



THE SOUTH DAKOTA LEGIONETTE

Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities

A Word from the President

by Jeannine Loesch, Department President



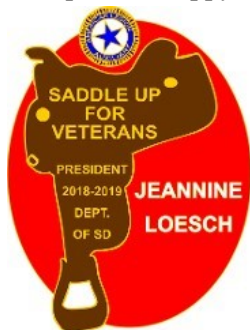
"Saddle Up for Veterans"

My year is just about ending, with Spring Meetings over, and State Convention is fast approaching. Once the District meetings ended, I started to finish up on the planning for State Convention.

At the Spring Meetings, I enjoyed spending time with my Auxiliary sisters. I want to say Congratulations to all the District Presidents for a job well done! The hospitality extended by the Units and the food oh my gosh it was wonderful.

It is also good to hear of all the wonderful things the Units have done. I also want to Congratulate the newly elected District Officers and the Unit Members of the Year. The District Unit members of the Year will represent their District at State Convention in Sioux Falls, SD and one will go on to the National Convention.

May is a very busy time for American Legion Auxiliary Units. Units need to elect and install Unit Officers for 2019-2020 year. Girls State Teas and orientations are held. Mother's Day and Memorial Day Programs are planned and of course Year End reports need to be completed. Poppy Days and distributions need to be arranged. Starting in 2017 the Friday before Memorial Day was designated as "Poppy Day". This helps to promote the significance of the poppy. (Cont. p.3)



THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA 101ST ANNUAL CONVENTION SHERATON HOTEL- CONVENTION CENTER Sioux Falls, SD JUNE 6-9, 2019

Thursday, June 6, 2019

3:00 P.M. Finance Committee Interviews – Room 5

Friday, June 7, 2019

7:30 A.M. Registration Desk Opens – Registration Booth

8:00 A.M. Finance Committee Meeting – Rooms 6-7

Silent Auction Opens – Rooms 8-10

10:30 A.M. Juniors Meeting – Room 10

12:00 P.M. Lunch – On your Own

1:00- 3:00 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting – Rooms 6-7

3:00 P.M. Department Chairmen Training -Rooms 6-7

Incoming/Outgoing District President Training – Rms 6-7

6:00 P.M. Auxiliary Banquet Honoring Mary Ann Guthmiller
 Rooms 8-10

7:30 P.M. "The American Legion" Fun Auction"
 Meeting Rooms 11-14

Saturday, June 8, 2019

7:30 A.M. Registration Desk Opens – Registration Booth

8:00 A.M. Processional Line-UP – Hallway

8:30 A.M. Auxiliary Convention Convenes - Rooms 8-10

11:30 A.M. Recess

Silent Auction Opens – Rooms 8-10

12:00 P.M. Auxiliary Luncheon – Rooms 6-7

1:15 P.M. Convention Reconvenes – Rooms 8-10

2:45 P.M. Convention in Recess

4:00 P.M. Joint Legion/Auxiliary/SAL Memorial Service -Rms11-14

5:00 P.M. No Host Cocktails/Social – Ballroom A

6:00 P.M. Joint Legion/Auxiliary/SAL Banquet – Ballroom A

8:00 P.M. Dance - Ballroom A

Sunday, June 9, 2019

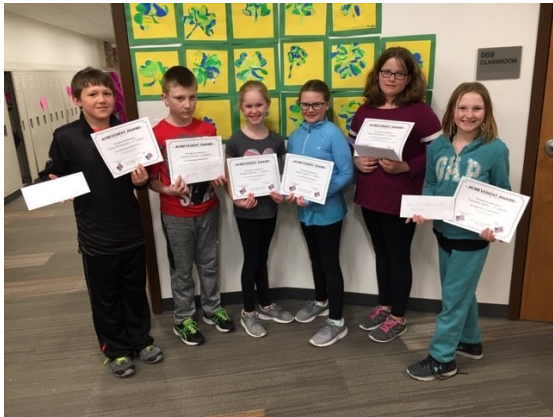
7:30 A.M. Registration Desk Opens – Registration Booth

8:00 A.M. Convention Reconvenes – Rooms 8-10

From our Units

4th grade place winners for the American Legion Auxiliary Americanism essay and poetry contest through Groton and Columbia Auxiliary units.

Dylan McGannon 2nd place poetry Columbia Unit, Jayden Helvig 1st place poetry Groton Unit, Teagan Hanten 1st place poetry Columbia Unit, Halee Harder 1st place essay Columbia Unit, Kira Clocksene 1st place essay Groton Unit, and Caroline Bahr 2nd place poetry Groton Unit.



Kindness Rocks



A new member Jennifer Loosmore started this project and inspired Unit 48, Rosholt.

