

Greetings to District 9 Auxiliary Members,

It is Fall already! My, has the summer flown by! Department Convention, held in Dickinson on June 24-26, was well attended and informative. On behalf of our District, a grand THANK YOU to outgoing Department President Sharon White Bear for a job well done and a big WELCOME to incoming Department President Sandra Petermann! Sharon not only brought a calm, kind, firm presence with her to our organization, but she also shared many native customs with us, which was educational and wonderful! Incoming President Sandra has many years of experience in the Auxiliary, and her leadership will be no doubt be encouraging as well. We look forward to her guidance and direction this year.

Fall District Meeting will be held in Williston on **Saturday, October 15th**, at the Grand Williston Hotel. Social will begin at **11:00 AM** followed by a no-charge **12:00 noon** meal. Legion and Auxiliary meetings will commence after the meal. Thank you to the Williston Post and Auxiliary for hosting this event! Let us fill the meeting room! It will no doubt be a delightful day to spend together. Bring ideas to share with your sister units as to what has worked so that we can help each other grow and become stronger together.

On the ND American Legion Auxiliary website (www.ndala.org), membership co-chairman Gloria Covert encourages all units to set a goal of 90% dues paid by December 20 each year to keep your members' dues current. This is a great goal, and one to be achieved! Now is also a good time to recruit those new members that you have been wanting to ask and have not gotten around to asking yet!!

American Education Week will be November 14th -18th this year. Remember the teachers in your communities with a token of your appreciation. This may be as simple as sending notes or some other items to show that you care about them. As we all know, teachers are especially important people in the lives of our children, schools, communities, and nation and our respect and support of them is required to help them help our children. Remember.....it takes a village! Recently, I found a poem and think it fits the American Legion Auxiliary because we all benefit when we work together.

I may be one, but with others I become many.
I may be small, but with others I become mighty.
I may be weak, but with others I become strong.
I may be afraid, but with others I become courageous.
I may be weary, but with others I become emboldened.
I may be confused, but with others I become clear.
I may be one, but with others I become many.

God bless you, our veterans, military, and their families and this great United States of America. May your days be filled with many blessings in the coming weeks.

Brenda Ekness
District 9 President