



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

Once again, I have to begin by saying “boy does time fly”. The holidays have come and gone and we are heading into the second month of a new year. As you may recall from my article last month, we received Laurel’s resignation letter which was effective at the end of 2021. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Laurel for her dedication and service to the department as well as to the veterans.

With Laurel’s resignation, we had to make some adjustments within the department on a temporary basis. Per our constitution/bylaws, the treasurer fills the role of the absence of the secretary. Regina Whipple is currently serving as secretary pro temp until we fill the secretary position. The office has been relocated to the Whipple residence in Clear Lake due to the three-year lease on the building in Hartford ending in August, 2021. It made more sense to move the office to Clear Lake versus Regina driving back and forth during the week. At the special DEC meeting scheduled for Friday morning at mid-winter, we will begin the process of filling the position.

Speaking of Mid-Winter, I hope you have made plans to come. The committee has been working hard to make this Mid-Winter educational as well as planning to have some fun. I wish I could tell you everything they have planned but that would ruin the excitement. One activity that I will share with you is that we are having a garage sale. Yes I said garage sale. Going garaging sale in the summer is one of my favorite things to do, so I thought why wait until the summer. So if you are planning on attending the conference, since I hope you are; please bring items for the garage sale. One note of importance is that we are asking you not to bring clothing with the exception of branded ALA apparel.

I hope I have sparked your curiosity and you will all come to Mid-Winter in February.



2022 Midwinter Conference

*Arrowood Resort & Conference Center—Cedar Shore
Oacoma, SD*

Friday, February 18, 2022

- 9:00 am Desk Opens – Pre-function Area, Conference Center
- 10 am Department Special Executive Meeting
- Noon Recess – Lunch on your own
- 12:00 – 1:45 pm Garage Sale Opens
- 2:00 – 4:00 pm Speakers & Game of Games – Round 1
- 4:00 – 4:30 pm Membership Phonathon
- 6:00 pm No Host Cocktails – Pre-function Area, Conf. Center
- 6:30 pm Joint Bauquet

Saturday, February 19, 2022

- 7:30 am Registration Desk Opens
- 8:00 am Joint Opening Session – Conference Center
- 8:45 am DeeDee Buckley, Northwester Division Vice President
- 9:00 am Auxiliary VA&R: Laura “Susie” Clyde
- Auxiliary Children & Youth: Alice Upshaw
- 10:00 am Recess Joint Session
- 10:15 am Auxiliary Session Opens
- Department Mary Jo Stier – Report
- 1st Vice President Joyce Smith, Leadership Chairman
- 2nd Vice President Patsy Madsen, C&B Chairman
- Laura “Susie” Clyde, VA&R Chairman
- Alice Upshaw, Children & Youth Chairman
- Awards/Announcements/Adjourn
- 11:30 am Recess
- 11:45 am Legion Family Luncheon Opens
- 11:30 – 1:45 pm Garage Sale Open
- 1:30 – 4:00 pm SD ALA Game of Games – Round 2
- 6:00 pm Auxiliary Banquet – SD ALA Game of Games Final

Sunday, February 20, 2022

- 8:30 am Non-Denominational Service
- 10:30 am SD American Legion High School Oratorical Contest

This schedule is tentative.

Member in the Spotlight

Lucille Odden is a member in good standing with Porter L. Rich Unit #63 of Lake Preston, SD. She resides in Miller, SD to be closer to her family. Unit 63 celebrated her 75 years of membership by having a gathering of friends and family at her apartment complex. Three members and a guest from Lake Preston traveled to Miller on December 4. She was presented a 75 year membership certificate, a poppy scarf, and a souvenir ALA spoon.



She joined under her brother Donald Rainy, who lived in Los Angeles at the time. She joined her hometown unit, Harry J. Anderson Unit #140 in Minnesota on December 3, 1946, while a junior in high school.

She was president of Unit #63 several times over the 75 years. Thank you Lucille for your dedication and faithful service to the American Legion Auxiliary.

February Guide

* 02/01: National Freedom Day
 * 02/14: Valentine's Day
 * 02/18-20: Midwinter Convention - Oacoma
 * 02/21: Presidents' Day
 March 1: ALA Girls State & Journalism due to Tiffany French
 March 1: Pay Past Presidents Parley dues

♥ Happy Valentines Day ♥

.Endorsement

The members of Arthur Peterson Chester American Legion Auxiliary Unit 136 are proud to endorse **Joyce Smith** for the nomination of the Department of South Dakota President for the year 2022-2023.

