



LEADERSHIP 2024-2025

SECURING OUR FOUNDATION TO BUILD A STRONGER FUTURE

#BuildingThe House

Our Purpose

To raise awareness of ALA leadership development opportunities.

To promote participation in the ALA Academy and other online courses

To enhance knowledge about ALA history, programs, and organization.

As leaders in the American Legion Auxiliary, we must continue to respect and mentor our members so that they become potential future leaders; we must provide them with the opportunities to use their special skills and energy. We must continuously be looking for those with the potential to become our leaders of tomorrow. Now how do we do this? We do it by following our National President, Trish Ward's theme "Leading the Way and President Charlotte's theme of Securing our Foundation to Build a Stronger Future.

MENTORING.

Some leaders are born, but most are trained to be good leaders. No matter what the experience or education and technical skills, most anyone can be mentored to become a leader if they devote their time and energy to listen, learn and communicate. However they must have the tools!

The focus should be to reach out to younger eligible women and men in our communities. Show them what the Auxiliary can do to expand their confidence and leadership abilities.

For one to be a good mentor they must be knowledgeable. You do not have to be an expert on everything, but basic knowledge is essential. **WHERE DO WE GET THIS KNOWLEDGE?**

It starts with the foundation of the unit

The Unit is the most vibrant part of our organization that will truly make the Department of Florida noticeable. Without a Unit we don't have members.

Let's start #BuildingTheHouse

Foundation of a Unit are MEMBERS

1. Work with a mentor to increase your interest, skills and knowledge.
2. Check out the different sources of leadership training that is available within the District, Department and National levels.
3. Build your leadership skills by volunteering to chair a program or special event.
4. Ask questions about any programs or terminology that you do not fully understand.
5. Familiarize yourself with the Department Unit Guidebook, Unit Constitution & Bylaws, Department Constitution & Bylaws and National Constitution & Bylaws. If you do not understand some things, please ask the Unit President, Leadership Chairmen or Constitution & Bylaws Chairmen.

By taking an active part in the Unit and attending training workshops and being enthusiastic you would be surprised how much of a difference you can make. Everyone needs to stay open to new ideas and relationships and this means listening to common sense, the inner voice of reason and fairness.

Build the Framework (Unit Officers and Chairmen)

1. Get to know the members of the Unit. Be gracious and talk with them and see what their interests may be.
2. Take five to ten minutes to incorporate one portion of the leadership training at all meetings. Be sure to set aside a time to discuss important ALA documents.
3. If possible, hold a special meeting/workshop to explain Unit Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules, how the Unit budget is created and how to write minutes of a meeting. Be familiar where you can find things when a member asks, "Show me where that is written."
4. You cannot do this by yourself.....**Build your team**.... Select members who are willing to commit their time and energy so that they will strengthen the team and will be a valuable assistance to the Unit. Be sure to include members who volunteer to help.

5. Plan an initiation for new members. Present them with an Auxiliary pin, copy of the Unit Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules, a small American Flag. Be sure to let them know that they are an especially important part of the Unit.
6. Promote members to purchase or download a copy of the Department Unit Guide. Remember the Unit Guide changes every year.
7. It is important to know the history of our organization so encourage the **members** to take the online course offered by our National Organization

Building Inspector (District Presidents)

1. You are the guide for the Units. Get to know the Unit Presidents (Paint Brushes). Assist them as much as you can by sharing your knowledge.
2. Build the District Team. You as the District President cannot do your job ALONE. Choose chairmen that will strengthen the District Team. Invite them to attend the Department Workshop to get firsthand information on the programs. Please carefully consider your selection. Do not give all your appointments to members of one Unit. Try to involve at least one member from every Unit in the District.
3. Hold District meetings that are informative. Have chairmen speak on the programs and do a question-and-answer session. You can also do portions of the ALA Academy.
4. Share articles on mentoring with the Units.
5. Ask new and younger members to assist as a committee member.
6. Lead by example.
7. Listen to a member's concerns before you respond.
8. Answer questions being sure to give a clear answer.
9. Most importantly give praise and recognition when members do what is requested or go above and beyond what was expected.

Utility Companies (Department Chairmen)

Our department chairmen have worked diligently to bring you information on the various programs. Utilize their knowledge, ask questions and most importantly follow their instructions.

Remember to always follow the chain of command! Unit member to Unit President. Unit President to District President and then District President to Department.

The future of our organization depends on each and everyone of us. We can accomplish this by being enthusiastic, having a positive attitude and leading by example. Work together as a team. Motivate and instill a sense of pride in who we are and what we do. Train and mentor all

members regardless of how many years they have been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. Are you ready to Secure Our Foundation and start #BuildingThe House ?

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