



# 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"*

April is Children and Youth Month - remember that they **are** our future. Please plan a special event to include your Junior Members. Don't forget about the Good Deed Awards and the Youth Hero Awards - they are a great way to thank our youth for all they do! Applications for the Good Deed/Youth Hero Award are available on <http://www.sdlegionaux.org/> under Children and Youth and can be submitted there as well. April is also the Month of the Military Child, and April 13 is Purple Up! for Military Kids Day. Visit <http://www.militarychild.org/momc-tool-kit> for printable stickers and posters and other ideas.

We are just completing our District Meetings. We elected officers in even numbered Districts and cheered the announcement and recognition for the Legionette of the Year. Many great ideas were presented by the units and District Presidents. Thank you to all the units who hosted the meetings for their wonderful hospitality. Darn that ice storm that postponed the District Meeting in Wagner!

Report time has come around again. Unit Presidents, your year-end reports are due to your District Presidents by April 15. I encourage all of you to apply for National awards - take the time to sit down and review the requirements; you will be surprised at how easy it is to apply. District Presidents, your year-end reports are due to the individual Department Chairman. Department Chairmen, your year-end reports are due to me by May 15. Keep reaching out for new members or those members who have forgotten to renew. Sometimes it takes that personal phone call or a knock on the door. If you have run out of ideas, ask your District President for ideas from other units in the District. Some of you are very close to goal membership! (Cont. p. 4)



## Children & Youth

*By Dept. Chairman Teresa Huntimer*

April is the Month of the Military Child. There are over 685,000 military kids (guards & reserve) currently serving across the United States. April 13, 2018 is Purple Up Day.

**Why purple?** It's because purple symbolizes all the military including their color: Coast Guard blue, Army green, Navy blue, Marine red, and Air Force blue. We believe that when a military member serves, too. That includes the littlest heroes-military kids.

**What can you do?** Host an event:

Host a safety fair and invite local fire, police, and EMT's to come. Offer to provide fingerprinting for kids. Host a 5k run and a 1-mile family friendly walk.

Host a children's bike parade/ walk and have the children dress in red, white, and blue; Host an art show; Host a petting zoo; Host a tournament using video games, board games, trivia, bean bags, etc.; Set up a "selfie station" with fun props, such as a Star Wars theme; Set up craft stations with different crafts, finger painting, face painting, bubbles; Hold relay games- hula hoop with adult and a child, potato sack races, limbo; Host a sports clinic; Hold an old fashion carnival-with games like a fishing pond, flip nickels, bingo and ring toss.

So on April 13, 2018 join me in wearing Purple and honor some of the most amazing kids we know: Military Kids!

*Teresa Huntimer - ALA South Dakota Children & Youth and Northwestern Division Chairman*

## Department Finance Committee - Openings

The South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary is looking for members interested in serving on the **Department Finance Committee**. The duties of the Finance Committee are to oversee the general financial policy of the organization and to prepare and monitor the annual budget and its expenditures. Interested candidates need to submit a letter of interest along with a resume by **May 1, 2018** to Department Headquarters at 129 N Main Ave, Hartford, SD 57033. Interviews will be conducted prior to the Department Convention in Spearfish, SD.

## APRIL Guide

**April 1:** Girls State Registration Due

Organize a Children and Youth Program & recognize Good Deed/Youth Hero recipients

**April 15:** District Member of the Year Nominees due to Past President's Parley

**April 15:** Unit annual reports due to District Presidents

**April 21:** Deadline for Poppy Poster Contest (postmarked by this date)

**Poppy Posters** must be post-marked on or before May 1<sup>st</sup> and sent to:

Sue Frantzick  
22756 Pickarts Lane  
Box Elder, SD 57719



## Member to Remember



Sandra Dean, Chaplain of the Spearfish Unit 164 is dedicating her time to visit the veterans in residency in local facilities. She is no longer driving but her scooter takes her anytime the weather allows, to go visit "her" veterans. She loves to write the Christmas cards for the veterans in the seven area assisted living, nursing homes, and the Ft. Meade VA. She personalizes every prayer for our meetings and enjoys our events. One member volunteers to take her to the monthly meetings and various locations where we have programs. Sandra is the mother of four children who all served in the military, one still on active duty.

Advance Ticket Form for 2018 State American Legion Convention deadline is May 25, 2018  
NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT EVENT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Auxiliary Noon Luncheon, Friday, June 8, 2019

Menu: **Black Hills Croissant Sandwich**-Turkey with Cheddar Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, and Mayonnaise on a Flaky Croissant, with Coleslaw. Choice of Iced Tea, Coffee and Water

Number of tickets requested @ \$20.00 per ticket \_\_\_\_\_

Check box for special dietary needs and list need with your check

### Auxiliary Noon Luncheon, Saturday June 9, 2018- noon

Menu: **Chicken Caesar Wrap**- Crispy Romaine Lettuce, Grilled Chicken, and Parmesan Cheese tossed with Caesar Dressing, wrapped in a Flour Tortilla, with Potato Salad, Choice of Iced tea, Coffee and Water.

