



THE SOUTH DAKOTA *LEGIONETTE*

Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities

A Word from the President

by Carol Edwards, Department President



"Because of the BRAVE"

There are so many things that I am excited about, but the one that excites me the most is my theme song "Because of the Brave". When I first heard this song I knew instantly that it was going to be the theme for my year. I hope all of you take the time to listen to it or at least look at the words – I know that every time I do I am inspired even more. "Because of the Brave, our flag still flies high, declaring the truth that freedom is alive."

In July we held our first Auxiliary 101 in Pierre; we had 30 ladies in attendance and it was "inspiring" to see so many *new* faces!! One of our biggest topics of discussion was how we can improve on our Mid-Year and Year-End reports. The suggestions and ideas that the "group" came up with will be the focus at our Fall District meetings. I am hoping that EVERY Unit will try to have someone attend a Fall District meeting. Remember, if the meeting in another District is closer to you and more convenient for you to attend, than by all means *do so!*

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Public Relations — By Dept. Chairman Helen Riedlinger

The American Legion Auxiliary name and emblem are recognized because of the efforts of you, its members, to promote the organization by explaining at every opportunity who we are, what we do and why we matter.

You can help by continuing to promote a positive image of the American Legion Auxiliary. Document those efforts, even simple ones like attending an event where you wear your American Legion shirt or pin or nametag and give an upbeat response to questions about our organization and its programs.

Remember to send me any and all articles about your members or Unit published in a newspaper or periodical. For print media, you must include the full article including pictures and it must have the publisher name and date of the publication. If you or your Unit is covered by broadcast media, please send me a link to the broadcast.

I encourage Unit members or officers to write, or download a template for, a Letter to the Editor and/or news release for patriotic holidays and events (template is found at www.ALAforVeterans.org under Resources tab at Marketing & Promotional Materials). Please remember to send me a copy of the letter or news release.

Please take advantage of the resources for all programs available through links on the www.sdlegionaux.org website. Keep up the great work of promoting the positive image of the American Legion Auxiliary. Your efforts do pay off in our ability to continue with all the wonderful programs of our organization. Thank you.
Helen Riedlinger
SD ALA Public Relations Chairman 2014-2015

Congratulations!

2014-2015 Department Officers

Back Row: Melanie Martens - 2nd Vice President; Carol Edwards - Dept. President; Becky Hawkins - 1st Vice President.
Front Row: Teresa Huntimer - Chaplain; Janet Hurlbert - National Executive Committeewoman; MaryAnn Ackerman - Historian. (Homecoming pictures and thank you's are in the emailed Legionette.)



The Grassroots Corner

Service, Not Self – Districts and Units at Work

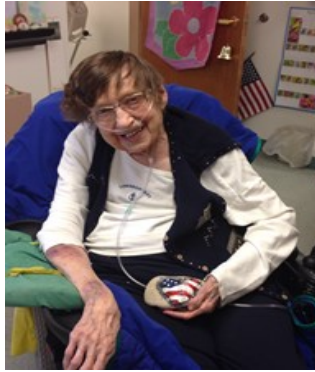


Memorial Day

Groton Auxiliary Unit #39 cleaning cemetery, placing flags on veterans graves, and planting flowers. Pictured left to right Lori Giedt, Jan Seibel, Auxiliary President, Josie La Mee, Bonnie Larson, Isaiah Cutler and others not pictured.

Flag Program

Auxiliary Unit #164 distributed 190 flags to first graders at Creekside Elementary with 10 rules to respect the American flag. Pictured Cathy Inghram Spearfish Unit and Donna Bertch, McLaughlin Unit.



A Gift from the Heart

Marjorie Miller from Unit #3 Chamberlain, who resides at the David M. Dorsett Health Care in Spearfish painted one of her famous rocks with the American flag to present to the National Commander Dan Dellinger when he visited the Black Hills.

September Guide

- Patriot Day - 9/11
- US Constitution Day - 9/17
- National POW/MIA Recognition Day - 9/19
- Gold Star Mother's Day - 9/29

