

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

The Message

North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary
 1801 23rd Ave N, Rm 113, Fargo, ND 58102-1047
 701-253-5992 • www.ndala.org • facebook.com/NorthDakotaALA

Honor Flight Fundraiser Receives Strong Support

Fourteen different hotdish flavors were served up for the community during the Veterans Honor Flight of ND/MN fundraiser hosted by Cavalier American Legion Auxiliary Unit 11 and Cavalier Future Business Leaders of American (FBLA) students. Thanks to the generosity of community members who brought hotdishes, donated silent auction items, or came out to eat, over \$3,500 was raised. This money helps pay for future flights of veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit war memorials in their honor.

Attendees were given a "flight" of hotdish samples to taste and ballots to vote for their favorite flavors. Veterans also were given a separate ballot to put their own stamp on their favorite options. Hotdish samples included French BLT, breakfast hotdish, chicken alfredo, lasagna, mac and cheese, chicken taco, burrito bake, wild rice and bacon, pizza, potato pizza, chicken wild rice, Lebanese beans, dairy potatoes, and more!

Members of Lavern J. Thompson Post and Unit 11 of Cavalier support programs for veterans and families of veterans, as well as active duty, national guard, and reserve personnel. For this event, they worked in tandem with Cavalier FBLA students to make the fundraiser happen. The students were honored to be able to interact with area veterans, learn about their stories of service, and hear of their personal connection with the Honor Flight. "We met a lot of veterans and heard about their experiences which were extraordinary," said FBLA member Emersen Helgoe. "They told us the trip was one of the best days of their lives."

For more information about Veterans Honor Flight of ND/MN and how to donate visit <https://www.veteranshonorflightofndmn.org>



Jason and Caleb Muth with their People's Choice Selection – Reuben Casserole



Community support for the Great Hotdish Bake-Off

Welcome to Department Convention 2023

Georgette Dorval, President of William C. Blair Unit 144 of Belfield is serving as Chairman of the 2023 American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention to be held in Bismarck on June 23-25. Meetings will take place at the Bismarck Hotel and Conference Center located at 800 South 3rd Street. Georgette along with members of Unit 144 and Joseph E. Appert Unit 126 of Hazelton welcomes the American Legion Family.



Georgette Dorval

They will serve as registrars and greeters when you arrive. Come join us as we celebrate 102 years of service for the American Legion Auxiliary. Enjoy your stay in Bismarck!

BISMARCK

American Legion Auxiliary Department of ND 102nd Convention Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center Bismarck, ND

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (may be revised without notice)
 Changes will be available at www.ndala.org/2023-department-convention/

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023

- 9:00 AM Department Finance Board Meeting – Diane Kraemer, Chairman
- 10:00 AM Auxiliary Registration Opens (closes at 5:00 PM)
- 11:00 AM District Presidents (Incoming and Outgoing – exchange books and flags) Meet with Gloria Covert, President-Elect
- 1:00 PM Auxiliary Department Executive Committee Meeting
- 2:30 PM National Convection Meeting – (auxiliary members/delegates/alternates planning to go to National Convention)
- 3:00 PM Incoming Department Chairmen – (Meet w/Gloria Covert)
- 4:30 PM District Officers Flag Rehearsal (for Joint Session)
- 5:30 PM Auxiliary Installation Rehearsal - Department Officers, District Presidents
- 7:00 PM Joint Opening Session

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2023

- 8:00 AM Auxiliary Registration resumes (registration closes at 12:00 PM)
- 8:00 AM Auxiliary Opening Session
- 11:00 AM District Presidents (meet & greet with District Commanders)
- 12:00 PM Past Presidents Parley Luncheon
- 1:30 PM Auxiliary Session Resumes
- 5:30 PM Convention Social
- 6:00 PM Department Convention Banquet
- 7:30 PM Dance

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023

- 9:00 AM Joint Memorial Service
- 10:00 AM Auxiliary Session Resumes
- 12:00 PM Installation of Department Officers
- 12:30 PM Installation of Department President (2023-2024)
- 1:00 PM Close of Convention

Thompson and Scranton Support Americanism

Central Valley High School and Thompson Auxiliary Unit 181 partnered together for all students to participate in the 2023 Americanism Essay Contest. The Auxiliary read through essays from the students of Central Valley and picked a winner to receive a \$50 award as well as advance on to state. They also selected three honorable mentions to advance to state. The essay title was "What does patriotism mean to you?". There were three different classes with requirements of 350 to 500 words in their essays. The first place awards were given to Kaileb Johnson, Megan Ensign, and Jacob Brandt. Honorable Mentions were awarded to Emily Smith, Brynley Lessard, Joseph Thompson, and Collin Higgins.

