



THE SOUTH DAKOTA *LEGIONETTE*

Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities



A Word from the President

by Teresa Huntimer Department President



"Always Remember Serving Veterans, Not self"

Auxiliary members, Fall is now upon us, that means District meetings season. As I write this article, we have finished six Districts, leaving Districts 1 and 2 for October. The awesome part of these meetings is that you could attend by Zoom. I would like to thank Mary Jo Stier for setting Zoom up for all our District meetings. She, with the technical support of her daughter and some help from Micheline Nelson, did an awesome job. Yes, we had some hiccups, but they worked through them. Please, if you cannot attend future meetings in person check out the Zoom option when offered. Great information is being shared by our members.

Yes, we are still celebrating our 100th birthday. Not many organizations get to celebrate their 100th, let alone celebrate their birthday for two years! So, continue to celebrate and post your photos on our Facebook page and send those photos and a short narrative to the Legionette.

ALA has a Halloween Coloring Book that you can download from the national website at www.alaforveterans.org. You can send me your e-mail address and I can forward it to you. It is also for sale at emblems sale. I think that would be great to give out on Halloween. It might help find new members. It can also be given to the schools for Give Ten to Education.

Teresa Huntimer
South Dakota ALA Department President
2019-2021

National President Nicole Clapp Visits South Dakota

National President Nicole Clapp traveled around South Dakota taking in the sights but most importantly seeing the Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities. She enjoyed meeting Veterans and Auxiliary across the state.

Thank you President Nicole for a great visit!



Welcome in Piedmont Post 311, a stop at the Headquarters' office, visiting Mount Rushmore, laying a wreath at Ft. Meade and Black Hills National Cemetery; enjoying social time at the Pierre Post 8, touring the Veterans Town Hot Springs, and the Mitchell Corn Palace, here are a few highlights of a week's visit. Check the SD ALA Facebook to see all the pictures.



Membership by Rose Kraft, Dept. Chairperson

Even though we were masked for the last part of our 2020 Auxiliary year, all of you did a fabulous job of finding membership! We finished with 10,059 members just a little over 500 short of our goal! This also included 59 units at 100% or better! Now that is a reason to celebrate!

Each unit should be getting the progress chart in their District President's monthly newsletter very shortly. Your goal for the 2021 year is one more member than what you had for membership in 2020 with 11 being the minimum number for a unit.

Again, this year, you have the opportunity to reach your unit's goal at 100% by November 11th. By doing this you will be put into a drawing at the national level where they will hand out one hundred \$100 awards and, in our department drawing where you will be in a drawing for ten \$50.00 awards. We will be continuing with the theme of mixing up support for our Veterans this year. However, instead of President Theresa's favorites you are going to be getting recipes from other leaders of our organization.

This month, I am thinking of my Veteran – Mike. He loves pie and if I would have been in his life when he returned from Vietnam, he would have loved having a piece of his favorite blueberry pie. We want to thank all of our Veterans for their service and commitment to our country and for our freedoms.

Easy Pie Crust (you can roll this out over and over again and it will still be flakey)

Ingredients:

3 cups flour; 1 egg; 1 ½ cups Crisco; 1 Tbls vinegar; 1 tsp salt; 6 Tbls water

Mix until crumbly.

Beat egg in tall glass, add vinegar and water. Mix this into the flour mixture until all combined. Roll out on lightly floured surface. May refrigerate for a couple of days.

To bake pie shell for a custard pie, bake at 375 for 10 – 15 minutes.

Blueberry Pie

Ingredients:

4 cups blueberries; 1 TBLs lemon juice; ½ tsp grated lemon peel; 1 ½ to 1 ½ cups

sugar; ¼ cup quick-cooking tapioca 1 TBLs cornstarch; ½ tsp ground cinnamon

In a large bowl, combine blueberries, lemon juice and lemon peel. Combine the other ingredients and add to berries; toss gently to coat. Let stand for 10 minutes. Line a 9 inch pie plate with pastry, add filling; dot with butter. Top with second pastry, trim, seal and flute edges. Cut slits in top pastry. Bake at 350 for 50 – 60 minutes. Cool on

Centennial Babies

We are looking for baby girls born **November 10, 2019 to November 10, 2020** and become a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. After sending in membership to Laurel Stringer at the state headquarters, send me a message with babies' name, date born, and who their eligibility is under. Email me at sdmemberrose@gmail.com

Erin Siemonsma had a baby March 31, 2020. Her name is Ashlyn Marcia Siemonsma. She just became a member a few weeks ago in Dell Rapids, eligible through her mother Erin. The newest Jr. member of Elkton Unit 198. Kerrigan Adeline Munce is eligible through her grandfather Dale Munce and was born March 10, 2020. Baby Ella Marie Peterman was born July 14, 2020 and is now a Jr. member of the Chester Unit 136. She is eligible through her grandfather Gary Peterman.