Number of tickets requested @ \$20.00 per ticket \_\_\_\_\_

Check box for special dietary needs and list need with your check.

### Auxiliary Banquet, Friday, June 8th, 2018

Menu: **Stuffed Apple Almond Pork Loin**- Boneless Pork Loin Stuffed with Apples, Bacon and Almonds, topped with Cider Demi. Served with a Dinner Salad and Chef Featured Vegetable and Chef Featured Potato. Choice of Iced Tea, Coffee and Water

Number of tickets requested @ \$25.00 per ticket \_\_\_\_\_

Check box for special dietary needs and list need with your check

### Legion and Auxiliary Joint Banquet Saturday June 9, 2018

Menu: You have a choice of (select one): **Seared Chicken Breast with Garlic Sauce** \_\_\_\_\_

OR

**Slow Roasted Roast Beef** \_\_\_\_\_

Both entrees are served with Dinner Salad, Dinner Rolls, Chef Featured Vegetable, and Mashed Potatoes. Choice of Coffee, Iced Tea and Water.

Number of tickets requested @ \$30 per ticket \_\_\_\_\_

Check box for special dietary needs and list need with your check

TOTAL amount of all meals \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: District 1 American Legion and mail to  
Glorianne Davis  
211 Deer Path  
Lead, S.D. 57754

## Across South Dakota



Sharon Broghammer, Mitchell Unit, visited the 3rd grade classroom from John Paul Elementary School.



Sioux Falls made 262 Christmas cards delivered to the nursing homes and assisted living facilities around Sioux



## Across South Dakota



### In Memoriam

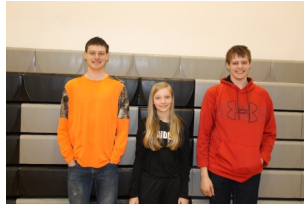
- Unit 5 Plankinton** –Lois Hansen, January 2018;
- Unit 8 Pierre** - Elda Olson, March 2018;
- Unit 11 Wagner** – Geraldin Crisman, February 2018; Marcella Petrik, February 2018;
- Unit 48 Rosholt** – Jeanne Swartz, February 2018;
- Unit 50 Sisseton** – Connie Brennan, December 2017;
- Unit 67 Ipswich** –Mary Opsahl, February 2018;
- Unit 74 Brookings** – Marjorie Prunty, February 2018; May Ann Skubic, February 2018;
- Unit 80 Britton** –Nelva Kristofferson, January 2018; Marilyn Magenton, January 2018;
- Unit 81 Toronto** –Audrey Bergjord, December 2017;
- Unit 109 Gary** –June Kallhoff, January 2018; Velma Pownell, December 2017;
- Unit 132 Springfield** – Marylyn McNeelyt, March 2018;
- Unit 140 Salem** –Donna Schmitt, November 2017; Unit 158 Oldham – Marjorie Eykamp, February 2018;
- Unit 180 New Effington** – Marcella Braun, February 2018;
- Unit 184 Estelline** – Marge Perderson, February 2018;
- Unit 193 Irene** –Marian Gunderson;
- Unit 229 Big Stone City** –Harriet Rausch, March 2018;
- Unit 235 Marion** – Shirley Larsen, March 2018;
- Unit 267 Grenville** – Evonne Lesnar, January 2018;
- Unit 272 Pollock** – Tillie Ryckman, February 2018



American Legion Auxiliary Unit to Drake Sorbel Post #64 sings the national anthem at a High School Volleyball game this past fall.

Wolf-Nelson Legion Auxiliary Unit 216 had 46 entries for the American-

ism Essay Contest in grades 7-12 at the local level at Oldham-Ramona School. These were the winners from Level V: Connor Spilde; Level III: Cassidy Terwilliger; Level IV: Reece Spilde



Homestake Auxiliary Unit #31 in Lead thanks [Joanann Goeringer](#) and [Renee Bertrand](#) for assembling some of the rocking Easter cards we're delivering to Ft. Meade VA. And thanks to [Maria Hedger](#) and Rob-in and Mona for working on Saf-T-Pop bunnies and cards, too.



Midland Auxiliary Unit 143 President Pat Vollmer presenting 10 for Education items to Midland School teachers. Items donated were pencils, colored pencils, glue sticks, markers and scissors.

Good Deed Awards were presented to Parker

Matzke, Sylea Sykes, and Alex Matzke at the Dell Rapids Unit meeting Tuesday night. They were nominated for taking the money earned from their lemonade stand at the Farmer's Market to buy gifts from the local Angel Tree. Unit President Kathy Geraets, Department 2nd Vice President / Children & Youth Chairman/ National Northwestern Division Children & Youth Chairman Teresa Huntimer and District 7 President Alice Upshaw join us for the award ceremony.



## 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 **Jeannine 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.

Unit 63 Lake Preston is endorsing **Heather Kruger** for Department Historian for 2018-2019 year.

