



# 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"*

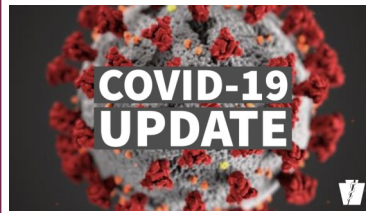
Auxiliary members,  
First, due to the Covid -19 virus precautions ; Commander Nelson has postponed the Spring District Meetings. As we generally follow the Legion, I feel it is in the interest of limiting exposure to our SDALA membership. I encourage only members who are healthy to attend to ensure the safety of those with immune deficiency. Sanitary practice will be encouraged to include hand sanitized, cleaning of surfaces, and no handshakes.

Tiffany Newman (ALASD Girl State Director) has extended the South Dakota ALA Girl State Registration to April 15th. As of now South Dakota ALA Girl State will be June 1st to June 6th. If anything changes information will be sent out. Please be patient as we work through this challenging situation with the virus.

The VA Health Care System in South Dakota has sent out letters that No unauthorized persons will be allowed until further notice. They will be taking NO donations of clothing or other items until further notice. We will let you know they can start taking donations again.

Sending cards, children's coloring pages, letters would be greatly appreciated. April is Children & Youth month. Hopefully we can recognize youth for some Good Deed Awards. Doing acts of kindness right now even in our time of social distance. Be thinking (Outside the Box) helping people that are self-quarantine, supplying food items that are in high demand.

Purple Up for Military Kids is April 15. If you know any military children, your unit may send them some cards and letter to them. Some extra encouragement for them is always helpful. I will be glad to forward any letters, cards, coloring pages. This would be a great project being we are staying home. Cnt. p 4



## *ALA South Dakota Girls State*

With the current situation that we are all facing with COVID-19 and many uncertainties that are unfolding in front of our eyes, I do want you all to understand that this situation is very fluid. As of today, ALA SD Girls State will be held as planned. I have received several questions over the last few weeks. Below I would like to address a few of these questions:

### **Will the application deadline be extended?**

*Given the announcement made by Governor Noem, I am extending the application deadline until April 15<sup>th</sup>. I do understand that this is prior to the return date that was announced of May 1<sup>st</sup>, however, I do have to be mindful of the time that we will need to make sure that everything is ready to go on our end.*

### **If school closures continue, how should we get in contact with potential delegates/hold interviews/send applications?**

*I would recommend possibly electronic communication between potential delegates. You could use a few platforms. Here are some suggestions: Facetime, Zoom, or Skype. I would suggest finding an alternative way of interviewing and/or meeting with potential delegates if you were not able to do so before the closures took place. If you have any additional questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am asking that you work closely with schools with this issue as well, as they may have other suggestions or ideas that you could try!*

*If you are looking for an alternative to mailing a physical copy of an application, you are welcome to scan and email me a copy. Please do mail a physical copy to me when that is possible along with the payment of \$125 per delegate.*

### **If a delegate signs up and chooses not to attend, will they be reimbursed?**

*If a delegate signs up for ALA SD Girls State 2020 and chooses not to attend, just like in past years a reimbursement will not be issued.*

### **If a unit has paid for a delegate to attend and the event is not held, will reimbursement be issued?**

*If a unit has issued a check for a delegate(s) for 2020 ALA SD Girls State and the event is NOT held, full reimbursement will be given to the units. Specifically, your check will be returned to you directly.*

### **When will a decision be made?**

*What I do know is that any events that were scheduled to be held on the campus of USD have been postponed/canceled through April 30<sup>th</sup>. This does not impact ALA SD Girls State being held as of today. **If this situation changes, I will be sending out another email.***

I know that this is just another added layer of what is already taking place in the world around us, but please do know that we are working diligently to make sure that we are making the best choices for everyone involved.

In ALA Girls State Spirit, Tiffany Newman - **ALA SD Girls State Director**

## **SPRING DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE**

SD American Legion Constitution and Bylaws Article IV, Section 7 requires the Department Commander to call District Conventions between March 1 and May 1. Due to the current COVID-19 situation, this motion was passed by the DEC: "All District Spring Conventions are postponed and rescheduled before the beginning of the 2020 State Convention, with meeting times to be determined. District Commanders may opt to conduct a meeting within their District before the Department Convention with the Department Commander's approval and if the current COVID-19 dangers have subsided. They must inform their Posts at least 15 days before such a meeting. **District Presidents, check with your District Commander for updates.**

## Member to Remember



Marjorie Liknes

Auxiliary Unit Henry Osnes Post #141 from Langford nominated Marjorie Liknes as a "Member to Remember." Margie has been an active member of the Legion Auxiliary since 1947. 72 years and therefore the "Go-to" person for all other members who have any questions. She has held almost every office in her local unit and is currently serving as chaplain. She has attended many conventions and conferences over the years. She is very proud to be a member of the ALA and is always encouraging others to join. She is very active in the Langford community especially with young people activities.

