NORTH DAKOTA LEGION NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF NORTH DAKOTA

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The Message (American Legion Auxiliary) Inserted On Pages 7-10

Clarence L. Carroll, III – Newly Elected Department Commander

Mamie Havelka, Elected as Department Commander-Elect

Delegates to the annual Department Convention in Bismarck, ND, confirmed Clarence L. Carroll, III, as the 2023-2024 Department Commander to lead the North Dakota American Legion throughout the next year.

Clarence is a member of Post #97 in Larimore and has served as Post 6 (Grand Forks) Vice Commander, District 2 Vice Commander, and District 2 Commander, as well as other committees and projects at Post, District, and Department level.

Mamie Havelka was elected Department Commander-Elect. Mamie is a member of Bismarck Post #1 and has served as Post #1 Commander, Dept Credentials Committee Chair, Dept Judge Advocate, Dept Membership Chair and Dept Executive Committee for four years.

Three Department Vice-Commanders were also elected during the convention. Brennan Bell member of Gwinner Post #191 will serve as the Eastern Region Vice-Commander; Jacob Volk member of Devils Lake Post #24 will serve as the Central Region Vice-Commander; and Allan Magnuson member of Mohall Post #52 will serve as the Western Region Vice-Commander. Derrick Childs member of Cando Post #79 was again elected as the Department Finance Officer.



Dept. Cmdr Clarence L. Carroll, III



Dept. Cmdr-Elect Mamie Havelka

American Legion Department of ND 2023 Convention Sweepstakes Winners

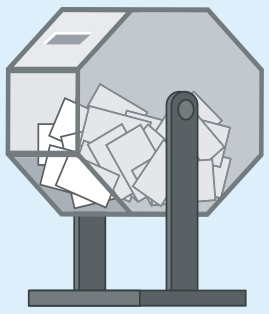
The drawing was held on Monday, June 19, 2023 at the American Legion Department of ND

$2000 Grand Prize Winner
Marlin Egeland of Edmore Post 193

$1000 Prize Winner
Robert Sheldon of Tioga Post 139

$200 Prize Winners
Richard Olek of Fargo Post 2
Brian Williams of Thompson Post 181

$100 Prize Winners
David Brevik of Williston Post 37
Gary Anderson of Fargo Post 2
Richard Johnson of Oakes Post 36
James Jennings of Grand Forks Post 6
Raymond Molash of Headquarters Post 500
Daniel Urban of Belfield Post 144



Wall of Remembrance

On the 21st of June, Commander Dan Brown, Commander-Elect Clarence Carroll, and myself attended the opening day ceremonies of the Global War on Terror, Wall of Remembrance in Dickinson, ND.

I was there to conduct a VA&R walk, but due to the rain starting at 9 am and lasting all day, decided to cancel the walk but stayed all day to sell a few sweatshirts due to the cooler temperatures.

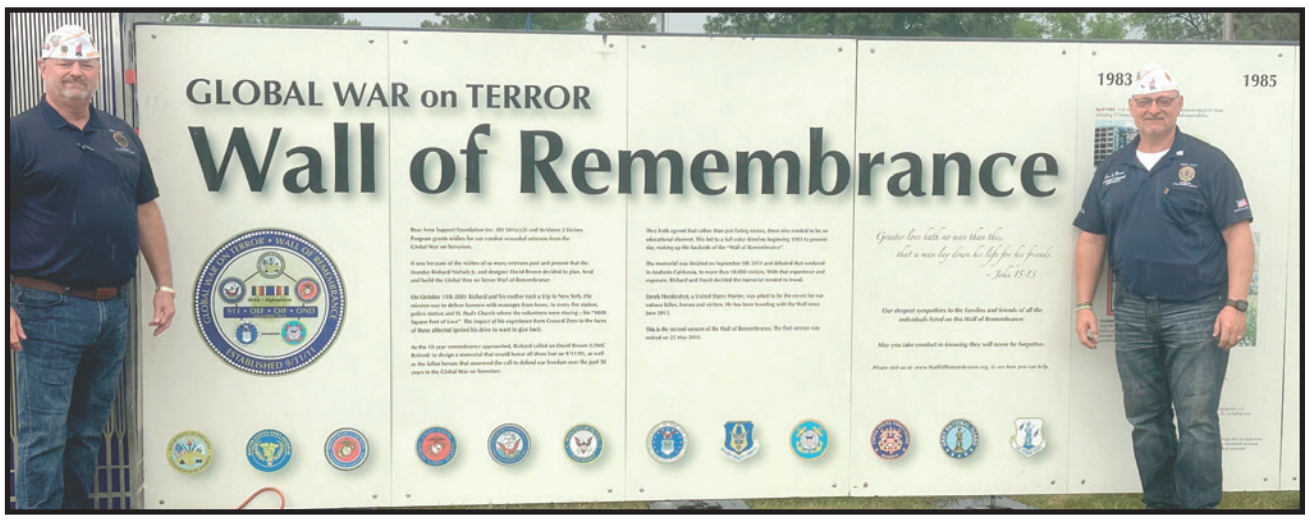
I took photos of every panel of the wall on both sides. Commander Dan Brown was one of several speakers at the opening ceremonies that started at 5:30 pm.

My day in Dickinson observing the wall and listening to all the speakers was a day I will never forget. Commander-Elect Clarence Carroll and I were completely soaked from standing in the rain for an hour and a half. Commander Dan Brown's speech was very heart warming and very close to home for him.

Other than raining all day, it was a day to remember. I highly recommend everyone to see this Wall of Remembrance to learn all the history over the time-period this wall covers.

Allan Magnuson, West Region Vice Commander





2023 Fall Meetings for the American Legion and Auxiliary

District 4 meeting will be held in Jamestown, ND, All Vets Club, Thursday, September 21, 2023. Social at 5:00 pm. Meal 6:00 pm with meeting to follow.

District 10 meeting will be held in Fairmount, ND, Community Center, Friday, September 22, 2023. Social 5:00 pm. Meal 6:00 pm, meeting to follow.

District 5 meeting will be held in Hazelton, ND, Community Center, Saturday, September 23, 2023, registration at 11:00 am. Meal at 12:00 pm, meeting to follow.

District 1 meeting will be held in Finley, ND, Legion Club, Thursday, October 12, 2023, registration at 5:30 pm. Meal 6:00 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm.

District 6 meeting will be held in Donnybrook, ND, Community Center, Friday, October 13, 2023, registration at 5:00 pm. Meal 6:00 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm.

District 8 meeting will be held in Scranton, ND, at the Community Center, Saturday, October 14, 2023, registration at 9:30 am Mountain Time, meeting at 10:00 am Mountain Time.

District 9 meeting will be held in Watford City, ND, Legion Building, 313 12th St. SE, Saturday, October 14, 2023, registration at 3:00 pm Central Time. Meal 4:00 pm Central Time, meeting to follow.

District 7 meeting will be held in Hebron, ND, Community Center, Monday, October 16, 2023, registration at 6:30 pm Central Time. Meal 6:30 pm Central Time, meeting 7:30 pm Central Time.

District 3 meeting will be held in Devils Lake, ND, Fireside Inn on Saturday, October 28, 2023, registration at 10:30 am. Meeting at 11:00 am, meal to follow.

District 2 meeting will be held in Larimore, ND, Saturday, October 28, 2023, registration at 5:00 pm. Social 5:00 pm. Meal 6:00 pm, meeting to follow.

The District Commander will conduct the District meeting with the assistance of their District Vice Commander and under the guidance of their Regional Vice Commander. Various Department Officers will be on the agenda to bring Legionnaires up to date on their programs. Each District Commander and/or "Host Post" will be mailing out additional information to the posts within their respective districts.



Hello to all the North Dakota Legionnaires.

I had a great time seeing and visiting with all of the Legionnaires that attended the Department Convention. I want to congratulate the following individuals to their new positions, Clarence L. Carroll, III as our new Department Commander, Mamie Havelka as Commander-Elect, Brennan Bell as East Region Vice Commander, Jacob Volk as Central Region Vice Commander. And congratulations to Brad Huber for being appointed the Membership Chairman. I know the state will have another good membership year. I am looking forward to working with all of you over this next year.

I have been busy with work and planning several upcoming VA&R walks in August and September. We already had a walk on Saturday the 22nd of July in Jamestown that Jacob Volk and Brad Huber attended for me.

As the West Region Vice Commander, I attended a Pow Wow in White Shield, ND, along with Clarence Carroll. It was a very joyful day and a learning experience for me. Clarence and I were honored to be carrying service flags at the Opening Ceremonies at 1 pm on the 8th of July. We also were invited to partake in the flag lowering ceremony at 5 pm. I was very honored to be carrying and returning a flag to one of the many families that donated their family flag honoring a fallen member of their family. The whole time I spent in White Shield is a day I will never forget for the rest of my life.

I had the honor of representing the American Legion Department of ND in the State Fair parade on Saturday the 22nd of July in Minot. I was invited by American Legion Post 26 in Minot to ride with them on their float. Post 26 also had the National Vice Commander Glenn Wahus from Watford City attend. Unlike me, Glenn walked the entire parade route handing out candy to everyone watching the parade.

In August, I will be attending a walk on the 5th in Garrison at Fort Stevens State Park. The walk is scheduled to start at 10 am. On the 12th, I will be in Gwinner for a scheduled walk to start at 9 am. I have a walk scheduled on the 9th of September in Williston starting at 9 am, a walk in White Shield on the 17th starting around 9 am. I have always stated at District meetings and Department meetings that the local community is invited and is courage to participate in our walks.

I am hoping to have a brochure on PTSD and another brochure for suicide prevention available for all participants in the walks to pick up and become familiar with what all of our military brothers and sisters that suffer from PTSD go through every day of their life. The brochure on suicide I am hoping will inform everyone what symptoms to look for in case someone they know might be sick and thinking about suicide.

I am looking forward to being one of our Department delegates to the American Legion National Convention in Charlotte, NC, on August 25–31, 2023.

If there are any posts that would like to schedule a walk, please contact me at (701) 818-4788 or by email at magnusonallan@yahoo.com. If any post wants to do an indoor walk during the winter months, I can also do that.

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer with their families and that you all stay safe over the Labor Day weekend.

I am looking forward to meeting everyone that are able to attend all of the West Region fall district meetings and to all that will be able to attend the winter conference the end of January in Bismarck.

Allan Magnuson
West Region Vice Commander



Dept Cmdr Clarence L. Carroll, III, West Reg V-Cmdr Allan Magnuson and the newly elected White Shield Post #253 officers.



Hello and greetings! My name is Brennan Bell, and I am the new East Region Vice Commander. So where to begin, we had our Department Convention in June which was held in Bismarck. One thing from the convention is that the American Legion is in need of funds, so any donations are and will be appreciated. Also, memberships are very important as we need to get those in as soon as possible. Jump forward to July and I had the privilege to go to Mayville and celebrate a birthday for Walter Rindy who was celebrating 106 years to be the oldest living World War II veteran. Our National Vice Commander Glenn Wahus was present and presented Walter with an award for continuous years in the American Legion. Unfortunately, I found out after his birthday that Walter passed away on July 9th.

It's been quiet on my end of the region but would like to know of events happening and will attend if I can.

In August we are having a suicide walk in Gwinner to raise awareness. Also, the National Convention is being held in Charlotte, NC, on August 25-31.

I hope to see everyone in Fairmount on September 22nd for the 10th District Fall Meeting. On October 12th we have the 1st District meeting in Finley and the 2nd District meeting is in Larimore on October 28th. That's the events I know of right now and I plan on attending.

Please try and talk to our younger veterans and sign them up in the American Legion and to be more active with our fellow legionnaires.

Thank you and God bless.

Brennan Bell
East Region Vice Commander

ND State Legion Band



2014 National Convention in Charlotte, NC

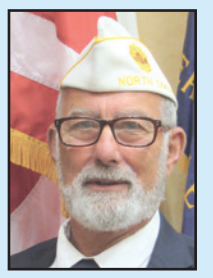
The history of military music and bands has been a part of the North Dakota American Legion since 1919. Drum and bugle corps were scattered throughout the state with two of the earliest coming out of Williston and Jamestown. The music has been continuous for your State American Legion Band which will be going strong for 100 years in 2024.

The history of the State Band goes back to when a group of World War I veteran Legionnaires went as a volunteer band to St. Paul, MN. Wearing their Army uniforms, they slept in tents in the snow and represented North Dakota at the 1924 National Legion convention.