Ashlyn



Kerrigan



Ella



IN LOVING
memory

Unit 7 Huron – Nancy Giessinger, August 2020; **Unit 15 Sioux Falls** – Karen Frazier, August 2020; **Unit 17 Watertown** – Helen Vansickle, September 2020; **Unit 42 Arlington** – Marlys Larson, April 2020; **Unit 110 Wessington** – Rosella Marshall, August 2020; Soloewa Siegling, August 2020; **Unit 113 Willow Lake** – Roberta Wakenthien, July 2020; Helen Warkenthien, August 2020; **Unit 152 Menno** – Lorraine Mammenga, September 2020; **Unit 210 Mt Vernon** – Delores Kroupa, August 2020; **Unit 216 Ramona** – Audrey Kattke, August 2020; **Unit 229 Big Stone City** – Colleen Hedge, August 2020

Lap Quilts for Veterans



The Webster ALA teamed up with Nancy Block and her 4th grade class to make tied fleece lap quilts for veterans. Nancy, a member of ALA, received a grant from the Mary Chilton DAR Foundation to make 50 quilts. Due to Covid and no school last spring, work continued this fall. Members of the ALA, Lori Wiley, Bev Carr, Nancy Block, Kathy Sannes & Charlotte Hoverstadt worked on the quilts during the summer and several Webster Area School elementary students helped tie blankets in August. Pictured are Deb Reiprich, Leone Brown, and Harriet Spaniol who worked together to complete the project in September.

October Guide

October 12: Native American Day

October 24: Make a Difference Day

October 31: Halloween

Send Poppy orders to headquarters

Pay Convention Proceedings if not paid last year - \$15

Pay Unit Bond - \$6

Cash donations for Gift Shop and Christmas Fund no later than November 1

Fall District Meetings

District 1 October 4 - Box Elder Post 315 - Social 10:30; lunch; mtg 12:30 PM or Zoom link at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85815632727?pwd=UlowVy9sT2ITZzgxQnBsM0NIS2xnUT09>

District 2 October 3 - Rapid City Post 22 - Social 2:00; mtg at 3:00; meal @ 4:30 PM or Zoom link at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85044504734?pwd=ZHF1RGJJJci83TGZQUSt4dDRzZm1mUT09>

District 2 October 3 - Rapid City Post 22 - Social 2:00; mtg at 3:00; meal @ 4:30 PM or Zoom link at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85044504734?pwd=ZHF1RGJJJci83TGZQUSt4dDRzZm1mUT09>

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Gift Shops & Christmas Parties



Due to COVID-19, contact your Gift Shop and Christmas Party representative to find out if you may volunteer following VA protocols.

Ft. Meade Gift Shop – November 15 through 17

Christmas Party – December 14

Hot Springs VA Gift Shop – November 17 – November 20

Christmas Party – December 12

State Home Gift Shop – Nov. 14 (setup) – November 16

Christmas Party – December 13

Sioux Falls VA Gift Shop – November 30 and December 1

Christmas Party – December 10

Education Program & Scholarships

by Dept. Education Chair Mary Jo Boner

The school systems in our state have had a rough year. We as a Department, had a good year showing our support of the Education program; having 1320 members participate in various ways with 1559 hours served, getting 473 Veterans and 4175 non-Veterans involved, and spending \$19,108 in service to our education system. With the possibility of another rough year ahead, we need to continue our mission of supporting our schools, faculty, and students in any variety of ways. Let's get out and into our schools and let them know that what they do matters, and they are appreciated. Whether it's a cake, fruit basket, gift cards, or simply a note to say thank you, remind them that we support them. American Education Week is November 16-20, 2020 and Teacher Appreciation Week is May 3-7, 2021.

Taking it even further, let's visit a little bit about the Give 10 to Education Program. Units can provide schools with any variety of Give 10 items including clothing articles, basic school supplies, disinfecting wipes, dictionaries, flags, snacks, donations to school lunch accounts and to the backpack program, and donations of money to scholarship funds. And don't forget time – it is a precious commodity in today's society and can be graciously donated in classrooms, school events, and on playgrounds. When done, simply complete the Give 10 form and submit for a Unit Citation by May 1st.

There are several scholarship opportunities for Sr. and Jr. members, both within the Department and on the National Level as well. Our department scholarships include the Thelma Foster Jr Member and Thelma Foster Sr Member Scholarships, \$500 College/University/Technical scholarship, and the \$400 Sr Member Scholarship. The National Scholarships include the Jr. Member Loyalty Scholarship, Non-Traditional Student Scholarship, Children of Warriors Scholarship, and the Spirit of Youth Scholarship.

We had just over 50 scholarship applications this year. Out of those, 11 applications were incomplete or were not eligible for the scholarship to which they were applying. The point that needs to be stressed here, is if a student asks for an application, have them make sure they qualify for that particular scholarship before going to the work of filling it out, as they can be quite time consuming. Also, when applying for the National Scholarships, the applications have to be almost perfect to compete at the National level. Every question must be answered, all packet requirements must be included, and if possible, the form should be typed or at the very least, carefully and neatly handwritten.

