THANK YOU to District 5 Unit members for submitting your 2022-2023 volunteer hours and narrative reports! Six of the twelve units in District 5 reported hours, which included a total of 14,731 hours of volunteer service. A total of \$34,736 was spent in providing support and services to our veterans, active military and their families, Children and Youth, Community Service, Department Scholarships, and Girls State. The numbers are impressive and were included in the Department's report to National Headquarters. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

As we begin a new service year, we have renewed excitement coming off the summer 2023 Department Convention. At Convention, it was approved to support International Music Camp and the North Dakota State Legion Band with funds from the Auxiliary Memorial Fund. National dues increased by \$6.00 beginning with dues year 2024. We were reminded that all unit Constitutions, Bylaws and Standing Rules need to be reviewed and updated. Only 18 units have completed this process so far. We were entertained by the North Dakota State Legion Band several times during the Convention. The Legion Band organization will be 100 years old in 2024 and they are hoping to make the trip to the 2024 National Convention in New Orleans, LA!

Discussion at the Department Executive Committee Organizational Meeting held on July 21, 2023, included compiling a list of "Gold Star Mothers" in North Dakota. If you know of a 'Gold Star Mother' in your community, bring that information to your District Meeting or let your District President know who they are and where they are located.

Thank you to all members of Joseph E. Appert Post and Unit 126 of Hazelton for stepping up to host our 2023 District 5 Fall Meeting in September.

Saturday, September 23, 2023

11:00 AM - Registration and Social

11:30 AM - Lunch (\$10.00 / person)

Meeting will follow lunch

Hazelton Community Center

I am interested in visiting District 5 unit meetings this year, so let me know when and where you meet. I look forward to seeing many of you at the 2023 Fall District 5 meeting and more of you at your unit meetings.

Peggy Moran

District 5 President