Scranton Public School grades 7-12 participated in the American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Essay contest. The students wrote 43 essays. Auxiliary Unit 151 judged the essays. We were amazed at the writing talent of the students in our small school. The winners were forwarded to our North Dakota Department Americanism Chairman.

Articles submitted by Thompson Unit President Bridget Pearson and Scranton Unit President Terry Freymiller



Thompson Auxiliary members, essay winners, and educator from Central Valley High School



Scranton Auxiliary members reading essays

Donnybrook Celebrates Birthday and Honor Flag

On Sunday, March 2, 2023, Clarence McCormick Auxiliary Unit 195 of Donnybrook sponsored a joint event to celebrate charter birthdays. The post was 103 years old and the unit was 102. A celebratory meal prepared by unit members was served along with birthday cake and enjoyed by all who attended. Sharing stories, memories, and camaraderie along with the food and beverages made the day even more special.

On Thursday, April 13, 2023, the Donnybrook post and unit held a 'flag burning' ceremony at Berthold Public

Schools. Post Commander Danny Michel, Vice Commander Dean Poppinga, Chaplain Russell Bott, and post members Coyne Quigley, Jeff Jones, and Curtis Graff participated. School staff members and students from preschool through high school were invited to attend. Thirteen of the students read the meaning of each fold as the flags were placed in the fire pit. As the ceremony concluded everyone was invited to sing 'God Bless America.'

Article submitted by Marilyn Bott, Unit 195



Birthday Party - Seated L-R: Jody Olson, Emilie Seime, Patsy Anderson. Back Row L-R: Karen Quigley, Unit President, Mary Ann Michel, Karen Trail, Marilyn Bott, Roxanne Quigley, Carolyn Graff



Students and Educators at flag ceremony

Department President

Greetings to my Legion Family.

As I write my final article as your Department President, I would like to express my deepest thanks and appreciation. We all talk about how time goes by so fast. It doesn't seem like it has been almost a year since I was installed. Even if it started off a little rocky, it has been a year of fond memories. Time truly does fly. To not forget anyone, I will not mention any names. First, I would like to thank my mentors who have guided me throughout the year. You have always been there for me, whether it be by email, text, phone calls, and sometimes in person. With your continual knowledge and dedication to our American Legion Family, you have helped me in ways I cannot put into words. I succeeded because of you. You always made me feel that I was important, you took time out of your busy schedules to assist me, and assured me that there were no wrong or dumb questions. You gave me the courage to stand up for what is right, to always fight for our veterans and their families. You gave me strength and courage when I needed it most and to stand up for myself. You helped me in ways that you are probably not even aware of. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I am stronger because of you.

Those of you who have always had my back, thank you. To a special friend who always listened, never judged, who lent a listening ear, and offered compassion, and gave me strength. Sometimes we just need someone we can be ourselves with and who is willing to listen to us and cry with us when needed. I am blessed to call you "friend" and will always treasure that friendship.

To my District Presidents and Chairmen, working beside you has been a true joy. District Presidents, thank you for everything you have done and continue to do within the Legion Family. You each helped me do my job. To my Chairmen, I could not have done my job without each of you doing yours. The reports, scholarships, and writings have all been top notch. I could not have picked a better team to work with. Each of you continue to amaze me with your undying dedication to our Veterans and their families.

To our Department Secretary, Marcy. Wow, where do I begin? You have been my rock, my go-to person. I always knew that when I contacted you that you would be able to help me. You make the job of every Department President a little easier because of your knowledge and willingness to help everyone. We all know that the office of Department Secretary is not an easy job with long hours, stressors, and many deadlines. Yet, you make it look easy. You truly are the best, and our Department is lucky to have you. Keep on shining!

The Spring District meetings have been amazing despite

all that snow. Overall, we had good turnouts, good food, and I especially loved the camaraderie and the laughter. To our Department Commander, Dan Brown, I could not have asked for a better person to work with. You have taught me so much. It has been a wonderful year working with and beside you. One of the things Commander Brown talks about is that we may not all get along, nor agree on everything, but we are the American Legion Family. We are in this together. I can say that we haven't always agreed on everything, but our hearts have always been in the right place. Our dedication to our veterans and their families is the best.

