



# THE SOUTH DAKOTA *LEGIONETTE*

*Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities*



## A Word from the President by Jane Benzel, Department President



Opening ceremony of the Special Olympics Summer Games in Spearfish



### *"Joining Together for Our Veterans"*

many of them at the spring memorial services. But even though it has been a challenge, I thank you for the new members you have added. I encourage you to continue working increasing your membership. We need to keep our organization strong for our veterans.

I so enjoyed hearing all the Auxiliary "Legionette" member of the year essays at the spring meetings. I am looking forward to see whom Janet's committee selected. They were all great. Also, congratulations to the non-winners. You are winners in your own right, by being selected by your unit.

Thank you for sending in your end-of-year reports. There were some great ones, but I know, we do more than was reported. It is so important to let us know all you wonderful women do!

As this is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War, there are many communities having celebrations honoring this era of veterans. There are also Honor Flights in some areas to take the Korean Veterans to Washington DC. We also have deployed servicemen leaving or returning home from deployment. That is besides all the veterans in our VA hospitals, in local nursing homes and communities. Our work and volunteering is certainly needed.

I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for allowing me the opportunity of serving as your president. It has been a very rewarding year. I look forward to serving our veterans in other ways in the years to come. Thank you as you joined my puzzle pieces together to serve our veterans.

As I write my final article for the Legionette as your President, I am in awe at how you ladies and the Units have "Joined Together for Our Veterans". As I attended activities and read about what has been done, as I tallied the impact hours, as I signed warrants for all the money which has been donated to our projects, I am amazed and so proud to be a part of this organization. I had the honor of presenting a check to Special Olympics for \$3,000 this week. The program and stories told brought tears to my eyes.

Convention is just around the corner. I look forward to an exciting convention. Not only do we have our National President Sharon Conatser as a guest but we will also have a speaker at the Saturday noon luncheon. She is Christine Bestgen, a Gold Star Mother, who lost her son in Afghanistan. She has a very moving message.

Membership is always a challenge, especially with the loss of so many of our dedicated members, as we paid tribute to so

Jane Benzel Department President



## June /Summer Guide

Report names of Officers/Chairmen to Dept. Headquarters by June 1 or before Dept. Convention. (Also called certification of officers) All units who sent their 2016-2017 officers will receive membership information at the Dept. Convention.

**May 30-June 4:** Girls State Week @ Vermillion

**June 3:** 70th Girls State Anniversary Banquet



**June 6:** Remembering D-Day

**June 14:** Flag Day (Program Emphasize on Flag Etiquette)

**June 16-19:** Dept. Convention in Watertown

**June 19:** Fathers' Day

**June 22:** G.I. Bill signed into law in 1944

**July 4:** Independence Day

**August 7:** National Purple Heart Recognition Day

**August 26– September 1:** 96th National Convention - Cincinnati, OH



Your next Legionette is the **September** edition. No newsletters in July & August.

***Thank you and Have a Great Summer!***



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION – 2016  
WATERTOWN, SD**

### Thursday, June 16, 2016

- 2:00 - 4:00 Registration Desk Opens  
Silent Auction
- 1:00 - 3:00 Interviews for Finance Committee
- 3:00 PM Incoming/Outgoing District Presidents Training
- 7:00 PM **Leadership Course**

### Friday, June 17, 2016

- 7:30 AM Registration Desk Opens  
Silent Auction Opens
- 8:00 AM Finance Meeting
- 11:00 AM Juniors Meeting
- Noon Lunch
- 1:00 PM Executive Meeting
- 4:30 pm Joint Legion / Auxiliary / SAL Memorial Service
- 6:00 PM Joint Legion / Auxiliary / SAL Reception: Glacial Lakes Ballroom
- 7:00 PM Joint Legion / Auxiliary / SAL Banquet: Glacial Lakes Ballroom

### Saturday, June 18, 2016

- 7:30 AM Registration Desk Opens  
Silent Auction Opens
- 8:00 AM Processional Line-Up
- 8:30 AM Auxiliary Convention Convenes
- 11:45 AM Recess
- Noon Auxiliary Luncheon – **Guest Speaker**
- 1:15 or 2:45 PM Convention reconvenes
- 3:00 PM Silent Auction CLOSES
- National Commander's Walk**
- 6:30 PM Auxiliary Banquet Honoring Past Dept. President Darlene Zweep

### Sunday, June 19, 2016

- 7:30 AM Registration Desk Opens
- 8:00 AM Convention reconvenes
- Post Convention Executive Committee meeting 15 min. following closing of convention.



