



Membership

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Levels of Auxiliary Membership

I am recirculating an image of Auxiliary Membership, first promoted by Joan Chwala. (This same concept could easily work for the Legion.) Prospective members should be informed about this Level Membership Plan. It may appeal to many who say they are too busy to belong.

1. Level One - This is the most important level. On this level the member pays her dues, carries her card and silently honors her veteran while giving lobbying power to our organization.
2. Level Two (Levels 1 + 2) - These members also enjoy reading their *National News, Wisconsin*, and newsletters. They are aware of their benefits and take advantage of them.
3. Level Three (Levels 1, 2, & 3) - These members also might help the unit on occasion. Perhaps they will send coupons to soldiers, box tops to schools, or donate to projects.
4. Level Four (Levels 1, 2, 3, & 4) - These members attend most meetings, volunteer to serve on projects, but are not comfortable holding an office.
5. Level Five (Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5) - These members do all of the above and are willing to serve as an officer on the local level only.
6. Level Six (Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6) - They might attend conferences and workshops on the county, district, or state level. They make many friends in the American Legion Auxiliary.
7. Level Seven (Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7) - These members are active in their own unit, and serve as an officer or chairman on a level higher than the unit (from County to National).

When members have served many years at levels 4-6, the officers must mentor other members to take their places in order to keep the unit alive. It will then be their turn to go back to Level Two if necessary. Please use this image of membership levels when you talk about the American Legion Auxiliary. Do not expect new members to start out at Levels 5-7. Do not make members feel that they must help if they are busy or uncomfortable at a meeting. Give every member the option of joining at Level One only. Veterans will benefit from their dues, the support, and the lobbying power. Always try to be tactful and keep offering to mentor your new members.

Let's give this idea a try!

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