



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"

In just a few days, I hope to see many of you at the Mid-Winter Conference in Watertown. I am very excited about the events that we have planned!! We start with a "Program Fair" on Friday; this is your opportunity as a member to interact one-on-one with the Department Chairmen, so bring your questions!

During the conference, we will hear from the following chairmen: VA & R, Children & Youth, Girl State, Constitution and Bylaws, Membership and Junior. In addition awards will be presented to the Units that are 100% goal by Mid Winter and to the District with highest percentage of membership.

Lori Skallerud, Northwest Division Vice President, will be our guest speaker. I am sure that Lori will have a great message for us from National. The Joint Banquet will be Friday evening and the Auxiliary Banquet Saturday evening – don't forget to wear your favorite hat and to dress accordingly! It should be fun!!!

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Thank you to the Men and Women
that have made the sacrifice to fight for
the Country we Love.

From every American Legion
Auxiliary members, We Love You!

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Americanism — By Dept. Chairman Lynn Pohlman

We can recite the Pledge of Allegiance, we are familiar with the Bill of Rights and the Constitution, we can sing the National Anthem, but can you recite our American's Creed? The American's Creed is the title of a resolution passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on April 3, 1918. It is a statement written in 1917 as an entry into a patriotic contest by William Tyler Page.

American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America, as a government, of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed;

a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon these principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

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Job Announcements

The South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary is hiring a full-time Department Secretary to carry out the duties of care in the best interests of the ALA membership. Candidates must be a member of the SD ALA, or eligible and willing to become a member of the SD ALA, and have experience with QuickBooks, Excel and Word. Submit a resume, with references, along with a business plan that includes location of Department Headquarters and associated costs to PO BOX 1819, Sioux Falls, SD 57101. Salary is \$20,000.00 annually. For a more detail job description contact Department Headquarters. Closing date is **March 15, 2015**

The South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary is hiring a Department Treasurer responsible for overseeing and reporting Department finances. Candidates must be a member of, or eligible and willing to become a member of, the SD ALA and have experience with QuickBooks, Excel and Word. Submit a resume, with references, and a business plan that outlines where the records will be stored to PO BOX 1819, Sioux Falls, SD 57101. Salary is \$7,500.00 annually. For a more detail job description contact Department Headquarters. Closing date is **March 15, 2015**.

The Grassroots Corner

Service, Not Self – Districts and Units at Work



President's Charms

Doris Ann Werlinger will be selling the "President's Charms" at the Mid-Winter Conference. Get them while they last!!!

February Guide

Feb. 1: Four Chaplains Sunday

Feb. 1: JOURNALISM APPLICATIONS DUE

Feb. 6-8: Mid-Winter Convention

Feb. 14: Dept. Membership Goal 85%

Americanism Poems and Essays

Feb. 16: Presidents' Day

Feb. 22-25: ALA Washington DC C

March 1: Pay Past Pres. Parley Dues

District Meetings - Save the Date

District 1: Sat. March 28

District 2: Sun. March 29

District 3: Fri. April 10

District 4: Sat. April 11

District 5: Sun. April 12

District 6: Fri. April 17

District 7: Sun. April 19

District 8: Sat. April 18

Details and date confirmation will be in the March Legionette.

—In Memoriam—

Unit 5 Plankinton

Elsie Hovey – September 2014

Unit 17 Watertown

Delores Hayes – November 2014

Unit 18 Mitchell

Emma Noble – December 2014

Unit 21 Hurley

Meredith Larsen – November 2014

Unit 23 Garretson

Madelyn Winterton – September 2014

Unit 40 Webster

Betty Schlamann – September 2014

Marlene Sinner – August 2014

Unit 42 Arlington

Sandra Rohl – November 2014

Mavis Royer – November 2014

Unit 50 Sisseton

Lorraine Sampson – December 2014

Unit 60 Clark

Roberta Smith – October 2014

Unit 62 Humboldt

Emma Maass – November 2014

Unit 67 Ipswich

Norma Pfaff – September 2014

Unit 91 Dallas

Lorene Schaefer – September 2014

Patricia Whiting – August 2014

Unit 110 Wessington

Lucille Ringheimer – October 2014

Unit 130 Kimball

Lillian Powers – November 2014

Unit 142 Tripp

Freda Jackie Maag – December 2014

Unit 143 Midland

Alice Stoppel – July 2014

Unit 158 Oldham

Shirley A. Nesse – December 2014

Unit 164 Spearfish

*Lilian Hansen – November 2014

Unit 184 Estelline

Geneva Archer – October 2014

Ruth Ebberts - October 2014

Unit 194 Parkston

Delores Pries 2013

Unit 210 Mt. Vernon

Elaine Espedal – December 2014

Mary Hildebrand – October 2014

Unit 213 Cresbard

Marjorie Everson-Bisbee – December 14

Unit 216 Ramona

Catherine Kraemer – August 2014

Jackie Riedel – June 2014

Unit 229 Big Stone City

Doris Scoblic – December 2014

Unit 246 Wall

Helen Gabbert – December 2014

Unit 301 Draper

Margie Boyle – October 2014

Unit 303 Custer

Beverly Johnson – May 2014

Endorsed Candidate for Department Officer

Unit 71 is proud to endorse Jane Benzel of Hot Springs Battle Mountain Unit #71 for 2nd Vice President for the 2015-2016 year. Jane has served most all positions at the Unit level including president for 4 years and is currently membership chairman and treasurer. She has been District President for four years, and has served at the Department level as Historian and Chaplain and has served several chairmanships, including Education and Music. We feel she would be an outstanding choice. Thank you.