Named by World War I General John J "Black Jack" Pershing the "Livest Band in the World," the band is currently under the direction of Glen Wolf and Band Manager Bruce Holtan. Music continues to be a great way to honor our country and touches veterans' memories to help celebrate their time in the service. The State Band has appeared at every Department convention since 1925, with the exception of the WWII years when conventions were severely curtailed, and in 2020 when the convention was cancelled due to Covid concerns. The band has appeared at 39 National Conventions where past performances included marching in the Convention parades, playing dances for the

Tri-Stack reception sponsored by North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska and playing at the Four Corners reception. In 2007, the band was recognized as the National Champion Marching Band at the Reno, NV, convention and it again won the National Marching Band competition in 2014 at the National convention in Charlotte, NC.

As plans are going forward to celebrate the 100 years of your ND State Legion band in 2024, the band looks forward to continuing to be part of the yearly State Conventions and attending the National Convention in New Orleans next year. A huge thanks to those who continue to support this organization with monetary donations.



As your new Central Vice-Commander, I am looking forward to visiting Districts 3, 4 & 5 for their Fall District Meetings.

I hope everyone had a great summer. I don't know where the time went! We are into August now with fall and winter right around the corner. Now is the time to start preparing for our upcoming year.

I had the honor of representing the American Legion at the International Music Camp at the International Peace Gardens. What an opportunity that was. I was so impressed with what the instructors could accomplish in only five days. The campers gave great performances with their newly learned skills. I was so impressed that I could go on and on.

I am looking forward to attending the American Legion National Convention in Charlotte, NC, the end of August.

Jacob Volk
Central Region Vice Commander





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First and foremost, THANK YOU! I am grateful for the privilege to continue my service to The Department of North Dakota American Legion as YOUR Department Commander. My desire is to have a successful year in Command (2023-24) by implementing the collective thoughts, ideas, and wisdom I gain from conversations with legionnaires across this great state. I desire no personal gain from my position other than to earn your support and respect. I hope to make you proud as we move our organization into the future. Together, we can make a difference! A difference we owe to the next generation of Veterans, their families, our military, and our communities.

Despite gathering feedback and advice from past Department Commanders, nothing or no one could have prepared me for how busy I would become after June 25th, 2023. My first event as your Department Commander was the Dickinson Parade on July 1st. Handing out flags to the attendees turned out to be the most physical activity I've done in a long time. I walked (and even ran a couple times) so far, I literally wore out a pair of shoes from the inside out. Thank you to Post 3 for your hospitality and the invitation. The National Commander's visit was overall successful with visits to Bottineau Post 42, International Music Camp, Cando Post 79, 4th of July parade in Park River Post 147, and culminating with a live radio broadcast on News and Views with Joel Heitkamp. The impact that you all left with our National Commander will not soon be forgotten. Thank You! On July 8th we gathered with other Veteran's organizations to take part in the opening and closing flag ceremonies of the White Shield pow wow. Thank you to Post 253 for an amazing celebration of Veteran accomplishments and for inviting us to such a memorable event. The next event involved 7 days and 2,240 miles on the motorcycle in support of the Rocky Mountain Warrior Foundation. Your Department Membership Chair; Brad Huber and I attended the 60th Annual Membership Workshop in Indianapolis the last weekend in July. We were able to receive world-class training and collaborate with other Departments. I can't wait to see how Brad implements his ideas this year.

After a much-needed vacation we roll into National convention followed by District meetings. After hearing your feedback from last year, my commitment is to attend all 10 District meetings in person. All I ask is that you get as many posts as possible to participate so we can share the activities of our great Department together. I look forward to hearing about all the good things that local posts are doing to spread the mission of The American Legion.

Lastly, I cannot help but be reminded how large and opinionated our department is. It's tough being in a position of voluntary leadership leading primarily volunteers. Decisions made at the Department level are often complicated and unpopular. I pray for your support and for continued wisdom as we tackle the Department's most difficult issues. I am grateful for a professional staff and an experienced Department Executive Committee to guide our department into the future.

Thank you in advance for your support and assistance, if you need to contact me for any reason, I can be reached via email at abnavnltc@yahoo.com or at my personal cell # 910-584-8773.

American Legion Walks

Walks are Open to the Public! • The Public is Encouraged to Attend!

We lose 22 veterans a day to suicide. The American Legion would like the public to be aware of not just veteran suicides, but all suicides.

If you want to attend a walk, contact your local American Legion post to find out if a walk is scheduled or to schedule a walk. If a walk is scheduled at your local American Legion post, registration is $10.

There will be T-shirts and sweatshirts available to purchase on the day of the walk. T-shirts: $20 Sweatshirts: $30



Department Commander and Auxiliary President Homecoming

Join us for a memorable evening as we celebrate the 2023 Homecoming of Clarence L. Carroll, III, ND Department Commander and Gloria Covert, ND Auxiliary President. We cordially invite all Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, and their guests to be a part of this special event.

Date: Saturday, October 21st
Time: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
(Optional Activities: 7:00 PM – 10 PM)
Venue: Rough Riders Hotel and Conference Center
Location: Medora, North Dakota

Buffet Meal - $35 per person:
Carved Roast Beef
Herb Roasted Chicken
Tossed Salad
Roasted Potatoes
Garlic Green Beans
Dinner Rolls
Mini Cheesecakes

Lodging: A block of rooms is being held at the Rough Rider Hotel **(1-800-MEDORA1)** under "ND American Legion".
Room Cost: $149 per night
Booking Deadline: September 20th

Tentative Schedule:
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM: Social Gathering
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM: Delicious Meal & Program
Cash Bar Available throughout the Event
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM: Post-Event Social with Cash Bar *(OPTIONAL)*
OR
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM: Medora Foundation Million Dollar Quartet Show *(OPTIONAL)* **Ticket Required**
Cost $35 per person

Show Description: *On December 4, 1956, when an extraordinary twist of fate brought Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Elvis Presley together at Sun Records in Memphis for what would be one of the greatest jam sessions ever. MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET brings that legendary night to life with an irresistible tale of broken promises, secrets, betrayal and celebrations that is both poignant and funny.*

Reservation Details: For reservations and inquiries about both the Banquet and the Medora Foundation Million Dollar Quartet Show, please complete the attached form and mail to The American Legion Department of ND.
Reservation Deadline: September 20th

Let's come together to honor Clarence and Gloria while enjoying an evening of camaraderie and celebration. We look forward to your presence at this memorable event!

Homecoming for Commander Clarence L. Carroll, III, and President Gloria Covert – ***Due September 20th***

Name _____ Post Location _____ Post #____

Banquet Tickets ($35 Each) Quantity _____ X $35.00 =_____

Million Dollar Quartet Tickets ($35 each) Quantity _____ X $35.00 =_____

Please mail payment to **ND American Legion, PO Box 5057, West Fargo, ND 58078**

ADJUTANT'S CORNER



DON HERRLY- DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

For those of you that have not heard, Ron Matthews has chosen to retire from the position of Department Adjutant. I know that you will join me and the Department of North Dakota in thanking Ron for his dedication to our organization and wishing him well in the future.

I have been appointed by Department Commander Clarence L. Carroll III and confirmed by the Department Executive Committee in a special meeting on 6 Jul 23 to fill this role on an interim basis for an indeterminate time. Let me introduce myself, I am Don Herrly. As of this year I have been a member of The American Legion for 50 continuous years, all as a member of Henry Biffart Post 100 in Hebron, ND. I have served as a Post Commander, Post Adjutant, 7th District Commander, Western Region Vice Commander, Department Commander, Alternate National NECman and Vice Chairman of the National Americanism Council.

I am pleased to be asked to step into this new role as Department Adjutant. I hope that you will bear with me as I learn the ins and outs of this new role for me. I need to thank our office staff members Teri Bryant - Programs Coordinator and Sarah Kim – Administrative Assistant who in addition to doing their job so well, are stuck babysitting me.

Many years ago August C. (Gus) Draeb (personal attorney for Jack Williams and his wife Hans) who himself served as Department Commander in 1963 – 1964 gifted me the (Honorary) Past Department Commander pin that belonged to Jack Williams who was first elected temporary Department Adjutant at the St. Louis Caucus at which The American Legion was formed and then was elected permanent Adjutant at the first Department Convention in October of 1919 and continued to serve as our Department Adjutant until his death on Flag Day, June 14th, 1967. I am honored and in awe that I now follow in the footsteps of Jack Williams and Vern Useldinger.

I want to thank you for your continued support and membership in our organization. Speaking of membership, I would be remiss in my duties if I didn't encourage you to help replenish our membership rolls. I have often heard "all you want is my dues" and I'm going to tell you straight out that you are not completely wrong. We operate in a business-type environment, and it takes money to do business. The thing is that our business is to preserve, protect and enhance benefits for the American Veteran and their families. We are here to support you. When you are having problems with your VA claims. We are here when natural disasters strike. We are here when you feel alone and need a fellow veteran to talk to who understands what you are going through. We are here to provide opportunities to our youth, such as Boys and Girls State, the oratorical contest and so many more programs. We are here to provide you with military honors when that time comes. We will be there to remember and honor you in Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies. We are here when the legislatures and congress think that the way to cut expenses is to cut back on veteran benefits. When we go see them and tell them that we represent roughly two million members, they don't ask us how many members come to meetings, they only care that 2 million members care enough to pay their dues to us to watch out for them. So, while we would love to see you come to meetings, serve in office or on a committee, we want you to know that you are a valued and important member even if all you ever do is pay your dues. Yes, we do all this and more, but we do need your membership dollars to operate.

I also ask you to remember that you are the face of The American Legion. Your conduct and actions are what the public sees and what their perception will be of our organization. We must not tolerate misconduct or mistreatment of others. While we may not agree, or even like what they do or stand for, we are the ones that have fought to defend everyone's right to their way of life. We are "Called to Serve - Held to A Higher Standard". Until next time, Fly the Flag and keep your powder dry.

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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN



BRAD HUBER - MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Hello Department of North Dakota American Legion. For those who don't know me, I am Brad Huber, a member of Post 126 in Hazelton. I've been the 5th District Commander and was the Central Region Vice Commander. I was asked by our Department Commander Clarence L. Carroll, III, to be this year's Membership Chairman and I gladly accepted. I would also like to thank Arnie Havelka for sticking around to assist me for this year's membership campaign, hopefully we can do some great things this year.

I would also like to thank and congratulate Mamie Havelka for Commander-Elect and for setting the membership bar high, we can always do better, and you have set the pace.

Commander Carroll and I spent the weekend in Indianapolis at a membership conference and it was full of training, ideas and tons of information on how to build our membership. They gave us our membership goals and as always, we have some challenges to meet. Our membership goal for 2023 was 11,687 members, for 2024 it is 11,308. Good news is our goal went down. I personally feel we as a Department can make our 2024 goal of 11,308 but I believe we should meet or exceed 11,687. Our current membership is around 11,000 members, if all of us reached out to one veteran our membership should double. Is it realistic that will happen, probably not but it is realistic for each of us to contact another veteran and ask them to become a member of this great Organization. We have to find the motivation, passion and desire to increase our numbers. Membership is not a one-person program it is all hands. So, let's all brush the dust off, cinch up our belts and strengthen our Department. No excuses folks, I am stepping out of my comfort zone and rising to the challenge, I've already been turned away 4 times, but I am not giving up. I believe in myself, and I believe this Department can and will improve our membership. I'm challenging myself and I am challenging each Legionnaire to recruit one new member or each post to achieve 100% membership or better for this year. I know we can!

Well, that was my motivational speech for now, it's back to some membership business. As Arnie is getting Post 500 members transferred into posts, I asked him to send emails or calls to the respective posts, District and Regional Commanders. This is to inform you of your new member. Please, please contact them, welcome them to your post, invite them to your next meeting. If they don't want to attend, fine, at least by reaching out to them and welcoming them they may become a member next year or even better start attending Legion meetings.

That's all I have for now, if you have any questions do not hesitate to call or email. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall District meetings. Again, I want to thank Commander Carroll for believing in me and allowing me to be your 2023-2024 Membership Chairman. I hope you all have a great Legion day and a better Legion year.

