



THE SOUTH DAKOTA *LEGIONETTE*

Serving Veterans, their Families and their Communities



Embracing our Veterans



Wishing everyone Happy Holidays. The Christmas Gifts shops at the VA facilities have taken place in November. I want to thank my Dept. First Vice AnnaMae, who attended these events for me. I was unable to get time off from work. I will be attending the December Christmas Parties at the VA facilities in Hot Springs and Ft. Meade. AnnaMae will be attending the ones in the Sioux Falls area for me.

The Xmas tree for the SD American Legion Family at the Capitol in Pierre SD was decorated Saturday November 18th. I want to thank the Dept. First Vice Anna Mae Warnier and husband Paul, LeRoy Madsen & myself along with Hope Smith for helping decorate the tree. If you get a chance to come to Pierre, stop in to see all the trees.

Please continue to spread the word that we are still taking applications for the Dept. Secretary position. The job qualifications are posted on the Job Services website, our SD Auxiliary website, and the District Presidents included it in their newsletters. If you know of anyone that may be interested, please let them know about this job. To apply for the position, submit a written letter of interest along with a resume and job references. Mail to SD Dakota American Legion Auxiliary, PO Box 529, Clear Lake, SD 57226 or email it to southdako-taala@gmail.com

Happy Holidays.

Patsy Madsen

Department President



70 year Continuous Member



Catherine Peterson of Auxiliary Unit #179 - Kennebec/Reliance has earned her 70-year Continuous Membership award pin. Catherine is a very active member of Unit #179, never missing any monthly meetings or special events.

Congratulations, Catherine!

Unit 94 of White River



Unit 94 of White River sponsored this mural on Main Street in White River. It is by artist Stan Sherwood of Mitchell, a graduate of White River High School.

South Dakota State Capital Legion Family Christmas Tree



President Patsy, 1st Vice AnnaMae, Hope Smith, LeRoy Madsen and Paul Warnier spent the afternoon decorating a Christmas Tree at the Capitol for the Legion Family. Starting November 22 - December 26th, walk the South Dakota State Capitol Building to see a beautiful Winter Wonderland!



December Calendar

- 1st —Be The One —Wear your “Be The One” Apparel
- 5th — Human Services Christmas Party, 5:30 pm
- 7th — Pearl Harbor/Remembrance Day
- 9th —State Veterans Home Christmas Party, 2pm
- 10th —Hot Springs VA Christmas Party, 2pm
- 11th—Fort Meade VA Christmas party, 1 pm
- 12th— Sioux Falls VA Christmas Party, 1 pm
- 13th—U.S. National Guard Birthday
- 18th— Wreaths Across America
- Dec 25th—Christmas Day



Unit 1 Vermillion: Marlys Stensaas 11/23;
 Unit 7 Huron: Lurane Schroeder 7/23;
 Unit 11 Wagner: Mary Cimpl 9/23;
 Unit 13 Wakonda: Jean Mae Peterson 6/23;
 Unit 15 Sioux Falls: Joyce Weber 9/23; Maxine Johnson 10/23; Unit 18 Mitchell; Elda Keeton 7/23; Unit 21 Hurley: Evelyn Jensen 9/23; Unit 29 Woonsocket: Connie Swenson 9/23; Unit 33 Sturgis: Agnes Case 10/22; LaRee Cole 6/23; Unit 39 Groton: LaVonne Helmer 4/23; Unit 40 Webster: Ramona Helgeson 8/23; Unit 50 Sisseton: Norma Palmer 9/23; Unit 53 Canton: Beverly Frislie 4/23; Unit 65 Dell Rapids: Linda LeBrun 9/23; Unit 69 Doland: Lillian Woodfork 10/23; Unit 71 Hot Springs: Wendy Etuk 8/24; Leona Brown 2/23; Neva Boekhout 6/23; Unit 88 White: Barbara Schulz 7/23; Unit 92 Redfield: Rita Lunney 5/23; Joan Crook 2/22, Marilyn Vanvleet 6/23; Unit 93 Letcher: Norma Parce 5/23; Unit 96 White Lake: Caryl Schone 4/22; Unit 109 Gary: Irene Webber 6/23; Unit 115 Platte: Vivian Hampton 9/23; Unit 135 Gettysburg: Joan Hageman 9/23; Unit 136 Chester: Magdalen Siemonsma 9/23; Unit 166 Smith Garding: Lois Kayser 9/23; Unit 169 Winner: Jean Docken 9/23; Kathy Engle 9/23; Jean Docken 9/23; Kathy Engel 9/23; Unit 175 Baltic: Dorothy Sittig 10/23; Ella Riswold 10/23; Ann Seely 9/23; Unit 177 Worthing; Juliette Hyronemus 9/23; Unit 183 Tabor: Margie Hovorka 10/23; Unit 194 Parkston: Laverna Koth 10/23; Unit 210 Mt. Vernon; Grace Boisen 7/23; Unit 229 Big Stone City: Georgene Baustad 3/23; Unit 261 Ethan: Christine Fritza 7/23; Darlene Hohn 12/22; Unit 262 Claremont: Ella Mae Nehls 8/23; Unit 267 Grenville: Joan Rumpca 6/23; Kathleen Fromelt 10/23



