



THE SOUTH DAKOTA LEGIONETTE

Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities

A Word from the President

by Mary Jo Stier Department President



S.M.I.L.E

Wow! It's hard to believe that it has been two months since I was elected as your Department President. I am truly humbled and honored to serve in this capacity. I know that we hear it all the time, but I truly believe that communication is a big key in helping an organization to be strong. My goal for the year is to always remember to communicate as well as listen to our members.

Another big part of an organization is making sure the members are educated. Sometimes we all assume that everyone knows the ins and outs of the Auxiliary but let me tell you that is not always the case. Even being a member for the past twenty years, I have learned so much about this organization over the past three years and I still have so much more to learn. I always say that the best way to learn is to ask questions. . . and I do a lot of that. Educating our members goes hand in hand with communication.

My theme for the year is S.M.I.L.E. What does that mean? With having an extra year to prepare for this important role due to Covid, I continue to ponder what does the American Legion Auxiliary really means to me. There is so much more to the Auxiliary than serving our Veterans and I wanted to incorporate that into my theme.

Here is what it stands for: **S**erving our Veterans – **M**entoring our Youth – **I**nforming the Public – **L**oving each other – **E**ducating our members.

So, for this year remember to always S.M.I.L.E.



South Dakota Department Officers 2021-2022



Congratulations to our 2021-2022 department officers! **National Executive Committeeperson:** Laura (Susie) Clyde (not pictured), **Dept. President & Alternate NEC:** Mary Jo Stier, **Dept. First Vice President:** Joyce Smith, **Dept. Second Vice President:** Patsy Madsen, **Parliamentarian:** Kim Anderson, **Historian:** Jennifer Iron Shell, **Chaplain:** Wendy Henley, **Secretary:** Laurel Stringer, and **Treasurer:** Regina Whipple.

From the Department Convention - June 2021



The theme of the convention was the 100th birthday of the American Legion Auxiliary, for an unprecedented two-year celebration! Pictured are 2019-2021 Dept. President Teresa Huntimer, Patsy Madsen (2021-2022 2nd VP) Mary Jo Stier (2021-2022 Dept. President), and Joyce Smith (2021-2022 1st VP). Dept. President escorted by SAL JJ Agnew. Elections of new Dept. Officers and District Presidents.



September Guide



- 9/11: 20th Anniversary
Patriot Day: National Day of Service & Remembrance
- 9/17: **US Constitution Day**
- 9/17: National **POW/MIA** Recognition Day
- Reports from Girls State delegates
- Plan your Unit Program for this year
- Make plans to attend Fall District meetings
- 9/26: **Gold Star Mothers' Day**

Gold Star Mother's Day is observed in the United States on the last Sunday of September each year. It is a day for people to recognize and honor those who have lost a son or daughter while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Send 2021-2022 Legionette subscriptions to Dept. Headquarters

Christmas Gift Shops Monetary donations to Headquarters and items to chairmen are due by **October 1**

Fall District Meetings

District 1 - Sept. 12 @ Isabel Post 120: Social 10:30 am, lunch 11:05 am (free will donation), meeting 11:30 pm.

District 2 - Sept. 11 @ Rapid City Post 22: Social 11:30 am, lunch @ 12:00 , meeting 1:00 pm.

District 3 - October 24 @ Pierre Post 8: Social 11:30 am, lunch at the Post 12:00 pm, Meeting 1:00 pm River Cities Transit Bldg., 1600 Dakota Ave E in the Dakota Rm. (National President's visit)

District 4 - Sept. 18 @ Redfield Post 92: Social at noon, meal 1:00 pm, meeting 2:00 pm. ALA at the United Methodist Church 1326 W 1st St.

