



American Legion Auxiliary

*A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans,
Military, and their Families*

TO: National Executive Committee Members, National Officers, National Chairmen, Past National Presidents

CC: Dept Presidents; Dept Secretaries, NHQ Staff; National Committee Members

From: Kelly Circle, Executive Director

Re: **Weekly Briefing 10-02-2020**

Special Committees update

Never served on an ALA national committee? Now is the time! Log in to the MyAuxiliary member portal at www.ALAforVeterans.org to apply by Dec. 31 and help make a tremendous impact on the future of our organization.

Inclusion & Diversity Special Committee

Want to create a fun and welcoming environment for all? You'll help:

- Figure out where we are
- Identify where we want to be
- Involve members in discussions on inclusion and diversity
- Develop inclusion and diversity goals and strategies
- Expand leadership opportunities for all
- Identify what success looks like
- Get our members on board!

National Code of Ethical Conduct Review Committee

This new committee will:

- review the existing Code of Ethical Conduct
- develop procedures for addressing violations
- recommend changes to ALA Constitution & Bylaws
- meet weekly via videoconference
- NOT be addressing unit/department-level conduct

These new committees may meet as often as weekly via videoconferencing, so technology skills and reliable internet are musts.

Red Book Updates

The 2020-21 Red Book is updated and on the website! Here's the link to always find the latest information: <https://www.alaforveterans.org/Members/ALA-Department-and-Unit-Resources/>

Starting next week, Red Book updates will be communicated through these weekly briefings so I will expand the distribution list of the briefings to include all national committee members. The current distribution list for the weekly briefing includes: Past National Presidents, National Officers, National Chairman, Department NECs, Department Presidents, Department Secretaries/EDs, and NHQ Staff. I also copy select TAL staff leadership as well. Please feel free to share these briefings with any members.



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Travel Guidelines

Attached is the latest update to our National Officer travel guidelines. If your department is preparing for a visit from the National President or other National Officer, please read and follow these guidelines to help keep our members safe. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Membership update

Our Membership staff has been working hard, processing over 1000 membership renewals via phone just in the last week! If you receive a busy signal, please be patient and be kind when you do get through. Know you can also renew online at <https://www.alaforveterans.org/Member-Dues/> or through your local unit. Renew now and show your support for our military, veterans, and their families.

“If you don’t ask, they won’t join.” Lisa Williamson, Children & Youth Chairman, said this to me reflecting on the sudden death of her mother, Judith Somers, last week. Lisa and her mother worked together in real estate, talking multiple times per day, yet Lisa never asked the question. Her mother was incredibly supportive of Lisa’s work with the ALA but never considered joining herself. Judith was so proud and happy when Lisa paid for her membership this year for her birthday. This got me to thinking, how many people do I know who are eligible for membership but aren’t members simply because I never asked the question? How many people do you know who you can ask to join?

I know there are others who have experienced close loss recently and please know our hearts and prayers are with you and your families. May you find comfort in the memories.

Read Your Constitution & Bylaws Day

Are you ready to celebrate our new national holiday?? November 14th has been designated “Read your Constitution & Bylaws Day.” Take a few minutes to read your unit/district/county/department/national Constitution and Bylaws and get familiar with your governing documents.

Submit a photo of you and/or your friends reading the blue National C&B at your favorite American landmark while wearing your ALA branded shirt and you could win a \$50 gift card to use to support the ALA mission. Winners will be chosen for creativity and most recognizable American landmark. No photoshopping allowed. Send your photo to C&B Chairman Trish Ward at tbw_ksaux@yahoo.com.

Emblem Sales has a fresh supply of hard copies of the national C&B so order your updated copy today and have some fun!