

# Sculpture Honors Korean Veterans and John Schafer



By ALLAN TINKER, McLean County Journal (Edited for Space) It was a day of families: the family of John Schafer; the family of artists; the family of veterans; and the family of community support that reached out across the nation and then into Canada by early the next day. Facebook often works its wonders quickly among those who have access. An estimated 150 or more people attended the July 25<sup>th</sup> art celebration and dedication of the sculpture honoring Korean War Veteran Sergeant John Anton Schafer. The reception was held at the home, studio and courtyard of artist Don Cullum and Diane Cullum, the son-in-law and daughter of John Schafer. “When Don created the sculpture, much thought and emotion went into each aspect of the work. The artist’s vision was that ... “In the mind of the sculpted, Sergeant John Anton Schafer envisions home and loved ones and the view looking north from the Cullum yard is how he envisioned home back in North Dakota. The view from behind, over the shoulder of this soldier represents the view of those protected by the soldiers who fought our nation’s battles in Korea and all of the wars that US soldiers have



fought in. The white body of the sculpture represents the soul, spirit and memories that make us who we are. The color on the posts and perimeter of the base is a life of service after the army, service to community and veterans alike. The purple hearts and star mounted on the perimeter posts represents the sacrifices and valor of the US armed forces soldiers that have fought our battles for us. The sculpted soldier John is standing ready; looking northward toward the known enemy and moving his right arm and hand, shifting the rifle with his left, the soldier is ready for what is to come This sculpture honors John Schafer and all who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. This sculpture is dedicated to all who have served during the Korean War. The Soldier’s story was related by daughter Candy,(Candace) M. Schafer, whom served as the main emcee for the program, “Dad is a humble man and does not like to be the center of attention - so we are going to start by recognizing a few other people. “John Anton Schafer was born September 23, 1929, the sixth child of Michael J. and Barbara Fix Schafer. For those of you doing the math, he will be 86 years old in September. He was raised on the family farm near Flasher, and graduated from Flasher High School in 1948. “If Dad were to talk to you about his military experience this is how it might go. He would start with the story of how he and his good friend Paul Mahrer drove to Fargo in his 1940 Plymouth - WITHOUT BRAKES - in May of 1948 to go to the recruiting station to enlist in the Army, effective August 1948. “He would go on to tell you about basic

training in Ft. Riley, Kansas and Ft. Lewis, Washington; of being released into the Army Reserve in 1949 and then being called back into active duty when the Korean War broke out in June 1950. John would explain “About spending Christmas Eve 1950 in Japan. His first fire fight in Korea was on February 4, 1951; about the many battles and numerous squad patrols he led behind enemy lines to gather info for the cause. “He would tell you he is a firm believer in the Holy Spirit. Every day he would say “I will do my best and whatever happens, happens. It was the only way he could lead his men into battle. “He would tell you about the three times he was wounded. “John was honorably discharged on August 23, 1953, having fulfilled his full 5 year enlistment. He was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart with two oak leaf clusters and the Korean Service Medal. “Mom and Dad were both very active in the American Legion and Auxiliary, serving in local and district offices. Dad served as Department Commander of the American Legion in 1976-1977 which was very exciting for all of us and he continues to be an active and involved Legionnaire. “Dad has led such a full life - we simply don’t have the time to recall all that he has accomplished and experienced in his life. “Today is not a day to dwell on the hardships of being a soldier - rather it is a day to celebrate with joy the life of a young man who stood on a hill in Korea fighting to preserve freedom for all generations. “As we dedicate this statue today, in honor of John, and dedicated to the U.S. Armed Forces Korean War Veterans, we are reminded that freedom isn’t free and we must always be grateful to the men and women who have sacrificed so much to preserve that freedom. Candy concluded, “Don, thank you for sharing your incredible talent and love by creating this magnificent sculpture. Dad, thank you for your loving example of a life well lived. To our family and friends, your presence has made this day even more special.” The sculpture is available to be viewed at the Don and Dianne Cullum studio in Turtle Lake, ND.

## 2015 Organizational Meeting

On the weekend of July 9-10, 2015, Department Commander Bud Goldsmith held the annual Organizational Meeting for his team of new officers. The session was again held in Devils Lake at the ND National Guard Camp Grafton Training Center. The focus of the meeting was to introduce the ten newly promoted District Commanders and their new Vice Commanders to some of the internal workings of the Department and also be introduced to the national computer program MyLegion.org. In addition to the District leadership, the Regional Vice Commanders, Membership Chairman, Immediate Past Department Commander and the ND NECman were present to assist in presenting information and to pass down

items and thoughts regarding what didn’t work for them and what could work better. During the weekend, each leader took the time to introduce themselves to the others in the group, as a means to understand how easy it can be to speak in front of our friends and fellow veterans. Time was spent in breakout sessions with the new leaders as focus group leaders. The three areas discussed were 1) Membership & Social Media 2) ND Boys State and 3) Revenue Enhancement Teams. The American Legion “Extension Institute” online course was again reviewed with the strongly suggested completion of the program for all new District Commanders. It is a very easy program to complete

and to get a better understanding of the American Legion history and programs that the organization offers as well as being relatively inexpensive. The barracks and chow hall experience offered a little throwback nostalgia for all, memories not forgotten, just miss-filed. It was a great experience for all who attended. Our thanks again to the Devils Lake Adjutant Bryce Crosby for coordinating this event with the staff are greatly appreciated. Thank you to him for his stellar work on facilitating the access to the National Guard training center. He also is singlehandedly responsible for teaching the teams the merit of playing the famous sport of “Hammerslogan” at the Camp’s Post.

## GOLDSMITH - Begins Term as Department Commander

### Orletta Kilen, Elected as Department Commander-Elect

### Ron Matthews, Re-Appointed Membership Chairman

Delegates to the annual Department Convention in Grand Forks, ND, confirmed Harold "Bud" Goldsmith as 2015-2016 Department Commanders to lead the North Dakota American Legion throughout the next year.

Department Commander Goldsmith hails from Streeter, ND and is a 43-year member of his post. He has served as Post Vice-Commander, Post Commander, District 5 Vice-Commander, District 5 Commander, Central Region Vice Commander, Bud has also served in the NDAL Foundation as the Central Region Director. Bud retired from the active duty navy as a Chief Petty Officer.

Cdr. Goldsmith, Cdr-elect Kilen and Department Membership Chairman Ron Matthews traveled to the Membership Conference in Indianapolis in early August to meet with the National Commanders to discuss the Department's goals. They will also be traveling throughout North Dakota this fall and next spring visiting Districts and assisting Legion Posts.



Dept. Cdr. - Bud Goldsmith



Dept. Cdr. Elect - Orletta Kilen



Mbrsp Chair - Ron Matthews

## 2015 Fall District Meetings

The 2015 Fall District Meetings for The American Legion and Auxiliary will be conducted October 5-9 and October 19-23. All meetings will begin at 7:00 pm local time, except the 7<sup>th</sup> is at 7:30 Central Time. The District Commander will conduct the District Meetings with the assistance of the District Vice Commander and under the guidance of the Department Vice Commander. Various Department Officers and Committee members will be on the agenda to bring Legionnaires up to date on their programs.

Boys State, Oratorical Contest and membership will be the main subjects covered during the meetings. Department Commander Bud Goldsmith will be at all the meetings.

Each District Commander and/or "host post" will be sending out additional information to the posts within their respective districts

### 2015 FALL DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

Mon, Oct. 5 - 1<sup>st</sup> ..... West Fargo  
Tue, Oct. 6 - 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... Minto  
Wed, Oct. 7 - 4<sup>th</sup> ..... Jamestown  
Thur, Oct. 8 - 5<sup>th</sup> ..... Linton  
Fri, Oct. 9 - 10<sup>th</sup> ..... Hankinson

Mon, Oct 19 - 6<sup>th</sup> ..... Minot  
Tue, Oct 20 - 9<sup>th</sup> ..... Watford City  
Wed, Oct 21 - 8<sup>th</sup> ..... Richardton  
Thur, Oct 22 - 7<sup>th</sup> ..... Hebron  
Fri, Oct 23 - 3<sup>rd</sup> ..... Rugby

## International Music Camp Host American Legion Day

Each year the International Music Camp (IMC) invites our department's newest leadership to attend its American Legion Concert and Ice Cream Social. American Legion Day is typically celebrated the Saturday following the Fourth of July each summer. This year Legion Day fell on the fourth and turned into a beautiful day. Being it was the fourth and celebrations are held around the state, our newly elected NDAL Department. Commander Bud Goldsmith was already committed to the Park River Annual Parade and festivities. Commander Goldsmith requested support from Past Commander Weible to attend the IMC Legion Days in his place and present them with his IMC Commander

Projects donations.

The ND Department Commander and the ND American Legion Auxiliary President are invited to lunch at the camp dining facilities and will meet with the Camp's Directors followed by a tour of the facilities, American Legion Row, as well as invited to make comments to the audience at the afternoon concerts presented by the student's campers. Past Commander Don Weible, his wife Ruby and Department. Adjutant Johnson were in attendance as well as other local Legion and Auxiliary members from the area. Watford City Ninth District Commander Glenn Wahus's son was a student camper again this year and Glenn and his wife Tina

were there to support their son's performance.

The ND American Legion has a rich history with the IMC dating back to the mid 1950's when the camp was originally developed. Several practice huts, located along American Legion Row have been sponsored by local Posts, as have the sixteen flag poles which are located in the center of the IMC Campus. This camp hosts approximately 2,200 children and youth from the upper US Midwest Region and Canada, amazingly nearly sixty percent of these students come from North Dakota, many of which are on scholarships from their local American Legion Posts and Auxiliaries.

## American Legion Boys State on NDSCS Campus



Front, l to r: Secretary of State Talon Staudinger (N), Bismarck; Governor Paul Moffet (N), Barney; Agriculture Commissioner Brenden Carter (F), Forest River; Superintendent of Public Instruction Alexander Delzer (N), Bismarck

Back, l to r: State Treasurer Carson Roney (F), Oakes; Attorney General Spencer Rebousky (F), Park River; Lieutenant Governor Jorun Hamre (N), Leonard

Paul Moffet of Barney was elected Governor of North Dakota Boys State, a gathering of 80 participants were on the North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS) campus in Wahpeton.

Sponsored by the American Legion and running from June 7-12, North Dakota Boys State brings together outstanding young men between their junior and senior years in high school. Selected from schools across North Dakota, these delegates come to the NDSCS campus for a week of activities focusing on leadership and government.

At North Dakota Boys State delegates participate in hands-on learning activities including city and county government functions, disaster simulation exercises and the publication of a daily newspaper that is written and edited by delegates. In addition to this "learning by doing" process, delegates have the opportunity to experience speeches and debates from visiting dignitaries.

In addition to electing a governor, delegates also elected several other state office-holders including: Lieutenant Governor Jorun Hamre of Leonard, Secretary of State Talon Staudinger of Bismarck, Attorney General Spencer Rebousky of Park River, State Treasurer Carson Roney of Oakes, Agriculture Commissioner Brenden Carter of Forest River, and Superintendent of Public Instruction Alexander Delzer of Bismarck.

NDSCS has been the host of Boys State for twenty consecutive years. Frequent visitors to the program include: U.S. Senator John Hoeven, U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp, U.S. Representative Kevin Cramer, and Lieutenant Governor Drew Wrigley.

## Have You Paid Your 2016 Membership Dues?

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Reims' Map Room • Dragon's Teeth & Fox Holes • Pegasus Bridge  
Mulberry Harbor • Tank Museum • Sainte-Mère-Église's Paratrooper Church  
Patton's Grave • Dachau Memorial • Eagle's Nest • Hofbräuhaus in Munich

"We knew at the time we were fortunate to be on the tour together (my father, son and I) but in retrospect, it was the best thing we could have done and a wonderful experience filled with so many great memories. To be in Normandy on D-Day and witness, first hand, the gratitude of the French people was a blessing for my dad and the other vets, a priceless memory. I think the Normandy experience was truly a surprise for my father and added new meaning and depth to his memories of the war." ~ Bill T, California

## VIETNAM... THEN AND NOW

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## NORTH DAKOTA LEGION NEWS

Official Publication of The American  
Legion Department of North Dakota  
Published at Forum Communications  
Printing Fargo

## PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

Publisher and Editor ..... David A. Johnson  
Assistant Editor ..... Teri J. Bryant  
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Email [adjutant@ndlegion.org](mailto:adjutant@ndlegion.org) --- [www.ndlegion.org](http://www.ndlegion.org)  
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The North Dakota Legion News  
Official Publication of and Owned Exclusively by  
The American Legion, Department of North Dakota  
David A. Johnson, Editor

The North Dakota Legion News is published quarterly by North Dakota Department of the American Legion, 405 W. Main Ave. Ste. 4-A, West Fargo ND 58078. Periodical Postage Prices is Paid at West Fargo, ND and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: send address changes to The North Dakota Legion News, North Dakota Department of the American Legion, 405 W. Main Ave, Ste. 4-A, P.O. Box 5057, West Fargo ND 58078.

Periodical Publication # 12629

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: 1 year - \$0.64 which is included in your membership to The American Legion, Department of North Dakota.

Cancellation: Contact editor at PO Box 5057, West Fargo, ND 58078.  
PHONE: 701-293-3120, FAX 701-293-9951

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to  
The American Legion, PO Box 5057, West Fargo, ND 58078.

ADVERTISING RATES: Contact David A. Johnson, 701-293-3120  
E-Mail: [adjutant@ndlegion.org](mailto:adjutant@ndlegion.org)  
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## COMMANDER COMMENTS

## HAROLD "BUD" GOLDSMITH - DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

First, thank you for your confidence in electing me as your North Dakota American Legion Commander for 2015-2016. I will do the best of my ability to uphold the office of which I have been elected. It was so nice to have many of you at my installation, including most of my family.

Thank you to all who have accepted a position, either as an officer, chairman or committeeman, at local, district and/or department level. We have a great representation of our ND American Legion, doing their job in promoting our projects and activities for our veterans, children and youth and communities. Also, thank you to Department Adjutant David, Teri and Sarah, for always being there with answers and advice to help make this transition as your Commander easier.

