



THE SOUTH DAKOTA LEGIONETTE

Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities

A Word from the President

by Jeannine Loesch, Department President



"Saddle Up for Veterans"

"Serving Our Heroes" is the National President's theme for this year. We just had the privilege of having National President Kathy Dungan visit our State. She is a very sweet lady! We visited some smaller Units and she had a great time. She said she is a "Grass Roots member herself." We visited the VA in Sioux Falls and Hot Springs since she is emphasizing on women Veterans. We went to the Women's wing at both facilities. We went to the State Home in Hot Springs and Mt. Rushmore. The tours were very informative. We "stuffed" a lot into the time she was here. South Dakota was her first state visit.

My husband and I attended the National Convention in Minneapolis. It is so wonderful to see so many Auxiliary sisters in one place, at one time.

I watched and listened to stories on what Auxiliary Units across the United States do for the Veterans, it is amazing. South Dakota was presented on the big screen so many times telling of the wonderful things South Dakota is doing for our Veterans. Keep up the good work, keep recording, sending those pictures, and "toot your horn". Program Chairmen keep up the good work. Remember November 15 is the date for Midyear Reports.

I attended the homecoming for the NW Division National Vice President Barb Vetter, in September. Congratulations!

(Cont. page 4)



ALA National President Kathy Dungan Visits South Dakota

Kathy Dungan ALA National President 2018-2019 is from the Department of Mississippi: Drane-Prine Unit 79.



**"Honoring
 our
 Heroes"**
Kathy Dungan



ALA National President Kathy Dungan travelled from Sioux Falls to Rapid City visiting posts and units from the two largest communities to some of the smallest rural towns. President Dungan also visited VA Hospitals, met female veterans and enjoyed the visit at Mount Rushmore. 1st row: In Sioux Falls Post 15 - AL Dept. Commander Denny Brenden, Natl. Pres. Kathy Dungan, and Dept. Pres. Jeannine Loesch - Courtney VanZanten (Veteran) Middle Pictured with Sam Vaughn (Veteran) 2nd row: Post 15 by the POW/MIA white Table and Philip Unit. - 3rd row: Hot Springs State Home; Post /Unit 22 Rapid City - 4th row: Philip Unit members and blankets for the VA Women's Clinic; Visit to Iroquois pictured with PDC Charemon Dunham, Annette Dunham (Veteran) and auxiliary members. (Check the SD ALA Facebook for more pictures)

October Guide

Membership Goal 55%

- Send Poppy orders to Dept. Headquarters
- October 27: Make a Difference Day
- October 31: Safe Halloween
- Pay Convention Proceedings - \$15
- Pay Unit Bond - \$6
- Cash donations for Christmas Fund mailed to Headquarters by November 1

REMEMBER...

Send 2018 Legionette subscriptions to Dept. Headquarters by October 15

Christmas Parties

Hot Springs VA: December 8;
Hot Springs State Home: December 9;
Ft. Meade VA: December 10;
Human Service, Yankton: December:12;
Sioux Falls VA: December 13

Honoring Years of Membership

Herbert McKennett Unit #40 from Webster honored ten ladies who have been members for 50 years or more. Many of their family members attended the event, which followed a vintage theme.

Seated: District 4 president, Rose Kraft; Betty Bohn; Loa Murschel; and Leona Hirtes. Standing: Sally Hubsch, Virginia Koenig, Harriet Spaniol, Betty Lou Rhode, Jean Bakke, and Bonnie Anderson. Not Pictured: Betty Hesla.



Fourth of July

Judith Higgins and Marilyn Johnson made and sent table tents for the six households at the Michael J Fitzmaurice State Home in Hot Springs, SD. Picture taken on July 4th. The veterans loved them.