I would like to do a "Shout Out" to all units that achieved 100% or more in membership this year as well as signing up new members. We all know that getting new members is not always an easy task. Our first step is to introduce ourselves, explain what we are about and ask them to become new members. Sometimes we may need to sign up the spouse who is a veteran to the American Legion to get his spouse and children to join our Auxiliary. Always carry applications with you or keep them in your vehicle so they are readily available. Many units this year have signed up new members. Kudos to them. We all need to work together to recruit new members. It is a team effort.

I would like to leave you with some quotes and things to think about.

"Thoughts from a New Member"

I see you at the meetings, but you never say hello. You're busy all the time you're there with those you already know. I sit among the members, yet I'm a lonely gal. The new ones feel as strange as I; the old ones pass us by. You folks urged us to join and talked of fellowship, you could just cross the room, you know, but you never make the trip. Could you just nod your head and smile or stop and shake a hand, get over your mom's good intentions, then sit among your friends? Now that I understand. I'll be at your next meeting, and hope that you will spend the time to introduce yourself, I joined to be your friend.

A leader's role is greatly diminished without their team because no one can do everything alone, and know one knows everything. You don't become successful on your own; you have to rely on really good people. – **Leadership First!**

Sandra Petermann



Sandra Petermann

Department President-Elect

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

First of all, I would like to thank the host Districts for the great hospitality that I experienced when I attended your meetings!

Membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. Our dues renewals for the next year start being pushed out in July to the members that have email addresses. The paper renewals are in the mail in September. Your dues for the next year need to be paid by December 31 in order to remain a current member. Your dues are not considered paid until they reach the National office database. If your dues are not paid, your membership is not current, and you will be a guest at your next meeting or event. And that means you do not have member privileges such as voting or making motions at your meeting. If you happen to have insurance through the Auxiliary, it could lapse because your dues are not current. Your dues are important to your unit as is your membership.

Dues are important to the Department as well. Dues are what makes the Department function, so it is important that they are collected in a timely manner. Please DO NOT HOLD dues, process them right away.

ALAMIS (American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System) is a great resource for your unit to function easily. One or two members are eligible to have access to ALAMIS. A request needs to be sent to the Department office with your name, email address, and unit number. There are numerous reports that are helpful for membership. You have access to update a member profile, paid, and unpaid memberships to mention a few. There is a fee involved depending on which access you would like. For further information you may contact the Department office or me.

Just a reminder that all unit mailings and The Message are archived on our website: www.ndala.org.

A big shout out to all the units that achieved 100% or better this year!! You are 'ROCKING' membership.

Thank you to all the members that take the time to engage with our veterans, youth, and community. You all portray our mission so very well!!

Gloria Covert



Gloria Covert

Department Secretary

Greetings North Dakota Auxiliary Members.

What is that bright white light in the sky? It seems to be warming the earth and helping the grass and flowers grow once again.

I want to thank all those Auxiliary members, units presidents, and district presidents for sharing with me their stories and reports throughout the year. It made my jobs as Chairman for Public Relations and Legislation as well as your Department Secretary exciting and notable. Thank you everyone!

The Department Office is once again preparing for the Department Convention. Our oldest grandson and his fiancée are getting married that same weekend and we will miss the event. We will miss seeing and visiting with all of you, but our thoughts and good wishes will be with you for a successful and fun event. Wonderful, talented people have stepped forward to make sure everything runs smoothly. Thank you ladies!

This year's Department Convention will be held June 23-25, 2023, at the Bismarck Hotel and Conference Center located at 800 South 3rd Street in Bismarck. Yes, it is the former Ramkota, a familiar venue to many of you. I hope you are already making plans to attend the 2023 Department

Convention. Make your hotel reservations as soon as possible as there is a cutoff date for the special room rate. Registration and tickets for the banquet and parley luncheon can be found elsewhere in this publication.

Thank you to our hardworking Department Chairmen for working with the Poppy, Education, Americanism, Past Presidents Parley, Girls State and all other Auxiliary sponsored programs. The names of students who qualified for scholarships and awards will be noted elsewhere in this publication.

This is the first year in some time that the Department sponsored awards to the top winners in the Department's Americanism and Poppy Poster Contests. Thank you chairmen for making this year special for the students and the Department.