President Marlene Boyer and I are working on part of our projects together. Profits from selling of my pins and donations will be used for an instrument for Music Camp and to purchase special tools for the new work shop at the ND Veterans Home in Lisbon. President Marlene has some additional projects she is working on, including the new arts and crafts room adjacent to the work shop. Be sure to read her article in The Message.

My term began by being in a fantastic 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in Park River. I was in a bright red convertible sports car! After a hamburger cooked by the Sons of the American Legion and visiting, Elsie and I were off to Pembina as I was included in their parade. While there, I had the honor of presenting a plaque to Jim Karas for 75 years of membership in the American Legion. What a great day and a great way to begin my year. Thank you to the American Legion in both Park River and Pembina. The next day, started with a pancake breakfast at the Park River American Legion Club. Hard rain was falling, but this didn't stop many people from attending and enjoying pancakes, fried eggs and ham.

Our organizational meeting was held at Camp Grafton in July. Turnout of those attending was very good. I realize in the summer there are many conflicting activities. Thank you to those who came and hopefully you left with a lot of new information. Following the organizational meeting the strategic planning committee met to discuss and define goals for the next three-years. Want to thank all those who participated in the meeting. Please go on line or contact the office for a copy of the plan.

July 13<sup>th</sup>, joined by American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary members from Streeter, we enjoyed a pot-luck supper at the Napoleon American Legion Club and a program recognizing three sixteen year old Boy Scouts and their chaperons, making their way on bicycles from Oregon to New York City raising money for Operation Comfort Warriors. While traveling, they spent some nights camping, some in homes, some in churches, etc., always greeted with open arms and many thanks for raising money and awareness of Operation Comfort Warriors.

July 25<sup>th</sup> found us and a multitude of family and friends at the dedication of the Sergeant John Anton Schafer Sculpture in Turtle Lake, ND. The dedication was followed by a delicious pot-luck supper and fellowship. This dedication and social were wonderful tributes to a Korean War Veteran and a great man. Thank you to John's family for inviting the American Legion Family to be present for this great event.

I was invited to the ND American Legion Baseball Tournament in Bismarck, but due to a conflict I was

unable to attend. Thanks to Arnie Havelka for being my representative. I was able to attend the Class "B" tournament in LaMoure, Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. On August 1<sup>st</sup>, I was privileged to present a plaque to Fay Morris, Wilmington, DE, sister to American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame 2015 Inductee, presented posthumously to Edmund Tomlinson, III. He was from Rolla and was the husband of Lynn Tomlinson, historian for the ND American Legion Auxiliary. Thank you to all those involved in any way in working and playing to make the baseball tournaments so successful. This was a "team effort" from those on the organization committee to the players. Congratulations to the players for their sportsmanship and making the ND American Legion proud.

We always have much to learn as Commander Elect Orletta Kilen and Membership Chairman Ron Matthews and I found out when we attended the membership conference in Indianapolis, IN on August 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. We will have new ideas for membership at the Fall District meetings, so please try and attend. You are welcome to attend any district meetings, if unable to attend your meeting. Get the information!

Our new Department membership goal is 15,900. This will be attainable, especially in the larger areas. There are many female veterans that have never been asked to join. Contact them. Give them a membership application.

Schedule for the Fall District meetings is listed in this paper. Please check for your district meeting, or one close by and plan to attend. There will be much information that needs to be brought back to your posts.

Last but certainly not least, I want to ask all of you to work with your unit members. When appropriate, ask your unit to be part of your activities. Inform them when there is some way they can help you and ask if there is some way you can help them. Share activities and projects as well as problems. Grow and become stronger as a post and unit. The auxiliary is there to help you. Remember, we are the American Legion Family and working together "Lighting the Way to a United Future."



Well, we are into the new Legion year and we had a good start with our training at Camp Grafton again this year. Many thanks to all that made this possible again. Our membership needs a boost in the West Region. As you may have heard this year at National Convention, a resolution will be voted on to raise the National dues by \$5.00. This would be a good time to push for all our blue caps to look at the PUFL as it can save you money. I am looking forward to the National Convention in a few days and our district meetings on Oct 19-23. Hope to meet many of you at these meetings and remind your post members this is where they can hear the latest information from the Commander and ask the questions they may have. "IT'S YOUR MEETING" so let's get more of our members to these District meeting. On our West Region membership we are at 40.58% of goal. I want to see all of our Post's at 69% before the District meetings, so if you see a member ask if he/she has paid up yet this year and remind them our **NUMBERS COUNT**.

Hope to see you all in October. If you have any questions feel free to give me a call. My cell is 701-641-1105.

Mike Weyrauch  
Western Region Vice Commander



Since my last article, we've had the Department Convention in Grand Forks and they did an excellent job hosting the convention. I had the opportunity to meet some of the new officers that were installed and hope we will be able to help each other out in the upcoming year.

I attended the Organizational Meeting at Camp Grafton, in Devils Lake, which is always very informative and a great place for such a meeting.

Next, I will be attending the National Convention in Baltimore the end of August and I will be looking forward to the district meetings this fall.

Be sure and pay your membership dues as soon as possible and see you at the district meetings.

Roger Sateren  
Eastern Region Vice Commander



Our vision started with a small group of farmers and ranchers who united to bring electricity to their rural areas. Today, our membership spans nine states from the Canadian to the Mexican borders, generating and transmitting electricity that reaches 2.8 million member-owners and growing. From the generator to your home, we're right there with you.

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## RESOLUTION TO HELP ND VETERANS

During our recent convention in Grand Forks a resolution was brought to the convention floor to support the creation of a measure to go before the citizens of North Dakota at either the Primary Election in June or the General Election in November 2016. The resolution passed off the floor of the ND American Legion convention was to pursue and support a veteran's effort to pass a measure to seek a source of funding for veterans in North Dakota. This effort is being developed and will be discussed at the upcoming ND Veterans Coordinating Council (NDVCC). The five major patriotic organizations comprise the NDVCC are the ND VFW, ND American Legion, ND DAV, AMVETS and the ND Vietnam Veterans.

A little historical perspective on what has lead up to this effort to seek other funding to help veterans and our organizations. The NDVCC has written legislation for the past the past three ND legislative sessions. The legislation was seeking assistance from the state to help fund the three organizations that provide for a Department Service Officer from their dues revenue. These three organizations are the ND VFW, ND American Legion and the ND DAV. The bills have been rejected by the legislature three times with the basic reason that they do not want to assume someone's bills. This is our point of concern, for over seventy years a Veterans Service Officer paid for by American Legion dues, has been providing assistance at the VA Regional Medical Center to help our ND Veterans file claims for pension benefits. The reality is the responsibility to take care of the North Dakota veterans claims process is the ND Department of Veterans Affairs which receives it funding from our taxes and the ND Legislature and the Governor's bi-annual budget. The five patriotic organizations with Department Service Officers have been subsidizing the legislature's responsibilities with dues when it actually should have been a tax dollars function from the beginning.

The three organizations that requested Legislative assistance were asking for \$50,000 per year to relieve the dues expense for their Service Officer staffing. Here is a critical bit of information regarding the disposable dollars and dollars that are subject to a multiplier effect in North Dakota as the VA Expenditures trickle down through the ND Economy.

During the 2013 reporting year these organizations aided in bringing \$334,755,000 into the state via the Veteran Administration's state wide expenditures. Compensation & Pension Benefits were \$149,596,000, Medical Care payments were \$149,518,000, Education & Veteran Vocational Rehabilitation tallied in at \$22,770,00 and other categories rounded out the balance with \$12,871,000. Essentially, ND veterans care brings in approximately \$334,755,000 to the state each year and with a modest multiplier of three. The value of these Veteran Benefits dollars becomes over ONE TRILLION DOLLARS. All the three organizations were asking from the ND Legislature was \$50,000 per year to help us fund our Veterans Service Officers at the Regional VA Medical Center located in Fargo.

So...what does this have to do with the Watford City Resolution at convention? Veteran groups are seeking to develop collaboration effort with the Breathe ND organization and write a measure to seek funding from the ND Tobacco Tax Fund to support quit smoking campaigns and to address issues related to ND veterans smoking issues. It is a well-known fact that big tobacco companies have filled servicemen's daily food rations with cigarettes. Which lead to the famous, "smoke'm if you gotte'm" mentality and the pending addiction of millions of veterans over multiple wars. The resolution calls for our organization's veterans to assist in achieving the passing of a measure to seek funding for veterans from the ND Tobacco Tax Fund versus being continually rejected by the ND Legislature session after session.

The Department will be seeking advice from our National Judge Advocate, while we are at the National Convention next week in Baltimore, to ensure we place the Department in the best position possible. This measure format has the potential to go nationwide as a means to assist more veterans in other states. Our involvement as veterans will be to seek the ND citizens signatures required to get the measure on the appropriate ballot. Additional information will be available and discussed at the District meetings in October. Please plan on attending your District meeting for this very important topic and how you can help.

### 2015 Sweepstakes Winners

The sweepstakes drawing was held at the American Legion Department of North Dakota Convention banquet held at the Grand Forks Alerus Center.

1st Place \$2500 - James R. Brandy, AZ Post 100  
2nd Place \$750 - Leroy Northagen, ND Post 157  
3rd Place \$350 - Donald R. Hoffman, Jr., ND Post 139  
4th Place \$250 - Neil H. Krumm, ND Post 2  
5th Place \$150 - Richard Stompro, ND Post 500



The third quarter of the year is a new beginning for the Department with the new Commander and other elected officers. I'm going to run down quickly what has been happening around the Department this summer. Our state convention at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks was a great event even with being shuttled to the basement for a tornado warning. Meeting and greeting old friends and working on new tasks made the event very positive. The NDAL Foundation kicked off its first silent auction at the convention. The auction was very successful and Harvey Peterson will discuss it in his own update article.

Boys State concluded another year of programming and a new class of Boys State Alumni has been added to the record books. Last year's Governor Reed Johnson from Dickinson announced at Boys State that he had been accepted into the fall class at West Point Military Academy. The ND American Legion Baseball program jumped off to a great year with more teams being registered than past years. Four Canadian, Saskatchewan teams were also registered through the ND team structure. The final tournaments have concluded and will end with the American Legion World Series in Shelby, North Carolina.

Commander Goldsmith has not let any grass grow beneath his feet in getting started as your Commander. He hit the road running with his organizational meeting at the ND National Guard Camp Grafton in Devils Lake, ND. The Guard allows us to use the training facilities, dining and barracks for a nominal charge. The site is centrally located and provides a very professional environment for the discussion of the Commander's year and what he would like to get accomplished. This meeting provides a great backdrop for the new leaders to come together to discuss similar issue and start to network with each other around the state.

## Combined Districts 5 and 7 Revitalization

November 19, 20 and 21 have been set as the dates for a combined revitalization of the District 5 and 7. Rolanda Heron, the Midwest Region Membership Director from the National Headquarters will be in Bismarck and Mandan to assist and lead our District Commanders and leadership through the process of seeking new members and renewing members whom have not renewed in the past five years.

What is different with District revitalization? The American Legion sends out press releases to all media outlets announcing the efforts of the local Legion Posts. Letters and post cards are sent to expired members and a general call to all veterans to "Belong Today". If you are a District 5 and 7 Post, please set these dates aside and come help in this vital effort. There are a lot of different needs to get this task completed. It is a team effort. Bring a friend to help. It's an old tried saying, but new younger members are the life blood of every organization. The legion is no different. The Legion is for every wartime veteran, the organization is the largest and most effective patriotic organization that supports veteran needs, active duty servicemen and their families and communities. Contact your District Commanders if you will attend this revitalization, or call the Department Headquarters office at 701-293-3120. Your help does make a difference.

## State Band Receives Donations

It has now been a couple of months since the Legion Convention in Grand Forks and I got to thinking that the American Legion members don't necessarily know what goes on when the State Band performs for the Auxiliary at their meeting. This year after the Auxiliary presented their generous check to our band there were a number of ladies that also presented their own personal donations. As always, it seems that someone comes up with a way for me to be involved in a unique way to encourage giving from the ladies on the floor. This year it was suggested that if I were to pass the hat (my hat) there may be some more money to be had. As you all know, you can't perform in an organization like ours without a cover so Deanna Olson, representing George T Taylor Unit #52, was kind enough to offer a replacement hat. The bottom line was that the Band left the room with slightly over \$3,437.00 in donations! This funding is so important to us. We simply could not continue to do what we do without this kind of support and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the ladies that made that event so memorable.

We also had a couple of Posts that stepped up with donations of their own. The Harwood Post presented the Band with a check for \$500.00 from their gaming proceeds and the New Town post presented us with two checks. One for \$1,006 – the proceeds of a Benefit Breakfast for the Band and a matching check for \$1,006 from their gaming funds. A big thank you to all involved with these donations as well.

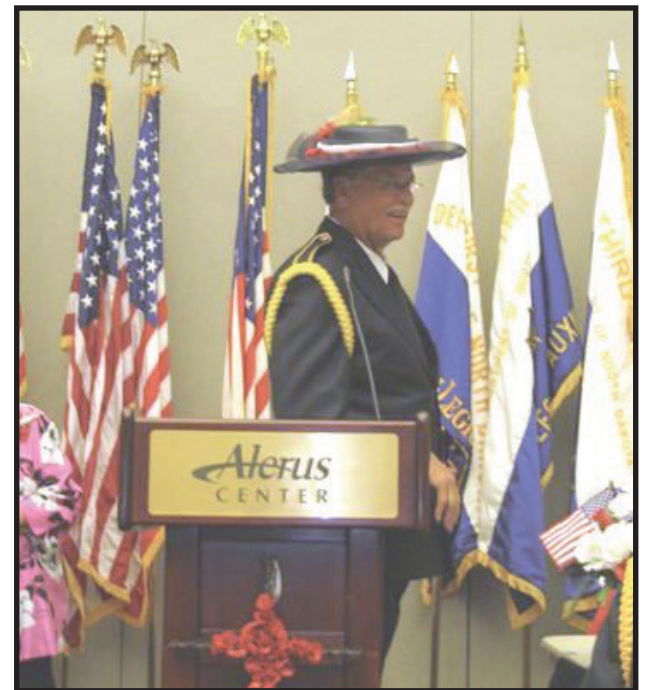
It was brought to my attention that we never really promoted the fact that the State Legion band was the **First Place Winner** of the marching band competition at the National Convention parade last year in Charlotte. There was some confusion regarding who we were when we came through the reviewing stand because our transportation was late in getting us to the parade and when we unloaded, we found out that the North Dakota delegation had already

Goldsmith also added a day to these meetings to review the Strategic Plan and extend it out another three years. His next step for the Plan is to get the DEC endorsement and then assign the various goals and objectives to committees and individuals to start formulating solutions and programs to accomplish the plan.