December Prayer

Submitted by Jill Lamer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus. We praise You for His birth and the hope that He brings to our lives. As we celebrate His birth, help us to also remember Your great love for us. Let this Christmas season be a reminder of all He has done. We are asking for a special prayer for our deployed soldiers and their families and to give them peace this holiday season. In Jesus name, Amen



Johnson/Peterson Unit 179



Auxiliary Unit #179 hosted their 10th Annal Pancake Brunch Fundraiser at the Legion Hall in Reliance on Sunday, November 12th.

From left-to-right: Senior members: Ronda Wagner, Tami McManigal, Susan Hamer, Marilyn Walling, Carol Sundall, Sharon Oliveira, Karon Bishop and Junior Member, Ginger McManigal

Appreciation Dinner

The Kortan Hatwan post 183 American Legion Auxiliary hosted an appreciation dinner on October 9th for the Tabor EMTs and Fire Department for their volunteer commitment to the Tabor Community



Mid-Winter Conference

Mid-Winter Conference in Deadwood Feb 16th—18th 2024

If you plan on attending, please pre-register by emailing: patrice.sorensenau@yahoo.com
 Or call and leave a message at 605-791-1501



There is a block of rooms set aside for this conference. The room rates are \$95 for a Standard King or Standard Double Queen. Reservations can be made by calling 605-584-4800. Be sure to mention that you are attending the Mid-Winter Conferences to get this rate.

The agenda for Mid-Winter will be coming out at a later date, however, Dept President Patsy, would like to share some information. There will not be an Auxiliary banquet on Saturday evening. In place of this will be a Sip and Paint party from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be a pre-registration link coming out in December and will need to pay online directly to the instructor through the link. The cost will be \$40.

There will not be a Silent Auction. In place of this, there will be a Wine Cork Pull Fundraiser. More details to come.

White Lake Auxiliary Dictionary Donation

On Thursday, November 16 the White Lake South Dakota Auxiliary distributed dictionaries to the third graders in the White Lake school. There are 11 3rd graders. Alice Johnson gave a presentation on the use of dictionaries. She presented some activities for the children to use to get them familiar with their new dictionary. All the children seem to be quite excited about getting their own dictionary. Alice discussed the benefits of having a hardcopy verses a digital





Membership by Rose Kraft, SD Dept. Chairman

We have been working on our race team for three months now. Over 57% of our pups have been chosen to be members of our organization. That is 5866 members working in tandem to pull our sleigh of service for our Veterans, Military, Children and Community. You could say that's a lot of puppy treats! We have four Units that hitched up their team and went straight to work, and have completed the goal of 100%+, congratulations to Murdo, Armour, Orient and Marion. There are 23 units that need five or less members sent into department headquarters before December 7th. We are awarding the department award off the postal mark on the envelope. So, do not worry if it is going to take longer to reach the headquarters due to the mail. This will give your unit \$25.00 to spend. That would be five junior members in most units. HOWL! Unfortunately, we also have 23 units that have less than 10 members or NO members sent into the department. If you are a unit in this situation, please reach out to your district president or to me and we will see how we can help you.