## In Memoriam

**Unit 3 Chamberlain** – Nettie Millage,  
March 2016

**Unit 18 Mitchell** - Lorraine Wise,  
April 2016

**Unit 29 Woonsocket** – Emma Knox,  
March 2016

**Unit 37 Bryant** – Myra Cluts, April  
2016

**Unit 58 Columbia** – Connie Dennert,  
April 2016

**Unit 81 Toronto** – Marieta Bluymeyer,  
December 2015; Betty Skage, Sep-  
tember 2015

**Unit 100 Selby** - Delores Russell,  
April 2016

**Unit 131 Valley Springs** – Norma  
Polly, September 2015

**Unit 164 Spearfish** – Flora Lee,  
March 2016; Barbara Soliday, March  
2016

**Unit 260 Badger** – Virginia Kasten,  
February 2016



### ADVANCE TICKET FORM American Legion Auxiliary – June 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> Deadline to order tickets is June 10, 2016

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary Noon Luncheon, Friday, June 17, 2016 – Noon  
Menu: Buttery Croissant filled with Creamy Almond Chicken Salad, Fresh Fruit, Coffee  
or Tea.

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x\$15.00 per ticket = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary Noon Luncheon, Saturday, June 18, 2016 – Noon  
Menu: Deli Buffet: Sliced Roast Beef, Turkey & Ham, sliced American & Swiss  
Cheeses, Kettle Chips, Choice of two Salads, lettuce, tomato & pickles, assorted  
condiments and breads.

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x\$15.00 per ticket = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary Banquet, Saturday, June 18, 2016 – 6:30 PM  
Menu: Bacon wrapped Montreal Pork Chop, fresh mushroom white wine demi sauce,  
Potatoes, Vegetable, House Breads & Coffee or Iced Tea.

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x\$23.00 per ticket = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL amount enclosed for Friday, Saturday Luncheon and /or Auxiliary Banquet  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Check box for special dietary needs

Make checks payable to ALA Unit # 17

Send to: PO Box 1432

Watertown SD 57201

NO TICKETS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

2016 State Convention Joint Banquet

Watertown Event Center

June 17, 2016

Hosted by Codington County American Legion Post #17 – Watertown

Deadline to order ticket is **Friday, June 10, 2016**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

MENU: Florentine Chicken Breast, Salad, Vegetable

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30.00 per ticket = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SEND TO: Watertown Legion Post 17

PO Box 292

Watertown, SD 57201



### Endorsements

**Laura 'Susie' Clyde** for the office of National Executive Committee-  
woman .

**Melanie Martens** for South Dakota Department President.

**Elvira Moen** for Department of South Dakota 1st Vice President.

**Jeannine Loesch** for Department of South Dakota 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

**Shelley Dragoo** for Department of South Dakota Chaplain.

**Elaine Ekle** for Department of South Dakota Historian.

**Sharon Broghammer** for Department of South Dakota Historian

*June Prayer*

*By Sharon Broghammer -  
Dept. Chaplain*

*Romans 4:21 Peace and Hope*

*Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.*

May Almighty Father bring peace, love, and unity into our units so we can become better advocates promoting membership, leadership, and service to our veterans and families.

I want to thank all units for their prayers and reports they've been sending to me. Looking forward to seeing them in June at Watertown. It's been honor serving as SD State Chaplain Legion Auxiliary and will never forget it.

**Americanism**

Dells Rapid St. Mary's  
Poems and Essays winners.



**The Military Child's Table**

Marsha Lee Timm presented the table project to her unit.



Celebrate the ALA's 100th anniversary with these new centennial items! Available at Emblem Sales: <http://ow.ly/aymO300fmNI>



**JUNE: I promise to fly my flag every day**

**Membership and Junior Activities:** Flag Day is this month. Involve your Juniors in a ceremony and invite other community groups. Distribute flag etiquette pamphlets to the community. Have a flag disposal ceremony and show the community the proper way to dispose of old, worn flags. Advertise this event to the community! Strive to hit your numeric goal and HAVE FUN!