**NOMINATIONS
NOW OPEN**



In Memoriam

Unit 9 Milbank – Darlene Eide, February 2021; **Unit 18 Mitchell** – Marian Hegdahl, April 2021; **Unit 38 Miller** – Norma Carr, May 2021; **Unit 42 Arlington** – Orlene Dahl, March 2021; Jean Lee, April 2021; Verna Schmidt, April 2021; Unit 63 Lake Preston – Joann Heland, April 2021; **Unit 66 Lemmon** – Nancy Sketteberg, December 2020; **Unit 67 Ipswich** – Helen Thares, May 2021; **Unit 76 Veblen** – Gayle Hansen, April 2021; **Unit 88 White** – Jennie Vaselaar, February 2021; **Unit 93 Letcher** – Clara Wise, November 2020; **Unit 94 White River** – Kay Olson, November 2020; **Unit 102 Faulkton** – Rosene Royce, March 2021; **Unit 115 Platte** – Anna Gillings, November 2020; Jennie Sudrila, March 2021; Sharon Walters, April 2021; **Unit 129 Waubay** – Jeanette Utne, December 2020; Cynthia Sikkink, January 2021; **Unit 135 Gettysburg** – Jane Hottman, November 2020; Linda Simon, January 2021; **Unit 171 Strandburg** – Vivian Larson, February 2021; **Unit 172 Edgemont** – Janet Porter, April 2021; **Unit 176 Davis** – Sunee Shattuck, March 2021; **Unit 241 Erwin** – Elaine Kazmerzak, April 2021

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

Membership by Rose Kraft, Dept. Membership Chairman

Are you a “Beverly Hills Cop” movie fan, do you remember this from the “good old day”. Well, I would say **“The Heat is On”** when you look at the Department of South Dakota’s membership. We are doing amazing! The lyrics state, “The heat is on, on the street, inside your head, on every beat....” I think this is you searching for our new members and for those to renew. It continues, “And the beats so loud, deep inside, The pressure’s high, just to stay alive....” I take this as you working the ALA mission through your unit, community, and department. “Oh-wo-ho, oh-wo-ho,” remember to rejoin, renew and recruit your membership.

We are truly, **“Caught up in the action”** when you look at everyone who is on the 100%-unit membership list. Our department is at **83.22%** and here is our January top 28 Units who have hit 100% or better! Bullhead - 183.33%, Sioux Falls 911 121.43%, Bowdle 118.52%, Cresbard 102.90%, Wilmot 102.22%, Conde 101.54%, Salem 101.41%, Wakonda 101.41%, Wessington 100.78%, Fairfax 100%, Herrick 100%, Columbia 100%, Volga 100%, Woonsocket 100%, Trent 100%, Hudson 100%, Chester 100%, Worthing 100%, Colman 100%, and Tripp 100%.

So, setting 6th in the nation, (.47% out of 2nd) we need 212 members by Midwinter to be at 85% - Keep the heat on while you are supporting our Military and Veterans.



The 76th annual ALA SD Girls State will be held May 30th - June 4th, 2022 on the campus of the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.

REGISTRATION FEE IS \$175.00 PER DELEGATE.

As a reminder, delegates attend the FULL session of ALA Girls State. No permission will be granted to attend other activities during the session. To receive awards and scholarships, the FULL session must be attended. Deadline for ALA Girls State Delegates and Journalism City is **March 1, 2022**. I am so excited about hosting ALA South Dakota Girls State this coming spring. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions you may have!

Tiffany Newman, ALA SD Girls State Director at 605-484-7865, or by email at tiffany.newman@k12.sd.us

Message from National Headquarters

IMPORTANT + IMMEDIATE NOTICE — PLEASE SHARE WITH OTHER MEMBERS
 * Don't pay your ALA member dues through anything but www.ALAforVeterans.org. * Please be aware of a company called Doxo, which promotes itself as an official American Legion Auxiliary national bill pay site but is NOT affiliated with us. You might stumble upon Doxo if you Google terms like "alaforveterans.org dues." This external site appears as an option in the search results and misleads members into thinking they are part of us. Don't be duped — Doxo does a nice job of branding their site to look ALA official (see screenshot). While this payment site does work, our members have reported delayed payments, missed due dates, and additional service fees when paying through Doxo. Using our name and logo is unauthorized and makes it appear as if the service is affiliated with ALA when it is not. This has caused confusion and created hassle for some members. This is a reminder to always use the national ALA's official payment processing through the MyAuxiliary member portal at www.ALAforVeterans.org which is a quick, secure, convenient, and FREE way for members to pay their dues and update their contact information. Please contact membership@ALAforVeterans.org if you have any questions.
 NHQ staff updates

Juniors



Mya Loosmore, junior member of unit 48 of Rosholt, hosted a bake sale during Rosholt's Threshing Bee. The money she earned went toward buying "Pop Its" for all the residents at

Country Side Assisted Living.

She delivered them personally to each resident. The residents have already had a competition on who can pop them the fastest. The facility's response was "thank you Mya for thinking of our residents."



