



# THE SOUTH DAKOTA *LEGIONETTE*

*Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities*



## A Word from the President *Smith, Department President*

Joyce



### *One Nation Under God, Thanking Veterans for Our Freedom*

It is hard to believe how fast this year has gone. I was an eye opening adventure. The intelligent hard-working members love their veterans. The Past Department Presidents I asked for advice made being President so much easier.

The Department Convention is just over a week away. Arrowood Hotel is full, camper sites are full, but there are a few camping cabins available yet. Their phone number is 605-734-5273. Other hotels in the area are still available.

The room we used in previous years for the Silent Auction will be available for this year's Silent Auction. All proceeds will go to my President's projects at the DTOM Veterans Ranch and Hot Spring State Home.

At 7:45 AM, the leading candidate for Department President Patsy Madsen will do her orientation. Incoming and outgoing District Presidents and chairmen will be able to exchange any relevant materials and warrants books.

Delegates, remember to bring your packet with all amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules with the recommendation of your unit.

This year, the Processional line-up or walk will be on Sunday.

As you read this newsletter, I will be in Vermillion helping with the SD ALA Girls State program. I have been reading some of the books that were in my dad's collection; he read about anything. He enjoyed going to estate and farm sales, where most of his books came from, so I have some really old ones. The Big Fisherman and The Robe by Lloyd C. Douglas are two that I just finished. Another one was United We Stand by Ross Perot.

My quote today comes from one of these books. "Only the people, the owners of this country can make America Strong again."

## *SD ALA 103rd Department Convention Oacoma, June 8-11, 2023*

### Thursday June 9, 2023

- 10:00 AM Finance Meeting
- 12:00-1:30 AM Lunch
- 1:30-4:00 PM DEC Meeting
- 5:30 PM PDP Dinner in Missouri Winds (order off menu)

### Friday June 10, 2023

- 7:30 AM Registration Desks Opens
- 9:00-11:AM **CALL TO ORDER**  
**OFFICIAL OPENING**  
Department President Joyce Smith,  
**ADVANCEMENT OF COLORS**  
Sergeant-At-Arms Colleen Peterman,  
Assist Sergt-At-Arms Kathleen Gelman,  
**Reading of Resolutions / Amendments**  
**Officers Reports**  
**NOMINATIONS OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.**
- 11:30-1:30 Lunch break  
Legion Band
- 1:00-4:00 Silent Auction ( in old gift shop room)
- 1:30 **Convention Reconvenes**  
**Greetings & Reports Continue**
- 6:00 PM No Host Cocktail/Social
- 7:00 PM Joint Banquet

### Saturday, June 11, 2023

- 8:30 AM Call to Order  
**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS (FINAL)**
- 11:30 – 1:00 Lunch Break  
**BUSINESS MEETING**  
**VOTE ON ANY RESOLUTIONS OR**  
**AMENDMENTS**  
**ELECTION OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS**  
**ELECTION OF NATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**
- 5:00 pm **PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BANQUET**  
*Honoring Kathy Thompson*

### Sunday June 12, 2023

- 8:30 AM Processional Line Up
- 9:00 AM **PROCESSION OF DIGNITARIES**  
**INSTALLATION OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS**  
**AND DISTRICT PRESIDENTS**  
**ADJOURNMENT OF THE 102<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION**
- 30 minute break**  
Post Finance Meeting  
Post DEC Meeting  
*All are welcome to attend.*

## June Guide

**May 28 - June 3:** SDALA Girls State Week

**June 6:** D-Day 1944

**June 10:** Poppy Proceeds to Headquarters

**June 8-11:** Dept. Convention @ Oacoma

**June 14:** Flag Day - Emphasize Flag Etiquette

**June 18:** Father's Day

Did you send the list of officers and chairmen to headquarters and your district president?



## Finance Meeting

Mary Jo Stier is inviting you to the SDALA Pre-Convention Finance Meeting  
Time: Jun 8, 2023 10:00 AM Central Time

If you are unable to attend the finance meeting, DEC and Past Dept. Presidents have voting privileges.

Join Zoom Meeting - Finance Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81328659485?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81328659485?pwd=QmtYN2VYS0IHc1FqTUxHTGRpWWNBZz09)

[j/81328659485?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81328659485?pwd=QmtYN2VYS0IHc1FqTUxHTGRpWWNBZz09)

[pwd=QmtYN2VYS0IHc1FqTUxHTGRpWW](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81328659485?pwd=QmtYN2VYS0IHc1FqTUxHTGRpWWNBZz09)

[NBZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81328659485?pwd=QmtYN2VYS0IHc1FqTUxHTGRpWWNBZz09)

Meeting ID: 813 2865 9485

Passcode: 350559

One tap mobile

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9# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,81328659485#,,,,\*35055

9# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 813 2865 9485

Passcode: 350559

Dept. President approved this message.

