



THE SOUTH DAKOTA *LEGIONETTE*

Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities



Embracing our Veterans

Hello Auxiliary Members,

It is hard to believe that fall is here. The District meetings have begun on Sept 16-17, with District 2 at Hermosa and District 1 at Piedmont. Both were great meetings. Sept 23-24 District 4 meeting at Roscoe and District 5 meeting at Watertown. The remaining district meetings are in October.

National Convention was held in Charlotte North Carolina August 25-31. South Dakota was well represented.

Each year the State Capital has Christmas trees that are decorated by different organizations. The theme at the Capital Christmas Tree Displays is "Winter Wonderland". Patsy applied for The American Legion Family to have a tree and decorate it. We have been approved. Decorating day is November 18, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. The Capital asks that organizations have between 6-8 people only, to eliminate congestion as there are several organizations decorating their trees. Our tree will be approximately 8' and lights will be white. I received several ideas so far at district meetings. Our tree will be representing "Be the One", for veterans' suicide awareness. Xmas balls will be purple, teal and silver, there will be dog tags, purple/teal ribbons along with "Be the One" wallet size cards to hang on the tree. Patsy will make a huge bow for the tree topper. Grand Lighting Ceremony Nov 21st 7:00 p.m. Trees displayed Nov. 22nd to Dec. 26th.

On another note, our Department Secretary Regina Whipple has resigned and her last day will be November 1, 2023. Please thank Regina for her service of one and a half years as our Department Secretary.

Thank you,

Patsy Madsen, Dept. President



South Dakota National Awards

Most Outstanding Unit VA & R Program – Unit 15, Sioux Falls

Most Outstanding Overall Department National Security program in the Northwestern Division – Mary Jo Stier -Chairman

ALA Brand Ambassador –Excellence in showcasing ALA's unique branding
Connie Wagner Spearfish Unit 164 South Dakota

Outstanding Public Relations Program Award –Department Chairman in the Northwestern Division --Jill Lamer Chairman

Americanism Essay Contest Award Northwestern Division- Class VI Write a narrative 450-500 words. Kolby H.- South Dakota

Most Outstanding Unit Community Service Program -Northwestern Division- Stratford Unit 207 Department of South Dakota

Unit Member of the Year - South Dakota Joann Muller

Poppy Poster Contest - Northwestern Division in Grades 2 & 3 Garrison L. - South Dakota

Poppy Poster Contest Class III - Northwestern Division in Grades 6 & 7 Ade-lynn I. South Dakota

Poppy Poster Contest Class VII - Special Education in Northwestern Division Zoci E. South Dakota

South Dakota was also recognized for providing poppies for a national project and for Bronze level donation to the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

SD National Divisional Chairman & Committee Members



Education Committee Northwestern Division Chairman -
AnnaMae Warnier



Membership Committee Northwestern Division Chairman—
Rose Kraft



Vice President Constitution & Bylaws Committee –
Mary Jo Stier

October Calendar

- Oct 2—Be The One –Wear your “Be The One” Apparel
- Oct 9—Native American Day
- Oct 13– U.S. Navy Birthday
- Oct 26—Day of the Deployed
- Oct 28—Make a *Difference* Day
- Turn in your Poppy orders to Dept Headquarters

District Fall Meetings

District 7: October 21th –Tea Post 266

District 8: October 22nd—Springfield Post 132, 12pm Social, 1pm Meeting

District 6: October 28th –TBD

District 3: October 29th—TBD



in Loving Memory

Unit 120 Isabel, Grace Munyan, 6/23
 Unit 120 Isabel, Stella Lindskov, 7/23
 Unit 139 Groton, Ruth Pray, 8/23
 Unit 118 Hartford, Joann Miles, 7/23
 Unit 118 Hartford, Iona Sechser, 3/23
 Unit 157 Vivian, Helen Stracke, 12/21
 Unit 500 Delpha Stockwell, 4/23
 Unit 500 Lavonne Baker, 8/23
 Unit 500 Doris Pace, 8/23
 Unit 41 Alexandria, Velma "Blondie" Wagner, 1/23
 Unit 220 Herrick, Wanyce Hein, 8/23
 Unit 311 Piedmont, Lenice Nichelson, 7/23
 Unit 64 Wilmot, Margaret Chamely, 5/23
 Unit 64 Wilmot, Martha Evelyn Quade, 6/23

The Great American Membership Race



Membership by Rose Kraft, SD Dept. Chairman

The Great American Membership Race has begun, and the Department of South Dakota is going strong. As of Wednesday, we were 51 members behind where we were last year at this time. Nationals began sending out membership renewal notices this week. With this being said, if you have paid your dues to your unit in the past month and receive this notice, disregard the notice. Check with your membership chairman to be sure you had paid the dues and they have sent the in. Remember at the national level they are sending out hundreds of thousands of these notices, so it takes time to print these and send them.

