



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"

Good day auxiliary members. It was a busy December. We finished the last Christmas Gift Shop at the Sioux Falls VA Hospital on December 3. Then we were off to all the Christmas Parties. Songs were sung, gifts were given, and lots of goodies disappeared. We all shared in the joy of the season.

Mid-Year reports came with so many units doing wonderful projects to support our veterans, military and their families. I will be working on my report to national with all the great thing South Dakota is doing.

It is with heavy hearts that we learned our auxiliary sister and ALA South Dakota Girl State Director Cheryl Hovorka, passed away unexpectedly on December 4, 2019. Cheryl was our director for 19 years and Christmas Gift Shop and Party along with her mother Irene, at the Human Service Center.

I do not have enough words to say how much we will miss her. Cheryl will always have a place in my heart. We had great times cooking together the meal for the Human Service Center Christmas Party for many years. Unfortunately, it was canceled at this time. We will be working on a new time.

We will also have a new ALA South Dakota Girl State Director. The DEC will be voting on her approval and then we will give everyone that information. If you have any questions, please call me.

The month of January is Americanism. Play flag etiquette programs, Constitution programs, Poem and Essay contest, and Oratorical Contest.



(Cont. page 3)



In Memory of Cheryl Hovorka

May 8, 1954

December 4, 2019

*"A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands to rest
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best."*



It is with sadness that we received the news of Cheryl Hovorka's passing. Cheryl was very active in many organizations. She was currently serving as the Tabor unit president, director of the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State of SD, serving on the Department Finance Committee, National ALA Girls Nation Committee member, and also serving as the chairman for both the VA Christmas Party and Gift Shop at the Human Services Center, with her mother Irene.

Cheryl was very patriotic and loved her country. She was so proud of her niece who is serving in the US Air Force.

Cheryl was an active member of the St. Benedict Catholic Church and Catholic Daughters. She was an avid USD Coyote fan and worked at USD since 1992.

Testimonial: "Yesterday was a very heartbreaking day! Finding out we lost a wonderful woman! I've known her for almost 17 years. Not only was she my mentor but she was also a Great Friend and a role model! After attending Girls State and becoming an office Junior Counselor, Cheryl took me under her wing for work study while attending USD! She was always there for me in good times and stressful ones! She is the one who gave me the courage to be a Senior Counselor! She always encouraged me and made me feel like I could do anything! She had a way of making you feel confident in yourself! I think she had that impact on everyone who crossed paths with her at USD or ALA SD Girls State!" Emily Luikens. Aron C. Packard took the picture at the 2018 Girls State: Gov. Calico Ducheneaux of Mobridge, University of South Dakota President Sheila Gestring, South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem and Girls State Director Cheryl Hovorka.

"Her life of service was all about the people." Cheryl will be missed by many!



Sympathy cards may be sent to
Irene Hovorka
2015 Green Street, Apt. # 108,
Yankton, SD 57078



MIDWINTER CONFERENCE – 2020**Friday, February 21, 2020**

- 8:30 - 9:30AM Finance Committee Meeting - Breakwater
 10:00—11:30AM Executive Committee Meeting - Breakwater
 12:00 (Noon) Registration Desk Opens
 2:00-4:00PM Program Fair - Breakwater
 6:00PM No Host Cocktails
 7:00PM Joint Legion / Auxiliary / SAL Banquet- Oacoma-Wheeler

Saturday, February 22, 2020

- 7:30AM Registration Desk Opens
 Silent Auction Opens in Old Gift Shop Room
 8:00AM Joint Opening Session – Hale-Oacoma Cedar Shore Conference Center
 Remarks by State Commander Fred Nelson
 Auxiliary President Teresa Huntimer
 SAL Detachment Commander Terry Hanson
 8:30AM National Commander Bill Oxford
 9:00AM Dept. of Veteran Affairs – Telehealth
 9:30AM Youth Trooper Academy, SD Highway Patrol
 9:45AM Emblem Usage – Dept. Adjutant Travise Flisrand
 10:15AM Auxiliary Session Opens - RiverRun Wetlands Room
 Department Report – Teresa Huntimer, President
 Community Service Report, Annette Johnson
 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Report, Carol Harvey
 Leadership Report, Lynn Pohlman
 Presentation/Awards / Announcement / Drawings / Adjourn
 11:30 AM Recess – Check on your Silent Auction Items!!!
 Noon Lunch
 1:30-3:30PM Program Fair
 3:30 PM Silent Auction
 6:00 PM Auxiliary Banquet – RiverRun Wetlands Room
Sunday, February 23, 2020
 8:30 AM Non – Denominational Service – Wheeler Room
 10:30 AM Department Finals American Legion High School Oratorical Contest – Wheeler Room

