



# JUNIOR JOURNAL

**January 25 – Des Moines**  
**February 1 – Las Vegas or Boston**

## REGISTER NOW

<https://member.legion-aux.org/.../national-junior-meetings/>

A promotional banner for the National Junior Meetings. At the top, it features three logos: "AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY JUNIORS" on the left, "National JUNIOR MEETINGS" in the center, and "SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION" on the right. Below these is a large graphic of a red megaphone with sound waves, and the text "REGISTER NOW" in large, bold, red letters with a white outline. The background is a pattern of radiating lines and stars. At the bottom, there are three photographs: a young woman in a blue shirt holding a wreath, a young girl in a blue shirt holding a red bow, and a large group of people in blue shirts posing for a group photo.



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## Eastern Division 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Junior Meeting Breakout Doreen Gallagher- Eastern Division Junior Chair

Eastern division had all departments registered except DC.  
The following departments were not in attendance: RI, CT, Maine and DC

### NJ-

- \*The juniors on the department level were able to sponsor 155 wreaths for Wreaths Across America.
- \* Department Officers chose committees to be the chairman
- \*Juniors are attending the senior DEC meetings
- \*Department Juniors are working on ways to participate in BE the one
- \*One Unit is collecting cereal for Joint Base McGuire

### NY-

- \*11 Juniors attending Mid-Winter
- \*National President will install the new officers
- \*Unit 789 juniors learned sign language pledge of allegiance and performs at the meeting
- \*Juniors are reaching out to home bound veterans

### VT-

- \*Mid-Year Conference Juniors will participate in the Military Children's Table ceremony

### MA-

- \*Working on increasing Junior membership
- \*Juniors are registered to attend mission training
- \*Focusing on units/districts working the junior program

### MD-

- \*Working on Legion Family Banquet honoring former Honorary Department Presidents
- \*Sent Care packages with help from Operation we care
- \*working on having Junior attend mission training

### NH-

- \*VA home Christmas party and organizing gifts for their families
- \*Monthly Bulletin
- \*Mid-Winter will have juniors serving lunch also write prayer and make poppies

### DE-

- \*38 Veterans adopted
- \*14 Active Duty children adopted
- \*creating a rock program

### PA-

- \*Juniors helping with fundraiser
- \*Spring Meeting will have installation officers
- \*Department President will have juniors at testimonial dinner to perform the military child table



# JUNIOR JOURNAL

## JUNIOR PATCHES



**JR ACTIVITY PATCH RESOURCES**  
[Junior Activities Patch Order Form](#)  
**PURPLE LEVEL: Pre-School Age 3 - K**  
**RED LEVEL: 1st – 4th Grades**  
**GOLD LEVEL: 5th – 8th Grades**  
**BLUE LEVEL: 9th – 12th**



Junior members along with young Sons of the American Legion can earn patches for activities. This year the Junior Committee will be highlighting activities and patches. Patches have activities designed for the age of the Junior to provide learning and involvement in the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary. Members from age 3 through grade 12 can earn patches in 15 programs.

Patch activities are divided by age groups with members from ages 3 through kindergarten earned **PURPLE** patches. **Red** patches are for members in Grades 1 through 4 and **GOLD** patches are for members in grades 5 through 8. Older Juniors in grades 9 through 12 earn patches with **BLUE** borders. Besides the 35 program patches there are special patches for events or activities.

One patch is for attending a Division Junior meeting so register for your meeting Juniors and receive a patch for attending. This year Junior members attending their Girl State program will receive a Junior patch.

**DO NOT forget the CHILDREN OF WARRIORS NATIONAL PRESIDENTS' PATCH. This patch can be earned by any Junior or SAL youth if they raise at least \$5 for each year old. For example, a 17-year-old would raise a minimum of \$85 (17 x \$5 = \$85.) and send this in to ALA National to support this scholarship using the form created for this patch.**



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## COMMUNITY SERVICE PATCH



**Jeanne Haas, National Junior Activities Chair**

Across the country young members of the American Legion Family have been giving of their time and talents for the good of others. Junior members and young Sons of the American Legion from grades 1 to 12 can earn a patch for enhancing the quality of life in their community through caring and sharing.

Earning the Red level Community Service Patch (grades 1 -4), Juniors members learn what volunteering is and where they can volunteer. The Gold level patch (grades 5 – 8) requires at least 15 hours of community service plus preparing your family in case of an emergency. Of the eight choices of activities all involve helping others. Many Junior members may have competed some of these activities with their school or American Legion Auxiliary family.