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER



SUMMER KRISTIANSON - DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

VA Benefits and the Rise of Veteran Service Officers

Veteran Service Officers play a crucial part in assisting veterans in obtaining VA benefits they have earned. VA benefits date back to the American Revolution when the Continental Congress passed the first pension laws for wounded or injured soldiers. However, it wasn't until World War I when Congress established a new system of benefits Veteran Service Organizations began to see the greater need for veterans to have a voice in assisting with benefit claims.

The North Dakota American Legion has had a strong history of ensuring North Dakota veterans were supported when they returned home. In 1920 – 1921 William Kroll served as the war risk and service officer assisting veterans as they returned home from World War I. From 1921 – 1944, the state HQ staff continued to assist veterans with benefits.

Beginning in 1944 through the present, the North Dakota American Legion has employed a Department Service Officer to ensure veterans have access to no-cost assistance when filing for VA benefits. These service officers provided a much-deserved benefit to our state's veterans.

- R. R. Dick Nelson March 1944 – 1946
- Donald Bloese 1946 – 1947
- George Rulon 1947 – 1957
- Charles MacLaughlin 1958 – 1985
- David Schmidt 1985 – 1988
- John Berge 1988 - 2000
- Jim Deremo 2000 – 2013
- Bryan Watters 2013 – 2015
- Lynn Titus 2015 – 2016
- Summer Kristianson 2017 – Present

In an ever-changing VA system, it is imperative to have an advocate on your side working for you. Although meeting with every veteran in person is no longer feasible, we now have trained County Veteran Service Officers to provide advocacy for our veterans. County Veteran Service Officers work together with our Department Service Officer to ensure every veteran is provided the advocacy they deserve.

Veteran Service Officers are trained representatives there to assist veteran and family members through the VA claims process. Veteran Service Officers may assist with VA disability claims, pension claims, healthcare enrollment, vocational rehabilitation enrollment, burial benefits, survivor's benefits, and other general VA questions. It is the role of the Veteran Service Officer to provide guidance throughout the process to the veteran and/or family.

If you have any questions, please reach out to a Veteran Service Officer near you https://www.veterans.nd.gov/about/veteran-service-officers-vso

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The Future of the ND Legion – Update

First and foremost: **Thank you** each and every one that have donated to the Department Service Office Expenses (DSOffice). Your donations and support have been instrumental! And appreciated. We started this in January 2023, and the predicted negative balance was more than cut in half. If we could have started earlier - that could have been way less.

The DSOffice expenses are used 100% for veterans with medical needs and meets the eligibility code, D-50, therefore donation/trust/foundation money can be used.

HB 1142 passed the last legislative session and allows donation/trust/foundation money to be used for administrative and program management expenses of statewide veteran's organizations (Department Headquarters). Eligibility Code: D-99, for now.

The application for gaming funds, below, is ready for you to use. All Posts MAY contribute, but this form is required by Attorney General Gaming for gaming donations and for your record. Other nonprofits can donate as well. Please call if you have any questions.

Thank you again,

Mamie Havelka
ND Legionnaire
(701)340-1621



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APPLICATION FOR GAMING FUNDS
ND OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
GAMING DIVISION
SFN 9801 (6-2023)

Organization

Legal Name of Organization or Individual Applying For Funds	Contact Person for Applicant		Telephone Number
The American Legion Department of North Dakota	Don Herrly		701-293-3120
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code
PO Box 5057	West Fargo	ND	58078

Detailed Description of Intended Use of Gaming Funds:

Please circle an option below otherwise it will be used where the greatest need is.

1. **American Legion Department Service Office (Code D-50)**
2. **American Legion Department of North Dakota (Code D-99)**

Applicant agrees to retain documentation of the use of the funds for three years from the date funds are received. Applicant agrees that if the funds are not used for the above stated purpose, or the funds are not used within six months, the funds will be returned to the gaming organization.

Signature of Applicant: Don Herrly

Date

Amount Requested	☐ Request Approved ☐ Request Denied	Approved By	Amount Approved	Check Number	Check Date	Eligible Use Code
						-

Executive Committee Report

The following is meant to present some of the highlights of the meetings of the Department Executive committee and should not be considered as minutes of these meetings. Official minutes, once approved, are available on request to any member of the American Legion Department of North Dakota.

The pre-convention DEC meeting was held at the Bismarck Hotel and Conference Center on June 22nd, 2023, and conducted by Chairman Anderson. Voting members in attendance Steve Anderson, Dan Brown, Clarence L. Carroll III, Mike Weyrauch, Troy Reemtsma and Sven Mickels. Non-Voting members, George Petermann, Brad Huber, Todd Rikke, Trish Hodny, Mamie Havelka, Dean Overby, Roger Sateren and Ron Matthews.

Previous minutes and consent agenda items were approved. Dignitaries recognized were National Vice Commander Glenn Wahus and National Chaplain Mark Antal, both members of the Department of North Dakota. Department financials ending on May 31st, 2023, were reviewed, and acknowledged subject to audit.

The following reports were heard Americanism/ Children and Youth from DECman Weyrauch. Boys State from Executive Director Kenneth Wiederholt. Membership by Chair Havelka. Oratorical by Chair Weyrauch. VA&R by Chair Magnuson. Foundation by DJA Trish Hodny. SAL by Chair Rikke. Legion Riders by Director Anderson. Department Service Officer by DSO Kristianson. NEC by NECman Overby.

Boys State and Baseball stipends were discussed which are being reimbursed at a higher rate and will have to be brought into compliance with Department procedures and policies. Past Chair Harvey Peterson reported on some Foundation issues. Harvey Peterson was appointed to serve as the NDAL Foundation Chairman again. Conflict of interest statements were distributed to be filled out and returned. The meeting was adjourned.

The post-convention DEC meeting was held on June 25th with voting members Brown, Carroll, Havelka, Reemtsma, Mickels and Weyrauch present. Non-Voting members Huber, Sateren, Overby, Bell, Volk, Magnuson, and Matthews present. Newly elected Department Commander Carroll presented his appointments for the year, and they were approved. The 2023-2024 budget was reviewed and approved. After an Executive session it was announced that Ron Matthews would be retiring from the position of Department Adjutant.

A special meeting of the DEC was held via Zoom on July 6th, 2023. Commander Carroll moved and seconded by Mickels to confirm the appointment of Don Herrly to serve as the Department Adjutant until such time as a permanent Adjutant can be appointed or a replacement is hired. Herrly will be serving as an unpaid volunteer, with full authority and responsibilities of the office. Motion carried unanimously.

Have You Paid Your 2024 Membership Dues?



When Commander Carroll approached me with this new position, I was totally caught unaware! As I have been blessed with The Lord in my life and several relatives who served as ordained priests to carry the word of Our Savior forward, I felt that I should apply myself and give it my best effort.

As we encounter daily struggles, it is easy to lose belief in His words and praises. As we regain reality and figure the situation out, it is truly important that we give some small thanks to He who watches over us.

We, as a veteran's service organization, are extremely thankful to have so many beliefs that each revolve around "God and Country". It is through His teachings that we care for each other, our families, and our communities. Please continue to make those Buddy Checks. Take pride in the community events in honor of our veterans.

I have made many friends in my life, and some may read this, but I give thanks for each of you as often as possible.

Please stay healthy and stay in touch and may God bless you and all that you do.

VA&R Walk in Jamestown

Membership Chairman Brad Huber and Central Region Vice Commander Jacob Volk were very helpful to Alan Magnuson Chairman by covering the VA&R walk in Jamestown on the 22nd of July. The walk took place at 7:30 am in order to be finished before Jamestown celebrated their Buffalo Days parade and activities also on the 22nd.



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Best wishes American Legion,
thank you for all you do and for your support.
Senator Curt Kreun

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

The Message

North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary
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701-253-5992 • www.ndala.org • facebook.com/NorthDakotaALA

Ruth Quam Receives Award

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of North Dakota is proud to announce that Ruth Quam of Wahpeton, ND, was selected as the winner of the 2023 Unit Member of the Year Award.

Ruth was nominated for this distinguished honor by Hafner-Miller-Ross Unit 20 of Wahpeton. Ruth is a life member of the American Legion Auxiliary and has served proudly for 53 years. In District 10, the Quam name is synonymous with the American Legion Family. Ruth accompanied her husband Carroll on his many travels around North Dakota and the country while he served as the American Legion Department Commander.

Ruth has served in various unit offices and currently serves as the unit's vice president. Throughout the years, she has provided countless gallons of lemonade and dozens of cookies for the North Dakota Boys State counselor's picnic. She has served or donated food and volunteered for unit fundraisers, community veterans programs, and dinners. Her other efforts include distributing poppies in the community, donating countless funds and personal hygiene items to the Lisbon Veterans Home and Fargo VA Medical Center, and working the 'Give 10 for Education' program for school students.

In addition to her involvement with the American Legion Auxiliary, Ruth is active with St John's Catholic Church, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, and Quilts of Valor. She was actively involved and served on various committees with the North Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association Auxiliary. In recent months, Ruth has provided care and support to her husband, Carroll, as he continues to recover from recent surgery.

Ruth embodies the American Legion Family's mission of being an active member within a community of volunteers serving our veterans, active military, and their families.

Congratulations, Ruth, on a job well done!



Ruth with husband and Past Department Cmdr Carroll Quam

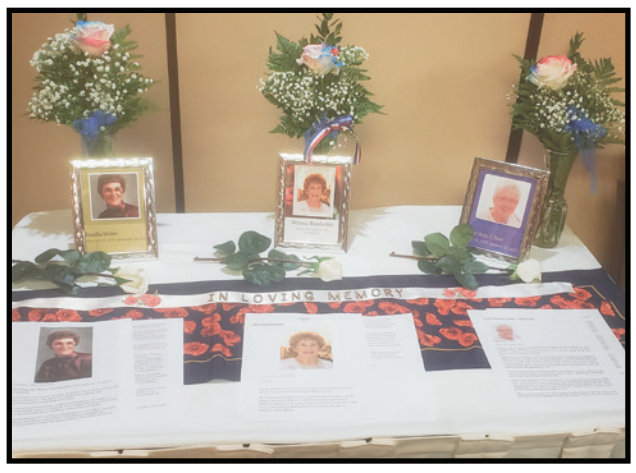
Photos from Department Convention



Department Leadership at Convention. Photo courtesy of IceBerg-Art Candace Berg



Past Department President Sandra Petermann preparing for meetings at Convention



Three Past Department Presidents honored at Convention Memorial service: Rosella (Rosie) Weber, Myrna Ronholm and Marjean Boe. Photo courtesy of Rose Laning

Department President



Auxiliary Members,

First of all, I want to thank all the members for their vote of confidence in me. This title is a team effort so your participation in helping me out with any concerns or suggestions would be very much appreciated. My phone is always open and I text.

I participated in three parades to start my year off. The Ragtop parade was held July 1st in Rolla. The annual 4th of July parade was held in Park River. National Legion Commander Jim Troiola also participated in this parade. The Deuce of August parade was held in Mountain and it showcased their Icelandic heritage. The crowd participation was huge at all the events and a good homemade meal was a must. I enjoyed the great hospitality from each of these small towns. Small towns are what life is all about!!

The first dues renewals were emailed in July. Dues can be paid online so units need to check their ALAMIS (American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System) computer reports so they know who has paid online. Members that have paid online will receive their membership card from the National Office. The paper dues renewals will be mailed out in September. Units need to start collecting 2024 dues ASAP. The 2024 membership dues need to be paid by Dec 31 for the following year. If you don't have your membership card for 2024 in hand by Jan 1st you are considered a guest at meetings and events. You do not have privileges such as voting or making motions at your Auxiliary meetings. Please, please, members get your membership dues paid as soon as you receive your notices, whether it comes by email or snail mail.

District Presidents need to communicate with their District Commanders so you both know the correct information about the District Meeting schedules. Please let me know of any changes in a timely manner.

I will be attending all the District Meetings barring any unforeseen circumstance. I am looking forward to meeting with members and hearing what their units are busy doing in "their neck of the woods".

Commander Clarence and I will be having our "homecoming" together this year. It will be held in Medora on Saturday, October 21. The social will begin at 5:00 PM followed by a buffet meal. The program will end by 7:00 PM so guests can attend other evening events. We look forward to everyone attending and helping us celebrate our coming year with the Legion family!! More information is available on page 3.

Please keep membership renewals and recruiting at the top of your priority lists this year. Our members are the future for our veterans, youth, and community.

