

NORTH DAKOTA LEGION NEWS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH DAKOTA

VOL. 108

405 W. MAIN AVE. SUITE 4-A, WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA, JUNE 2024

NO. 4

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

National Commander to Visit Park River July 4th

National Commander of The American Legion Daniel J. Seehafer will visit Park River, ND, a community of 1,500 residents to participate in their annual 4th of July Parade.

The parade starts at 11:00 A.M. and will draw between 10,000 and 12,000 people as estimated by The U.S. Border Patrol that leads the parade from the air in a helicopter and The Highway Patrol that leads the parade on the ground. The parade route is 2.1 miles long and they usually have between 130 to 200 entries. Historically it has lasted about 1½ hours.

The parade started in 1901 and has missed only 3 years, 1942, 1943 and 1944 for obvious reasons. There being nothing to celebrate because of WW2. Mayor Dan Stenvold, a Vietnam Veteran, and member of Post 147 reports that he caught a lot of grief for holding it during the covid years, but we did, and no one died that I'm aware of.

Park River is the home of Post 147 which is VERY active in the community. They also have an active Sons of The American Legion Squadron as well as an active American Legion Auxiliary Unit. They have hosted the past 5 National Commanders of The American Legion as well as several State Legion Commanders.

Mayor Dan Stenvold advises that you should consider this your official invitation to attend because Park River is the destination city for the premier 4th of July activity in North Dakota!

Daniel J. Seehafer was elected national commander of The American Legion on August 31, 2023, in Charlotte, NC, during the 104th National Convention. Seehafer likes

to say, "It's personal," when it comes to The American Legion's mission of serving veterans and their families. He is continuing the theme of "Be the One," to prevent veteran suicide.

An ordained minister from Wisconsin, he earned his American Legion eligibility through service in the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserve, where he served as a military chaplain. A member of American Legion Post 157 in Horicon, WI, Seehafer served in a number of American Legion offices at every level, including national chaplain and commander of the Department of Wisconsin.

Born and raised in Merrill, WI, he lettered in cross-country track while in high school and later received a bachelor's degree in pastoral ministry from Concordia University and a Master of Divinity at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN.

Seehafer was installed as assistant pastor of St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Horicon in 1997 and continues to serve as administrative pastor of the church and its school. His American Legion post was recognized for "100 percent" and "All-Time High" in membership during his terms as commander and adjutant. Other honors include District Commander's New Post Achievement Award, Silver Brigade, and Post 157 Legionnaire of the Year.

In 2023, Seehafer earned an Outstanding Heroism Award for administering the Heimlich maneuver to a choking victim at an American Legion dinner.

National Commander Seehafer and his wife, Stacey, who is a member of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 157,

live in Beaver Dam, WI. Dan's son Jacob, and daughter Emma, are also members of the Post 157 family. Dan is the son of the late Lester Seehafer and Jean Sabatke.



National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer

American Legion Multiyear Membership

Effective July 1, 2024, the National Portion of dues will increase \$5.00 per year. Posts will need to send \$41.50 to the Department for the 2025 Legion year. Now is the time to renew or join with the NEW American Legion 3-year membership before the dues increase on July 1, 2024. The multiyear membership is only available on the National American Legion website at legion.org/renew or legion.org/join.

Bismarck to Host 2024 Convention



Karen Susag
NW Division Natl Vice President

Lloyd Spetz American Legion Post 1 of Bismarck, Auxiliary Unit 1 and the ND Department are preparing for this year's North Dakota American Legion Department Convention on June 21-23, 2024.

Beginning on Thursday June 20th the DEC meeting begins at 4:00pm with registration beginning at 1:00 pm on Friday afternoon. Friday afternoon will be committee meetings. At 10:00 am is the Foundation Meeting. The Joint Opening Session starts at 7:00 pm.

Saturday morning, June 25, registration begins at 8:00 am. Committee meetings will start at 8:00am and the Legion General Session will start at 1:00 pm.

The banquet will be Saturday evening at 6:30 pm with NW Division Natl Vice President Karen Susag from Montana as guest speaker.

At 7:30 pm the dance will begin with the ND American Legion State Band performing. On Sunday, June 23, registration starts at 8:00 am with the Joint Worship Service at 9:00 am followed by the Joint Session.

American Income Life Insurance Company

New Benefit Explained Don Herrly, Department Adjutant

Your membership in The American Legion Department of North Dakota now comes with a new benefit. Recently the Department Executive Committee voted to partner with American Income Life Insurance Company to provide our members with a no cost \$2,500 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance policy. You may wonder "Does this replace the \$1,000 policy (\$5,000 if death occurs when on official Legion Family Business) provided by the Legionnaire Insurance Trust?" The answer is no, this is an additional benefit.

What is an Accidental Death and Dismemberment Policy? The short version is that benefits are only paid if death or dismemberment occurs due to an accident. No benefits are paid for a natural death. For the accidental loss of 1 arm, 1 leg or sight in 1 eye the benefit amount is 50% of the stated policy amount, for accidental loss of 2 or more of the above the benefit amount would equal the stated value of the policy.

We get questions all the time as to various scenarios such as what happens if there is an accident, and the person does not pass away immediately. Then they go on to give a complicated series of events that happen after the accident which ultimately ends in death. There is a very simple answer to this question. It all depends on what is listed as the cause of death on the official death certificate. So, you may want to convey to the medical professionals that instead of just saying the cause of death was pneumonia (this is just an example) it should be stated as pneumonia

as a result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. I don't know if this is possible, but what I can tell you is that on the death certificate it is going to have to list an accidental cause of death somewhere. You don't have to convince us here at Department Headquarters, it is the insurance company you must convince.

L.I.T. Insurance – Many of you are familiar with this plan, we have been a part of this program for many years. Many will remember years ago that you needed to renew your enrollment annually. Then they changed it to where you only had to renew your enrollment every 5 years. As of 1/1/2015 the enrollment is a 1-time event. If you have verified your enrollment since this date, coverage will be in effect as long as you remain a member. Should you drop your membership and later rejoin, you would once again have to establish coverage. If you are not sure if you are covered, you can contact them at the phone number 800-235-6943.

American Income Life Insurance Company – With this policy you are covered by virtue of your membership, you don't have to register. If there is cause for claim you will need a letter from us stating that the person was a member in good standing at the time of the accident, so pay your dues on time! You should have or soon will receive a letter in the mail to register your beneficiary. If you don't register your beneficiary the policy will be paid to your estate and may be taxable. You can register your beneficiary by either returning the card or doing it online, but you will be covered regardless of whether you registered a beneficiary or not. Both companies – Let's be

honest, they are in the business of selling insurance and they are going to want you to buy additional insurance. However, you are under no obligation to do so. We think both companies are reputable companies that offer products that are of value to some, while others may not find the need for these products. I have had additional insurance from the Legionnaire Insurance Trust for years because I find that product to be of value. I have not yet investigated the additional products from American Income Life Insurance Company, and I don't know whether I will be purchasing any additional coverage from them or not.

With both companies, no means no. If you receive a phone call you have the option of telling them that you are not interested. You can ask them to put you on their Do Not Call List. It would be good if you kept track of when you do this. If you continue to receive phone calls after allowing a reasonable amount of time for your "do not call" request to go through the system it would be helpful if you note the time, date, telephone number and if possible, the name of the person calling. Send this information to me and I will contact the company for you. Please note this offer is only for calls from either the LIT or American Income. I can't do anything about all those other annoying calls that we all receive. I too would like to stop getting calls about Medicare and my cars extended warranty.

I hope this answers your questions about your latest member benefit, which I sincerely hope that you never have cause to use.

Donations and Memorials Received from – June 2023 - May 2024

Belfield American Legion – Veterans Programs
Casselton Vets Incorporated – Veterans Programs
Hankinson American Legion – Veterans Programs
Hazelton American Legion – Veterans Programs
Killdeer American Legion – Veterans Programs
Larimore American Legion – Vets Programs & Youth Troopers Academy
Lidgerwood American Legion – Veterans Programs
McVile American Legion – Twete Youth Troop Academy
New Rockford American Legion – Veterans Programs
Oakes American Legion – Veterans Programs
Park River American Legion – Veterans Programs
Watford City American Legion – undesignated
Williston American Legion – undesignated & Veterans Programs
William Haug, Grand Forks – undesignated & Veterans Programs
Trudy Lenzmeier, West Fargo – undesignated
Richard Olek, Fargo – undesignated
Jeffery Cowee, Hastings, MN – undesignated
Ronald Wolf, Fargo - undesignated
Curt Twete, McVile – Twete Youth Troop Academy
PDC Project Dan Brown, Williston – Twete Youth Troop Academy

Memorial Donations Designated to Legion Programs or Funds in Memory of:

Crosby American Legion Auxiliary
Judy Meyer, Jack Stompro, Robert Svangstu – State Band
Buzz Argall, Hawley, MN
Doug and Steph Damman, Fargo – State Band
Monna Rae Morse, Fargo – State Band
Richard “Whopper” Belling, West Fargo
M/M Carroll Quam, Wahpeton – Baseball
In Honor of Helmuth Hilz
Steven Hilz, Canyon Lake, CA - undesignated
Jim Kloster
M/M Wayne Satrom, West Fargo – State Band
Sylvia Likness, Wahpeton
Yvonne Moore, Fargo – State Band
Mitch Olson, Fargo
Linda Haak, Valley City – State Band
M/M Don Herrly, Fargo – undesignated
Nick Rollie, Fargo
Steph Damman, Fargo – State Band
Monna Rae Morse, Fargo – State Band
John Schafer, Flasher
M/M Gary Skarphol, Williston – undesignated
Past Dept Cmdrs Club – undesignated
M/M Curt Twete, McVile – undesignated
M/M Don Herrly, Fargo – undesignated
Jeff Hall, Bottineau – undesignated
M/M Carroll Quam, Wahpeton – Boys State

Albert Tuma, Larimore
M/M Curt Twete, McVile – undesignated
M/M Wayne Satrom, West Fargo – Boys State
Jeff Hall, Bottineau – undesignated
M/M Carroll Quam, Wahpeton – Boys State
M/M Don Herrly, Fargo – undesignated
Kathy Tuma, Larimore – Boys State
Larry Vetter, Larimore
Past Dept Cmdrs Club – undesignated
M/M Don Herrly, Fargo – undesignated
M/M Curt Twete, McVile – undesignated
Kathy Tuma, Larimore – Boys State
Jeff Hall, Bottineau – undesignated
Harvey Peterson, Dayton, WA – Veterans Programs
M/M Carroll Quam, Wahpeton – Boys State
Glenn Wahus, Watford City
Past Dept Cmdrs Club – undesignated
M/M Don Herrly, Fargo – undesignated
Harvey Peterson, Dayton, WA – Veterans Programs
Jeff Hall, Bottineau – undesignated
M/M Carroll Quam, Wahpeton – Boys State
M/M Curt Twete, McVile – Youth Troop Academy
M/M Ron Broderson, Watford City – Oratorical
Kathy Fagerland, Noonan – Veterans Programs
Marlys Aubol, New Town – Veterans Programs
Peggy Williams, Arthur
M/M Wayne Satrom, West Fargo – Boys State
Neil James Wiltse, Fargo
Lisa Johnson - undesignated

RedHawks Tickets

Maryhall Nursing Home in Enderlin and St. Catherine’s South Nursing Home take their residents to the RedHawks baseball games. Veterans are prioritized but all residents are welcome to attend the games. They are accepting donations to purchase the tickets and the diocese provides transportation at no additional cost if there are a minimum of six residents attending. The tickets are \$15 each. Please send donations directly to the nursing homes with “RedHawks” in the memo line.
Send donations to:
Enderlin-Maryhall Nursing Home
110 Hillcrest Dr.
Enderlin, ND 58027
Or:
St. Catherine’s South Nursing Home
3102 S. University Dr.
Fargo, ND 58103
Sponsored by Tim Deneke, member



\$70,000 or \$140,000??