The next goal each of our units wants to be working on is 100% renewal by January 31st. Where is your unit now? Has your unit registered for ALAMIS? It is only \$10.00 for your unit to have Unit View and see all the information they may need. To register contact Carol at the department headquarters. This is a great investment for your unit.

As we hustle through the month of December, take time to enjoy those you love, remember our military and veterans, and count the many gifts you already have.

If everyone reading this message gave the gift of membership by renewing or signing up one member just think how much closer we would be to reaching our goal of 10,284 members. Christmas blessings to you and yours! Mush on for our members!



Education Program

Jan Seibel, Department Chairman

In the words of Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." The SD ALA Education Program will give each auxiliary member the tools to help our youth further their education.

Our education program promotes the Auxiliary's role in providing quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion and support of education beyond high school, especially for military children.

I would like to encourage each unit's education chairman to familiarize yourself with each scholarship requirement so you can share your knowledge with others in the school. With school underway, high school students are looking for ways to help them with their future school expenses. Get these students in the KNOW. Please talk with your school and set up a date to talk with students about these scholarships.

There are three (3) Department and four (4) National scholarships being awarded this year. Department scholarships need to be submitted to me by March 1. Two of the four National Scholarships are submitted on-line by March 1 and the other two need to go to their local unit by March 1 and onto me by March 15. Scholarship forms: <https://www.sdlegionaux.org/scholarships/>

Units are also encouraged to participate in Give 10 to Education, Veterans in the classroom, Purple Up Day on April 15, and provide a local scholarship. More guidelines can be found at <http://sdlegionaux.org> under Education tab. At the end of the year, the unit education chair should fill out the Education Questionnaire, found on the website, and send it to me at seibelj@venturecomm.net.

Have a great Auxiliary year!

Midwest Honor Flight Memories One Final Tour with Honor

Wessington Springs Unit #14 hosted two veterans at our November meeting. They had each been on the Honor Flights to Washington DC this year. Roger Cashman, pictured on left, is a Navy veteran. He told about his service during the Korean War and his wonderful trip to the Capitol. He was very impressed by the Memorials and the reception that the veterans received when returning. David Kogel, pictured on right, is an Army veteran. He showed a video of his experience in Washington DC and told of his service to our country during his time in Vietnam. Both veterans were in awe of the recognition they received during the whole trip. Our members certainly enjoyed their presentations and are very grateful that they took the time to come visit with us!



Veterans Crisis Line



1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

BE IN THE KNOW

Department Secretary SDALA Headquarters

P. O. Box 529 Clear Lake, SD 57226

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 Department Headquarters.. Thank you!

THE SOUTH DAKOTA

LEGIONETTE

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Alexandria Unit 41 Veterans Day Tables

Alexandria, SD, Unit 41 set up these tables at the local school for Veterans Day. We Included a brochure for the students to take home. The brochure explains the POW/ MIA and Military Child table settings. Emailed said brochure to the school to share with teachers to use for discussion. Students have access to this all week.



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 96, White Lake SD Halloween Program



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 96, White Lake, South Dakota has a passport program where the children pick up a card and get it stamped at all the businesses and they are then entered into a drawing. American Legion auxiliary rented the senior citizen center and we handed out the American legion auxiliary coloring books, Halloween stickers, and we all gave out candy.



Job Opening— American Legion Auxiliary Secretary

The South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary has an open position for the Department Secretary.

Qualifications: • Manage the department headquarters while supporting our mission for the organization. • Knowledgeable on non-profit and employee tax forms to ensure that all appropriate state and/or regulatory taxes are filed. • Excellent communication skills, willingness to learn new systems as needed, provide necessary reporting as requested, ability to multi-task and able to work closely with multiple Executives. • Attention to detail, strong organizational and time management skills, work under minimal supervision. • Maintain all monies received at the department headquarters, make deposits, and provide the Treasurer details of deposits. • Maintain all record books that are needed to carry out the work of the office. • Proficient in Word and Excel. • Open all mail, answer phone calls, maintain calendar and appointments, make room arrangements, and fill other related job duties. • Attend meetings as requested. Send and give notices of all meetings, take meeting minutes, and act as Secretary of the Executive Committee. • Ability to work some weekends and have dependable transportation. • Department Secretary position is 40 hours a week. • High School diploma, 3 years experience preferred.