Commander Goldsmith, Commander-elect Kilen and our Membership Chairman Ron Matthews attended the Membership Workshop the beginning of August in Indianapolis. They met with the leading candidate for National Commander Dale Barnett to discuss our 2016 membership goals. The discussion from our department was to stop the programmed loss of membership. They discussed the need to gain membership in the state and not automatically accept a loss in membership. In 2015 our membership goal was 15,945 and we did not complete that goal. They did understand and accepted the delegations perspective yet the goal number was lowered to 15,900.

The National Convention is coming fast and furiously into Baltimore, Maryland, the end of the month. The ND Delegation is again being accompanied by the Color Guard from the Mandaree American Legion Post. There will be twenty-five delegates from the ND Department as well as the Auxiliary, SAL members and other interested parties and guests. Approximately 60 from the North Dakota family will be attending the convention.

Following the he Convention the Department rolls back into its fall business cycle starting with the DEC Meeting on September 26<sup>th</sup> in Jamestown. North Dakota's Fall District Meetings are scheduled for the first and third weeks of October with the National's Fall meeting and the Commanders – Adjutants meetings in Indianapolis falling in between the two tours of the District Meetings.



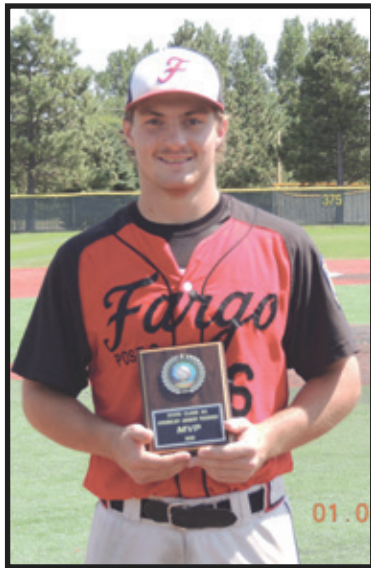
# 2015 North Dakota Legion Baseball



2015 Junior Class MVP Drake  
Fleshche, West Fargo



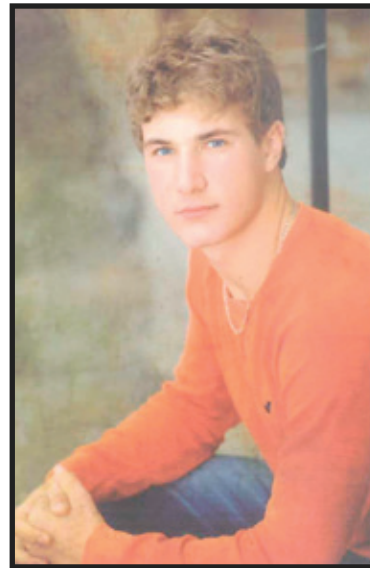
2015 Class A MVP Brock Lingen



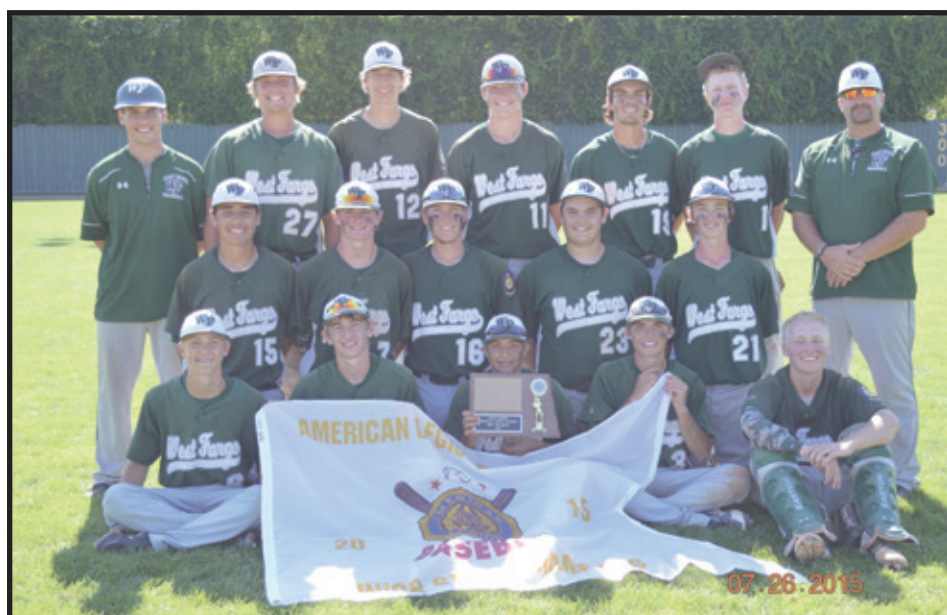
2015 Class AA MVP Andrew Penny



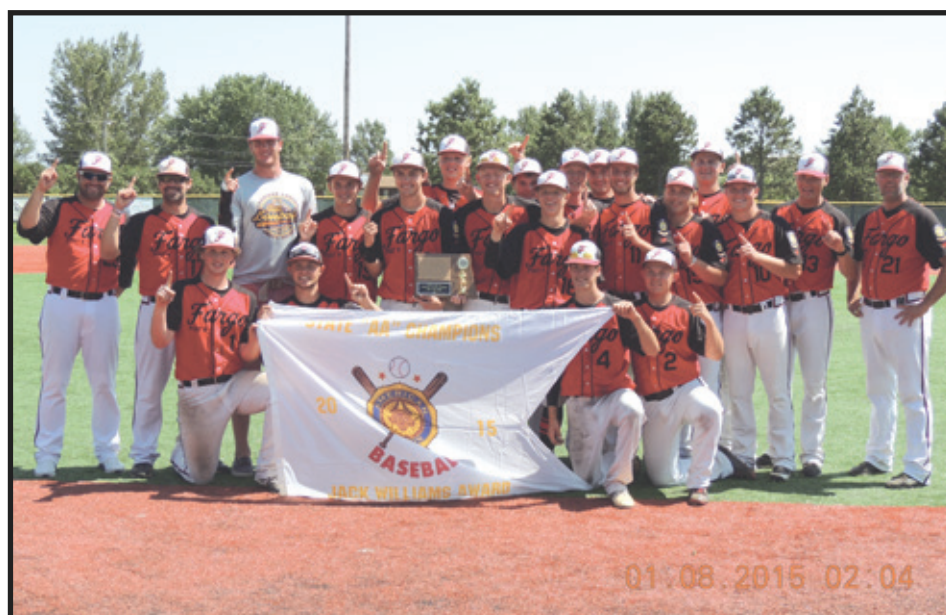
2015 Class B MVP Patrick Freeman



2015 Baseball Scholarship Winner  
Trevor Leingang, Mandan



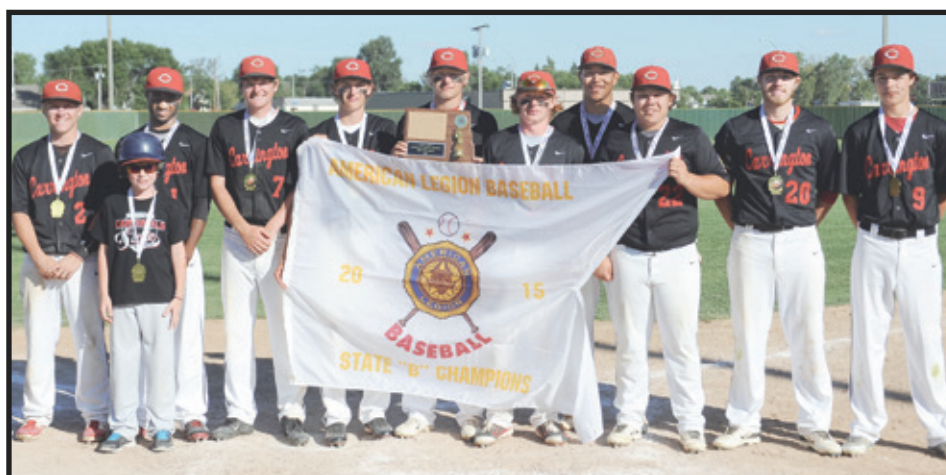
2015 Junior Class Champions, West Fargo



2015 Class AA Champions, Fargo



2015 Class A Champions, Wahpeton



2015 Class B Champions, Carrington

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## International Peace Garden: Veteran's Memorial Bell Tower



The Sifton Chimes Veteran's Memorial Bell Tower which was erected in 1976 is in need of our help. This tower has garnered quite a bit of attention over those forty years. The ND American Legion has also been involved with this Veteran Bell Tower Memorial. Shortly after the dedication of the memorial at the Peace Garden, (IPG) the NDAL donated money into a dedicated reserve fund to help for the care and repair of the bell tower and bells. The fourteen bells and chimes of this carillon bell tower had been donated by area local churches.

These bells are purported to chime out sounds of the "Westminster Cathedral" chimes located in London, England. Today only four of the fourteen bells are answering their call to chime. They are supposed to chime at each quarter hour and on the hour." The original maintenance fund that was set up by the Legion for bell maintenance has been used throughout the past forty years. The Veteran's Memorial Bell tower could surely use some financial help to get these bells and chimes properly working.

Help us carry on a previous ND American Legion project and assist carrying on the badly needed maintenance of the Bell Tower. ND American Legion Posts and Auxiliary's have in the past have helped this cause. Please consider sending a donation to our Headquarters Office and we will combine it and forward them to the IPG and submitting a combined Department list of donations to the Peace Garden or send in contribution directly to the Peace Gardens. Headquarters Staff (Peace Garden's Bells)

ND American Legion  
NDAL BELL VETERAN TOWER MEMORIAL  
P.O. Box 5057  
West Fargo, ND 58078

NDAL BELL VETERAN TOWER MEMORIAL  
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### DEC Convention Meeting Summary

The DEC met on Friday June 26, 2015 at the Grand Forks Alerus Center during the Department Convention this past June. The meeting was called to order by the DEC Chairman Eugene Kachena. The April 18, 2105, minutes were read and approved.

Several reports were provide to the DEC. ND Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner Lonnie Wangen provided a discussion regarding the Watford City resolution being presented to the convention. This resolution is focused on finding a source to help fund various veteran programs in lieu of the last ND Legislative Session to help support patriotic organizations that provide veterans support to at the VA Regional Medical Center. The ND American Legion, ND VFW and the ND DAV all provide services to veterans out of their "Dues" dollars. The resolution calls for a collaboration with the "ND Breathes" organization and the Tobacco Tax Fund.

NDAL Finance Officer, Randall Cale reported on the 11 month financial condition of the organization. The Department is in a stable position as of this report and is projected to remain so into the near future. Bill Haug of Stifel-Nicholaus reported on the activity of the Dept. funds invested with that organization. The return being generated in dividends far exceeds any former interest that was being earned from CD's.

Membership Marketing Report was provided by Amy Weiser-Willson of IRONCLAD Marketing. Amy tapped into the DEC via a video link and was able to present a Power Point update and activity on the FACEBOOK page called ND American Legion. Willson discussed the number of views the site had received on various posting of news and Legion information. The costs associated per click and when and where we are working to engage younger veterans. Membership Chairman Ron Matthews reported on the end of the year projections on total membership. His expectations are the Department will fall just short of the 95% mark. Matthews reported there will be more District Revitalizations in 2015-2016.

Kenny Weiderholt reported for Children & Youth with the addition of a new function. Children & Youth will now manage the pop tab program. Weiderholt reported he will

be seeking new committee members to help breathe some fresh air into the programs. Carroll Quam gave his outgoing Guard and Reserve Committee report by announcing Wayne Satrom as the new Committee Chairman and Dave Rice as the new head of their committees award program. Eugene Kachena reported on the recent 2015 Boys State program with only 80 registrants. NDAL Foundation Chairman Harvey Peterson reported on the Silent Auction being set-up for the convention. Auction items as well as straight cash donations have been very positive.

Old Business: Cdr-elect Bud Goldsmith presented his budget for a final review. Questions were asked regarding the impact of the previous year's dues impact on the projected budget. Budget was approved and discussion was held regarding a prudent investment policy and that the policy allows for adjustments.

Dept. Service Officer Position was discussed and an interview committee selected. The committee was tasked with screening and interviewing candidates for the position. The committee would make its recommendation to the DEC. Additional discussion was had regarding the creation, financing and manning a 2018 TAL Centennial Committee. The manning was directed towards the Regional Vice Commanders and the Alt. NEC to be involved with this committee.

New Business: A full discussion of the Watford City Resolution to support the Tobacco Tax and Relief fund was presented. The Watford City Resolution moved forward with a minor modification to allow some flexibility in our collaboration as the ballot measure moves forward.

2018 Convention Bid: Do to the cancellation of the 2018 Dickinson Convention contract bids for new options were reviewed. Several cities submitted for the opportunity. The DEC Voted and will award the 2018 to the Holiday Inn in Fargo, ND. The unusual circumstances of the 2018 rebidding allowed the DEC with some leeway in awarding the replacement bid. The 2019 bids for convention will be reviewed at the Post Convention DEC Meeting.

Commander Goldsmith as part of his 2015-2016 Commander Project will promote a gun raffle through his local Streeter, ND Post.

Meeting was adjourned

## Goldsmith-Boyer Homecoming A SPECTACULAR GALA EVENT YOU WON'T REMEMBER!

The 2015-2016 ND American Legion Commander Goldsmith and the ND Auxiliary President Boyer have decide to collaborate on their upcoming October Homecoming Gala Event. They have decided to develop a new approach to this very social of Legion events. The homecoming purpose was to honor the Commanding Officer home from his posting in the frontier, welcoming them back to the stable society.