Take care of yourself and others.

Marcy Schmidt



Marcy Schmidt

Department Treasurer

Spring has finally sprung! A long-awaited season this year!

Speaking of Spring...it is also the time to report to the IRS your nonprofit status.

This is done by simply filing a 990-N report before May 15 (for units that are under the \$50,000 threshold and operating in the calendar year). If you do not operate over the typical calendar year, your 990-N is due the 15th day of the 5th month at the end of your tax year."

There are a number of North Dakota units that have had their nonprofit status revoked due to failure to file in the past years. Are you wondering about your unit's status? Is your unit compliant? Recently, a list with the status of every unit was sent to all District Presidents. Information on what units need to do to become compliant was also sent. Please contact your District President to find out where your unit currently stands.

All chartered American Legion Auxiliary entities are permitted by the National organization to use the name and trademarks of the American Legion Auxiliary and must comply with the national legal requirements for use of same. As an independent operated nonprofit organization, ALA entities must duly report to the Federal government via the applicable series of IRS Form 990 as well as their respective state governments.

What are the consequences of having the tax-exempt status revoked? This means your unit is no longer exempt from federal income tax, cannot receive tax-deductible donations, and is subject to corporate income tax on annual revenue. You may be subject to state tax, and you are also unlikely to be considered for grants.

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at treasurer@ndala.org or Kelly Harrier, National Membership Director at kharrier@ALAforVeterans.org for assistance. When you are all done, you can sit back and relax!

I hope to see you at the 2023 Department Convention in June. Enjoy your summer!

Sonnie Otto



Sonnie Otto

Department Chaplain

I was listening to the evening news this past week and heard that New York City had recently advertised for a new position in city government and has now hired – a rat czar. The official title is Director of Rodent Mitigation, and the position pays between \$120,000 and \$170,000. New Yorkers are getting increasingly fed up with the disgusting creatures.

In the dark alleyways and basements of our hearts, the devil wants to create an environment where all kinds of nasty thoughts, attitudes, habits, and addictions like to lurk and multiply. No matter how hard we try to live a godly, righteous life, Satan tries to tempt us into living a life apart from God. However, it is the Lord who knows how to shine a bright light into the hidden rooms of our hearts. "On the day I called, you answered me; you increased strength within me." Psalm 138:3.

God, who began His work in us, will definitely work to bring it to completion as stated in Philippians 1:6 "I am sure of this, that he who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

We may struggle and grow tired of fighting our battles,

but remember, God is a faithful God and will never start something and not finish it. We need to work and get rid of the sin in our lives so we can live with increasing holiness while we wait for the day when we will be pure, perfect and sinless before God – beyond any reach of temptation. Have faith in our God and believe that what He started in your life, He will bring to completion. "The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me. Lord, your faithful love endures forever." Psalm 138:8

Lord, increase our faith in You. Thank you for shining your light in our lives and helping us to grow and become perfect in You. As we cry out for help in all areas of our lives, give us the strength to live a victorious life so we will worship and serve You perfectly and forever! In Jesus Name, Amen.

Rose Laning



Rose Laning

Department NEC

By the time you read this spring should be here and summer on its way. There are just a couple of things I want you to be aware of. First - a question for you with something to think about: "What do you do with your time and talent for this organization?"



Tammy Ryberg

Be aware of what is on the internet, especially 'unofficial' Facebook accounts and pages. If you are unsure of which accounts are official and managed by the National organization, go to www.ALAforVeterans.org and find the list of the official pages and groups for Facebook.

The American Legion Auxiliary has a new logo design. The brand of the blue and yellow circle is still the brand and both logos can be used to represent the American Legion Auxiliary. Remember to wear the brand or logo at events you attend or which are sponsored by the American Legion Family. Show people in your community that the American Legion Auxiliary is alive and well.



Membership is the responsibility of all Auxiliary members of the unit, district, and Department to help grow our organization. As a member, officer, or chairman be available to help other members, potential members, your community, but most especially our veterans and their families. Always be looking for an opportunity to help in your community and then help chair or work an event to ensure its success.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the 2023 Department Convention in Bismarck!

Tammy Ryberg

Americanism

Hello Auxiliary members,

As many others have mentioned, spring is finally here. After such a lengthy time of snow and cold it is wonderful to see the leaves return and the early daffodils blooming.

