

Workshop Questions and Answers

Americanism:

Question: Can we use the stars from an American flag to send to troops or give to veterans?

Answer: No.

Question: The Americanism chairman didn't mention school essay contest. Is there going to be a contest for 3-11 grades again this year?

Answer: Yes. The essay questions for 2020 is "How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?" The cover page for the essay is located on the Department website at www.alaf.org under Programs, Americanism.

Question: Where did Sandy Eck purchase the beautiful American Flag Pins that she was giving out during her speech?

Answer: The pins were purchased through Emblem Sales. The website is www.emblem.legion.org

Auxiliary Emergency Fund:

Question: Are the Action Plans on the flash drive for Department and National AEF?

Answer: YES for Department. You can find National's Program Action Plan at alaforveterans.org. Search Program Action Plan. You will want the supplemental plan for AEF as well as the 5 year plan.

Question: When does the application need to be submitted after a crisis?

Answer: As soon as there is a need. Say there was a loss of job, someone might wait because they have intentions of getting a job right away. If the job doesn't come along they will all of their resources and now they need assistance. However, that is not to say they should wait a year.

Question: How long does it take to get approved funds after an application is submitted?

Answer: That will depend on the finance committee. Be assured they will do their due diligence to make sure the application is reviewed and a decision is made within 2-3 weeks. Once approved the check will be sent to the appropriate company or person within a few days.

Education:

Girls State:

Question: When will we have Girls State Brochures and how can we get them?

Answer: The Brochures that are put out by National are now titled Youth Programs. The original is still temporarily on the Department Website under Girls State. The new ones can be obtained at Department.

The tri-fold flyer that tells about our Girls State was updated and put on Department Website prior to Workshop. It can be downloaded and printed. It is also on the flash drive under the Girls State Program Action Plans.

Question: Will the District Chairman receive how many girls are going from the District and what Units are sending Girl Staters?

Answer: The Department Secretary, Patty MacDonald, emails the District Presidents that information, unless the District Girls State Chairman has given their email and information to Patty and the Department Girls State Chairman.

Question: Is it possible to print the online applications after the girls have filled them out and uploaded the information?

Answer: No. There is information on the applications that is private and only given to the Girls State Staff.

*****Please note that the Program Actions Plans on the Flash Drive has one change. The Amelia Reese Award is now the Theresa Matthew Briggs award. All rules and guidelines are the same. *****

National Security:

Question: In the star program (Silver Star) does a family member include husband or wife?

Answer: Yes it does because there is no chapter nor is the banner recognized by congress yet. You can find out more information by visiting www.silverstarfamilies.org, the silver star shining for sacrifice, honoring combat wounded, ill and dying members of our Armed Forces, and brining remembrance to those so deserving of our thanks.

Poppy:

Question: Do you have to have special permission to distribute poppies all year at your Post home?

Answer: Yes. For distribution dates other than Veteran's Day or Memorial Day, Units must request permission, in writing, from the Department President.

Public Relations:

Question: We are non-political! Can we talk or endorse any political on Facebook?

Answer: If you are representing the American Legion Auxiliary on ALA Facebook or any other ALA documentation, the answer is NO. In Article II Section 2, of the Constitution of American Legion Auxiliary, "The American Legion Auxiliary shall be absolutely nonpolitical and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment".

However, you, as a private citizen and not speaking for the organization, can do whatever is legal and ethical to advance his/her candidacy.

Question: What is the PR Facebook page?

Answer: The Public Relations page is a public profile specifically created for the American Legion Auxiliary. On this page we can focus on the ALA mission and share our accomplishments. It is an avenue to get information out to our members in an immediate manner.

Remember, basically the PR page is internal and if you want the information to receive the outside audience, you need to submit articles to the media.

Facebook page: **FLALA Public Relations** and remember to attach the hashtag #FLALASTRONG100 on your posts.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation:

HONOR FLIGHT:

Question: Do chaperones pay their own way?

Answer: Yes, please go to www.honorflight.org

Question: How do I sign up to be a guardian?

Answer: Contact your local hub. Please go to www.honorflight.org

Question: How do we send letters to Honor Flight?

Answer: Contact your local hub. Please go to www.honorflight.org

Question: Besides going to our Community for Honor Flight participants, shouldn't we be looking in our own Post homes and honor one of our family?

Answer: Yes, by all means. It was never mentioned "going into the community for participants." It is a program for WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam veterans. Please go to www.honorflight.org

HOMELESS FEMALE VETERANS:

Question: What program are the female products for?

Answer: They would be reported under the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) program.

General:

Question: How do I sign up for the Newsletter and the ALA magazine?

Answer: The Department of Florida newsletter is posted online at www.alafl.org. If you would like a copy mailed to you please send a check payable to American Legion Auxiliary Department of Florida in the amount of \$25.00. Mail the check to The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Florida, PO Box 547917, Orlando, Fl. 32854. The ALA magazine is sent through National Headquarters. Please contact National at 317-569-4500.

Question: Can a Unit or District request a list of Past Presidents?

Answer: The Department website (www.alafl.org) has all the Past Department Presidents list. For Unit and District a past list is not available through Department.

Question: Should year end reports include the entire year or just from mid year?

Answer: The entire year. From April to March.

Question: When reporting if there is not a District Chairman can it go straight from Unit to Department Chairman?

Answer: Yes.