In Memoriam

Unit 18 Mitchell – Georgia M. Fetterley, Aug. 2018;
Unit 49 Clear Lake – Dorothy Koenecke, May 2018;
Joan Lanners, March 2018;
Gerrie Peterson, May 2018;
Unit 50 Sisseton – Joanne Wollan, Aug. 2018;
Unit 69 Doland – Cecilia Terpstra, Aug. 2018;
Unit 84 Hitchcock – Ester Gould, July 2018;
Unit 118 Hartford -Margaret Kapperman, July 2018;
Unit 150 Avon – Genevieve Kozel, Aug. 2018;
Unit 169 Winner – Mariane Bloom, July 2018;
Diana Frank, July 2018;
Elaine Fredericks, July 2018;
Unit 229 Big Stone City – Marilyn Athey, June 2018;
Iris Bunting, Dec. 2017;
Unit 240 Martin – Ramona May, June 2018;
Unit 280 Iroquois – Ina Martens, July 2018;
Unit 500 Hartford – Verna Kappes, March 2018;
Della Schaffner, July 2018

A BIG Thank You to Mt Vernon, SD Unit 210 for the package for the Veterans at the State Home . I would also like to especially thank Roberta Olsen for a fantastic job of including all necessary Auxiliary paperwork:

1. Address Package to: Hot Springs State Home c/o Barbara Walter - ALA Showers - 2500 Minnekahta Avenue, Hot Springs, SD 57747 (On the outside of envelope, "Packing List Inside ")
2. In the envelope taped to the outside of package please place inside envelope a filled out "Auxiliary Packing Slip Front Page" and include inside the box a list of items on separate sheet of paper of listed inventory items for State Home Personnel

Contact: Barbara Walter /
State Home Hospital Representative
Phone: 419-310-0719

Email: morningrose3248@gmail.com

The Hot Springs State Home needs: Men's Sweat Pants (a few smalls, large and XL); full size bath body wash for men and women, shampoo and conditioner; and deodorant.. *Barbara Walter*

National Convention - Minneapolis

It was SD Department President 2017-2018 Elvira Moen's year to enjoy the National Convention the last week of August. Her pages were Melanie Martens from the Lead Unit and Kristine Sachara from the Spearfish Unit. During the National Convention, units, programs, and members were recognized. The Poppy program, Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation, and Juniors are a few of them. During her presentation, National Legislative Chairman, Carol Edwards was recognized by the National Legion Legislative Committee. For the list of awards, contact headquarters. It was also a time to meet auxiliary members from every corner of our nation. Before the conclusion of the convention, election of the national officers took place with installations following the next day. Barb Vetter became the Northwest Division National Vice President. Later all departments were gathered for the installation of the Department Presidents. Jeannine Loesch was installed as the South Dakota Department President 2018-2019.





CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP

Ft. Meade VA Medical Center:

November 8-10, 2018

Attn: JoanAnn Goering (ALA Gift Shop)
113 Comanche Road,
Fort Meade - Sturgis, SD 57741
605-717-6900

We need items that can go to men or women; kitchen items, tools are real popular, jumper cables, throws, towels, some jewelry, house hold items, pull on pants no elastic in legs, hoodies, zip up jackets, socks, underwear in sizes from medium to XX Large. Hats, gloves are good for all ages For kids, action figures, games, and craft sets. (No clothes for kids please).

Hot Springs VA Medical Center:

November 13-15, 2018

Attn: Susie Clyde (ALA Gift Shop)
2038 Baltimore Ave.
Hot Springs, SD 57747
605-890-1854

Hot Springs State Home:

November 4-8, 2018

Attn: Diane Simunek (ALA Gift Shop)
2500 Minnekahta Avenue
Hot Springs, SD 57747
605-890-3093

Sioux Falls VA Medical Center:

November 25-28, 2018

Attn: Julie Weinmann
524 N Cedar
Canton, SD 57013
605-764-2743

Human Service Center:

November 19, 2018

Attn: Cheryl Hovorka (ALA Gift Shop)
816 park Street
Yankton, SD 57078
605-665-5635



Installation and Homecoming of Barb Vetter Northwestern Division National Vice President



I want to thank the South Dakota American Legion family for their love and support as I start my new journey with the American Legion Auxiliary. I was so pleased and very honored to those who helped me celebrate at my homecoming. Thanks you for the beautiful gifts and cards. My hope is that I represent South Dakota with dignity, grace and the passion we all have for the veterans across our nation.

Barb Vetter, Northwestern Division National Vice President



Member to Remember



Louise Zumbaum has belonged to the Warner Legion Auxiliary Unit #137 for thirty-three years. She also has a daughter, daughter-in-law, and three granddaughters who are members of Unit 137. She held office of Unit Secretary, Vice-President, President, and Past-President. Louise organizes the unit's United Blood Drives in the community, twice every year. She was the finance officer for the town of Warner for many years. She is active in her church where she belongs to a quilting group making quilts for homeless, the Veterans, and anyone in need. She is always willing to help in any way she can. Unit 137 is honored to recognize Louise as a member to remember!

