



# THE SOUTH DAKOTA *LEGIONETTE*

*Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities*

## A Word from the President

by Elvira Moen, Department President



*"Thanks to Our Veterans, Freedom Rings in South Dakota"*

Traveling across South Dakota to meet many of you, taking part in Christmas Gift Shops and Parties, enjoying all the District Meetings and Mid-winter Conference are some of my fondest memories of this amazing year. Thank you to all the Hospital Reps, Committee Chairmen, District Presidents and officers of the Department for what you have done for our veterans this year. And a special thank you to the Unit officers and members who work in our communities. You are the heart of our organization and you serve our veterans in so many ways!

This has been a challenging year of ups and downs. As many of you are aware, we are in the midst of a disciplinary process. Information has been distributed to all Unit Presidents regarding the issues. You have undoubtedly heard rumors - I urge you to get the facts for yourself. This trial will be open to members of the Department of South Dakota, because it involves issues that affect you.

I will be attending the 72<sup>nd</sup> annual ALA South Dakota Girls State beginning May 28, 2018 at the University of South Dakota campus. I look forward to meeting and spending time with all the girls and watching them grow as they step outside their comfort zones.

Congratulations to our 8 District Legionette Member of the Year recipients! Best wishes to you at State Convention - you get the awards, but our veterans are the real winners.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the State Convention, June 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> in Spearfish, SD. We have a busy agenda and a lot of fun things planned. I hope you have your tickets for the banquets and luncheons! There will be a Silent Auction at the Convention again this year, with proceeds going to Special Olympics of South Dakota.

## South Dakota State Convention - Spearfish

Northwestern Division National Vice President: Peggy Miller

*Saturday Luncheon - Guest Speaker*

Peggy Miller is a member of Unit 42 of the Department of Wyoming. Her eligibility is through her father, husband, brothers, and sons. They served in the U.S. Army and Air Force. She is a life member of the ALA and DAV. Served in the ALA in three states: North Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming. Has four boys, four daughters-in-law, five granddaughters, three grandsons, one grandson-in-law, and three great-granddaughters. Is retired and spends most of her time with the ALA and volunteering with the VA hospital and outreach clinic and homeless veterans. Drives the DAV van to take veterans to their appointments and shopping. Belongs to the USBC and bowls on four leagues.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
SOUTH DAKOTA

Girls<sup>★</sup>  
S T A T E

*By Dept. Director/Chairman Cheryl Hovorka*

## ACTIVE SHOOTER PRESENTATION

What Would You Do If A Shooter Came To Your Workplace, School, Shopping Center, Airport...? The ALA SD Girls State program is hosting an "Active Shooter Presentation" on Saturday, June 2, 2018 at 8:30 AM, Aalfs Auditorium, Slagle Hall on the USD campus in Vermillion. The presenter is Lt. Michael Burgeson from the Yankton Police Department and an Adjunct Faculty member in the USD Criminal Justice Studies program. The presentation is open to ALA Girls State delegates (not involved in the judicial activities), their family members, The American Legion Family and the General Public. The awards & closing assembly will follow immediately after the presentation.

### June Guide

**May 28 - June 2:** Girls State Week  
**June 7-10:** State Convention in Spearfish  
**June 14:** Flag Day  
**June 23:** Save the Date - Leading Candidate for Dept. President Jeannine Loesch -Homecoming Election & Installation of Unit Officers: Send your officers and chairmen to Headquarters.  
**Elect delegates to Dept. Convention & remit registration fee**  
 Conduct Poppy Distribution  
 Remit 25% of Poppy proceeds to Dept. Headquarters by June 10<sup>TH</sup>

### Welcome Home



Three members of the South Dakota Army National Guard's 216th Engineer Detachment (Firefighting Team) were welcomed home by family and friends in Rapid City today after returning from a nine-month deployment to Romania and Bulgaria. Welcome home! #ThankYou #SDNationalGuard #SDNG



May 19 Welcome home! Soldiers of the 200th Engineer Company's Bridge Training Team return to Pierre after a nine month deployment to Syria in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. Thank you for your service!

### Across South Dakota

District IV President Jeannine Jilek presented to Sadie Vander Wal the "Spirit of Youth" Scholarship, awarded by the National American Legion Auxiliary. Sadie is a Junior of Brentford Unit #242, and very active in her school, church and community. **Congratulations, Sadie!!**



The Spearfish Unit 164 toured and met the homeless Veterans at the Cornerstone Mission. Gift bags were delivered on the beds of the Veterans staying there in honor of National Armed Forces Week. The 4th grade students from Ms. Burke at Creekside Elementary raised \$430 to help assemble these bags. Each Veteran also received a \$5.00 gift card. They learned about the various programs and classes offered.