Nancy Keith, Unit #71 President

Membership

by Dept. Chairman Jane Benzel

The ground is getting rougher as we strive to make it to the summit. Let's put those jeeps in 4-wheel drive and dig in these next few months. Now is when it takes those phone calls and personal contacts to get your memberships in.

As of the last progress charts, here are the standings:

- 1st place: District 7 with 83%
- 2nd place: District 5 with 75%
- 3rd place: District 1 with 72%
- 4th place: Tie with Districts 6 and 8, both at 70%
- 6th place: District 4 with 65%
- 7th place: District 3 with 63%
- 8th place: District 2 with 54%

Our target goal by Valentine's Day is 85%. I know some of the districts can make it. Twelve units have reached 100% and ten more are in the 90's. Many more are in the 80's. I would like to really encourage Districts 4 and 2 to get out there and work to bring their percentage up. I know it is a difficult job but I am sure we can do it.

Remember, we are doing it for the veterans. I am proud of all the Units for what they do for our veterans.

Americanism *By Dept. Chairman Lynn Pohlman*

Our Americanism program sponsors the Americanism Essay contest. This year's theme is: "What does freedom mean to my family?". Our Department President, Carol Edwards, sponsors a Poem Contest. This year's theme is: "Because of the Brave". The deadlines for submission are: Units need to submit their winning entries to their District Presidents by April 1st. Districts 1 & 2 should check with their respective District President since their Spring District Meeting is before April 1. District Presidents need to submit their entries to the Department Americanism Chairman by April 15th.

By sponsoring these programs, the American Legion Auxiliary continues a tradition of patriotic essay and poem contests. Thank you for sponsoring these contests. *Lynn Pohlman*

Our Juniors' Corner

From the ALA National Website

"If you are female, 17 years of age or younger and love your country, imagine attending a regional or national meeting focused on Junior Activities with a hundred girls who could become your life-long friends! Junior members volunteer with other girls in their age group in many engaging activities:

- learning about American flag etiquette
- participating in parades and patriotic observances
- helping with food drives, special Auxiliary veterans programs, projects for military families and their children, and days of service
- distributing poppies on Memorial Day and/or Veterans Day
- volunteering at Veterans Affairs Medical Centers
- making and distributing holiday cards for veterans
- mentoring students of military families by helping to ease their transition into a new school

The American Legion Auxiliary encourages young women to lead the way in continuing its legacy of serving veterans, the military and their families."

For more information about Junior

Activities, visit us at

www.ALForVeterans.org,

or contact your local American

Legion Auxiliary unit

Memorial Day—Lemmon



Household Shower for Elvira and Hilmer Moen

During the Mid-Winter convention, we will collect household items, gift cards to local stores or Wal-Mart, and monetary donations to help Elvira, District 5 President and her family, following the destruction of their home due to a house fire. If you cannot attend send mailings to: *Elvira & Hilmer Moen*

1118 Skyline Drive
Watertown, SD 57201



February Prayer

By Teresa Huntimer -
Dept. Chaplain

My Wishes for you

May your lifetime grow and sparkle;
May your days be cheerful-bright;
May your home be filled with laughter;
May your smiles reflect God's light;
May your heart and mind be peaceful;
May good health abound in you;
May God's teaching give you wisdom;
May you rejoice in all the pleasures that stem from family and friends;
May you find comfort in God's mercy and the love that He transcends;
May your works be magnificent;
May God continue to embrace you;
May you know that God is with you;
May you feel His presence there;
May He guide your every footstep;
May you thank Him in your prayers;
May your faith be everlasting;
May your love exude and flourish... These are my wishes for you.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Please send a Valentine to our
military



Christmas Tradition for Veterans in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living

Susan Wenck prepared 52 flags with poppies and labels for the Christmas plates, Junior Kelsie Varner volunteered her time not knowing that her mother, auxiliary member Elissa Willuweit would lose her battle with cancer three weeks later. Lori Willuweit is with her granddaughter. Unit 164 members Lynn Pohlman, Pam Englund, Olive Hansen, Bev Carr, Carol Edwards, Charlene Kain, Violet Wenck and Sandra Dean were helping hands on December 20, 2014 to assemble the plates to take to veterans.

"Because of the Brave"

Continued from page 1.

Sunday morning we will have our Joint Memorial service followed by the Oratorical Scholarship contest. If you have never attended the Oratory contest, I encourage you to do so. The talent and knowledge displayed by these young people is amazing.

And for the record – MOTHER NATURE HAS NOT BEEN INVITED TO MID-WINTER – therefore I am hoping for good weather!!

In this edition of Legionette you will find the job announcements for Department Secretary and Department Treasurer. Please be sure to share this with anyone that may be a good candidate. It is an extremely rewarding opportunity.

In the
of



Spirit
Good-

New email: southdakotaala@gmail.com

Visit us on our website: www.sdlegionaux.org

New phone number: 605-461-3389

Find us on Facebook: South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary

Give 10 to Education

"American Legion Auxiliary Unit 303" of Hermosa presented 10 caps and 10 sets of two pairs of gloves to the Hermosa Elementary School on November 13. "Give 10 to Education" is a program supported by the American Legion Auxiliary under its Education programs.



Pictured Left to Right: Sarah McCoy, Secretary; Shelley Martin, Historian, Deb MacDonald; Dee Preston, 4th grade teacher & President; and Kendra Moak, School Counselor

If you have projects,
events or stories to
share, send pictures
and articles by the
18th of each month .

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