*Promise Date: Flag Day, June 14, 2016 – 95%*

*Did you remember to send a prayer to Dept. Chaplain Sharon Broghammer for the President's Prayers' Book? Do you have pictures for "Jane's Scrapbook?"*

**Need Information?**

Department Headquarters, Secretary: Laurel Stringer  
129 North Main, Hartford, SD 57033 Phone: 605-461-3389 or email at [southdakotaala@gmail.com](mailto:southdakotaala@gmail.com)

Visit the SD ALA Website at [www.sdlegionaux.org](http://www.sdlegionaux.org) - for questions or to send information for the website including "Thinking of You" - contact Alice Upshaw by phone at 605-553-4452 or email her at [pr.sdala@gmail.com](mailto:pr.sdala@gmail.com)

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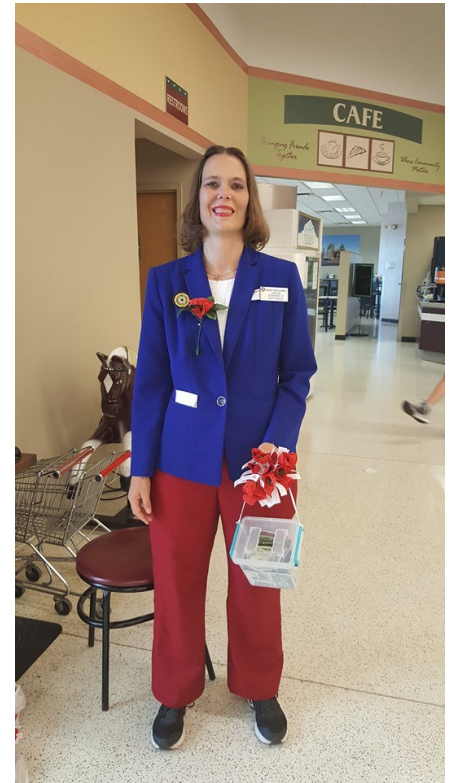


## Poppy Programs Across South Dakota

One of the youngest SAL from Squadron 45 helps with the distribution of poppies.

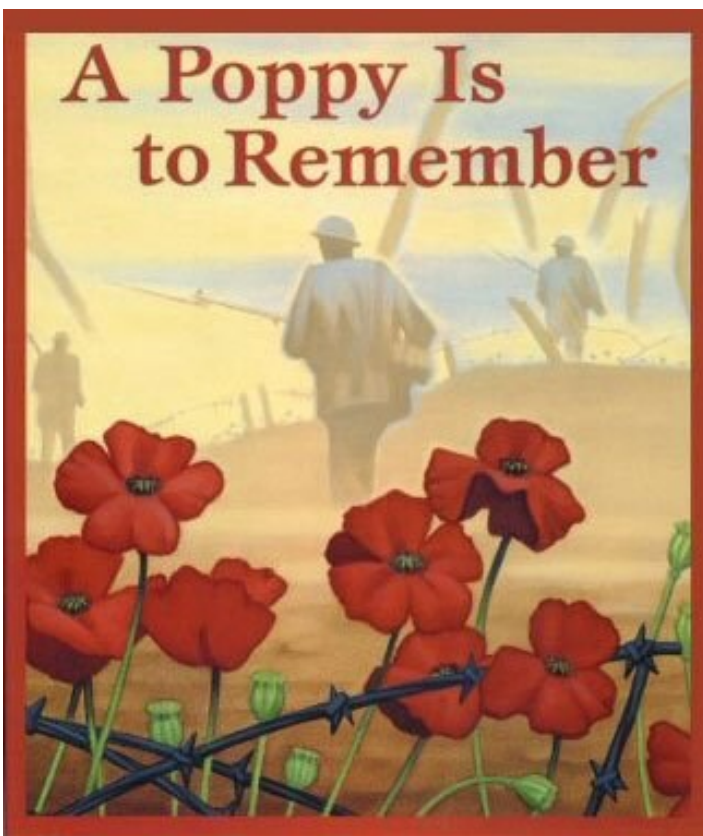
Right: Sharon Broghammer, Dept. Chaplain from Mitchell Unit 18 is greeting shoppers at a local mall.

Below, Melanie Martens, Dept. First Vice-President from the Homestake Lead Unit 31 is helped by Katie Orose, Unit 31 member.





# Poppy Programs Across South Dakota



Sharon Reagon Unit 315 at Ellsworth Air Force Base  
Left: Spearfish Unit 164 Poppy Chairman Pam Englund and Unit First Vice-President Lynn Pohlman  
Below Left: Carol Edwards, Dept. Past-President, National Executive Committee Woman with Connie Wagner.  
Below Right: Sandra Dean Unit 164 Chaplain with a veteran giving a donation.