2022 Midwinter Conference Arrowood Resort & Conference Center—Cedar Shore Oacoma, SD

Advance Ticket

The American Legion Joint Banquet

Friday, February 18, 2022

Deadline, February 11, 2022 (No tickets available at the event)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip & Phone# _____

Hosted by Chamberlain American Legion Post #3

Menu: Fried chicken, rich beef pot roast, loaded mashed potatoes, buttery sweet corn, potato salad, coleslaw, fresh rolls, butter, and dessert

Number of tickets: ____ @ \$30.00 per ticket = \$_____

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

Make checks payable to The American Legion Chamberlain Post #3

ADVANCE TICKET FORM TAL FAMILY NOON LUNCHEON

All American Legion Family (Legion, Auxiliary, SAL) – Saturday, February 19, 2022

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Legion Family Noon Luncheon Deli Buffet, Saturday, February 19, 2022 – 11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 Sliced Ham, Turkey, Roast Beef, Salami, and Pepperoni, Assorted Bread, Swiss and Cheddar Cheese, Potato Salad, Pasta Salad, Lettuce, Tomato, Red Onion, and Pickle Spears, Chicken and Rice Soup, Coffee

Number of tickets requested @ \$20.00 per ticket _____

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

TOTAL amount enclosed for Saturday Legion Family Noon Buffet \$_____

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

Deadline – February 11, 2022

ADVANCE TICKET FORM AUXILIARY SATURDAY EVENING

American Legion Auxiliary – Saturday, February 19, 2022- 6:00 p.m.

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

American Legion Auxiliary Evening Banquet

Saturday, February 19, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

Lettuce Salad with Raspberry Dressing (gluten and dairy free),
 6oz Sirloin Steak, Baked Potatoes, Honey Buttered Carrots,
 Fresh Rolls and Butter, Coffee

Number of tickets requested @ \$28.00 per ticket _____

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

TOTAL amount enclosed for Saturday Auxiliary Banquet Buffet \$_____

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

Deadline – February 11, 2022



February Prayer

By Wendy Henley,
Dept. Chaplain

Dearest Heavenly Father,

We want to thank You for the precious gift of love You have given to the world. Thank You for blessing us every day with this love and the power and strength that we get from You every single day.

Without Your love for us, we can't be ... we can't function ... we can't even breathe ... because we need Your love to sustain us. It's like food and medicine for our souls Lord.

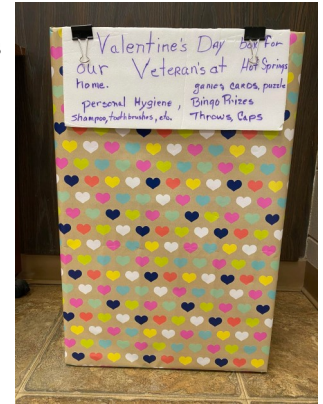
Please continue to let us feel Your comforting love in our lives and Lord we give ourselves over to You to perfect in us this gift of love ... that we may be able to express it and share it with others. Lord, we have not always been good at this ... forgive us.

Lord, some people are harder to love than others, but we want to be like Your Son Jesus, so please continue the work You are doing in our hearts so our hearts will be like Yours.

In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.

Preparing for Valentine's Day

Butrick Post 89 Auxiliary has placed a donation box at the Presho Dakota Prairie Bank for the South Dakota Veterans Home in Hot Springs, SD. They are looking for a variety of items including personal hygiene items, games, cards, puzzles, throw blankets, caps, anything that can be used for Bingo prizes and gifts.



The Spearfish Unit 164 had a busy "Project Day" to prepare Valentine baskets for the local nursing healthcare facilities and 15 Valentine bags for homeless Veterans at the Cornerstone Mission. They welcomed a new member, retired USAF Veteran Carol Howitz. The juniors Sydnee and Kenzie Lawlar made Valentine's Day cards for the Veterans.



District President Carol Edwards came to visit the unit in action and shared the importance of reporting as well as the meaning of the various colors of name tags.



ALA Mission Training and National Junior Meetings

Five ALA Mission Trainings and national Junior meetings are planned for 2022. They will be held at the same time and locations throughout the winter and spring. Mission Development Training 201 will help members overcome common hurdles in mission delivery. The underlying belief in this training is that improving the member engagement experience will also drive membership. During this one-day training, learn how to:

- Identify and engage volunteers – members and non-members
- Determine the needs in your community
- Solve roadblocks
- Construct specific volunteer menu opportunities in your community.

To register for Omaha, NE - April 2: go to

<https://www.legion-aux.org/Meetings/Mission-Training>

BE IN THE KNOW

Department Secretary Pro tem :
Regina Whipple
PO Box 529, Clear Lake, SD 57226
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!

Christmas for Veterans

The ALA Unit #171 of Strandburg participated in the Festival of Trees at the Grant County Courthouse. They collected 40 pairs of socks and 5 stocking caps for local Veterans. The unit also packed and delivered nine fruit & goody boxes for elderly Veterans and auxiliary members.



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LEGIONETTE

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