



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

As February comes to an end and March begins, I reflect on the activities that took place and what will be going on in our department in the near future. In February, the annual midwinter conference was once again held in person. With the help of a committee which consisted of 1st Vice President Joyce, 2nd Vice President Patsy, VA&R Chair Susie, Membership Chair Rose, Public Relation Chair Stacie, and Children and Youth Chair Alice, the conference was full of fun and laughter but also informative. A huge thank you to the committee members on a job well done. Also in February, I had the opportunity to attend Legislative Day at the Capitol with our Girls State Governor, Auburn Brenner.

As the old saying goes, “in like a lion out like a lamb”, we look forward to March and keep our fingers crossed that the weather may come in strong but will ease throughout the month as we prepare to attend the District meetings.

“Why should I attend the district meeting?” you may ask yourself. The district meetings are where the units come together and share with others all the wonderful things they are doing for the veterans, families and military. In other words, it is their time to shine. I encourage you to come and listen to what other units in your district have been doing. You may find that your unit is doing the same as other units but you may also learn of something that is totally new.

The district meetings also signal that we are nearing the end of another Auxiliary year and that the Department Convention will be upon us sooner than we imagine. The Department Convention will be held in Watertown, June 16-19. Now is the time to make plans to attend.

As always, keep up the wonderful job serving our Veterans, Families and Military.



Happy 100th Birthday, Helen

Helen Kirk is celebrating her 100th birthday. She has been a member of the Springfield American Legion Auxiliary #132 for 79 years. She joined during WWII in 1943.

Happy 100th Birthday, Berdyne

Unit 15, Sioux Falls SD helped 24-year member, Berdyne Bosler celebrated her 100th birthday February 4th, 2022. They presented her with a



Poppy corsage and helped her celebrate her birthday at Orchard Hills and at an open house at St Johns Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls hosted by her family.



Happy 100th Birthday, Shirley

Shirley Fiala, charter member of Pound-Uhre Unit #210 of Mt. Vernon, celebrated her 100th Birthday in Denver with her family. She still lives in her own home and continues to contribute to all our Auxiliary programs. Over the years she has held many offices and served as mentor to many members.

Happy 100th Birthday, Elsie

Elsie Wohl is a huge asset to the ALA Mobridge Unit #4. Elsie joined the American Legion Auxiliary in 1956 as a member of the McLaughlin Unit. In 1972 Elsie transferred her membership to Mobridge when she and her husband moved there to purchase a business. Elsie made ALA a priority in her life, she served as Chaplain of her unit for many years, as well as the Sunshine chairman, sending well wishes to members during illness or condolences to families after a death. Elsie also took care of her unit's adopted veteran(s) with cards and gifts throughout the year for birthdays and special occasions. Elsie spent many hours playing cards with local veterans. She was one of the original organizers of the Mo-



bridge Cemetery Project, installing fence, brick planter, signage and new flagpole. Other ALA projects Elsie assisted in are: Snow Queen, annual craft fair, all fundraising events and projects to assist her unit and The American Legion Post #4. Elsie's dedication to her unit's membership and meeting her unit's annual membership goal is her passion. Elsie will be turning 100 on March 18th. Thank you, Elsie for your many years of faithful service to ALA.

March Guide

March 1: ALA Girls State pre-registrations and fees due

March 15: The American Legion 103rd Birthday

March: Check with your District President - Send Unit Member of the Year to District President

March: Check with your District President - Send Unit Poems and Essays winners to District Pres.

March 17: St. Patrick's Day

Quarters—25 cents per member to Headquarters



American Legion Auxiliary 2021-2022 Caregiver

ALA National President Kathy Daudistel sent two "Caregiver Certificate of Appreciation" for Chris Reder and Doc. Tracy for their work and leadership at the DTOM Veterans Ranch. Presented by SD ALA Dept. Pres. Mary Jo Stier to Chris Reder.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Unit 12 Yankton – Janice Gill, November 2021; Palma Rossman, February 2022; **Unit 25 Madison** – Virginia Hüntner, January 2022; **Unit 39 Groton** – Arlene Anderson, December 2021; **Unit 61 New Effington** – Merrleen Duxbury, February 2022; **Unit 65 Dell Rapids** – Mary Dickerson, February 2022; **Unit 74 Brookings** – Neva Jean Corlett, December 2021; **Unit 89 Presho** – Helen Cameron, November 2021; **Unit 102 Faulkton** – Nila Potter, January 2022; Beverley Brewer July 2021; Maurine Auchampach, August 2021; **Unit 146 Colome** – Lorraine Dohmen, November 2021; **Unit 147 Buffalo** – Charlotte Henderson, January 2022; **Unit 173 Philip** – Joy Neville, November 2020; **Unit 229 Big Stone City** – Marlene (Molly) Lundin, October 2021; Melissa McMahan, October 2021; **Unit 240 Martin** – Dorothy Hodson, December 2021

Membership

by Rose Kraft, Dept. Membership Chairman

In keeping with the Midwinter theme of games, it is now time to play the game of Beat the Clock...however, the clock is the Unit 500 which is members that don't belong to a unit but continue to pay support to the American Legion Family. Their membership is at 89.86%. To win this game you have to have your district's membership above the membership of the 500 Unit by the 20th of March. We have two units who are ahead of 500 right now - in the #1 position is District 4 at 91.97% followed closely by District 7 with 91.49%. In third and biting on the tails of 500 is District 1 at 89.15%, position #4 is covered by District 3 at 88.79%, and finishing off the middle of the road is District 8 at 88.21%. Sixth place is held on to by District 6 at 85.70%, coming in 7th is District 2 with 84.55% and last but not least is District 5 at 84.10%.