### Girls State District Orientations

Pictures received or posted on the SD ALA Facebook



District 1 and six delegates from District 2, Rapid City at the Girls State Orientation in Spearfish, with District One President Kris Sachara.



Thank you to the Alexandria and Wessington Units for hosting the District 6 Girls State Orientations!



Great District 4 Girl State Orientation Tea held in Cresbard. Thanks to all who presented and a special thanks to Miranda Mack Miss South Dakota



District 3 Girls State Orientation at Colome on May 6.

District 5 Girls State Orientation with Dept. President Elvira Moen and District President Rose Kraft.







THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
100<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
HOLIDAY INN—CONVENTION CENTER, SPEARFISH, SD

**Thursday, June 7, 2018**

3:00 p.m. Finance Committee Interviews -Swarm Room

5:00 p.m. Incoming/Outgoing District President Training, Swarm Rm

**Friday, June 8, 2018**

7:30 a.m. Registration Desk Opens – Registration Booth

8:00 a.m. Finance Committee Meeting – 76 Room

Silent Auction opens – Concourse Area

10:30 a.m. Juniors Meeting - Swarm

12:00 p.m. Lunch – 76 Room

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting – 76 Room

3:00 p.m. Department Chairmen Training – 76 Room

6:00 p.m. Auxiliary Banquet honoring Margaret Demery – 76 Room

7:30 p.m. The American Legion “Fun Auction” - Poolside

**Saturday, June 9, 2018**

7:30 a.m. Registration Desk Opens – Registration Booth

8:00 a.m. Processional Line-Up – Cottonwood/Hallway

8:30 a.m. Auxiliary Convention Convenes – Cottonwood Room

11:30 a.m. Recess

Silent Auction open – Concourse Area

12:00 p.m. Auxiliary Luncheon – 76 Room

12:45 p.m. American Legion Band – Concourse Area

1:15 p.m. Convention Reconvenes – Cottonwood Room

2:45 p.m. Convention in Recess

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Meet & Greet Candidates – Elvira’s Room

4:00 p.m. Joint Legion/Auxiliary/SAL Memorial Service – Cottonwood Room

5:00 p.m. No Host Cocktails/Social – Cedar Concourse Area

6:00 p.m. Joint Legion/Auxiliary/SAL Banquet – Cedar Room

8:00 p.m. Dance – Cedar Room

**Sunday, June 10, 2018**

7:30 a.m. Registration Desk Opens – Registration Booth

8:00 a.m. Convention Reconvenes – Cottonwood Room

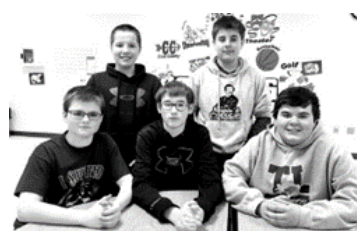
## Across South Dakota

### Timber Lake School - Poems & Essays



FRONT (L-R): River Boysen (3rd Grade), first; Jaylee Schoelerman (3rd Grade), second; Gavin White (4th Grade), second;

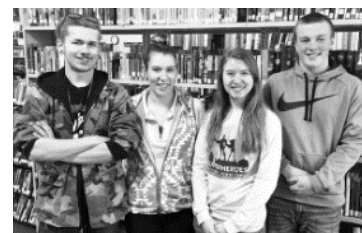
Adam Meier (4th Grade), first; Arianna Bieber (4th Grade), second; BACK: Gailup Bollinger (4th Grade), first; Braydon Terveen (5th Grade), second; and Treyton Boldt (4th Grade), first.



FRONT (L-R): Justin Stover (8th Grade), second; Ethan Farlee (8th Grade), first; Dawson Jewett (7th Grade), second; BACK: Dan Peterson (6th Grade), second;

and Wylee Keller (7th Grade), first.

FRONT (L-R): Johnathan Boysen (12th Grade), first; Chyanne Ducheneaux (12<sup>th</sup> Grade), second; Olivia Linderman (10th Grade), second; Bergen Marshall (10th Grade), first.



After the May meeting of the **James Bender/Rames unit 152**, 11 members stayed and cleaned out drawers and cupboards in the legion hall kitchen. It took only one hour of their time and made light the work by working together. Great way to count volunteer



## Endorsements

At the November meeting, the Piedmont Valley Unit 311 endorsed **Susie Clyde** for the 2018-2020 South Dakota National Executive Committeewoman (NEC).

