

Eastern Division Junior Activities

Debbie Morris, NY, Eastern Division Chair

Barbara Washburn, Neb.... National Junior Activities Chair

Eastern Division:

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Connecticut | Delaware | District of Columbia |
| Maine | Maryland | Massachusetts |
| New Hampshire | New Jersey | New York |
| Pennsylvania | Rhode Island | Vermont |

~November Focus~

Overview of ALA Academy classes for Juniors and Mentors

Juniors have some great opportunities to learn more about our wonderful American Legion Auxiliary. We hope they can attend meetings and learn more there. But they have another resource (if they are too busy to attend your meetings) they can sign on to ALAforVeterans.org with their MyAuxiliary account. If they do not have an account, you can help them set up an account using their membership number.

Once they have logged into their account they click on **Meetings/Training-ALA Academy**. After clicking on **Launch ALA Academy**, the Junior can click on **Browse Catalog** and search for **ALA Juniors E-Learning Course**.

This course is designed for our younger members. They will learn about the purpose of our program, how to excel as leaders, tips for speaking to groups, and much more. They can proceed in this course at their own speed. (The average time to complete the course is 40 minutes.) You can take the course too. There are also great courses on Mentoring. There is even a certificate when they complete the course. If you have internet access at your Junior meetings you could show them how easy it is to access the courses, or maybe they could show you how easy it is. This is just one more tool that the National ALA provides to help your Juniors succeed in our American Legion Auxiliary.

Junior Advisors/Mentors present & future

If you have not taken the courses, please take time to review them and you will find several you may benefit from. Just browse the catalog for Juniors and start taking the courses on **Junior Mentoring**. There are 4 parts you can take at your own pace. These will be beneficial for all of us working with Juniors and new ALA Auxiliary members. **All Junior Advisors/Mentors please click link below:**

<https://www.legion-aux.org/Blog/Junior-mentors-Sign-up-for-free-ALA-webinar-on-Jun>

Important Dates

November 5

Daylight Savings Time
Spring forward - Fall back

November 7

Election Day

November 10

Marine Corp Birthday

November 11

Veterans Day
"Let Us Remember"

November 23

Happy Thanksgivings Day

| 2023-2024 Junior Activities Committee Meetings | |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 7:30 PM EDT | Quarterly Department, Divisional and Vice-Chairmen |
| Saturday, November 4, 2023 | National Junior Meeting, Cincinnati, OH |
| Saturday, November 4, 2023 | National Junior Meeting, Providence, RI |
| Tuesday, January 16, 2024 – 7:30 PM EST | Quarterly Department, Divisional and Vice-Chairmen |
| Saturday, January 27, 2024 | National Junior Meeting, Las Vegas, NV |
| Saturday, February 3, 2024 | National Junior Meeting, Lincoln, NE |
| Saturday, February 3, 2024 | National Junior Meeting, Nashville, TN |
| Tuesday, April 9, 2024 – 7:30 PM EDT | Quarterly Department, Divisional and Vice-Chairmen |
| August 2024 | Pre-Convention Meeting |

2023-2024 National Junior Activities Program Awards

Deadlines and Submission Requirements, **click link:**

<https://www.legion-aux.org/member/awards/junior-activities-program-awards>

- 1) Member Award: Junior Member of the Year
- 2) Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Junior Activities Program (per division)
- 3) Department Award: Best Dept. Junior Activities Program (per division)
- 4) National Award: Best Media Coverage of Activity or Project

IDEAS FOR JUNIOR GROUPS



THE PATCH PROGRAM (fillable form) [click below](#)

<https://www.legion-aux.org/Member/Junior-Patch-Program-Order-Form>

This link below is for the **For Use by Unit/District/County Junior Activities Chairman: JUNIOR ACTIVITIES PATCH PROGRAM REQUEST SHEET** (fillable form)

https://www.legion-aux.org/cmsdesk/ALA/media/PDF/Orders/Unit_Patch_Program_order_form.pdf

Please email and use social media with photos and short stories of your Juniors and Sons accomplishments on the road to earn their patches. If you need help ordering the patches click link below:

<https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/junior-member-activities>

Buddy Baskets

Homeless veterans are thankful to get off the streets, but having basic supplies can be hard to come by. **Buddy Baskets**, containers filled with common household goods, help meet those needs for veterans and military families in these situations. These baskets are part of a project started by The American Legion Family in Virginia several years ago. The **Buddy Basket Project** can be done anywhere. Here are some helpful tips to get you started: **click the link below** to learn more of the **excellent opportunity for the Juniors to support the Veterans during this Holiday season starting on Veterans Day thru to Christmas.**

<https://www.legion-aux.org/Blog/How-to-Make-a-Buddy-Basket>



Buddy Baskets are filled with basic household items to help veterans get back on their feet.



Final Thoughts

The Meaning of Veterans Day

Veterans Day (originally known as Armistice Day) observed annually on November 11th, for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. Who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. It coincides with other holidays including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day which are commemorated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 when Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major US veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

Wikipedia.org

This space available to the departments in Eastern Div. to share Best Practices and Events.

