



Auxiliary members,

It was nice to have our National President Vicki at the 2023 Winter Conference. She represents our organization very well. Vickie presented her pin to all the members that were in attendance I was a little disappointed that only 54 members attended our conference representing 23 units.

Serving as a Membership Chair of your unit is a position of responsibility and trust. "Holding" of membership dues in a unit treasury does a great disservice to the members who believe their dues have been paid. Dues are not considered paid until they reach the National office. **DO NOT HOLD DUES!!**

Our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31 each year. If your dues are not paid for the next year by December 31, of the previous year you are not considered a member of the ALA. That means you are a guest at meetings with no privileges or benefits. You are not eligible to vote. We encourage all units to collect dues from their members right after the renewals are mailed out in September by the National Office, so members do not lose their "paid" status.

I am excited to report that we now have 20 units that have achieved 100% or better status with their paid membership. Way to get it done units!! There are numerous other units that are getting close to their goal so let persistence prevail. Remember to look at recruiting Junior members. They can be a great asset to your unit.

ALAMIS (American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System) is a great resource to your unit. It will make your membership job a lot easier with all the reports for your unit at your disposal. One or two members of your unit can have access to ALAMIS Information. The Department Office sends invoices in March to units who have members with ALAMIS Access. Look for your ALAMIS invoice coming soon and pay it right away.

North Dakota is still in 7th place of 7 states in the Northwestern Division. Let's see if we can't move the bar upward.

What is your WHY? WHY did you join the ALA? WHY do you renew your membership every year or why did you become a lifetime member? WHY do you invite new members to join? WHY don't you invite them? Everyone needs to renew their WHY each year to keep a cheerful outlook and be proud of their American Legion Auxiliary membership.

I encourage all units to be sure all members are paid up and are members in good standing. Keep up the good work your Auxiliary units are doing to support our veterans, youth, and communities.

Remember, always be kind.

Gloria Covert, Department President -Elect and Membership Chairman