The members of Lead Homestake Unit 31 are proud to endorse **Melanie Martens** as a candidate for 2018-2020 South Dakota National Executive Committeewoman (NEC).

The members of Unit 20 Ft Pierre are proud to endorse **Jeanine Loesch** for Department President for the State of South Dakota for the 2018-2019 year.

The George A. Fitzgerald Unit 65 in Dell Rapids, SD proudly endorse **Teresa Huntimer** for Department 1st Vice President for the 2018-2019 year.

Hot Springs Unit 71 is honored to endorse **Carol Harvey** for Department 2nd Vice President for the 2018-2019 year.

Hot Springs Unit 71 is honored to endorse **Barbara Walter** for Department Chaplain for the 2018-2019 year.

## June Prayer

By Karen Layher - Dept. Chaplain

Precious Lord and Savior of the world, we give You thanks for our nation and the flag which flies over our land each and every day and especially on Flag Day, June 14, we pause in gratitude for what our glorious flag represents. As we look at the blue field, we are reminded of Your heavens and Your creation of blue sky and us striving to reach those heavens to live with You. When we look upon the stripes, we see the color red representing the blood shed for the freedoms we as a nation enjoy. When we gaze upon the white stripes and the white stars we are reminded of purity.

Help us Lord, to pray and know that this flag represents "One Nation Under God". Bind us together in service to You and to remember the message our flag has carried, of human rights, religious freedom.

May the flag always be flown in honor. May we stand in devotion to her as we pass by, offer prayers of comfort over her and give tribute in our pledge of allegiance to her. It is a symbol of freedom. Guard our hearts and spirits and keep us from idolatry, but bless us in honoring this piece of cloth and all it represents. To God be the glory. Amen.

I would like to say a sincere thank you to all the auxiliary members for the privilege of being your Department Chaplain this year. I will continue to pray for unity and peace within our organization and for all of us to remember our mission of service to our veterans, our communities, our children and most importantly to our God who makes all things possible.

And he said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God." Luke 18:27

### *A Word from the President (Cont. from p. 1)*

My President's Project is mountain bikes for the Hot Springs VA and they are very excited about receiving them in June. Don't forget Flag Day on June 14<sup>th</sup>, National Flag Week, June 10<sup>th</sup> - June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018, and Honor America Days, June 14<sup>th</sup> through July 4<sup>th</sup> to honor America. An Honor Flight with more than 40 South Dakota veterans flew to Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Midwest Honor Flight handles flights for South Dakota veterans and the next flight is September of 2018. They are currently flying WWII and Korean veterans. Applications are available at <https://www.midwesthonorflight.org/> for this incredible experience (provided at no cost) for our veterans. I want you to know that it has truly been my honor to serve as your Department President. As Winnie the Pooh said, "How lucky I was to have something that makes saying Good Bye so difficult." Thanks to our Veterans, Freedom Rings in South Dakota! Elvira

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Visit the SD ALA Website at [www.sdlegionaux.org](http://www.sdlegionaux.org)

Subscribe to the Legionette to stay up-to-date with District and Department information. Send your news and pictures to the editor at [Micheline.Nelson@live.com](mailto:Micheline.Nelson@live.com) or mail them. For reporting an error on names or addresses, change of addresses and deceased members, email or call headquarters first. Thank you!

## Traditional Egg Dying in Menno



This is an event put on by Jerome and Rita Hoff. Approximately 50 veterans, spouses, widows and widowers came together to color 55 dozen eggs. Everyone who came took home eggs along with some Easter candy. A meal is provided. Lots of memories were shared by all.

This tradition was started by the Hoff's in their restaurant. After the fire that destroyed their business, they started doing this at the Legion Hall in Menno.



**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

## In Memoriam

**Unit 48 Rosholt** – Helen Johnson, May 2018;  
**Unit 77 Blunt** – Marjorie Russell, February 2018;  
**Unit 96 White Lake** – Genevieve Reeves, April 2018;  
**Unit 99 Pierpont** – Marcy Bucholz, 2018; Marlys Enstad, 2018; Violet Olson, 2018;  
**Unit 103 Astoria** – Ilene Jurrens, April 2018;  
**Unit 110 Wessington** – Juanita Fritzsche, April 2018;  
**Unit 161 Wentworth** – Gerry MacCraken, March 2018;  
**Unit 164 Spearfish** – Jonna Henwood; March 2018;  
**Unit 169 Winner** – Mary Johnson, March 2018;  
**Unit 183 Tabor** – Ruth Zapletal, March 2018;  
**Unit 266 Tea** – Grace Lamb, April 2018;  
**Unit 500 Hartford** – Darlene Smith, April 2018



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