



THE MESSAGE

North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary
 1801 23rd Ave N, Rm 113, Fargo, ND 58102
 www.ndala.org • facebook.com/NorthDakotaALA

Past Department Presidents



Past Department Presidents with National President Mary Davis at Department Convention in June. Back row, L to R: Marlys Aubol, Beverly Wolff, Arla Roth, Tootie Fueller, Gigi Moore, Tammy Ryberg, Rosie Weber, Marlene Boyer, Ginny Brazil, Linda Juntunen, Judy Twete. Front Row, L to R: Diane Kraemer, Mary Ann Gefroh, National President Mary E. Davis (2016-2017), Lualice Stockert, Minnie Flynn, Charlotte Lassonde.

Department President

Hello everyone. Thank you to all of you who voted for me to be Department President. I will work very hard to be a good ambassador for the American Legion Auxiliary and for our veterans.

I have traveled in July to represent our organization and had a great time meeting new friends and veterans. I am looking forward to being at the first Gold Star Mothers and Family Day in Minot on September 11. It is an honor to be invited to this event.

This year, we need to work hard for our veterans through membership. Focus on membership renewals and finding new members. I know this is repeating statements made in the past, but it is necessary if we are going to keep 'Service, Not Self' alive.

All of you do a good amount of volunteer work, but

we need to work more together. We need to help each other within our units. I want to work with you because I need your help to make this a great year. This is OUR year 2017-2018.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Fall District Meetings. Bring along your ideas on how to make this a great year.

Take care and God Bless everyone. God Bless our veterans, their families, and God Bless America.

Mavis Goodroad,
 Department President.



Mavis Goodroad

Department Vice President

Greetings to all North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary Members. I am Myrna Ronholm from Jamestown, ND, and most of you probably know me. As a 54-year Auxiliary member, I have served our organization on the unit, district and department levels. I also served as Department Treasurer and Department Secretary for 22 years.

Thank you to Minnie Flynn and all other delegates at our Department Convention for allowing me back into the loop to serve as your Department Vice President.

At this time, I don't have anything planned for my year as President. Everyone knows I love membership, so I will be working hard on that. I encourage all of you to all help with membership whenever possible.

I'm looking forward to once again working for the American Legion Auxiliary in Service to God and Country.

Myrna Ronholm,
 Department Vice President



Myrna Ronholm

Department Secretary

Greetings North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary. Thank you all, for your support and encouragement, as I take on the office of Department Secretary. It has been quite a challenge and learning experience as I found my way around the office and its many files, programs, and technology. I invite you to stop by and visit if you are in the area.

Our organization is about our veterans and their families, so it is important to keep our membership growing as we can continue to serve them through our programs. Take a moment to remember a veteran living in your community, pay them a visit just to chat or drop off cookies, or volunteer to take them to a medical appointment.

Information will be coming to you from the

Department Officers and Chairmen through regular mailings from the Department Office to all Unit Presidents. Watch for this information and share it with all Auxiliary members.

There is always something going on in the world of American Legion Auxiliary members, so keep me informed. Let me know when you find new members, tackle a new project, or need assistance with reports or forms.

I wish each of you a successful Auxiliary year!
Marcy Schmidt,
 Department Secretary



Marcy Schmidt

2017 Fall District Meeting Schedule

- Dist. 9 - Mon, Sep. 11th..... New Town
- Dist. 6 - Tue, Sep. 12th..... Bottineau
- Dist. 3 - Wed, Sep. 13th..... Cando
- Dist. 2 - Thur, Sep. 14th..... Park River
- Dist. 1 - Fri, Sep. 15th..... Finley
- Dist. 8 - Mon, Sep. 25th..... TBD
- Dist. 7 - Tue, Sep. 26th..... Flasher
- Dist. 5 - Wed, Sep. 27th..... Napoleon
- Dist. 4 - Thur, Sep. 28th..... Jamestown
- Dist. 10- Fri, Sep. 29th..... Lidgerwood

Current as of August 21st. Call Department Office at 701-253-5992 or check ndala.org for more information.

Department Historian

The Department of North Dakota History has been submitted. Thanks to the seventy-five units that reported either at mid-year or year-end through impact, narrative or history reports. That is more than double over last year.