Kindness Rocks are rocks with an inspirational message on them. They are placed in random places for people to find. "One message at just the right moment can change someone's outlook for the day." Sometimes all it takes is just one simple positive message to change your perspective.

When you find a rock take a moment to reflect on the message and put it somewhere else to share that message with another human being, because you never know who is in need of a similar message and a touch of your kindness. Students at school, are having a lot of fun with rocks. They find the rock and hide them again for others. A Church group and clients at the Blix Reflexology all shared the "Kindness cure" – Submitted by Carol Luebke

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

A Word from the President

by Jeannine Loesch, Department President

Our 99th Convention will be held June 6-9th in Sioux Falls at the Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center. Don't forget to get your rooms booked and Banquets and Luncheons ordered, none will be sold at the door. Don't forget to elect Delegates and Alternates to State Convention and get the fees and forms sent in to Department headquarters before Convention in order to vote for your Unit.

Again, we will be holding the Silent Auction, the monies will go for my Presidents Project at the Ft. Meade VA inpatient mental Unit, for iPad's. On a personal note, I had my cells harvested and ready for my Transplant in June!! Everything is going well, and I feel GREAT!!!!
HAPPY MOTHERS DAY to all the mothers.

May Guide

Election & Installation of Unit Officers

—send a copy to your District President and Headquarters (Your unit is certified as soon as Headquarters receives your new officers' list)

Conduct a Memorial Service for deceased members

Elect delegates to Dept. Convention & send registration fee

May 12: Mother's Day

May 18: Armed Forces Day

Poppy Day Programs and Distributions

Remit 25% of Poppy proceeds to Dept. Headquarters by June 10th

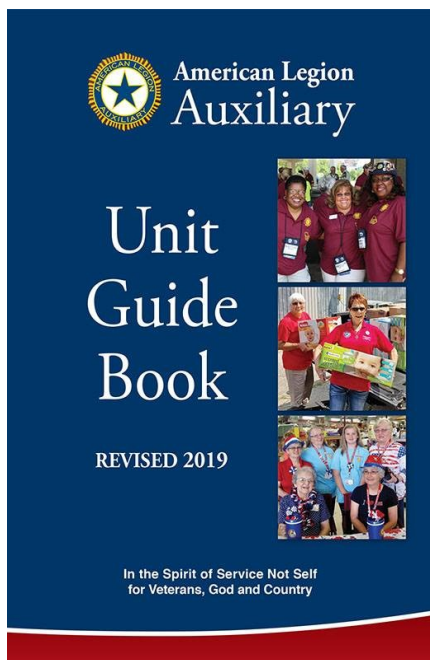
May 24: ALA National Poppy Day

May 27: Memorial Day



2019 Unit Guide

The ALA Unit Guide Book is revised and ready. This publication provides information, guidance to unit members about the history, mission, programs, membership eligibility, customs, and operations of the ALA unit. You may log in at <https://www.alaforveterans.org/ALA-Unit-Guide-Book-Revised-and-ready-for-members/>



In Memoriam

Unit 3 Chamberlain – Dolly Priebe, March 2019;

Unit 9 Milbank – Lois Miller, March 2019;

Unit 10 Lake Andes – Shirley Hruska, January 2019;

Unit 14 Wessington Springs – Lila Tiede, March 2019;

Unit 18 Mitchell – Shirley Lohnes, February 2019; Bonnie Tischler, February 2019;

Unit 38 Miller – Georgia Soper Cook, January 2019;

Unit 39 Groton – Eunice Alberts, March 2019;

Unit 47 Artesian – Joan Gaston, January 2019;

Unit 53 Canton – Carol Crawford, N/A;

Unit 60 Clark – Betty Kranz, March 2019;

Unit 110 Wessington – Virginia Kelsey, April 2019;

Unit 136 Chester – Aileen Baldwin, November 2018; Kathleen Larson, January 2019;

Unit 142 Tripp – Vera Uecker, March 2019;

Unit 157 Vivian – Vivian Kline, August 2017; Julia Larson, December 2018;

Unit 159 Hoven – Regina Hericks, March 2019;

Unit 210 Mt Vernon – Arla Johnson, February 2019;

Unit 240 Martin – Sherry Peck, April 2019; U

nit 261 Ethan – Isabel Erpenbach, December 2018;

Unit 266 Tea – Marguerite Atkins, August 2018

In Loving Memory

A Member to Remember

ALA Alexandria Unit #41 selected Ruth Pommer as their member to remember. She was the oldest active member. Since that selection Ruth passed away. However, her influence on her unit remains.

Some of the comments made by nominating unit members: "Ruth is passionate about Auxiliary, she misses very few District or State meetings, NONE of the local unit meetings. She is truly our 'Mrs. Auxiliary'."