By Harvey Peterson, NDALF Chair
An anonymous donor has generously offered to match new donations to the Foundation to the tune of \$70,000. The match would be applied to any and all donations received between the Department Convention in June and December 14, 2024. This time period is important to allow the match donor time to transfer the matching money to the Foundation.
Anyone donating during this period may select the Foundation fund in which to place their donation. However, the match donor reserves the right to select the fund into which the matching amount is placed. So, a donation of \$100 will become a \$200 donation with the match, and \$1,000 becomes \$2,000, etc.
This is a remarkable offer and an opportunity not only for the Foundation but also for those who would like to be part of growing the principle of the Foundation. Donating by December 14 is imperative for tax reasons of all concerned. If the entire amount of \$70,000 is matched, this would become the single largest donation to the Foundation since the inception of the LOVE Trust. Other large donations started the Williams fund, established by the donation from Jack and Hannah Williams and the Schroeder fund, established when the Department’s Ninth District spearheaded the program that raised the \$50,000 that supports the Oratorical contest.

ELECT Jason Anderson
For Western Region Vice Commander
Endorsed by:
Harry W. Lindberg
Post #151 in Scranton



Jason is a 21-year USAF retiree and has been a member of Post 151 in Scranton for the last 20 years and became commander of the post in 2016. Jason has served as District 8 Vice Commander three times and District 8 Commander twice and has represented District 8 on the Department Boys State Committee for the last three years. Jason’s current full-time job is as Director of EMS for Southwest Healthcare Services in Bowman, and he is an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician for Bowman Ambulance, Scranton Quick Response Unit and Scranton Volunteer Fire Department.
Jason is a member of the Scranton City Council, Bowman County Development Corporation Board of Directors and Sunrise Foundation Board of Directors. Jason is also a Co-owner and Managing Partner of Next Door Pizza in Scranton.
Jason is engaged to Devin with a wedding date in May 2024. Jason will have two step children, Chloe and Jaxon. I would greatly appreciate your vote and support at the Department Convention June 20-23, 2024.

PROUD SUPPORTERS OF OUR NATION’S GREAT VETERANS

BUICK

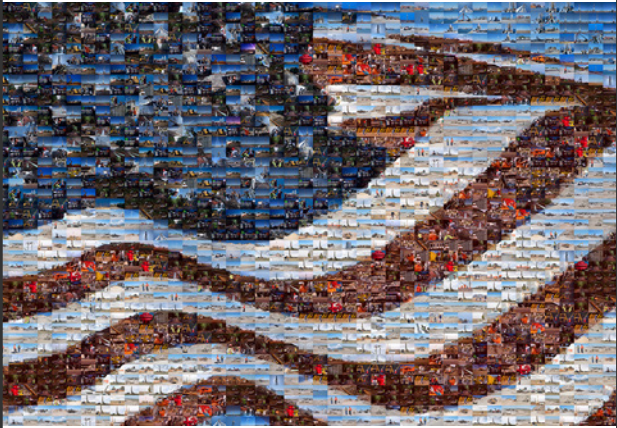


3202 36TH ST S FARGO, ND 58104 701.356.7100

Luther Family Buick•GMC
Fargo • Moorhead

www.LutherFamilyBuickGMC.com

Thank you to our **Veterans** for **serving** our country and **protecting** our freedoms.



MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO.
A Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc.
In the Community to Serve®

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
EST. 1924

www.montana-dakota.com



SRT FIBER

Uninterrupted Movie Nights

LEARN MORE AT SRT.COM / 701.858.1200

NORTH DAKOTA LEGION NEWS
Official Publication of The American
Legion Department of North Dakota
Published at Forum Communications Printing Fargo



PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

Publisher and Editor, Don Herrly
Assistant Editor, Teri J. Bryant
PO Box 5057, West Fargo, ND 58078
Email adjutant@ndlegion.org --- www.ndlegion.org
Phone 701-293-3120

Department Commander, Clarence L. Carroll III, 910-584-8773, abnavnlc@yahoo.com
Department Cmdr-Elect, Mamie Havelka, 340-1621, mamie.havelka@gmail.com
Department Vice Commanders
Eastern Region, Brennan Bell, 308-0055, b_bell69@hotmail.com
Central Region, Jacob Volk, 350-0560, msgvolk@yahoo.com
Western Region, Allan Magnuson, 818-0362, magnusonallan@yahoo.com
Department Adjutant, Don Herrly, 293-3120, adjutant@ndlegion.org
Department Finance Officer, Derrick Childs, 351-8476, dchilds62@gmail.com
Department Chaplain, Mark Antal, 331-1173, m.antal@polarcomm.com
Department Executive Committeemen
Eastern Region, Sven Mickels, 788-4248, sven.e.mickels@faa.gov
Central Region, Troy Reemtsma, 605-431-2504, midnightmoon1969@hotmail.com
Western Region, Mike Weyrauch, 641-1105, airepair@nccray.com
DEC Chair, Dan Brown, 770-6036, dakotan22@yahoo.com
Dept Sergeant-At-Arm, Bryce Crosby, 662-2809, crosby@gondtc.com
NEC, Dean Overby, 899-2535, overbydm@gmail.com
Alt NEC, Roger Sateren, 247-2333, rogersateren@hotmail.com
Department Judge Advocate, Trish Hodny, 247-3301, hodny@law.UND.edu
Department Historian, Karen Meier, 463-7344, bgkjmeier@restel.net
Department Service Officer, Summer Kristianson, 451-4646, summer.kristianson@va.gov
Dept. Membership Chair, Brad Huber, 619-341-4649, brad.huber69@yahoo.com

District Commanders:

First District, Jon Veile, 789-0136, majjonveile@invisimax.com
Second District, Jay Dee Nesdahl, 218-779-6494 jaydesdahl@gmail.com
Third District, Robert Wishart, 701-550-9998, rjlm@utma.com
Fourth District, Jon Metz, 701-630-2297, metz.jon24@gmail.com
Fifth District, Ron Dykema, 782-4486, hayguy@bektel.com
Sixth District, Heather Thompson, 263-1662 hdtompson@srt.com
Seventh District, Vernon Laning, 355-0364, vianing@outlook.com
Eighth District, Jason Anderson, 449-9424, janderson@swhealthcare.net
Ninth District, Scott Post, 641-6780, spost@nccray.com
Tenth District, Charles Campbell, 640-6434, charles.campbell279@gmail.com

District Vice Commanders:

First District, Harlan Johnson, 218-779-9450, harjohnson125@gmail.com
Second District, Duane Kram, 331-1744, dknpr@polarcomm.com
Third District, Tony Phillips, 305-0275, xroadsking@live.com
Fourth District, Randy Entzminger, 770-0900, 63falcomnan@gmail.com
Fifth District, Janette Fetch, 471-1693, info@americanlegionbismarck.org
Sixth District, Cailey Soland, 263-1687, cailey.1.thompson@gmail.com
Seventh District, TBD
Eighth District, Edward Dick, 690-3036, edzbootjack@reagan.com
Ninth District, Lance Renville, 406-489-2672, renvila@restel.com
Tenth District, Cory Metcalf, 490-0560, motorcross4x@hotmail.com

The North Dakota Legion News
Official Publication of and Owned Exclusively by
The American Legion, Department of North Dakota
Don Herrly, Editor

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

Periodical Publication # 12629

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: 1 year - \$0.65 which is included in your membership to The American Legion, Department of North Dakota.

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

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

ADVERTISING RATES: Contact Don Herrly, 701-293-3120
E-Mail: adjutant@ndlegion.org
WEBSITE: www.ndlegion.org

ND Department Executive Committee: Dept. Cmdr, Clarence L. Carroll, III, Board Chairman, Dan Brown, Finance Officer Derrick Childs, Dept. Adjutant Don Herrly, Cmdr Elect, Mamie Havelka, Sven Mickels, Troy Reemtsma, Mike Weyrauch, Dean Overby and Department Judge Advocate Trish Hodny.

COMMANDER COMMENTS

CLARENCE L. CARROLL III - DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



LET’S GO DEPARTMENT!!!! I am super excited to invite all of you to Bismarck for our Department Convention June 20-23. Come out and enjoy the weekend as we continue to do the business of The American Legion, celebrate a successful year, and most important: renew our friendship and comradery with one another.

Last quarter came and went like a firestorm. Your delegation to Washington D.C. represented the Department of North Dakota extremely well as Department’s gathered, and in unison lobbied for National American Legion priorities.

We mourned together over the passing of Past Department Commander Glenn Wahus and celebrated his life with family and friends at Carl E. Rogan Post 29 in Watford City.

Weather disrupted our Spring meetings, but we managed to get all 10 District meetings accomplished and set District leadership in place for the next two years. Congratulations to all the District Commander’s for successful meetings and the three Department Vice Commander’s for assisting with your Districts and mentoring the next generation of Department leaders.

TO CONSECRATE AND SANCTIFY OUR COMRADESHIP BY OUR DEVOTION TO MUTUAL HELPFULNESS...According to National HQ’s, the 10th and last clause of our Preamble is the most important ideal expressed in our Preamble. I find this quite interesting. Why did our founders place our most important ideal at the end and not the beginning? Perhaps our founders realized that it was the glue that would hold us together as an organization and wanted it to be the last and most recent clause to roll off our tongues.

You have heard me say that Leadership is tough! Perhaps I am more aware of back-biting and disparaging comments because of the nature of my position. Lately, and too frequently, complaints have surfaced to the Department

level that affect the entire morale of the Department. In addition, threatening emails have been sent to candidates running for Department leadership positions. Most of these complaints/threats have been anonymous and sent by cowardly people who want to disrupt and destroy what the collective “we” stand for. Our sacred organization of Veterans cannot afford disruptors in our ranks! In a world that continues to become more polarizing, WE (Veterans) ARE BETTER THAN THAT! Our service in uniform forms our credibility and we are more powerful when we are unified.

At every meeting of The American Legion, we recite the Preamble together, and I submit that many just read the words on the paper or recite from memory without much introspection. Next time we recite the Preamble, listen to the words, and ask yourself, “Am I embodying the purposes of our great organization”?

I am unsure if this article will get to you before Memorial Day. I pray that you all get the opportunity to reverently honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our Freedom. It is so easy to get caught up with long weekend activities, camping, picnics, lake visits, grilling, etc. Please remember that Memorial Day is for “**them**” not “us.” We as living Veteran’s get our day in November. It is our solemn duty as Veterans to promote Memorial Day by ensuring that our family, friends, neighbors, and communities NEVER FORGET! On that note, our National Vice Commander Ray Veil will be speaking at Sherwood. Your Adjutant will be speaking at Donnybrook, and I will be speaking at McHenry. We would all welcome your attendance.

As always, May God continue to bless you and your loved ones. If you need to contact me for any reason, I can be reached via email at abnavnlc@yahoo.com or on my personal cell 910-584-8773. I look forward to seeing you at Convention. LET’S GO DEPARTMENT!!!!

Jacob Volk

For Central Region Vice-Commander Endorsed by Devils Lake Tim Running Post 24



- Current Post Commander Post 24
- Past Vice Commander Post 24
- Current Central Region Vice Commander
- Past Third District Commander and Vice Commander

I would appreciate your support from Districts 3-4-5 at our Department Convention in Bismarck on June 21-23, 2024.



I don’t know where the time goes but, here we are already in May.

Our Spring District Meetings are all completed. I would like to thank Rolette for hosting District 3, Jamestown for District 4, Hazelton for District 5. All the District Commanders did a great job conducting the meetings.

It was also nice to see all the Auxiliary members that attended the meetings. With the new District Commanders and Vice Commanders taking over, I encourage when you do your Post visits to encourage more Posts and members to attend our District Meetings and Department Meetings.