I was honored to be the Department Americanism Chairman this year. What a wonderful program.

I learned a lot and was thrilled to read some wonderful essays from the Americanism Essay Contest. The hard work, skill, and love of country was evident in the students' writing. We have some very talented and patriotic youth that I am confident will be great assets to the workforce and country in coming years.

The Americanism Essay Contest this year had the title: "What does patriotism mean to you?" The contest was open to youth in grades 3-12, including home-school and special-needs students. As the chairman, I had the tough decision of choosing one winner from each class category. What a job! The essays were all well-written and completed with purpose. The Department winners received a certificate, a \$25 gift card, and a chance to compete at the National level of the contest. Look for a call-out box elsewhere in this issue for a list of the Department essay contest winners

Ten units sponsored submissions at the Department Level. I am grateful to Department Secretary Marcy Schmidt for including the essay contest in a unit mailing and school mailing in December. We got full school participation from several high schools in history/social sciences classes where they had the essay become part of the curriculum. There were also several elementary school classes that participated as well. The Auxiliary units in these areas stepped up and judged at least 50 essays each on short notice from me. I am so pleased at the participation of the local Auxiliary units, the educators, superintendents, and most of all, the students. Way to go!! You all did this with a hearty "Yes. How can I help?" attitude that was amazing.

Proudly wave your flag and honor your veterans at upcoming Memorial Day events and summer parades.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Shauna Dubuque
Americanism Chairman



District 2

Hello District 2 Auxiliary Members.

Looks like spring is finally here. Along with spring comes the District Meetings.

The District 2 meeting was held in Park River on April 15th. The day was a little cool but that did not stop 27 members from attending. Thank you to all who came out for the meeting. It was nice to see all of you. Thank you to Department President Sandra Petermann, Department President-Elect/Membership Gloria Covert, and Parliamentarian Diane Kraemer for attending.

Sandra spoke about the Winter Conference and membership. District 2 has 2 units at 100% and 2 at over 100%. Keep up the good work! She also discussed the National dues increase that will take effect for dues year 2024.

Diane spoke about the Constitution and Bylaws. She had an example to share with units to help them get their set up. If your unit needs a sample copy, please feel free to contact me.

Gloria spoke on membership. She emphasized staying connected with members and encouraged units to sign up for American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System (ALAMIS) computer access. It is a good way to keep track of members.

At our Fall District Meeting, members donated funds to the American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund for the victims of hurricanes in Florida. We received a letter from National President Vickie Koutz thanking our District members for the donation to help other Auxiliary members.

Thank you to the units that turned in their 2022 Impact Reports. Enjoy your spring and summer and I am looking forward to seeing you at the Department Convention in June.

Shelley Schuster
District 2 President



Constitution & Bylaws

URGENT!

Members, I am urging you to work hard to update your Unit's Constitution and Bylaws and your Standing Rules. The Department's governing documents were approved at the 2021 Department Convention. A deadline for units to complete their Constitution and Bylaws was set for Winter Conference 2022. That deadline has long since passed and I am still waiting to hear from 125 units.

If you have not yet submitted your Unit's Constitution and Bylaws and need further guidance, please feel free to contact me for a sample copy or guide. I can be reached at 701-772-1839 or by email at dianekraemer@gra.midco.net.

I would like all North Dakota units to be completed by June 1, 2023.

Diane Kraemer
Constitution and Bylaws Chairman



District 4

Our District 4 Spring meeting had a nice turn out for both Legion and Auxiliary members. Department President Sandra Petermann was one of our guest speakers and spoke on the fact that the Department is considering raising dues. Sandra also spoke of the 2023 Department Convention to be held in Bismarck on June 23-25. NW Division Vice President Marlene Boyer spoke on her trip to Washington D.C. for the 2023 Legislative Conference and lobbying for veterans. Department President-Elect Gloria Covert spoke about the American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System (ALAMIS) and what a huge resource it can be, especially for tracking membership. ALA Flickertail Girls State will be held at the UND campus June 11-16 in Grand Forks.

We are looking forward to the Legion's birthday parties, Impact Report deadlines, Americanism essays, Poppy posters, Poppy Day on May 26th, and Memorial Day celebrations.

Major Steve English was Post 250 guest speaker at their birthday party. He spoke of his time in Poland and the overwhelming number of packages that arrived for the care of the Ukrainian people. His children wanted to do something for the Ukrainian people and that is how this project came to be.