Member to Remember



Garretson Henry G Fix Unit 23 would like to recognize our oldest member, Dorothy Vandersnick. Dorothy has been a member of our Auxiliary for 75 yrs.(2019) and just celebrated her 99th birthday June 2020. Dorothy is also a Past President of this unit. Her eligibility is thru her late husband Don, when she married after his return from service in the Navy. Don had a trucking business that served farmers and also moving families locally and across the Country. In 1961 Dorothy and Don and another couple bought a supper club in Albert Lea MN. Dorothy has 3 living children in the Albert Lea MN area. Her continued service commitment of Auxiliary activities to the Garretson Auxiliary and also in the Albert Lea area.

Child Welfare Challenge

Children & Youth department chairperson Joyce Smith has issued a challenge to the South Dakota American Legion Family to see who can collect the most donations for the Child Welfare Fund. She received some funds from one Post and a few Units.

Money has to be sent to the Department Headquarters.



October Prayer

By Kathleen Geiman Dept. Chaplain

Dear Lord, Thank you for this day. Please grant me wisdom about all the things I am dealing with and guide me so I make the best decisions and choices I can in every area of my life. I commit this day to your hands and all that is in it. May your joy be my strength and your peace fill my heart. Help me to be anxious for nothing. Teach me how to trust my heart, my mind, my intuition, my inner knowing, the senses of my body, the blessing of my spirit. Teach me to trust these things so that I may enter my sacred space and love beyond my fear and thus walk in balance with the passing of each glorious sun. In Jesus' name. Amen

Message - AnnaMae Warnier

Dept. Finance Chair

In the time frame of 2017-2018, during the month of June 2018, when the donations for the charities from the units were dispersed, an error was made. The mistake was identified, and a plan is in place to correct the error with the charity. Rest assured, actions are in place and normal checks and balances were restored by mid-July 2018. To inform our American Legion Auxiliary members, we are placing this notice in the Legionette and in the next Unit mailings. Thank you for your understanding.

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 South Dakota Legionette. 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. Thank you!

Americanism Department Awards

Congratulations to all the winners!

All second place winners are included in the mailings from Headquarters.

Essays and Poems Department Winners 2019-2020

Essay: "How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families."

Class I	3 rd & 4 th grades: Ben Berg, Baltic; sponsored by Unit #175
Class II	5 th & 6 th grades: Isabella Schafer, Wolsy; sponsored by Unit #59
Class III	7 th & 8 th grades: Karter Miller, Hitchcock; sponsored by Unit #84
Class IV	9 th & 10 th grades: Raevin Rose Castle, Tripp; Sponsored by Unit #142
Class V	11 th & 12 th grades: Rafe Wientjer, Onida; sponsored Unit #79
Class VI	Students with special needs: Carson Knudson, Toronto; sponsored by Unit #81

Poem: "Always Remember Serving Veterans Not Self"

Class I	3 rd grade: Jakoby Schonebaun, Herrick; sponsored by Unit #220
Class II	4 th grade: Destiny Tara Fourhorns, Clark; sponsored Unit #113
Class III	5 th grade: Blaise Lei, Buffalo; sponsored by Unit #147
Class IV	6 th grade: Ben Hoef, Bath; sponsored by Unit #58
Class V	Students with special needs: Travis Gordon, Hitchcock; sponsored by Unit Hitchcock/Raymond

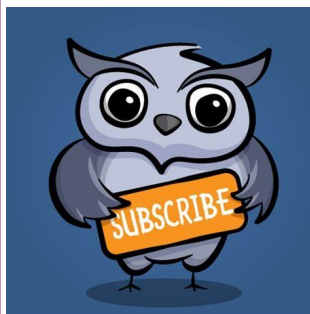


CARDS FOR VETERANS
RESIDENTS IN NURSING HOMES ARE CURRENTLY NOT ALLOWED VISITORS DUE TO COVID-19. REMIND THEM THEY ARE NOT ALONE BY SENDING NOTES, CARDS, AND DRAWINGS TO BRIGHTEN THEIR DAY!
PLEASE SEND CARDS TO:
MICHAEL J. FITZMAURICE
SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS HOME
ATTN: CARDS FOR VETERANS
2500 MINNEKAHTA AVENUE
HOT SPRINGS, SD 57747

Mitchell Unit gives dictionaries to 3rd grade.



The South Dakota Legionette



It is time to renew your subscription for 2020-2021! The cost remained at \$5.00 for the mailed copy and \$2:00 for the email subscription. The form is available online. You may contact headquarters if you need it to be mailed to you.

Subscriptions are from September to June

Due to COVID-19, the new roster will start in December

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 2020, 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.