This year's homecoming will have a special twist. The organizational leaders have decided to try and make the event a cornerstone of the Commander/President Projects. The Homecoming Event typically has a financial requirement to participate in passing the congratulations to the NDALA leadership's torchbearers. So what is going to be different? The Gala Homecoming Event is the Gala Event you won't remember because it **is not** going to happen. It will be so much fun that you do not even have to attend. Cdr. Goldsmith and Pres. Boyer have decided to ask those who would be coming to their event to consider the costs they would have spent attending the event in Bismarck or Jamestown and forwarding those anticipated expenses to the NDAL Department or the NDALA Department at their new office location.

The idea to plan a no- event comes from the American Legion's "Think Outside the Box" 155 fundraising ideas.

"There is significant money spent by a significant number of people" to attend a social event to honor the Commander and Presidents. This year it is our wish for our friends and families to donate the money they would have spent attending the homecoming. Consider your cost of travel, hotel, and banquet costs for everybody attending the price of drinks paid to the hotel and of course a donation to the Commanders project as well. The point of the Gala – Nonevent is to help everybody who is involved by easing some of the time and out of pocket cost requirements. Save your time by not having to attend, forward the money you would have spent to the Commanders projects.

Commander Goldsmith and Auxiliary President Boyer are also considering combining their projects with the hopes of being able to have a greater impact for their selected programs. At this point in time, several projects are being considered. 1) Tools for the Lisbon Veterans Home workshop. 2) Peace Gardens Bell Tower, Bell Maintenance Fund (see article) and, 3) A donation in support of a major valued percussion instrument; a five octave Marimba that has a serviceable life of 50 plus years.

In the spirit of this Gala Nonevent, please pass your hotel, travel and banquet expenses and pay it forward to the Commanders and President's projects. I'm sure we will all have a great time honoring Bud and Marlene. See you somewhere in October.

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# THE MESSAGE

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1801 23rd Ave N, Fargo, ND 58102  
www.ndala.org • facebook.com/NorthDakotaALA

## Mary Ann Michel is ND American Legion Auxiliary Woman of the Year

by Marvin Baker in the Kenmare News

There's a long list of patriotic projects Mary Ann Michel is involved in, from visiting veterans to decorating her home with a patriotic theme. But Michel doesn't consider them as burdens in the least. In fact, this Donnybrook woman is ready for the next task that involves patriotism. Maybe that's why a committee from North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary chose Michel as Woman of the Year for 2015-2016. She is a member of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 195 in Donnybrook and presently serves as its membership chair. "I think it's our job to pass on patriotism," Michel said. "And patriotism goes way back in my family."

Her father was in World War II and her mother had four brothers who served in World War II. She said back then, the camaraderie was more obvious than it is today, as she feels it is slipping away. "We're a nation that forgets," Michel said. "That's why our little post does poppy posters, pennies for veterans, Boys State, Girls State, and music camp. We want to keep patriotism alive." Legion Auxiliary 6<sup>th</sup> District President and fellow Unit 195 member Marilyn Bott, said Michel is always willing to help. "She's membership chair and just about every committee," Bott said. "She'll always volunteer." Bott said it's quite an honor for Michel to be selected for this statewide honor and for Unit 195 to have the Woman of the Year as a member. Michel does indeed have an impressive resume. As membership chair, she has taken the membership from 64 to 89 members and is shooting for 100 to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Legion in 2019. She personally calls all members to make sure their dues are paid and to help recruit new members.

Michel spearheads three blood drives each year, in February, June and October. She calls everyone on the donor list, as well as making cold calls requesting donors. The blood drive has had many as 40 units of blood in a six-hour span and Michel is there to help tear down and clean up. Every fall Michel is given \$100 to buy school supplies that are donated to Kenmare Elementary School, Kenmare High School, and Berthold Public School. This year Kenmare used the supplies in its backpack program for the needy children. Michel often visits veterans who are



Mary Ann Michel at Department Convention

## ALA's 2015-2016 Administrative Year is Off and Running!

As we organize our meeting schedules, budgets, membership rosters and other tasks, let's take a minute to remember why we signed up as Auxiliary members: to honor and serve America's veterans, the military and their families.

"We are here today because we love the American Legion Auxiliary, we believe in its mission, and we enjoy the camaraderie and fun it brings to our lives," said 2014-2015 National President Janet Jefford in her installation remarks at the 2014 National Convention in Charlotte. "Why wouldn't you want to share that with others? Just ask people to join, tell them why it's important, and tell

them your stories."

On Memorial Day and Veteran's Day, Michel helps set up and decorate for the programs, as well as participating in them. She also does cooking and baking for those holidays. Michel has a hand in teacher appreciations baskets that are packed after Veterans Day and delivered to the two Kenmare schools. She helps her husband Danny place more than a dozen flags on poles around Donnybrook for special occasions and helps take them down and secure them.

Last year, the unit entered a float in the North Dakota State Fair parade. Michel helped decorate the float and was dressed as Uncle Sam and rode the float holding the American flag. She also shops for veterans who are at the VA hospital in Fargo. She tells an amusing story about purchasing \$100 worth of deodorant. When the store cashier questioned why she was purchasing so much deodorant, she said, "It's going to be a hot summer."

Michel is also working hard to get new members, younger members, into the unit. It already has 27 junior members, however, she would like to see that increase and get some of the younger members actively involved in the unit. She is proud to say that she has a niece, who lives in Dickinson, who has told her "it's not Memorial Day if you don't go to Donnybrook." She is hoping other young people begin to feel the same way about Unit 195. Bott said that she would a difficult time trying to do her job as president without Michel's help and enthusiasm. "I don't know, I just do things," Michel said. "I have the utmost respect for veterans, so I just do things."

Michel has been a member of Unit 195 for more than 47 years and her husband currently serves as the commander of American Legion Post 195 in Donnybrook. Michel will be honored for her efforts during the North Dakota Department Convention at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks June 28-30. In addition, she has been invited to the national convention in Baltimore the end of August and be recognized on a national stage. Michel admits she does all these things to advance patriotism in the community and the United States. She said it wasn't long after Sept. 11, 2001 that people in the general public began to forget what happened, even though the United States spent 12 years in Afghanistan and is now sending troops back into Iraq.

Locally, however, she said patriotism is blossoming in the communities that Unit 195 serves. Michel says she and others in the Auxiliary are getting a little help though, from public service announcements about veterans that are aired over-the-air TV stations. Otherwise, according to Michel, countless others are involved in much the same thing she is doing, perhaps even on a larger scale. She said she was very humbly surprised when she was announced Woman of the Year. She said the award, and nominating local members was brought up at a January meeting but faded away, or so she thought. Michel was late for a couple of meetings and the membership must have slipped her name into nomination in her absence, she said. "I'm not the only one who does it," she said. "I don't want to take away from the others. It's a team effort."

them your stories."

The 2014-2019 Centennial Strategic Plan is critical to our future as an organization. The five goals are 5) With the American Legion, Raise Awareness to Build Brand Loyalty, 4) Strengthen Departments and Units, 3) Develop Leadership at All Levels, 2) Create an Internal Culture of Goodwill and when we achieve these four goals, we will reach Goal 1: 1) Attain a Million Members.

The theme for the 2015-2016 year is *Keeping the Promise*. This can mean many things for many people but we have to look to our communities and say what can I do for my community.

## Department President



Marlene Boyer

Dear Auxiliary Family,

We will perhaps be back from National Convention in Baltimore before this message gets to you. Hopefully you all received your 2015-2016 Plan of Action and our message from National Secretary "Dubbie" Buckler. She reminded us of our 95 years of building our outreach programs that advocate for and support our veterans. We have volunteered an annual impact of good, worth over \$2 billion. It tells us that we are not sitting idle. We are concerned with the drop in membership nation wide. We wonder about an America without Legion Baseball. What if Girls State and Boys State were to disappear? What if this speedy autobahn we are on was to take it all away? What if our very way of life was taken from us? It reminds us that everything we do as members is because we so love our freedoms and the men and women who gave them to us.

The idea is to build brand loyalty not only for our organization, but for America. We are in some ways the last bastion of patriotism in our communities. Whether we think of the "net" as good or bad, it is the way to our young people. We are hoping that our Strategic Plan of Action of attaining a million members is not wishful thinking. It requires that we recruit and retain the thousands of eligible members out there. Because of the internet we are more connected to ideas and programs that will help us attain our goals. There was a song at Girls State that went like this: "It only takes a spark to get a fire going, and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing..." Of course, the song is in reference to God's love, but also to love our country and each other. Nothing ever happens in the world that does not happen first inside human hearts. And so the challenge for 2015-2016 is to continue doing what we have done so well for over 95 years. Advocate for our veterans and our service men and women by remembering to thank them at every opportunity. We know there are eligible members out there. Let's sign them up and pay it forward.

Thank you for all that you do. Have an enjoyable fall. God Bless the USA.

**Marlene Boyer**  
Department President

## 2015 Fall District Meetings

### Week 1

October 5	District 1	West Fargo
October 6	District 2	Minto
October 7	District 4	Jamestown
October 8	District 5	Linton
October 9	District 10	Hankinson

### Week 2

October 19	District 6	Minot
October 20	District 9	Watford City
October 21	District 8	Richardton
October 22	District 7	Hebron
October 23	District 3	Rolette

## Department Vice President

Greetings Ladies:

All of you know who I am, as I have been a District President for the past 6 years. Now I am proud to say I am Vice President of the N.D. Department of the ALA. I appreciate all of you for having faith in me to be an officer. I promise to serve Veterans, their families, and you to the best of my ability. Thank you for putting your trust in me.

We have a lot to do this 2015-2016 year. The main thing is membership. I have seen it to be necessary in the Units of District 1 and in my own Unit 2 in Fargo. We ALL need to work at finding younger members who are willing to help serve our Veterans. We need to talk about how our mission is to serve not self and let the younger

people feel that it would be a wonderful organization to belong to and we are a great organization so do not be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and talk about us when you are out in the public. As said before "Toot your horns".

Thanks again for your support of me and have a great year.

God Bless

**Mavis Goodroad**

**Department Vice President**



*Mavis Goodroad*

## Department Secretary

From the Secretary

It has been a whirlwind experience since taking office! Lots to do, starting with finding an office in Fargo, ND and getting everything from Grand Forks, ND and getting into an established work routine. I would like to thank everyone that has helped with everything so far and would like everyone to come see the new office at 1801 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave N, Fargo. Thank you so much to Cat for the nice work she did on getting everything on the computer.

With the move I also got 65 boxes of old records that my project for the year is to get as much of this information on a hard drive, this way we can work more efficiently as an organization. So if anyone has extra time and in the Fargo area I would like to have the help with scanning all of these documents.

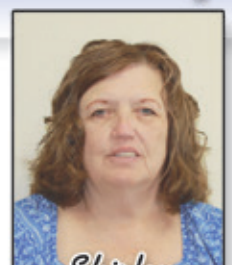
I have noticed that this is the first year that we will be able to go to [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) and pay for our

dues online. I don't know how many of you like to go on the computer and complete paying bills all at one time, I know that I do. To complete this go to the website, click on the Members only tab, and log in where it says to log in or sign up for your login access. After you are logged in it will prompt you to pay dues, click on this and then you are on your way to paying dues without the hassle of putting it in the mail.

Please contact me if you have any questions, comments or suggestions. The office mailing address, email, and office hours have all been included in the current Message.

**Shirley Montgomery**

**Department Secretary**



*Shirley Montgomery*

## District 1

Hello ladies of District One.

September is just around the corner, which means busy times ahead for all of you, your units/posts, and your communities. It's time once again to hold meetings, sponsor community events and be fully involved in post and unit activities.

I encourage each of you to continue the work of the American Legion Auxiliary, including growing your unit and supporting your communities and our veterans and their families.

Congratulations to our newly elected State and District Officers and a special congratulations and best wishes to one of our own, Mavis Goodroad, elected Department Vice President at convention in June. Mavis comes to you as an experienced member of the Auxiliary and will continue to do a great job in her new post.

When Mavis asked me to serve as acting District One President I agreed because I know from experience that the ladies of the Auxiliary work hard and are supportive of their leaders. I look forward to serving as your acting District President and thank each of you for your friendship and support.

I'm asking each unit to encourage one of your members to consider stepping up to lead as President of District One. In the meantime, I'll do my best to assist you in your efforts to support your units and members as they continue the tradition of the Auxiliary in supporting our communities and veterans.

**Marcy J. Schmidt**

**Acting President, District One**



## 2015 Girls State Governor



**Paige Holmes**

The 2015 session of the North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary Girls State was a success! We received 123 applications and had 117 attend. I am getting feedback from the girls via email or from unit members and the girls are reporting they had a blast. Many pieces have to come together to make things work.

Kudos to the fabulous staff that created yet another wonderful year of ND ALA Girls State.

Thank you to all units that sponsored girls this year. I'd like to give a shout out to the Fargo Unit with 10 girls, Harwood with 8, and Park River for 6.

Congratulations to all of our ALA Girls State participants that went above and beyond during the week. For those that may have not seen the election results, I would like to introduce the 2015 ND ALA Girls State Governor, Paige Holmes of Grand Forks AFB and 2015 ALA Girls State Lt. Governor Sierra Heitkamp of Wyndmere.

The 2015 ALA Girls Nation was held in Chevy Chase, Maryland at the 4-H Youth Convention Center. The 2015 senators that represented North Dakota were Charley Planteen of West Fargo, and Elizabeth Erickson of Fargo. Congratulations to them both as they represented our state and organization in a manner that makes us proud. North Dakota was represented well for ALA Girls Nation staff. Former ALA GN Senator Haley Lund (Crosby ND) as junior counselor, Gigi Moore as senior counselor, and Dana Thoreson as PR Staff/Music Director.

Thank you to all for your support and encouragement as we work together to be successful!

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Thoreson



**Paige Holmes**

## Veteran's Taken Out For Meal



Every summer the Auxiliary takes Vet's out for lunch 2 times. This year they have gone to the super buffet. The Vet's really like this and enjoy being out of the hospital and getting to eat something that is not a part of the hospital. This is also a time that they Vet's get to know each other a little more. Thank you to Marie Butz for being in charge of this and for the staff at the VA Hospital that make it possible.