## April Prayer

By Karen Layher - Dept. Chaplain

Dear Heavenly Father, we give you thanks and praise for your gift of the season of Spring, which brings the hope of warmer, longer and brighter days. Thank you for the gift of renewal for the land through the Spring rains. As our world changes to beautiful colors and we taste the sweet smells of the earth renewing, may we be ever mindful of your great power and love for us.

But Father, we also still struggle with the heavy cloak of winter and perhaps the heaviness of our hearts not being open to your love and understanding.

Grant each of us a Spring renewal. A new beginning of forgiveness and love for each other. May that tiny mustard seed sprout within our heart and grow towards your light to embrace us to be true Christians who extend our hands in friendship, forgiveness and service. Your word says that we will have provision, hope, joy, health and loving relationships here on earth.

We ask what belongs in this season of Spring would become actual in our lives. We place our hope in you and in your promises. We believe in your gift of Spring. Amen

*He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."*  
Matthew 17:20

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

Just a reminder about our Department Auxiliary Convention – it is in Spearfish this year from June 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>. Get your reservations made and your luncheon and joint banquet tickets reserved. I am looking forward to seeing you there!

Memorial Day is coming up and the Friday before Memorial Day is designated as National Poppy Day to recognize those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Our Preamble lists one of our purposes "**To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations during the Great Wars...**" Please share with me how you plan to celebrate National Poppy Day and Memorial Day.

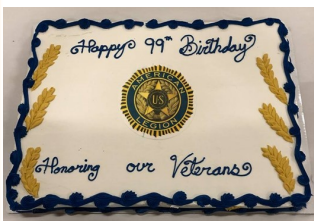
Have a wonderful April! Remember, Thanks to our Veterans, Freedom Rings In South Dakota!

Elvira Moen, Dept. President

Department 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)

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!

## The 99th American Legion Birthday



To prepare for the silent auction of the Spearfish American Legion 99th Birthday Ball, Charlene Kain, an avid quilter and treasurer of the Spearfish Unit 164, poured her heart in making

this patriotic log cabin quilt. The theme of this year's ball was "A Special Salute to our WWII Veterans."

As the WWII Veterans were called and memories were read, retired U.S. Army Colonel Mike Kain, her husband, could see how emotional the ceremony was for his wife. At the silent auction, he bid on the quilt and then asked for a WWII veteran still present to come forward. Duane Erickson, whose wife donated 80+ quilts this year, for the Ft. Meade VA, the Hot Springs State Home, as



well as the Stand Down and the Cornerstone Mission for the homeless veterans, was emotional as he received this special hand-made quilt, given in honor of Charlene's father, a WWII Veteran.



### Membership by Dept. Chairman Janet Hurlbert

The membership report that came today (3-21-18) shows that we have 469 fewer members than a year ago, therefore, we need to all work together to improve these figures. We are at 85.68% of our goal. It is time for us to step up to the plate and surface new members, renew last year's memberships and rejoin members who have not been with the organization for a few years. I am confident that, as members of the American Legion Auxiliary, we can get this done. I am concerned that some units are holding renewals that have been paid. Please send these to Department Headquarters as soon as possible. Also, remember that the each member of your unit should be working on membership, not just the Unit Membership Chairman.

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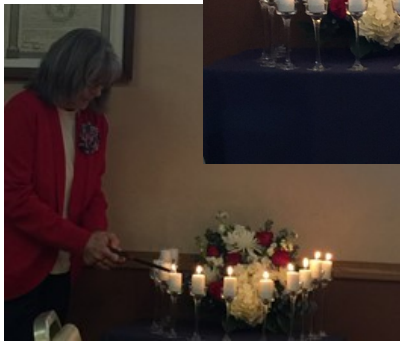
### Spring District Meetings

(Pictures received to-date)



### District One Spring Meeting in Piedmont

The District One group picture of the members who attended; Jean, Piedmont Unit President during the memorial service. The District Member of the Year is Pat Adams from the Lead Unit 31; the head table with Dept. Secretary Laurel Stringer, Dept. President Elvira Moen; District One President Kris Sachara, District One First-Vice President Connie Wagner and Piedmont Valley Unit 311 President Jean Howe.



### Spring District Meetings



### Districts Two and Seven

Past 1st Vice Pres. Jeanie Harper, Past 2nd Vice Nancy Keith-both Battle Mountain Unit 71 Hot Springs New Officers (back row): District 2 President Mary Ann Ackerman-Unit 71 Hot Springs; 1st Vice Sandra Woodward- Perry Strickland Unit 172 Edgemont; 2nd Vice Pres-Karen Phalen Unit 71 Hot Springs. The District 2 Member of the Year is Jane Ann Henderson-Unit 172 Edgemont.

Dept. President Elvira Moen with Member of the year Noelle Bonjour (Valley Springs), Elvira Moen, Ethel Kurtz Garretson, SD, Monica Fox Dell Rapids, SD and District President Alice Upshaw not pictured is Sheryl Siemonsma.. Dept. Sec. Laurel Stringer handing out a certificate to our Girls State Governor Ruhama Tereda from Sioux Falls. Chaplain Sherry Woltjer along with her mom Lily doing the memorial Service for our deceased members.