Report from Citizens of Girl State

Plan Unit Program for the year

Launch membership drive

Make plans to attend District meetings

Organize Junior group/activities

Send Legionette subscriptions to Dept. Headquarters

Christmas Gift Shops items are due by October 1

In Memoriam

Joyce Allen - Milbank (9) - May 2014

Mildred Brower - Watertown (17) - July 2014

Alda Brown - Canova (61) - May 2014

Cleo Carley - Brookings (74) - July 2014

Shirley Edman - Centerville (43) - July 2014

Mary Grosz - Mitchell (18) - May 2014

Lorrayne Karn - McLaughlin (239) - May 2014

Donna Leimkuhl - Waubay (129) - June 2014

Darlene Moak - Shelby (100) - May 2014

Irene Nelson - Sisseton (50) - July 2014

Mary Nelson - Tyndall (2) - June 2014

Tammy Mae Ness - Watertown (17) - April 2014

Rudell (Rudy) Pierson - Hartford (118) - March 2014

Aletha Pieschke - Watertown (17) - August 2014

* Emilie Reedy - Philip (173) - May 2014

Shirley Schnell - Estelline (184) - April 2014

Shirley Schuster - Sisseton (50) - March 2014

Bernice Snaza - Grenville (267) - May 2014

Norma Terca - Presho (89) - August 2014

Alta Tufteland - Sioux Falls (15) - May 2014

* Dorothy Urban - Philip (173) - April 2014

Marjorie Vig - Langford (141) - May 2014

Elsie Williams - Martin (240) - June 2014

Anna Warne - Pierre (8) - May 2014

* GOLD MOTHER



CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP

Due October 1

Ft. Meade VA:

JoanAnn Goeringer 605-717-6900

joanangoeringer@gmail.com

Hot Springs VA:

Susie Clyde 605-890-1854

hsvagiftshop@gmail.com

Hot Springs State Home:

Diane Simunek 605-890-3093

Diane_simunek@hotmail.com

Sioux Falls VA:

Sherry Woljer 605-201-2361

sherrywolther@yahoo.com

Fall District Meetings

September 12 - District 5 - Friday: Big Stone American Legion - Social at 5:30 pm; Meal at 6:30 pm; Meeting at 7:15 pm. Auxiliary will meet at the Post Home.

September 13 - District 4 - Saturday: Dolan R-Bar Restaurant - Social at 11:00 am; Lunch at 12:00 noon; Meeting at 1:00 pm. Auxiliary will meet at the Senior Center.

September 14 - District 3 - Sunday: Gettysburg American Legion - Social at 2:00 pm; Meeting at 3:00 pm; Meal to follow. Auxiliary will meet at the Post Home.

September 26 - District 8 - Friday: Centerville American Legion - Social at 4:00 pm; Catered Meal at 6:30 pm \$10.00; Meeting at 7:30 pm. Auxiliary will meet at Scandica Lutheran Church (3 blocks from Post Home.)

September 27 - District 7 - Saturday: Garretson American Legion - Social at 5:00 pm; Meal at 6:00 pm; Meeting at 7:00 pm. Auxiliary will meet at the Senior Citizens Center (Same block north of Post Home.)

September 28 - District 6 - Sunday: Mitchell American Legion - Social at 2:00 pm; Meeting at 3:00 pm; Meal to follow. Auxiliary will meet at the Post Home.

October 4 - District 1 - Saturday: Lemmon American Legion -Registration at 11:00 am; Joint District Meeting at 11:30 pm; Lunch at noon; Meeting at 1:00 pm. Auxiliary will meet at the Post Home.

October 5 - District 2 - Sunday: Hermosa American Legion—Social at 11:00 am; Lunch at noon; Meeting at 1:00 pm. Auxiliary location TBA.

Membership

by Dept. Chairman Jane Benzel

The National Membership Chairman has chosen the theme “We Can Do It” for the 2014-2015 year. She has stated “By honoring our veterans and military through meaningful service, the American Legion Auxiliary will grow to 1 million members by our centennial anniversary. *Our centennial anniversary will be celebrated during the 2019-2020 administrative year. She has set a 13.5% increase in dues for this year.*

For our Department theme, I have added “We Can Do It—Striving for the Summit”.

Membership chairmen should be receiving their membership packets soon. The first Renewal Notice will be mailed by September 15th. There is information on the State website (www.sdlegionaux.org) on your goal. If you have any questions, please get in touch with me. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Meetings.

Our Juniors' Corner

*By Dept. Junior Activities Chairman
Michelle Stuck*

Junior members will have their own article in the Legionette each month this year! I will be highlighting different ideas from national, as well as our juniors in SD. Please check out the article each month.

Increase Junior membership in all units and departments.

Unit

Organize an active Juniors group. Encourage members to sign up their eligible daughters and granddaughters. Include information on Junior membership and activities in monthly newsletters.

Include information on Junior membership in renewal notices.

Post a Facebook update on your unit's page after a Junior event, and ask members to sign up eligible Junior members.

Member

Sign up your eligible daughters, granddaughters and great-granddaughters.

Spread the word to friends and family to sign up their eligible Juniors.

Encourage Juniors to invite their friends to attend ALA functions

Junior Members

Invite your friends to attend ALA functions and volunteering opportunities.

Post pictures of functions that you have participated in on your social media sites.

Let your friends know that volunteering is contagious and counts as community service hours.