Membership by Rose Kraft, Department Chairman

Nothing like dreaming of hot summer nights in the middle of cold January weather.

Root Beer Float Cookies

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 cup sugar | 2 tsp. root beer extract |
| 1 cup brown sugar | 1 tsp vanilla |
| 1 cup margarine, softened | 4 cups flour |
| ½ cup buttermilk | 1 tsp baking soda |
| 2 eggs | ¼ tsp salt |

Frosting:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 cup powdered sugar | 2 tsp margarine, softened |
| 1 Tbsp half-and-half | 1 tsp root beer extract |

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Lightly grease cookie sheets. Makes 5 dozen cookies

*In large mixing bowl, combine the first 7 ingredients, beat at medium speed of electric mixer until well blended.

*Add flour, baking soda, and salt, beat at low speed until soft dough forms.

*Drop dough by heaping teaspoons 2 inches apart onto prepared cookie sheets. Bake for 10 – 12 minutes, or until set. Cool completely.

*In small mixing bowl, combine frosting ingredients. Beat at low speed of electric mixer until smooth. Spread frosting evenly on cookies. Let dry completely before storing.

In Memoriam

Unit 3 Chamberlain – Mary Kostelecky, November 2019; **Unit 7 Huron** – Nancy LeGrand, December 2019; **Unit 18 Mitchell** – Lilas Greenway, November 2019; Beverly Pooley, November 2019; **Unit 31 Lead** – Bonnie Harford, August 2019; **Unit 38 Miller** – Joyce Hall – October 2019; **Unit 56 Geddes** – *Norma Rada (Gold Star Mother)*, February 2019; **Unit 61 Canova** – Anita Miller, October 2019; **Unit 65 Dell Rapids** – Evelyn Pederson, November 2019; **Unit 69 Doland** – Marlyce Flint, December 2019; Alyce Miles, November 2019; **Unit 116 Alpena** – Arlene Wessel, November 2019; **Unit 118 Hartford** – Jeanette Meile, November 2019; **Unit 128 Hudson** – Wava Homandbert, November 2019; Louella Toft, June 2019; **Unit 129 Waubay** – Phyllis Salley, November 2019; **Unit 131 Valley Springs** – Arlene Erickson, November 2019; **Unit 145 Howard** – Gloria Faye Truman, November 2019; Unit 146 Colome - Lou Nelson, November 2019; Joan Stenson, November 2019; **Unit 150 Avon** – Loyola Myers, February 2019; **Unit 169 Winner** – Marian Burtz, November 2019; **Unit 183 Tabor** – *Cheryl Hovorka, December 2019*; **Unit 229 Big Stone City** – Genee Comero, November 2019; **Unit 239 Little Eagle** – Stella Guggolz, July 2019; **Unit 240 Martin** – Bonnie McCue, October 2019



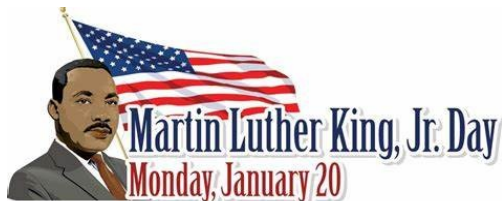


2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January Guide

- * Sponsor Legislative Programs
- * Attend Post and District Oratorical Contests
- * Plan Poppy Contest/Miss Poppy
- * January 1: New Year



This image is for commemorative use only. Not for use in any advertisements.

