

## **Past Presidents Parley 2025-2026 Program Engagement Plan Honor our Pearls with Passion**

The purpose of the Past Presidents Parley (PPP) committee is to utilize the experience, knowledge and wisdom of members who have served in the high office of President on the Unit, District, Department or National level. These leaders are urged to continue active service in the Auxiliary to ensure a strong leadership future for the organization. The Past Presidents Parley also recognizes and honors the importance of the contributions of valued unit leaders through the “Mentor of the Year” award.

*If you don't remember the past, your bound to fail the future.*

**PPP membership eligibility is based on two factors:** 1) a member must have served as President of the ALA on the Unit, District, Department or National level. 2) unit dues must be paid for the current year.

**Who is a Past President?** 1) a member who has served as president for one full year. 2) a member who served as president for part of a year and due to illness or conditions beyond their control, had to resign. 3) a 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice President acting as president due to resignation or death of the president. Note: A two-term president is considered a past president at the end of their first term.

### **What can units or districts do?**

#### **1. Pass the Passion by Mentoring**

As former leaders, past presidents at all levels are encouraged to continue their support to the Auxiliary by sharing their insight as a past leader and make a difference by developing and mentoring one member at a time.

- Form a Unit/District Past Presidents Parley Committee
- Encourage past presidents to share their knowledge
- Pair a new member with a past president to help and answer questions at meetings
- Help the new member with the who, what and why of our organization
- Encourage members to accept a chairmanship and then assist them
- Encourage members to accept officer positions and then assist them
- Encourage unit to submit a nominee for the Mentor of the Year Award
- Help new member with Preamble, rituals, customs, ALA abbreviations, etc
- **Remember: After serving many years, it is time to also “Pass the Pin with Passion”**

## 2. Passion Points to Honor our Pearls

Sometimes our most valuable resources and assets in our organization are forgotten or overlooked (Our Past Presidents)

- Develop a Unit PPP committee
- Several Unit PPP committee's ban together for a common purpose, i.e. the American Legion Family 250 Challenge, fundraiser, social event
- Encourage past presidents to volunteer
- Remember them on their birthday and holidays
- Acknowledge their service and/or their unit legacy at a meeting
- Host a tea, lunch, dinner etc.
- Give them a task or ask for their help
- PPP committee host a fundraiser and make a donation to an American Legion Auxiliary charity, Department Presidents special project or sponsor a Girls State delegate
- Create a photograph Wall of Honor or a digital rotating photograph frame

## Awards

**Department Award:** Sponsored by Department of Florida Past Presidents

### **“Mentor Award”**

The Past Presidents Parley “Mentor Award” will be presented annually at the year-end Department Convention to the Auxiliary member in good standing who made contributions through teaching, sharing knowledge, and providing guidance for the current Auxiliary year. What did this member do that was outstanding to earn this award?

**The following eligibility must be met for the nominee:**

1. Only seniors members in good standing are eligible.
2. Must be a member of the Department of Florida throughout the entire Auxiliary year.
3. The member will not have served in a leadership position higher than Dept. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.
4. The following rules must be followed for the entry.
5. Fly Page
  - a. Name of the award
  - b. Full name and number of the Unit submitting the entry
  - c. Location (full mailing address)
  - d. Name of person submitting the Mentor for the award
  - e. Must be signed by Unit President and Unit Secretary

Note: If the nominee is the Unit President or the Unit Secretary, a Past Unit President or the Unit 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice must sign the Fly Page in the nominee's place.

Entry to be in narrative form describing the nominee's mentoring and guidance during the current year. Narrative must be double-spaced on 8 ½ “x 11” paper, not to exceed 500

words. Newspaper clippings, pictures, posters, and flyers may be included at the end of the entry.

Entry must be received by the Department Past Presidents Parley Chairperson no later than April 15<sup>th</sup>. Entries are to be submitted as a Word or PDF attachment to an email to:

[pastpresidentparley@alafl.org](mailto:pastpresidentparley@alafl.org)

Narratives will be judged by the Department Past Presidents Parley Chairperson and PPP committee members. Judging will be based on compliance with all of the above rules as well as neatness, spelling, grammar, punctuation and originality of the mentorship.