Always be kind,

Gloria Covert



Gloria Covert being escorted for installation by daughter Shantel (right) and granddaughter Korri (left)



August of Deuce parade in Mountain

Fall District Meetings

*Information is subject to change without notice.
Visit www.ndala.org/districtmeetings/ for updates.

District 1 Finley October 12
Location: Peterson-Olson Post 13
5:30 pm Registration • 6:00 pm Meal • Meeting to follow

District 2 Larimore October 28
Location: Willy's (old Legion Club)
5:00 pm Registration & Social •6:00 pm Meal $10/person
Meeting to follow

District 3 Devils Lake October 28
Location: Fireside Inn
10:30 am Registration • 11:00 am Meeting
Meal $10 following meeting

District 4 Jamestown September 21
Location: All Veterans Club
5:00 pm Registration & Social • 6:00 pm Meal (cost TBA)
Meeting to follow

District 5 Hazelton September 23
Location: Hazelton Community Center
11:00 am Registration • 12:00 pm Meal (cost TBA)
Meeting to follow

District 6 Donnybrook October 13
Location: Donnybrook Community Center
5:00 pm Registration • 6:00 pm Meal (Cost $10) RSVP by Friday, October 6 • Meeting 7:00 pm

District 7 Hebron October 16
Location: Hebron Community Center
6:30 pm (CST) Registration & Meal • 7:30 pm (CST) Meeting

District 8 Scranton October 14
Location: Scranton Community Center
9:30 am (MST) Registration • 10:00 am (MST) Meeting

District 9 Watford City October 14
Location: American Legion Family Building
3:00 pm (CST) Registration • 4:00 pm (CST) Meal (free)
Meeting to follow

District 10 Fairmount September 22
Location: Fairmount Community Center
5:00 pm Registration • 6:00 pm Meal (free will offering)
Meeting to follow

Department President-Elect


LoAnn Dick

Membership! Membership! Membership!

That is the key to a successful unit. No members – No Unit! So let us set the goal to get all Auxiliary members signed up for 2024 in the first month of September. Our first priority!

Membership is everyone's responsibility. Make it the most important thing. Talk membership all the time! If your unit lost members due to unpaid dues last year or the year before, go out and ask them to come back. North Dakota lost 300 members due to unpaid dues in 2022. It happened again in 2023. We must strive to prevent non-renewal, or soon, our beloved organization will not even exist. I pray that never happens. Rejoin former members, recruit new members.

Let's get every Unit, every District, and the Department of North Dakota to 100% of goal in 2024! We are aiming for North Dakota to rank 90% by December 1, 2023.

Go Units! Go Districts! Go North Dakota! We can do it! Let's hit the ground running and not let up! Remember, we are honoring our very precious veterans who sacrificed for us, for our freedom, and for our country. Let's make them proud!

LoAnn Dick

Department Secretary


Marcy Schmidt

Greetings North Dakota Auxiliary Members.

It is rumbling a bit as I begin drafting this article today. We welcome the rain as the lawn appears to have gone dormant already. The park across the street has youngsters taking part in the 'great American past time', baseball. The new Auxiliary year is beginning to come into focus. Soon you will be traveling to your 2023 Fall District Meetings. More information on Fall Meetings can be found elsewhere in this issue of 'The Message'. Be sure to ask other members of your unit to attend with you. Make it a fun road trip and join your District President and welcome Gloria Covert, your new Department President for 2023-2024.

By the time you read this, The American Legion Family Department of North Dakota delegation to the 2023 National Convention in Charlotte, NC, will already be back in North Dakota.

American Legion Department Commander Clarence Carroll and Auxiliary Department President Gloria Covert are planning a combined 'homecoming event' for Saturday, October 21. It will be held in Medora and from all accounts, it sounds like quite an event is being planned. You will not want to miss it. Make plans now to attend. More information can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Start planning your unit's activities now. Let us make 2023-2024 a year to remember with your whole-hearted support for veterans, active military, their families and your communities. Be sure to wear the American Legion Auxiliary 'brand' when you are volunteering in your community. American Legion Emblem Sales is a great place to find apparel to represent the Auxiliary. Check out their website at emblem.legion.org.

Auxiliary program information such as AEF, Poppies, Community Service, Americanism, Girls State, History, VA&R, and so much more can be found not only on the national website at www.alaforveterans.org but the Department website at www.ndala.org. You can download the latest 'Unit Guidebook,' Chaplain's book, membership applications, poppies and Halloween coloring books for children's programs, and so much more.

I encourage everyone to remember to track your volunteer hours and monetary donations in preparation for Unit Reports in April 2024.

Remind yourself and fellow unit members why you became an American Legion Auxiliary member. Is your 'why' personal? Support your 'why' by paying your dues early and supporting the activities of your unit. Make 2023-2024 a great year!

Take care of yourself and others.

Marcy Schmidt

Department Chaplain


Rose Laning

I was with some of my grandchildren when we ran into friends who had been to the Black Hills. We talked about the various sites they had visited, and they told us about going to one of the underground caves. My granddaughter piped in, "We were there, and when they turned the lights off, we could not see anything. It was scary!!" Later, she said they could not even see their hands in front of their faces.

In the book of Exodus and the story of Moses and the 10 plagues, Moses was speaking to Pharaoh. The Lord told Moses to stretch out his hand toward heaven, and there would be a plague of darkness over the land of Egypt, a darkness that can be felt.

"During all that time the people could not see each other, and for three days they did not move from where they were." Exodus 10:23

Can you imagine being in pitch blackness for three days?!! I would think that would be a fearful time for Egypt and it seemed that Pharaoh would allow the Israelites to leave Egypt. However, his heart remained hardened, and he refused to yield to God.

Spiritually, darkness represents what is sinful and evil. In the dark, if you can see at all, different objects look alike; in the light, good and evil can be easily distinguished. Just as darkness cannot exist in the presence of light, sin cannot exist in the presence of a holy God.

1 John 2:9 "He who says he is in the light and hates his brother is in the darkness still. He who loves his brother abides in the light, and in it there is no cause for stumbling. But he who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes."

1 John 1:5-7 "God is light and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth, but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin."

The statement that God is light means that God is perfectly holy and true and that he alone can guide us out of the darkness of sin, showing us the right path. We become hypocrites if we say we belong to Him but then go out and live only for ourselves with little thought of serving others. As Auxiliary members, we should be reaching out to our communities and helping those in need. We may even find new members.

John 8:12 "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

Lord, help us be the light in dark places. Amen.

Rose Laning

Homecoming Announced

Join us for a memorable evening as we celebrate and recognize Department Commander Clarence Carroll and Auxiliary President Gloria Covert. We cordially invite all Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, and their guests to be a part of this special event. See page 3 of the Legion News for complete details!

Department Treasurer


Sonnie Otto

How time flies! Welcome to the fall season—the cooler weather, football, and the "season of generosity!" All of my favorite things. As your units gather together, get reacquainted after the summer months, and work on welcoming new members, begin thinking about the many programs that veterans rely on and how you can help.

If you have not received the Mandatory Contribution forms yet, you will see them very soon. They need to be returned to the Department Office by November 1st. Start talking about what programs your unit wants to support. Contributions that are received on time are sent to their respective programs in December. Contributions that are received at a later date are not forwarded to the designated program until June. Thus, I urge you to complete the form at your October meetings and get it sent in. Then these programs can receive their funding before the beginning of 2024.

In this season of generosity, I want to thank each one of you for the great things you do for our veterans in North Dakota. Many of you work within your units and continue to work diligently. Your efforts, combined with other units across the state, make a huge impact.

Every single thing you do, no matter how small, is important. Anytime we can put a smile on the face of a veteran, it is well worth it.

Sonnie Otto

Department NEC


Tammy Ryberg

I encourage all of you to read the 'National Auxiliary' magazine that is sent to each member's household. It contains great information on American Legion Auxiliary programs. The Auxiliary publication is helpful in sharing what other Departments and units are doing and provides ideas for units to try in their own communities. It is full of information on how and where to look for help if needed. It is also available for online download at www.ALAforVeterans.org/Magazine

It is time to plan the year for your unit. Review the unit's yearly budget and start there. Next, decide what programs you wish to support and work on and get started on how to implement those programs. Each Department Chairman will assemble a work outline for their program. Unit Presidents will receive that information from the Department Office in unit mailing packets and it will be posted online at www.ndala.org/unitmailings/

One main way to stay connected to unit members is for the Unit President or a specified member to make contact. Utilize texting, emails, or phone calls to let members know what is coming up and what volunteer opportunities are available. That way everyone knows and can decide how to be useful. All unit members should be encouraged to share their ideas. Keep unit members involved and lines of communication open.

Involvement is the key to keep your unit active, helpful, and ALIVE!!!!

Tammy Ryberg

Poppy Program



This year, I utilized poppy poster submissions from 2021 to design playing and pinochle cards, placemats, greeting cards, and puzzles. These items are being sold and the funds raised are dedicated to support our veterans programs.

Some items were donated to the Fargo VA Medical Center and the North Dakota Veterans Home in Lisbon for the patients and residents to enjoy. Two of the posters each month were utilized to design a calendar that was mailed to units from the Department Office. I have had many positive comments on those calendars as well as the fundraising items. The Department poppy chairmen packaged 25,000 poppies and mailed them to units across the state.

This was my first year as a co-chairman for the Poppy Program. I enjoyed learning about the program, counting poppies, and most of all meeting members of the American Legion family at various District meetings and conferences.

Carol Wolf

District 3



Hello District 3 Auxiliary Members,

I want to thank all of you for your support and trust when you elected me as District 3 President. When I became a member of Fred C. Wagner Unit 235 of Rolla in 1996, my eligibility came through my father Don, a Vietnam-era veteran. My husband, Mike, and I have been married for 24 years and we are the proud parents of two children. Our daughter, Sara, is a member of the Auxiliary and our son, Zack, is currently serving in the Air Force and is stationed in Tampa, Florida. He is also a Legion member.

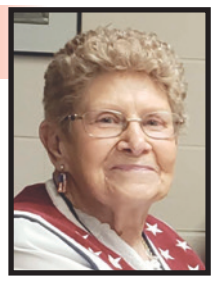
My role model and the strongest woman I know, my mother Sandy Smith, has been my mentor and has helped me along the way. Watching her serve in various roles in the Auxiliary has helped develop my passion for the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary and gives me confidence that I, too, can be an asset in my role as your District President.

I invite each of you to the 2023 Fall District 3 Meeting. I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know many of you.

If you need assistance, feel free to reach out and I will be happy to help in any way I can. Phone me at 701-895-8187 and leave a message if unanswered.

Cheryl Gustafson
District 3 President

District 7



Department Convention is over, and I will continue to serve as President for District 7 for the 5th straight year. There were a number of District 7 members at convention, but no one stepped up to take the job. I did, however, talk Annette Zeller of Carson into serving as District Vice President in the event I cannot finish my term.

As I sit here thinking about what to write, the TV is broadcasting the 'Twins' game and they are winning. There are storm warnings, some severe, coming every few minutes. It is enough to scare one half to death.

District 7's Fall Meeting will be held in Hebron on Monday, October 16.

The Auxiliary meeting will include discussion on membership, updating your unit's constitution and bylaws, and much more. Join us for the meeting, door prizes, and camaraderie. I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Hebron.

I recently read some old 'Messages,' dating as far back as 1975. 1975 was the end of my first two years as a District President. I was then known as Lualice Stiefel of Stanton, ND. At that fall meeting in Mandan we had forty-six unit members and 4 guests in attendance. Times have certainly changed. Let us try to have that many members in Hebron this fall.

Lualice Stockert
District 7 President

Children & Youth



Our Auxiliary worked together with the American Legion in taking stuffed comfort bears and puppies to our hospitals, EMT's, police, fire, and sheriff's departments across North Dakota. The light brown bears have a white t-shirt with lettering of 'American Legion, North Dakota' and the Legion logo on each. The American Legion also purchased puppies with red t-shirts and the American Legion family logos on them, as well as lettering that reads "The American Legion Family." In working along side our American Legion, we all got the opportunity to see the benefit and smiles it brought to our Children and Youth, especially when they might be scared, feeling alone, and just in need of a comfort animal. They were also very well received in each community. Such a wonderful way to work with our American Legion family and make a difference in the lives of our children and youth.