Thanks also to units that submitted items for President Diane's Unit Scrapbook. Units included: Belcourt 262, Belfield 144, Carrington 25, Donnybrook 195, Dunseith 185, Fargo 2, Gackle 250, Grafton 41, Grand Forks 6, Hazelton 126, Lidgerwood 84, McClusky 124, McHenry 160, McVile 135, Minot 26, Napoleon 72, Rolla 235, Rutland 215, Streeter 265, Wahpeton 20, and White Shield 253.

A special thanks to the Grafton, Lidgerwood and McVile units who have already sent items for the 2017-2018 scrapbook.

Look for the 'Survey' in the August/September Unit mailing regarding the guidelines for this administrative year's unit history. I have simplified the guidelines and am asking for suggestions in order to have more unit histories submitted at Department Convention.

At Department Convention in June 2017, I gave a demonstration on the ease of participation in National's 'Members Remember' project. Past Department Presidents

were challenged to interview each other and go back and interview unit members. Other members in attendance were asked to do the same. Sample questions will be included in the August/September unit mailing.

After the interview is recorded, submit it to YouTube using the title 'ALA Dept of ND Unit ____ (put in your unit's number) Members Remember. For the description, use American Legion Auxiliary Members Remember interview of North Dakota Unit ____, (put in your unit number) member ____ (first and last names of the person being interviewed).

I'm looking forward to serving as Department Historian again. Thanks for your support and confidence. I could not complete the History or the Scrapbook without member's help so keep sending in memorabilia, news articles, and pictures.

Lynn Tomlinson
Department Historian



Lynn Tomlinson

Department Chaplain

Defend. Protect.
What kind of protection or defense does God offer us?

Psalm 18:2 – The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my Savior, my rock in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the strength in my salvation, and my stronghold. God's protection is for Eternity.

Let us bow our heads and hearts in prayer, each in our own Faith.

Lord, we realize there is no better time than the present to be Your Light extended to those around us. Help us to go beyond ourselves and become lanterns through which Your Light can shine. Give us wisdom and show us all we need, to see and keep us on the path You have for us.

Enable us to step out of the past and go into the future with open minds and hearts. May Your Light Always Shine on our paths!

In His Name we pray. Amen.

Beverly J. Wolff,
Chaplain



Beverly Wolff

District 1

Greetings to District 1 American Legion Auxiliary members. Congratulations to our newly elected National, Department, District and Unit officers.

Mavis Goodroad, Department President 2017-2018, has chosen for her motto: 'Tears Shed, Veterans Remembered'. Our veterans are very special, so please remember them with a card, gift, special program, or a friendly visit.

Make arrangements now to attend the District 1 Fall Meeting. Planning is still underway and I will send more information to each Unit President as soon as items are finalized. President Goodroad will be at the district meeting and will discuss her vision for the upcoming year and her President's Projects. There will be door prizes! It will be a great time to meet your new Department President and learn more about our organization.

Thank you to the units that represented our great organization this summer by participating in parades, programs, and events for our veterans. As our new year gets started, let's keep membership growing.

I am looking forward to working with and assisting your unit in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Susan Lemley,
District 1 President



District 3

I would like to give a "shout out" to our district girls that attended Girls State this year. We had five girls from Rolla: Alayah Azure, Brianna Burns, Jemel Canapi, Billie Lentz, and Nicki Rinas. Attendees from other District 3 towns included the following: Olivia Cleveland from Langdon; Britney Freund from Brouck; Jazzmin Keplin, Taylor Keplin and Haylee Poitra from Belcourt; and Hannah Koenig from Cando.

On behalf of the units that sponsored these young ladies, I would like to thank them for taking the time to attend this leadership program and do hope they had an enjoyable and educational experience. The social media information that was available for those of us not in attendance at UND was great to see. Good job!!

Our July organizational meeting in Jamestown was informational and a lot of business was attended to. Our President, Mavis Goodroad, was a great facilitator and kept the agenda on track.

I hope to see a good percentage of our units represented at the District meeting which will be held in Cando.

Thank you for letting me serve another term and be your representative.

Gloria Covert
District 3 President



District 5

In June, at the Department Convention, I was installed as President of District 5. My membership started in 1984 when my mother gave her six girls their first memberships. I became active in Unit 133 after my husband, Marv, and I moved to Turtle Lake and I retired from the American Red Cross.

