



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,

As we gladly welcome a New Year, new things are happening in the Auxiliary. We have a new webpage. The Committee has put many hours in to help keep all of us informed better. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee has also worked countless hours to update and revise to better understand our mission of Serving Veterans.

We still have Mid -Winter Conference scheduled for February 19th-21st in Oacoma. We will be having Open Table Discussions. ALA Girl State Director Tiffany Newman will be speaking along with Public Relations Noelle Bonjour and Americanism Cindy Hansen. Thank you to those that sent their Mid -Year Reports. It was wonderful to read how everyone thought outside the box during the Covid-19 pandemic. Fantastic job everyone!

On a personal note, the last four months have been difficult for me. I faced taking cancer treatment many times but this last time, it really was hard. The uncle I have been living with since I graduated from high school develop liver cancer. Trying to be a care giver, then losing him and a cousin to brain cancer while doing treatments myself, was the biggest challenge I have ever faced. I'm slowly winning my battle with cancer, but it will take time for me to heal physically and emotionally. Thank you for your concern and prayers during this time in my life. I look forward to taking on the New Year. Please stay safe and have a Happy New Year.

Teresa Huntimer,
2019-2021 ALA SD Dept. President



Have you noticed something different?

The department website has a new look!

The website committee really took the time to think through how our members engage with the content on www.sdlegionaux.org and how the public engages with it. The site is designed so that someone unfamiliar with the Department of South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary can look at it and easily see who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

Please make sure your internet browsers are up to date. If your technology is not current, connecting can be difficult.

We invite you to check out the new www.sdlegionaux.org

Don't delay – click today!

Box Elder Unit 315 helps 25 families and 91 children

The American Legion Auxiliary unit 315, Box Elder SD annual food and toy drive was a resounding success. They were able to provide 25 families and 91 children with a complete Christmas dinner, along with additional food and snacks for the Christmas break and at least two gifts for all the children.

They could not do this without the help and generosity of the community. A special thank you to the ROTC for the toy collection, Ellsworth Air Force Base Commissary for food donations, Gizzi's for allowing the Unit to put out donation jars, and all our neighbors in the community for their donations of food and money. Thank you to the American Legion Post 315 for delivering all the boxes.

None of this would be possible without the hard work of the auxiliary members. The hours spent working fundraisers, shopping for all the food, packing the boxes, wrapping gifts, all done with a smile on their face, knowing that they will be putting a smile on a child's face.

This has been a year that none will ever forget. They do know one thing, that their community is full of caring, generous people.



Mid-Winter February 19 - 21, 2021
OACOMA, S.D.

Friday, February 19, 2021

8:30 - 9:30 am Finance Meeting - Breakwater
9:30 - 10:00 am Recess
10:00 - 11:30 am Executive Meeting - Breakwater
Noon Registration Desk Opens
2:00 - 4:00 pm Open Table Discussions - Breakwater
6:00 pm No Host Cocktails
7:00 pm Joint Legion/Auxiliary/SAL Banquet - Oacoma-Wheeler

Saturday, February 20, 2021

7:30 am Registration Desk Opens - Auxiliary Raffle
8:00 am Joint Opening Session - Conference Center Hale-Oacoma
8:50 am Auxiliary VA&R - Mary Jo Stier
8:55 am Auxiliary Children & Youth - Joyce Smith
10:00 am Recess Joint Session
10:15 am Auxiliary Session Opens - Riverrun Wetlands Room
Department President Teresa Huntimer Report
Public Relations Noelle Bonjour
Americanism Cindy Hansen
ALA SD Girls State Tiffany Newman
Presentation of Awards/Announcements/Adjourn
11:30 am Recess - No Auxiliary Luncheon
1:30 - 4:00 pm Open Table Discussion
6:00 pm Auxiliary Banquet Riverrun Wetlands Room

Sunday, February 21, 2021

8:30 am Non-Denominational Service - Wheeler Room
10:30 am SD American Legion State Finals - High School Oratorical
Scholarship Contest - Wheeler Room

THERE IS NO SILENT AUCTION

ADVANCE TICKET FORM - Deadline - February 10, 2021

American Legion Auxiliary Banquet - Saturday, February 20, 2021 - 6:00 pm
NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

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

Menu Presidents Choice: Fresh Tossed Salad; Smothered pork chops served with a lightly spiced caramelized onion cream; Baked potato with sour cream and butter; Steamed Broccoli Florets; Dinner Roll and Coffee
Gluten free bread will be available on request.