Annette Zeller

Community Service



In 2022-2023, forty-eight North Dakota units reported activity in support of veterans, military families, and their local communities. One of the activities reported was participation in veterans appreciation programs which included inviting the public to attend. One unit hosted an annual "Poppy" breakfast and included their junior members in the planning, preparation, and clean-up. Other units indicated they included community members in many of their projects such as: placing flags on graves, holding fundraisers, cleaning up local parks and cemeteries, and working concession stands at their local high schools.

I noted that members and units that took time to report were from small communities with active high schools. The correlation I see here is that small communities, whether through a school or a church, tend to nurture student involvement in civic activity.

Beverly Wolff

District 5



THANK YOU to District 5 Unit members for submitting your 2022-2023 volunteer hours and narrative reports! Six of the twelve units in District 5 reported hours, which included a total of 14,731 hours of volunteer service. A total of $34,736 was spent in providing support and services to our veterans, active military and their families, Children and Youth, Community Service, Department Scholarships, and Girls State. The numbers are impressive and were included in the Department's report to National Headquarters. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

As we begin a new service year, we have renewed excitement coming off the summer 2023 Department Convention. At Convention, it was approved to support International Music Camp and the North Dakota State Legion Band with funds from the Auxiliary Memorial Fund. National dues increased by $6.00 beginning with dues year 2024. We were reminded that all unit Constitutions, Bylaws and Standing Rules need to be reviewed and updated. Only 18 units have completed this process so far. We were entertained by the North Dakota State Legion Band several times during the Convention. The Legion Band organization will be 100 years old in 2024 and they are hoping to make the trip to the 2024 National Convention in New Orleans, LA!

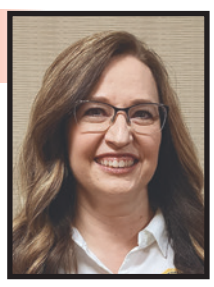
Discussion at the Department Executive Committee Organizational Meeting held on July 21, 2023, included compiling a list of "Gold Star Mothers" in North Dakota. If you know of a 'Gold Star Mother' in your community, bring that information to your District Meeting or let your District President know who they are and where they are located.

Thank you to all members of Joseph E. Appert Post and Unit 126 of Hazelton for stepping up to host our 2023 District 5 Fall Meeting in September.

I am interested in visiting District 5 unit meetings this year, so let me know when and where you meet. I look forward to seeing many of you at the 2023 Fall District 5 meeting and more of you at your unit meetings.

Peggy Moran
District 5 President

District 9



Hello District 9 Auxiliary Members.

So much has happened since our Spring District meeting in April. We had three District 9 units represented at the Department Convention in June, where we received the exciting news that District 9 membership reached over 100% in 2023! Great work everyone! Continue to recruit and ask the people you have been meaning to ask but have not yet. Let us strive for 100% again for 2024; we can do it! This was my first time attending the Department Convention and I really believe everyone would benefit from attending. It is a perfect time to learn more about our organization from experienced leaders, get to know other Legion and Auxiliary members who become great friends from around the state, and immerse ourselves in the camaraderie of the American Legion Family.

We have a wealth of information at our fingertips by searching both our National and Department websites. The National American Legion Auxiliary website can be found at www.ALAforVeterans.org. If you have not yet, I suggest setting up your member log in. In the member portal we can find membership forms and applications, the unit guidebook, recruitment tools, convention downloads, and trainings. The ALA Academy is an online training that you can do at your own pace. After completion of each course, you can even print a certificate of your achievement. The American Legion Department of North Dakota website is www.ndala.org. On the Department website you will find various forms, District resources, Auxiliary programs, and member resources including current and past issues of 'The Message'. Both websites have excellent references; bookmark them in your browser so you can quickly find them.

I invite all of you to attend the District 9 Fall Meeting and I look forward to meeting and visiting with many of you. Thank you to all members of Carl Rogan Post and Unit 29 of Watford City for hosting our fall meeting.

American Legion Family Building, Watford City

May God bless you and our American Legion family.

Ronda Rudnik
District 9 President

Junior Activities



North Dakota started off the 2022-2023 year by re-introducing Junior Activities to all unit presidents with material sent out by the Department Office along with other Auxiliary program materials.

Three units sponsored greeting card writing. Finished products were sent to local long-term care facilities, the VA Medical Center in Fargo for distribution to patients, and residents of the North Dakota Veterans Home in Lisbon.

Units enlisted their junior members to assist with flag placing at local cemeteries in time for Memorial Day as well as participation in poppy distribution in their communities. Juniors helped organize community clean-up days, collected food items for the needy, and participated in various veterans programs at their schools.

I know many activities by junior members go unreported. Although the reporting from units was low for 2022-2023, I am hopeful that with more awareness, units will work with their youth members and encourage them to become active Auxiliary members.

Jeannie Román

Flickertail Girls State



Amanda Dinger

Hello everyone,

This year, American Legion Auxiliary Flickertail Girls State came with a lot of changes including me stepping into the role of Director and being in the new UND Nistler building in Grand Forks where we set up our week-long operation. Even with all of the changes, Girls State week was a huge success.

It brings me great pleasure to announce that we had 63 girls in attendance for the entire week. On Sunday evening, the girls assembled poppies as a community service project and wrote thank you cards, participated in a flag retreat, and broke the ice within their 'cities' by electing mayors and other city officials.

The following day was busy and exciting with the following: flag raising and etiquette, city government lectures, city functioning, party platforms, and campaigning. The evening session included learning how to run for office on the state level and getting an amazing skit on parliamentary procedure.



Governor Taryn Romfo

Other activities for the week included a women in government panel, state Party Conventions, a pep rally, campaign speeches, balloting, county functioning, and Flickertail statewide elections.

Wednesday evening we were honored to have Department Commander Dan Brown and Past Department Commander Steve Anderson in attendance as well as the Boys State Governor, staff representatives, and many other members of the American Legion for our Legion night. Each city came up with skits that were performed that evening along with having our first-ever talent show. We were also honored to have Auxiliary President Sandra Petermann joining us for the week.



Lt. Governor, Daci Wells

Election results included Taryn Romfo as Girls State Governor, Daci Wells as Lt. Governor, and Lauren Beck and Marjorie Rue as Girls Nation Senators. Abby Redfearn was named the state finalist for the Samsung scholarship.

The Girls State staff and I are extremely proud of all the Girls State attendees and everything they accomplished at the 2023 Flickertail Girls State week. As a staff, we couldn't be happier with how well things went.

We want to thank you all for supporting this important educational program and we look forward to prepping for next year.

Amanda Dinger
Flickertail Girls State Director

Leadership



The Department Leadership Chairman initiated the program of work at the completion of the 2022 Department Convention. In September, the national Auxiliary website was reviewed for ideas.

District meetings were held in the Fall to update members on Department activities and exchange ideas on how to improve unit management. Department officers attended those meetings to speak with local members and to explain the goals for the year. Department President Sandra Petermann's theme was "Flying Together-United as One.' President Petermann focused on the American Legion family in all she did. The Department staff informed units through monthly mailings and the Department's publication "The Message" which is published quarterly with articles celebrating the activities of North Dakota units.

National Auxiliary President Vickie Koutz was an invited guest at our 2023 Winter Conference where she provided ideas on how to maintain energy in our local units.

Four units sent in nominations for 'Unit Member of the Year' award consideration. Although every nominee deserves to be awarded this honor, the committee and I selected Ruth Quam, a life member of Hafner-Miller-Ross Unit 20 of Wahpeton as North Dakota's Unit Member of the Year.

Colleen Hauf

Education

"AT A GLANCE" REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT AND UNITS"

Please note - these numbers reflect only what was reported to me. I suspect the number/dollars are much higher.

- Celebration of American Education and Teacher Appreciation Weeks – treats provided to local schools, funds donated to local libraries ($200) and funding for school lunches/milk programs ($100)
- "Give 10 to Education" participation – supplies and monetary contributions given to schools and school kits for World Relief by members and units
- Funds donated for student scholarships/maintenance to International Music Camp ($420)
- Unit scholarships for graduating seniors (4 scholarships, total $1,000); members helped serve at the Masonic banquet where scholarships are awarded
- Donations to DECA students going to National competition ($300); also, to national FCCLA to present project to help ND veterans
- Funds donated for Department scholarship funds ($1,847)
- Committees for selecting Unit and District scholarship recipients
- 'Veterans in Community Schools' presentations held (10 presentations)
- Participation in Memorial Day services and programs
- Participation in community bike safety and health fairs
- Promotion of National and Department Education scholarships

SCHOLARSHIP NOTES

- 2023 Department Scholarship - $500 each / 43 applicants – 3 scholarships awarded ($1,500 total)
- 2023 National Scholarships - 5 applicants – 1 Spirit of Youth Scholarship; 1 Children of Warriors Nationals Presidents' Scholarship, sent to NW Division

Peggy Moran

Winners of Poppy Poster Contest Announced

Winners of the 2023 Poppy Poster Coloring Contest were announced by Joan Buske, Department Poppy Co-Chairman, at the June Department Convention held in Bismarck.

Class I – Grades 2 and 3
Leah Edlund, Binford
Brynn Twedt, McHenry
Nevaen Eggermont, Binford

Class II – Grades 4 and 5
Marcie Linster, Finley
Ilyia Hanson, Michigan
Sia Patel, Park River

Class III – Grades 6 and 7
Karlee Tescher, Medora
Chase Zubka, Gackle
Madelyn Bohl, Flasher



Class IV – Grades 8 and 9
Payton Elhard, Cleveland
Claire Ihry, Hope
Jake McCann, Medora

Class V – Grades 10 and 11
Emma Thompson, Page
Judith Jaeger, Streeter

Class VI – Grade 12
Alexia Guerrero, Gackle
Hannah Beckett, Hope

2023-2024 Department Officers

President
Gloria Covert.....C: 701-370-0055.....president@ndala.org

President-Elect
LoAnn Dick.....C: 714-334-4798... presidentelect@ndala.org

Vice President
Candace Berg.....C: 701-740-7144.... vicepresident@ndala.org

Secretary
Marcy Schmidt .....C: 701-253-5992.....secretary@ndala.org

Treasurer
Sonnie Otto.....C: 701-260-6886.....treasurer@ndala.org

Chaplain
Rose Laning.....C: 701-226-8115.....chaplain@ndala.org

Historian
Andrea Neshem .....C: 701-340-4965.....historian@ndala.org

Parliamentarian
Holly Eslinger.....C: 701-891-1909... parliamentarian@ndala.org

NEC (National Executive Committeewoman)
Tammy Ryberg.....C: 701-339-1799..... nec@ndala.org

NEC Alternate
Sandra Petermann ...C: 701-290-8801.....necalternate@ndala.org

Finance Board Chairman
LaVonne Matthews ..C: 701-361-8908.....financeboard@ndala.org

President District 1
Virginia Satrom .....C: 701-238-1542..... district1@ndala.org

President District 2
Shelley Schuster.....C: 701-520-1525..... district2@ndala.org

President District 3
Cheryl Gustafson .....C: 701-895-8187..... district3@ndala.org

President District 4
Jane Schoonover .....C: 218-298-1434..... district4@ndala.org

President District 5
Peggy Moran .....C: 701-315-0568..... district5@ndala.org

President District 6
Linda Siewert.....C: 701-720-9133..... district6@ndala.org

President District 7
Lualice Stockert.....C: 701-391-1820..... district7@ndala.org

President District 8
Barbara Fulton.....H: 701-872-3665..... district8@ndala.org

President District 9
Ronda Rudnik .....C: 701-648-9805..... district9@ndala.org

President District 10
Gigi Moore.....C: 701-742-2647..... district10@ndala.org

A full list that includes mailing addresses is available from the Department Office, or may be downloaded at www.ndala.org/contact-information/

Public Relations

My experience serving not only as Department Secretary, but as co-editor of our Department's quarterly publication 'The Message' has given me an insight into the workings of many of our most active units.

I received numerous articles along with countless photos submitted by unit presidents and members-at-large from across the state. Those articles include the dates and times of unit activities submitted for publication as well as the names of those in photos. Unfortunately, due to space restrictions, we are unable to publish all of the photos and articles received, however, the editing team utilizes as many as possible.

Units with hometown newspapers regularly submit articles and pictures of American Legion Family events held in their communities. Americans live such a fast-paced lifestyle that we sometimes forget how it feels to be part of a community and just gather for camaraderie and fun. The pictures show that age does not matter. Young and old gather to enjoy meals, play bingo, participate in flag burning ceremonies, distribute poppies, march in parades, and work veterans programs.



