

Meet your new Department Vice President.

Growing up in White Shield, Sharon can still hear the voices of her grandparents, Mathew (Alice) White Bear Sr. and William J. 'Bill' (Leona) Deane Jr. as they instructed her in traditional ways and values – such as taking action to help people in need.

Sharon acquired her education from parochial, private and public schools throughout the western United States. Her passion has always been in the medical field. She started out as an ECT for Garrison Ambulance and went on to receive her National Certification of Surgical Technology from East Grand Forks Technical College. Sharon's career started at St. Johns Hospital, then Merit Care Medical Center, in Fargo. She achieved her dream of working in cardiovascular surgical procedures. She moved to Minot, ND, in 1995 to assist in implementing a new Cardiovascular Program for UniMed Medical Center. She returned to Fargo in 2000 to work at Essentia Health as a Certified Surgical Technician and First Assistant. While working, Sharon also went to school full time, receiving a Bachelor of University Studies from North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND.

Sharon volunteered for a variety of community events. She is a founding member (2006) of the Native American Commission (NAC) City of Fargo which brings a voice to the Native Community in an urban setting. The NAC is the first program of its kind in the United States. She continues today to help organize cultural events and to speak up and find solutions for the Native Community. Sharon is proud to have been a volunteer with the Northern Lights Council Boy Scout Troop 229. She was able to be a part of her son, Wacey's, achievement rank of Eagle Scout, participated in many fundraisers, camping trips, and instructed for the Indian Lore Badge.

Sharon now works as the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation East Segment Liaison/Office Coordinator in Fargo, ND. She felt the MHA tribal members needed such a program and initiated it with the East Segment Office.

Sharon comes from a family of military veterans who have proudly served before World War I and in every war since. She is a member of the Young Hawk/Bear American Legion Auxiliary Unit 253 of White Shield. Sharon travels regularly from Fargo to home (750 miles round trip), to support veterans and their families, whether it is fundraising, cooking or attending meetings and other events.

Sharon accepted the nomination and is looking forward to serving as Vice President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of North Dakota. She will also be working with Change Network, a group that supports learning and leadership to work across differences to serve all in the community. You can reach Sharon by phone at 701-421-2379, by e-mail at [vicepresident@ndala.org](mailto:vicepresident@ndala.org), or visit her LinkedIn page.

