

Greetings and warm wishes to all American Legion Auxiliary Family Members! To each and every one of you - thank you so much for your support as I proudly serve as your Department President-Elect.

Department Vice President Sandy Smith and I are your membership co-chairs for the 2024-25 year. We both thoroughly enjoyed our recent Fall District Meetings across the state. We enjoyed getting to know more about each of the Units/Districts and all of you representing those areas in the Department.

As we move into the month of November, did you know that it is membership month? Every aspect of our organization is important, but as you know, membership is what ultimately keeps us going and keeps our veterans and veteran families supported in our organization.

Our national membership theme is "Leading the Way through their innovative and creative thinking using Earth, Water, Fire, Air, and Energy which nature provides us." North Dakota is part of the Northwestern Division, and our division theme is "ENERGY." The Northwestern Division is currently in first place! Using the national "energy" theme, how can you use the "energy" theme toward your Unit membership goals and our overall Department goals?

Membership is everyone's responsibility. A member is a member, whether they pay their dues annually or are a Paid Up for Life (PUFL) or State Life Member (SLM). No member is more important than the next.

- Negativity and lack of support and respect for all members within an organization will cause an organization to implode.
- Respect and kindness goes a long way in maintaining your Unit and encouraging your members to stay engaged.
- One's actions speak louder than words.

Keep these things in mind as you work toward your Unit membership goals:

- Remember why you joined and let that be your reason to keep going strong!
- Learn your elevator speech (you have 30 seconds to convince someone to join).
- Always carry a membership application or the website information to direct people to membership.
- Keep this in mind that "every moment is a membership moment!"

Thank you Auxiliary members. Great job to all Auxiliary members doing all you can to keep our organization going strong!

Sincerely,

Candace Berg

Department President-Elect and Membership Co-Chairman