Since taking office, I met with past District 5 President Katie Pulley and current District 4 President Joan Lasher to orient myself to the responsibilities of the position and transfer records. I have been reviewing information on each of the District 5 units. I know about the membership numbers, officer names and meeting schedules. I am now looking forward to meeting with each unit or President over the next few months to learn how your unit operates and about your main projects. For example, Unit 133 of Turtle Lake obtains most of its operational budget by co-sponsoring (with the American Legion) the Memorial Day program and salad luncheon that is well attended by the community.

District 5 needs someone to volunteer to take the position of District Vice President. The duties are to spend two years learning about the ALA operation on the District and Department level. The Vice President is responsible for recording the minutes at the Fall and Spring District meetings. If possible, I would like the person to accompany me on visits to a few of the Unit meetings to learn how others operate. At the end of the two years, the Vice President would become the new District President.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall District meeting. The dates will be published elsewhere in *The Message*.

Mary Anseth
District 5 President



District 7

Greetings fellow Auxiliary members! I am honored to serve as your District 7 President. I am a proud member of the Schafer-Boye-Lange Unit 69 in Flasher, starting as a Junior member --many years ago! I am eligible for membership through my father, John A. Schafer (Korean War), my brother, Brady J. Schafer (Career U.S. Army, Retired), and my grandfather, Michael J. Schafer (WWI). I am proud to be carrying on a family tradition of active involvement in the North Dakota American Legion and Auxiliary!

I hope you are planning to attend the Fall District Meeting. This is a great opportunity to see old friends, make new friends, share ideas, and make plans for the coming year. I will be sending details of the Fall Meeting to each unit as soon as plans are finalized.

The office of District 7 Vice President has not been filled. I would encourage each of you to consider volunteering to serve in that capacity. I can assure you it



District 7 Cont'd

is a very rewarding experience and a great way to continue to serve veterans in your community and in North Dakota. If you would like more information, please contact me at district7@ndala.org or 701.391.9617.

It's membership renewal time! Don't miss your chance to renew your membership in the world's largest patriotic women's organization. Membership dues can be paid to your local membership chairman or online at ALAforVeterans.org.

Please take a moment to share what is happening in your units by sending an email to communications@ndala.org. The Communications Committee will facilitate posting the information on the Department's website at ndala.org. There are so many great programs and activities happening all across the state. Share the good news!

If you have not sent in your list of officers for the 2017-18 membership year, please do so as soon as possible. I intend to personally communicate with each of the units in District 7 and I need your contact information to do that. I hope to visit each unit at some time during my term as President and look forward to meeting as many members as possible.

Remember to keep your unit's tax-exempt status current by filing the 990-N form each year. If your unit's status has been revoked or you are not sure of your status, please contact me. We can work together to ensure that your tax-exempt status is up-to-date.

Thank you to each of you for what you do for veterans. In the Spirit of Service, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, our military and their families. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security. Keep up the important work you are doing in your communities!

Candy Schafer
District 7 President

District 10

Thank you for entrusting me to be your District 10 President again. I hope that each unit is starting to work on programs for 2017-2018.

Membership is of the utmost importance. Without our members, we will not have an organization. Remember, it's not just the membership chairman's responsibility to get those members to renew, so please help them out.

Please send me a list of your Unit Officers as I've only received a few of them.

I will be attending the National Convention in Reno, NV, August 18-24 and hope to bring back lots of great information. The American Legion will start celebrating its 100th year, summer 2018, in Fargo. If you have anything to share with the Department, please send it in.

If units need anything or would like me to visit, please give me a call and I will be glad to come and help. Again, thanks for your support.

Gigi Moore,
District 10 President



Veterans Creative Arts Festival

February 14, 2018 – Fargo VAMC

If you are a veteran enrolled in care at the Fargo VA or one of its Community-Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCS) and dabble in the arts, check out the Department of Veterans Affairs Creative Arts Festival!



The Fargo VAMC held its first Creative Arts Festival in February 2017. Sixty-six pieces were submitted in 23 categories. The piece submitted by Dr. Ken Andersen in the woodworking category won second place at the national level. Photos from the 2017 show at the Fargo VAMC can be found on their Facebook page; VA Fargo. (<https://www.facebook.com/VAFargo/posts/1240103369358593>)

Here is some general information regarding the Fargo festival from Kim Douglas of Recreational Therapy at the Fargo VAMC: The festival next year will be held on February 14th at the Fargo VA in the third-floor auditorium. A tentative deadline for submitting artwork is Friday, February 2nd. The artists need to be veterans enrolled in care at the Fargo VA or one of its CBOCS. A wide variety of media is accepted! It's an amazing program that highlights the use of art in recovery as well as our veterans' wonderful talent.