## Arla Bids Farewell



Oh, my goodness, I can't believe how the past year has flown by. So many things has happened, among them new officers, including a new secretary and moving the office, always a big job. I'm still unhappy because I couldn't attend convention, but I'll just have to be a big girl and get over it. Once again, thank you, Legion family, for the flowers and the plants, and thank you Diane for all you did, what would I have done without you! I also need to thank everyone for supporting my projects while I was president, I had no idea how well the crocheted poppy pins would sell, I made 940 of them and probably could have sold more and I sold over 2000 tickets on the quilt. The lucky winner of the quilt was Verna Bower from Minot, Joan Lee from Cayuga won the Flag wall hanging and Linda Juntunen from Perth got the poppy wall hanging.

I haven't done much in my new job as NEC and National Security Chairman, I'm just biding my time until National Convention so I can, hopefully, write a decent plan of action. Until then, enjoy the rest of summer and all the wonderful garden produce God has blessed us with.

**Arla Roth**

## District 4 News for You

“Their Sacrifice – Our Freedom!” What a wonderful theme for President Marlene’s year. Your membership in the American Legion Auxiliary is a tribute to the sacrifices made by your love one/s. Have you paid your dues for 2016? If not, do it now. They are due by **December 31, 2015**. If not paid by the end of this year, you are delinquent and don’t qualify for ALA benefits. Membership chairmen have your cards for 2016.



Please, all chairmen throw away any outdated forms and information. Watch for deadlines. Mid-Winter reports are due December 10<sup>th</sup> to the correct chairman.

DeLight Fercho and I were at the McClusky Unit Annual Salad Luncheon, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>. Delicious variety of salads followed by a short meeting. Certificates were presented to individuals for their letter writing and mailing Christmas cards for Friends of our Troop Campaign. If you have Christmas cards you do not use, send to the McClusky unit.

I will continue ‘*sharing time*’ in my monthly letters. Send me a short note on unit activities to include. I am looking forward to visiting the units I have not attended for either a meeting or a program. I will be attending the National Convention in Baltimore, August 28<sup>th</sup> - September 2<sup>nd</sup>. I’m not available Aug. 24-Sept. 2.

Our District 4 Vice President/Secretary Judith Williams recently had surgery for a brain tumor. She will be going on a regiment of chemotherapy and radiation. Correspondence can be mailed to Judith at 114 Helen Street N. #7, Streeter, ND 58483. Please keep Judith in your prayers.

Our Fall District meeting will be in Jamestown on Weds, October 7<sup>th</sup>. I will be meeting with unit members to organize plans, early September. Meeting will begin at 7 pm, \$4 registration fee.

District 4 is responsible for President Marlene’s reception, at Winter Conference. Each district is to donate \$20. \$10 toward the reception and \$10 toward her gift. I have received this amount from District 1, 4, 6 & 7. Those not listed, please send your \$20 to me as soon as possible.

“Their Sacrifice – Our Freedom.”

**Elsie J. Goldsmith**  
**District 4 President.**  
**PO Box 248**  
**Streeter, ND 58483**

## Historian

A very special thank you to the units that sent mid-year checklists or narrative reports and to the units that sent year-end info for a total of 62 reports which is almost double last year’s reporting. The Department History increased from 20 pages to 26 pages.

Though it will be additional work for me, I challenge more units to report this year! Remember, you may repeat activities from year to year, but those activities are still history for the 2015-2016 year. So, report, report, report.

Historian mid-year checklists or narratives are due December 10 while year-end checklists or narratives are due April 15. These are the same reporting dates for all programs to Department Chairmen. Email Historian Checklists or narrative reports to [historian@ndala.org](mailto:historian@ndala.org) or mail to Lynn Tomlinson, PO Box 1088, Rolla ND 58367.

Hats off to Jamestown who followed the North Dakota Scrapbook History Guidelines submitting one at Department Convention. This year will see the continued use of the North Dakota Scrapbook History Guidelines, not the history rules from National. The guidelines accompany the Historian Plan of Work in the September mailing and will be available on the Department of North Dakota website, [www.ndala.org](http://www.ndala.org) under the Programs tab, then click on Historian.

Please email or mail photos, newspaper articles, and other items from your unit for Department President Marlene’s scrapbook to me in a timely manner as I plan to compile the scrapbook month by month.

**Lynn Tomlinson**  
**Department of North Dakota Historian**  
**PO Box 1088, Rolla ND 58367**  
**[historian@ndala.org](mailto:historian@ndala.org)**

## Membership Chairman

Hello Auxiliary Members: I am Diane Kraemer, your membership chairman, for the 2015-2016 year. I want to thank Marlene for asking me to serve as the chairman. I am looking forward to seeing you at the fall meetings. I encourage all members to pay their dues as soon as possible. Your unit goals, set by National Headquarters, will be sent out to each Unit President and to each Unit Membership Chairman in September. If you still have the boxes to collect change at your unit meetings from last year, please use them again this year. Also National and Department have waived the dues for female veterans for this year. Please sign them up and mark application at the top with “Honor a Female Veteran.”



**Diane Kraemer**  
**Membership Chairman**



## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY • DEPARTMENT OF NORTH DAKOTA 2015-2016 Department Officers

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Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email address	
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Department Treasurer	LaVonne Matthews 701-298-8573	313 22nd St S 701-361-8908	Fargo, ND 58103-1343 <a href="mailto:treasurer@ndala.org">treasurer@ndala.org</a>
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District 5 President	Katie Pulley 701-734-6837	520 Bookwalter Ave. 701-260-2698	Wilton, ND 58579 <a href="mailto:district5@ndala.org">district5@ndala.org</a>
District 6 President	Marilyn Bott 701-482-7739	38900 226th Ave NW	Donnybrook, ND 58734-9428 <a href="mailto:district6@ndala.org">district6@ndala.org</a>
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District 9 President	Pauline Kilbride	PO Box 156	Grenora, ND 58845-0156 <a href="mailto:district9@ndala.org">district9@ndala.org</a>
District 10 President	Sherri Ormonde 701-678-2180	PO Box 58 701-680-2079	Gwinner, ND 58040 <a href="mailto:district10@ndala.org">district10@ndala.org</a>

## Public Relations

“Why are you wearing that shirt?” “What does that emblem stand for?” “I like your poppy!” Those are some of the questions and comments I have heard while traveling, and I am sure you have too. I have given away my handmade poppy at an airport, at the capitol in DC, or explained why I am wearing that shirt because I am on my way to a convention of the largest women’s patriotic organization. We support the veteran, the military and their families. I am proud to be an American Legion Auxiliary member!



It is important that we make ourselves known—some don’t know that we even exist. Answer the curious ones—you may even get a new member. When answering questions about the ALA, you will usually find that they are amazed at what we do for the veteran, the military and their families. In my little community, a writer for our local newspaper asked me questions about my National Security Chairmanship last year and has written an article about that Program. I am hoping to continue contributing to her articles about more of the ALA programs and make the community more aware of “who we are”. We are more than women who distribute poppies, and more than women who attend Memorial Day Services wearing poppies.

This coming year, let’s wear that ALA shirt or sweater more often, let’s wear our name tags that tells others who we are and what we do, let’s wear that handmade poppy every chance we get, let’s blow our own horn by writing articles for our local newspaper to let them know what we do, let’s work harder at getting that brand (the ALA) out there.

The Plan of Action Public Relations and all Programs will be coming out in the September mailing and will go to all units. If you don’t get the mailing sent directly to you, please ask your President to share it with you or contact the Department Secretary and she will put you on her mailing list. You may contact her at [secretary@ndala.org](mailto:secretary@ndala.org) or go to [ndala.org](http://ndala.org) for other information.

**Marlys Aubol**  
**Public Relations and Leadership Chairman**  
**Department of North Dakota**

## Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

I am once again the chair of this great project. Thank you to all of you for everything you do each year.

The VA Medical Center is again wanting heart pillows. they have used all of those given to them the past year. Marlys Abol has some she is bringing, but if different units want to make more, that would be great. I can pick them up at the Mid Winter Conference. Bring anything you want for our Veterans to the conference as the homeless Veterans will need items. Scarfs, mittens, socks and hygiene products are much needed. Even bath towels as they seem to walk away sometimes.

The VA Medical Center diabetic education is in need of the small hard plastic pencil cases. They provide these to Veterans to store their testing supplies and insulin. Gift cards are another item that the VA Medical Center can use, that can be used anywhere.

Have a great year and you will hear from me again in the next message.

God Bless everyone and God Bless our country.

**Mavis Goodroad**  
**VA&R State Chairman**

## Attention Membership Chairman

Are you ready to make member address and name changes, run Unit reports and enter new member information any time you wish? If yes, then ALAMIS access is for you!

The cost is \$10 per account per year. If interested, send the Department office your name, email address and \$10.

Devotion

Lord,Use Us to Touch the Lives of Others

For each one of us has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 1 Peter 4:10

Lord, show us what You want us to do today to be a blessing to others. We don't want to get so entangled with our own lives that we don't see the opportunity for ministering Your life to those around us. Show us how You want us to help others and enable us to do it. Give us what we need to minister life, hope, help, and healing to those in need. Help us to make a difference in the world. May our greatest treasure always be serving You.

Dear Lord, remain in our hearts, that we may always be mindful of others. In Your Name, Amen

Bev Wolff  
Department Chaplain



American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of North Dakota  
Strategic Plan

Mission Statement

In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship,

Vision Statement

The vision of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion while becoming the premier service organization and foundation of every community providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families by shaping a positive future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, peace and security.

Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3	Goal 4	Goal 5
Encourage Units to retain and grow membership in order to assist in attaining the National goal of one million members by 2019	Create an Internal Culture of Goodwill and Civility	Develop Leadership at all Levels	Strengthen Department and Units	With the American Legion, Build Brand Loyalty
Strategies	Strategies	Strategies	Strategies	Strategies
1. Develop a 5 year recruitment plan for the organization to follow.	1. Lead by Example	1. Equip members to become leaders in the organization.	1. Educate members on our programs.	1. Invest in internal and external marketing communications
2. Invest in opportunities to attract, engage and retain members.	2. Define, cultivate and preserve a culture that fully reflects ALA core values.	2. Create a chairman orientation and mentorship program.	2. Ensure budget needs are met on an annual basis and solidified for future generations.	2. Define our brand identity and promise
	3. Implement best practices to achieve cultural change		3. Excel at Communication.	3. Develop pride and passion in eligibility of membership.

Arla's Thank You

I send a huge thank you to all my dear friends in the Legion family for the beautiful mixed bouquet and the 2 lovely plants that you sent when I became ill and couldn't attend convention. I was so sad because I could not be there with you all and they really helped by letting me know how much you cared. And an even bigger thank you to Diane for stepping in and fulfilling my duties, I know it was not an easy job and I'm very grateful to you. I'm feeling very well now and plan to go to National Convention. Arla



2015-2016 Department  
Contact Information

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NorthDakotaALA

2015-2016 Department  
Office Hours

Monday 9am-6pm  
Tuesday 9am-6pm  
Wednesdays 2pm-10pm  
Thursdays 9am-1pm  
Fridays 9am-1pm

Thank You Beverly Wolf  
For The Gift

At Department Convention in Grand Forks in June the Department Of North Dakota was given the wonderful gift of \$1000 to the Membership Team to help pay units with almost 100% of membership. She had no strings attached, and said to get help from whom ever I chose to help make the decisions.

I visited with Treasurer Lavonne Matthews and we decided that we had membership money enough to offer funds to units that needed 6 or less members to acquire 100% of goal for the 2014-2015 year.

As Membership Chairman I personally called 27 units and made the offer to their membership chairman with the stipulation it had to be used in time so we had goal thirty days prior to National Convention. Many units dug deep in their roles and communities and came up with new and rejoin members that hadn't paid dues yet.

We want to thank Bev for her generous donation of funds to pay for memberships to get our numbers up. We didn't make any earth-shaking goals this year, but those that tried hard appreciated the good feeling that they are better off because they have new and dedicated members in their unit. Thanks Bev, you made a difference!

Judy Twete  
Membership Chairman 2014-2015

In Memoriam

District 1

Florence Jonason, Hope  
Maxine Fliflet, Hannaford  
Pearl Grover, Hannaford

District 2

Marlys McDougall-Hjelseth, McVile  
Frances Brown, Manvel  
Adele Anderson, Edinburg  
Maria Peterson, Edinburg  
Helen Moe, Edinburg  
Pamela Sondeland, Edinburg  
Diane Elhard, Jamestown  
Catherine Cronin, International Falls

District 3

Sherla Hoffman, Rollette  
Eilene McClintock, Rugby

District 4

Jo Bullis, Jamestown  
Delores Borchardt, Harvey  
Irene Neuharth, Minot  
Laura Hepper, Bismarck  
Millie Swendsen, McClusky

District 5

Eunice Seifert, Turtle Lake

District 7

Alice Schmidt, Mandan  
Tillie Koch, Mandan  
Dorothy Light, Center  
Ann Tibor, Glen Ullin

District 8

Edith Teske, Scranton

District 9

Kathleen Heuer, Crosby

District 10

Margaret Pritchard, Verona  
Helen Anderson, Walcott  
Marcie Horton, Wahpeton  
Lois Randall, Wahpeton,

Unit 500

June Schmitz, Tolley

We regret any errors or omissions. Please notify the Department office of any errors so they may be corrected.

Condolences go out to the  
Family of June Schmitz, Past  
Department President

Tiny Tots

The Auxiliary welcomes its newest members under the age of 7:

District 2

Charlotte Elise Broadwater, Lankin

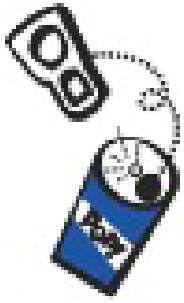
District 4

Kendall Stewart, Streeter  
Gracie Nienow, Streeter  
Piper Farthing, Streeter

District 6

Aurora Schultz, Mohall  
Cheyenne K Schultz, Mohall-

We regret any errors or omissions. Please notify the Department office of any errors so they may be corrected.



## Final 2015 Pop Tab Report

A HUGE turn-in of pop tabs – over 700,000 - at the Annual Convention in Grand Forks propelled our total collected for 2015 to over 1 million! The total for this year is 1,200,521! Fantastic!