I am proud of the Auxiliary members who take the time to record, photograph the activities, and author those little articles. It is nice to know that the American Legion Auxiliary as an organization is recognized and remains relevant in North Dakota.

Marcy Schmidt
Public Relations Chairman

In Memoriam

District 1
Alice S. Ellingsberg, PUFL, Fargo
Rosetta Olson, Casselton
Gloris Gronneberg, PUFL, Cooperstown
Juanita Hodgson, Erie
Dorothy Hildreth, Harwood

District 2
Christine E Nelson, Grand Forks
Marie Halvorson, Lakota
Kathleen Kroulik, Grafton
Mary Jo Olson, Grafton
Suellen Bateman, SLM, Thompson
Isabelle Niswonger, Minto
Diann M Bratlie, Forest River
Betty Braaten, SLM, Manvel

District 4
Phyllis Denchfield, Jamestown
Shirley M Nitschke, Jamestown
Elsie Hieb, Medina
Alma Dewald, HLM, Gackle
Deborah D Schott, Gackle

District 5
Barbara G. Brewster, Washburn

District 6
Linda L Miller, SLM, Velva
Betty A Ell, SLM, Velva
Bonnie Prellwitz, Willow City
Myrtle A Sampson, SLM, Upham
Viola Latendresse, Upham

District 7
Genevieve Arthaud, Hebron
Beatha Weigum, HLM, Hazen

District 8
Marie Hauck, Richardton

District 10
Alma M Siemers, PUFL, Wahpeton
Bernice K Oliver, Wahpeton
Mona G Visto, Oakes
Amy Breuer, Mooreton

We apologize for any omissions or incorrect information.

Key: HLM - Honorary Unit Member; SLM - State Life Member; VIM - Life Member/PUFL

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District Reports



Jon Veile
1st District Cmdr

Greetings from District 1,

I was reflecting on what I wanted to say to the members of the district and I decided to give some thought to Department Commander Carroll's theme for this new year. "SERVICE MATTERS: Past, Present, Future.

All of us who belong to the Legion family have served our nation. We also serve our local communities with service projects, supporting the needs of the community that we are a part of in ways that are not always going to be something that will be in the papers but are things that show a sense of community commitment. We also visit our veterans who are in a nursing home. Honoring them for their service and sacrifice. Veterans day is November 11th. Do you know of a veteran who is in a nursing facility? Have you thought of visiting them? Honoring their service past. We also think of the future generations who will someday pick up the mantle from us. What are we doing to prepare the future generation for service.

I remember being selected to go to Boy's State. It was an awesome experience to see how government worked and to be a part of it. I would hope that we would be actively engaging our local schools to find exceptional young men and give them the opportunity to go to Boys State. While these are random thoughts, I would hope that you would reflect on them and think of ways that all of us can serve.

I would also like to thank the Peterson-Olson Post 13 at Finley for hosting the Fall District Meeting. It will be on October 12th. Registration will start at 5:30 pm with dinner starting at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be at 7:00 pm. I hope to see you there.



Jay Nesdahl
2nd District Cmdr

Greetings from District 2,

My name is Jay Nesdahl and I am the 2nd District Commander. If you have an event or post meeting you would like me and or your District Vice Commander Duane Kram from Park River to attend please give me a call and we will see what we can do. My number and e-mail are 218-779-6494 and jaynesdahl@gmail.com for anyone who needs to get in touch with me

The 2nd District Fall meeting will be held in Larimore, ND, at Willy's, the old Legion on October 28th. Social at 5 pm and the meal will be at 6 pm with the meeting to follow. Registration will be $5 and the meal will be $10.

I am looking forward to visiting your Post and coming to your events.

Thank You all!



Robert Wishart
3rd District Cmdr

Greetings from District 3,

I am the new District 3 Commander from Rolla and the new District 3 Vice Commander is Tony Phillips from Langdon.

I hope you have had a good summer. We had a good time at the convention in Bismarck and learned a lot.

The 3rd District Fall Meetingt will be held in Devils Lake at the Fireside Inn on October 28th at 10:30 am. Hope to see you there.



Jon Metz
4th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 4,

Boy summer sure is flying by!!! Well for me it has been.

Thank you to everyone that attended the State Convention, I heard it was a great time as usual. Again, sorry for my family's absence, but we had a great time on our trip to Washington, DC, we all learned a lot!!

A big shout out to Jamestown's Ernest DeNault-Robertson Post 14, on July 22nd they put on an American Legion PTSD & Suicide Awareness Walk in McElroy Park in Jamestown. It was the first they have hosted and had 13 walkers, I think that is amazing and a great start to what I hope will be a yearly event!! Post Commander Dennis Mansavage said he already has new ideas for next year's walk for promoting and advertising for it.

Please add to your calendars the 4th District Fall meeting. It will be held at the All Vets Club in Jamestown on September 21st. Social starts at 5pm, with the meal at 6pm with the meeting to follow. I will be driving school bus again this year and might not be done with my afternoon route until around 5, so I will be a little late, but Vice Commander Randy Entzminger will be there and the Host Post to get everyone registered. Department Commander Clarence L. Carroll, III will be in attendance and will be giving out a lot of good information. A letter with more details will be sent out soon to post commanders and adjutants, please spread word and plan to attend.

Thank you for your service to our Country and to the American Legion!!



Ron Dykema
5th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 5,

I hope all of you are surviving the June and July heat. We had our Department Convention in Bismarck on June 23-25, 2023. It rained the entire convention. We had a good turnout although I don't know the actual numbers of Legion and Auxiliary attendees. The convention was hosted by my home post, Joseph E. Appert American Legion Post #126 and Auxiliary Unit #126 of Hazelton, ND.

At the joint session Friday evening, June 23, we were honored to have Senator John Hoeven, Glenn Wahus, National Vice Commander and Mark Antal, National Chaplain with us. The session was chaired by Department Commander Dan Brown and Auxiliary President Sandra Petermann.

Saturday was busy with several meetings throughout the day winding down with a social at 5:30 p.m., banquet at 6:30 p.m., and dance at 7:30 p.m. with music by the American Legion State Band.

The Joint Memorial Service was held Sunday, June 25, at 9 a.m. The Auxiliary meeting resumed at 10 a.m. At 12 p.m., installation of district commanders and vice commanders followed by the Grand Finale: installation of new department commander Clarence L. Carroll, III and Commander-Elect Mamie Havelka followed by installation of Auxiliary President Gloria Covert and President-elect LoAnn Dick. Adjournment was at 1 p.m. Commander Clarence L. Carroll, III then met with the 3 region vice commanders followed by a meeting with all district commanders and vice commanders. We dismissed about 3:30 p.m.

Our 5th District Fall Meeting will be in Hazelton, ND, at the Hazelton Community Hall on September 23, 2023, starting at 11 a.m. with lunch served by the 5th District Auxiliary. Following the lunch, there will be a joint session. The Auxiliary will break away to Hazelton Coffee Shop – about 1 block west of Community Center. Both the Community Center and Coffee Shop are handicap accessible.

Commander Clarence would be very gratified to see all the 5th District posts represented at this meeting. For several years, there have been some posts that don't think it's worth their time! Hazelton is almost centrally located and with the meeting starting at 11, all driving can be accomplished during daylight hours. I will attempt to contact (by phone and/or text) all post commanders to remind them of this event. I will leave a message if unable to reach you directly, it would be common courtesy to return the call (yes, I have joined the text generation)!!



Vernon Laning
7th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 7,

Well, the summer has been very busy here in District 7 with the Department Convention in June, family reunions, vacation in Kentucky, ACOVA meeting, bible camps with grandkids, ND Veterans Home Board meeting, doctor appointments, and numerous church projects. Then we still have 8 days of volunteering in Medora yet too. Retirement can be busy.

Then on the Legion front we had a couple of meetings with the Fort Yates post 173 that is trying to reactivate and pull in enough members to get going again. Members from Cannon Ball post 259 came to one of the meetings to offer any assistance they could to also help. It's encouraging to see fellow legionnaires pitch-in like that. I'd like to especially thank Arnie Havelka for his help with looking up and calling members of Post 500 to recruit them as regular members in nearby posts. But then on the other hand our Solen Post 142 is intending to cancel their charter due to only one member and he has moved to Bismarck. I haven't been involved in a post closure before, but it entails quite a bit of paperwork.

Hebron Post 100 has stepped forward to host our 7th District Fall Meeting. It will be held on October 16 at the Hebron Community Center starting with a meal at 6:30 pm central time and meeting at 7:30 pm. It's a Monday evening but please try to show your support and try to be there. I can attest that all the meals out there are great.

It's also that time of the year to renew our memberships, so help out your adjutants and send in your dues quickly. Even if you're not very active in your post, the annual dues help the Legion lobby for all veterans benefits as well as maintaining community and nationwide programs.

With that I'll sign off for now. Thank you and keep supporting all our veterans.



Jason Anderson
8th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 8,

Hello, my fellow Legionnaires. I am proud to represent the outstanding Veterans of our little Southwest corner of the Department of North Dakota for my second time. I want to thank each of you for your support and confidence in me to continue to serve in this role. I will do my utmost to assist all of District 8 and the Department to continue to support all our Veterans and their families. I'd like to thank Alan Fehr for his leadership last year and welcome Edward Dick as Vice Commander for this year. I will be attending the National Convention in Charlotte, NC for my first time this year and I am very much looking forward to that opportunity.

I know membership can be challenging at best sometimes, but we must all strive to assist our fellow Veterans in whatever way we can. Finding support through the Legion is one way for sure. Our "Be the One" campaign is another. Reach-out to your fellow Vets just to check-in occasionally, they may not reach-out themselves. We aren't always able to admit to ourselves that we need help, but we all know help is out there in one form or another. Here's to another great year with the ND Legion Family.

District 8 Fall meeting is set for October 14th, 2023, registration is at 0930, with meeting to start at 10AM at the Scranton Community Center. Light refreshments and beverages will be served. $5.00 registration fee only.



Scott Post
9th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 9,

Had a great time at the Department Convention and it's always good to meet up with fellow comrades.

Being elected District Commander is an honor. Our newly elected District Vice Commander Lance Renville is a hard charger from Post 29 in Watford City.

I have been out visiting Posts and getting Commander Carroll's message and pins out. Most recently I was at Grenora Post 116. Very impressed with the leadership and protocol displayed. Met a couple of WWII veterans and had a great visit.

Participated in Honor Guard for a 102-year-old Veteran and former POW in Tioga. I knew this warrior for a long time, Till Valhalla Arnold!

Last weekend I was invited to Ray for the Grain Palace Days. Was able to drive my 1951 Willis military jeep in the parade.

Upcoming events in Tioga are the first annual Patriot Motorcycle Run on the 26th of August and their 4th annual car and bike show.

Looking forward to visiting with each post soon. Our Fall District Meeting will be in Watford City on October 14th with social starting at 1500 hrs.

Hope to see many of you there! DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY



Charles Campbell
10th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 10,

Since being elected Commander of District 10, I have attended the American Legion Department Convention in Bismarck last June. Since then, I have been working on setting up the 10th District Fall Meeting which will be held in Fairmount hosted by Post 106 on September 22 starting at 5 pm.

Vice Commander Metcalf and I have also made a point of attending the local parades held this summer. To date, we have attended Hankinson, Gwinner and Lidgerwood parades as District 10 officers. We were greeted warmly by the local legions and helped them during the parades from handing out little American flags, to assisting holding flags on the floats. It surely has been a busy summer. Have met some new people and had fun enjoying the local foods.

I plan on attending more meetings in the near future as my schedule permits. I have made contact with the Ellendale Post 137 as I have asked them to hold the 10th District Spring Meeting to showcase their new Legion Post.

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SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER



DANIEL SAUERWEIN - DETACHMENT COMMANDER

New Year and New Directions

Greetings to the Department of North Dakota! We are starting the 2024 membership year and I am excited to work with Department Commander Clarence and Department Auxiliary President Gloria this coming year.

At the Department Convention in Bismarck, we held our election of officers. Again, you have entrusted me with leading our Detachment for another year as Commander. Also elected were Vice Commander Keith Kinneberg, Adjutant Joe Camisa, Chaplain Gerald Puetz, Sergeant-at-Arms Ryan Kaste, and Membership Chairman Todd Rikke.