## DEC Meeting

Mary Jo Stier is inviting you to the SDALA Pre-Convention DEC Meeting  
Time: Jun 8, 2023 01:30 PM Central Time

If you are unable to attend the finance meeting, DEC and Past Dept. Presidents have voting privileges.

Join Zoom Meeting - DEC Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81462443029?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81462443029?pwd=MU96eEgrWmxoUDkzYjRLektQ2tPQT09)

[pwd=MU96eEgrWmxoUDkzYjRLektQ2tPQT](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81462443029?pwd=MU96eEgrWmxoUDkzYjRLektQ2tPQT09)

[09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81462443029?pwd=MU96eEgrWmxoUDkzYjRLektQ2tPQT09)

Meeting ID: 814 6244 3029

Passcode: 854416

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US

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 814 6244 3029

Passcode: 854416

Dept. President approved this message.

## Membership by Rose Kraft, SD Dept. Chairman

Summertime is here and many put renewing, recruiting, rejoining membership on summer vacation. However, we are still looking for at least 400 members to meet what our membership number was a year ago. Please look at your roster and make one more effort to reach out to those who did not rejoin the ALA one more time.

We have forty units who will be recognized at the department convention for meeting goal. Those who made it down victory lane and into the winners circle were Sioux Falls #15, Montrose, Gregory, Irene, Lemmon, Milbank, Arlington, Castlewood, Armour, Volga, Marion, Columbia, Huron, Wagner, Chester, Garetson, Mc Laughlin, Little Eagle, Egan, Selby, Ipswich, Rosholt, Gary, Wessington Springs, Herrick, Wessington, Fairfax, Warner, Orient, Stratford, Bowdle, Langford, Raymond, Canton, Nunda, Trent, Vermillion, Wakonda, Hurley and Avon. Congratulations!

We had four units reach bonus goals and will be our guest at the President's Banquet on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. The winners were Sioux Falls 15, Gregory, Irene, and Armour. Congratulations on going the extra mile.

Thank you for all you have done working the ALA mission and begin thinking about who you can ask to join our organization next year! Be the One!

## Thank You for Nine Great Years!

Thank you, Units, Chairmen, District Presidents, and Department Officers, for your support!

Reading and sharing the accomplishments of our auxiliary members are testimonials of our dedication to "Serving Veterans, their Families, and their Community."

I am grateful for nine years serving as the Legionette chairman and editor.

It is time to pass the baton on to a new editor. **Jill Lamer**, current Department Public Relations Chairman accepted the task, and we will work together for a smooth transition.

The department newsletter is in good hands!

*"Change does not change tradition. It strengthens it. Change is a challenge and an opportunity, not a threat."* Prince Philip of England



**Unit 9 Milbank** – Delores Nordquist, May 2023; Velma Wollschlager, May 2023;

**Unit 142 Tripp** – Ernestine Konstanz, May 2023;

**Unit 151 Mellette** - Karlene Mohrman; October 2022;

**Unit 164 Spearfish** – Sandra Dean, May 2023;

**Unit 199 Garden City** – Marie Hamann, April 2023

### Our Grassroots News



Junior activity for the Mobridge ALA Unit #4. Junior member, Jemma Hayes planted flowers in the Mobridge Cemetery brick planter. Jemma is my granddaughter, she had a good time picking out flowers and helping grandma plant and water them.



The Smith Wright Unit 120 of Isabel decorated 30 pillowcases and gave them to the residents at Ft. Meade along with Easter cards in March.

Junior American Legion Auxiliary member Abby Bechen and her brother Brent helped decorate the graves deceased American Legion Auxiliary members at the Mt Pleasant Cemetery in Artesian SD for Memorial Day. Abby is a junior member of the Artesian American Legion Auxiliary Jackson Hall unit #47.



### Member in the Spotlight

Ruth Hansen has been a long standing member of the Gertie Van Lith Legion Auxiliary in Big Stone City, SD.



Ruth is a Gold Star Mother, having lost her oldest son Peter in Vietnam in 1968. Happy early 100th Birthday in October 2023



### Member in the Spotlight

Ramona Schlup is receiving a Caring Blanket and a Patriotic Award Certificate in appreciation of her "71 Years as an Active Member and Officer of her Hudson Auxiliary and a Leading Example of Americanism." (Pictured left to right: Cheryl Kruid, RAMONA SCHLUP, Judy Anderson) She has been a very active Member, an Officer, involved in Girls State, has fond memories of Junior members—especially their putting poppies on the grave at the cemetery on Memorial Day; she is so proud to see the flags displayed at the cemetery on Memorial day every year. And her favorite times are Memorial Day and Veterans day, when our veterans are publicly acknowledged for what they do for our country, to make our children and families safe. Ramona’s husband and son were in the military; many of her husband’s relatives were in WWI and WWII. Ramona quotes, “This is a Great Country, and We all need to be Proud and continue to honor and serve.”