District 5 - Sept. 19 @ Gary Post 109: Social at 2:00 pm, meeting 2:30 pm, meal 4:30 pm

District 6 - October 23 @ Chamberlain Community Center: Social 1:00 pm, meeting at 2:00 pm. (no meal)

District 7 - Sept. 25 @ Garretson Post 23, Social 11:00 am, lunch noon, meeting 1:00 pm. ALA at Garretson School Commons Area

District 8 - Sept. 26 @ TBD

In Memoriam

Unit 2 Tyndall – Dorice Pringle, July 2021; **Unit 3 Chamberlain** – Mavis Schoenfelder, July 2021; **Unit 8 Pierre** – Agnes Radler, May 2021; **Unit 11 Wagner** – Linda Kahler, July 2021; **Unit 13 Wakonda** – Jane Malone, April 2021; **Unit 18 Mitchell** – Vickie Prusha-Young, June 2021; Dorothy Satter, June 2021; Florence Shank, July 2021; **Unit 20 Ft. Pierre** – Marilyn Hofer, July 2021; **Unit 22 Rapid City** – Grace Childs, May 2021; Helen Quasney, May 2021; **Unit 23 Garretson** – Debra Jone, July 2021; **Unit 27 Kadoka** – Janet Magelky, July 2021; **Unit 37 Bryant** – Darlene Olson, July 2021; Randa Haak (*Junior member*), August 2021; **Unit 41 Alexandria** – Elaine Heiter, July 2021; **Unit 59 Wolsey** – Marjorie Pullman, May 2021; **Unit 60 Clark** – Kathleen McHenry, June 2021; Margaret M. Geise, June 2021; **Unit 69 Doland** – Bonnie Barz, May 2021; **Unit 74 Brookings** – Elizabeth Christie, June 2021; **Unit 80 Britton** – Eda Bratsveen, May 2021; Georgia Janish, November 2020; **Unit 93 Letcher** – Bette Thompson, April 2021; **Unit 97 Egan** – Rita Staab, February 2021; **Unit 132 Springfield** – Martha Novak, May 2021; **Unit 135 Gettysburg** – Doris Larson, May 2021; **Unit 141 Langford** – Margaret Hones, June 2021; **Unit 150 Avon** – Ethel Reiff, July 2021; **Unit 157 Vivian** – Lois Wendt, December 2020; **Unit 169 Winner** – Guyla Tritle, May 2021; **Unit 178 Orient** – Ethel Hagen, July 2021; **Unit 179 Kennebec Reliance** – Helen Hieb, June 2021; **Unit 193 Irene** – Yvonne Swensen, April 2021; **Unit 194 Parkston** – Orpha Winter, May 2021; **Unit 260 Badger** – Margaret Kargas, April 2021; **Unit 261 Ethan** – Donna Belitz, May 2021; **Unit 276 Grenville** – Rosella Kwansniewski, May 2021; **Unit 268 Vigil** – Helen King, April 2021; **Unit 500 State** – Delores Bonenberger, March 2021

Membership by Rose Kraft, Department Chairman

The membership 2022 theme is be **"In Tune For our Veterans"**

Each month we will have a song that we can connect to our membership or our Veterans. We are starting off with "YMCA" – from the Village People – turned into **ALA**. "It takes a village to raise a child" is a well-known proverb. It draws us back to the meaning of community and how important it is to get support from others for helping you with any of your needs. This is so important in our Legion Family as many family members are being deployed and we as the Legion Family can help support those still at home. Just as our President Mary Jo, was a mom at home with her two children while Steve was deployed and thinking that she needed to do it all by herself, this month we are going to go out and look for these deployed families and offer to help them with any of their needs, including an adult to talk to. While doing this, talk about what the American Legion Auxiliary does in your community each year. Then take the big step and **ASK** them to join the ALA. **Everyone who is deployed** is eligible to join the American Legion and their spouse, daughters, mother, sisters, grandmothers, and granddaughters all would be eligible for the ALA.

At the end of July, the Department of South Dakota's membership was short 539 members. At the same time, we had 600 members who did not rejoin in 2021. These are the people we want to reach out to and get them back as a member of our Village.

So as the song says, "Young man" we are saying "Young woman" – **yes that's all of you**, we say all women and spouses too, we want mothers and daughters too, along with all the grands. It is our job to **renew** our membership, find our former members, ask them to **rejoin** and then find the eligible members in our "village" and ask them to join the American Legion Auxiliary.

So put on your **SMILE** as you begin reaching out for members in your community. You want to reach your units goal, be at 100% by November 11th. This will make you eligible for a drawing for \$50.00 for your unit. There will be ten winners again this year. You all can do this, and I'll see you at your District Meeting soon!

