

## **NATIONAL AUXILIARY PRESIDENT DAUDISTEL VISITS WHITE SHIELD**

The May 7<sup>th</sup> visit to our community of White Shield from American Legion Auxiliary National President, Kathy Daudistel, was hosted by Young Hawk/Bear American Legion and Auxiliary Post and Unit 253. The first stop was the Old Scouts Cemetery west of White Shield where flags were carried into the area followed by a short program. National President Daudistel along with Department President Sharon White Bear laid a wreath at the memorial for our deceased veterans. The presidents toured the Young Hawk/Bear American Legion and Auxiliary Post 253 building and the White Shield Arikara Cultural Center where history and artifacts are on display.

A meal was prepared and served by Unit 253 Auxiliary members. Following the meal, MHA Nation Chairman Mark N. Fox spoke to the crowd and presented National President Daudistel with a Satin Star Quilt & Pendleton noting the significance behind the gesture.

Another program was held in the gymnasium of the Ralph Wells Jr. Community Center. The color guard of Post 253 presented the colors. An opening prayer was presented by Danile Henry, Unit 253 Chaplain. Austin Gillette, Past Commander of Post 253, and Mark N. Fox, Chairman of MHA Nation, served as masters of ceremony. Madonna Azure, Unit 253 President, welcomed the guests. The keynote speaker, Kathy Daudistel, presented her 'National Presidents' theme and focus which is "Caregivers for Veterans" and then recognized five families for their display of loyalty and commitment in caring for their Veteran. Department President White Bear and National President Daudistel presented certificates of appreciation to each of the five families. Drum Group sang for the three Native Dancers Jingle, Chicken, and Traditional as they performed their dances for the crowd. Group pictures of the Legion and Auxiliary attendees were taken with National President Kathy Daudistel. Throughout the program, gifts were presented individually and to our guests. This was a remarkable day spent with American Legion Family members from across North Dakota.

Submitted by Unit 253 White Shield