Number of tickets requested @ \$25.00 per ticket _____

[] check box for special dietary needs and list needs with your check

TOTAL amount enclosed for Saturday Auxiliary Banquet \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Chamberlain ALA Unit #3

Send to: Lila Speckels - 34465 249th St - Chamberlain, SD 57325

For additional information, contact Lila at 605-234-5338 or 605-730-0548

MIDWINTER BANQUET FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2021

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

The banquet menu will be a buffet with fried chicken, roast beef, green beans, wild rice, roasted potatoes and apple crisp.

Number of tickets requested @ \$35.00 per ticket _____

[] check box for special dietary needs and list needs with your check

TOTAL amount enclosed for Friday's Banquet \$ _____

Tickets can be ordered through John Payer,

25120 344th Ave., Chamberlain SD 57325 payable to Chamberlain Post #3

Deadline: February 10, 2021

To Memoriam

Unit 8 Pierre – Alverde Daniel, July 2018; Bessie Husband, February 2020; Mary Nielsen, November 2019; Evalin Wall, June 2019; Unit 9 Milbank – Christine Wallace, March 2020; Unit 12 Yankton – Lucille Cap, December 2020; Unit 14 Wessington Springs – Ruth Bult, November 2020; Unit 15 Sioux Falls – Sharon Rae Eck, November 2020; Unit 17 Watertown – Judith Howell, October 2020; Unit 37 Bryant – Lavonne Johnson, November 2020; Charlotte Kays, November 2020; Unit 43 Centerville – Dorothy Edman, November 2020; Unit 50 Sisseton – Lila Rau, November 2020; Unit 58 Columbia -Bette Peckham, November 2020; Unit 63 Lake Preston – Shirley Salter, November 2020; Unit 65 Dell Rapids – Betty Brown, November 2020; Joanne Park, December 2020; Judi Klein, December 2020; Unit 71 Hot Springs – Deanna Harding, December 2020; Unit 80 Britton – Dorell Dugdale, October 2020; Unit 81 Toronto – Barbara Rhody, March 2020; Lois Quam, September 2020; Linda Lambertus, June 2020; Unit 115 Platte – Cindi Serverson, October 2020; Faye Blunck, November 2020; Unit 132 Springfield – Leola Hornstra, November 2020; Unit 137 Warner – Martina Glatt, November 2020; Unit 140 Salem – Mary Scheier, November 2020; Unit 150 Avon – Dorothy Burfeindt, November 2020; Unit 157 Vivian – Margaret Juhnke, November 2020; Unit 169 Winner – Ruby Carlson, November 2020; Clarine Black, December 2020; Unit 175 Baltic – Darla Sinsaas, December 2020; Unit 184 Estelline – Eunice Berwald, October 2020; Unit 220 Herrick – Vivian Hoy, November 2020



January 2021 Guide

January 1: New Year's Day

January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Sponsor a Legislative Program

Plan Poppy Contest and Miss Poppy



Christmas Parties



Susie Clyde delivered 100 Christmas boxes to the Hot Springs State Home



Piedmont Valley Unit 311 hosted the Ft. Meade Christmas Party. The Christmas gift bags were assembled at the Post Home and delivered by District 1 President Carol Edwards on December 15.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 66 Lemmon South Dakota

Awesome turnout for the 2020 Wreaths for Veterans at Greenhill Cemetery in Lemmon! Volunteers braved the frosty chill on December 13 to place 80 wreaths on their American heroes' graves. Their goal is to have enough wreaths for all 353 Veterans!



