMIS.

Note: Departments must submit unit goals to National Headquarters by September 1, 2025, to be eligible for the 100% Unit Award. These must be sent in a specific format which will be provided by NHQ. Key chains for winning units will be mailed to each department for distribution.

Unit Award: New Unit Award

- **Award:** Unit Guidebook & ALA National Constitution & Bylaws from Emblem Sales.
- **Presented to:** New units chartered between September 1, 2025 and July 31, 2026.
- **Deadline:** July 31, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - This award is automatically presented upon receipt and processing of new unit charter applications at National Headquarters.

Department Membership Goals: Department membership goals are based on each department's 2024 membership as of December 31, 2024 plus a percentage increase chosen by each department during the 2025 Department Leadership National Conference.

Department Award: 25% Award

- **Award:** \$25 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 25% of their 2026 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** SAL Birthday, September 15, 2025.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by September 15, 2025.

Department Award: 60% Award

- **Award:** \$60 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 60% of their 2026 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** ALA Birthday, November 10, 2025.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by November 10, 2025.

Department Award: 85% Award

- **Award:** \$85 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 85% of their 2026 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** TAL Birthday, March 15, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by March 15, 2026.

Department Award: 95% Award

- **Award:** \$95 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 95% of their 2026 department membership goal.
- **Deadline:** Female Veterans Day, June 12, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by June 12, 2026.

Department Award: 100% Award

- **Award:** \$250 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Any department that has reached 100% of their department goal.
- **Deadline:** Independence Day, July 4, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by July 4, 2026.

Department Award: 102% Award

- **Award:** \$500 to be used to advance the ALA mission.
- **Presented to:** Any department that has reached 102% of their department goal.
- **Deadline:** 30 Days Prior to National Convention, August 1, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by August 1, 2026.

Department Award: 95% Retention Award

- **Award:** Citation Plaque.
- **Presented to:** Any department that reaches 95% retention rate (includes renewals and rejoins).
- **Deadline:** 30 Days Prior to National Convention, August 1, 2026.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS member database by August 1, 2026.

Seating at National Convention: Seating at National Convention will be based on each department's percentage of their 2026 membership goal, from highest percentage to lowest.



2025: RECRUIT/REJOIN 10

Members who recruit and/or rejoin 10 junior or senior Auxiliary members for the 2026 membership year. Rejoins must not have paid membership dues since 2021 or earlier.

One entry per recruiter

Certified forms must be received at ALA National Headquarters by June 6, 2025.

Please send this form to your department headquarters office no later than one week prior to the deadline.

New members must be paid in ALAMIS by June 1, 2026.

ENTRY/CERTIFICATION FORM

Please type or print legibly and fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms may not be processed.

Recruiter's Name: _____ Member ID#: _____

Recruiter's Department: _____ Unit #: _____ Email: _____

Recruiter's Address: _____

| Names of <u>New/Rejoined</u> Members | Member ID# | Names of <u>New/Rejoined</u> Members | Member ID# |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. _____ | | 6. _____ | |
| 2. _____ | | 7. _____ | |
| 3. _____ | | 8. _____ | |
| 4. _____ | | 9. _____ | |
| 5. _____ | | 10. _____ | |

Certified by Department Secretary: DATE: _____
 Department Secretary
 Printed Name: _____
 Dept. Secretary Signature (required): _____

*I certify that all 10 members are new or rejoined into the 2026 year.
 *I've provided or verified number ID numbers and that the form is Filled out legibly and completely.

DO NOT SEND INCOMPLETE FORMS or more than 1 form per recruiter.

Units: Send form to your department secretary.

Departments:

Please either mail or email to:
nyalasecretary@gmail.com by midnight June 1, 2026.

(Subject line: Recruit 10
 Member Name & ID number of recruiter)

*Must be received at NHQ no later than midnight June 6, 2026.

Each recruiter will receive a special gift selected by the 2026 National Membership Committee Chairman.

2025-2026 UNIT MEMBERSHIP REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES: November 1, 2025 March 1, 2026 May 1, 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Unit: _____ County: _____ District: _____

Unit Goal: _____ # Members Paid to Date: _____ % of Goal: _____

Provide information your Unit participated in:

_____ Membership Recruitment _____ Mentored New Members

_____ Early Bird Membership Perks _____ Membership Renewal Campaign

_____ # Recruited New Junior or Senior Members

_____ # Rejoined Former Junior or Senior Members

Please describe your unit's activities or projects to recruit, retain, and/or revitalize your membership. (Please use the back of this form and additional sheets if needed)

Please focus on the following questions throughout the 2025-26 membership year for your Unit. These questions must be answered for submission to the National Membership Chairman. (Please use the back of this form and additional sheets if needed)

1. Did working on any of the ALA programs help to generate new members? (Example: Teaching flag etiquette at a school resulted in two teachers joining the ALA.)
2. Did you implement new/innovative ideas or practices to increase renewals and/or sign-up new members? If so, what were they?
3. What were some of your hurdles / difficulties you faced during this year?