The Blue level (grades 9-12) Community Service Patch requires a minimum of 16 hours of volunteering over a eight week period. Junior members earning this patch will be able to work on their skills to plan and organize events that benefit their community. Young Sons of the American Legion and Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary not only can earn patches but will be a part of improving the community in which they live.

\*\*\* Update on the Community Service Blue Level Patch # 8 required activity now reads, "Help an active duty family, veteran family, or senior citizen in need ( EX. Offer to babysit or do yard work)/ Share your plans with others and ask for support." The reasoning for the change is that some communities do not have a Family Support Network that near their location to help.

Activities can be worked on individually, as a Junior group or in other activities in the Junior's life. Check out the patch program by clicking on this link:

Patch Program ([legion-aux.org](http://legion-aux.org))





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## VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION PATCH

*Corrinna Colson, National Junior Vice Chair*



The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Patches can be earned at three levels by Junior Auxiliary Members and Youth Sons of the American Legion. The activities involve many activities working with Veterans not only in the VA Medical facilities, but nursing homes, senior care facilities and even within their homes. Other areas involving the rehabilitation of Veterans might include organizations such as those providing activities for adaptive sports for Veterans with disabilities.

**Red Level Patch (Grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>)** - This category has 6 possibilities with 3 necessary to earn this patch. A couple ideas to earn this might be sending cards to Veterans in a VA hospital, write a thank you letter to a veteran, visit them, and talk about their military service, and the most interesting: With the help of an adult, order the Presidential Memorial Certificate for a deceased veteran from <http://www.cem.va.gov/pmc.asp>. This certificate expresses the nation's recognition of their service

**Gold Level Patch (Grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>)** – This level has 13 possible categories with 6 required to earn this patch. A few of the possibilities are: Participate in National Salute to Hospitalized Veteran Patients (week of February 14) to help honor and thank veterans, Research three (3) other organizations that help veterans, or Research the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival and explain to your Junior group, unit or squadron what it does for veterans.


**Blue Level Patch (Grades 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>)** - This level has 15 possibilities with 9 required to earn the patch. Some of the options are: Participate in the Veterans History Project. Interview at least two (2) veterans in your area and preserve their stories. Send your project to the Library of Congress, participate in three (3) activities at a VA home or nursing home (for example: bingo, reading, serving coffee, crafts), or Become a Student Volunteer in a VAVS facility or volunteer in a local senior home or nursing home.



