

What a crazy year we are having! I am enjoying being at home and working on projects that have been sitting on my 'Retirement Shelf' for several years. We will all remember 2020 as the year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I will miss seeing my American Legion Family at our annual functions such as Flickertail Girls State and Department Convention in June and the National Convention in August. These events have all been suspended due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Although we are not gathering this summer, the Finance Board consisting of Diane Kraemer, Gloria Covert, and myself as chairman, have still been meeting every month. Department President Myrna Ronholm, Department Treasurer Annette Zeller, and Department Secretary Marcy Schmidt also attend those meetings. We have utilized phone conference calls that worked out nicely. We are planning to use Zoom video conferencing in the future, but we may need to dress a bit and comb our hair for those.

At each Finance Board meeting, Annette walks us through the Department's profit and loss statement, balance sheet, and bank statements. Diane keeps us informed about the progress on the revisions to the Department Constitution and Bylaws and the Standing Rules document.

Department President Myrna Ronholm has put the 2020 American Legion Auxiliary's 100th Birthday Celebration on hold for the time being. The planning committee met shortly before the Department Convention was cancelled. Although the 'party' will not occur until the 2021 Department Convention, we will have a party. Stay tuned!

The Finance Board has also worked on 'recommendations' to keep all things financial rolling along smoothly. The Department Executive Committee and the convention general assembly will be voting on several things in 2021. Stay tuned for that as well.

Until we can gather once again, please know that I am thinking of you and miss you. Stay safe and healthy.

Marlys Aubol

Department Finance Board Chairman