Vice Commander Keith Kinneberg attended Boys State for Legion Day and encouraged members to consider attending in the future. Other items discussed were increasing training opportunities and the development of a five-year plan for the Detachment. Adjutant Joe did an awesome job on a recruiting presentation as well for our training session later that day that forced us to examine the "why" of joining the SAL and some great ideas for enhancing our recruiting of new members.

New Squadrons have recently chartered, or are in the process, are Streeter, Grand Forks, and Milton. Let's welcome them to the Detachment and hope more Squadrons will charter in the coming year. While our membership fell short of where I hoped we would be, with a new year comes a new chance to build success. Let's keep growing and building a strong Detachment.

Please feel free to email me at daniel.sauerwein@gmail.com or call/text me at 218-791-3804. I wish you all success as we start this new membership year. Thank you for all you do for the Sons of the American Legion and keep up the great work.

Beck-Sherven-Foreman American Legion Post 290

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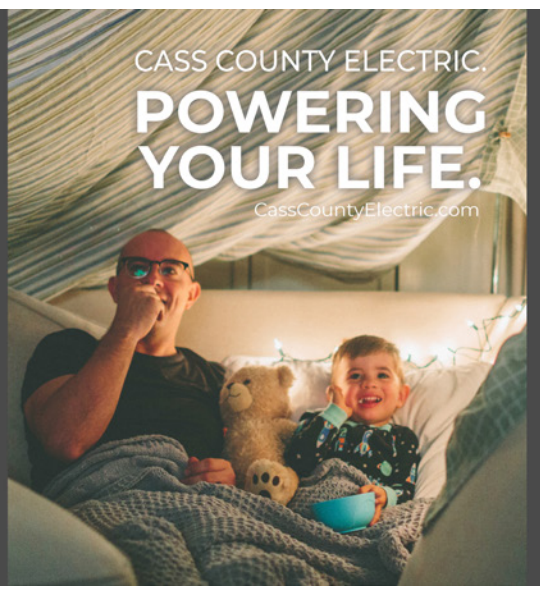
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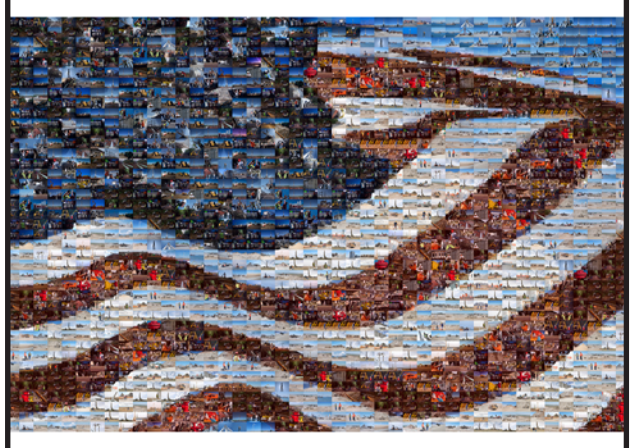
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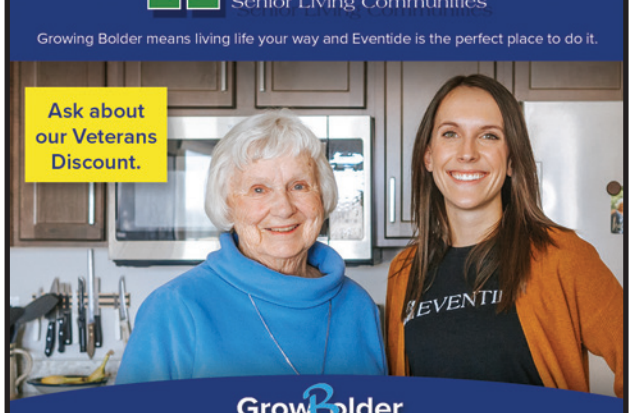
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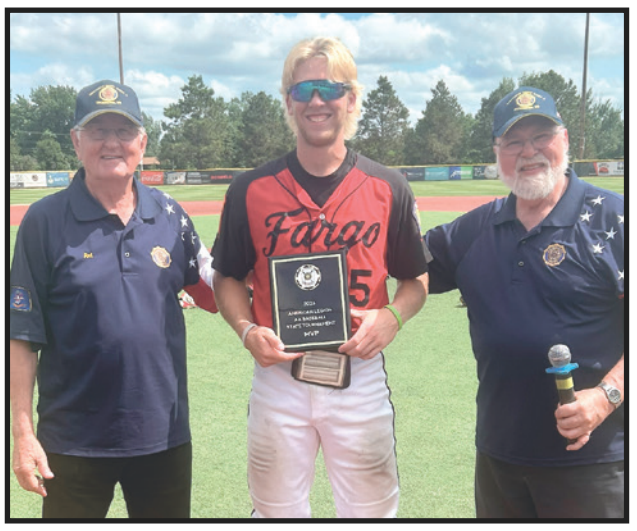


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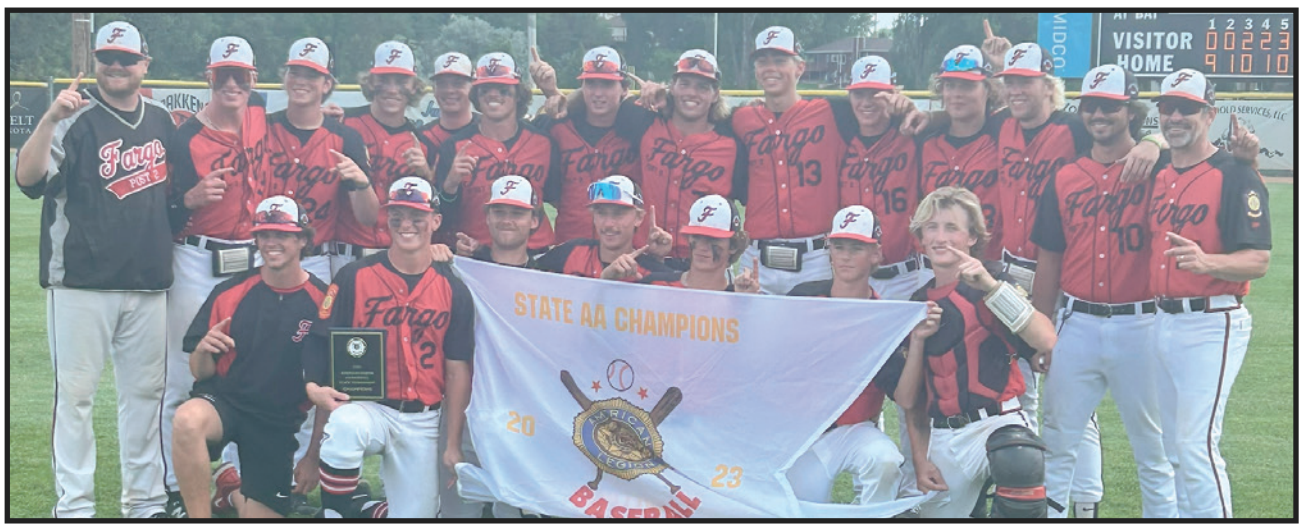
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2023 NORTH DAKOTA LEGION BASEBALL



2023 Class AA MVP from Fargo, Charlie Kalbrener



2023 Class AA State Champions, Fargo Post 2



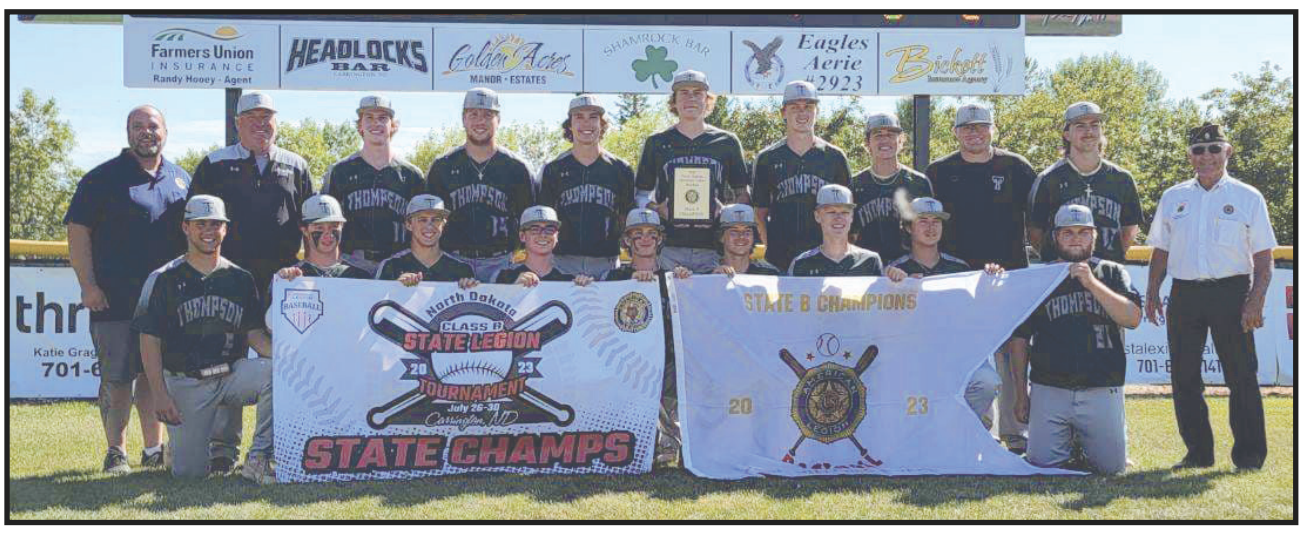
2023 Class A MVP from Wahpeton, Caden Kappes



2023 Class A Champions, Wahpeton



2023 Class B MVP from Thompson, Thomas Schumacher with Coach Nate Soulis



2023 Class B Champions, Thompson



$1,000 ND American Legion Baseball Scholarship Awards

2023 Class AA Zach Lamont, Fargo

2023 Class A Caden Kappes, Wahpeton

2023 Class B Anthony Hanson, LaMoure

2023 BASEBALL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Congratulations to Caden Kappes from Wahpeton, ND. Caden's application was submitted by the Wahpeton American Legion Post #20 Legion Baseball Team. Caden is the North Dakota recipient of the 2023 American Legion baseball scholarship and will receive $500 on the Department level. His application has been forwarded to National Headquarters in Indianapolis, IN, for consideration for The American Legion All-Academic Team scholarship, sponsored by Diamond Sports – the official baseball for American Legion Baseball tournaments. Nine players will be selected from the 50 state winners and will receive additional scholarship funds. Eight players will receive a $2,500 scholarship for being selected a member of the All-Academic Team and a ninth player the "Captain" of the All-Academic Team will receive a $5,000 scholarship.



Caden Kappes



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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."