I have had the privilege of my team making the first two pit stops with Districts 1 and 2. They had great meetings and lots of good advice was shared. By the time you read this I will also have stopped at Districts 4 and 5. This gives our first race 50% done.

I am so excited about all the new pups (members) that are being turned in. We have units that have turned in ten or more! With this being said remember to feed **(RENEW) 100% OF YOUR MEMBERS!** As a unit your first big goal would be to be at 100% by December 7th so you may receive \$25.00 from our department.

As I leave you to hitch up your race team remember, **“If you set goals and go after them with all the determination you can muster, your gifts will take you places that will amaze you.” — Les Brown**

Mush on and remember to renew one, retain one, rejoin one and recruit one. Be the One to spread the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary, serving our Veterans, Military, Children and Community. You Be the One!

AD & D

Insurance Protection

We want you to know, LegionCare is now available to all members of the Legion Family including American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members 18 years and older.

There is no cost to you, coverage has been arranged on your behalf by Your American Legion Department.

For Online Activation and more information visit:

TheLIT.com/LegionCare2



ROCKING
 The
RED
 FOR FRIDAY
 ...It's a military thing

Mitchell Unit #18

Children & Youth Chairman Sharon Broghammer



Presented dictionaries to JP Elementary School 3rd graders



A check was presented to Gertie Belle Rodgers Elementary School 4th grade Music Class for their recorders that are used throughout the year.



Hershman-Gordon American Legion Auxiliary Unit #59 , Wolsey

—submitted by Nancy Clouser, Membership Chairman



Monday, September 11, 2023, during our monthly meeting, we recognized Teresa Edwards for 60 years (She was unable to attend.), Vivian Klaschen 75 years, Donna McGillvrey; 60 years (She was unable to attend.), Donna Phillips 60 years (She is Vivian Klaschen's daughter), Karma Schiltz 50 years, Janice Wagner 50 years. Our Journalism City girl, Shelby Timm, also gave a presentation. A light lunch was served after the meeting.

Gertje-Van Luth American Legion Auxiliary

Unit # 229 sponsored a Red Cross Bloodmobile at the Big Stone Community Center on July 17, 2023. The goal was to collect 45 units and they collected 50 units. It was a successful event.



Paulette Webb, Janice Hinders (Coordinator), Sandy Rice, Sue Christensen

Most Outstanding Unit Community Service Program -Northwestern Division- Stratford Unit 207 Department of South Dakota

Rose Kraft presented Korrie Face, Stratford Unit 207 with their National



Award Plaque at the District 4 meeting in Roscoe. The Stratford Unit puts on a cookie decorating event for their community. The unit provides all the cookies and decorating materials. What a fun project! Congratulations Stratford Unit 207

Remember all units are eligible to submit entries for all the awards—Maybe your unit will be next. Watch for the award listings in the Spring!



The American Legion Auxiliary of Gregory Unit #6 was recognized for reaching 114% in membership. Reaching their goal and above. Department President Patsy Madsen presented Membership Chair Cindy Diekman a certificate for 91 members. Janice Grenoble, Cherlyn Shaffer and Sandi Jones were also present at the presentation

October Prayer

*By Wendy Henley
Dept. Chaplain*

Dear Lord, We give thanks to you for our ALA Leadership Team and the entire membership of the ALA. We ask that you give them the wisdom and guidance that only you can give as they lead the ALA in the direction that you would have the organization go this year. Please watch over each ALA Unit as we start to plan our regular and holiday programs for our Veterans. We ask that you give your guidance to the leadership teams in each unit as they plan fund raising activities that will benefit both our Veterans and our Communities. We ask that you place a hedge of protection around our Veterans and active duty personnel as well as the membership of the American Legion, Son's of the American Legion and the Legion Riders. In your Son's precious name,
AMEN



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
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 sjlamer@outlook.com or mail them. For reporting an error on names or addresses, change of addresses and deceased members, contact Regina first. Thank you!

Black Hills Veterans March & Marathon

The Spearfish Unit# 164 volunteered at the 20th Anniversary of the Black Hills Veterans March & Marathon on September 16. The members baked over 600 cookies and served close to 400 people. The roast beef was donated by the Totton Angus Ranch from Chamberlain who also had a team walking on Saturday.

The Black Hills Veterans March is a picturesque trek through the mountainous terrain of the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota. This march/marathon pays tribute to the many sacrifices that this nation's veterans have made in the past and continue to make today.

The enduring March was September 13-16, 2023, Edgemont to Deadwood following the entire Mickelson Trail. Thirty-seven registered for the 110-mile march. One was a member of the Spearfish Unit 164, also a veteran and active duty in the SDNG, Kaylan Harrington who completed the 110 mile. The Spearfish Unit 164 Secretary Sydney Pollack, a veteran and active duty SDNG completed the mini march of 16 miles on Saturday. Three hundred four registered for the event.