The South Dakota Legionette

At the Spearfish Department Convention, it was recommended that all Unit Presidents receive an emailed Legionette. If the Unit President would like a paper copy, the subscription is \$5.00.

It is time to renew your 2018-2019 newsletter subscriptions. There will be one more mailing in October before going to the new list of subscribers. Send them to headquarters by October 15.

Email Legionette: \$2.00

Mailed paper Legionette: \$5.00 (This is only fifty cents per issue.)

Send subscriptions to Dept. Secretary Laurel Stringer. The form is on the website. Thank you, Micheline Nelson, Editor

October Prayer

*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
Psalm 107:1*



By Barbara Walter
Dept. Chaplain

Precious Heavenly Father,
Thank You for being with us this day. We ask You to Comfort us, Encourage us, Guide us, Protect us and especially Strengthen us to endure whatever comes our way.

We ask in Your Name, Lord as we pray to keep our young men and women that are entering the military service and their families during this transition period of their life. Help them to adapt Lord, Protect them during their time in Service. Continue to be with them and their families as You give them comfort while away.

Lord, be with the ladies of this great organization, the American Legion Auxiliary of South Dakota. We come to You with Praises and Thank You for helping us to be a services to our Veterans, our Youth and our fellow Auxiliary Members.

Help us to continue working together with one purpose ! Unity in Service to Our Veterans, Active Military and Families.

In Jesus Name We Pray, Amen

Your Mid-Year Reports Count!



American Legion Auxiliary Annual Impact Report

\$1.1 BILLION

The value of American Legion Auxiliary members' volunteer service this year!

That's IMPACT!

VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVING VETERANS / MILITARY		VALUE OF RESOURCES, VOLUNTEERISM HELPING VETERANS / MILITARY	
Reported	Projected	Reported	Projected
3,676,374	6,223,136	\$13,335,127	\$698,666,617
VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVING MILITARY FAMILIES		VALUE OF RESOURCES, VOLUNTEERISM HELPING MILITARY FAMILIES	
Reported	Projected	Reported	Projected
1,001,832	1,676,476	\$1,295,515	\$132,223,562
VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVING YOUTH, SCHOLARSHIPS, COMMUNITIES		VALUE OF RESOURCES, VOLUNTEERISM FOR YOUTH, SCHOLARSHIPS, COMMUNITIES	
Reported	Projected	Reported	Projected
2,608,002	4,343,715	\$12,345,842	\$293,333,921
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS		TOTAL MISSION OUTREACH IMPACT	
Reported	Projected	Reported	Projected
7,286,208	12,243,327	\$26,976,484	\$1,124,224,099

"Saddle Up for Veterans" - Cont. from page 1.

This is the time when Membership is coming into the Department. We are accepting new members, go out and ask, I can't believe the number of people I talk to and have never been asked. We are the largest Patriotic women's organization in the world. **JUST ASK THOSE WOMEN!!!** Renewals are very important this year, the National President said we lose 40% if our members in 3 years. She says this year she wants us to concentrate on keeping the members we have. Make a personal phone call and offer to go pick up the membership renewal.

It is time to start shopping for the Gift Shops. If you decide not to shop your donated money can be sent to Laurel at Department Headquarters. Make sure you earmark the facility your Unit serves. Gifts can be sent directly to the Gift Shop Chairman. Make sure all the items you send are new! Enclose a packing label in the box with your Unit # and the items enclosed. The Gift Shops are a wonderful opportunity for Veterans to shop for their family.

My Program guides are due to go out in the mail and are available at the District meetings.

The large mailing with the Plans of Action will be coming out in October. It is the Unit Presidents responsibility to share all the information with the members. Remember to share your District Presidents letter with your members, they put a lot of time into preparing them.

"Make a Difference Day" is in October. Join in with your community in making a difference for a veteran and veterans' families.

Until next month "Saddle up for Veterans"
In the Spirit of Goodwill...

Jeannine Loesch Department President

BE IN THE KNOW

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

Visit the SD ALA Website at
www.sdlegionaux.org

Subscribe to the Legionette to stay up-to-date with District and Department information.

Subscriptions are from September to June aligning with the Dept. President's and fiscal year. Time to renew!

Send your news and pictures to the editor at
Micheine.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!



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