We are all looking forward to nicer weather, the snow is melting, and the color green is showing through. It is starting to feel like spring has finally arrived.

We were sad to hear that Alfred Steiger, a resident of the North Dakota Veterans Home at Lisbon, has passed away. Alfred was responsible for assembling nearly a half million poppies since he began the project in 2002.

Unit 250 of Gackle lost two of their members this spring, Arlene Rudolph whom we honored at our District meeting, and Darlene Elsner. Darlene had been Unit 250 President for several years and she will be missed by all who knew and worked with her.

Sharon Ludwig, Unit President of New Rockford, is recovering from a serious farming accident and had been hospitalized for over 100 days. Please keep Sharon in your thoughts and prayers.

Make your plans now to attend the 2023 Department Convention in June and be sure to make your hotel reservations by May 22.

God bless our Veterans.

Jane Schoonover
District 4 President



ALA Flickertail Girls State

June 11-16, 2023

UND Campus

www.ndgirlsstate.org

701-314-2460

Education

Greetings Auxiliary Members.

Believe it or not, spring is coming – not soon enough for most of us!

I have had the honor of reviewing scholarships. It has been difficult to narrow the selection to three (3) \$500 Department Education Program Scholarships. Every applicant was worthy of the scholarship. The committee selected Mason Christianson from Langdon, Logan Gronvold from Barton, and Dylan Schadegg from Steele.

The Department scholarship committee also received and reviewed applications for National Auxiliary scholarships. Thank you to Department President Sandra Petermann and Auxiliary member Carla Bickert, retired Bismarck State College instructor, for helping with the scholarship selection process. Two scholarship packets were sent to the Northwestern Division for further judging. Isabella Ferderer of Gwinner, ND, was the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship Department selection; and Katelynn Kovarik of Fisher, MN (Paul Farup Unit 147, Park River, ND), was the Spirit of Youth Scholarship for Junior Members Department selection. Final winners of the National scholarships will be announced in May.

We wish to congratulate all these students on their hard work, dedication, and commitment to academics and their communities. Please continue to support the youth in your area and promote both scholarships and educational opportunities.

KEEP IN MIND FOR NEXT YEAR, the National Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship is designed to reward Junior members who retain Auxiliary membership after they turn 18. It specifically targets Auxiliary members who are current college students. Do not lose track of your Juniors after they graduate from high school. Another scholarship that members of the American Legion Family can apply for is the Non-Traditional Student Scholarship. Applicants need to have kept up Auxiliary membership for the previous two years and current year and be returning to the classroom. Encourage them to apply! They are the future of our great organization.

For those attending ALA Flickertail Girls State and Boys

State, there is the Samsung American Legion Scholarship. Applications are restricted to high school juniors who attend the current sessions of the Legion Boys State or ALA Girls State program and are a direct descendant of a wartime veteran who served on active duty during at least one of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion. Those applications are due no later than the FIRST day of the Legion Boys State or ALA Girls State program, using the online application. Check out <http://www.legion.org/scholarships/samsung> so the students know what information they need to have when going to Girls/Boys State to apply.

I am looking forward to receiving education reports from units through District Presidents. Some units sponsor unit scholarships and have committees to select scholarship applications to be sent to the Department. Other units donate funds to local colleges, universities, and high school foundations. Several also help educate youth and others in their communities about various Auxiliary programs. Units donate funds to local libraries in recognition of National Education week; bring food to schools to celebrate educators and staff; provide funds to help students with lunches and to help teachers with classroom supplies; and scholarships to send students to International Music Camp.

There is likely much more that units and Auxiliary members do to support education within their communities. I just may not hear about it in reports or otherwise. Thank you to all who support our youth, our communities, and our veterans through education and outreach. You all truly make a difference.

Thank the educators in your community! Let them know how important and vital they are for all of us.

Peggy Moran
Education Chairman



102nd Annual Department Convention – June 23-25, 2023



Auxiliary Registration Form

Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, 800 South 3rd St., Bismarck, ND
(hotel formerly known as Ramkota)

Hotel Direct Phone: **701-660-8063**

Deadline to make hotel reservations is **May 22, 2023**.

Please use this order form for Auxiliary Registration and to order Convention Banquet tickets and Past Presidents Parley Luncheon tickets.