She hardly ever missed a ball game, music concert, or any school event. Her church is also very important to her where she attends services, volunteers, and helps in any way she can. Three of the things Margie loves are God, America, and her fellow American Legion Auxiliary members; and her unit loves her. She is a very special member.



## Celebration of Membership

The members of the Gertje-Von Lith American Legion Auxiliary decided to recognize memberships of thirty years and more. On Saturday, February 8, 2020, a party was held at the Orpheum Theater at Fairway View Neighborhoods. Nine members were present. They were given a poppy corsage made by Faye Athey and Phillis Lield. Gloria Arndt presented certificates for years of membership. A prayer

was given by Reverend Dave Tonn and music was provided by John and Lilla Salls. Julie French, an auxiliary member, announced on KOIO Radio about the event and because of it, we had two dozen of guests. Pictured are Front; Ruth Hanson 68 years – Gold Star Mother; Jeanne Cloos, 40 years; Mary Ludwig, 46 years; Colleen Hedge, 31 years; back: Gloria Arndt, 32 years; Janice Hinders, 42 years; Ann Lundberg, 46 years; Arvilla Bergseth, 43 years, and Suzanne Harmening, 49 years.

## Membership by Rose Kraft, Department Chairperson

Now is the time to reach out to those who have left us, let's look at those to re-new. 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 with a former member of the ALA. Tell them they are missed, and we would like them to rejoin the Legion Family. 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)

### Buttermilk Brownies

Many of our veterans have the joy of having an extended family including, great granddaughters and great-great granddaughters, there is nothing like gooey, gooey chocolate.

1 ½ stick butter and 1 ½ cups water – brought to a boil

3 cups sugar 6 Tsp cocoa

¾ cup oleo 3 cups flour

¾ cup oil 1 ½ tsp soda

3 eggs 1 ½ tsp vanilla

¾ cup butter milk

Mix together and place in 9 X 13 inch cake pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 – 40 min. Let cool.

#### Frosting

6 Tsp margarine 1 cup chocolate chips melted

2 Tsp milk 1 ½ granulated sugar

Mix all together, pour over brownies.

## In Memoriam

**Unit 4 Mobridge** – Linell Borah, July 2019; **Unit 11 Wagner** – Lona Holzabauer, February 2020; **Unit 17 Watertown** – Jeanette Swanson, March 2020; **Unit 25 Madison** – Betty Sunde, February 2020; **Unit 33 Sturgis** – Francelia Benton, February 2020; **Unit 64 Wilmot** – Mavis Webster, January 2020; **Unit 71 Hot Springs** – Kathy Alexander, April 2019; Denise Brings Him Back, November 2019; Susan Malenke, June 2019; **Unit 79 Onida** – Elma Silbough, February 2020; **Unit 89 Presho** – Lenore Coble, January 2020; **Unit 103 Astoria** – Barbara Milton, February 2020; **Unit 110 Wessington** – Carolyn Johnsen, February 2020; **Unit 115 Platte** – Mary Turnis, February 2020; **Unit 132 Springfield** – Jana Jelsma, January 2020; **Unit 135 Gettysburg** – Nota Berg, February 2020; Alita Buechler, January 2020; **Unit 150 Avon** – Lois Simek, February 2020; **Unit 159 Hoven** – Irene Arbach, March 2020; Sylvia Huber, March 2020; Helen Osowski, November 2019; **Unit 169 Winner** – Shirley Turgeon, February 2020; **Unit 186 Eureka** – Dorraine Gruebele, January 2020; Alice Pfeiffer, February 2020

## Quilts of Valor



Romes Binder Post 152, Menno, was part of the Veterans' Day presentation of several Quilts of Valor. One of them was presented to Donald Nandel, Korean War Veteran, shown with his wife and auxiliary member Beverly Nandel, with their son and daughter.

## 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.



### April Guide - Children & Youth

- \* **April 1 - 7th: Week of Caring and Sharing for the Next Century of the ALA.**
- \* April 12: Easter
- \* April 15: Unit reports to District Presidents
- \* April 15: Purple Up for Military Kids
- \* April 15: Send ALA SD Girls State registrations

#### Attention: Poppy Posters Information

I thought I had cleared up some misunderstandings with due dates on the poppy posters, but not all dates got changed. Posters are due to the Department Poppy Chairman by May 15. Do not send them to District Presidents. I know with schools closing because of the Coronavirus, getting posters turned in might be a challenge. Please do the best you can. I have received notice that National is still continuing with the contest. Thank you. Jane Benzel

### Child Welfare Challenge

Children & Youth department chairperson Joyce Smith has issued a challenge to the South Dakota American Legion Family to see who can collect the most donations for the Child Welfare Fund. Money has to be sent to the Department Headquarters or brought to the Department Convention.



