



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 here but, today it looks more like winter. Fall district meetings are completed and we had a reasonably good attendance. We offered attendance by Zoom at all meetings. I would like to thank our 1st Vice President Mary Jo Stier and Micheline Nelson. They worked together through all kinds of technical difficulties to bring the meetings to the members. Covid-19 had a significant impact on our Christmas Gift Shops; they will be different from past years. This will impact our Christmas Parties too. Please call the Christmas Gift Shop Chairman before you go to volunteer. Midyear Reports are due to District Presidents by November 15, 2020. Reports are for service from May through October. Don't forget your narratives. November 10th is the Auxiliary's Birthday; we are celebrating our 100th for 2 years. As a Department, we are going to approach the next 100 years with a new commitment of serving our veterans, military and their families. Yes, we will have to think outside the box, dealing with Covid-19. We've been serving for 100 years so we can do this!

Veterans Day is November 11th.

Dear Veterans,
Those of us who have not served will never fully understand the sacrifice you've made both in times of peace and war. We will never fully understand what you were required to do or how you were able to do it. We will never fully understand the depth of your scars. But we can offer you this: We see you. We recognize your humanity. And we send you Love that is gentle, patient, and healing. With Blessings and Gratitude, we ask that you remember you are Loved.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this year please say a prayer for those in our military who are serving.

On a personal note, I have some health issues this fall. I have had leukemia and it has been in and out of remission since I was 16 years old. It has come out again. I will have some chemo and have been advised by doctors not to travel during my treatment. I believe it will go back in remission after my chemo treatment is done. That means I will not be attending the gift shops or parties.

Teresa Huntimer, 2019-2021 ALA SD Dept. President



National Security

by Jeannine Loesch, Dept Chairman

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on the 6000 Airman stationed at Ellsworth AFB outside of Rapid City, SD. Carol Edwards spoke to a young female Airman as to how the ALA could help.

Here is the Airman's message:

"I also put some thought into ways to help the younger members at Ellsworth if the American Legion Auxiliary was interested. We have 14 squadrons at Ellsworth and our youngest Airmen have been impacted by COVID the most because their spouses have been put out of work due to the pandemic. With the holidays coming, I'm sure their families will be impacted with procuring holiday meals/toys for their children. I'm not sure if the ALA would be able to support gift cards for these families. I can facilitate by reaching out to First Sergeants on base for them to identify the Airmen in their squadrons that need the most help. We can also "promote" the American Legion Auxiliary to these families with them seeing the help extended to them by the Auxiliary. Let me know if this is something y'all would be interested in."

Michelle Eosso

*627 Fairmont Place
Rapid City, SD 57701*

I am suggesting VISA gift cards in the amounts of \$25 or \$50 that could be used at the local Base Exchange, Commissary or for online shopping.

If your Unit is unable to make a monetary donation Michelle and I also discussed "Thinking of You" cards. Let's let these Airmen know how much we appreciate them!! Items may be sent directly to Michelle and with the help of the First Sergeants she will see to it that they get to those in need.

As National Security Chairman, I think this would be a great way to promote the American Legion Auxiliary. District Presidents if you could share this with this information with your Units and see if they can HELP!! We need to help our active duty military. Let's see what the Department of South Dakota can do!!!

Freedom Flag

On Saturday, Sept. 5, three members of the Canton Auxiliary unit presented a Freedom Flag to the Canton Volunteer Fire Department. The Freedom Flag is full of symbols that honor the heroes and victims of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The purpose of the flag is to remember those who died and to teach younger generations about the events of that fateful day. Thanks in part to the flag being presented in Canton this year, all 50 states as well as Puerto Rico had the Freedom Flag flying. This flag's etiquette calls for it to be flown under the United States flag on Sept. 11 and may be flown for the week that follows. It is even acceptable to fly it through the end of September. More information about the Freedom Flag, including its symbolism, history, and how to order it, can be found at <https://www.freedomflagfoundation.org>.

