



"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." – Dr. Seuss

Thank you all for supporting me as your 105th North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary Department President during America's 250th birthday year in 2026.

My parents planted the seeds for this journey when they signed me up for membership with the York American Legion Auxiliary in 1977. During my younger years, I made so many amazing memories: playing trumpet on Memorial Day, attending events at the York Legion Hall, and so much more.

When I became involved in the Auxiliary at the department level, first as Department Vice President, then President Elect, and finally President, I can't help but look back on those years as some of the best years of my life. I am so grateful for the people I have met, the friendships I have developed, the lessons I have learned, and the once-in-a-lifetime opportunities I have been given.

I am especially grateful for your donations and support in helping me raise funds for my President's Projects: the NDSU Equestrian Horse Therapy Program for veterans and their families, and the Eastern and Western Honor Flights for veterans. I am proud to share that we raised \$18,753.00 in support of these projects, exceeding my original goals. I look forward to presenting checks to each of these organizations in support of our veterans.

Again, thank you for your support and friendship, for your welcoming smiles, open hearts, and kind words. This is an amazing organization, and I hope to see it thrive for years to come. I look forward to seeing your new president, Sandy Smith, do great things for this organization, and I look forward to watching future presidents continue to help it grow. As for me, this has been an amazing journey, and I know I will look back on this time with a smile—and maybe a few tears. For this organization and for all of you, I am so grateful. Thank you, and God bless!

"To Serve and Protect, You Answered the Call: Salute to our Veterans, We Honor You All."

Candace Berg, Department President (2025-2026)