Now that you have a challenge, remember that all of you are "Super Women", you "Can't be Held Down" as all of you have a "Fighting Spirit". Keep those memberships coming and loud, thunderous applause to the 39 units that are 100% or better. They are Bullhead, Sioux Falls 15, Sioux Falls 911, Bowdle, Parkston, Aurora, Avon, Armour, Midland, White Lake, Hurley, Groton, Mellette, Piedmont, Cresbard, Wessington, Wilmont, Castlewood, Elkton, Tripp, Conde, Salem, Wakonda, Presho, Fairfax, Herrick, Columbia, Claremont, Volga, Big Stone City, Wessington Springs, Woonsocket, Garretson, Trent, Hudson, Chester, Worthing and Colman.

The importance of a name

Please remember to use the name that the person is registered for the American Legion Auxiliary vs a nickname. For instance, if their given name is Margaret, and everyone knows her as Peggy and you renew her as Peggy, I may not be able to find them on ALAMIS. Thank you for being considerate. Thank you everyone for sending in your memberships.

Progress Reports

Regina and Rose are asking everyone to compare their progress report to the number of members they have sent in. Now in the past couple of days Rose has received numerous memberships (YEAH!). So, if you know you sent in 12 members, it says you are at 21 and you say you are at 33 - then you are good. However, if you feel you have sent in more members than what the progress report is showing you, and you do not have ALAMIS please contact Regina or Rose so they can check through who may be missing and through their papers to make sure an error hasn't been made on their end. Regina and Rose are sailing through a new path and want to be sure not to leave anyone behind.



New Members Are Joining

Midwinter Convention 2022



Dept. Pres. Mary Jo Stier and ALA Northwestern Division Natl. Vice President Dee Dee Buckley; Thank you to Lila Speckels, Midwinter chairman and Chamberlain Unit 3 for her dedication to provide help during the convention.

Midwinter "Game of Games"

The Midwinter Convention committee consisted of 1st Vice President Joyce, 2nd Vice President Patsy, VA&R Chair Susie, Membership Chair Rose, Public Relation Chair Stacie, and Children and Youth Chair Alice, the conference was full of fun and laughter and informative.



Members learned about the ALA membership eligibility, Constitution & Bylaws; Children & Youth programs and scholarships; and how to be a leader. There were many games to build teamwork.



Membership Game: The winner won a pickup! Congratulations Jane Benzel. Thank you Mike and Rose Kraft for hosting the game.



SD Dept. Constitution & Bylaws trivia, by Patsy Madsen



Team winning the Constitution & Bylaws game! Congratulations on your trophy!

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA 2022 SPRING DISTRICT MEETINGS

- March 12 Saturday District 6 at Ethan 1:00 Social and 2:00 Meeting
- March 13 Sunday District 3 at Colome 11:00 Social and Meal 12:00 and 12:30 Meeting
- March 19 Saturday District 7 at Valley Springs 11:00 Social 12:00 Meal 1:00 Meeting
- March 20 Sunday District 8 at Marion 1:00 Social and 2:00 meeting. Place not announced yet.
- March 26 Saturday District 4 at Stratford Community Center 1:00 Social 2:00 Meal and 3:00 Meeting
- March 27 Sunday District 5 at Big Stone City 1:00 Meeting with Events to follow
- April 2 Saturday District 2 at Mission or Rosebud 11:30 Social 12:00 Meal and 1:00 Meeting
- April 3 Sunday District 1 at Sturgis Vets Club 10:30 Social Meal and Meeting to follow



March Prayer

By Carol T. Robinson,
Nat'l. Chaplain

Dear God, Creator of all.
We thank you for all the blessings bestowed upon us. Uncertainty these days brings fear and anxiety in our lives.
Lord, we need You! Please fill us with the knowledge of Your will. Help us to live as You want and do what pleases You.
We ask for Your grace and un-failing love.
Amen.

Love is not always a happy feeling; it is sharing and having a good relationship with one another. The best explanation is found in the book of Romans 12:9-16 (NIV)

“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.
Be devoted to one another in love.
Honor one another above yourselves.
Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.
Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.
Share with the Lord's people who are in need.”

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!

Legion Day at the Capitol

honoring the 2021 SD American Legion Boys State Governor and the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Governor

2021 ALA South Dakota Girls State Governor Auburn Brenner spent the day in Pierre representing the ALA Girls State program! She enjoyed the day visiting with elected officials, observing discussion on the Senate floor, and being introduced in both chambers!



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>

Endorsements

The members of Sully Unit #79 in Onida, South Dakota proudly endorse **Mary Jo Stier** for the office of National Executive Committeeman (NEC) for 2022-2024.

Arthur Peterson Chester ALA Unit 136 is proud to endorse **Joyce Smith** for Department of South Dakota President for 2022-2023.

Pierre ALA Unit 8 is proud to endorse **Patsy Madsen** for Department Of South Dakota First Vice President for 2022-2023.

Alcester ALA Unit 86 of Alcester, proudly endorses **AnnaMae Warnier** as a candidate for the American Legion Auxiliary Department of South Dakota Second Vice President for 2022-2023.

THE SOUTH DAKOTA

LEGIONETTE

Official Publication of the
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of South Dakota

Published monthly except July and August at Spearfish, SD from September 2021, forward. Printed by Western Mailer, Rapid City, SD 57701-2917. Subscription rate: \$5.00 per year. Dates from September through June All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 18th of each month preceding current issues. We do not pay for the postage cost of address changes.