



# 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"*

As I write this article, I have just returned from attending Iowa's Mid - Winter Conference. It was a fun weekend learning how other state are so much like our state yet so different. I look forward to our Mid -Winter Conference this coming weekend.

On February 10, 2020 I attended Legion Day at The Capital. The day began with a luncheon for the Girl State Governor Success Suehne of Sioux Falls and Boy State Governor Jonnathan Smith of Sioux Falls and their parents. They were introduced in the House of Representatives and the Senate. In the evening a reception was held at the American Legion Pierre Post Home for Legislators.

March is Community Service Month. Our program promotes the American Legion Auxiliary's visibility within our localities through our commitment to community, state and nation. By being a brand advocate with the Community Service Program, our members demonstrate who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

Remember to have your Unit Member of the Year nominees due to District President's by March 15. State winner may go to National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

March will start our Spring District Meetings. Elections will be held in even number districts. Please think about holding a district office; we are all here to help one other to succeed in this organization.

To all who have helped with Operation Pillow-case THANK YOU!



## Membership

by Rose Kraft, Department Chairman

Wow, Ladies, you are doing fabulous on membership. We currently are at 88.09% for the department, have 36 units at 100% and need only 1271 members to be a 100% department! This is unbelievable and it wouldn't be so without YOU!

Now is the time to reach out to those who have left us, let's look at those to renew. The week of **April 1 - April 7th is One Week of Caring and Sharing for the Next Century of the ALA.** What this means, is that we, I, am asking every unit to have a personal phone call or face to face visit with a former member of the ALA. Tell them they are missed, and we would like them to rejoin the Legion Family. Along with during this time also have a personal contact with those who have not renewed. You know my rule, continue to ask until they tell you NO. Finally, have your officers have a phoneathon and contact all of your members and tell them Thank You for your service and dedication.

Please let me know what you do as a unit and what kind of reaction did you receive? You may email me at [sdmemberrose@gmail.com](mailto:sdmemberrose@gmail.com)

Let me be the first to say Thank You for all you do for our Veterans, Military, and your community!



All district presidents received a heart of appreciation for their hard work! District 4 is #1 and



has the most 100% goal units! Jeannine Jilek rocks!

## Rhubarb Pudding

While deployed Soldiers miss their family. One part of homesickness comes from family tradition, family recipes and time with Grandma. Enjoy this old-fashioned rhubarb pudding.

2/3 cup sugar  
2 eggs  
1 cup cream  
1 cup flour  
2 tsp baking powder  
1 tsp vanilla

Grease and flour 9 X 13-inch pan, place 1 quart of cut rhubarb in with above ingredients.  
Spread in 9 X 13-inch pan, sprinkle with 1 cup of sugar and nutmeg mix (about 1 1/2 tsp nutmeg).  
Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour.



## Units across South Dakota

Unit 120 of Isabel made around 40 decorated pillowcases for the **Operation Pillowcase** project. Jr. Auxiliary members, Kendyl and Lexi Locken worked on their pillowcases. Members also made Valentine's Day book-marks, St. Patrick's Day placemats, and Easter cards for the Veterans in Ft. Meade and for local Legion members.



Box Elder Unit 315 decorated **pillowcases for deployed service members** during their monthly meeting.



On January 23, Gayville Unit 237 and Yankton Unit 12 sponsored a **Bingo Party at the Human Services Center** at Yankton for approximately forty veterans and patients. Afterwards, bars, cookies, coffee and juice were served. Pictured are Dorothy Johansen, Yankton, Claudette Jensen, Gayville, Janice DeJong and Marlys List, Yankton, Jane Petersen, Gayville.

