**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.

Debbie Harris, Chairman Gladys Hawley, Member Caroline Inman, Member

313 Moore St. 3711 Salem Road 4255 Clarksburg Rd

Stanley, NC 28164 Oxford, NC 27565 Clemmons, NC

704-460-8414 919-693-1360 336-403-2711

debrajonesharris@gmail.com miss\_gladyshawley@yahoo.com carolineiusc96@gmail.com

**What can you do**?

1. Build your Junior program one member at a time. Encourage members to sign up eligible daughters and granddaughters.
2. Give your Juniors a voice and an opportunity to participate.
3. Plan a Junior member activity day for members to get to know each other. Plan program related activities as an educational component.
4. 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 and incorporate participation in your meeting. Have then lead the Pledge, National Anthem or other areas of the meeting.
2. Bring Juniors to all appropriate ALA activities in which you participate. This gives Juniors the opportunity to witness the ALA in action.
3. Assign a mentor to each junior. This is someone they can ask questions and learn the ALA and programs.
4. Compliment your juniors whenever possible for assisting with programs, projects or events.
5. Share what your Juniors are doing on social media pages such as Facebook, Twitter or your unit webpage. National is requesting reporting your Junior activities as they occur.
6. Encourage Juniors take the Junior E Learning Course of the ALA Academy

**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 fun activities to promote ALA purposes, such as fundraisers, crafts, cards or gifts for veterans, decorating the post home, etc. Create a place to display their crafts or artwork.
4. Have snack and beverages on hand at the meetings. Use that and an opportunity to incorporate the purpose and ALA programs and activities. An example is making or decorating Poppy cookies
5. Promote and encourage the Junior Patch Program for the three age groups. Mentor Juniors and help them acquire patches. Refer to the Junior Member Activity Page in the Members Only section at [www.ALAfor](http://www.ALAfor) Veterans.org

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

1. Certificate -Most Outstanding Junior Unit Activities Report from unit senior advisor.
2. Certificate- Unit with greatest number of new junior members (Unit membership chairman must submit names and dates joined).

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

1. Certificate of participation to Units that participate in the Honorary Junior President’s Project.
2. Certificate to the Junior Unit Reporting greatest number of attendance at Junior meeting.
3. Certificate to all Juniors that participate in the annual Junior Meeting.

Resources

 Junior Activities Program Action Plan and Annual Supplement

 ALA Academy – Junior E-Learning Course

 ALA Branding Game for Juniors

 [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)

 Individual ALA Program Facebook groups

 Follow-American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters

To see the complete National Program Action Plan and Supplement go to www.alaforveterans.org under the Junior Activities tab. Eligibility and documents for National awards are available on the website.

National is requesting “ah ha” moments. This is reporting activities as they occur. Please submit “ah-ha” moments to the Committee chairman for submission to the Southern Division Chairman. Please be sure to include pictures.