A Word from the President Cont. from page 1

The 2020 Mid -Winter Conference is February 21-23 Oacoma. The conference will be held at Cedar Shores Arrowood Resort. To make reservations please call 605-734-6376. Be sure to ask for The American Legion Block.

There will be a Programs Fair at the conference. Our Frist Vice President Mary Jo Stier will be speaking on new ideas and thoughts. We will have a luncheon on Saturday with a Hawaiian Beach theme. The auxiliary dinner is Saturday night. So bring your Grass skirts, shorts and flip flops because fun, fun, fun will be had by all!!!!

We will be working on Operation Pillowcase. More non deploying units are asking for pillowcases so keep them coming. Over 216 pillowcases have been given out, with 500 more guard members to deploy this year. A Big THANK YOU to all who have embraced this project.

Happy New Year 2020

Teresa Huntimer, Dept President



ADVANCE TICKET FORM

American Legion Auxiliary – Saturday, February 22, 2020

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Auxiliary Noon Luncheon, Saturday, February 22, 2020 – noon

Menu President’s Choice: Sandwich Board/ Sliced Ham, beef and turkey; Assorted cheese slices; Marbled rye, whole wheat and white bread; Homemade soup and crackers; Garden fresh tossed salad with dressings; Sliced tomatoes, pickles and condiments; Coffee.

Gluten free bread will be available on request.

Number of tickets requested @ \$18.00 per ticket _____

check box for special dietary needs and list need with your check

Auxiliary Banquet, Saturday, February 22, 2020– 6:00 p.m.

Menu Presidents Choice: Caesar Salad; 8 oz. oven baked pork chops with sage dressing served with a light pork sauce; Oven roasted potatoes; Green beans almandine; 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 luncheon and/or ALA Banquet \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Chamberlain ALA Unit #3

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

Contact Lila at 605-234-5338 or 605-730-0548

Deadline – February 10, 2020

ADVANCE TICKET FORM

The American Legion Joint Banquet-Friday, February 21, 2020

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Menu: Steak & Walleye, Salad, Baked potato, Carrots, coffee or tea.

Number of tickets requested @ \$30.00 per ticket _____

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

TOTAL amount enclosed for Joint Banquet \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Chamberlain Post #3

Send to: John Payer; 25120 344th Ave, Chamberlain, SD 57325

Deadline – January 31, 2020



Christmas Gift Shops



*Fort Meade
VA Medical
Center*



*Hot Springs
VA Medical
Center*



*Hot Springs State
Veterans Home*



Sioux Falls VA Medical Center

Yankton Human Service Center



Christmas across South Dakota



The Cresbard American Legion Auxiliary made poppy Christmas wreaths. They presented a wreath to local veterans and one to their 102-year-old Auxiliary member.

Jacob D. Schmidt Unit #235 of Marion, SD decorated their 100 year celebration Christmas Tree at the Festival of Trees at our local nursing home, Tieszen Memorial Home. Pictured are Poppy Chairman, Nancy Davis and President, Carol Nelson. Red, white and blue ornaments amid our poppies looked very festive!



Officers were busy with their Post 140 Auxiliary Tree at the McCook County Courthouse.



Stratford Auxiliary held their annual cookie decorating day. Lots of sticky, sweet fun.



Unit 18 from Mitchell and Jr. Danica did a Christmas program for veterans in residence.



The Auxiliary and Post 315 from Box Elder distributed Christmas baskets of food and toys to 12 families, many thanks to the Douglas HS Jr ROTC for the toys and all who helped.



The Spearfish Unit 164 prepared Christmas gift bags for 75 Veterans residing in 7 facilities and Post 164 WWII - Korean War Veterans (22) still at home. Our unit had the support of the whole Legion Family Post 164, SAL squadron 164, and the Black Hill Chapter of the American Legion Riders to deliver the gifts.



Operation Christmas Angels. Thank you to the Sturgis Coffee Company for their donation of 70 bags of freshly roasted coffee for the deployed soldiers in Kuwait and Iraq "Remember Everyone Deployed" ribbons are on all the vests. Even the store employees are wearing red that day.