Members to Remember

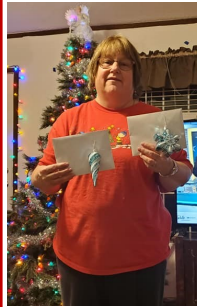


Patty Vaughn has belonged to the Rieck-Morgan Warner Legion Auxiliary #137 for 8 years. She has been the Unit's chaplain. Patty volunteers when possible and offers to donate food. She is a fulltime second grade teacher. Her husband is a member of the National Guard and Warner Legion Post. Patty and her husband are always willing to take items the Unit donated to the VA Hospital when he attends meetings west of the river. She is active in her church. Their two daughters are also members of the ALA.



Nancy Criddle has belonged to the Rieck-Morgan Legion Auxiliary #137 for 14 years. She is the Unit's Juniors chairman. Her group helped with winter coat drives. Nancy is the go-to person to organize and schedule events to not conflict with school events. Beside being a farm wife, she works part-time and is active in church. Nancy enjoys making quilts and greeting cards. Her mother, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, two nieces, and daughters are all members of Unit #137.

Cheering their Elders



The Eagle Butte Unit 191 made a delivery to the Medicine Wheel Village Assisted Living. Residents received card, mints, and a tree ornament. Staff was given meat, cheese, and crackers.

Christmas Cards for the Hot Springs State Home

Kim Geer, Hot Springs State Home Hospital Representative organized a Christmas card drive for the residents. It has been a huge success thanks to the Auxiliary members in South Dakota. She received beautiful handmade cards, cards with notes to the residents, cards from Jr. Auxiliary members and even cards from a 1st grade class. She received 700 cards!!! She delivered the cards plus bags of candy on December 4th, 2020.



January Prayer

By Kathleen Geiman Dept. Chaplain

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. I will be with you. I will protect you. I will be your strength. I will answer you. I will provide for you. I will give you peace. I will always love you! In Jesus' name Amen.



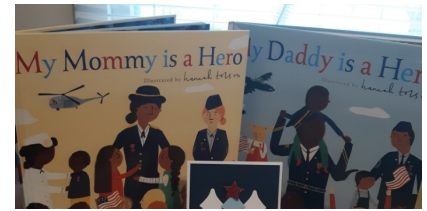
American Education Week

The Spearfish Unit 164 prepared five appreciation baskets with individually wrapped snacks for the area schools. An additional basket was donated to the church who opens its door for the preparation of all the unit's project days and meetings.



A Gift for the School Library

The Piedmont Valley Unit 311 donated three sets of books for local school's libraries. Pictured is the receptionist at the Black Hawk Elementary School.



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.



Senior Poppy Contest

Categories: Centerpiece, Corsage, Wreath, Display/Wall-hanging

1. A Senior member may enter any or all of the categories.
2. All entries must use the American Legion Auxiliary poppy, large, small, or a combination of both.
3. The white label of the small poppy must be removed.
4. Accessories, greenery, and filler may be used BUT the poppy must be predominant.
5. Each entry must have the following information attached behind or under the arrangement, hidden from immediate view of the judge.
 - (a) Member's name and ALA #;
 - (b) Member's Unit #;
 - (c) Category for the entry.
6. All work must be done by the Unit member entering the contest.
7. Entries will be judged at Mid-Winter and should be checked in by 8:00 am Saturday.



Entries will be judged using the following criteria:

- 25% labeling, proper materials, followed directions
- 50% Predominance of the Poppy
- 25% Design and creativity - use of the Dept. President's theme will be taken in consideration

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!

2021-2022 Endorsements

On November 23, 2020, the members of Sully Unit #79 in Onida, South Dakota, proudly endorsed **Mary Jo Stier** for the office of President for the American Legion Auxiliary Department of South Dakota, for the year 2021-2022.

The members of Arthur Peterson Chester American Legion Auxiliary Unit 136 proudly endorsed **Joyce Smith** for the nomination of Department of South Dakota 1st Vice President for the year 2021-2022.

At the Pierre Unit October meeting, Pierre Unit 8 proudly endorsed **Patsy Madsen** for SD Dept State 2nd Vice for the upcoming 2021-2022.

On October 13, 2020, The American Legion Auxiliary Pike-Huska Unit 230 of Aurora, South Dakota, endorsed **Wendy Henley**, for the office of Department Chaplain for the year 2021-2022.

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