



# American Legion Auxiliary

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

From: Kelly Circle, Executive Director  
Re: **Weekly Briefing 05-07-2021**

**Happy Military Spouse Appreciation Day!** Thank you for serving too! Please see the attached Proclamation from President Biden setting May 7, 2021 as Military Spouse Appreciation Day. He writes a heartfelt tribute to our military spouses and since so many of our members are military spouses, I want to make sure you see it and know how valued you are!

## **Convention Information**

National Convention is moving forward for August; initial approval has been granted from the city of Phoenix. The American Legion Family is focusing on creating a safe national convention experience for all who desire to attend. As part of that effort, please see attached for current safety measures and protocols to keep in mind.

Attendees will be asked to adhere to COVID protocols including temperature checks, social distancing, and wearing of masks. Convention events are being planned as usual, at this time the only events being cancelled are the Parade and Band Contest. General Session is being planned to accommodate Delegates, Alternates, and guests registered with their department prior to arriving in Phoenix. The Commander's Banquet and States' dinner will have a limited number of tickets.

Please be on the lookout for the Online Information System, ticketing information, and deadlines being sent out in the usual timeframe by mid-June from National Headquarters. Any additional directives will be sent out when registration for Delegates and Alternates goes live in the first few days of August.

As we get closer to Convention, we will keep you abreast of the latest information due to the fluid situation. We are confident our American Legion Family members will still enjoy all events planned thus far as well as the business sessions of The American Legion Auxiliary, while keeping each other safe during these times!

## **Poppy Fund Information**

A couple of questions came up from last week's briefing and there appears to be significant interest in how to use poppy funds, so I encourage everyone to sign up for our FREE training webinar:

**Using Poppy Funds to Serve Our Mission**  
**Thursday, May 20, at 8 p.m. Eastern**



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Often, American Legion Auxiliary units wonder if their use of poppy funds falls within the revised guidelines set forth by The American Legion National Executive Committee in 2013 and 2014. This ALA webinar will raise awareness about [food insecurity in the military](#), as well as teach attendees how poppy funds can be used to lessen this urgent problem.

This webinar will help ALA members connect with pre-existing military food pantries nationwide, illustrate other necessities that poppy funds can be used for when working with active-duty military families, and share ways to connect with the military — even if you don't live near a military installation.

Snapshot view of what participants will learn in this webinar:

- Develop an understanding of how poppy funds can't and can be used (in that order).
- Develop an understanding of the prevalence and impact of food insecurity within military ranks.
- Develop an understanding on how poppy funds can be used for this problem of food insecurity.
- Share ways to connect with pre-existing "military" food pantries nationwide.
- Illustrate other necessities that poppy funds can be used for when working with active-duty military families.
- Share ways to connect with the military even if you don't live near a military installation.

Poppy funds don't have to be complicated. Sign up today for this webinar and see why. Register [here](#).

## **Interesting Information**

The Legion will be running two commercial spots during the Indy 500. Here's the link to one spot that is currently running: <https://youtu.be/13h83bMwOmU>

I was just introduced to this informative video and want to share with you. It's a great intro to any of our youth programs to easily explain what we do. While this particular video is "Legion" focused, we do get a mention and in the coming months there will be more American Legion Family promotions and marketing efforts.

<https://www.legion.org/youthprograms/252053/responsible-citizenship-center-americanism-youth-programs-video>

Please see the attachment for Red Book updates this week.



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