I would also like to thank the Department Staff for attending the meetings. They had a lot on their plate to make all the meetings so thank you again. I am looking forward to working with the District Commanders and Vice Commanders. Thank you, District Vice Commanders, for stepping up to become our new leaders in the Legion.

Now this is going to hurt but, I have to congratulate Allan Magnuson and West Region for overtaking Central Region and leaving us in the dust. So again, Congratulation Allan.

Our Department Convention is just around the corner, I am looking forward to seeing everyone. I would like the support of District 3,4, and 5 to reelect me for another term as Central Vice Commander.

Jacob Volk
Central Region Vice Commander



Hello Fellow legionnaires,
We wrapped up our spring district meetings. I am very proud of all our districts as we have legionnaires that are willing to step up into more leadership roles. Also, if you haven’t gotten to Ellendale to check out their new American Legion building, I highly recommend you do so.

We also have the Department Convention coming up June 21-23 in Bismarck. I highly suggest going to get your voice heard and votes in for your leadership for the upcoming year.

As Americanism and Children and Youth Chairman, I have the Bears ordered and will be going to all the current District Commanders to get them out to the point of contacts for the hospitals.

Brennan Bell
East Region Vice Commander



Greetings from the Western Region. I am very proud of how the districts are pulling together to get us into first place in membership. I thoroughly enjoyed the district meetings this spring. I am extremely excited to have 4 new District Vice Commanders stepping up in June to keep our region thriving. I am

thrilled to have Jason Anderson from the 8th District stepping up to take my place as West Region Vice Commander.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the summer convention the weekend of the 21st through the 23rd of June in Bismarck.

I appreciate all the text messages I received from the West Region districts after they were informed by Don Herrly that I had a minor heart attack on Wednesday the 17th of April. I am doing great and will continue to do what is necessary for me to get back to 100% by summer convention.

I am looking forward to taking on the new position I am seeking as the West Region DEC at the end of the convention. I also am looking forward to mentoring the new district commanders and the West Region Vice Commander when they call for help or advice.

In closing, again I will say great work to the 4 District Commanders in making the West Region the top region in membership as of the 20th of April. It has been a very fun year for me as the West Region Vice Commander.

Allan Magnuson
West Region Vice Commander

ADJUTANT'S CORNER

DON HERRLY- DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT



I hesitate to say this for fear of jinxing it after so many false starts, but I think the cold weather has finally left us. This past Saturday I turned on the water to my yard irrigation and fired up my wood pellet smoker and smoked a standing rib pork roast. Wow, that turned out delicious!

As always, things are busy here in your Department Headquarters. We had an extra long Spring District Meeting timetable due to some meetings having to be rescheduled because of storms. But they all happened, and Department Commander Carroll and I attended all 9 meetings, Districts 7 and 8 had a joint meeting, which is why there were only 9 meetings. Of course, we always hope for more attendees, but we did not have any meetings where I would say that we had a bad turn out. One positive note is that for the 1st time in a while, all 10 Districts elected both a District Commander and a District Vice Commander. The National Spring meetings in Indianapolis are occurring now as I write this and NECman Dean Overby and three others are participating. In this office we are busy preparing next year's membership supplies and preparing for the Department Convention which will be held in Bismarck June 21st – 23rd. Please consider joining us there.

By the time you read this, all Post Commanders and Adjutants should have received a letter from Department Commander Carroll asking you and/or Post to consider a donation to the Commanders Project which he so appropriately calls "Taking Care of Our Own". Which simply means that all the money he raises will be used to take care of The Department of North Dakota.

I would like to tell you why this is so important. We have two main "pots of money" here at headquarters. One is programs account which we use to pay for our programs such as Boys State, Veterans Services, Oratorical Contest,

and all other programs. Fortunately, our (you) members have traditionally been very generous and this account is healthy. Then there is General Fund money. This is where we pay all our bills from which include Office Rent, meeting and officer travel expenses, staff salaries and benefits, vehicle purchases and maintenance, insurances, office supplies, postage, printing I could go on and on, because our expenses go on and on. The main source of income for this is dues income and donations. Unfortunately, with our declining membership this account is not healthy and quite frankly we have been robbing Peter to pay Paul. We recently had to transfer a significant amount from our Department Reserves to the General fund to stay solvent. However, as everyone knows this cannot go on indefinitely or we will deplete our reserves. As you know, on 7/1/24 National will raise their portion of the dues per capita by \$5.00 per year, although we need more income into the Department of ND, we have not and are hesitant to raise our portion of the dues because we don't want to make it more difficult for you to retain and recruit members. More members would mean more dollars coming in and in the long run this would be the best solution.

We are being good stewards of your money. We have implemented cost-cutting measures. There are services that we canceled or downgraded our participation level to cut expenses. The proposed budget for next year includes only a 2% raise for the office staff, which as you know is way less than the inflation rate, so in reality, the staff will be taking a pay cut. When the last Adjutant retired, I volunteered to fill this position on an interim basis at no salary. As it turns out, I have enjoyed serving as your Adjutant and I am in no hurry to vacate this position. In complete transparency I would like to say that I was given a nice year-end gift

last year, so I have received some compensation for my service. I hope that at some point finances get to the point where I can receive a small monthly stipend. Also keep in mind that I will be 70 years old in August so this will not be a long-term position for me and at some point, we will have to hire an adjutant which will come with a full-time salary and benefits.

Where do we go from here? Harvey Peterson the chairman of the ND American Legion Foundation has identified a donor that will match up to \$70,000 in donations made to the foundation between now and December 14th, 2024. In the long run we must build the principle in the foundation, but since money in the foundation must first be invested and then only 60% of the earnings is made available for our use, it doesn't help us in the near term.

Keep sending in your donations when you get those (annoying to some) raffle tickets and mailing labels. While we appreciate these \$20 and \$50 donations, we need to be thinking about courting the donors that will consider a bequest in their will. We all know people that could be donating thousands or even millions of dollars. We need to identify and court these individuals. We have many prominent businesspeople and athletes that hail from North Dakota, they may have attended Boys State or played baseball, who are the beneficiary of lucrative incomes who might, if asked by the right people, consider being a benefactor.

However, the most important thing that you can do is to remain a member. Encourage your sons, daughters, nieces, nephews, and grandchildren to join The American Legion, The Auxiliary or The Son's of The American Legion.

May God Bless a strong and free America and until next time "Keep your powder dry!"

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

BRAD HUBER - MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN



Hello Legionnaires, I hope life is treating you well. Spring is in full swing, and it's shaping up to be another great year. I'm sure you're all aware District meetings are done. Thanks to all who attended and for the Posts that hosted those events.

By the time you read this article the 2024 membership drive will be finished as well. Some pretty great news, right? What's even better news is, it's the perfect time to start planning for next year's membership. We should

be looking at how we can improve our membership from previous years. I still firmly believe if each post exerted a little bit of effort we could achieve 100% membership by the end of the year. Post Adjutants and Commanders, we have to be proactive in membership, find out what works and doesn't work. Share our best practices with our neighboring Post so we can all succeed. This is a team effort that we all have to be onboard with it. As your membership chair I'm here to help you with those goals.

The American Legion has some great tools to utilize in recruiting new members. They have a Multi-year membership and many more options. Legionaries, I could go on and on but simply put, we have to find that passion, desire and motivation to make a better Legion for tomorrow's veterans and our communities. I need/want your help to make our Department the best it can, it should be!

Till the next time we meet, have a fine Legion day!



- Custom Fabrication
- Aggregate Processing Equipment
- Steel Service Center
- Electric & Hand Tools
- Fasteners
- Sand/Gravel
- Landscaping Gravel
- Commercial Crushing
- General Highway Construction

3020 Energy Drive - Dickinson, ND 58601
(701) 456-9184 | (800) 932-8740
sales@fisherind.com | www.fisherind.com

Thank You
For Your Service!



State Representative
Gretchen Dobervich

Not paid for with state funds



Cell: (701) 269-6070
Fax: (701) 252-6612
david@glinzfarm.com

Glinz Farm
2147 77th Ave SE, Highway 281
Pingree, ND 58476





Jet Service flights to Denver and the world!

- Modern Terminal
- Short Lines
- Convenient & Friendly
- Free WiFi and Parking

(800) 864-8331
or contact your local travel agent



Book today at united.com





Independently Owned & Operated

1315 South Broadway, Minot, ND
(701) 838.1055 • redwing1@srt.com

DYNO TESTING • KELDERMAN AIR RIDE • EDGE PRODUCTS
NAPA AUTO CARE CENTER • COMPLETE DRIVE LINE WORK

MIKE'S CUSTOM TRUCK, INC.

Brandon Adams
701-371-7717



Josh Boyer
320-533-0382



Phone: 701-587-6335 Fax: 701-587-5529
Email: Mike@mikescustomtrucks.com www.mikescustomtrucks.com
3505 5th Ave. NE • P.O. Box 368 Northwood, ND 58267

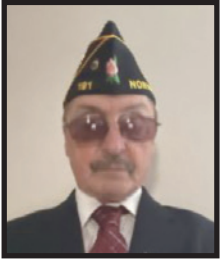
BALANCING • COMBINE ROTORS & STRAW CHOPPERS

Mandan Regional Airport
Lawler Field



(701) 663-0669
(701) 955-3328
www.mandanairport.com
manager@mandanairport.com

VOTE
KENNY
WIEDERHOLT
For National Executive
Committeeman



For those members who could not attend the spring district meetings, I wish to announce my intentions to run for the high office of National Executive Committeeman. Although I have been endorsed and supported by my home post Lester W. Peterson Post 191, it is more important to note that I have the support of my family. I am proud to say that I come from a long legacy of veterans in my family heritage. More recently my son Eric served a tour of duty in Iraq. My son-in-law James served tours of duty in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Their children are part of the reason that I continue to serve the American Legion to protect and improve veteran's rights. My American Legion, Department of North Dakota record will reflect that I have served this department confidently and to the best of my ability in each of the numerous offices and appointments that you have allowed me to hold. I ask for your friendship and support in June at the Department Convention. I am committed to representing each of you and this department with integrity and honesty. FOR GOD AND COUNTRY!

CHOOSE A BANK
THAT PROUDLY
SERVES YOU.

Western State Bank
offers exclusive
benefits for
customers who serve
(or have served) in the
United States military.

Western
Bank • Invest • Insure

Your Hometown Bank

Stop in today and ask
about Freedom Banking.

WESTERNBANKS.COM
DEVILS LAKE • FARGO • WEST FARGO

Member FDIC

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT



The Department Convention is right around the corner. The Department Executive committee held an electronic meeting on April 17, 2024. The DEC confirmed the appointment of Allan Magnuson as the VA&R Chair and George Zeller as the Resolutions Committee Chair. The

DEC approved the transfer of \$200,000 from an investment account to the general fund. Post 500 dues will stay at \$55 for the 2025 membership year. Mike Weyrauch was appointed as the acting Judge Advocate and Constitution and By-Laws Chair for the Department Convention.

The Future of the ND Legion – Update

TO: ND American Legion Posts
DATE: 1 June 2024

Exciting News: The Department of ND American Legion Department Service Office (DSO) expenses were covered for 12 months with your generous donations. This was a phenomenal achievement. Thank you so much!!

Most Posts, by now know that our membership dues no longer cover the costs and expenses of the Department of ND American Legion and your thoughtful donations make a difference.

April Service Officer Report included:
Over 120 claims, appeals and burial claims
Retro Payment Awards: \$417,000
Compensation Awards: \$77,500

These items are impressive and are a small part of what the DSO accomplishes.

DSOffice Expenses would be eligible use code D-50.
Department Headquarters eligible use code D-99.
All Posts may contribute, gaming posts can use the below form.