Collection coordinator (and chief pop tab counter) Harvey Peterson was very pleased with the great number of pop tabs delivered. The Thank You note from the Ronald McDonald House in Bismarck (the recipient of the first 500,000 Pop tabs for 2015) reads “We say “WOW” to your awesome donation of pop tabs! Thank you so much from everyone at RMH (Ronald McDonald House) charities of Bismarck!”

Thanks to all who worked so diligently this year to not only collect personally, but to spread the word about our pop tab collection efforts and to enlist the aid of others. Getting others involved has been one of the premier ways of increasing our tab numbers.

Future collection efforts will be managed by Kenny Weiderholt, Chairman of the Department’s Children and Youth Program. Peterson urges all to get involved by continuing to collect and support Weiderholt by striving for a bigger number of pop tabs each and every year.

## Foundation Auction Results Harvey Peterson

The silent auction conducted by your Foundation at the Annual Convention in Grand Forks was well received by members and resulted in a net of \$16,380. This amount was transferred to the investment manager to become a permanent portion of the assets of the Foundation.

Considerable interest and lively bidding ensued on most items donated by over 50 businesses and individuals. Some buyers got bargains, of course, but many items had several bidders and generated a lot of friendly rivalry and sold well.

The Foundation Directors thank each and every donor for their generous support of the auction. In addition, a sincere thank you also goes out to the buyers – without both donors and buyers the auction would not have happened. A special thanks to the cash donors whose contributions made up almost half of the total net income.

Will this be done in the future? Time will tell but if this is an event that should be continued please send your comments to any Foundation Director.

## Survey: Most Americans think government is failing vets

By Leo Shane III, Staff writer

A majority of Americans don’t think the U.S. government or American businesses are doing enough to help veterans, and few believe that charities are doing enough to help cover those unmet needs, according to a survey released Wednesday.

Officials behind the research say the findings show both a lack of awareness of support services available to veterans and a lack of confidence that service members are being set up for success when they leave the ranks.

“One of the challenges we face is that a lot of corporations and groups are doing great things to help veterans, but we typically are only talking to veterans about it,” said Fred Wellman, CEO and founder of the communications and advocacy firm ScoutComms, which partnered on the poll.

“We’re not doing an effective job informing the American public.”

The survey, conducted earlier this month by the research firm Ipsos, found that fewer than one in four had a favorable view of government efforts to support veterans. Conversely, 26 percent of respondents had a “highly unfavorable” view of the federal outreach.

The biggest area for improvement respondents identified was providing health care services for veterans. The Veterans Affairs Department has battled numerous care delay scandals for the past 18 months, including records manipulation accusations that forced the resignation of former VA Secretary Eric Shinseki.

Almost half of those questioned said they believe troops are not prepared to succeed in the civilian workforce when they leave the military, and only 13 percent said they think corporations are doing enough to support veterans.

That perception comes despite data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics that have shown veterans unemployment staying consistently below the national jobless rate, and despite a rush of corporate and federal programs in recent years to ease that transition.

Wellman said many firms he works with are reluctant to advertise their outreach for fear of looking crass or exploitative, even though more awareness of those efforts often would lead to better understanding of veterans’ needs and challenges.

“There is a disconnect between those of us working with veterans and what the American public sees,” Wellman said.

Among charities and nonprofits, support for veterans is even less well known. The survey shows that 23 percent of respondents think those groups are providing critical help to veterans, 34 percent think they are not — and 43 percent say they don’t know enough about those efforts to make a judgement.

The survey includes responses from roughly 1,000 adults online, with a margin of error of about 3.5 percent. Full results are available at the ScoutComms website.

Officials from ScoutComms and Ipsos said they hope to conduct similar polls in coming months, to gauge public awareness on issues like mental health, women in combat, LGBT rights and veteran education benefits.

## VA Failures

By Melissa Blasius, KUSA

Reprinted from TAL Daily News releases

KUSA - A local congressman is calling on the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to act after new allegations surfaced that the Denver VA is protecting managers accused of wrong doing at the expense of whistleblowers.

Civil rights attorney Patricia Bangert says a Denver-based VA lawyer refused to negotiate cash settlements with her whistleblower clients to avoid scrutiny from the VA’s Office of Accountability Review. The office was established in the wake of the VA scandal last year, to determine punishment for managers who violate departmental policies or ethics rules.

“It’s the agency saying... we are not going to correct any wrongdoing because some manager may get into trouble,” Bangert said. “It’s a betrayal of the public trust,”

Bangert represents five women VA whistleblowers who worked together in the Aurora outpatient clinic. The women say they were sexually harassed and, in some cases, groped by a male nurse supervisor. All the women said the VA retaliated against them for speaking out.

“It’s been a struggle going to work every day knowing that this is going on, and it hasn’t been resolved,” said Cheryl Franklin, a nurse who says she was passed over for promotion after reporting harassment.

“Leadership should have said, ‘these are serious allegations; we should investigate these allegations,’” Rep. Mile Coffman, (R-Colo.), said. “Instead, what they did was turn their proverbial guns on those who stepped forward and made them the victims twice.” Rep. Coffman sent a letter to VA Secretary Robert McDonald this week saying if the allegations are true, it’s a “blatant attempt to subvert your actions to discover wrongdoing within VA.” “I hope Secretary McDonald gets engaged in this issue and gets engaged on this specific case,” Coffman told 9Wants to Know.

A regional VA spokesman denies the existence of any policies forbidding cash settlements to resolve employee claims. He says the VA Office of Accountability Review chooses cases regardless of whether settlements are approved.

(© 2015 KUSA)

## Iraq veterans look for help with their 10-year ‘fantasy’ reunion

By Matt Finn, Danielle Bjorlo

Published August 05, 2015

A group of Iraq veterans from Oklahoma are planning a 10-year reunion and coming together over a game that first united them on the battlefield—fantasy football.

“It is definitely like old times,” Justin C. Cliburn, the commissioner of the Oklahoma Iraqis League (OIL)—league and a National Guard veteran, told FoxNews.com. “We all went through that together and we truly care about each other.”

The OIL league, which started with 10 original members from the Oklahoma National Guard, has since become a non-profit organization created to help the soldiers of the 1st Battalion 158th FA unit deployed in Iraq from 2005 to 2006. Now in its 10th consecutive year, the league has expanded into two different conference and has dozens of members.

About 75 veterans plan to meet in Oklahoma City over Labor Day weekend and bus to the AT&T Stadium in Texas, home of the Dallas Cowboys, for their draft party.

But to get everyone together, they’re trying to raise money for members who can’t afford to travel.

So far they have raised \$7,905 on a [GoFundMe website](#). Their goal is \$10,000, which Cliburn is confident they will get before Labor Day.

He says for these soldiers, fantasy football is more than just a game. In Iraq it was an escape from their “tumultuous” daily life in combat.

“It felt like you were back home because you were talking about football,” Cliburn said.

Zachary Jessen, one of the original 10 members, said today the league is a place of healing. Some members suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and the league gives the soldiers the chance to talk about their experiences online.

“Some of the stories are just funny, like we remember when we were training and we all went out and... drank too much. But there’s also kind of the bonding over the shared experiences like hey, ‘does it still bother you when you see a bag of trash on the side of the road?’” Cliburn said. “We kind of became accustomed to thinking that’s an IED and that could blow up, and so it is good to get around each other and kind of vent every so often.”

And the league has been a way for the soldiers to stay in touch as the years go by. Already, two soldiers from that mission have passed away, and another soldiers almost died on a later deployment.

Cliburn says the fantasy football reunion is just an excuse for something more important.

“I really want to see guys that haven’t seen each other in years talking and laughing,” Cliburn said.



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## Minutes of the ND American Legion Riders Meeting 27 June 2015

1. Meeting called to order by Director Gerald at 0731. Honors to colors given, pledge recited, prayer offered, 19 members present.

2. Gerald discussed utilization of legacy funds collected in ND, and the possibility of keeping the funds we raise to be used by veterans and/or families within the state of ND instead of sending it to National. Gerald has coordinated with Sara at the survivor outreach program in Fargo to discuss potential recipients. He also spoke with National Commander Mike Helm, who agreed that if we raise the money, we should be able to decide how the money is dispersed.

3. The next topic was where to keep the money. The group discussed placing the money with the American Legion Foundation so it could be professionally managed, with the goal of growing a self-sustaining trust in the future. Adjutant Dave talked about rebranding and marketing to increase fundraising, and also about the possibility of using funds raised by ALR for other Legion programs. He recommended setting aside 50% of our annual donations so the fund could grow.

4. Gerald presented a breakdown of donations from the last year; total collected and donated to the National ALR Legacy fund was \$9275.50 (Encl). The group then discussed donations to the National ALR Legacy fund for 2015. Karl moved we keep 90% of our donations this year and donate 10% to the National ALR Legacy fund. Mike D. seconded, and motion carried. Cdr Weible voiced his approval and support of keeping funds within the state so they can be disbursed to veterans and families within our state.

5. The next topic was how to determine who receives our funds – criteria, amount, and timeframe. Group consensus was to form a committee to determine criteria and guidelines for application and approval of funds and that each ALR chapter should have one representative on the committee (there are 5 chapters), and the state director would serve as a non-voting chair. Since Gerald is also the director of his chapter, he will appoint an assistant director to serve as a committee member. John so moved, Richard seconded, motion carried.

6. John stated he would like to see the directors meet a few times each year to coordinate policy and activities, and facilitate communications within the organization. All agreed this would be a good idea. Gerald tasked each director to provide an email address and cell and landline numbers to him within 30 days so he can coordinate their first meeting.

7. OLD BUSINESS: None.

8. NEW BUSINESS: Gerald discussed the organization needing more structure, and the need to vote on a state director as he was appointed indefinitely by the previous director. Willie moved that Gerald be elected to serve as state director, Mike D. seconded, motion carried. Willie nominated Lenae to serve as secretary, Mike D. seconded, motion carried. Dean nominated Mike A. to serve as chaplain, seconded by John, motion carried. John moved that elected officers serve 2 year terms, seconded by Willie, motion carried.

9. There being no further business to come before the organization, prayer was offered, honors to the colors given, and meeting was adjourned at 0826.

Lenae M. Schneider  
Secretary  
ND ALR



Greetings all,

Even though it's 90+ degrees, it feels like Fall is in the air. Small grain harvest in the Red River Valley is in full swing and school starts in a couple of weeks. Local farmer's markets are full of vegetables and the Vikings played preseason football last Sunday. It *HAS* to be fall.

National Convention in Baltimore is only about 2 weeks away. I hope everyone who is going has a safe and rewarding trip and enjoys their time in Baltimore. I think one of the most exciting things about the convention is the opening ceremony when anywhere from 2500-5000 people stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble in unison. It's an event I enjoy every time I go. I will be attending the National Finance Commission on Saturday and I'm sure the discussion will center on the \$5 National dues increase. This resolution will be presented to the convention sometime during the week for a vote. It will be a busy week, but it should be fun.

The NEC will also vote on where the 2017 National Convention will be held. It is supposed to be in Louisville, KY, but their convention center will be torn apart for a major renovation, so Reno, NV, has volunteered to host that convention. The National Convention Committee will make a recommendation on this at the NEC meeting and it will be decided then.

Fall also means we have a new slate of officers at

the District, Region and Department level. Harold (Bud) Goldsmith, Jr. from Streeter is our new Department Commander and Marlene Boyer from Carrington, is our new Department Auxiliary President. We all need to give them both all the support we can in their new positions.

Fall also means that District meetings are being set up with locations and dates being scheduled. District meetings are very important for providing information to each District and to meet the current Auxiliary President and the new Department Commander. At one time in North Dakota, we had 100% Post attendance at their District Meetings. Unfortunately, we haven't seen that level of participation for many years. Let's change that trend and get as many Posts at these meetings as possible.

You can find more information on the American Legion at [www.Legion.org](http://www.Legion.org). If you need more local information about any legion related issue, it can be found on the Department web site at [ndlegion.org](http://ndlegion.org).

Do not hesitate to contact me if there is more information that you need, or have any questions for me, let me know and I will get back to you ASAP. My Cell number is 701-680-0567 and my e-mail is: [bobkrause@cablone.net](mailto:bobkrause@cablone.net). Gail and I have recently moved and our new address is 3434 28<sup>th</sup> St S Unit 134, Fargo, ND 58104. Thank you all for your continued support of this great organization.

## Gold Star Family Memorial Monument

How do you say "thanks" to a family who lost a loved one in battle? What can you do that conveys gratitude for the sacrifice for our way of life and the American flag under which they served?

A Gold Star Family is a family that has experienced the loss of a loved one who was serving in the US military. The idea of establishing a Gold Star Family Memorial Monument in each state has been proposed by the Hershel Woody Williams Medal of Honor Foundation, based on the vision and passion of Medal of Honor recipient Hershel Woody Williams. At age 92, Williams is the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from the Battle of Iwo Jima.

As a young man waiting to serve in WWII, Williams was a taxi driver and was selected to deliver telegrams to family members to notify them of their loved one being KIA. Delivering the telegrams, he would experience first-hand the shock and grief that would overcome the family member as they read the telegrams. This experience greatly affected him and he worked to establish a means to recognize and honor the sacrifice and suffering of family members. Although he could not undo the loss, he wanted to ensure that the nation recognizes them.

Since the foundation was only started in 2012, its goal of getting all 50 states to establish Gold Star Family Memorial Monument is relatively new. To date, five states have completed their monuments and 20 projects are underway. (There is currently no project started in ND.)

As stated on their website, "The Gold Star Families Memorial Monument honors those families who sacrificed more than most of us, and illustrates that America has citizens in every community and hamlet willing to make such sacrifices. The memorial monument further illustrates that families suffer and grieve when a dear relative is lost.

Without their sacrifices, freedom could not and would not have been preserved."

Their website lists guidelines for the memorial, which includes the monument materials, design, and inscriptions. Material can be granite or marble. The design includes a cut-out in the shape of a soldier at attention, rendering a hand salute, which represents the person missing from their lives. The cost of a memorial is estimated at \$40,000.

As was mentioned to me, "these families did not choose to become Gold Star Families, but were willing to allow their loved ones to pursue their own dreams for love of country and paid the ultimate sacrifice."

Anyone interested in this project should visit the Foundation website at [www.hwwmohfoundation.org](http://www.hwwmohfoundation.org). I would like to hear from anyone who is interested.

