

Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton made landfall on the west coast of Florida bringing devastation to everything in their path. The ALA's Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is available to members who have been affected by disaster, offering grant awards up to \$3,000. However, this assistance can only continue with your support. Make a difference by ensuring we have the funds now, and in the future, by donating to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Learn more and donate here: www.ALAforVeterans.org/AEF.

So you think you know everything about shipping packages! Whether you are sending care packages to deployed troops, handling returns, sending packages for your small business, or simply shipping personal items, are you truly optimizing the process? If you are still manually creating labels, juggling spreadsheets, and making frequent retail counter trips to ship, you might be missing out on a smarter, more efficient way.

ShipThrifty is not just another tool — it is a game-changer. The platform simplifies label creation, cuts costs, and eliminates the need for cumbersome manual tracking. Whether you are shipping care packages, business returns, or personal items, ShipThrifty's platform adapts to your needs, saving you time and money. Plus, you can schedule pickups to save even more time. (Courtesy National Auxiliary)

The American Legion considers looking out for each other and fellow veterans, one of its membership's most sacred responsibilities. Since May 2019, by way of Resolution No. 18, Legionnaires have been urged to conduct "Buddy Checks" during the weeks of The American Legion's birthday, March 15, and around Veterans Day. The result has been more than 1 million veterans getting a phone call, email, text message or in-person visit, just to see how each of them is doing.

This is a great way to contact a veteran and to share some "ALA Sweetness" too. Bring a plate of cookies when you make your visit/check and make it a great experience for both of you.

This is not just a Legion program; it is a nice thing to do for veterans from an Auxiliary member too.

Judy Twete