

2026-2027 Endorsed Officers

Department President – Sandra Smith
Department President-Elect – Shelley Schuster
Department Treasurer – Susan Degner
Department Secretary – Marcy Schmidt
Department Chaplain – Virginia Satrom
Department Historian – Carrie Heinz
National Executive Committeeman – Sandra Petermann

This list is current as of publication. Further nominations may continue to be brought forward.

Virginia Satrom

Endorsement for Department Chaplain

Sigvard C. Aasen Unit 210 Galesburg, ND proudly endorses Virginia Satrom for the office of Department Chaplain. Virginia's eligibility comes through her husband Wayne Satrom, a Vietnam Era veteran and member of Post 210 Galesburg.

Virginia, an active member of Unit 210 has served in leadership capacity at the unit level as treasurer, secretary, and president as well as President of District 1 and as a member of the Department Finance Board. Virginia's personal qualifications for chaplain include her caring personality and desire to help others. Virginia has a cheerful outlook and will be able to provide spiritual council to department officers and auxiliary members alike and will continue to be a strong leader in support of all veterans.

Shawn Miller, President Unit 210 Galesburg

Beth Kainz, Secretary Unit 210 Galesburg

4/20/2026

The American Legion Auxiliary Dethman-Armstrong Unit 194 Rolette, ND would like to endorse Carrie Heinz for the office of Department of Historian.

Renae Zappone, President Unit 194, Rolette

Endorsement for Department President (2026-2027)

The American Legion Auxiliary Fred C. Wagner Unit 235 Rolla, ND proudly endorses Sandy Smith for the office of President of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of North Dakota. Sandy's eligibility comes through her late husband, Don, who served in the US Army, brother Tom Banse, US Army veteran of the Vietnam war, son Carl, who served as a US Army medic with the 82nd Airborne, and grandson, Zachary Gustafson, US Air Force veteran.

At the unit level, Sandy has served as president, secretary, and membership chairman. She has also served several terms as President of District 3 and held multiple department program chairmanships during her thirty years as an auxiliary member. Currently, Sandy is serving as Department President-Elect and Department Membership Chair.

Submitted by: Cheryl Gustafson, President Unit 235 (Rolla, ND)

Shelley Schuster

Endorsement for Department President-Elect (2026-2027)

The Minto American Legion Auxiliary Unit 201 proudly endorses Shelley Schuster for the Office of Department President-Elect of the American Legion Auxiliary-Department of North Dakota. Shelley's eligibility comes through her Father Ronald E. Chapman's service in the United States Army, stationed in Japan, in World War II. Shelley and her husband Kevin are the parents of a daughter and two grandchildren.

Shelley originally joined the American Legion Auxiliary in Drayton, North Dakota, and transferred to Unit 201 Minto in 2003. She served as the Unit Secretary and has been the Unit President since 2012. Under her leadership, the Minto Unit has been active in supporting donations for "Veterans Move in Baskets" and "Socks for Love" through the Red River Valley Community Action which assists Walsh, Grand Forks, Nelson, and Pembina Counties. Unit 201 has also donated 70 Youth Activity Bags to the VA, Auxiliary Coloring Books to the fourth graders in the Minto School, helped Minto Post 201 with Memorial Day and Veterans Day events, and hosted an annual Cookout on Main Street in Minto for more than 15 years.

Shelley served as Vice President District 2 for two years and was elected President of District 2 in 2022 and is currently serving as Department Vice President. Shelley is devoted to the purposes and projects of both the American Legion and the Auxiliary and will be an effective President-Elect of the American Legion Auxiliary in North Dakota.

Ellen Misialek, Vice President Unit 201 Minto, ND

Susan Degner

Endorsement for Department Treasurer

American Legion Auxiliary, Paul Farup Unit 147, Park River, endorses Susan Degner for the office of Department Treasurer for the 2026–2027 term. Susan’s eligibility is through her ex-husband, Matthew Degner. Susan has been an active member of the Paul Farup Unit 147 in Park River since 2004 and is currently serving as Department Treasurer, a role she has held since 2024.

Susan is a CPA with over 40 years of experience in accounting and payroll. She currently works part-time as the finance manager for a local independent retail pharmacy. She also operates a small tax preparation and bookkeeping practice. Susan is a daily user of QuickBooks for financial reporting as well as payroll preparation and reporting.

Susan is a well-qualified and excellent candidate for the office of Department Treasurer, and she will continue to serve the department and its members with distinction.

Marquita Novak, President American Legion Auxiliary Unit 147, Park River, ND

Marcy Schmidt

Endorsement for Department Secretary

American Legion Auxiliary Gilbert C. Grafton Unit 2 of Fargo proudly endorses Marcy Schmidt for the office of Secretary of the Department of North Dakota. Marcy's eligibility comes through her husband Fred's service in the US Army, a veteran of the Vietnam conflict. They are the proud parents of two children and eight grandchildren and currently make their home in Fargo.

Marcy is an active member of Unit 2 and is always willing to assist with unit projects that support our veterans. She has served at the unit level as President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairman, and co-chair of the Girls State Committee. Marcy has also served as President of District 1 and, at the department level, as Department Historian and AEF Chair. She currently serves as Department Secretary and Public Relations Chairman.

Carol Wolf, Unit President
Gilbert C. Grafton Unit 2 Fargo