More information from the National Festival will be available in December. In the meantime, check out the national website: <https://www.va.gov/opa/speeven/cafi/index.asp>

Feel free to contact me for more information. I will be working with Kim at the Fargo VAMC on this Festival and look forward to seeing a lot of entries!

LaVonne Matthews
VA&R Chairman

Poppies

Hi. My name is Sandra Petermann and I am a member of Matthew Brew Unit #3 in Dickinson. I have had the opportunity to be a Department Chairman in different areas and I am looking forward to being able to share the role of Poppy Chairman with Joan Buske of Oakes, ND. As you all know, Joan has been doing a fantastic job as Poppy Chairman, but it is a lot of responsibility for one person. I will be the Poppy Chairman for the West and Joan will be the Poppy Chairman for the East.



Sandra



Joan

I would like to remind all members that "we do not sell poppies". I hear this over and over. The poppies have been paid for by the sacrifices of our veterans. "We distribute poppies" and we allow people to donate, as well as give a poppy to those who might not have extra change.

It is important that we remember what the poppy stands for and that although poppies are distributed around Memorial Day, they may be distributed on other occasions as well. By ordering poppies, we are supporting our veterans that make them. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. If I don't know the answer, I will find the answer and get back to you.

Sandra Petermann
Poppy Chairman - West

Communications

Hi! My name is Holly Eslinger. I'm your Communications Chairman. I'm from District 7, George W. Snook, Jr. Unit 246 out of Elgin. I'm excited to hear from as many of you as possible on ways we can improve communications amongst our membership. Please feel free to send me an email at communications@ndala.org with any suggestions or comments on how we can better serve you. Also, if you have not yet signed up for our email listserv, please send me your email and we'll get you added. This is in no way saying we're going to stop paper mailings, but to improve communications with emails as well. Have a great fall and see you at Winter Conference.



Holly Eslinger
Communications Chairman

2017-2018 Mission Training and Junior Meeting

Mission training this year will be in Minneapolis on October 20th and 21st, 2017. This is a great way to learn more about the core programs of the Auxiliary, involve juniors and meet new people. Visit www.ALAforVeterans.org/Meetings/Mission-Training/ for more information and to register.

*Save the Date:

October 14th Homecoming for Department President Mavis Goodroad. Holiday Inn located at 3803 13th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103. Room block is set up under American Legion Auxiliary and may be reserved at (701) 282-2700. 5pm social with dinner at 6pm. Program and music to follow. Meal cost is \$25. RSVP to Mavis at 701-361-0413.



American Legion Auxiliary Department of North Dakota Mail Order Form 'North Dakota Nurses Over There 1917-1919' Grace E.F. Holmes, MD, author

All proceeds are going toward a scholarship fund being established through American Legion Auxiliary's Past Presidents Parley as the 'Dr. Grace E.F. Holmes Nursing Scholarship'.

Make Checks Payable to:

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Send Payment along with this form to the Department office at:

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2017-2018 Department Officers, Chairmen and District Presidents

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President Elect
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Board member..... Laurie Horton-Senger
Board member..... Gigi Moore
Board member..... Dana Thoreson

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In Memoriam

District 1
Ruth M. Freund, West Fargo

District 2
Mae Holm, Hoople
Clarice L Langerud, Hoople

District 4
Jacqualine Hoffmann, Medina

District 5
Fern Wretling, Garrison

District 6
Fern Anderson, Willow City

District 7
Elsie Boehm, Beulah
Helen Hirsch, Bismarck
Arleen M Stilwell, Bowman
Mildred Underdahl, Hebron
Florence Wiege, Hebron
Leora Huddleson, Mandan
Frances Kopp, Raleigh
Shirley Grannis, Stanton

District 8
Beatrice Syminow, Belfield
Carol M. Ziegler, Stanton

District 9
Alice Sorenson, Bismarck

District 10
Annetta Fredrick, Ellendale
Selma T Black, Fargo
Irene M Hruza, Gwinner
Marie Jensvold, Lidgerwood
Margaret Featherstone, Oakes
Grace Nelson, Oakes

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