It is starting to feel a bit like autumn already! Where does time go? If you have a question about membership or other Auxiliary related matters, feel free to call me at the Department Office at 701-253-5992. I may also be reached by email at <u>secretary@ndala.org</u>. I love chatting with you.

Congratulations and thank you to all unit members, Unit Presidents, District Presidents, and Department Chairmen for submitting your 2021-2022 year-end reports. Those reports always amaze me! It shows that large and small units are actively supporting veterans in their communities. They continue to work for and support Auxiliary programs such as Girls State, Education and scholarships, Children and Youth, Poppies, and Americanism. I am so proud to be a part of this grand organization.

There are a number of things that have come to the attention of Department Office staff and Department Officers that affects units and members alike. Just as inflation has affected our families and everyone in our communities and state, it has affected the Department's bottom line as well. Department officers and its finance board members are carefully monitoring the Department's financial strength and are seeking ideas and studying long-term solutions. This is a work in-progress.

As I draft this article, so many things are going on. North Dakota's National Convention delegates will be back from the 2022 National Convention to be held in Milwaukee before this publication arrives in your mailbox.

National Headquarters will be mailing 2023 Dues Renewals in early September. I encourage unit membership chairmen and unit members alike to reach out to members who live nearby and welcome them to a unit meeting. Perhaps gather a party and attend a District Meeting too.

Information about upcoming Fall District meetings is located elsewhere in this publication. I encourage you to watch for more information in articles written by District Presidents and posted at www.ndala.org.

Marcy Schmidt