**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

**Department of North Carolina**

**Junior Activities Program Action Plan**

The Junior Activities program inspires active participation in members age 17 and under so that they will become engaging, productive members who will want to continue their American Legion Auxiliary membership into adulthood.

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**What can you do?**

1. Build our junior program one member at a time; giving them a voice and an opportunity to

 participate.

2. Plan a junior member activity day for members to get to know each other. Plan program

 related activities as an educational component.

3. Explain membership and eligibility requirements then encourage juniors to invite their friends to attend, even if they are not eligible to join.

**Engage Juniors in programs.** 1. Bring junior members to your meetings. Have them lead the Pledge, National Anthem or

 other areas of the meeting.

2. Assign a mentor to each junior. This is someone they can ask questions to regarding the ALA

and programs.

3. Compliment your juniors whenever possible for assisting with programs, projects or events.

Make other presentations such as Patch Program achievements when completed or Good

Deed/Youth Hero Awards if juniors achieve either of these.

4. Share what your juniors are doing on social media pages such as Facebook, Twitter or your

 unit webpage.

**Make Junior meeting fun and informative.**

1. Be flexible during the meeting when it comes to Robert’s Rules. The rules can be

 intimidating and boring so we need to use as much time as needed to explain the correct

 protocol. Flexibility and an orderly meeting is key to the success of juniors understanding

 things.

2. Let juniors help plan and lead the meeting to make it fun and educational.

3. Plan crafts activities that may be used for various things, such as fundraisers, gifts for

veterans, decorating the post home and etc.

4. Have snack and beverages on hand. They could even make Poppy cookies to snack on.

5. Create a place to display their crafts or artwork.

6. Promote and encourage the Junior Patch Program for the three age groups.

**Department Awards: For Unit Junior Activities Chairman**

1. Certificate -Most Outstanding Junior Unit Activities Report from the unit senior advisor.

2. Certificate- Unit with most new junior members (Unit membership chairman must submit

names and dates joined).

**Annual Junior Meeting Awards- For Junior Units attending the meeting**

1. Certificates to each junior that submits an Americanism Essay for judging to department

 Americanism chairman. A copy of the essay must be sent to Junior Activities Chairman for

verification.

2. Certificate of participation in the 100th Anniversary Junior Money Challenge. Proceeds will

 go toward purchasing items and shipping items to active duty military overseas. A gift and

 certificate will go to the unit making the largest monetary contribution to this project.

3. Certificate to the unit bringing the most juniors to the annual meeting.

4. Certificate for the best Junior Unit Reporting in attendance at the junior meeting.

5. Certificate to all juniors that participate in the annual Fund Run 4 Education.

To see the complete National Program Action Plan and Supplement go to [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) under the Junior Activities tab. You will need this if you want to submit documents to be eligible for any of the national junior activities awards.