Celebrating 98 years



Marcie Ludens celebrated her 98th birthday on May 6, 2021. She has been a member of the Springfield Dwight Wood American Legion Auxiliary Unit 132 for 73 years!

Junior Program Activities

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED - Looking for Unit members to serve on Department Junior Activities Committee with Chair Julie Goeres for 2021-2023 Program Year. (301) 752-7802
JJGOERES@YAHOO.COM

FALL DISTRICT MEETINGS – WANTED... Any school-age Junior Auxiliary members who are interested in learning more about the American Legion Auxiliary, creating leadership opportunities and finding lifelong purpose in serving America's Veterans, Military, and their families. There will be a Junior program at each Fall District meeting. Registration is not required, but for planning purposes please let Julie Goeres know an approximate number attending. (301) 752-7802 JJGOERES@YAHOO.COM

MIDWINTER 2022 - Let your school-age Junior Members and their parents/guardians know a Junior program is being planned for the 2022 Mid-Winter Conference. Registration is not required but an estimate on attendance is greatly appreciated to ensure enough supplies are available. Julie Goeres (301) 752-7802 JJGOERES@YAHOO.COM

ITEMS NEEDED

Full-size US Flags - These flags will be used at various events to teach Flag folding by and for Junior members.

Sewing Machines, Fabric, Thread and Notions - Are you wanting to clean out your craft area of extra fabric? Have a working, but unused sewing machine? Want to upgrade your current machine and need to pass your current working sewing machine to a new home? Working sewing machines and Patriotic-themed fabrics with matching thread are needed for a service project the Junior members will be working on during 2021-2023. The Juniors will be making BRASS POUCHES for the Honor Guard to place empty casings in after the 21-gun salute given at Veteran funerals.

The Junior Department Committee will be putting together kits of the **Military Children's Table Setting** which will be given to South Dakota Units.

The kit is made up off :

Potted Flowering Plant – silk/plastic;
Hand Spade – new or used;
Unlit Candles for a birthday cake – new/unused;
Baseball Glove and Ball – new or used;
Ballet Slippers – new or used;
Family Photo - 5x7 photos of Veterans with their family – provide year and names;
US Flag – small, table-top version;
Tablecloths – solid in color, white or purple preferred – new or gently used;
Cake plate – 10" in diameter – new or gently used.



Guess Who?



Each month there will be pictures submitted of Department Chairmen, Officers or District Presidents. The game is to guess who the picture is and whoever gets the most guesses correct gets something special. The reveal will be at Mid-Winter and State Convention! ♪

Submitted by:
Stacie Mosiman, PR Chairman

South Dakota Department POEM & ESSAY WINNERS

POEM WINNERS

CLASS I

1st Place - Logyn Reagle, Madison
2nd Place - Aaron Grott, Mitchell

CLASS II

1st Place – Richard Wallenstein, Sisseton
2nd Place - Neely Althoff, Groton

CLASS III

1st Place - Miley Mertz, Andover
2nd Place - Rowan Anderson, Brookings

CLASS IV

1st Place - Brayden Padden, Buffalo
2nd Place - Calvin R Caba, Lesterville

CLASS V

1st Place - Seraya Strickland, Yankton
2nd Place - Leigh Hansen, Lake Preston

ESSAY WINNERS

CLASS I 3RD & 4TH GRADE

1st Place - Oliver Colling, Nunda
2nd Place - Breton Ross, Marion

CLASS II 5TH & 6TH GRADE

1st Place - Allison Hulst, Huron
2nd Place - Allyson Kilzer, Lemmon

CLASS III 7TH & 8TH GRADE

1st Place - Grayson Johnson, Springfield
2nd Place - Elijah Madsen, Wilmont

CLASS IV 9TH & 10 GRADE

1st Place - Noah Bailey, Spearfish
2nd Place - Eli Barreto, Gregory

CLASS V 11TH & 12TH GRADE

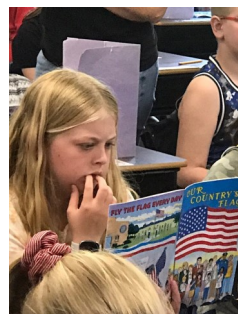
1st Place - Madison McCarthy, Herrick
2nd Place - Cullen McNeil, Redfield