Best regards,
Mamie Havelka, Legionnaire



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
PO Box 5057	West Fargo	ND
		Zip Code
		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

Date

Amount Requested

☐ Request Approved

Approved By

Amount Approved

Check Number

Check Date

Eligible Use Code

Michael R. Weyrauch
For
Department
Commander-Elect
2024-2025



- 33-year American Legion PUFL
- 7 years West Region DEC
- West Region Vice Commander
- Department Oratorical Chairman
- 9th District Commander x 2
- 9th District Vice Commander x 3
- Post 9 Adjutant since 1992 current
- 9th District & Post Oratorical Chairman
- 9th District Boy's State Committee
- Dual Legion SAL Member
- 20+ years US Navy Submarine's Retired ENCM/SS
- NREMT & ND State EMT 1994 to Present
- CPR Instructor
- ND CISM Team 1998 to Present
- NW CISM Coordinator
- Non-Law Trained Municipal Judge 1998- Present 5 Cities
- St Michael's Parish Finance Council
- Blood Drive Chairman for Ray, ND, Community, 6 drives a year.
- Active Member Ray Crash Rescue Squad since 1998
- Active Member for the Ray Volunteer Fire Department 15+ years
- LEPC Representative for the Ray Volunteer Ambulance & Fire Department's

Jefferson-Steinke Post
#18 and SAL Squadron
#18 of Hope, ND
Endorse JON VEILE of
Hope for 2024-2025
Eastern Region Vice
Commander.



- Jon served two years as First District Commander
- 50-year PUFL legion member
- Retired Army Infantry Officer
- Served as inspector general of 34th Infantry Division
- NDSU graduate
- Served as school board member for 21 years
- Farms at Hope, ND
- Is currently serving as an elder for his church
- Has been married to his wife Sandy for 44 years and has 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

Jon is very involved in the American Legion and with your support is willing to enthusiastically serve the Department of ND.

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

MARK ANTAL - DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN



A Firm Foundation
In the American Legion we stand on the shoulders of giants. The men and women who have gone before us paved a path of a solid foundation. Our motto stands firm, "For God and Country". The four pillars of the American Legion stand as guiding principles to help build a firm foundation for those who will follow tomorrow. Each of us play a part in one or more of these four pillars: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Americanism, Children and Youth, and National Security. We find a niche in serving as a legionnaire in at least one of these vital areas. What is it that drives your heart of service in the American Legion family? We stand united as the American Legion when we focus on these pillars.

Our faith must stand on a solid foundation as well. Our society has said that we should avoid speaking on two subjects; faith and politics. As a family we do well to listen to each other. Even though the American Legion is a non-sectarian, non-political organization, there are times when we must get to know each other on a deeper level. I have appreciated getting to know Native American friends and learning from their specific heritage and faith. Standing alongside someone of a different faith or different political party does not mean we are against each other. Veterans have fought and died to preserve the right for each person to express their faith and political views. We can do this on a one to one basis, respecting and valuing each other. I appreciate this word from Ephesians 2:19-22 "So

then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and are of God's household, having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit." This, of course, is the cornerstone of my faith, Jesus Christ. Soon we will gather as the Department of North Dakota. COME to the convention. SEND a delegate(s) from your post. PAY for their expenses. LISTEN for the reports from the convention. I personally look forward to this fun Legion Family gathering June 20-23, 2024, in Bismarck. God's richest blessings to each of you.

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

SUMMER KRISTIANSON - DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER



You Don't Qualify for Benefits
Have you ever been told, based off your service you don't qualify for VA benefits? Did you obtain a second opinion? Now might be the time. There is major difference between the VA providing a negative opinion on a VA claim, and a Veteran Service Officer (VSO) stating you don't qualify for VA benefits. While VSOs play crucial roles in assisting veterans with the benefits they have earned, they are not infallible to errors or biases. It is always important to reach back out to see if laws have changed, or to see if you were provided wrong information. For many years, members of the National Guard have been told they are not eligible for VA benefits, especially if they did not deploy. And while on its face this may be true,

many people overlook other avenues to obtain benefits for these individuals. These avenues may include injuries which occurred during basic training or advanced individual training, injuries during drill weekend or annual training, or hearing loss or tinnitus from annual qualifications (one must look at what the service member did in the civilian sector for employment). While National Guard claims can be more time intensive, they are possible. For others, if they have a discharge other than straight honorable, they were told they do not qualify. Veterans with discharges such as general or other than honorable still are eligible for VA benefits. General discharges qualify veterans for the same benefits as honorable, except for education benefits. For veteran with other than honorable discharges, we

may have to look at the reason for discharge and provide VA more information. Important information to review is whether the veteran injured during service or what was the reason the veteran received this discharge (such as trauma). Lastly, some VSOs and veterans have their own opinions and biases on whether others should be entitled to benefits based on their service. If you feel you may be entitled to benefits and have been turned down in the past, ask again. The worst you will hear is no, but you may find out you are entitled to benefits and the process could begin and open a whole new set of doors for you! If you have any questions or want to begin the claims process, please reach out to a Veteran Service Officer near you <https://www.veterans.nd.gov/about/veteran-service-officers-vso>

Beck-Shervan-Foreman
American Legion Post 290



Main Street, New Town, ND
(701) 627-4409
Open to the Public
Legion meetings, 2nd Thursday monthly
Always welcoming new members
Beer • Cocktails • Food • Bingo • Music
988 LIFELINE Fun Times • Good People


West Dakota
Oil C Store

450 Villard Street East
Dickinson, North Dakota
(701) 225-4700

We set the pace

American Federal leads the way with financial advice and business solutions. From start-up to finish line, our Ag, Business, and Personal Bankers know the track well. Follow the leaders in financial advice with **American Federal**.

Fargo
215 N 5th St.
(701) 235-4248

Fargo South
1301 30th Ave. S.
(701) 235-9906

Moorhead
601 Center Ave.
(218) 233-2791


Banking • Insurance • Investments
americanfederalbank.com



North Dakota State Legion Band

Excitement is building for the 100th year celebration for your ND American Legion State Band. It is time to celebrate the music and the history of your State Band and the people who have made this organization what it is today from the past to the present. In 1924 the first officers chosen were from Lisbon. The first band manager was Walter Curtis who also was the first Department Commander in 1925-1926. Succeeding him was Ken Fitch from 1927-1963 then William Sweeney Jr from 1964 - 1975, Orlyen Stensgard from 1975 - 1989 to present day band manager/member Bruce Holtan who was appointed in 1989. The directors were Abbie Andrews 1924 -1928, Lois Wright of Valley City in 1928, Arnold Forbes of Wahpeton 1929 - 1947 succeeded by charter band member Edmond "Shave" Green of Hankinson in 1947 until his death in 1975. Donald Piehl was the fifth director of the band from 1976 until his death in 2003. The State Band's current director is Glen Wolf who comes back from Arizona. Glen will be retiring after the National Convention in New Orleans. Legacy members of the band have included second generation members; Richard Colton (J.H. "Herb" Colton), David Wilson (Leo Wilson), Past Department Commander Harry Moore (Max M. Moore), Bruce Holtan (Orville Holtan), Dave Stern (E.C. Stub Stern), Mike Koshney (Ed Koshney), Greg Darling (Don Darling). The tradition continues with 3rd generation member Corey Burgum (grandson of Stub Stern), and by association, Jeremy Nygard, who is Corey Burgum's cousin growing up playing trumpet trios with Stub Stern. Jeremy is an Army Band veteran who was deployed to Iraq during his 20-year active-duty tour. Bruce Holtan and Dave Stern who are 50

plus year members are at the top of the long list of members with many years of service. Bob Briggs has been a member for 47 years and David Hennessy, who travels from Texas every year, has been a member for 43 years - his father Robert Hennessy was Past Department Commander 1981 - 1982. Glen Wolf, Greg Darling, Mike Koshney and Steve Blazek have contributed more than 30 years to the band and the first woman to proudly play with the State Band was Em Laskey in 2000 playing piccolo. The commitment to the Legion and the State Band is apparent in all the past and current members. This North Dakota American Band has much to celebrate, and we are proud of what we have accomplished. Dedication and recognition to the Legion was evident when past member Don Loder of Cooperstown was honored as ND Legionnaire of the Year and provided taps for over 500 veterans; past member Lynn Schroeder was awarded the State Legion Press Award. To preserve the sound of the State Band, recordings of marching band music were completed with the second recording titled "On Parade and More". The band also had two recording opportunities for dance band music - "20 Guys from North Dakota" and a few years later "America the Beautiful - North Dakota Style". With the upcoming Department Convention there will be many opportunities to help celebrate and share stories of the 100 years and counting of your State Legion Band. Thank you again to all who continue to support the State Band with your monetary donations.

Submitted by Cathy Keogh, Bruce Holtan and David Hennessy



AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY

The Message
North Dakota American Legion Auxiliary
1801 23rd Ave N, Rm 113, Fargo, ND 58102-1047
701-253-5992 • www.ndala.org • facebook.com/NorthDakotaALA

Welcome to 2024 Department Convention



Latoya Carpenter



NWDNVP Karen Susag

Latoya Carpenter, President of Loyd Spetz Unit 1 of Bismarck, and her team of convention volunteers welcome all members of the American Legion Family to the 2024 American Legion Department Convention. The event will be held June 21-23 at the Bismarck Hotel and Convention Center in Bismarck. Convention Chairman Carpenter encourages everyone to take in not only the convention events but to get out and enjoy the dining and shopping experiences the community of Bismarck has to offer. Welcome to the area and enjoy your stay.

Medina Unit 245 Shows Community Spirit

The Adam Job Post 245 Legion Hall serves as a community event center as well as an election site for Stutsman County. It was discovered prior to the 2023 primary election that the facility's ramp was not up to code and a temporary ramp was installed at a cost of \$2500. After the election, Joyce Hofmann and Sharon Behm, members of Medina Unit 245, began pursuing a project that would replace the old ramp. With the assistance of Joan Morris, a Stutsman County Commissioner, they were able to obtain a grant from the North Dakota Community Foundation for \$3500. With the assistance of Mitch Gunderson, a Medina city council member, they also received funds from the City of Medina for the remaining cost of \$2600.

A new ramp has been installed and provides the needed assistance for people attending events held at Adam Job Post 245 American Legion Hall in Medina. Members of Post and Unit 245 thank everyone involved in raising funds for the construction and installation of the new ramp. It is a tribute to the community and shows what can be done when people work together for the common good.

Unit Membership - In the past few years, membership for Unit 245 declined. Judy Lytle, member of the Medina Unit, decided to do something about that. Judy made a concerted effort to sign up new members and was able to recruit nine new members. On April 5, 2024, the unit hosted a 'Breakfast Meeting' where the new members were welcomed and presented with Certificates of Initiation and a copy of the explanation of the "Preamble" to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Article Submitted by Unit 245

Jamestown Unit 14 Donates

The Past Presidents Parley of Ernest D Robertson Unit 14 of Jamestown supports several community organizations serving veterans and less fortunate citizens with donations of funds and goods.

In 2023, Judy Hoyt and Betty Geigle, Unit 14 Past Presidents Parley officers collected and delivered supplies to Mary's Safe Shelter. This is a facility serving abused men, women, and children in Jamestown. Items donated included: paper towels, tissues, napkins, laundry soap, dryer sheets, and hand soap.



Northwestern Division National Vice President Karen Susag will be a guest speaker during weekend meetings.

President Susag comes from a strong military family and is a Life Member of the American Legion Auxiliary in the Department of Montana. Karen's husband, Michael F. Susag, is an Air Force veteran who served in Vietnam. She is additionally eligible through several members of her family: son, Christopher Susag, US Navy Veteran; father, Oscar Webster, Army Veteran WWI; brother, Harold Webster, Army Veteran WWII; brother, Alfred Webster, Navy Veteran Vietnam.

