American Legion Auxiliary - Department of North Dakota

LoAnn Dick, 2023-2024 Department Membership Chairman Email: <u>ldick22@proton.me</u> Phone: 714-334-4798

September 2023

Hello Unit Presidents and Membership Chairmen,

Membership is our TOP PRIORITY! I believe that many of our Units stopped meeting due to the 'covid' issue. And heartbreakingly, many Units have not yet picked the baton up to begin again.

People join our Auxiliary to support Veterans and their families, and to do things for them. When we don't meet, we don't do the wonderful activities we once did to support, to help, to feed, to bless those men and women who gave of themselves, and many who gave all for us. When we don't meet, members lose interest, and often simply forget why they are members, or even that they are members. Year after year North Dakota ALA loses hundreds of members due to unpaid dues. Then, often due to inactivity, Units give up and decide to disband. WE MUST STOP THIS DEADLY TREND!

Please start meeting again! Get your members signed up right at the start of the year, NOW! In September! Let's go after them! Go back and pick up the members that didn't pay their dues last year, and the year before that. Remember that members want to be involved in exciting, active, functioning HOME Units. Begin again sponsoring your dinners and luncheons, assembling quilts and heart pillows for the VA Hospital and the North Dakota Veterans Home in Lisbon. Please go back to doing the fulfilling projects your members loved to do for the Veterans.

Ask your members to ALL be part of the Membership Committee. If each member is helping to get every other member signed back up you will be delighted to see how fast your Unit will become 100%.

Remember: NEVER HOLD DUES! Send them in right away! Your members deserve to have their benefits available to them in a timely manner, not months later. This is especially important if they wish to take advantage of benefits available to them as members.

Consider signing your Membership Chairman up for ALAMIS Access. Two members from each Unit may have access to the ALAMIS database. There are 3 levels of ALAMIS:

- Unit Read only \$10
- Unit Read and edit \$15,
- Unit Full access \$20.

With ALAMIS Access, besides being able to maintain your Membership, you will be able to print reports that tell you who is still not signed up, who is signed up, who fell off your rolls last

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year due to non-payment of dues, and who fell off the year before last. This gives you the ability to go back and find these members and see why they didn't pay their dues. and very possibly recruit them anew. What a blessing to be able to bring back friends you have lost and bring them back into your fellowship. ALA MIS is very useful, and very beneficial! It's easy to sign up, simply contact Marcy at the Department Office to request access. Marcy will need to know who will need access and the level being requested. Once the official department request is completed, you will be notified by the National Office with your sign-on and password along with instructions on how to get started.

Lastly, before your unit considers disbanding, please contact me and let us work together, to find a better solution!!!

Please let me know if I can help in any way. My phone number is a (714) number. So, put me in your phone with my name and number so that if I call you or need to return your call, you will know it's me, and not some random spammer. My contact numbers can be found in the 'header' of this communication.

Let's work together and make this year our best year ever!

Yours in Service to our Veterans,

LOA W Dick, Department Membership Chairman