Dr. Alan Fehr is the District 8 Commander and the Past Commander of Matthew Brew Post 3 in Dickinson. He is also a clinical psychologist and recently retired from the ND National Guard. He serves District 36 in the ND House of Representatives. He can be contacted at < [AlanFehr\\_NDNG@usa.com](mailto:AlanFehr_NDNG@usa.com) > or 701-225-1050.



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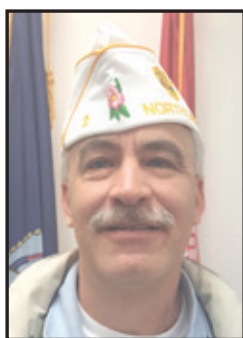
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## Department Hires New DSO



Lynn (Tye) Titus Jr.

The Department Executive Committee approved the hiring of a new Department Service Officer to fill the vacancy of Bryan Watter's departure to the ND Department of Veterans Affairs. Lynn (Tye) Titus Jr. was hired and came on board August 17<sup>th</sup>. He will be working in the American Legion office space at the VA Regional Medical Administrative building located alongside the VA Medical Center in Fargo. Tye is currently in training from the North Dakota DVA staff and will assume full status upon completion of training. Former North Dakota American Legion DSO Jim Deremo is currently assisting the Department until Tye has his certifications in place. Jim or Tye may still be reached at the DSO office at the VA. The phone number to our desk is still 701-451-4646.

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MARK ANTAL - DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

"And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19

Even with the best-planned trip, you always forget something. Those who venture into the wilderness will have a packing list and check off the items as each is safely packed away. I took a trip into the wilderness with friends and covered everything on my packing list. I packed a saltshaker, but later discovered that it was empty. Some items you can live without. We learned to get by for a few days without salt.

There is an unwritten code in the wilderness. If you have something that someone else needs and you can part with it, give it away. I have witnessed this many times, covering items from rope, a spare canoe paddle, sweatshirts and even a pair of sunglasses. God places us in situations and circumstances in His perfect time. Possibly you have been in a position to be a "giver" at just the right time. Maybe you were the one on the receiving end. In either

circumstance, I have learned to thank God.

God has been at work in your life. He has supplied your needs, whether you know it or not. Is there a special need in your life right now? Surrender that need to your Heavenly Father. To surrender simply means giving up control of the outcome. No person can meet your every need. In time, your family will disappoint you, and maybe even abandon you. Your best friend may move away, or not be able to participate in an outdoor trip you had been planning together. In any circumstance people at one time or another will disappoint you.

If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, God has promised to meet your needs. Read Philippians 4:19 again. What is God's promise? It is a very personal promise. "And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus." God will supply your needs according to His glorious riches, not just adequate, or just barely enough, but according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

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24-hour NurseLine	Optum	N/A	N/A
Diabetes Management	Liberty Medical	15%	N/A
GOLD PLAN - \$60/year			
PRODUCT	NETWORK	DISCOUNT	PROVIDERS
Vision	Cole Managed VisionCare	45% - 60%	9,000
Hearing	HearPO	30% - 62%	1,600
24-hour NurseLine	Optum	N/A	Unlimited Access
Diabetes Management	Liberty Medical	15%	N/A
Dental	CAREINGTON POS	20% - 50%	24,000
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## District Reports



**John Chatelain**  
1<sup>st</sup> District Cmdr

### Greetings from the 1st District,

The first item on the agenda for this report is to thank my predecessor and mentor, Larry Lein, for the job he did for all of us in the First District last year.

My main goals for the coming year are to improve communication and participation within our district and to increase knowledge as to the importance of the Consolidated Post Reports (CPR's) which will be due next May. In order to improve our communication, it is critical that every post have a person who can serve as its contact person. Preferably that would be the post adjutant or commander. Whoever that person is should have access to and be able to use email. This will enable distribution of information more efficiently than "snail-mail" or telephone contact. If you are unable to find someone within your post who is willing to do this, please send their contact information to me at [john.chatelain@gmail.com](mailto:john.chatelain@gmail.com). If the Department already has that information, we can get it from them.

The turnout for the last several district meetings have been sparse, to say the least. I hope to improve participation by means of telephone conference set up so that post commanders or their representatives unable to physically attend will have an opportunity to listen in on the business meetings this fall and spring.

The CPR's are basically your post's annual "report card". The information is used by the Department and National HQ's. It provides critical information on the activities the Legion is doing in support of our local communities. It is information which can be used when the Legion sends representatives to state and national legislatures on behalf of us and other veterans. The beauty of the CPR's is that unlike a school report card, you can fill it out yourself. If you fail to submit one, all that can be done is to consider your post as having an incomplete grade. This last year 11 of our 30 posts grades were "incomplete". The CPR's can be done by paper or online by your post adjutant. This is one case where the computer format may be simpler to fill out, but has not caught up to the readability of the paper form. Either way, if you need help, contact me or the Department HQ.

The Fall District Meeting is scheduled for 05 October 2015. It will be hosted by the newest unit in our state, West Fargo Post 308. The event will be held at the VFW Post 7564, 308 Sheyenne Street, West Fargo.



**Arnie Havelka**  
5<sup>th</sup> District Cmdr

### Greetings from the 5th District,

Welcome members of American Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders, to the new fiscal year. The American Legion fiscal year may be confusing to some members. In the first week in July you received a membership dues notice, which is the start of the new 2016 fiscal year. The fiscal year is 1 July through 30 June every year.

The American Legion family stays successful depending entirely on active membership.... How active you are or want to be depends on you and me. We have heard or may have seen the four active steps 1) pay our dues, 2) some also attend Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies, 3) some do the last two and also support an event and occasionally come to a meeting, 4) now a few of us do all the above steps, go to most meetings, volunteer to be a chairman or officer. "We Are All Important!"

"Are you a member?" "No, I'm not." "Why not?" "Nobody ever asked me."

I have heard "nobody asked me" many times. Post members, Auxiliary, SAL, Riders, just ask someone to become a member.

Post 1 - American Legion Riders are becoming active. If you ride a motorcycle and live within 5<sup>th</sup> District or surrounding Bismarck area, call Richard Naumann at 325-0403 to become a member.



**Millo Wallace**  
6<sup>th</sup> District Cmdr

### Greetings from District 6,

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking you all for electing me as your new District Commander for District 6. We still need a Vice Commander for our District, so if you know anyone that would be interested, please let me know.

Our Fall District meeting is just around the corner, it will be held in Minot. Date and time will be announced at the appointed time. Start planning now with your Post members and Auxiliary on attending. I would like to see a good attendance of all Posts to be there.

As you will see that our new membership for FY-2015-2016 has gotten started and we have just finished our first milestone with our Early Bird. Hoping all the Posts in District 6 have been able to meet their 40% mark, and that everyone is working on getting memberships in and still looking for Fellow Veterans to join the best Veteran Organization.

Let me remind you that it would be beneficial for you to start keeping track of the information that your Post is doing in your community and programs that are related to the American Legion's Four Pillars, which will be needed for the Consolidated Post Report. By doing this, it will make it easier when the time comes to filling this report out at the end of the Fiscal Year.

If you have anything that you would like to share with me about special activities that your Post is doing, please email me the information in time to share in the Department's quarterly Newspaper, which the next one will be due around December 15th. I would like to include what the Posts in District 6 are doing. I know most of you do a lot within your community and I would want to share in a good way in recognizing your hard work and ideas that your Post is doing.

Post 26 has been busy this past summer after the Department Convention. Each year during the month of July we are involved with the North Dakota State Fair parade. This is a great opportunity for our members to share with the community that the American Legion Post 26 is still fighting and serving our Veterans. It was a great turn out and we were pleased to have our Department Commander Harold 'Bud' Goldsmith riding our float. The North Dakota Auxiliary Women of the Year were riding in a vehicle behind our float. Our Honor Guard/Color Guard did the presentation of the colors for the North Dakota State Fair Senior day, conducting Military Honors for our Fallen veterans in our local community, as well as getting out the information on how to respect our country's flag for which many of us have fought for and there are too many flags flying that need to be replaced and properly disposed of.

Thank You for Serving and Still Serving Our Great Country



**Richard Jensen**  
7<sup>th</sup> District Cmdr

### Greetings from District 7,

Our Fall District 7th District Meeting will be Thursday, October 22nd in Hebron Memorial Hall at 7:30 PM Central Time. There will be a supper at 6:30 before the meeting.



**Alan Fehr**  
8<sup>th</sup> District Cmdr

### Greetings District 8,

It is a new Legion year for us. Many Posts that took a break during the summer will meet in September to start their new year. Hopefully, you will have a meeting or two prior to our Fall District 8 meeting, which is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**. Please put it in your calendar and make plans to attend.

Attending District meetings is a great way to be part of the larger Legion family, as you can meet folks from other Posts and share ideas with them. It is also a great way to get to know Department folks, as we can expect the Dept Commander, Vice Commander, Adjutant, Fundraising Chair, and others to attend our District meeting. Each Post should make sure they are represented and when it comes to Post attendance, more is better.

Since our District does not currently have a Vice Commander, we need someone to step into that role at the District meeting.

As your new District Commander, I plan to meet with each Post at least once prior to Spring. I'll have some ideas to help you brainstorm what you would like to do this year to grow your Post. There are many traditional Legion programs that you may want to focus on growing: Legion Baseball, Boys State, Boy Scouts, and Oratorical Contest. Some of our Posts are eligible to receive Hattie Tedrow Foundation funds to support programs. I encourage every eligible Post to request the funds.

There are holidays that each Post may consider how they can enhance their community's celebration, i.e. Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, and Independence Day. Posts may develop other programs and events within the four American Legion principles: Veteran affairs and rehabilitation, national security, Americanism, and children and youth. There is a wealth of information at: [www.ndlegion.org](http://www.ndlegion.org) & [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).



**Glenn Wahus**  
9<sup>th</sup> District Cmdr

### Greetings to District 9 Legionnaires,

Another year has passed and a new District Commander has been sworn in at the North Dakota Department Convention. I am from Watford City and if you need to contact me for anything you can call me at 701-770-7580 or email at [gwahus@gmail.com](mailto:gwahus@gmail.com).

I am looking forward to meeting you all at various meetings and functions throughout the year to discuss how important Consolidated Post Reports, Membership and the activities of our Posts are and the importance of them.

The fall district meeting will be held in Watford City on October 20, 2015. There will be a letter in your mail shortly with the details of the meeting. See you there.



**Bill Smith**  
10<sup>th</sup> District Cmdr

### Greetings from District 10,

It has been a fun filled and busy summer. The Rutland American Legion and Auxiliary dedicated the most beautiful lighted memorial to the area veterans in June with over 200 people in attendance. District Vice Commander Tom Manley was the MC.

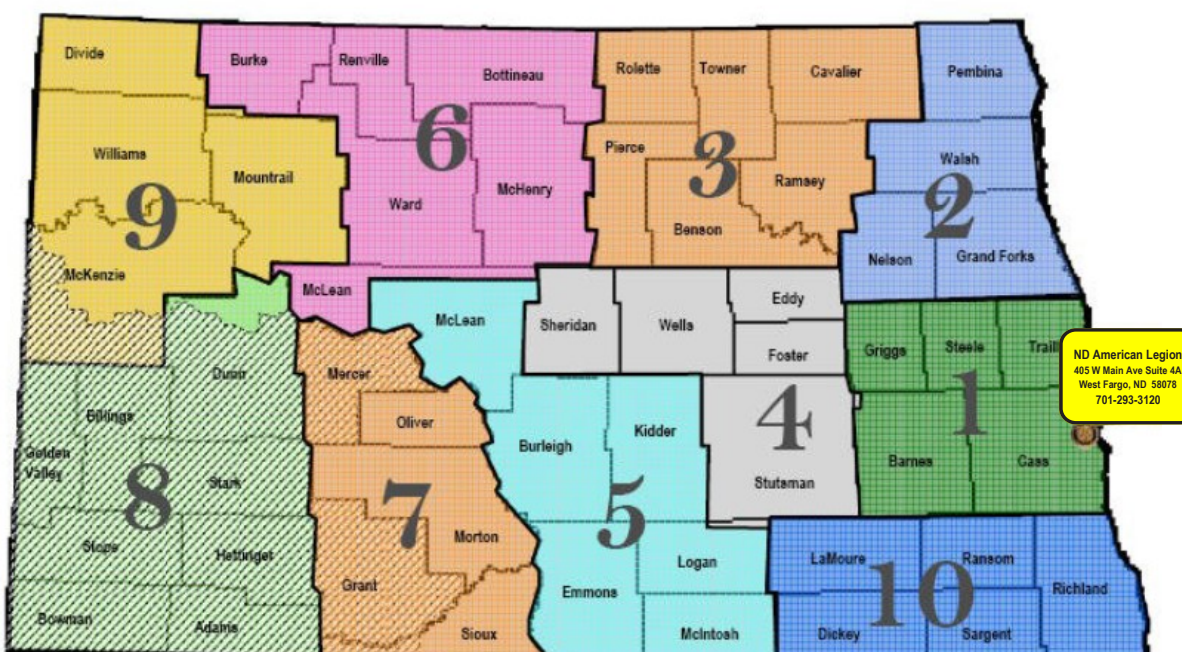
The Sargent County Queen Pageant was held July 26. The theme was "Pretty in Pink, Dangerous in Cameo", a salute to our military. We were able to display our 10<sup>th</sup> District flag along with the honor guard from the Gwinner Post and participants from the posts in the Milnor, Rutland and Havana.

On July 18<sup>th</sup> the Legion Riders made their trek across the district with stops in Verona, Oakes, Havana and Lidgerwood.

Past District Commander John Moore and I were privileged to be part of the opening ceremonies in LaMoure for the State Legion Class "B" Baseball Tournament. Townsend Field and the LaMoure Legion Post are great facilities.

Looking forward to Milnor's Chicken Fry in September!!

## North Dakota American Legion



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# POST EVERLASTING

The following North Dakota Legionnaires have been reported by their respective posts to have died and been transferred to the Post Everlasting.  
“Because of them, our lives are free; Because of them, our nation lives; Because of them, the world is blessed.”