Karen is a 52-year member of the Montana American Legion Auxiliary joining Manhattan Unit 87 in 1970. After moving to Townsend in 2002, she transferred to Unit 42 as a PUFL member. Karen has served as Unit 87 President for 25 years and District 7 President for two terms. Currently she is the Unit 42 Secretary and also holds the position of District 6 President and Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairperson. Karen has served five years as Montana's Department Secretary and twice as Montana's Department President.

Karen is a dedicated Auxiliary member and is active in her community as well. We warmly welcome President Susag and look forward to her visit.



New Member Breakfast. Pictured (l-r): Brenda Guthmiller, Ardella Rau, Elly Rau, Edith Stopplesworth, Sue Reardon, Sharon Behm. Not pictured: Joey Guthmiller, Val Flegel, Sharon Otto, Kimberly Schmidt.



New Ramp. Pictured (l-r): Back Row: Becky Reich, Ardella Rau, Brenda Guthmiller, Edith Stopplesworth, Sue Reardon, Judy Lytle, Elly Rau, Mitch Gunderson - Medina City Councilman. Front Row (l-r): Adeline Link, Lillian Hofman, Sharon Behm, Joyce Hoffmann.

South Central Human Service Center of Jamestown collected community donations and purchased items to fill 'Blessing Bags' for men, women, and children. Items included in the "Blessing Bags" were stocking hats, gloves, socks, personal hygiene supplies, first aid kits, hand soap, and snack items. SCHS Center put a call out to various organizations including the Jamestown Past Presidents Parley. The unit assisted them with delivery of the bags to various community service organizations including the VA's Community Based Outpatient Clinic located in Jamestown.

Article submitted by Betty Geigle, Past Presidents Parley Unit 14



National President Lisa Williamson to Visit N.D.

American Legion Auxiliary National President Lisa Williamson will visit the Department of North Dakota July 15-18, 2024. Although some details for President Williamson's visit are still in the planning stages, she is expected to visit The International Peace Garden and International Music Camp near Dunseith as well as Annie's House Adaptive Recreation-Bottineau Winter Park. Everyone is welcome to come out to greet National President Lisa when she arrives in your community. More details will be sent to Unit Presidents and will appear online as soon as they are available.

Submitted by Marcy Schmidt, Department Secretary



Lisa Williamson

103rd Department Convention

Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center
Bismarck, ND

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (may be revised without notice)
Changes will be available at www.ndala.org/2024-department-convention/

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024

- 11:00 AM Department Finance Board meeting – LaVonne Matthews, Chairman
- 1:00 PM Auxiliary registration opens (registration closes at 5:00 PM)
- 1:30 PM Auxiliary Department Executive Committee (DEC) meeting
- 3:00 PM Incoming officers Meet & Greet with incoming Department Commander and Department President.
- 3:30 PM District Commanders and District Presidents flag/banner rehearsal (for Joint Session)
- 4:30 PM Auxiliary Installation rehearsal - Department Officers, District Presidents
- 5:00 PM Pictures for Department Officers, District Presidents, and Chairmen
- 5:00 PM District Presidents and Department Chairmen (incoming and outgoing) exchange duty books and flags (Meet w/ Gloria Covert and LoAnn Dick)
- 5:30 PM No-Host dinner
- 7:00 PM Joint Opening Session

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024

- 7:00 AM Auxiliary Registration resumes (Auxiliary registration closes at 12:00 PM)
- 8:30 AM Auxiliary Opening Session, Memorial Service, Chairman Reports, Awards, Certificates, and Guest Speakers
- 12:00 PM Past Presidents Parley Luncheon
- 1:30 PM Auxiliary Session resumes
- 2:00 PM Registration and Credentials Committees Nominations and Elections of Department Officers (2024-2025)
- 3:00 PM Installation of Department Officers
- 4:00 PM National Convention meeting (Auxiliary Delegates)
- 5:30 PM Convention Social
- 6:30 PM Department Convention Banquet
- Dance by ND American Legion State Band

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

- 9:00 AM Joint Worship Service
- Joint Session following Worship Service
- 10:00 AM Auxiliary Session resumes
- Department President's Report – Gloria Covert, Department President (2023-2024)
- 1:00 PM Close of Convention

Department President

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

My first order of business is to give a high five to our Spring District Meeting Legion and Auxiliary hosts. We attended nine District meetings throughout the state. District 1 was held in West Fargo at the Vet's Club with the Fargo unit and post as hosts. District 2 was held in Larimore with the Larimore post and unit as hosts. District 10 was held in Ellendale with the post and unit serving as hosts. District 3 was held in Rolette with the Rolette post and unit as the host. District 6 was held in Kenmare with the Kenmare post and Donnybrook unit as hosts. District 9 was held in Ray with the Ray post and the Tioga unit as the hosts. District 4 was held in Jamestown with the Jamestown post and the Medina unit as hosts. District 7 and 8 was held in Richardton with the post and unit as hosts. District 5 was held in Hazelton with the Hazelton post and unit as the hosts. Thank you District posts and units for your generous hospitality and the meals you served. Small town hospitality was on full and wonderful display in each of these North Dakota communities.

Leadership is the backbone of our organization. Without knowledgeable and competent leadership, our organization does not progress. We cannot survive on "that is the way we have always done it." Change is constant, and we need to embrace new technology and change whether we like it or not.

I have heard that many older members do not use technology. That may be true and to make sure units and members receive information, the Department distributes materials on paper. In addition, unit mailings and other information is sent via email and Constant Contact as well as being available online at www.ndala.org. Invite your Junior members to assist with new technology and perhaps even teach your Senior members. There are other resources that can help as well. Seek those resources out.

The National office changes their policies at times. Is your unit up to date on these changes? Review information sent from the Department or online at www.ALAforVeterans.org.

Leadership involves mentors. Are you a good

mentor? Characteristics of a good mentor are patience, kindness, and having the ability to answer questions without judgment or criticism. Be positive, listen, and hear what your member's concerns are. A good mentor does not assume you know; they ask if you know. Find a good mentor if you are interested in a leadership position.

I hope all units took the opportunity to report on all the good work and events you were involved with this year. I am looking forward to reading all those narratives submitted by our impressive North Dakota units.

I cordially invite each of you to attend the 2024 Department Convention in Bismarck June 21-23.

Remember your "WHY" as we end our Auxiliary year and continue to work on our mission to support veterans, military and their families.

Always be kind.

Gloria Covert



Gloria Covert



Donnybrook Auxiliary Junior members presenting memorial service at the District 6 meeting.

Department Secretary

Greetings Auxiliary Members.

Make your plans soon to attend the 2024 Department Convention to be held June 21-23, 2024, at the Bismarck Hotel and Conference Center (former Ramkota Hotel) in Bismarck. You will find the registration and banquet ticket order form and schedule for the 2024 Department Convention elsewhere in this publication.

The annual year-end reports are coming in and from the information that has been compiled, units and their members continue to be active in their communities supporting veterans and their families. Congratulations and thank you for all the work you do on behalf of veterans, children and youth, and your communities across the state of North Dakota. I am so proud to be part of this wonderful organization.

Thank you to Unit Membership Chairmen for your work gathering dues from your current members and new and rejoined members as well. By now, all officers and chairmen should be paid for 2024 and no unit should be experiencing a 'goose' egg.

I was invited to a poppy assembly event held in Forman on April 25. The event was coordinated by Lisbon Unit President Ginny Stendahl with the help of Amber Hazard,

Administrative Assistant and 4-H Program Assistant for the NDSU Extension Service in Sargent County. The event was well attended by unit members from the Forman area. The attendees heard the story of John McCrae, author of 'In Flanders Fields' and how American veterans service organizations came to adopt the poppy as a fundraiser to help support our veterans and their families. There was plenty of visiting and laughs as we met old and new friends, and yes, we did assemble a lot of poppies! Thank you Ginny, Amber, and Forman Auxiliary members for your participation. You made us feel welcome and we enjoyed the time spent with all of you.

I wish each of you good health, and I look forward to seeing everyone in Bismarck in June. Keep our veterans, active military, and their families in your prayers. Take care of yourself and others.

God Bless America.

Marcy Schmidt



Marcy Schmidt

Department Treasurer

Spring is such a busy time for the Auxiliary units – Thank you for your dedication and support for our veterans! It is always so important to remember and revisit why we are here – what our purpose is – as we plan for activities and supporting programs for the year. It is easy to let things get in our way. It is a great time as units begin with new officers and rededicate our commitment to the ALA mission statement and what it really means and to keep your units "on track."

The 2024 Department Convention is quickly approaching. I encourage all unit officers and Auxiliary members to attend the 2024 Department Convention in Bismarck this summer. It is a fun time as we gather and talk about how we support our veterans, hear the Legion Band, enjoy great food, vote on Department leadership, and meet new people. It is *so important* for unit leaders to understand how the Department works and who your Department Officers are. It is especially important if you need assistance from them during the year.

As I mentioned in the last edition, I am retiring from my position. This brings me some excitement and sadness at the same time. I have met so many new people and

have learned so much about the Auxiliary since becoming your Department Treasurer. For that, I am grateful. I have new friends that I know will always be there. I will be moving to Nebraska, my home state, this summer – about which I am excited! There is no place like "home." I am saddened that I will be leaving my friends and will not be attending upcoming meetings and conventions where we typically gather. I want to thank all of the Department Officers I have had the privilege of working with for their support and patience during my learning curve! I know that we will continue to be in touch on social platforms – and perhaps at National Conventions.

I invite all of you to attend the 2024 Department Convention in Bismarck for the fun, for the future of the Department, and for the future of your unit. It is a great time – you will not regret it!

Hope to see you there!

Sonnie Otto



Sonnie Otto

Department President-Elect

Happy Spring Everyone!

I trust that you are getting near your unit's membership goal of 100%! North Dakota units need to get those last few memberships in. If we want to have growing, active units, Districts, and Department, we must work together as one united team! I encourage each of you to accept the challenge and help me get all of our units to 100% renewal.

May is poppy distribution month. I know how wonderfully all of you work together to get as many poppies out into the community as possible. I am so proud of the hard work you all do! This is such a blessing to our veterans because proceeds from poppy distribution go directly to supporting our veterans projects and programs.

Memorial Day is right around the corner, and I know units across North Dakota are working on their 2024 Memorial Day projects and events. This is an important time to remember those who have gone before us to give us a free country. These programs are a true blessing to those brave men and women and their families.

Make your plans now to attend the Department Convention in Bismarck, June 21-23, 2024. It is so inspiring to get together with like-minded friends who share our passions, sometimes problems, and desires to bless our veterans in countless ways. It is a wonderful time to meet with friends, both old and new, to learn about events happening in our Districts and Department, to learn new things, and perhaps find answers to issues we may be experiencing in our own units. Please attend. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Bismarck.

Back to membership. Remember to review last year's membership list and the year before that to find members that forgot to pay their dues, or maybe thought no one cared whether they were members or not. Let them know how important they are to you and your unit. Remind them of why they became members and encourage them to return as members of the Auxiliary. Do not let them fall away. Invite them back. Love them back to your unit. I know you can. You are loving, caring members. Remind them of that.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Department Membership Chairman for the past year and I appreciate the love and support you all have shown me. I look forward to working with all of you again next year as we continue our mission to serve our veterans.

In service to our veterans!

LoAnn Dick



LoAnn Dick

Department NEC

Mark your calendars for the upcoming patriotic celebration dates, June 14 (Flag Day), and July 4 (Independence Day). Fly your U.S. flag and be thankful that living free is a gift and an honor! Plan a program for the public at your local community center, American Legion hall, or another facility in your community. Help people in the community remember the reason for these dates and why we as Americans enjoy them.

With summer months upon us, I encourage you to continue to record your volunteer hours and donated funds in support of our veterans, active-duty military, and their families. Volunteering at the VA system counts for all members for your reporting.