# JUNIOR JOURNAL

## JUNIOR OPPORTUNITIES

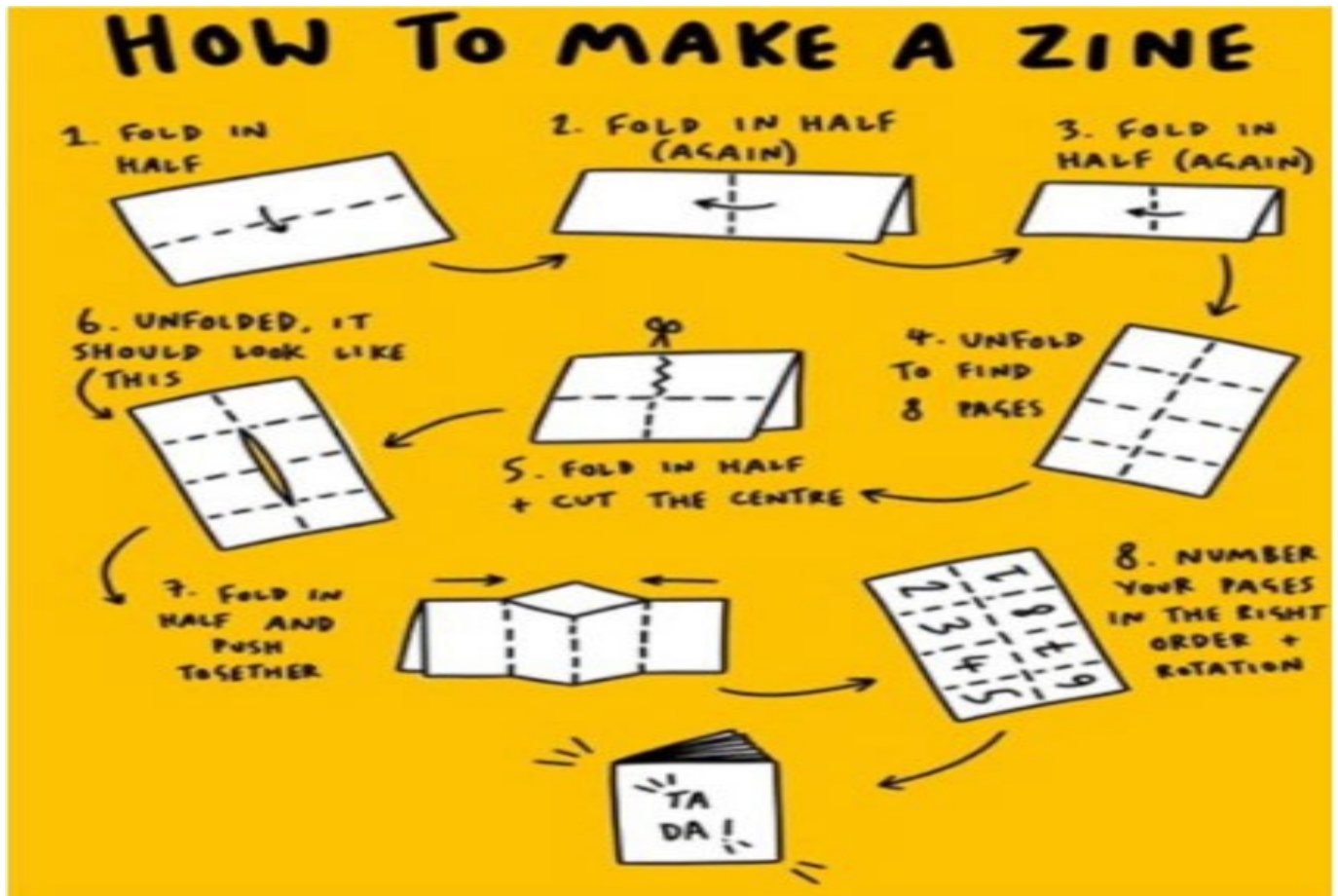
### **February 14<sup>th</sup> – more than just Valentines Day!**

Valentine's Day is a great time to show our Veterans some love  especially those in our VA Hospitals and nursing homes. The National Salute to Hospitalized Veteran Patients (week of February 14) is a great time to gather your Junior members and focus their attention on our hospitalized Veterans & plan activities to show them how much they matter and thank them for their service by showing them we care!

### **Ways to celebrate the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans week with our Veterans & Juniors:**

- ♥ Schedule a visit to you VA Medical Facility
- ♥ Make Valentines Day thank you cards for Veterans at the VA, Nursing Homes & Senior Centers
- ♥ Plan a musical concert for Veterans at your local Veterans home
- ♥ Organize a bingo or trivia game with Veterans & give prizes
- ♥ Volunteer to read a story to Veterans
- ♥ Prepare a tea with baked goods for your local Veterans home
- ♥ Create lap blankets & pillows for Veterans

Let's show our hospitalized Veterans we care and send them 1 ve!



## Create a Zine Book:

Create a zine book with your Juniors/Young SAL. This is an excellent way for them to be creative and learn at the same time. The zine books can be used to tell a story of veteran or "thank you" to our veterans. Thank you to Robin Lee from Department of Virginia Unit 284 for sharing the idea on the Eastern Division Facebook Page. Instructions and guide from [www.42ndstreet.org.uk](http://www.42ndstreet.org.uk)

1. Fold your paper in half (lengthwise)
2. Fold in half again
3. Fold in half again
4. Unfold it, to find 8 folded pages
5. Fold in half and cut the center (halfway down the page)
6. Unfold your paper. You should see a slit in the middle of the page
7. Fold in half (lengthwise) and push together
8. Number your pages in the right order and rotation
9. TA DA! You've created your own zine



# JUNIOR JOURNAL

## MEET THE COMMITTEE

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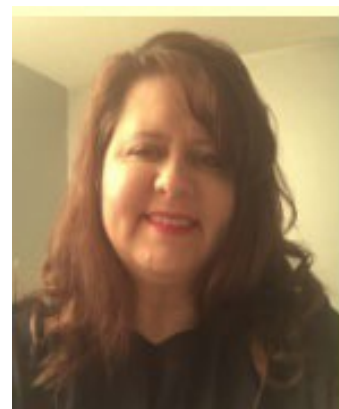
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# JUNIOR JOURNAL

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