Bismarck - Post #1
Engelhard, Orvin ..... Unknown DOD
Wyman, Allen ..... Unknown DOD
Hanson, Gerald ..... Unknown DOD
Mazurek, Robert ..... Unknown DOD
Schlichenmayer, Duane ..... Unknown DOD
Fettig, Mathias ..... Unknown DOD
Miller, Harlan ..... Unknown DOD
Ibach, Ernest ..... Unknown DOD
Sakariassen, John ..... Unknown DOD
Bolte, Wallace (Wally) 06/23/2023
Gilge, Glenn ..... Unknown DOD
Lennick, Armin ..... Unknown DOD
Kronberger, Matt ..... Unknown DOD
Pulley, William ..... Unknown DOD
Gilge, Glenn 06/11/2023

Fargo – Post #2
Devine, Michael 04/30/2023

Hillsboro – Post #4
Waters, Donald 06/09/2023
Jerde, Lorrie 06/13/2023

Grand Forks – Post #6
Crow, Judson 05/26/2023
Seeger, Jay 07/30/2023

Lisbon – Post #7
Stetson, Donavon ..... Unknown DOD
Steiger, Alfred ..... Unknown DOD
Johnson, Duane ..... Unknown DOD
Humphrey, Jerry ..... Unknown DOD

Mayville – Post #8
Rindy, Walter 07/09/2023

Ray – Post #9
Weiderman, Doran 12/19/2022

Buffalo – Post #10
Zaun, Larry ..... Unknown DOD

Cavalier – Post #11
Kautz, Howard ..... Unknown DOD
Robert A Switzer ..... Unknown DOD

Washburn – Post #12
Weise, Jackie 07/21/2023

Jamestown – Post #14
DeKaria, Joseph 12/15/2022
Kolrud, Dale 08/06/2022

Wahpeton – Post #20
Boesen, Percy 03/05/2023
Thomas, Joseph 02/27/2022

Rugby – Post #23
Ekren, Leland 04/22/2023

Carrington – Post #25
Freeman, Fred 02/23/2023

Minot – Post #26
Brey, Warren 06/24/2023
Degenstein, Bennie 07/17/2023
Fouchey, Floyd 04/06/2023
Schatz, Danny 06/27/2023

Harvey – Post #28
Muscha, Arthur 05/04/2023

Fessenden – Post #33
George Remillard 01/18/2022

Oakes – Post #36
Maddock, James 05/03/2023
Jacobson, Dennis 06/03/2023
Zaun, Jerry 09/10/2022

Williston – Post #37
Seaton, Leroy ..... Unknown DOD
Evans, Robert 06/11/2023

Mandan – Post #40
Schaff, Gary 05/19/2023

Bottineau – Post #42
Malcolm P. Bedell ..... Unknown DOD

Carson – Post #45
Bruce Fuchs 10/16/23
Willard Ketterling 4/14/23
Gary Krause 3/22/23
John Zeller 9/14/22

Bowman – Post #48
Schuh, Harold 05/03/2023
Wiffler, Robert 06/03/2023

Kulm – Post #57
Morris Sjostrom ..... Unknown DOD

Valley City – Post #60
Zeller, David 05/04/2023

Walhalla – Post #62
Allan Kastner 04/9/2023

New England – Post #66
Dill, Willard ..... Unknown DOD

Napoleon – Post #72
Silbernagle, John 07/09/2023

Leonard – Post #74
Heuer, Dwight 12/25/2022

Crosby – Post #75
Jerry Alcock 03/08/2022
Gerald Hinricksen 06/1/2022
Jon Hanisch 09/27/2021
George Bakke 02/6/2022
O. Christianson 11/17/2021
Paul R. Peterson 04/18/2021
Jackie Stompro 04/3/2023
Don Nielsen 11/16/2023
Colin Moe 09/17/2022
Raymond Paulson 09/16/2022
Elman C Braaten ..... Unknown DOD

Cando – Post #79
Freund, Wayne 06/03/2023
Steele, Bill 06/18/2023
Teubner, Ronald 06/17/2023

Lidgerwood – Post #84
Ehli, Leo 08/02/2023

Hankinson – Post #88
Victor Jording ..... Unknown DOD
Ernest S Johnson ..... Unknown DOD

Center – Post #90
Albers, Donald ..... Unknown DOD

New Salem – Post #91
Eggers, Wesley ..... Unknown DOD
Schwagler, Robert 06/10/2023

Portland – Post #93
Kenard J. Knudson 07/23/2023

Larimore – Post #97
Hall, George 10/02/2022

Langdon – Post #98
Duane Heck 07/25/2023
Mark Thorpe 01/14/2023
Robert G. Hodgson ..... Unknown DOD
Bradford C. Doescher ..... Unknown DOD
Romfo, Neil 04/29/2023
Doescher, Bradford 03/28/2023

Ryder – Post #99
Fjeld, Jerry ..... Unknown DOD

Leeds – Post #101
Mitzel, Ned 06/2023

Crystal – Post #107
Eide, Frances ..... Unknown DOD
Holand, Ken ..... Unknown DOD

Hannaford – Post #113
Paulsen, Elgar 06/01/2023
Johnson, Helen ..... Unknown DOD
Gronneberg, Douglas ..... Unknown DOD

Hettinger – Post #115
Warren Vanwyk 06/26/2023
Donald E Maier 07/01/2023
Jack L Turner ..... Unknown DOD

Plaza – Post #119
Arnold E Postovit 07/20/2023

Maddock – Post #123
Jacobson, Lane 07/12/2023

Gardner – Post #132
Merlyn H. Heller ..... Unknown DOD
Bernard J. Ohnstad ..... Unknown DOD
Jerome J. Posch ..... Unknown DOD

Turtle Lake – Post #133
Halvorson, Harley 06/10/2023
Petersen, Daniel 06/17/2023

McVille – Post #135
Stutrud, Gerald ..... Unknown DOD

Ellendale – Post #137
Hanson, Dennis A. ..... Unknown DOD
Bob Neil ..... Unknown DOD

Belfield – Post #144
Theodore Binstock 06/30/2023

Park River – Post #147
Berntson, Luther 03/02/2023
Henley, Frank ..... Unknown DOD

Dazey – Post #149
Quick, Gary ..... Unknown DOD

Wyndmere – Post #153
Krause, William 05/18/2023
Meslow, Eugene 06/25/2023
Summers, Ruth 07/11/2023
Solberg, Arthur ..... Unknown DOD
Schneider, LeRoy ..... Unknown DOD

Page – Post #154
Umsted, Russell 07/21/2023
Wade, Lee 06/24/2023

Drayton – Post #159
Bates, Donald ..... Unknown DOD

Tolna – Post #162
Leroy F. Lunde 06/28/2023

Wilton – Post #163
William M Pulley ..... Unknown DOD

Walcott – Post #166
Sharff, Carter ..... Unknown DOD

Berthold – Post #171
Maurice Allshouse ..... Unknown DOD

Dunseith – Post #185
Leonard, John ..... Unknown DOD

Rhame – Post #188
Robert Simonson ..... Unknown DOD

Gwinner – Post #191
Howey, Dennis 07/02/2023

Makoti – Post #230
Petz, Richard ..... Unknown DOD
Schenfisch, Wilmar ..... Unknown DOD

Wimbledon – Post #236
Guscette, Raymond ..... Unknown DOD
Laffen, Delbert ..... Unknown DOD

Glen Ullin – Post #239
Willis L Schaeffer ..... Unknown DOD

Elgin – Post #246
Warren, Guy ..... Unknown DOD
Will, Emanuel ..... Unknown DOD

Petersburg – Post #247
Leonard Berdahl ..... Unknown DOD

Almont – Post #261
George J. Danials ..... Unknown DOD

Streeter – Post #265
Schauer, Kermit 10/20/2022

Hampden – Post #266
Ronald Mackey ..... Unknown DOD

Regent – Post #273
Gary D Witte 04/14/2023
August C Kirschemann 07/21/2022
Pahlmeyer, Roy ..... Unknown DOD
Prince, Lowell ..... Unknown DOD
Stang, Larry ..... Unknown DOD

Mooreton – Post #283
Beuer, Robert 07/07/2023

Harwood – Post #297
Halverson, Dean 07/20/2023
Walton, Patricia 08/02/2023

West Fargo – Post #308
Lyle Milligan ..... Unknown DOD

Post #500
Welk, Leo 03/30/2023
Foster, Kenneth 02/03/2023

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Local Posts in the News

Fargo Post #2

The Budweiser Hometown Heroes award was presented to Larry Lein at the Red River Valley Fair. A member of Post 2 for over 52 years, Larry was recognized for his community involvement and all the offices he has held on the Post, District and State level. Larry has served 3 separate occasions as Post 2 Commander. He has continued to serve and coordinates Post 2 Color Guard and has been part of the Rifle Squad of the Fargo National Cemetery Honor Guard since the dedication of the cemetery in 2019. Most recently Larry was presented the 2023 North Dakota American Legion Distinguished Service Award. Larry also was presented a Quilt of Valor that evening.



Budweiser Hometown Heroes award presented to Larry Lein



Quilt of Valor presented to Larry Lein

Have You Paid Your 2024 Membership Dues?

McHenry Veterans Memorial History

The original Carl Bostrom Post #160 Veterans Memorial was built in 1957 at the site which at that time was the American Legion Building in McHenry. The monument was a brick-and-mortar type structure which displayed the names of local men and women who had served in the armed forces. After 70 plus years the monument was starting to show signs of deterioration with no available space to add additional names of service men and women. A committee was formed, and fundraising efforts began. The new memorial was placed on site in August 2022. The men and women whose names are displayed on this memorial hold a very important part of the history of our community. The memory of their service and sacrifices for our nation remain displayed prominently for many generations to come.



Lyle Black, Sgt-at-Arms SAL #160 and Doug Dreker, Post Commander of #160.

Sons of the American Legion



Charles Spivey, a member of the Sons of The American Legion Squadron #98 in Langdon, ND, has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He is a member of Troop 297 in Roseville, MN. His Eagle Scout project was creating and planting a garden for pollinators.

Charles is the grandson of Anna M. Spivey a member of the Langdon American Legion Post #98.

Wahpeton Post #20



Shae Jelinek from Wahpeton Scout Troop 346 completed and delivered his Eagle Scout Project on Friday, July 14th to the Richland County Veterans Service Office and Ace Hardware in Wahpeton, ND. Shae worked with Dale Bartnick, a member of the American Legion Post 20, who funded the project. The American Legion members determined there was a need for worn/retired flag disposal boxes in each of the two locations. The American Legion will accept old flags and retire them respectfully in their next flag disposal ceremony once collected from the disposal boxes.

The purpose of the Eagle Scout project is to give the Scout an opportunity to plan, develop, and give leadership to others. The project is evaluated on the benefit to the organization being served and on the leadership the Scout provided. Shae's team logged over 90 hours on the project and now upon completion, he is one step closer to earning Eagle Rank.

Galesburg Post #210

The S.B. Aasen Post #210 of the American Legion and Auxiliary of Galesburg presented Albert Elliott, Jr., with a Quilt of Honor on Monday, July 10, 2023, in appreciation for Al's time spent in Vietnam while serving in the US Army. The quilt was made by Lori Satrom and Elm River Lutheran women of Galesburg, ND. Al was assigned to the S4 Battalion in Logistics in 1969. He was stationed in Chuloi Vietnam. Al was honorably discharged as a 1st Lieutenant in 1970.



L to R: Past National Vice Commander Wayne Satrom, Post #210 Post Commander Kenny Voltz and Kent Hochgraber. Seated recipient Albert Elliott, Jr.

Mayville Post #8

On July 6, 2023, National Vice Commander Glenn Wahus presented 106-year-old Walter Rindy from Mayville, ND, with a 78-year certificate of membership to the Leon Mosher American Legion Post #8 of Mayville.

Walter was a mechanic in the US Army during WW II and he was present on an adjacent carrier in the silent Pacific when the Japanese signed the formal instrument of surrender to the Allied Forces in the Pacific, headed by General Douglas Mac Arthur.

Sadly, Walter passed away on July 9 just three days later.



Natl Vice Cmdr Glenn Wahus, Walter Rindy, 1st District Vice Cmdr Harlan Johnson

Harvey Post #28



Adjutant Steve Volk, Commander Dean Johnson, Sergeant-At-Arms Gary Kennedy Honored an American Legion Member at a recent graveside Ceremony with the Harvey Color Guard.

Belcourt Post #262

Lilley Dionne American Legion Post 262 Belcourt, ND, held its annual Scholarship Meeting with the graduates of Turtle Mountain Community High School. We give a Scholarship of $250 to each student that met the requirements of a minimum 3.0 GPA and a family member that was in the military.

The recipients of this year Scholarships are as follows:

Ms. Sydnee Bruce, Ms. Amari LaRocque, Ms. Justine Page, Ms. Sunni Laducer, Mr. Parker Wallette, Mr. Dylan Gladue

Congratulations to all the graduates of Turtle Mountain Community High School.



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2023-2024 Department of ND Membership Polo Shirt





The 2023-2024 Department of ND membership polo are available for all Legionnaires to purchase. The cost is $45 per polo. Please send your order into the Department by November 15th. Your will be available to pick up at the Winter Conference or the Department Office. If you are unable to pick up your order, the Department will ship it directly to you for an additional $10.

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Address: _____

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Circle the Shirt Size:

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_____ **$45 Polo and NO Shipping**—You will pick your polo up at the Winter Conference or Department HQ.

_____ **$55 Polo with Shipping**—Your polo will be mailed directly to you after the Winter Conference.

This form is due to the Department Office by November 15th.

Make checks payable to: American Legion Department of ND
PO Box 5057, West Fargo, ND 58078

Local Posts in the News

Wimbledon Post #236



Wimbledon American Legion Post #236 visited five cemeteries in the area for Memorial Day Services.

Mandan Post #40



Post 40 members receiving their 50-Year Membership Certificates are (L to R) Alan Morris, Chuck Miska, Ralph Feland, Pat Manga, and Dennis Bender. Congratulations to them all.

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