Pictured from left to right: Juile Crawford, Canton ALA unit secretary; Canton Police Officer Timothy Wesseling; Second Assistant Fire Chief Devon Chaulk; Fire Chief Nate Laubach; Trevor Ekle, volunteer firefighter; Colton Laubach, volunteer firefighter; Gloria Bonjour, Canton ALA unit member; and Noelle Bonjour, Canton ALA unit PR chair. (Photo courtesy of the Sioux Valley News.)



Membership by Rose Kraft, Dept. Chairperson

Membership is at 42.59% for the Department.

District 2 is in first place with membership at 45.85%, with District 6 and District 1 right behind them with 44.51 and 44.43% membership, next up you have District 7 and District 5 with 42.56 and 42.43% memberships, District 4 and District 3 fall in next at 39.38 and 39.23% and District 8 is at the end at this time with 38.40% membership. I am hoping these numbers double in the next month!

Huge shout out of CELEBRATION to Rosebud for being at 110% membership! We also have 19 units at 75% or higher! Don't forget 100% by November 10th will get you in the drawing for money!

South Dakota has deployed almost 200 guardsmen to Africa and there are more waiting for deployment orders. When you ask, what do you miss from home, you often hear chocolate chip cookies. My mother-in-law, Anna Mae Kraft, life long member of the Hoven Unit, was a wife of a deployed soldier and the mother of two sons and a daughter who have served for our country. So this month I am sharing her Chocolate Chip Cookie recipe along with this little hint. If you form your cookies the size of a Pringles can lid, they stack inside greatly and ship without crumbing! Thank you for remembering our active men and women with loving care packages and prayers.

Chocolate Chip Cookies

Cream 1 cups margarine and 1 cups Crisco shortening - beat in 4 eggs - add 1 1/2 cups white sugar, 1 1/2 cups brown sugar and 2 teaspoons vanilla.

Sift together 5 cups flour, 2 tsp baking soda, 2 tsp salt.

Add sifted ingredients along with 1 bag of chocolate chips to the creamed ingredients.

Bake at 375 degrees for 10 - 12 minutes.

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

Katie Beverly Kraft, born July 26, 2020 member of Britton Unit 80 – eligible under her Grandfather, Michael Kraft

Erin Grace Reuter. Parents are David and Olivia Reuter. She was born September 24, 2020. She is eligible to be an Auxiliary member through her grandfather, Randy Puffer.

Oakley Marilyn Petrik. She was born on May 19, 2020. She is eligible under her grandfather, James E. Petrik

Katie



Erin



Oakley



IN LOVING MEMORY

Unit 9 Milbank – Mildred Treis, July 2020; Ruth Wibbens, September 2020; **Unit 11 Wagner** – Lucille Bures, September 2020; **Unit 14 Wessington Springs** – Carol Christensen, September 2020; **Unit 20 Ft. Pierre** – Mary Ronish, August 2020; **Unit 24 Aberdeen** – Waneta Geffre, August 2020; **Unit 27 Kadoka** – Marie Garnter, April 2020; **Unit 32 Belle Fourche** – Virginia Gillette, June 2019; **Unit 40 Webster** – Joanne Herr, September 2020; Betty Hesla, March 2020; Charlotte Hoverstadt, October 2020; **Unit 49 Clear Lake** – Deve Giessinger, October 2019; **Unit 60 Clark** – Freda Kranz, July 2020; **Unit 63 Lake Preston** – Caroline Zeck, October 2020; Gerry Law, December 2019; Darlene Stroschein, June 2020; **Unit 80 Britton** – Donna Johnson, July 2020; **Unit 100 Selby** – Phyllis Volzke, September 2020; **Unit 118 Hartford** – Bonnie Lewin, October 2020; Theresa Whalen, May 2020; Unit 132 Springfield – Billie Shaver, July 2020; **Unit 135 Gettysburg** – Mardell Hause, August 2020; Shirley Kunstle, June 2020; Peggy Nauman, July 2020; Donna Robbennolt, August 2020; **Unit 140 Salem** – Maralyn Marks, September 2020; **Unit 143 Midland** – JoAnn Bork, July 2020; **Unit 146 Colome** – Bernice Holthus, September 2020; **Unit 152 Menno** – Morna Anderson, October 2020; **Unit 159 Hoven** – Laura kaup, April 2020; **Unit 169 Winner** – Myrna Pravecek, September 2020; Claudine Swedlund, September 2020; **Unit 180 New Effington** – Lois Johnson, April 2020; Joy Mc Gregor, April 2020; **Unit 194 Parkston** – Beatrice Roth, August 2020; **Unit 216 Ramona** – Norma Caylor, September 2020; **Unit 220 Herrick** – Marilyn Baxa, October 2020; **Unit 260 Badger** – Wila Christensen, May 2020; **Unit 267 Grenville** – Rosella Kwasniewski, May 2020; **Unit 283 Chancellor** – Cerladyne DeLoof, September 2020