### Remember Everyone Deployed

I want to remind everyone to check regularly with our deployed soldiers' families. With so many jobs and businesses not open there may be some who are in need now or soon will be. Thank you,

*From Dept. C&Y Chairperson Joyce Smith*

### Ava Brandt Receives National Honors

The Kortan-Hatwan ALA Unit #183 of Tabor had recently been notified that Ava Brandt of Tabor had received national honors for her poppy poster that was submitted in last year's contest. Her winning poster had been submitted by the Department of South Dakota and entered into the **Northwestern Division in Grades 8 and 9** contest where it received highest honors for the **Poppy Poster Contest Best poster from all the Northwestern Division Submissions**....her poster was displayed nationally.



Ava Brandt is a Bon Homme High School Student and the daughter of Sid and Mary Brandt of Tabor. A reproduction of her winning entry will be displayed at the American Legion Hall in Tabor. In the above photo, Jean Hunhoff (left), Tabor Auxiliary Unit President and Sherry Povondra (right) Tabor Unit Poppy Poster Chairman present Ava Brandt (center) with her winning certificates.

### Buddy Baskets



21 Buddy Baskets were collected which include pillows, blankets, cooking supplies, laundry supplies, cleaning supplies and a variety of items to help homeless and needy veterans. These Baskets were funded jointly by the Iroquois Elementary school children, the Iroquois Community, and Thrivent. The baskets were presented to the Bensley-Rounds American Legion Auxiliary Unit 280 of Iroquois for distribution on Friday, February 28, 2020 by the Iroquois Elementary Student Council. LtoR: Janelis Klancknik, John Raether, Ervin Crater, Manuel Argueta, Alixis Hansen, Maiya Shoultz

The Rosholt Legion Auxiliary Unit 48 donated 12 gently used purses filled with personal care items, to the veterans' service office in our area. These purses will be distributed to female veterans who may be in need of such items. Purses were filled by auxiliary members at their Christmas party on Dec. 4th, with such things as hair spray, comb/brush, deodorant, cotton swabs, shampoo, conditioner, personal pads, scented body lotion, tic tac's etc. What a great idea for a purse you no longer use, but still has some life left in it.



### 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.

### April Prayer

By Kathleen Geiman Dept. Chaplain

God, you are abounding in forgiveness and mercy and goodness we cannot understand in this life. We worship you with all our heart and soul. As we sit in regret and guilt over past sin, remind us of your forgiveness. Please let us feel your mercy. Fill us with it so we can give it to others we encounter today. Walk closely with our family so they can know your grace. Lift their burdens and point their faces toward you. We give you thanks for the grace we do not deserve and your mercies, which are new every day. In Christ's name, 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](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!

### SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION BAND SEEKING MUSICIANS



This article is especially targeted to instrumental musicians who have been involved in the South Dakota American Legion Band at some point or would like to be. This year the state American Legion convention is scheduled for June 19-21 in Huron. We hope to rally as much participation as possible from within our normal participants and especially those who have been able to join us at some point in the past. We will have our stalwarts who never miss joined by those who are able to participate from

time-to-time. As in the past, we will be heavily dependent on added musicians (usually from the convention location area) to augment the band. Many of the players who joined us for past Huron conventions have passed away, moved away or no longer play. For this year (and next as the convention will again be in Huron) we need to reach out to invite and encourage musicians we know to join our band.

If you know of any potential musicians who might be able to join our ranks, please invite them to join us and get their contact info to us so they can receive subsequent convention information. At the very least, pass on names of potential players to the contacts listed below.

We would love to see new instrumentalists join us to serve our veterans! Contact Dwayne LaFave: [dwayne.lafave@gmail.com](mailto:dwayne.lafave@gmail.com), 605-690 1650 or Marla Mosiman: [mmosiman@venturecomm.net](mailto:mmosiman@venturecomm.net), 605-222-3313.

### A Word from the President by Teresa Huntimer Department President

Operation Pillowcase is doing wonderful. We have given 300 pillowcases to those who have deployed this fall. We have 500 pillowcases ready for deployment this year. There is 200 more that is ready to give unit that are not deployed but asked if they could have pillowcases. I was informed there are about 4000 guard members in South Dakota. I will be continuing this project in the future.

Remember End of the Year Reports are due to the District Presidents by April 15th. I'm sure we will have tons to report. Unit Presidents please send the reports on time. District presidents have to forward their report and they are compiling all the units in their district and that does take time. They must have their reports to the Chairman. State Convention is in Huron June 18th - 21st. For those wishing to make hotel reservation at State convention the room block is under The American Legion State Convention. The room rate at the Crossroads is 90.99 plus tax. Call (800) 876-5858 or (605) 352-3204 or e-mail [reservations@crossroadshotel.com](mailto:reservations@crossroadshotel.com). The Best Western has the overflow. The phone number for Best Western is (605)352-2000.

Things are changing so quickly, and many questions are arising we will answer them as soon as we know the answers. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to our mission. So please be patient, think outside the box, stay positive, stay healthy and safe!

### 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.

**WE SUPPORT OUR  
MILITARY**

THE SOUTH DAKOTA  
**LEGIONETTE**

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