



President's Notes - District Meetings

The following notes were presented at the 2024 Spring District Meetings. Please share them with your unit members who were unable to attend. It was nice to see so many of you at the district meetings.

Gloria Covert, Department President (2023-2024)

"BE THE ONE" day is the 1st of every month. Use branding as well as promoting this initiative. Information can be obtained from the National American Legion website - www.alaforveterans.org.

RED (remember everyone deployed) Friday is also a day to brand with anything red as well as promoting it in your communities and schools. Remind your members to wear RED on Fridays.

The Girls State website is updated with new information for the 2024 event to be held on the University of North Dakota campus, June 9-14, 2024. The packets have been mailed to units and schools so be sure to contact your schools and help promote the program. Put an article in your local paper, promote on your Facebook page if your Auxiliary has one. Make posters and tack up around town and at your school. City Moms are needed to help supervise the girls so you may wish to promote that idea as well. It would be nice to see over 100 girls registered this year. The registration fee has been increased to \$325 this year to be all inclusive so the girls don't have to bring extra money to purchase a t-shirt. If your unit struggles with the fee, contact local businesses that might be willing to help out. Help to promote Boys State as well.

Constant Contact - This is a new email program used by the Department to send information to members with email addresses. We need the email addresses of all members that would like to receive information from the department. This resource will be increasingly used to get information to members in a timelier manner and save time and expenses for paper and postage. I encourage all units to collect email addresses for all of your members and ask your membership chairman to update the information in ALAMIS if they can or send that information to the Department Office (secretary@ndala.org) for ALAMIS update.

ALAMIS- There are 61 units using ALAMIS with 18 units using full access while 43 unit are using write only or view only. With full access, unit dues can be immediately paid online, and your database can also be updated immediately. Your members do not have to wait 2 or 3 weeks for mail to process a National update to the database. A full ALAMIS user has full access to their unit members' information and can update member information. They can also review past dues owed and the amount, so it is easy to get members caught up if they choose. All you need is a debit card for your unit checking account. If a unit member is interested in this option, contact the Department office.

If you have **SLM or PUFL members** in your unit, it is important that you maintain contact with them so you can keep up with any changes such as addresses, or a member is deceased. Deceased members

need to be reported to the Department. State Life Members (SLM) dues are paid by Department to National in late November. Please be sure to verify SLM information no later than November 1 to be sure information is updated in ALAMIS.

Honorary Life Members (HLM) are members that your unit pays dues for. They need to be coded HLM in ALAMIS, so the dues notice goes to the unit for renewal instead of the individual. If the unit membership chairman is a full user in ALAMIS they can update this information. If not, then just send the member name and unit # to the Department Office.

There are **National Facebook pages** for all auxiliary programs. Get connected to the FaceBook pages in which you are interested. There is a lot of information and questions answered on these pages. Some of the chairmen are putting their newsletters on these pages as well so the information is up to date. If units are having **events that impact one of our programs** such as Americanism or maybe leadership, send pictures and a narrative to the Department chairman of that program. All Department Chairmen are listed on the Department's website www.ndala.org. The chairman in turn will pass the information to the Northwest Division Chairman for the newsletters they send out. Also make sure our historian is getting the information as well as your local paper and FaceBook page.

Promote the **poppy poster contest** in your schools. We had two National winners last year. There is a cover letter that needs to be attached to each poster that you send to our Poppy Charman. Units be sure all the information that is required is on the back of the poster. Mark the class on the back of the posters also, it helps the poppy chairman with judging. Deadline for the Poppy Poster Contest is May 1, 2024.

Good deed awards for the youth in our communities is a national program. As of this writing ND has no awards. The National Chairman wants every state to have at least one. Units can follow their school websites, local paper or word of mouth to find these outstanding individuals. The award can be for one person or a group. Look at other youth organizations in your community as well. All nominations must be done online on the national website www.alaforveterans.org. If you need help, please contact Department Children and Youth Chairman, Jill Carstens.

National President, Lisa Williamson, will be visiting North Dakota July 15-18m 2024. We are tentatively planning to visit the International Peace Garden, Annie' House, Mystical Horizons at this time. I am waiting for possibly a mini powwow at White Shield. If there are units that have something of interest that would be fun to see in this general area, please contact me.

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