November Guide

November 10:
ALA Birthday

November 11:
Veterans Day

November 11:
Send Poppy Orders to Headquarters

November 14: Read your Constitution & By-laws Day

November 15: Unit Midyear Report to District

November 26: Thanksgiving Day

Send cash donations for Gift Shop and Christmas Fund to Headquarters



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

Fall District Meetings

Launching the VA & R Backpack Challenge



Member to Remember

September 30th was Gold Star Mothers' Day. The Gertje-Van Lith American Legion Auxiliary gave their Gold Star Mother, Ruth Hansen, flowers and members sent her cards.



2019-2020 District 1 - Goal District



November Prayer

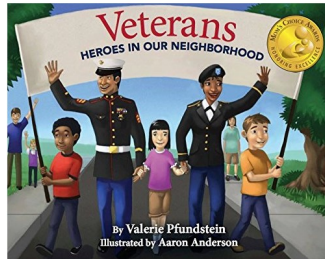
By Kathleen Geiman Dept. Chaplain

God, grant me a mind free of worry, a heart free of sadness and a body free of sickness. Into your Hand, I place my worries, cares and troubles. Into your Wisdom, I place my path, my direction and my goal. Into your Love, I place my life. In Jesus's name. Amen



Kids Corner

Veterans: Heroes in Our Neighborhood is an engaging rhyming picture book for readers of all ages that fosters mindfulness of and appreciation for the brave service men and women who are also our family, friends, and neighbors. These are the men and women who bravely served our great country and now humbly serve in our communities.



I'm Your Flag So Please Treat Me Right! is a story told by the American flag. It explains through the eyes of our flag what the red, white and blue stand for, and what the flag means to all Americans.

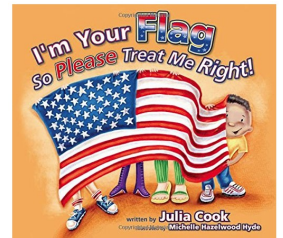
"I stand for freedom when I wave in the air, so proud of my stars and stripes. Whenever you see me, please show that you care.

I'm your flag, so please treat me right! I'm lucky to have you and you're lucky to have me.

The things that I stand for are why you are free.

Be proud when you see my red, white and blue.

When I wave in the air...I'm waving for YOU!"



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.



Give Ten to Education



ALA Mitchell #18 surprised Longfellow School teacher with a check to purchase

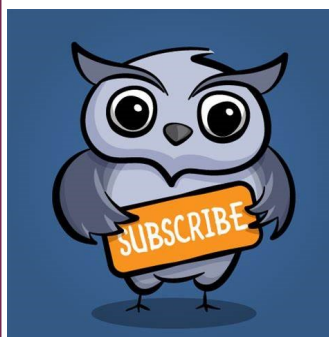
recorders for all kids who did not have one. Pictured are the school teacher, Sharon Broghammer and principal.

National Security Program



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!



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

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