The morning crew: Connie Wagner, Penny Brown, Connie Turner, Sandi Nauman, and Micheline Nel-

Be the One to Save One Veteran

'Be The One' is a national campaign to help lower the suicide rate among veterans.

I'm a spouse, partner, family member, caregiver, friend of a veteran, or interested civilian. What can I do to support this initiative?

The stigma associated with mental health issues is a barrier to veterans seeking assistance. They fear loss of their job, think they can handle their situation themselves, or don't believe others can understand their situation. Family members may be the first to recognize the signs that their loved one needs help, but they may lack the knowledge of how to approach the situation. If you have a family member, friend, business associate or have another connection with someone who is a veteran, The American Legion encourages you to Be the One to:

- Ask veterans in your life how they are doing.
- Listen when a veteran needs to talk.
- Reach out when a veteran is struggling

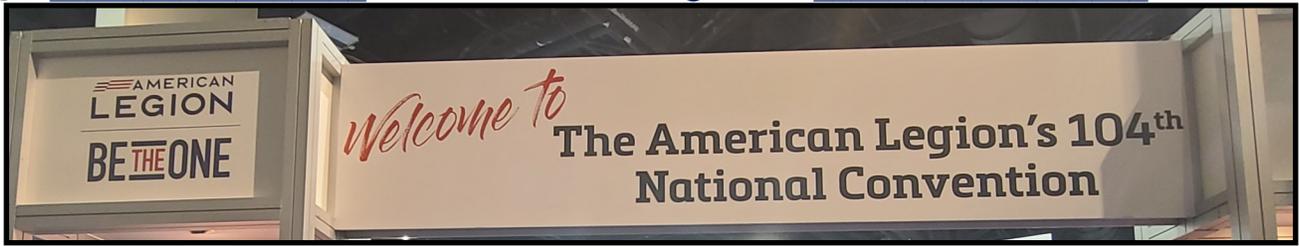


THE SOUTH DAKOTA
LEGIONETTE

Official Publication of the
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of South Dakota

Published monthly except July and August at Hartford, SD from September 2022, forward. Printed by Western Mailer, Rapid City, SD 57701-2917. Subscription rate: \$5.00 per year. Dates from Septem-

of address changes.



The South Dakota Delegation



Department NVCAF Fundraising		
Gold: \$5,000 - \$14,999+	Silver: \$2,500 - \$4,999	Bronze: \$1,000 - \$2,499
Illinois California Indiana Bobbi Cox (CA) Texas Arizona	Wisconsin Ohio	Massachusetts South Dakota Pennsylvania Iowa SAL Maryland



PUBLIC RELATIONS



Everything the American Legion Auxiliary members promote, publish, post, etc., should always come back to the mission. Whether it's posting the mission statement on your website, social media account or promotional materials tied to your fundraising and community events, it's important to share what our organization is all about.

The National Headquarters has a cache of marketing and public relations resources for members Visit them at [Home \(legion-aux.org\)](http://Home (legion-aux.org))

Having a cohesive ALA brand is important for many reasons: it heightens public awareness of our organization, increases our credibility with professionalism, and differentiates us from similar organizations. Printed signs, banners, t-shirts, and table coverings are an effective marketing method to attract attention and promote our organization. [Home \(legion-aux.org\)](http://Home (legion-aux.org))

Remember It's as important to share your stories internally as it is externally so that everyone is well-versed in the stories that have the biggest impact.

Jill Lamer SD Public Relation Chairman

Sarge and his pups are "Rolo" ing into the districts and having a "Whopper" of a time talking about membership. Tune into a district meeting near you to hear what they are saying!



Mission Training 101

Would you like to learn more about working the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary? Would you like to network with national leaders and other members in your district who share your passion and enthusiasm for helping our veterans? During this 1-day conference, you'll be inspired while learning more about working the ALA's core programs in an interactive and fun environment. Many of the American Legion Auxiliary Mission Outreach programs will be covered during this conference. Join us In Lincoln, NE on February 3, 2024

[Mission Training \(legion-aux.org\)](http://Mission Training (legion-aux.org))



JOIN US ON
facebook

South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary

American Legion Auxiliary Academy

Did you know that the American Legion Auxiliary provides tools to help grow the organization. The Academy courses are designed to help members learn online and at no cost to them.

The ALA Academy offers two options:

- Self-paced courses that you can take any from any device. These are designed for you take whenever you have time with no need to pre-register.
- Live virtual webinars are now also offered. These courses are free but are offered live and you will need to register in advance.

[Home \(legion-aux.org\)](http://Home (legion-aux.org))

Auxiliary Dishes

Brattvet Green Unit 66 Auxiliary in Lemmon has some glassware to give away. They have a 58 place setting (dinner plate, dessert plate and cup) with the Auxiliary logo and trimmed with gold.

If anyone is interested, arrangements for pick up can be made by contacting

Donna Erhart 605-374-3569