Beginning in August, gear up for membership by making phone calls or texting your members, sponsoring potluck luncheons or suppers, and planning unit fundraising projects. Include all of your unit members and enlist their assistance to help recruit and rejoin members who may have dropped out previously. Make this a venture with your Legion Post members.

When volunteering in your community, be sure to wear your Auxiliary brand and be ready to answer questions about our organization. Wear "RED" on Fridays to show support for deployed military and veterans, past and present. We will never forget what they have sacrificed to keep our country free.

The 2024 American Legion Auxiliary National Convention will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, August 23-29. If you cannot be there in person, I encourage you to watch the proceedings online at www.ALAforVeterans.org/meetings/national-convention.

Have a wonderful summer and enjoy time with family and friends.

Tammy Ryberg



Tammy Ryberg



What does it mean to Fear the Lord?
I had a conversation with an old high school friend. We were discussing the lack of respect our society has for any kind of authority. Whether it is defunding the police, watching rioters burn our cities, or seeing more teachers retiring because they have a hard time coping with unruly kids.
I told her I thought it was because most people do not fear God. She stated that many religions do not use the Bible as their Holy Book, and many do not use fear as a motivator like my version of Christianity. Her response surprised me because I had been taught that God is love and I never thought of fear as being the motivator of Christianity. She made it sound like God has a giant flyswatter in the sky ready to swat and discipline at any time.
The word “fear” actually means “awe” or “to revere.” To fear the Lord means to worship Him in awe and reverence. It is also respect. There is godly fear marked by awe and reverence. There is also bad fear marked by anxiety.
The gospel frees us from fear and also gives us fear. That is a fear and trembling which should be our response to the great and mighty God who blesses us with all good things. However, there are so many people who have no respect or godly fear.
God loves us so much that He gives us the opportunity

to go our own way and ignore Him if we so choose. We show no godly fear. However, He waits lovingly for us to call out to Him, usually at a point of desperation and then He is there quicker than a heartbeat.
There are so many blessings associated with fearing the Lord. Proverbs 9:10 says, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.” This is the very first thing which should be instilled into all men’s minds because without it they will not make progress in true wisdom. We all need to fear the Lord.
Ecclesiastes 12:13 “When all has been heard, the conclusion of the matter is this: Fear God and keep His commandments because this is the whole duty of man.” We need to fear God so we can inwardly worship Him out of reverence, love, and be truly devoted in our hearts to serve and please Him. Keeping His commandments is the evidence of a true and genuine fear of God.
Let us pray: Dear God, help us to better understand the fear of the Lord. We ask You to instill in us a godly fear so we may honor, respect, and truly worship Your Holy Name. In Jesus Name. Amen.
Rose Laning



Rose Laning

District 2

Hello District 2 Members!
It was good to see everyone at the Spring District Meeting in Larimore. Thank you to the members of Ted Valerius Unit 97 Larimore for your generous hospitality.
We welcomed Department President Gloria Covert, Department President-Elect Loann Dick, Department Vice President Candace Berg, as well as other Past Department Presidents and Officers.
District 2 Vice President Susan Degner has decided to step down from her position to pursue the position of Department Treasurer. Please attend the Department Convention and vote for Susan! We wish her well and know if elected she will do an amazing job for our organization.
Thank you for your trust and support for me for a second term as District 2 President. I am truly honored. With that being said, we need a Vice President for District 2. If you are interested in serving the members of District 2 or know someone who might be interested, please let me know. We would like to have a candidate in place by the 2024 Department Convention in June.
It was good to receive and review all of the Unit Impact Reports this year. I would like to remind members how important it is to keep track of your volunteer hours in your communities and especially for our veterans! A suggestion was made to produce a list of ideas for volunteering for veterans and your communities. Please email me or bring your list to our 2024 Fall District Meeting.
I encourage all District 2 units to send a representative to the 2024 Department Convention to be held in Bismarck June 21-23. More information is available elsewhere in this publication. I am looking forward to seeing you in Bismarck.
Shelley Schuster
District 2 President



District 4

Hello District 4 Units.
The 2024 Winter Conference was informative, and I learned a lot. We ended up postponing our Spring District 4 meeting because of weather from March to April. At our rescheduled Spring meeting, we invited some of the staff from The Service Dogs for America to speak. They brought two service dogs with them: Dolly, a 1-year-old black Lab and Major, an older rescue mixed breed. Ryan is the owner and partner to Major who is trained for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). We were informed that dogs pick their people, which is amazing in itself. We want to thank Vickie, Ryan & Major, and Zoey & Dolly for coming to our meeting. There were a lot of questions and information shared. District 4 collected funds to donate to the Service Dogs program and I encourage you keep them in mind when you do your yearly budget. They invited us to visit their training facility in Jud, ND.
Our second guest was Department President Gloria Covert. She reminded us that April was Military Children and Purple Up Day and National Poppy Day is Friday, May 24th. Gloria wants us to be aware of the Legislature bills pertaining to veterans. The first Friday of each month is “Be the One.” She also encourages units to sign up for American Legion Auxiliary Management Information System (ALAMIS) access as a tool to maintain your membership. LoAnn Dick, Department Membership Chairman and President-Elect, joined Gloria at our Spring meeting and stressed the importance of your Auxiliary membership.
District Vice President Gail Marsolek and I were nominated to serve as your District Officers for 2024-2026. We are hoping to visit all units in District 4 in the upcoming months.
Make your plans to attend the 2024 Department Convention in June. I look forward to seeing you in Bismarck.
God Bless our veterans.
Jane Schoonover
District 4 President



District 8

Greetings District 8 Auxiliary Members.
First, I want to thank you for the support and encouragement you have all shown me the past two years as your District President. It was an honor and a privilege to serve, and I know you will give your full support to future District Officers as well.
Our 2024 Spring District Meeting was held in Richardton recently and among the guests attending were Department President Gloria Covert and Department Membership Chairman and President-Elect LoAnn Dick. Jason Anderson, Commander District 8, reminded everyone that we need to be conscious that our meetings have a quorum of posts and units. It was nice to see so many American Legion Family members in attendance.
Department President Covert has appointed a committee to review the Department’s Standing Rules and those revisions will be voted on at the 2024 Department Convention. I encourage all District 8 units to send a representative from your unit to the Department Convention slated for Bismarck, June 21-23, 2024. More information can be found on the convention elsewhere in this publication.
If your unit is struggling with membership or other issues, I urge you to contact your District President, the Department Office, or the Department Membership Chairman for assistance. Together, we can be effective to hopefully help save units and their members from the decision to disband. Do not be afraid to reach out. We are available to assist you.
Thank you for everything you do for our veterans and their families. Stay true to the Auxiliary mission. God bless each and every one of you.
Barbara Fulton
District 8 President



Richardton District 7 and 8 Meeting. Pictured (l-r): LoAnn Dick, Department President-Elect and Membership; Rose Laning, Department Chaplain; Lualice Stockert, District 7 President; Gloria Covert, Department President; Beverly Wolff, District 8 Vice President; Barbara Fulton, District 8 President.



Rolla Auxiliary members with vendor display at local school showcasing Military Child Appreciation Month in April. Department President Gloria Covert (left) and Sandra Smith, Past District 3 President, explained the display to parents and students.

Children & Youth

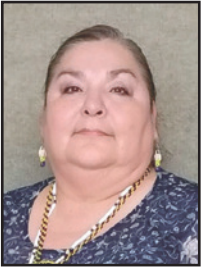
Hello Auxiliary Members!
Summer is here and the Department Convention is right around the corner. I hope that many of you are planning to attend. I am looking forward to seeing you there. Is your unit doing great things for youth in your community? Remember to post your events and pictures to the National American Legion Auxiliary Children and Youth Facebook page!
I am excited to announce that the Children and Youth Chairmen of the American Legion Family are teaming up to, once again, bring you a great door-prize raffle at the Department Commanders banquet! Our goal is to raise money for our Children and Youth projects. It is necessary to fund our Comfort Teddy Bears and Puppies that are distributed to children at hospitals and by first responders around the state. There is nothing better than having a good time while helping out a great cause.
We need your assistance to make this project a huge success. Spread the word within your units that donations are needed for the Children and Youth Raffle. Donations can be any new items such as candles, dish towels, garden items, or even a homemade quilt. The possibilities are endless! Bring the donations with you to the Department Convention in June.
If you are unable to attend the convention, please reach out to me at 763-639-5221 and I will make sure that your donation makes it to Bismarck.
Thank you for your support!
Jill Carstens
Children and Youth Chairman



Judy Twete, President Unit 135 McVillie and Past NW Division National Vice President, is shown with local school children at the April 15 Military Kids Appreciation Day event.

Past Presidents Parley

Greetings everyone. On behalf of the Department of North Dakota Past Presidents Parley, we want to take this opportunity to thank our North Dakota American Legion Family for your support and generous donations to the Department’s Past Presidents Parley Nursing Scholarship program. It is because of each of you and your continued support for this educational program, that we were able to grant three \$500 scholarships to help nursing students achieve their goal of becoming a nurse. Thank you for making a difference.
Sharon White Bear, President Past Presidents Parley Committee
Sandra Petermann, Secretary Past Presidents Parley Committee



In Memoriam

District 1

Beverly Brummond, PUFL, Department
Ione Werner, SLM, Department
Vetta F Loveland, Fargo
Susan E Kadrie, Finley

District 2

Muriel Paulson, Edinburg
Josephine M Kelly, Edinburg
Phyllis Campbell, Grafton
Cecilia M. Durand, Grafton
Judy Marie Jiskra, Grafton
Irene Meiers, HLM, Grand Forks
Rosalie D. Naas, McVile
Lori Larson, Michigan
Irene Janda, SLM, Pisek
Cynthia V Schienbeck, Pisek

District 3

Sandra L Lindberg, Cando
Lorraine Peterson, SLM, Dunseith
Martha Schepp, Dunseith
Janet Nybo, York

District 4

Magdelina Presler, SLM, Gackle
Grace Vannett, Jamestown
Dorothy Somsen, Jamestown
Marian Bold, McClusky
Gail Bischoff, Wimbledon

District 5

Claryce Johnson, Garrison
Frances Becker, HLM, Napoleon
Stephanie Holznagel, Washburn

District 6

Irene G. Knutson, Donnybrook
Jill D Gillette, White Shield

District 7

Leona Stern, HLM, New Leipzig

District 8

Cleo Kulish, Dickinson
Charlene M Honeyman, Reeder
Sallee A Carlson, Regent

District 10

Lorraine C. Kennedy, Oakes
Diana M Speidel, Wahpeton

We apologize for any omissions or incorrect information.

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

Education

Greetings Auxiliary Members
Happy Spring!

I had the honor of reviewing Department scholarship applications. It was difficult to narrow the selection to three (3) \$500 Department Education Program Scholarships. Every applicant was worthy of the scholarship. The committee selected Jayden Bondy from Petersburg, Jayden Pederson from Valley City, and Andaleen Nelson from Mandan.



The Department scholarship committee also received and reviewed applications for National Auxiliary scholarships. Thank you to Department President Gloria Covert and Auxiliary Member Carla Bickert, retired Bismarck State College instructor, for helping with the scholarship selection process. Four (4) scholarship packets were sent to the Northwest Division for further judging. Grace Burgess of Monument, Colorado (sponsor's Home of Record is North Dakota), was the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship selection; Brenna Martin of Grand Forks, was the Spirit of Youth Scholarship selection; Ellen Feuerhelm of Beach, was the Non-Traditional Student Scholarship selection; and Madison Lippert of Aneta was the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship selection. Final winners of the National scholarships will be announced in May. It was wonderful to have applications for all four (4) of the National Scholarships this year! Congratulations to these student for their hard work and dedication.