"Special person that is loved by the community, young and old. Ruth is very passionate about serving her country and her community. Her heart is full of love for the veterans."

"Ruth stands for patriotism and the American Way. As long as I can remember, she has been actively involved in the Auxiliary."

"I am a new member but am in awe with how dedicated Ruth is to Auxiliary; because she realizes the importance of the 'younger' generations learning about veterans, the military, Americanism and all of the other things the ALA epitomizes".

Ruth was a PUFL member, transferring into our Unit when her original unit disbanded. She accepted leadership roles, mentored and developed others, 'leaned' on some, listened, made suggestions, and was never hesitant to take up her share of any project. Her family of five generations, provided her transportation and man-power; which she did not hesitate to use. She was very actively involved with all projects. As a matter of fact, she is posthumously sponsoring a table at our Spring Salad fundraiser. We have an interesting theme and she was excited to have all of her shopping done. It was – months prior to her death and even more months prior to the event.



May Prayer

By *Barbara Walter, Dept. Chaplain*

Dear Lord,

Be with us as this day is drawing nigh toward evening and help us to understand this world we live in. Many times we do not understand as we go from day to day and minute by minute but our trust is with you and we Thank You in advance.

As the American Legion Auxiliary Ladies prepare for State Convention in a few weeks, be with each one as they prepare for it and the upcoming year of 2019-2020.

It has been a good year and I want to thank everyone that is a member of the South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary. It has been a busy year and only a couple of months left before a newly selected board begins, we lift everyone up in prayers.

These last few month we have lost some of our active military, we send prayers to their family and friends and continue to pray for those state side and abroad. Keep them Safe, Lord. Please bring our loved ones home.

In Jesus name we pray, Amen
Amen

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

The Spearfish Middle School Student Council presented the Military Children's Table Ceremony to eight classrooms with the Spearfish Unit 164. One student received the G.I. Josh dog and book "I'll Be OK"



2019-2020 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.

Pierre Unit 8 proudly endorsed **Anita Cass** for SD Department Historian for 2019-2020 year at their April 13th meeting.

The Geer Unit 11 in Wagner, South Dakota proudly endorsed **Kathleen Kucera-Geiman** for the 2019-2020 for the American Legion Auxiliary S.D. Department Chaplain



Elkton Unit 198 displayed the Military Children's Table in the Community Library with an explanation of the significance of each item.



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Spring District Meetings

Districts One and Two



District One Member of the Year, Amber Lawlar from Spearfish; host Unit's present to SD Dept. President Jeannine Loesch; District One Memorial Service, and head table. No picture of the new officers: Dist. 1 President Carol Edwards, 1st VP Sandy Johnson, and 2nd VP Cindy Hanson.

District Two Member of the Year Jackie Zerfoss from Edgemont pictured with Jane Ann Henderson, Edgemont; Carol Harvey, District 2 President; Sandra Woodward, Edgemont, Jackie Z.; and Barbara Walter, Hot Springs - Dept. Chaplain. Door prizes given by the Host Unit, Hermosa - provided by Jolly Lane Nursery; and the District Two Memorial Service.



Spring District Meetings

Districts Three and Four



District Three Member of the Year, Sally Kingsbury with SD Dept. President Jeannine Loesch and District Three President Patsy Madsen; head table at District Three; and New officers District Three President Patsy Madsen with 2nd. Vice and 1st. Vice Presidents Jalaine Hish Fette and Dorothy Collett.

District Four Memorial Service and the group picture of District Four members attending.



*Spring District Meetings
Districts Five and Six*



District Five New Officers pictured with outgoing District Four President Rose Kraft and SD Dept. President Jeannine Loesch. The District Member of the Year was not present.

SD President Jeannine Loesch and First VP Teresa Huntimer helped with the District Five Memorial Service.

District Six Member of the Year Mary Wienbar of Bensley-Round ALA Unit 280 of Iroquois; Dept. President Jeannine Loesch and Dept. Secretary Laurel Stringer helping District Six Officers with the Memorial Ceremony.



*Spring District Meetings
Districts Seven and Eight*



District Seven Member of the Year, Nicole Marie Agnew pictured with SD Dept. President Jeannine Loesch and District Seven President Alice Upshaw; newly elected officers are District Seven President Alice Upshaw; First VP Noelle Bonjour and Second VP Gloria Bonjour pictured with Sept. Second VP Mary Jo Stier, Dept. Pres. Jeannine Loesch, and Dept. First VP Teresa Hunter; District Seven Memorial Service.



District Eight head table; both the Military Children's Table and the POW/MIA Table; Memorial Service and registration table.

