

Constitution
Dignam-Whitmore
American Legion Auxiliary
Unit 526
Fairborn, Ohio



District 3
Department of Ohio

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PREAMBLE

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America, to maintain law and order;
to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations during the Great Wars;
to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might;
to promote peace and goodwill on earth;
to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of the American Legion;
to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be Dignam-Whitmore Unit 526 American Legion Auxilliary, Department of Ohio.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

Section 1. The American Legion Auxilliary is a civilian organization of women to support veterans their families and their communities

Section 2. The American Legion Auxilliary shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles or for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

ARTICLE III - ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. Membership in the American Legion Auxilliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods:

April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918;
December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946;
June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955;
February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975;
August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984;
December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990;
August 2, 1990

to the date of secession of all hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States, all dates inclusive; or who, being citizens of the United States at the time of their entry therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the Governments associated with the United States during any of said periods and died in line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

Section 2. There shall be two classes of membership, Senior and Junior.

- a. Senior membership shall be composed of members over the age of eighteen years; provided, however, that the wife under the age of eighteen years who is eligible under Section 1 of this Article shall be classed as a senior member.
- b. Junior membership shall consist of that group under the age of eighteen years, whose activities shall be supervised by the senior membership. Upon reaching the age of eighteen years, junior members shall automatically be admitted into senior membership with full privileges.
- c. Dues for both classes shall be paid annually, or for life.

Section 3. All women shall be eligible to this Unit, who are eligible in the American Legion Auxiliary under the Constitution of the National American Legion Auxiliary, including non-residents of this town and state.

Section 4. Once accepted as a member, women eligible under the Constitution, may continue her membership from year to year whether or not her service relative continues to be a member of the Legion. The fact that her service relative is no longer a member of the Legion does not compel the Auxiliary member to lose her Auxiliary membership.

Section 5. No member shall belong to more than one Unit at the same time.

Section 6. Each Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary shall be judge of its own membership subject to the restrictions of the Constitution and Bylaws, except that no person who is a member of an organization which has for its aim the overthrow of the United States Government by force or violence or who

subscribes to the principles of any group opposed to our form of Government shall be eligible to become or remain a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

ARTICLE IV - DISCIPLINE

Section 1. Unit Charters may be revoked, canceled or suspended in accordance with National Bylaws provisions in Article XI.

Section 2. For willful violation of National or Department Constitution or Bylaws, or for flagrant negligence in performance of duties, or for conduct improper and prejudicial to the welfare of The American Legion Auxiliary or The American Legion, any Department officer, Department or District Committee member may be removed by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a meeting of the Department Executive Committee, provided at least fifteen (15) days written notice by the Committee and an opportunity for a hearing before it has been given to that person. Such appearance by Department or District Committee member shall be without expense to the Department.

Section 3. In a Unit, for willful violation of the National, Department, Unit Constitution or Bylaws or for conduct improper and prejudicial to the welfare of The American Legion Auxiliary or The American Legion any member may be expelled from membership or any Unit officer or any Unit committee member removed from Office by a two-thirds vote at a Unit meeting duly called for that purpose, after the member has been given at least a fifteen (15) day written notice by the Unit Executive Committee of the charges and a hearing thereon. Either party may have the right to appeal to the Department Executive Committee and then action thereon shall be final. The expense of said appeal shall be borne by the appellant.

ARTICLE V – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Section 1. The Unit Organization shall be governed by “Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised”, on all points not covered in the Unit Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policies & Procedures.

HISTORY OF CONSTITUTION REVISIONS

Respectfully submitted the 22nd day of January 1934.

Mrs. Anna Hume Mrs. Mabel Regan
Mrs. Peter P. Walsh Mrs. Percy Green
Mrs. Claude Rowan

Revised this 21st day of March 1955.

Mrs. Lloyd Douglass Mrs. Fred Cutter
Mrs. Frank Short, Jr. Mrs. Joseph H. Steele

Revised this 21st day of June 1965.

Mrs. Joseph H. Steele Mrs. Don Duncan, Sr.
Mrs. Gale McKinley

Revised this 7th day of April 1975.

Mrs. Frank Short, Jr. Mrs. Garrett Saunders
Mrs. Harold St. John

Revised this 19th day of June 1978.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Miss Jacqueline Barr
Mrs. Frank Short, Jr.

Revised this 17th day of January 1983.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Mrs. Donald Bowen
Mrs. Roger Fischer

Revised this 18th day of September 1986.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Mrs. Robert Johnson
Mrs. Henry Long

Revised this 18th day of September 1989.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Mrs. Gale McKinley
Mrs. Harold Shimek

Revised this 5th day of September 1992.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Mrs. Gale McKinley
Miss Susan M. Masten

Revised this 18th day of September 1995.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed Jr. Mrs. Gale McKinley
Mrs. Harold Shimek

Revised this 17th day of September 1997.

Mrs. Donald L. Bowen Mrs. Gale McKinley
Mrs. Danny Hall

Revised this 15th day of September 1999.

Mrs. Donald L. Bowen Miss Susan M. Masten
Miss Ellen Slone

Revised this 7th day of April 2008.

Miss Susan Masten Mrs. Donald Bowen
Mrs. Joann Trefethen

Revised this 14th day of April 1949.

Mrs. C. E. Corbett Mrs. Paul Taggart
Mrs. Frank Short, Sr. Mrs. Laura Brown
Mrs. Joseph H. Steele

Revised this 15th day of August 1960.

Mrs. John W. Groth Miss Florence Douglass
Mrs. Gale McKinley

Revised this 17th day of September 1973.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Mrs. Frank Short, Jr.
Mrs. Joseph H. Steele Mrs. Loyal Barron
Mrs. Gale McKinley

Revised this 10th day of April 1978.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Miss Jacqueline Barr
Mrs. Frank Short, Jr.

Revised this 2nd day of March 1981.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Mrs. Robert J. Bilger
Mrs. Frank Short, Jr. Mrs. Gale McKinley

Revised this 19th day of September 1983.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Mrs. Brian Wygle
Mrs. Robert Johnson

Revised this 21st day of September 1987.

Mrs. Gale McKinley Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr.
Mrs. Donald Bowen

Revised this 16th day of September 1991.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Mrs. Gale McKinley
Miss Susan M. Masten

Revised this 20th day of September 1993.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed, Jr. Mrs. Gale McKinley
Mrs. Harold Shimek

Revised this 16th day of September 1996.

Mrs. Floyd L. Reed Jr.

Revised this 21st day of September 1998.

Mrs. Donald L. Bowen Miss Susan M. Masten
Mrs. Al Burlingame

Revised this 15th day of January 2001.

Miss Susan M. Masten Mrs. Joann Trefethen

Revised this 2nd day of December 2008.

Miss Susan Masten Mrs. Donald Bowen
Mrs. Joann Trefethen

Revised this 19th day of January 2009.
Miss Susan Masten Mrs. Donald Bowen
Mrs. Joann Trefethen

Revised this 21st day of January 2013
Mrs. Pamela Bates Miss Susan Masten
Approved by the General Membership on
said date

Revised this 15th day of March 2010.
Miss Susan Masten Mrs. Pamela Bates
Mrs. Joann Trefethen

Revised August 2013
– Mandatory eligibility change by National
Mrs. Pamela Bates