- Advanced Department Convention Banquet Tickets – **June 1, 2023**, is the deadline for the \$35.00 (advanced price). Orders after June 1 are \$40.00 per ticket.
- The Auxiliary Registration fee is **\$15.00** per person. Advanced registration by **June 5, 2023**, would be appreciated.
- Past Presidents Parley Luncheon - **\$20.00** per person. Order PPP tickets by **June 5, 2023**. Limited number tickets may be available on-site.

Member Name	Auxiliary Registration \$15.00	Past Presidents Parley Luncheon - \$20.00	Convention Banquet \$35 by June 1 / \$40 after June 1	Total Amount Submitted

Make Check Payable to: American Legion Auxiliary Dept of ND

Mail Payment to American Legion Auxiliary Dept of ND, 1801 23rd Ave N., Room 113, Fargo, ND 58102-1047

Endorsements

Department President – Gloria Covert (bio, not endorsement)

Gloria, whose eligibility is through her father, a World War II veteran, has been an Auxiliary member since 1981. Gloria is a long-time member of the Rolla unit, serving in the capacity of unit officer and in chairmanship roles, as well as serving as District 3 President. She is currently serving as a member of the Department Finance Board and is the current Department President-Elect and Membership Co-Chairman.

Department President-Elect – LoAnn Dick Endorsed by – Unit Secretary Pamela Graf of Theodore R. Zech Unit 180 Richardton

Theodore R. Zech Unit 180, Richardton, North Dakota proudly endorses Loann Dick for the office of Department President-Elect for 2023-2024. Loann has been an active Auxiliary member for many years not only as a unit member but also serving as District 8 President and Department AEF Chairman. Currently Loann is serving as the Department's Vice President and Membership Co-Chairman. We believe that Loann Dick is an excellent candidate for Department President-Elect and will continue to serve the Department and its members with distinction.

Department President-Elect – Candace Berg Endorsed by – Sidney Britsch Unit 268 York

Sidney Britsch Unit 268 York endorses Candace Berg for the office of Department President-Elect for 2023-2024. Candace joined the Auxiliary as a junior member under the eligibility of her father, Harland Berg, a Vietnam veteran. During her years as a junior member, Candace served as the trumpet player (bugler) for Memorial Day programs until graduating from high school. Candace is active with the York unit as well as the Devils Lake Neathery-Simenson VFW Auxiliary, having served as a flag bearer, unit secretary, unit chaplain, and several chairmanships.

Candace is also involved with Ramsey County 4-H, serving as the treasurer and a 4-H leader. She emphasizes community service projects with her group that are veteran-focused, such as learning the meaning of the US flag, flag folding, honoring businesses and homes who display the U.S. flag, putting together veteran food and supply packages, and helping with veteran and patriotic holiday services.

Candace currently lives and works in Devils Lake and is the proud parent of 3 children and a menagerie of pets. She is a licensed foster care parent, and in her spare time she enjoys volunteering at White Horse Hill National Game Preserve, sketching, photography, genealogy, watching hockey, exploring nature, and spending time with loved ones.

We believe that Candace is an excellent candidate for Department President-Elect and will serve the Department and its members with distinction.

Department Secretary – Marcy Schmidt Endorsed by – Unit President Carol Wolf of Gilbert C. Grafton Unit 2 Fargo

Gilbert C. Grafton Unit 2 of Fargo proudly endorses Marcy Schmidt for the office of Secretary of the Department of North Dakota. Marcy's eligibility comes through her husband Fred's service in the US Army, a veteran of the Vietnam Conflict. They are the proud parents of two children and four grandchildren and make their home in Fargo.

Marcy is an active member of Unit 2 and is always willing to assist in unit projects supporting our veterans. She has served on the unit level as President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairman, and as co-chairman for the Girls State committee. Marcy has served on the Department level as Historian and AEF Chairman and currently serves as Department Secretary, and Legislative Chairman.

We as a unit are proud to continue our support of this wonderful Auxiliary member. We endorse her without reservation for the office of Department Secretary.