Please contact me anytime with questions or ideas! Michelle Stuck Junior Chairman

Fourth of July, 2014 - Miss South Dakota with Little Miss Poppy Shiann Moir and Miss Poppy Sr. Montana Harper from



Unit 71 - Hot Springs participated in the parade.

September Prayer
By *Teresa Huntimer -*
Dept. Chaplain

Serenade The Soul

Music is one of God's greatest gifts, so bathe yourself in the music you love. Think of God as the great conductor, the ultimate musician. Let music lift your thoughts and emotions to God.

Our military have songs, hymns and marches. The Star-Spangled Banner, Battle Hymn of the Republic, You're a Grand Old Flag are just a few, and the Auxiliary's favorite God Bless America.

The next time you enjoy your favorite hymn or song Thank God and the American Solider.

Remember: Where words fail, Music Speaks

May God Hold Us in the Palm of His Hand

“The Member of the Year”

Ginger Childers

The Legionette of the year, member of Unit 164, Spearfish, Ginger Childers was selected for her commitment to veterans. One of her services is volunteering over 500 hours at the Ft. Meade VA. She also loves to coordinate programs with her senior line dancers to entertain local veterans in nursing homes or at the VA long term care unit.

She travelled to Charlotte N.C. to be honored during the Woman of the Year's Luncheon representing South Dakota.



Jim and

Ginger Childers

Stay Informed

Visit us on our website: www.sdlegionaux.org

Subscribe to the SD Legionette

Find us on Facebook: South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary

“Because of the Brave” Continued from page 1.

The District Presidents put a lot of work into planning and organizing these meetings – let's show our support for what they do by attending. This is your time to hear about the programs of Auxiliary and to ask questions. I will be writing a personal check to the District that has the largest percentage of membership present at the Fall meeting and at the Spring meeting. So Ladies encourage one another to attend!!

Information is the key to a successful organization. As a Department we have three means of circulating material, they are: Department Mailings, which come out every other month, by now you should have received the August mailing, the next one will be in October; The **Legionette**, make sure at least ONE member in your Unit is receiving this publication and sharing it with the members; and the Department Website at www.sdlegionaux.org. The changes to our website have been impressive. When members go to the internet I want our Auxiliary Website to be the first site they go to!

Currently all the Department Officers and their contact information is listed; we have added a “Thinking of You” tab where prayers request for members will be posted; and weekly I will be updating the “President Blog” on what is happening now.

In the Spirit of Goodwill.....Carol

Auxiliary 101

An **Auxiliary 101** class was held in Pierre, SD on July 19, the event was hosted by the Department Officers and was open to ALL members of the Auxiliary. It was attended by 30 Auxiliary members from across the state. One of President Carol goals was to provide more information to our membership about our organization and programs; therefore there are plans to hold **ANOTHER** Auxiliary 101 if enough members are interested in attending. It would be held in Mitchell, SD on Saturday, October 11. If you would be interested in attending please email President Carol at auxcarol@wildblue.net and indicate so. The class **will only be held if there is enough interest!!**

You have until September 20th to respond – get the word out!!! This is open to any member interested in learning more.



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Girls State - Vermillion, SD



Barb Vetter and Melanie Martens



A skid to teach the Girls State delegates the meaning of the organization who made their week possible.

Christmas Gift—3M Donations

Becky Hawkins secured a large donation of tape to wrap the gifts during the Christmas season for our veterans!



Getting ready for the early morning flag raising ceremony.

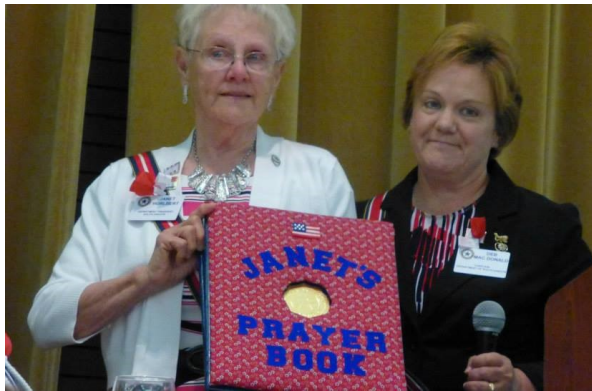
The “Thank You “notes will be available in the e-newsletter.

THANK YOU!

“I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and telephone calls that I received since coming home from the hospital. I would also like to thank Denny Brenden and Sharon & Ken Teunissen for stopping in to see me while I was in the Sioux Falls hospital. I really appreciated everything.” Donna Jurgens

Photo Gallery

SD Department Convention - Pierre



Homecoming Celebrations

2014-2015 South Dakota Department

President Carol Edwards & Commander Tim Jurgens

The homecoming for Department President Carol Edwards was held in Spearfish on June 28th and Department Commander Tim Jurgens was on August 9th at the Milbank Legion Hall.

