

North Dakota Auxiliary Members,

I recently attended the 2022 Winter Conference in Bismarck and was able to enjoy the hospitality of the Bismarck Post and Auxiliary. It is always nice to visit with friends and meet new ones. We had 31 units with 60 members registered for winter conference. It was nice to see the numbers going up. Tioga Unit 139 was the winner of the \$100 door prize. Congratulations to Tioga. They had 5 members present with 3 first timers in attendance from their group. Thank you to Sharon White Bear and the staff at the Department Office for all your hard work to organize the 2022 Winter Conference events.

Membership is the backbone of our organization. Without new members we will not survive. We lost over 200 members last year to death. Deceased members were honored at a ceremony held during the conference. Their knowledge and willingness to pave the way for us to continue our mission was noted.

Each year, the Department loses members when units choose to disband. We have two to five units on the disbandment list each year. This movement is taking a toll on membership. If your unit has 10 current paid members, you can maintain your charter. If your unit is struggling to remain a unit, please reach out to your District President for assistance and please consider reorganizing so you can stay viable. Most Auxiliary members are loyal to their home unit, so do whatever you can to keep your unit intact. Before a unit decides to disband, look at the options available. There are a number of policies and procedures that are required to be completed before a unit can be disbanded by the Department Executive Committee and the National organization. The Department Office can explain the procedures if your unit is considering disbanding, but please consider reorganizing your unit before the drastic and final step of disbandment is taken.

We had an 80% membership goal by February 1, 2022. We made the goal by 80.6%. Good Job units!!

Our membership year runs from January 1 thru December 31 each year. If dues are not paid before December 31, the member is no longer in good standing until their dues are paid. I encourage all units to set a goal of 90% dues paid by December 20 each year to keep your members' dues current. Dues need to be recorded at the National office to be considered paid.

We have 23 units that are at 100% or higher on membership. Kudos for a job well done!!

I encourage everyone to utilize American Legion Auxiliary resources to make your lives easier: www.ndala.org and www.ALforVeterans.org .

Remember, always be kind,

Gloria Covert