Department Treasurer – Sonnie Otto Endorsed by Unit President Shirley Herbel and Unit Secretary Charolette Wanner Matthew Brew Unit 3 Dickinson

American Legion Auxiliary Matthew Brew Unit 3 Dickinson, ND endorses Sonnie Otto for the office of Department Treasurer for 2023-2024. Sonnie's eligibility comes via her husband, Todd Otto a Gulf War veteran. Sonnie has been an active member of the Matthew Brew unit since 2016 and is currently serving as treasurer of the Matthew Brew Unit 3. Sonnie has served as Department Treasurer since 2021. Her work is above reproach, efficient, timely and accurate. We believe that Sonnie is qualified and is an excellent candidate for office of Department Treasurer and will continue to serve the Department and its members with distinction.

Department Chaplain – Rose Laning Endorsed by Unit Treasurer Lualice Stockert of Vernon V Isaacs Unit 78 Stanton

Vernon V Isaacs Unit 78 Stanton proudly endorses Rose Laning for the office of Department Chaplain for 2023-2024. Rose, a State Life Member, has been an Auxiliary member since 1993. Her eligibility comes through her husband, Vernon Laning's three years of service in the US Army during the Vietnam war. At the unit level, Rose has served as President, Girls State and Americanism Chairman and currently serves as Department Chaplain.

Rose has served as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Knife River Indian Foundation at the Knife River Indian National Historic Site at Stanton since 1991 and assists the park with youth programs and concessions when possible. She is active in her church serving as a youth leader for 14 years, pianist for 43 years and worship leader for 13 years.

The Vernon V. Isaacs Unit 78 is proud of Rose's service and feels that Rose will continue to do exceptional service as Chaplain of the Department of North Dakota.

Department Historian – Andrea Neshem Endorsed by – Unit President Carol Wolf of Gilbert C. Grafton Unit 2 Fargo

Gilbert C. Grafton Unit 2 of Fargo proudly endorses Andrea Neshem for the office of Historian of the Department of North Dakota. Andrea is a long-time member of the Unit 2 and currently serves as the Department Historian. She makes her home in Minot, ND and stays active in her community as well as in the Auxiliary.

We as a unit are proud to continue our support of this wonderful Auxiliary member. We endorse her without reservation for the office of Department Historian.

This list is current as of publication. Further nominations may continue to be brought forward

In Memoriam

District 1

Gladys Nornes, Finley

District 2

Carol E Miller, McVille
Agatha Granlie, SLM, Park River
Marlys Miller, Minto
Colleen Langowski, Minto
Carrol C Elgin, Michigan
Diann M Bratlie, Forest River

District 3

Margie L Porter, Cando
Dorothy Rader, SLM, Cando
Elsie Weiker, Cando
Vera Lee, Cando
Marcella Risovi, Maddock

District 4

Myrna A. Ronholm, SLM, (Past Department President 2019-2020), Jamestown
Arlene Rudolph, Gackle
Darlene B Elsner, SLM, Gackle

Key: HLM - Honorary Unit Member; SLM - State Life Member; VIM - Life Member/PUFL

District 5

Lorna Ohlhauser, SLM, Washburn
Ann B Hellmuth, PUFL, Napoleon

District 6

Inga Kvelstad, Mohall
Adelaide Vig, Mohall

District 8

Cornelia P Kelly, HLM, Dickinson

District 9

ivian Linseth, Watford City
Marcella Storseth, Williston
Debra Iverson, Tioga
Judy L Bostow, Noonan

District 10

Marian Millerhagen, Forman
Helen Herman, Forman
Mavis Stibal, Lidgerwood

We apologize for any omissions or incorrect information.

2023 Education Program Scholarships

Department Winners

Mason Christianson - Langdon High School
Logan Gronvold - Rugby High School
Dylan Schadegg - Kidder County High School

2023 Parley Program Scholarships

Department Winners

McKaylee Kalstrom - Bowman County High School (Grace Holmes MD Nursing)
Brooklyn Lewis - Central Cass High School (Parley Nursing)
McKaylee Kalstrom - Bowman County High School (Parley Nursing)
Catherine Hanson - St Mary's Central High School (Parley Nursing)

2023 Americanism Essay Contest

Department Winners

Adlyn Neumiller - Class I (Grade 3/4)
Washburn Unit 12

Clara Olafson - Class II (Grade 5/6)
Cavalier Unit 11

Kiley Mausehund - Class III (Grade 7/8)
Scranton Unit 151

Megan Ensign - Class IV (Grade 9/10)
Thompson Unit 181

Blake Pierce - Class V (Grade 11/12)
Scranton Unit 151

Sonora Stoltzfus - Class VI (Special Needs)
Scranton Unit 151