CLASS VI STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

1st Place - Isaiah Wallace Hoop, Scotland
2nd Place - Dori Bruns, Dallas

Arlington Unit 42

Flag etiquette along with Pledge of Allegiance were the topics of the visit of members of Post and Unit 42, Arlington. Naomi Johnson, Rolly and LaNell Quam went to Mrs. Hasche's 4th/5th grade classroom. The students



received a demonstration on how to fold the flag, flag facts and each had their own flag, a comic book and flag etiquette book.

Remembering Mavis Peterson



Mavis Peterson, age 93, passed away in November 2020. She was the sister of Corinne Krogh Dept. Secretary and Legionette editor.

Mavis was a lifetime member of Unit 200 where she held several positions. She hand addressed the monthly newsletter, The Legionette, which was mailed out all over the United States.

Memorial Day And Poppy Programs



On Memorial Day, Penny Rinderneck and granddaughters -Teagan Streff, Brynn Streff, Rory Streff, Penny's daughter, Raquel Streff, and all members of the Arlington Legion Auxiliary Unit 42 distributed Poppies.

Memorial Day program by the John J. Tomson Legion Post 57, Rockham.

Dell Rapids Unit 65 Poppy Chairman Kathy Geraets and Mary Fox are preparing for the National Poppy Day and Memorial Day.



Box Elder Unit 315 took the opportunity to distribute poppies at the Rushmore Mall in Rapid City.



May 28, 2021: National Poppy Day First day of the Spearfish Unit 164 Poppy distribution. at the Rose Hill Cemetery. The Spearfish American Legion family, Scouts Troop 17, and the Legion Baseball Post 164 helped place over 300 flags to honor Veterans of all wars.



Service Project Day - Many South Dakota ALA members from the four corners of state, participated in a clean-up day at the Veterans Ranch in Warner. <https://dtom220.org/>



New Unit in District 1 - Rock Creek Unit 324



On May 29, 2021, Rock Creek Unit 324 was officially chartered in the presence of District 1 President Carol Edwards and Dept. 1st Vice President Mary Jo Stier. Congratulations and welcome to the American Legion Auxiliary,

Left: Dept. President Teresa Huntimer signing the charter.



Dept. President Mary Jo Stier Homecoming



September Prayer

By Wendy Henley Dept. Chaplain

Almighty God, through Jesus you have taught us, love one another, to love our neighbor as ourselves and even to love our enemies. Help us to see each person in the light of the love and grace you have shown us in Christ. Put away the nightmares of terrors and a waken us to the drawing of your New Creation. Establish among us a future where peace reigns, justice is done with Mercy, and all are Conciseness. We ask all these things in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*** **

Dear God, even 9-11 took place 20 years ago, most of us can still recall them like it was yesterday. Some more than others are still feeling the effects and not the pain this became War on Terror. Please walk with our veterans as they now go through the third part. Please be there for each veteran and military and their families as we take care of our own when we can. In Your Name Amen.

Dept. Convention ALA Banquet

Celebration of Past Department Presidents

At the auxiliary banquet, we celebrated Past Dept. Presidents Kim Anderson 1995-1996 and Kathryn Young 1996-1997.



PDC Kathryn Young & PDC Kim Anderson; M.C. Jeannine Loesch; Marlys List with the original jersey from Kim Anderson's homecoming.



Skit by PDC Carole Edwards & Rose Kraft.

Themes: Baseball and Tip your hat to a Vet!



In Remembrance of September 11, 2001



Past Dept. President 2019-2021 Teresa Huntimer's Project

With the donations and fundraisers of the last two years, the adaptive kayak was purchased and made available at the Sioux Falls VA Hospital.



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. (Form on the website)
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!

Mobridge

Jan Wales of Mobridge Unit 4 planted beautiful flowers for the Mobridge Cemetery planter. This is done every year. The float in the July 3rd parade was celebrating ALA 100 years. The unit was formed in 1920 per the Legion Post Historian but many events were canceled in 2020.



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