

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of North Dakota
Education Chairman-Shauna Dubuque
Mid-Year Report (includes activities from June 2019-December 2020)
December 18, 2020

Narrative Portion

I have had the honor of being the Education Chairman for the Department of North Dakota since July 2019. I am excited to be in this role, as I am passionate about education and the opportunities it provides in our communities.

I received several reports for the 2019-2020 administrative year with information pertaining to the education program. One unit celebrated educators during American Education Week by bringing trays of meat, cheese, and crackers into the local school. Another unit celebrated educators and staff by providing fruit to the school. This unit also donated \$35 in school supplies and presented All-American Student plaques at a high school awards banquet. One unit donated funds to a local library in recognition of American Education Week. Another unit donated funding to the local elementary school to help students with lunches and to help teachers with classroom supplies. One hundred veteran-themed comic books were purchased and sent to the local school in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Auxiliary. Several units participated in "Give 10 to Education" with local schools where they gave supplies in 'groups of 10'. Box Tops for Education were donated to local schools. Several units provided scholarships to send students to International Music Camp, located on the border between North Dakota and Canada.

I received five reports so far for the 2020-2021 administrative year with information pertaining to the education program. Four units participated in "Give 10 to Education". Supplies such as stickers, pencils and cases, crayons, glue sticks, markers, and cash donations were given to local elementary and middle schools. One unit shared information via the radio about the Auxiliary, Betsy Ross, flag history, and flag etiquette. This falls more under Americanism, but does still involve educating the public about our organization. Another unit presented All-American Student awards to a Senior at each local high school. Two units sent monetary donations for music education and instruments to International Music Camp. Junior Auxiliary member graduates from a local high school were awarded scholarship money, and additional money was given to a school scholarship fund. One unit donated Auxiliary Halloween safety coloring books and cash for supplies to a local elementary school.

I had the honor of judging over 50 scholarship applications for both the National scholarship program and the Department Education program in 2020. Wow!! What a great group of students who have such wonderful ideas and enthusiasm. They have amazing spirit, intensity, and will to succeed. We are blessed to have such outstanding future leaders within our schools. It was truly difficult to pick winners, as all the candidates were worthy of awards.

Seventeen North Dakota students applied for the 2020 National scholarships, and four students were selected as Department candidates. One from each National category was sent on to the Northwestern Division for judging. Forty-one students applied for the Department Education Scholarship, and six students were awarded the \$300 scholarship for the 2020 year.

This year, I am promoting scholarships, the "Give 10 to Education" program, and American Education Week. These items were mentioned in my Programs Action Plan that is posted on our Department website at www.ndala.org/education/ and was also included in a September 2020 'unit' mailing to all units, District Presidents, Department Officers, and Department Chairmen. 'Unit' mailings are also posted online. Another 'unit' mailing went out in November with information on the "Give 10 to Education" program, ideas for American Education Week, and scholarship information. A mailing to units and all ND high schools went out in October 2020 which contained National and Department scholarship applications along with instructions and online locations. I wrote an article for the fourth quarter of the Department newspaper 'The Message'. I thank the Department office for sending out all this information via 'unit' mailings and for posting it online. I also did these same things for the 2019-2020 year, but focused more on the 'Veterans in the Community Schools' program.

Response to Debra Albers, National Education Chairman, questions:

*Did units host “Veterans in the Community Schools” programs? None were reported. Did you do anything virtually? No, but I like this idea.

*What type of input was there using “Give 10 to Education”? I did get feedback from units that they participated in this program with supplies and monetary contributions. They also utilized the “Give 10 to Education” tracking sheet that was provided in a ‘unit’ mailing. This seems to be an easy and popular program to help schools.

*How did units promote American Education Week? Some in 2019 brought snacks and fruit to local schools. Others sent funds to a local library.

*Did your Department in any way help veterans pursuing a higher education? Not to my knowledge, however, I do not get information from scholarship applicants on whether they are veterans or not.

*Did units in your Department assist with the education of military children? Yes; I assume that some of the students receiving ‘Give 10’ supplies or coloring books were military children.

*Were National scholarships promoted? Yes. Scholarship links were posted on the Department website, and paper applications were sent to all high schools and units in North Dakota. Units promote the scholarships in their local areas.

“At a Glance” report of the Department and units

- Celebration of American Education Week – snacks and fruit provided to local schools, funds donated to a library, funding for school lunches
- “Give 10 to Education” participation – supplies and monetary contributions given to elementary and middle schools
- All-American Student plaques given to high school students
- Education on the Auxiliary – Veterans comic books and Halloween safety coloring books donated to local schools, radio and in-person presentations on Betsy Ross, the Auxiliary, flag history, and flag etiquette
- Participation in Box Tops for Education
- Money for student scholarships and instruments at International Music Camp
- Unit scholarships for graduating junior Auxiliary members
- Money given to local scholarship funds
- Promotion of Department Education scholarship – Applications sent to all Department high schools and Auxiliary units, links to applications on Department website, posting on Department Facebook site, information in the Department newspaper ‘The Message’, units and members sharing the information with family and community members
- Promotion of National scholarships - Applications sent to all Department high schools and Auxiliary units, links to applications on Department website, posting on Department Facebook site, information in the Department newspaper ‘The Message’, units and members sharing the information with family and community members

This report has become quite lengthy, but hopefully contains information that is helpful for both Jean Walker (NW Division) and Debra Albers (National).

I hope to receive more information over the coming months for my year-end report.

Respectfully submitted:

Shauna Dubuque, Department Chairman – Education program
Department of North Dakota