<b>Fargo – Post #2</b>	
Clark, James .....	06/15/2015
Gibb, George .....	05/18/2015
Hall, Richard .....	07/18/2015
Henderson, James .....	06/20/2015
Jorgenson, Arnold .....	06/07/2015
Millar, John Guy .....	07/26/2015
Palmer, Elland .....	06/28/2015
Penfield, Ferde .....	06/05/2015
Schafer, Harry .....	08/05/2015
Volness, Elmer .....	06/06/2015
Wichmann, Duane .....	07/19/2015
<b>Hillsboro – Post #4</b>	
Goshinka, Allen .....	not reported
Knecht, John .....	not reported
McNamee, John .....	03/27/2015
<b>Beach – Post #5</b>	
Adams, Cecil .....	not reported
<b>Grand Forks – Post #6</b>	
Martzall, Thomas “Marty” .....	07/22/2015
Rustan, Milo .....	01/06/2015
Strande, Nels .....	06/23/2015
<b>Mayville – Post #8</b>	
Lundeby, Kenneth .....	04/2015
<b>Washburn – Post #12</b>	
Grandin, Miles .....	04/24/2015
<b>Finley – Post #13</b>	
Engen, Charles .....	not reported
<b>Jamestown – Post #14</b>	
Eichman, Larry .....	not reported
Everson, Wallace .....	not reported
Henne, Vernon .....	not reported
Otto, Karron .....	07/07/2015
Schultz, Vernon .....	not reported
Trautman, Harold .....	not reported
Wynne, Lloyd .....	07/28/2015
<b>LaMoure – Post #19</b>	
Housh, Robert .....	03/31/2015
Lajesse, Frenchy .....	07/02/2015
<b>Wahpeton – Post #20</b>	
Hoppert, Merle .....	06/26/2015
Krueger, James .....	07/31/2015
Rosley, Donald .....	not reported
<b>Lakota – Post #21</b>	
Munson, Merlin .....	not reported
Ritteman, Jack .....	not reported
Wagness, Milton .....	not reported
<b>Carrington – Post #25</b>	
Harmon, Ralph .....	not reported
Noack, Fabian .....	not reported
Straley, Jim .....	not reported
Wenaas, Stener .....	not reported
<b>Minot – Post #26</b>	
Beecher, Adrain .....	05/16/2015
Nelson, Clifford .....	05/06/2015
Newman, Melvin .....	05/23/2015
Podolski, Ernie .....	04/19/2015
<b>Harvey – Post #28</b>	
Davis, Norman .....	not reported
Keller, Donald .....	not reported
<b>New Rockford – Post #30</b>	
Cable, Kent .....	07/30/2015
<b>Oakes – Post #36</b>	
Meyer, Ben .....	not reported
<b>Velva – Post #39</b>	
Heisler, Eugene .....	not reported
Hystad, Clifford .....	06/29/2015
Pretzer, Arlo .....	not reported
Skorick, Paul .....	not reported
Sollid, Harding .....	06/20/2015
<b>Mandan – Post #40</b>	
Barnard, R. F. ....	12/2014
Gartner, Pete .....	not reported
Mulske, Raymond .....	not reported
Steckler, Joseph .....	not reported
Weber, Kenneth .....	07/07/2015
<b>Grafton – Post #41</b>	
Gilleshammer, Orvil .....	06/05/2015
Johnson, Victor .....	06/03/2015
La Freniere, Edgar .....	not reported
<b>Bowman – Post #48</b>	
Bertsch, Gordon .....	not reported
Hansen, Maurice .....	07/23/2015
Olson, Robert .....	not reported
Peters, Edwin .....	07/27/2015
Septon, Richard .....	not reported
<b>Garrison – Post #49</b>	
Erickson, Alvin .....	06/04/2015
Novodvorsky, Harold .....	not reported
Stokke, Donald .....	08/01/2015
<b>Mohall – Post #52</b>	
Allen, William .....	not reported
Dougherty, Daniel .....	03/04/2015
Foss, Curtis .....	not reported
Larson, Harley .....	not reported

<b>Ashley – Post #53</b>	
Knoblich, Ivan .....	07/04/2015
Ulrich, Edwin .....	not reported
<b>Linton – Post #54</b>	
Geffre, Ernest .....	not reported
Kelsch, Raymond .....	not reported
Schmaltz, Joseph .....	not reported
Schwartz, Thomas .....	not reported
<b>Goodrich – Post #56</b>	
Frey, Duane .....	not reported
Nelson, LeRoy .....	not reported
<b>Kulm – Post #57</b>	
Brost, Ronald .....	not reported
<b>Valley City – Post #60</b>	
Larvick, Rockne .....	06/03/2015
Trader, Albert .....	06/03/2015
<b>New England – Post #66</b>	
Frank, David .....	not reported
<b>Hatton – Post #70</b>	
Fontaine, Wayne .....	not reported
McLain, Harley .....	not reported
Wiberg, Willard .....	not reported
<b>Mott – Post #71</b>	
Powell, Robert .....	not reported
<b>Crosby – Post #75</b>	
Ingwolson, Paul .....	05/10/2015
Swonder, Eddie .....	06/12/2015
<b>Cando – Post #79</b>	
Rath, Theodore .....	not reported
<b>Forman – Post #82</b>	
Beaver, Clifford .....	11/15/2014
Klefstad, Harlan .....	05/28/2015
<b>Minnewaukan – Post #86</b>	
Ball, Milson .....	06/20/2015
Hanson, Ever .....	05/14/2015
<b>Hankinson – Post #88</b>	
Bladow, James .....	not reported
Hohenstern, Donald .....	not reported
Jaeger, George .....	05/2015
Krump, Albert .....	not reported
<b>New Salem – Post #91</b>	
Schwagler, Lester .....	07/10/2015
<b>Northwood – Post #92</b>	
Ellingson, Lyle .....	07/20/2015
<b>Portland – Post #93</b>	
Tastad, Herald .....	not reported
Tate, Joseph .....	not reported
<b>Larimore – Post #97</b>	
Alberts, Marlan .....	05/23/2015
<b>Langdon – Post #98</b>	
Boatman, Gordon .....	not reported
Schell, Michael .....	not reported
Symons, Glen .....	not reported
<b>Crystal – Post #107</b>	
Poole, Jim .....	not reported
<b>Wildrose – Post #110</b>	
Bakken, Lloyd .....	not reported
<b>Willow City – Post #112</b>	
Harrison, Marvin .....	not reported
<b>Grenora – Post #116</b>	
Skabo, Donald .....	05/01/2015
<b>McClusky – Post #124</b>	
Sprenger, Herbt .....	not reported
<b>Tioga – Post #139</b>	
Iverson, Clifford .....	not reported
<b>Edgeley – Post #146</b>	
Scallon, Quin .....	not reported
Wegenast, Marvin .....	not reported
<b>Park River – Post #147</b>	
Larson, Terry .....	not reported

<b>Milnor – Post #148</b>	
Lee, Donald .....	not reported
Olson, Irving .....	not reported
<b>Page – Post #154</b>	
England, Oscar .....	06/20/2015
<b>Granville – Post #155</b>	
Dockter, Darrell .....	not reported
Smith, Omar .....	not reported
<b>Lankin – Post #157</b>	
Cantu, Oliver .....	06/11/2015
Wrigley, Howard .....	07/11/2015
<b>Drayton – Post #159</b>	
Byzewsky, Peter .....	not reported
<b>Richardton – Post #180</b>	
Braun, Timothy .....	06/14/2015
<b>Hazen – Post #189</b>	
Grosz, Archie .....	08/01/2015
Mittelsteadt, Reuben .....	05/17/2015
<b>Gwinner – Post #191</b>	
Ciesynske, Raymond .....	not reported
<b>Sanborn – Post #202</b>	
Sauer, Maurice .....	not reported
Wagner, Bernard .....	not reported
<b>Pisek – Post #208</b>	
Novak, Virgil .....	06/30/2015
<b>New Leipzig – Post #211</b>	
Achtenberg, Ernest .....	not reported
Hertz, Almore .....	not reported
<b>Rutland – Post #215</b>	
Donaldson, Donald .....	not reported
Malstron, Leo .....	03/23/2015
<b>Sheldon – Post #221</b>	
Westphal, George .....	not reported
<b>Erie – Post #223</b>	
Enger, Nello .....	not reported
<b>Makoti – Post #230</b>	
Herman, Curtis .....	not reported
<b>Rolla – Post #235</b>	
Gailfus, James .....	not reported
Lemieux, Henry .....	not reported
<b>Wimbledon – Post #236</b>	
Bultema, David .....	not reported
Frahm, Eugene .....	not reported
Swanson, Alvin .....	not reported
<b>Glen Ullin – Post #239</b>	
Newberry, Victor .....	not reported
<b>Nече – Post #242</b>	
Horgan, Eriles .....	not reported
<b>Medina – Post #245</b>	
Gieseke, Lester .....	01/09/2015
<b>Cannon Ball – Post #259</b>	
Two Bears, Maynard .....	not reported
<b>Streeter – Post #265</b>	
Nenow, Mike .....	07/11/2015
<b>Butte – Post #270</b>	
Letvin, Ronald .....	not reported
Norberg, Dale .....	not reported
Schatz, Chris .....	not reported
<b>New Town – Post #290</b>	
Breslin, Paul .....	not reported
Fulton, Larry .....	not reported
<b>Benedict – Post #292</b>	
Gehring, Clayton .....	not reported
<b>Harwood – Post #297</b>	
Nodsle, James .....	07/18/2015
<b>Manvel – Post #299</b>	
Krogstad, Myron .....	01/13/2015
<b>Post #500</b>	
Knoshaug, Merrill .....	not reported
Wiederholt, Bernard .....	not reported



☐ Son would be interested in the Sons of The American Legion.

☐ Wife would be interested in the Auxiliary.

☐ Post improvement projects.

☐ Membership drives.

☐ Community projects.

☐ Supervise groups (drill team, drum & bugle, scouts, etc.).

☐ Work with sports teams.

☐ Participate in educational activities ... (essay contests, oratorical contents, scholarships)

☐ Help/participate in Post's social activities ... dances, dinners, etc.

☐ Volunteer work at VA Hospital.

Listed below are just a few of the many programs The American Legion sponsors. Please check the one(s) that are of interest to you. If the program you like is not listed, please indicate it in the "other" area.



# LOCAL POSTS IN THE NEWS

Your local Post can be featured on this page in future issues by sending photographs and short stories to: North Dakota Legion News, P.O. Box 5057, West Fargo, ND 58078. All photos must be originals and cannot be clipped from local newspapers. Stories from local newspapers can only be reprinted with the written permission of the editor.



Post #26 Commander Millo Wallace and member Dean Verstraete conducting a Flag folding ceremony with member Dean Nelson reading the meanings of each fold to the children at Barnes and Nobles located at Dakota Square Mall, Minot, ND.

We have a member that has 70 years in the American Legion. His name is Herbert Herman and he is 99 years young. I gave him his 70 year membership on Memorial Day at our ceremony.  
We had three, 60 year members also:  
Jack Dahl, Marvin Kuhn and Orlo Sund  
And one 50 year member: Wilbert Denning



## VETERANS MAY NOW APPLY FOR SERVICE DOGS

North Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs announces grant available for North Dakota Veterans with PTSD. North Dakota Veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) may now apply for a grant which may provide them with a specially trained Service Dog. These service dogs are trained right here in North Dakota to assist Veterans who suffer from PTSD. The dogs provide the special needs of the veteran they are to serve whether it is calming anxiety attacks, providing comfort and assurance in public settings or waking a veteran from a nightmare. PTSD service dogs have proven to greatly assist Veterans in returning to a more normal life and reintegrating back into their community. Service Dogs for America has several of these highly trained service dogs ready to be placed with a North Dakota veteran in need.

To meet the minimum qualifications for a PTSD service dog under this grant, the Veteran must be a North Dakota resident, have a diagnosis of PTSD, be engaged in counseling or therapy and have a Doctor's recommendation for a PTSD Service Dog. All qualified Veterans are urged to apply. The grant is made possible by the 63<sup>rd</sup> ND Legislative Assembly and private donors.

To learn more or to download a preliminary application packet, please visit our website at [www.nd.gov/veterans](http://www.nd.gov/veterans) and see information about Service Dogs for America on our home page.

### About Service Dogs for America (SDA)

SDA is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation established in 1992 and located in Jud, North Dakota, with a mission to train and certify service dogs for individuals with disabilities.

Contact: Lonnie Wangen- NDDVA  
Telephone: 701-239-7165  
Email: [lwangen@nd.gov](mailto:lwangen@nd.gov)

Contact: Pamela Standing - SDA  
Telephone: 701-685-5009  
Email: [info@servicedogsforamerica.org](mailto:info@servicedogsforamerica.org)

Have You Paid Your 2016 Membership Dues?

### ND "Remember our Fallen"

Patriotic Promotion's, of Omaha NE the sponsor of this Memorial has decided to allow the NDAL to continue as the Host of these ND Soldiers. It is currently on display at the Fargo VA medical Center. If you know of a community, business or organization that would like to sponsor it to their town please refer them to the headquarters office. We can be contacted at either 701-293-3120 or Dave Johnson at [adjutant@ndlegion.org](mailto:adjutant@ndlegion.org).

**ND American Legion - A Tradition Worth Continuing**

### The American Legion Membership Application

(Name)

(Phone)

(Mailing Address)

(Date)

(City)

(State)

(Zip)

(Post #)

(Membership ID) #...former member

(Dues)

Please check appropriate eligibility dates and branch of service below

☐ Aug 2, 1990 - cessation of hostilities as determined by U.S. Government

☐ U.S. Army

☐ Dec. 20, 1989 - Jan. 31, 1990

☐ U.S. Navy

☐ Aug. 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984

☐ U.S. Air Force

☐ Feb. 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975

☐ U.S. Marines

☐ June 25, 1950 - Jan. 31, 1955

☐ U.S. Coast Guard

☐ Dec. 7 1941 - Dec. 31, 1946

☐ Merchant Marines 12/7/41-8/15/45 (only eligibility)

☐ April 6, 1917 - Nov. 11, 1918

I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.

30-009

Signature of applicant

Name of recruiter

Receipt of Dues

(Please Print)

From \$ for 20 Post #

Recruiter's Name

Recruiter's Signature

Recruiter's Phone #