



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"

I hope you are enjoying the weather; I think Spring is here! At least the calendar says so. In the southern Districts there is flooding going on with closed roads and detours.

April is Children and Youth Month- remember that the youth is the future of our organization. Please plan a special event to include your Junior Members. Remember Good Deed and Youth Hero Awards - they are a great way to say, "Thank You"!! Applications for the awards are on the Auxiliary website <http://www.sdlegionaux.org/> under the Children and Youth and can be submitted there as well. April is the month of the Military Child and April 13th is Purple Up! for Military Kids Day. Printable stickers and posters as well as other great idea are available. (www.militarychild.org/momc-tool-kit).

District 1,2,6,7, and 8 Spring Meetings are finished. District 1 had Elections and elected Carol Edwards as District 1 President. District 7 elected Alice Upshaw as District President. We will finish March 29-31 weather permitting. Elections will be in Districts 3 and 5, next weekend. Poems and Essay winners will be announced at the Spring District meetings along with Unit Member of the Year.

Units will have an opportunity to tell what they have done this year. I have heard so many wonderful things Units do and hope they include them on their Year End Reports (Cont. page 3)



PURPLE UP
FOR MILITARY KIDS

Children & Youth Program

by Mary Jo Stier, Dept. Chairman

April: Month of the Military Child.

April is designated as the Month of the Military Child; a time to honor the sacrifices made by military families worldwide, with an emphasis on the experience of the dependent children of military members serving at home and overseas. Month of the Military Child is sponsored by the Department of Defense Military Community and Family Policy and supported by many other organizations such as the DoDEA

Evolution of the Month of the Military Child

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger was responsible for establishing April as the Month Of The Military Child in 1986, and the Department of Defense has honored his initiative ever since.

The month of April is an important one for children who have one or both parents serving in uniform; since 1986 there have been an increasing number of awareness campaigns aimed at recognizing the needs of military children in all areas from coping with the deployment of parents to war zones to education of military dependents at on-base Department of Defense Dependent School System (DoDDS) campuses around the globe.

Since the debut of the original Month of The Military Child, there are a growing number of activities both on military bases and in local military communities. The U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), which operates 166 schools for military children worldwide, instructs its school administrators to "plan special events to honor military children and have administrators and principals incorporate the themes of this month into their everyday duties and responsibilities" according to the DoDEA official site.

(source - <https://militarybenefits.info/month-of-the-military-child>)

There are many ways to celebrate the Month of the Military Child. One way is to wear purple on April 18 which is National Purple Up! Day Why purple? Purple is designated as the color for the military child, because if you dump all the colors of the military branches together it makes Purple. Encourage your members to wear purple in support of the Kids of the Deployed.

For more ideas on how to incorporate Month of the Military Child, check out this website: <https://militarybenefits.info/month-of-the-military-child/>

Openings on the ALA Department Finance Committee

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. This is a three-year term. Interested candidates need to submit a letter of interest along with a resume by May 1, 2019, to: Department Headquarters at 129 N. Main Ave., Hartford, SD 57033. Interviews will be conducted on Thursday, June 6, 2019.

From our Units

Remembering our Veterans on Valentine's Day



The Smith Wright Post 120 ALA made Valentine placemats and St. Patrick Day table favors for the Veterans at Ft. Meade.

Lunch in Rapid City

Terry Curry and Carol Freeze of Unit 22, Rapid City, took veterans from Hot Springs to Dairy Queen in Rapid City.



Zweep's Family in ALA



Past Department President 1991-1992, Darlene Zweep, celebrated her 90th birthday when this picture was taken. Nineteen members of the Zweep's family are American Legion Auxiliary: 1 daughter, 2 daughters-in law, 5 granddaughters, 10 great-granddaughters and herself. Three great-granddaughters are not pictured. Sixteen are members under the service of Lloyd Zweep—a Korean War Veteran who passed away. Three granddaughters were delegates of the ALA Girls State. They are all proud members and help out when they can.