### Caregiver Award

The American Legion Auxiliary Higgins-Jessen Unit 88, White SD presented the Caregiver Certificate to Joanne Mathis for her empathy, compassion, and dedication to one of our long time Auxiliary members, Barbara Schulz.



All other pictures and stories are in the emailed Legionette.



*Poppy Days*



Unit 49 Legion Auxiliary of Clear Lake put poppy picks on all the veterans graves, for Memorial Day.

Spearfish Unit 164 worked with the City Council to proclaim May 26-29 as Poppy Days. Five locations, and three days provided for great visibility and opportunities for community members to pick up their poppy. This year, about 1,400 poppies were distributed. Pictured are Amber Lawlar, Mayor John Senden, and Penny Brown.

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 88 members from White, SD were out Memorial Day weekend to show their support of their Veterans. They had a stellar donation response and far exceeded expectations. Cynthia Stoebner said: "We have amazing community support. Special thanks to Joanne, Charlotte, Connie, Judy, Shirley, Lisa, Dawn, Jan, and JoAnn. You make being chair of the Poppy committee look easy."

Members of Rapid City Unit 22 were busy distributing poppies by the Post home.



### Across South Dakota



May 6th 2023 The American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 88 in White, SD hosted the SD ALA Girls State Orientation Tea.

Information was presented by District 5 1st Vice President, Marsha Timm. The POW table set up was provided by Diane Cummins, District 5 2nd VP.

Joanne Murphy, Unit 88 co-president was at the registration table.

Some of the delegates were at the track meet and did a Zoom orientation.



Clear Lake American Legion Auxiliary Unit 49 sent baby items to Ellsworth Air Force Base for the baby shower project.

Pictured from left to right Shirley Krause, Rhonda Baxter and Kay Giesel.



Mitchell Unit 18, Children & Youth Chairman Sharon Brogrammer presented a \$50 check to Longfellow School during the teacher appreciation week.

Karen Klinkner, Artesian American Legion Auxiliary Jackson Hall Unit 47, presented Isabella Bitterman, junior at Sanborn Central school district, the Girls State certificate and pin at the Sanborn Central School Awards night.



### June Prayer

By Sharon Broghammer  
Dept. Chaplain

Almighty Father, we thank thee for the flag of our country and for all that our flag represents. We thank you for giving victory to our servicemen and veterans who have given their last measure of strength in order that our flag might wave over the land of the free and the home of the brave.

In Jesus name I pray. Amen

Happy Flag Day everyone and God bless you all.

### Chairmen Openings

Leading candidate for Department President Patsy Madsen is looking for two department chairman for a one-year commitment.

The Department Children & Youth the Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) are open.

Interested contact Patsy Madsen at charlies95@live.com

or call 605-280-6479.

Your dedication to the ALA mission is greatly appreciated!

### BE IN THE KNOW

Department Secretary: Regina Whipple  
SDALA Headquarters P. O. Box 529  
Clear Lake, SD 57226

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 South Dakota Legionette. (Form on the website)

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, contact Regina first.

### Gertje -Van Lith Unit 229



Steve Brown, Mayor of Big Stone City, signed a Proclamation stating that May 26, 2023, is National Poppy Day.



The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 229 of Big Stone City presented a poppy cross for their Poppy Chairwoman, Faye Athey, at her funeral.

The members who worked on the cross are: front Phyllis Lieb, back left to right: Sue Christensen, Sandy Rise, Suzann Harmening, and Dawn Barnhardt.



### Endorsements

#### 2023 – 2024 Nominating Committee Report

As chairman of the nominating committee for the 2023-2024 year, I would like to announce the following candidates have been endorsed by a unit.

Department President – Patsy Madsen

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Leadership Chairman – AnnaMae Warnier

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Constitution & Bylaw Chairman – Susie Learning

Chaplain – Wendy Henley

Historian – Sharon Broghammer

A member may be nominated from the floor at the convention as long as the member is in good standing and has agreed to be placed on the ballot in writing.

Please feel free to contact me at [sdalanec2@gmail.com](mailto:sdalanec2@gmail.com) if you have any questions or have an additional endorsement.

Thank you, Mary Jo Stier, Department of SD NEC

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!  
TO THE MILITARY DADS



ENCOURAGING QUOTES  
WHO WILL NOT BE WITH  
THEIR CHILDREN THIS  
FATHER'S DAY

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

THE SOUTH DAKOTA

LEGIONETTE

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