

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY • DEPARTMENT OF NORTH DAKOTA Sandra Petermann, Department President-Elect 2021-2022 Cell Phone: 701-290-8801; Email: bmann@ndsupernet.com

Greetings Auxiliary Members:

The 2022 Winter Conference is set for January 28-30, 2022. In conjunction with the winter conference, the Matthew Brew Unit 3 of Dickinson is sponsoring a silent auction to be held at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck.

The American Legion Matthew Brew Post 3 and Auxiliary Unit 3 of Dickinson are hosting the 2022 Department Convention slated for June in Dickinson at the Roosevelt Grand Dakota Hotel. The silent auction is meant to be a fundraiser to help defray some of the unit's convention expense. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at: 701-483-5176 or bmann@ndsupernet.com.

I am requesting that all District Presidents bring at least one item for the silent auction. Donations of items for the auction by any auxiliary member or department officer would be most welcome.

Auction items could be from a local business, homemade items/crafts, bottles of wine or craft beer, home canned items in a basket and even purchasing an item if one prefers not to ask a local business. District Presidents may use funds from their District funds if desired. When requesting reimbursement, please attach the receipt to your 'Expense Reimbursement Sheet.' Reimbursement cannot be made without a receipt.

The item(s) can be fun, practical, funny, or whatever. The best way to figure out if it is fitting, is to ask yourself, is this something you would bid on? If you are not sure, please feel free to reach out to me, before obtaining the item(s).

When you go to a local business, I encourage you to wear your American Legion Auxiliary brand. Explain that you are collecting items for a silent auction sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary at the winter convention in January. Be sure you send a 'thank you' note to businesses and individuals who donate items.

Once you obtain the item(s), please email, or call me and let me know the following information about your entry.

- A description of the item.
- The estimated value of the item.
- Who donated the item?
- Your name and contact information in the event I need to contact you

District Presidents, in your quarterly letters to your units, please let your unit presidents know about the winter conference, where and dates, silent auction and letting them know they can bring an item if they wish. Some may wish to either send or give cards to veterans or plan a celebration. We can all use reminders from time to time.

As an American Legion Family there are proper channels that we all need to take. Any information regarding the American Legion, needs to go through Ron Matthews, Adjutant, Department of North Dakota. Any information regarding the American Legion Auxiliary, needs to go through Marcy Schmidt, Secretary, Department of North Dakota. Any information regarding Sons of the American Legion, needs to go through Daniel Sauerwein, Commander, Detachment of North Dakota. You can find their contact information in The Legion News/The Message.

One of the things that I learned from other units across the country is by going back to 2019, 2020 and 2021 on ALAMIS, one can find out who in your unit have not paid their dues. Please consider contacting former members to encourage them to rejoin our American Legion Auxiliary. Consider asking them to become actively involved in your unit activities. We have all heard there is nothing for them to do, so why join. We want them to feel appreciated and important. Not just someone who pays dues once a year.

How is your unit doing in updating your Constitution & Bylaws? If you need help or have questions, please reach out to Diane Kraemer, our Constitution and Bylaws Chairman. Mail a copy of your updated documents to Diane.

With the holidays quickly approaching, please remember our military and veterans. Consider sending care packages to our military, remembering all veterans throughout the year, and giving Christmas cards to our veterans. One thing we enjoy doing each year is taking Christmas cards to veterans in our care facilities. Letting them know that they are appreciated and not forgotten. Poppies can be used year-round, so place a poppy in the card too.

Thank you for everything each of you do for our veterans and military. Together we can make a difference.

God Bless our Veterans and the U.S.A.

Sandra Petermann, Department President Elect