## In Memoriam

**Unit 17 Watertown** – Verna Greene, January 2020; Bev Stoltenburg, January 2020; Justine Tessier, January 2020; **Unit 33 Sturgis** – Dorothy Kaiser, May 2019; **Unit 50 Sisseton** – Pearl Krause, January 2020; Delores Medenwald, January 2020; **Unit 64 Wilmot** – Shirley Grinde, December 2019; Marilyn Woitte, December 2019; **Unit 71 Hot Springs** – Nancy Keith, December 2019; Keely Lake, January 2020; **Unit 74 Brookings** – Viola Wagner, January 2020; **Unit 80 Britton** – Lela Olsen, May 2019; Jo Thayer, April 2019; **Unit 81 Toronto** – Mary Schnarr, April 2019; Betty Stroschein, January 2020; **Unit 88 White** – Patsy Nepodal, August 2018; **Unit 120 Isabel** – Ruby Lee Locken, December 2019; Faye Stratinger, December 2019; **Unit 121 McLaughlin** – Esther Dewall, December 2019; **Unit 129 Waubay** – Loreen Aker, December 2019; Irene Tiggelaar, February 2020; **Unit 142 Tripp** – Marilyn Kepplinger, January 2020; **Unit 158 Oldham** – Vesta Case, February 2020; **Unit 169 Winner** – *Twila Dvorak* (Past Dept. President), January 2020; **Unit 173 Philip** – Sharon Coyle, July 2019; **Unit 178 Orient** – Dolores Eaton, January 2020; **Unit 229 Big Stone** – Gloria Cousins, September 2019; **Unit 261 Ethan** – Adeline Puetz, December 2019; **Unit 267 Grenville** – Hedwig Breske, December 2019; **Unit 283 Chancellor** – Audrey Vietor, January 2020; **Unit 311 Piedmont** – Ruth Kraft, January 2020

## Centennial Babies

**WANTED - 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 String 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](mailto:sdmemberrose@gmail.com)

If possible I would love a picture of the baby and the Veteran they have joined under or just the baby. The baby will receive a special certificate that they are a Centennial Member of the ALA.



### March Guide - Community Service

- \* March 1: Pay Past President Parley dues
- \* March 10: District 1 and 2 Unit Member of the Year to their District President
- \* March 15: Districts 3 - 8 Unit Member of the Year to their District President
- \* March 15: The American Legion Birthday
- \* Send ALA SD Girls State registrations
- \* Quarters - 25 cents per member (last year membership) to Dept. Headquarters
- \* Submit prayers to Dept. Chaplain



### SPRING DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

**March 28– District 1- Saturday** – Box Elder Post 315. Social at 10:30 am ; Lunch 11:30 am, Joint Meeting 12:30 pm, Separate Meetings 1:00 pm.

**March 29 – District 2– Sunday** – Hermosa Post 303, Social 11:00 am.; Lunch 12:00 pm.; 1:00 pm.; Meetings at 1:00 pm; ALA meets at St. Michel's Church

**April 3 – District 7– Friday** – Dell Rapids Social 5:30 pm., Meal 6:15 pm, meeting 7:00 pm

**April 4 – District 8 – Saturday** – Vermilion Post 1; Details TBA

**April 5 - District 6 – Sunday** – Arlington Post 42; Social 1:00 pm; Meeting 2:00; Meal 4:00 pm Cost TBD; Auxiliary meet at 1:00 pm location TBD.

**April 17 – District 3 – Friday** – Hoven Post 159; Social 5:00 pm.; Meeting 6:00 pm;

**April 18 – District 4– Saturday** – Akaska Community Center; Social 3:30 pm, Meal 4:30 pm – Meeting 6:00 pm



### Midwinter Challenge

The districts responded to the challenge and donated over 470 pairs of flip flops for the Hot Springs VA Hospital and State Home. Every three months, they need from 70 to 80 pairs for the residents. The unit with the largest donation was Lemmon Unit #66 in District 1.

The district that won the challenge is District 1 with close to half of the donations. Pictured is District 1 President Carol Edwards with the winning prize.

*From Dept. VA&R Chairman  
Mary Jo Stier*



### Midwinter Conference—Oacoma

The ALA, Dept. of SD Midwinter Conference was held in Oacoma, February 21-23, 2020. TAL National Commander Bill Oxford attended the conference. During the sessions, many new members were gathering pamphlets and materials on the various ALA programs. A ninety-minute forum conducted by First Vice President Mary Jo Steir brought many in attendance to voice their ideas. Chairmanships, rotations, extension of commitments, and dissolution of a couple programs were all discussed. It was a time to share a new vision for the next 100 years!

Membership, Leadership, Community Service, and Auxiliary Emergency Funds were selected by President Teresa Huntimer to be highlighted on Saturday.

The Saturday auxiliary banquet with its beach-Hawaiian theme and the Bonjour singers were enjoyed by the attendees.