Closing date December 15, 2023, or until filled. Please submit a written letter of interest along with a resume and job references to: South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary, PO Box 529, Clear Lake, SD 57226

Position is open statewide and Dept headquarters location TBD

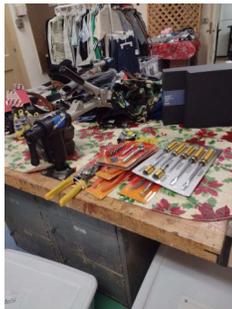
Photos submitted by
AnnaMae Warnier

Christmas Gift Shops

Fort Meade VA



Hot Springs VA



State Home Gift Shop



Sioux Falls VA Gift Shop



Quilts of Valor



Mitchell Quilting Group awarded 4 Quilts of Valor to 4 Veterans during the Mitchell Legion Veterans Day Program at Davision County 4-H Fairgrounds



District 8 VA & R

Scrumptious treats were made for the Veterans and staff at HSC
Thanks Tiffany and Owen for baking these delights



yummy!

Make A Difference Day Sturgis Unit 33



For Make A Difference Day Sturgis Unit 33 presented members of 881st Troop Command and Det. 2, 842nd Engineer Co. Army National Guard with donuts. Members doing the honors were Ruth Mechling, Jean Eykamp, Jessica Kusser and photographer Carol Edwards

Dictionary Donations

Each year the Wagner American Legion Auxiliary members purchase dictionaries for the Wagner Elementary and the Marty Indian School third graders. Dictionaries were delivered to each child in September. Wagner Elementary received 56 dictionaries and Marty Indian School received 11 dictionaries



Some of Wagner third graders are pictured with Wagner American Legion Auxiliary members Margie Stone, left, and Sandy Seiner, right.



Marty Indian School third graders also received dictionaries. They are pictured with Auxiliary members Sandy Seiner, left, and Marlene Stone, right

Trunk or Treat



The Artesian American Legion Auxiliary unit #47 participated in the Artesian community trunk or treat. Members pictured are Laura Pearson and Kathy Austerman. Not pictured Karen Klinkner, Dee Bechen and Candi Danek.

Make a Difference Day

Every year for make a difference day, the White Lake, South Dakota American Legion auxiliary participates. This year we chose to make goodie baskets to hand out to the senior citizens that come to senior meals in White Lake, South Dakota



"We've got your 6" Stand down

American Legion Auxiliary President Patsy attended and helped at the Sturgis



"We've got your 6 " stand down

Post and Auxiliary # 6 serves monthly breakfast

Gregory American Legion and Auxiliary prepares and serves breakfast once a month at the Legion Post Home



South Dakota American Legion Family - Mid Winter Conference

Joint Banquet - Friday, February 16, 2024

MENU: Buffet with Roast Beef & Chicken Picatta

Salads, Seasonal Vegetable, Potato with Bread & Butter

Mark if you require special dietary needs.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Tickets **\$35.00 per meal** # of Tickets _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

DEADLINE FOR THE PURCHASE OF TICKETS IS FEBRUARY 1, 2024

Return to: Randall McGruder
11332 Tetro Rock RD
Lead, SD 57754
Mobile: 605-580-5919

[Email: grude@rbmessentials.com](mailto:grude@rbmessentials.com)

Checks Made Payable to:

Department of South Dakota District 1 American Legion



AMERICAN LEGION

BE THE ONE

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 \(legion-aux.org\)](https://legion-aux.org)

?? Do you have an interest in serving on a National Committee ??



The application process for 2024-2025 national committee appointments is now open. You need not have served as an officer in your district or department to be eligible for an appointment, and male spouse ALA members are welcome to apply. The application window is through Dec. 15.

Apply now <https://www.legion-aux.org/National-Appointment-Application>