SD-ALA Christmas Parties



Sioux Falls
VA Medical
Center



Hot Springs VA
Medical Center



Fort Meade
VA Medical
Center

Hot Springs
State
Veterans
Home





From our Grassroots



Jacob D. Schmidt Unit #235 of Marion, SD celebrated the American Legion Auxiliary's 100th Birthday at their September meeting.

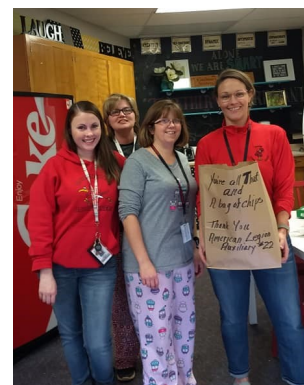


Spearfish Unit 164 celebrated the ALA 100th Birthday at the Parade of Lights



Post 140 Auxiliary worked on pillowcases and made 10 lap robes for the VA.

Sully Unit 79 of Onida gave treats to our teachers and staff for American Education Week. Unit 22 stole your idea for Pinedale and Robbins Dale elementary school teachers in Rapid City.



Cresbard, Faulkton and Orient American Legion Auxiliaries had a fun day decorating 22 pillowcases for their local veterans. They had a wonderful lunch and shared wonderful friendships.

Unit 235 of Marion handed out continuous membership certificates to members, totaling 466 years for the 21 Senior members and 4 Junior members. The party was complete with displays of Unit #235's 88 year of history, since it's charter in 1931, and, of course, cake and ice cream!

Junior Miss Fall River/Junior Miss Hot Air Balloon Festival, Riley Lockhart and Unit 71 decorated pillowcases to Veterans.



January Prayer

By Kathleen Geiman Dept. Chaplain

God is kind, patient, and gentle!

God is merciful and wise!

God is compassionate and faithful!

As we start the New Year, let us keep God's goodness as our guide. Let us be the catalyst that makes this the best year for our units. Always be aware of God's deep and abiding presence. He is everywhere. He is there to offer his wisdom and love. God's word equips us to serve. It promises hope, and it renews our minds. It is a wonderful gift to us. New Year, new energy, new ideas! The opportunities are endless. Let God's word be the lamp for your feet to light the path to accomplish the work of our mission. "Lord, let it be our goal this year to follow God's light. Let us be the inspiration to the success of our unit."

Amen

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 Legionette to stay up-to-date with District and Department information.

Subscriptions are from September to June aligning with the Dept. President's and fiscal year. Time to renew!

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!

A Member to Remember



Auxiliary Unit - Roy L. Hall Post #58 from Columbia nominated Doris Dennert as "A Member to Remember."

Doris has been a member of the Legion Auxiliary for 38 years - joining in 1981! She is a strong member of the ALA organization - always at every event willing to do her part! She is a very involved member of the community - in her church as well as helping with the organization - The Orphan Grain Train. Through this service, the unit is inspired to do more! She is present at every event in our community - whether it is a funeral, fundraiser, or holiday party for area children - always providing a wonderful pan of bars. She is an integral part of our Auxiliary unit. We would be lost without her!

It's all in the family!

Margie, Irene Hovorka's sister and Cheryl Hovorka God's Mother, sent a picture of their ALA family. Pictured from left to right: Margie Hovorka (great-grandmother); Jackie Vaith & Aurora Foiles; Witney Foiles; Amy Eckert & Abbie Eckert; Joanie Auch (daughter) Margie, Jackie, Amy, Joanie are all paid-up-for life. Amy Eckert is a Navy Veteran and dual member of TAL and ALA.



2020
Happy New Year

Endorsements

At their October meeting, members of Unit #79 in Onida, SD proudly endorsed **Mary Jo Stier** for the 2020-2021 Office of President for the American Legion Auxiliary Department of South Dakota.

At the Pierre Unit #8 September meeting, the members proudly endorsed **Patsy Madsen** for the 2020-2021 Office of Second Vice-President for the American Legion Auxiliary Department of South Dakota,

Thank You

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