The Samsung American Legion Scholarship is available for eligible students attending our Girls State and Boys State programs. Applications are restricted to high school juniors who attend the current sessions of American Legion Boys State or the Auxiliary Girls State programs and are direct descendants of a wartime veteran who served on active duty during at least one of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for membership in the American Legion. Visit the website: <http://www.legion.org/scholarships/samsung> so the students know what information they need to have to apply before they attend Girls/Boys State..

Take an opportunity to thank educators in your community. Let them know how important and vital they are for all of us. Happy Spring/Summer!

Peggy Moran, Department Education Chairman

Auxiliary Membership Benefits

The Department Office has recently received several inquiries from Auxiliary members' families regarding insurance benefits their loved one may have acquired as an Auxiliary member. I did some research, made some calls, and want to share what I found.



In the past, there was a program called free travel accident insurance included with Auxiliary membership. That travel accident program has since been suspended and is no longer available.

The American Legion Auxiliary does not sell insurance through the organization. However, the Auxiliary has partnered with various insurance companies that offer discounted services as a benefit to our members. Some of you may have heard of the 'ALA Service Years Plan' that was offered by The Hartford Company many years ago. AmWins Group Benefits absorbed those policies and is currently in partnership with the Auxiliary.

AmWins absorbed all Auxiliary members policies, if they had one, and the company currently offers a wide variety of insurance packages at discounted rates for current members. If you or a family member have questions about a plan that your loved one may have purchased, please contact AmWins at (844) 363-1726.

For more information about our current member benefits, visit the National website at: www.ALAforVeterans.org/Member-Benefits

Marcy Schmidt – Department Secretary

Randys

University Diner
2130 S. University Drive

(701) 280-0414

Military and Senior Discounts



2024-2025
Endorsed Officers

Department President-Elect – Candace Berg

Department Secretary – Marcy Schmidt

Department Treasurer – Jeanine Allmaras

Department Treasurer – Susan Degner

Department Chaplain – Rose Laning

Department Historian – Andrea Neshem

Department NEC – Judy Twete

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

For full endorsement information
see May Unit Mailing or

www.ndala.org/2024-department-convention/

Honor Flight
Presentation



Sandra Petermann, Past Department President (2022-2023), presents a check for \$6877.72 to Dennis Burdolski, (SMSgt USAF Ret), President of the Western North Dakota Honor Flight. Petermann's 2022-2023 Presidents Project funds were pledged to the Western ND Honor Flight and the Injured Military Wildlife Project ND, an organization that donates meat to veterans and their families.

103rd Annual Department Convention – June 21-23, 2024

Auxiliary Registration Form

Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center, 800 South 3rd St., Bismarck, ND
Hotel Direct Phone: 701-660-8063

Reservation Block Rate Deadline is May 21, 2024.



Please use this **Auxiliary Registration** order form to register for the 2024 Department Convention and to order Convention Banquet tickets and Past Presidents Parley Luncheon tickets..

- Advanced Department Convention Banquet Tickets – **June 7, 2024**, is the deadline for the \$35.00 (advanced price). Orders received after June 7, 2024 are \$40.00 per ticket.
- Auxiliary Registration fee is **\$15.00** per person. Advanced registration by **June 7, 2024** is encouraged.,
- Past Presidents Parley Luncheon - **\$20.00** per person. Order PPP tickets by **June 7, 2024**.. A limited number of PPP tickets may be available on-site.

Member Name	Auxiliary Registration \$15.00	Past Presidents Parley Luncheon - \$20.00	Convention Banquet \$35 by June 7 / \$40 after June 7	Total Amount Submitted

Make Check Payable to: **American Legion Auxiliary Dept of ND**

Mail Payment to American Legion Auxiliary Dept of ND, 1801 23rd Ave N., Room 113, Fargo, ND 58102-1047

District Reports



Jon Veile
1st District Cmdr

Greetings from District 1,

This will be my last article to you as your District Commander. I will be passing the colors to your new District Commander at the Department Convention. District 1 Vice Commander Harlan Johnson and I have worked together this past year, and it has been a good year. We have had many discussions about the direction of the district and what can be improved. I feel confident that he will provide the leadership and direction for the district, and he will continue the mission.

One project that is being worked on now is the Legion Children and Youth Bear Program. This is a program where the Legion places teddy bears with hospitals, ambulances and police to give to young children who have been exposed to traumatic situations. It is designed to give comfort to young children and it also supports the fourth pillar of the American Legion which is Children and Youth. If you identify a need in your community for the teddy bears, please contact me or Harlan about your needs and we will get them ordered for you.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to you for allowing me to be your commander for these past two years. I have enjoyed meeting you and attending your various activities. We never know what the future holds but looking back on the past two years I have gained new acquaintances and many pleasant memories.

I will be running for the Eastern Region Vice Commander position, and I ask for your support.



Jay Nesdahl
2nd District Cmdr

Greetings from District 2,

I would like to wish all of you a safe and fun summer. The Department Convention is coming up and I hope to see you there.

At the convention Duane Kram will become our District 2 Commander and Bryan Ohlhauser will become our District 2 Vice Commander. I am sure they will do the American Legion and District 2 proud and help lead us into the future.

Thank you all for your support and help over the past two years.



Jon Metz
4th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 4,

Greetings, and happy spring!! The weather is nice, and we had some good spring rains here in the Gackle area to get the pastures and hay land growing!!

A big thanks to all who came out to our Spring District Meeting. We had a great meal and a good meeting. Commander Carroll was there along with others who presented some good information. Congratulations to Mike Ulmer for being elected to District Vice Commander. Randy and Mike will make a great team!!

Thanks to everyone for their support and help while I was District 4 Commander. I enjoyed it and learned a lot. But looking forward to passing the command to Randy Enzminger in June and refocusing my attention to Post 250 in Gackle.

I hope everyone can make it to the Department Convention. I'm sure a good time will be had by all!!

Take care and remember to help a fellow veteran in need!!



Ron Dykema
5th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 5,

Well, the 5th District meeting finally came to pass on April 20 at the Coffee Shop in Hazelton Joseph E. Appert Post 126 my home post. It was postponed from March due to a projected blizzard! We had quite a time rescheduling and finally decided to "bite the bullet" on Saturday, April 20. We decided on something different menu wise: choice of Napoleon or Wishek sausage and three different kinds of soup and all kinds of homemade goodies prepared by our auxiliary ladies who are very active with our post. We had knoephla and asparagus soups prepared by Post Commander Brad Huber. He also grilled the sausage. Arlene Davis of the Hazelton Auxiliary prepared vegetable soup. Auxiliary members also provided a variety of homemade treats. We had a very good turnout. It was a very nice sunny day with no wind. Nine of 13 posts were represented.

5th District Vice Commander Janette Fetch accepted the nomination to become 5th District Commander and Russell Kroshus accepted the nomination for 5th District Vice Commander. They will be sworn in at the June Department Convention at the Bismarck Hotel on June 21-23.

Several awards were given to different posts at the spring meeting. The highlight for our post was a special plaque from the Honor Flight Committee for our donation of \$10,000 to the spring honor flight.

This will be my last article as 5th District Commander as Janette Fetch will become the 5th District Commander in June. It has been a fun three years. My only regret is I didn't get to visit all of the posts. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.



Vernon Laning
7th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 7,

Congratulations District 7! According to the April statistics of the ten North Dakota districts we had the highest percentage of the membership goals at 98.31%. That's great of course but, there are still a few out there that did not renew. We should keep trying to sign them up.

Another April accomplishment was our joint District Spring Meeting with District 8 and thank you to District 8 for hosting the meeting at Richardton on April 13. District 7 had good representation with 24 total members from 10 of our 15 posts. Elections were held and I'll be serving my fifth year as your commander out of the last 6 years. However, we now have a new vice-commander. Giani Ruffo of Hazen Post 189 has accepted the vice commander position and I'm looking forward to working with him over the next year. We can hopefully visit several of our district posts together.

It won't be long before we'll be working on another membership year and as most of you know, National has increased their dues by 5 dollars, which in most cases will have to be passed onto all our members. If it seems we are forever collecting dues, the National has introduced a new 3-year membership. I don't know a lot of details, but I understand it is only available with online renewals. It could be a good way to reduce your post paperwork so it may be good to promote it within your post.

With summer coming, you should keep in mind that the Department Legion convention is scheduled for June 21 – 23 in Bismarck. It's a great opportunity to get more involved as well as interact with other Legionnaires from around the state. Please mark your calendars. The Legion has many worthwhile programs as well as the overall veteran support.

Thanks and have a great summer.



Jason Anderson
8th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 8,

I hope Spring has sprung for all of you all. Spring 2024 District 7 and 8 combined meeting in Richardton had a fantastic turnout and I greatly appreciate all who were able to make the meeting and we all enjoyed a delicious meal.

I also want to pass along that a few changes have occurred since I announced my candidacy for Commander Elect at the 2024 Winter Conference. Since then, another highly qualified candidate has stepped forward to run for Commander Elect and I will instead run for West Region Vice Commander. As of today, I have no one running against me for the scheduled June election at 2024 Department Convention in Bismarck. I wish Mike Weyrauch our current West Region DEC, the best of luck and he has my full support for Commander Elect.

I have a strong desire to continue to assist our great organization any way I can, and if this is the path I need to be on to do it, I will gladly continue the journey.

Please encourage your members who have yet to renew to get their renewal accomplished. As of this writing, 8th District was at 95.76% renewed. Also please get your Consolidated Post Report accomplished as soon as you can. Eight of thirteen posts have been completed as of 5-3-24. I am willing to assist if needed.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve three terms as your District Vice Commander and two as the Commander and I hope that our paths will continue to cross as we move forward as a strong Veteran service organization.

Ed Dick was confirmed to replace me at the 8th District Commander for the upcoming 2024-2025 year.



Scott Post
9th District Cmdr

Greetings from District 9,

Spring has arrived with plenty of moisture for the west, much needed, but unfortunately our farmers need to get the crops in. Listening to them at the diner breakfast table reminds me of the issues legion posts experience. Short on manpower, short on funding and short on time. Implement new recruiting efforts, hold more fund-raising events and elect officers who can contribute more time to the post.

Our spring district meeting was held by William E. Smith Post #9 in Ray. Attendance was up a bit but far from what we needed. Eight out of the fourteen posts had representation. We can do better but overall, it was a success!

Department Commander-elect and department officer candidates were introduced, district commander and vice commander positions were filled. Current vice commander Lance Renville from Watford City Post #29 will move up to commander and Doug Eckert from Powers Lake Post #96 will be your new vice commander. Ray Post #9 did an outstanding job hosting and their Auxiliary served a delicious meal.

As outgoing commander, I want to thank everyone one for the support. Currently District 9 is in first place in membership renewals. From worst to first, Awesome job people! We are so close to 100%, we can do it!

Thank you all again, see you at the Department Convention.

Duty, Honor, Country!

Best Wishes American Legion!
Senator Kent Weston



Thank you for your service

Best Wishes American Legion!
State Representative Jared Hagert



Thank you for your service

Best Wishes American Legion!
State Representative Clayton Fegley



Thank you for your service



Life. It's game nights, bedtime stories and binge watching your favorite shows. It happens with family and friends, on everyday or holidays and whether it happens on their street, your street or even our street, **we're there.**



Main Office:
818 E. Main Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58502
701.223.6533

info@vueccu.com
www.vueccu.com
NMLS# 191824

SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER

DANIEL SAUERWEIN - DETACHMENT COMMANDER



Finish Strong and Gear Up for a New Year

Greetings again to the Department of North Dakota! The 2024 membership year is coming to its end, but there is still time to get renewals in, so don't forget to reach out to your members who still haven't renewed. We are heading into our Convention towards the end of June, and I would love to see a strong SAL presence in Bismarck.

