

Greetings to Wonderful District 9!!!

Our Regional meeting for Districts 6 and 9 was held in White Shield on October 10th at 2 pm. Oh, my goodness! Does White Shield know how to put on a meal, or what?! Folks, if you missed this event, let me tell you about the great hospitality that was extended to all attending by the White Shield Legion Post and Auxiliary! The food was in abundance and delicious, the prizes were fantastic, and the greatest part about their hospitality was sharing of customs and traditions for posting the flags. Thank you so very much, White Shield. We were blessed to enjoy a day with you. District 9 had eight members registered for the day, with units from Parshall, New Town, Little Shell, Watford City, Tioga, and Crosby being represented. We are hoping to have each unit represented at the Spring meeting (just a heads up). The date and location will be listed in the spring edition of *The Message*.

Required contributions and poppy orders were due by November 1, 2021. If your unit has not done this yet, please look into getting this submitted as soon as possible. Also, please do not forget to spend some time updating your unit's Constitution and Bylaws with the information sent to each unit by the Department Office.

With holidays right around the corner, we need to be thinking of ways to honor and remember the veterans, elderly, children, and youth of our communities. Most times the holidays are happy days, but not always for everyone. Take a good look around and see if there is a person, a family, or an event that maybe we can help make a little brighter. Another way to help our veterans during the holidays is to remember and give to the ND State Veterans Home in Lisbon. Because of the geographical distance between District 9 and the Lisbon Home, it is oftentimes more practical to send a gift of money rather than goods because of postage costs. Be assured that whatever we can do to help is most appreciated!

On October 25th, I enjoyed a visit with the Powers Lake unit at their monthly meeting. What a delightful group that knows how to get things done! They conduct business like a well-oiled machine, paying attention to each detail. The afternoon was enjoyable, and the hours slipped away quickly. It is amazing what we can learn from each other about the American Legion Auxiliary by visiting and spending time with each other. Thank you, Powers Lake, for inviting me!

By the time this publication is released, Veterans Day will be over for another year --- over on the calendar, but not in our hearts. I came across a quote on the internet that really hit home, "If you want to thank a soldier, be the kind of American worth fighting for." Author Unknown. Powerful words!

I hope all of you enjoy a meaningful and special holiday season with friends and loved ones. It will be a busy November and December for most, filled with lots of hustle and bustle. Keep in mind the upcoming Winter Conference to be held in Bismarck on January 28-30, 2022. I am excited! I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas, District 9!

Brenda Ekness

District 9 President