November 2026

Greetings Unit Presidents and Auxiliary Members,

It has been a busy season, with Fall District meetings taking place and hometown football season wrapping up. It has been wonderful to reconnect with everyone, especially our new members.

Membership reports show that dues are coming in steadily as we wrap up 2026 and kick off 2027 with a "BANG!" By now, all unit officers should have paid their 2027 dues as well.

I want to remind you that eligibility for Auxiliary membership has changed. Keep the new

THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE:

SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY SHALL BE LIMITED TO:

(1) GRANDPARENTS, PARENTS, SIBLINGS, SPOUSES, AND DIRECT OR ADOPTED DESCENDANTS WITH TWO (2) DEGREES OF CONSANGUINITY OF MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION; AND

(2) GRANDPARENTS, PARENTS, SIBLINGS, SPOUSES, AND DIRECT OR ADOPTED DESCENDANTS WITH TWO (2) DEGREES OF CONSANGUINITY OF ALL SERVICE MEMBERS WHO SERVED IN EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING PERIODS; APRIL 6, 1917, TO NOVEMBER 11, 1918, AND ANY TIME AFTER DECEMBER 7, 1941, WHO BEING A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES AT THE TIME OF THEIR ENTRY THEREIN SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARMED FORCES OF ANY OF THE GOVERNMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED STATES DURING EITHER ELIGIBILITY PERIODS AND DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY OR AFTER HONORABLE DISCHARGE;

(3) GRANDPARENTS, PARENTS, SIBLINGS, SPOUSES, AND DIRECT OR ADOPTED DESCENDANTS WITH TWO (2) DEGREES OF CONSANGUINITY OF ALL SERVICE MEMBERS WHO WERE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES DURING EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING PERIODS; APRIL 6, 1917, TO NOVEMBER 11, 1918; AND ANY TIME AFTER DECEMBER 7, 1941, WHO SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES DURING EITHER ELEIGIBILITY PPERIOD AND DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY OR AFTER HONORABLE DISCHARGE; AND

(4) TO THOSE WOMEN WHO OF THEIR OWN RIGHT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN LEGION.

requirements in mind when recruiting members. Members have asked many good questions about ALA eligibility. Here are some answers provided by the national organization.

Q1) ***Can someone who is divorced join under an ex-spouse if neither person has remarried? What if the ex-spouse has remarried?***

A1) No. They must be married to the qualifying veteran at the time they join. If they divorce after joining, the member may retain membership as long as their dues do not lapse. If their membership lapses, they must rejoin under a different qualifying veteran.

Q2) ***Can an SAL member join the ALA?***

A2) Absolutely! SAL members have already been vetted, so they only need to complete an application. Be sure they use the same qualifying veteran they used to join the SAL.

Q3) ***Can a grandson join the ALA, or must he join the SAL under a grandparent?***

A3) He does not have to be an SAL member to join the ALA, but it is helpful to let him know that he may be eligible for dual membership. We do not want to draw members away from the SAL.

Q4) ***Can an uncle join under a nephew or niece?***
A4) No. An uncle cannot join under a nephew or niece, and a nephew or niece cannot join under an uncle.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about membership. I have also enclosed an eligibility flyer that might help you see the connections between the Veterans and family.

"Be a Beacon for those who serve" Let's keep our Beacon shining bright to welcome new faces!

Sincerely,

Shelley Schuster, Department President-Elect and Membership Chairman