**** No activities, hours, expenses, donations, or dollars spent for this committee are to be included in the Impact Report ****

**SUBMIT THIS FORM TO YOUR COUNTY MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN.
KEEP A COPY OF THIS REPORT FOR YOUR RECORDS.**

2025-2026 COUNTY MEMBERSHIP REPORT FORM

REPORTING DATES: November 10, 2025 March 10, 2026 May 10, 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

County: _____ District: _____

Of Units in County: _____ # Units Reporting: _____

County Goal: _____ # Members Paid to Date: _____ % of Goal: _____

Provide information Units in your County participated in:

_____ Membership Recruitment _____ Mentored New Members

_____ Early Bird Membership Perks _____ Membership Renewal Campaign

_____ # Recruited New Junior or Senior Members

_____ # Rejoined Former Junior or Senior Members

Please describe your county's activities or projects to recruit, retain and/or revitalize your membership. *(Please use the back of this form and additional sheets if needed)*

Please focus on the following questions throughout the 2025-2026 membership year from your Units. These questions must be answered for submission to the National Membership Chairman. *(Please use the back of this form and additional sheets if needed)*

1. Did working on any of the ALA programs help to generate new members?
(Example: Teaching flag etiquette at a school resulted in two teachers joining the ALA.)
2. Did any of your units implement new/innovative ideas or practices to increase renewals and/or sign-up new members? If so, what were they?
3. What were some of your hurdles / difficulties you faced during this year?

**** No activities, hours, expenses, donations, or dollars spent for this committee are to be included in the Impact Report ****

SUBMIT TO DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Lora A. Rowe

P. O. Box 504

Norwich, NY 13815

C: 607-316-1020

Email: nyalamembership@gmail.com

KEEP A COPY OF THIS REPORT FOR YOUR RECORDS



American Legion Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY EXPLAINED

RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN:



- **MOTHER**
- **DAUGHTER**
- **SISTER**
- **GRANDMOTHER**
- **GRANDDAUGHTER**
- **SELF — FEMALE VETERANS WHO HAVE SERVED**
- **MALE or FEMALE SPOUSE**

ELIGIBILITY PERIODS: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941

TWO PATHS FOR ALA ELIGIBILITY

PATH ONE

The potential member is related to a living veteran by one of the relationships stated above and the veteran is living AND a current member of The American Legion.



If the potential member is a female veteran, she only needs to have served during the eligible time periods to be eligible for ALA membership.

PATH TWO

The potential member is related to a deceased veteran who served during the eligible time periods and was honorably discharged.



The deceased veteran did not have to be a member of The American Legion in order for the potential member to join the ALA.

For more information, visit www.ALAforVeterans.org



FAMILY 3

Members who recruit 3 New Legion members, 3 New Auxiliary members and 3 New SAL members for the 2026 membership year.

One entry per recruiter.

Certified forms must be received at ALA National Headquarters by June 6, 2026.

Please send this form to your department headquarters office no later than one week prior to the deadline.

New members must be paid by June 1, 2026.

ENTRY/CERTIFICATION FORM

Please type or print legibly and fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms may not be processed.

Recruiter's Name: _____ Member ID#: _____

Recruiter's Department: _____ Unit #: _____ Email: _____

Recruiter's Address: _____

| <u>Names of 3 New Auxiliary Members</u> | <u>Member ID#</u> | <u>Names of 3 New Legion Members</u> | <u>Member ID#</u> |
|---|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | 3. _____ | _____ |

Auxiliary Unit Officer Signature - Verifying Membership

Legion Post Officer Signature - Verifying Membership

| <u>Names of 3 New SAL Members</u> | <u>Member ID#</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |

SAL Squadron Officer Signature - Verifying Membership

Forms must be signed by officers from
TAL, ALA & SAL to be valid.

Please email forms to
membership@alaforveterans.org

Or

Fax: (317) 569-4502 (Attn: Membership)

Please do not send incomplete forms.

*Must be received at ALA NHQ no later than midnight June 6, 2026.

Each recruiter will receive a special gift selected by the 2026 National President. One award per recruiter.