

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

My first order of business is to thank the Districts and the unit hosts for the great hospitality and socializing at the ten Fall District meetings. The meals served were exceptional, so a big shout out to the food preparers! Our small-town communities are the best in every way!

Another thank you goes to everyone who attended the homecoming social in Medora for Commander Clarence and me. It was a beautiful weekend and visiting Medora without the summer crowd was exceptional. It was like we had the whole town to ourselves!! The "Million Dollar Quartet" concert was fabulous.

Our collection of membership dues needs to be put in high gear. The 2024 dues need to be paid by December 31, 2023, to be considered a member at your 2024 meetings and not a guest without privilege. Remember your "why" of becoming an Auxiliary member. Our veterans, youth, and communities are always in need of your support. Let's everyone get "fired up" about our "why" and get our units revitalized. We need to look at the future with positivity and a new lease on our goals.

Our Department Office has a new email program to send out email blasts to all members with an email address on file. It is called Constant Contact which will show at the bottom of the email that you receive. If you wish to receive the Department email blasts, be sure the Department Office has your name, unit #, position held (if applicable), and an updated email address. Some email addresses were collected at District meetings. If you were not at a District meeting, I encourage Unit Presidents to send this information for your unit members to the Department Office.

I cannot stress enough how important it is to have a member of your unit have access to ALAMIS (American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System). This program has information for every member of your unit. There are three levels of access, so choose the one that works for your unit and send a request by email to the Department Office at [secretary@ndala.org](mailto:secretary@ndala.org). Please include the access level desired, member's name, and email address. In turn, Department staff will request your access from National Headquarters.

Every program that the National office administers has a Facebook page. All members have access to these pages. They are a great resource for information as a lot of questions and answers are addressed.

Every member with computer access should sign up under the "members only" portal on the national website: [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org). All members should review the courses that are available under the ALA Academy page. Everything you ever wanted to know about the American Legion Auxiliary is available on the national website.

The Department's website, [www.ndala.org](http://www.ndala.org), features information on our programs, scholarships, application forms, unit mail material, "The Message" articles, and more. All members with a computer have access to this information.

Wishing everyone the best of the holiday season.

Always be kind,

Gloria Covert