Advanced Tickets - State Convention Sioux Falls

Advance Ticket Form for 2019 State American Legion Convention deadline is **May 10, 2019**

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Auxiliary Noon Luncheon, Saturday June 8th, 2019

Menu: American Classic Sandwich, Turkey, Ham, Swiss Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato served on French Roll, Pasta Salad, Chips, Coffee & Iced Tea
Number of Tickets requested @ \$ 21.00 per ticket _____
() check box for special dietary needs and list need with your check

Auxiliary Banquet, Friday, June 7th, 2019

Menu: Chicken Breast stuffed with Spinach & Artichokes, with a Chardonnay Cream Sauce,
Spinach Salad with Red Onions, Mushrooms, Walnuts & Dried Cranberries, potato, Vegetable, Fresh Rolls, Caramel Apple Pie and Coffee
Number of tickets Requested @ \$ 35.00 per ticket _____

() check box for special dietary needs and list need with your check

Legion and Auxiliary Joint Banquet Saturday June 8, 2019

Menu: You have a choice of Pork Medallions _____
Grilled Pork Tenderloin finished with a Tangy Plum Sauce
OR
Grilled Chicken _____
Lightly Seasoned Grilled Breast with Mango Salsa

Both entrees are served with Salad, Potato, Vegetable and Dessert, Bakery Fresh Rolls and Butter and Coffee

Number of tickets requested @ \$35.00 per ticket _____
() Check box for special dietary needs and list need with your check

TOTAL amount of all meals \$ _____

Make checks payable to The American Legion Post 15 and mail to:
Laurel Stringer
208 Elm Rd
Hartford, SD 57033

Endorsements

At the January meeting, The George A. Fitzgerald Unit #65 in Dell Rapids, South Dakota proudly endorsed **Teresa Huntimer** for the American Legion Auxiliary South Dakota Department Office of President 2019-2020.

At their February 2019 meeting, members of Unit #79 in Onida, South Dakota, proudly endorsed **Mary Jo Stier** for the Office of First Vice-President and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Chairman for the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota, for the year 2019-2020.

At their March meeting, the Arthur Peterson American Legion Auxiliary Unit #136, endorsed **Joyce Smith** for the South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary Department 2nd Vice President 2019-2020.

CORRECTION

It is heavy heart that Headquarters and the Legionette editor have to report that they received an erroneous submission for the March deceased list. We apologize to the family of Kay Mahowld of Unit 17, Watertown for the hurt and sadness it may have caused. Kay Mahowld called Secretary Laurel to report the mistake.



April Guide



March 1: Pay Past Presidents Parley Dues

April 1: Send in Girls State Registration

Quarters - .25 cents per member to Dept. Headquarters

April 15: Year-End Reports are due to District Presidents

April 15: Purple Up for Military Kids

April 15: District Members of the Year due to Past President Parley Chairman

April 21: Easter Sunday

May 1: Poppy Posters due to Jane Benzel
Submit prayers to Dept. Chaplain

Member to Remember



Barb Breidenbach has been a member for 14 years of the Warner Legion Auxiliary #137. While being a member of the ALA, she has been secretary and treasurer. She is active in her community, church, and is also on the zoning board. She loves to cook and bake for family, neighbors and shut-ins. She makes tie blankets for who needs them. She is employed for over 40 years in a bank. Thanks for all you do!

In Memoriam

Unit 8 Pierre – Willa Hieb, December 2018; Dorothy Ray, February 2019;

Unit 15 Sioux Falls – Leona Klutman, January 2019; Laurel Mutschelknaus, February 2019;

Unit 41 Alexandria – Ruth Pommer, February 2019;

Unit 50 Sisseton – Marlene Flannery, February 2019;

Unit 53 Canton – Carolyn Guenther, January 2019; Bonnie Hoover, December 2018;

Unit 61 Canova – June Sulk, January 2019;

Unit 64 Wilmot – Darlene Davis, February 2019;

Unit 76 Veblen – Doris Sweetmilk, February 2019;

Unit 93 Letcher – Edith Moe, February 2019;

Unit 103 Astoria – Pearl Bauman, January 2019;

Unit 110 Wessington – Goldie Boggs, January 2019; Dora Fliehe, February 2019; Geraldine Moriarity, February 2019;

Unit 128 Hudson – Norma Vandemore, February 2019;

Unit 135 Gettysburg – Sophia Dahlquist, February 2019;

Unit 153 Carpenter – Phyllis Lathrop, January 2019;

Unit 172 Edgemont – Mary Krumholz, February 2019;

Unit 179 Kennebec – Peggy Reis, March 2019; Unit 193 Irene – Marlene Hanson – January 2019;

Unit 210 Mt Vernon – Arlene Miller, January 2019;

Unit 311 Piedmont – Daisy Plumb, December 2018 (Charter Member)

In Loving Memory

A Word from the President

by Jeannine Loesch, Department President

that are due to the District Presidents April 15th. If you need help with your reports reach out to your District President or a Past Dept. President for assistance.