## **Department Chairpersons Focus**

As Department Chairperson, I would like to emphasize, recognize and honor past presidents and their accomplishments in the Department of Florida.

My goal is to create, develop and establish a Department of Florida Past Presidents Parley. I am going to **need** participation from every unit in the Department. Please complete the Past Presidents Parley survey and return it to the Department Past Presidents Parley Chairperson by November 1, 2025. A Thank You card with an enclosed membership card will be distributed at Fall Conference for each Past President, thanking them for their Service.

## **Past Presidents Parley Reporting**

An annual report is not required, however, an annual summary of the Unit and District activities is requested as tools to gauge the direction and effectiveness of the Department Program Engagement Plan. Please forward the narrative to the department chairperson by email or U.S.P.S. by April 1, 2026.

*Dee Bell*

*Honor our Pearls*

Past Department President 2023-2024

Past Presidents Parley Chairperson

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## Department of Florida Past Presidents Parley Narrative Outline

*The Past is kind enough to give you lessons, the Present is kind enough to give you opportunities, the Future is kind enough to give you both.*

1. How many Unit, District, Department or National Past Presidents attend your meetings? **Unit** \_\_\_\_\_ **District** \_\_\_\_\_ **Department** \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many of these past presidents are volunteer to work the programs?  
**Unit** \_\_\_\_\_ **District** \_\_\_\_\_ **Department** \_\_\_\_\_ levels.
3. How many of these past presidents currently hold a chairmanship?  
**Unit** \_\_\_\_\_ **District** \_\_\_\_\_ **Department** \_\_\_\_\_ levels.
4. How many of these past presidents currently hold an office?  
**Unit** \_\_\_\_\_ **District** \_\_\_\_\_ **Department** \_\_\_\_\_ levels.
5. How many department or national past presidents have spoken at a meeting?  
**Unit** \_\_\_\_\_ **District** \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many past presidents mentor officers or chairpersons?  
**Unit** \_\_\_\_\_ **District** \_\_\_\_\_ **Department** \_\_\_\_\_
7. Please add any additional information, events, ideas, and ways your Unit or District honored and recognized Past Presidents in your Unit or District.

Thank you for serving as Past Presidents Parley Chairperson. This committee is vital and the importance of preserving and learning from the past will enhance the future of our Units, Districts and Department.

Please complete and email or U.S.P.S. to Department Chairperson by April 1, 2026

# HOW TO MENTOR A NEW MEMBER

## Unit Past President Parley responsibilities

- Offer to escort a new member to the meeting.
- Offer guidance with the Preamble, Rituals, Customs, Abbreviations, etc.
- Introduce her/him to the President as well as other members in attendance. Ask them to share a little about themselves. Have each member introduce themselves.
- As each program report is given, ask chairperson to explain the purpose of the program and how the Unit supports it.
- Explain the duties of the officers, chairman, and committee members.
- Help maintain a positive attitude and avoid controversy during the meeting.
- A prospective member is more likely to join if they feel the organization is fun and the activities support the community. All members will be more willing to attend meetings and assist with activities if the meetings are short and interesting. Remind the members to try new ideas and be positive.
- Evaluate the new members' capabilities and interests. When they are ready to participate ask them which program interests them. Discourage naming a new member as an officer or chairperson. Suggest that they be given the opportunity to work on a committee with an experienced chairperson. Be willing to mentor them and answer questions. Remember to praise their efforts.
- Past Presidents should advise when asked.
- As Past President, you may wish to nominate a member for the Mentor Award.
- Continue to support through your ongoing leadership.

**Department of Florida  
Past Presidents Parley Membership Survey**

**Please complete the following survey and mail by U.S.P.S. to Department Chairperson, Dee Bell by November 1, 2025. Membership cards will be distributed at Fall Conference.**

[illegible]