### Midwinter Conference - ALA Banquet Saturday Night



### Midwinter Conference - Program Fair



The program fair was well attended. Many new or first-time attendees walked through the various programs' booths and picked up handouts, new ideas, or shared stories about their own units.



## *Community Service*

### *Vendors' Show Supports Quilt of Valor*

A small vendors' show was hosted by Pierre Unit 8 on Saturday January 25th at the Pierre Legion Cabin. Pasty Madsen nominated one of local Veteran John Fette to receive a quilt from Quilts of Valor QOV.) The quilt was presented to John Fette at noon during their vendors' show. They had a fundraiser for QOV to raise monies for Quilts of Valor for supplies etc. to make more quilts for our Veterans. The first vendors' show had 15 vendors along with the unit's table. The unit also served sloppy joes, chips and soda for lunch. They raised \$270 from vendors' table fees and the unit matched it. They gave QOV \$540.00 towards their mission of making quilts for veterans.



Pierre area veteran Lance Corporal John Fette was honored with a quilt at the American Legion Hall in Pierre, Saturday, Jan. 25. According to records provided by Marlin and Ardys Roseland, Fette served in Area — 1 Corp 3rd Marine Infantry Division as an anti-tank assault person and military occupation specialist in Vietnam, from February 1969 through June 1969. Fette received numerous medals for his service. These include the Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Combat Action Ribbon and a Purple Heart Medal. Lance Corporal Fette medically retired from the Marine Corp. Upon coming home, he further served with the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs. He currently works part-time at the South Dakota National Guard Museum and serves as the chaplain for the American Legion Post 8 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2038. Awarding of the quilt was made by members of the Flag Mountain Honor Guard, South Dakota's first Quilt of Valor Foundation chapter, located in Pierre. Membership in the group is drawn from quilters throughout the state and is open to anyone wishing to make quilts to honor the state's South Dakota veterans. Anyone interested in joining the Quilts of Valor Flag Mountain Honor Guard or supporting their efforts may contact Kay Livermont, state coordinator and group leader, by phone at 760-878-8978, by email at [KayKauffmann@Livermont.com](mailto:KayKauffmann@Livermont.com), or by asking any member of the Flag Mountain Honor Guard.

*Submitted by Pasty Madsen*

### March Prayer

By Kathleen Geiman Dept. Chaplain

God, you are abounding in forgiveness and mercy and goodness I cannot understand in this life. I worship you with my heart and soul. As I sit in regret and guilt over past sin, remind me of your forgiveness.

Please let me feel your mercy. Fill me with it so I can give it to others I encounter today.

Walk closely with my family so they can know your grace. Lift their burdens and point their faces toward you. I give you thanks for the grace I do not deserve and your mercies, which are new every day.



### BE IN THE KNOW

Department Secretary: Laurel Stringer 129 North Main, Hartford, SD 57033  
Phone: 605-461-3389 or email at [southdakotaala@gmail.com](mailto:southdakotaala@gmail.com)

Visit the SD ALA Website at [www.sdlegionaux.org](http://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](mailto: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!

### National Salute to Veteran Patients

February 14: National Salute to Veterans Patients at the Ft. Meade VA. It was a great afternoon program by the Spearfish Senior Center Line Dancers, a reception organized by the Spearfish Unit 164 and a visit to all rooms with gifts prepared by the Black Hills Chapter of the American Legion Riders. Veterans, nurses, and staff appreciated the Valentine's Day at Ft. Meade.



### Department Finance Committee - Opening

Due to the unexpected passing of Cheryl Hovorka, the **South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary** is looking for members interested in serving on the **Department Finance Committee**. The appointment would be to complete Cheryl two years of her three-year commitment. The duties of the Finance Committee are to oversee the general financial policy of the organization and to prepare and monitor the annual budget and its expenditures. Interested candidates need to submit a letter of interest along with a resume **by May 1, 2020** to Department Headquarters at 129 N Main Ave, Hartford, SD 57033. Interviews will be conducted prior to the Department Convention in Huron, SD.

### Endorsements

Members of Piedmont Valley American Legion Auxiliary Unit #3111 are proud to endorse **Laura "Susie" Clyde** as a candidate for National Executive Committeewoman for 2020-2022.

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.

The members of Arthur Peterson Chester American Legion Auxiliary Unit 136 are proud to endorse **Joyce Smith** for the office of ALA Department of South Dakota 1st Vice President for 2020-2021.

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.



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