The deadline for ALA Girls State is April 1st. Your applications need to be sent to Cheryl Hovorka. Remember the fee is \$125.00 this year.

The April mailing will be coming out and will include a lot of information regarding State Convention. This information is sent to the Unit Presidents only, so Unit Presidents PLEASE be sure to share that with your members.

The year isn't over yet so get those members renewed and sent in to Department. Reach out to those members who haven't renewed by giving them a phone call or stopping to visit them. Personal contact goes a long way. Membership is very important! At the Executive Meeting at Midwinter the DEC voted to give access to ALMIS to the District Presidents. How exciting!!! They will be able to access their Districts.

State Convention will be in Sioux Falls June 6-9, 2019. The Convention will be held at the Sheraton hotel, so get those reservations made now along with luncheon and banquet tickets. We will have a special Banquet for the Department President of 25 years ago. Remember those cowboy hats if you got them at Midwinter. If not, they will be available at State convention also.

There will be 2 openings on the Finance Committee one is Kathy Evenson's position who has termed out.

I would like to thank Kathy for her years of service on the Finance committee, she has a great job. The other opening is Cheryl Hovorka and she can reapply if she wishes. Until we meet again..." *Saddle Up for Veterans*".



April Prayer

By *Barbara Walter, Dept. Chaplain*

Dear Heavenly Father,

We come to you today Thanking You for all the things you do for us. When we go throughout our day we come to you for prayers for the needs in our lives and others but at this second we want to Thank You for all the good things in our lives and our families, friends and the many abilities that you give to us to share with others throughout our day to day routines. We Praise Your Name, Lord.

You help us in our times of need whether it may be from illness, stress, winter weather or loss of loved ones or anything that may come our way. Thank you for giving us the strength to endure.

Lord, Continue to be with our Active military men and women wherever they may be, Protect and Comfort them. Be with our Veterans, let them now that they are not forgotten.

We lift up our homeless men and women Veterans, asking for special prayers for their Safety from these blizzard temperatures that South Dakota and many other states that are receiving record cold temperatures now, touch them Lord, keep them warm. Stretch out your hands to encourage other to Help however they are able.

Be with us as we continue as an American Legion Auxiliary family to extend our helping hand out to everyone we come in contact with.

In Jesus Name We Pray,



ALA National Headquarters in Indianapolis

Pictures by NEC Susie Clyde



BE IN THE KNOW

Department Headquarters 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. **Subscriptions are from September to June** aligning with the Dept. President's and fiscal year. Send your news and pictures to the editor at 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. The South Dakota Legionette is the official newsletter of the SD Department of the American Legion Auxiliary. The editor respects the message from the Department President and/or program chairmen and will publish these articles as submitted.

Happy Easter!



THE SOUTH DAKOTA LEGIONETTE
Official Publication of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of South Dakota

Published monthly except July and August at Spearfish, SD from September 2018, forward. Printed by Western Mailer, Rapid City, SD 57701-2917. Subscription rate: \$5.00 per year. Dates from September through June All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 18th of each month preceding current issues. We do not pay for the postage cost of address changes.

I AM an ALA Member...

Collected by Lynn Pohlman Dept. Membership

I help with flag presentations in school; Christmas fleece blankets, school supplies for teachers, 5K-Run fundraiser for the Post, meals for homeless, lending closet for medical supplies, donate to the food pantry, recognize years of service, serve refreshments at the VA hospital, attend or organize Christmas parties for veterans, make quilts of Valor, send boxes to deployed military, honor Gold Star Mother, prepare funeral dinners for families of veterans, decorate the flower pots on Main street, backpack program, American Education Week, give dictionaries to third graders, help at the nursing home, I am an ALA member!

From Headquarters: District Membership (3/20/19)

District 1: 78.76 %	District 5: 81.86 %
District 2;; 79.93 %	District 6: 83.33 %
District 3: 85.05 %	District 7: 77.87 %
District 4: 78.72 %	District 8: 81.68 %