Regarding membership, we have fallen behind other Detachments in our Region and are only 24 members shy of goal at the time of this writing. Squadrons, I want to ask you as we head into a new membership year, please do not sit on memberships and wait until the end of the membership year to turn them in, as this hurts the whole Detachment. Please, even just turning in a few memberships at the beginning of the year will help us throughout the year in hitting target dates and keeping ahead of it and gets us great recognition at the Region and at National Convention.

On April 6, I was privileged to attend the Sunday breakfast put on by Fairmount Post and Squadron 106. They hold breakfasts on the first Sunday of the month from November to April and do an awesome job. They have a very active Squadron that supports their Post and mentioned that they served approximately 500 people in March. The breakfast was wonderful and included pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, ham, scrambled eggs, juice, coffee, and water, among other wonderful items. I was impressed by the amazing work they did and the support they had from the community. I thank them for their hospitality and warm welcome to me and encourage everyone in the Department to go and visit them for this great event.

Our Detachment officers attended a few of the Spring District meetings and I want to encourage SAL members in our Districts to consider coming out to your District meeting and starting to make your presence felt and known, and let us know if you are planning to attend your District meeting, so we can try to be there to say hello. One goal we have is to eventually establish District Commanders and Vice Commanders for the SAL as well, so that interested members can step up and learn about the higher levels of our organization and develop themselves as leaders.

On April 24, Detachment Adjutant Joe Camisa, his son Joey, and I represented Loyd Spetz Squadron 1 in Bismarck and the Detachment in helping out with a relief effort for families

displaced by a fire that severely damaged two apartment buildings in Mandan, with children among the victims. We brought a donation from Don Weible and the Children and Youth Committee of stuffed animals to provide comfort to the children who lost many if not all their possessions in the fire. Thanks to Don and the Children and Youth Committee for helping us to get these stuffed animals so that we could help children in need.

I want to encourage Squadrons to send in photos of your activities to Snapshots of Service. Photos related to one of the four pillars involving your members wearing their SAL caps, or apparel can be submitted via the form at <https://www.legion.org/sons/publications>. Consider submitting a photo and see if you can win an award, and also be sure to plug it on social media.

Our Department Convention will be in Bismarck June 21-23 and I want to encourage you to come and participate. We will be holding our business meeting, presenting awards to Squadrons, and electing our Detachment Officers for 2024-25. Please make your Squadron's voice known and heard. We want you to be a part of these and want to make things happen for our membership but can only do this if we know who is coming and what you all would like to see at Convention and Winter Conference.

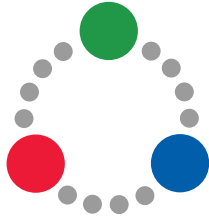
In closing, I want to thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as your Detachment Commander and to make myself available to you, so please feel free to email me at daniel.sauerwein@gmail.com with questions, or call/text me at 218-791-3804. I wish you all success as we finish this membership year. Thank you for all you do for the Sons of the American Legion and keep up the great work.



Joe Camisa, his son Joey, and Daniel Sauerwein presented a donation of stuffed animals for fire relief efforts in Mandan to help children affected by a recent apartment fire.



Thanks to Milton C Stevenson Squadron 106 for the awesome hospitality and great meal. They do an awesome job and have a great and dedicated crew.



Beverage

WHOLESALEERS, INC.

Lite - Miller Genuine Draft - Leinenkugel's

701 4th Avenue North • Fargo

(701) 293-7404



Support.
Guidance.
Communication.

GO WITH **TEAMWORK.**



BANKING • INSURANCE • MORTGAGE • TRUST

15 E. Main - ROLLA
4324 US 281 - BELCOURT

dacotahbank.com

For all your...

**Automation, DataComm,
Electrical, Industrial, and
Utility needs!**

Fargo
605 25th Street S.
Fargo, ND 58108

Bismarck
3205 E. Thayer Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501

Dickinson
100 29th Street W.
Dickinson, ND 58601

Grand Forks
2104 Mill Road
Grand Forks, ND 58203


BORDER STATES
Supply Chain Solutions™

Make it
BETTER
Vote FOR
VETTER

Paid for by Vetter for Public Office

Re-Elect Steve Vetter
District 18 ND House



STROH
ARCHITECTS | INTERIORS

8 Seventh Street N
Fargo ND 58102

701.239.4198
701.239.9643 FAX

 www.tlstroh.com 

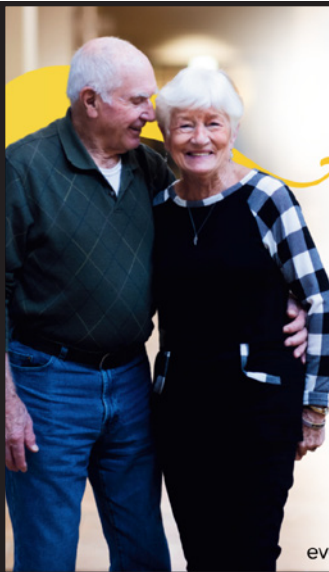
ARE YOU GAME?

PRAIRIE KNIGHTS
CASINO & RESORT

Feel Lucky To Knight!

**GAMING • DINING
LODGING • MORE**

46 miles south of Mandan on Hwy 1806
prairieknights.com  



**VIBRANT
LIVING**
At Its Best

Ask about our
Veteran's Discount!


EVENTIDE
Senior Living Communities

Moorhead | Fargo | West Fargo
Jamestown | Devils Lake

eventide.org 218-291-2200



As a Vietnam Veteran of the United States Army, I strongly support the American Legion, all Veterans, and our United States Military.

Senator David A. Clemens
District 16, West Fargo/Fargo

**PROUD TO Support
OUR VETERANS**

Grow WEST

**Dakota
West**

1.800.411.7590
dakotawestcu.com

CREDIT UNION
NCUA

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		Minot – Post #26		Wildrose – Post #110	
Nelson, Dale	02/16/2024	Andrews, Donald	03/06/2024	Olson, Gerald	Unknown DOD
Fargo – Post #2		Berdini, Alan	04/02/2024	Olson, Mitchell	Unknown DOD
Grossman, Ervin	11/04/2021	Brockness, Glen	01/19/2024	Tangsrud, Robert, Jr.	Unknown DOD
Hultman, Roger	07/13/2023	Frederick, Clifford	03/02/2024	Hettinger – Post #115	
Kirkhoff, Leonard	04/09/2023	Watford City – Post #29		Howard, Edd	08/04/2023
Kloubec, Richard	06/07/2023	Wahus, Glenn	02/27/2024	Kindred – Post #117	
Lindquist, John	08/08/2023	New Rockford – Post #30		Kruse, Martin, Jr.	Unknown DOD
Peterson, DeWayne	01/12/2023	Broin, Larry	03/03/2024	Hazleton – Post #126	
Seibel, Cliff	12/20/2023	Loe, Irvin	03/26/2024	Humann, Ruben	02/25/2024
Springer, William	02/13/2023	Drake – Post #32		Gardner – Post #132	
Tarasen, Gary	04/15/2023	Lemer, James	02/25/2024	Noe, Alfred	Unknown DOD
Nelson, Ric L	01/21/2024	Oakes – Post #36		Solen – Post # 142	
Grand Forks – Post #6		Skjefte, Gary	02/11/2024	Hatzenbuhler, Matt	04/19/2022
Hansen, John	11/17/2021	Doty, Vernon Jr.	Unknown DOD	Belfield – Post #144	
Knudsvig, Everett	03/02/2024	Mandan – Post #40		Malkowski, Philip	03/07/2024
Lande, Nels	1/02/2022	Olheiser, John	02/19/2024	Redmond, Francis “Jerry”	04/19/2024
LeBanc, Gary	07/05/2021	Berg, Dennis	Unknown DOD	Wyndmere – Post #153	
Swingen, Walter	03/21/2024	Kuntz, Frank	03/11/2024	Bommersbach, Jerry	03/29/2024
Tufte, Thomas	05/24/2022	Roehrich, Floyd	03/13/2024	St. Thomas – Post #168	
Lisbon – Post #7		Lidstrom, Andrew	04/16/2024	Dusterhoft, Donald	07/30/2021
Bellerud, Bernt	Unknown DOD	Grafton – Post #41		Hazen – Post #189	
Mayville – Post #8		Thompson, Harlan	Unknown DOD	Kruckenberger, Glenn	03/01/2024
Perkins, Jason	12/21/2023	Lykken, Lee	04/13/2024	Baisch, Merle	03/08/2024
Baker, Steve	10/09/2023	Killdeer – Post #46		Donnybrook – Post #195	
Hlavinka, Del	02/23/2024	Kadrmass, Melvin	Unknown DOD	Graff, Dale	04/07/2024
Joersz, Robert	Unknown DOD	Linton – Post #54		Hoople – Post #240	
Lidstrom, Andrew	04/16/2024	Schwab, Larry	04/23/2024	Ginder, William	12/21/2023
Roehrich, Floyd	03/13/2024	Walhalla – Post #62		Petersburg – Post #247	
Kuntz, Frank	03/11/2024	Dame, Dennis	04/27/2022	Reiten, Hartvig	03/20/2024
Zueger, Arthur	04/17/2024	Nilsson, Neil	05/24/2022	Gackle – Post #250	
Olheiser, John	02/19/2024	Napoleon – Post #72		Weltz, Clarence	11/13/2023
Blasco, Michael	Unknown DOD	Jundt, Thomas	Unknown DOD	Forest River – Post #251	
Boehm, Ralph	Unknown DOD	Cando – Post #79		Carlson, Roger	03/07/2024
Cook, Dwight	Unknown DOD	Plemel, Bob	04/16/2024	Belcourt – Post #262	
Huschka, William	Unknown DOD	Torkelsen, Art	03/21/2024	Demontigny, Bill	02/08/2024
Schlegel, Clarence	Unknown DOD	Lidgerwood – Post #84		Azure, Julius	02/09/2024
Ray – Post #9		Weber, Allen D.	03/24/2024	Falcon, Raymond	02/25/2024
Rajkowski, James	03/09/2024	Northwood – Post #92		Fordville – Post #274	
Cavalier – Post #11		Case, Henry	Unknown DOD	Madson, Gerald	12/12/2023
Bjerke, Charles	Unknown DOD	Sherva, Dennis	Unknown DOD	Sarles – Post #276	
Jamestown – Post #14		Portland – Post #93		Lien, Kenneth	11/10/2023
Mielke, Arthur	02/13/2023	Wahl, Leonard	02/22/2024	Samuelson, Raymond	01/30/2024
Casselton – Post #15		Larimore – Post #97		Harwood – Post #297	
Schmitt, James R	01/26/2024	Ross, Patrick	Unknown DOD	Gaebel, Clark	03/11/2024
Wahpeton – Post #20		Langdon – Post #98		Manvel – Post #299	
Johnson, Gregory	02/20/2023	Bobynsky I. Peter	03/11/2024	Hendrickson, Darryle	04/10/2024
Mitzel, Daniel	03/10/2024	Hebron – Post #100		West Fargo – Post #308	
Easley, Jerry	03/22/2024	Treiber, Louis	Unknown DOD	Borgerson, Burton	01/19/2024
Rugby – Post #23					
Sollin, Dale	02/17/2024				

Have You Paid Your 2024 Membership Dues?



PAINTING CONTRACTOR
PO BOX 948 FARGO

(701) 282-9225

PARKER
CENTER



COFFEE SHOP

21 FIRST AVENUE S.E., MINOT, ND
(701) 852-0561
OPEN 7:30 AM - 2:00 PM



OK TIRE STORE & SERVICE
OKTireInc.com

OIL CHANGES & MECHANICAL SERVICES
FARGO | SOUTH FARGO | WAHPETON
CARRINGTON | BISMARCK | WATFORD CITY
ELITE TIRE - WILLISTON

Best Wishes American Legion!
State Representative Jeremy Olson



Thank you for your service



**MOWBRAY
& SON, INC**
MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS
MLH0617 SINCE 1916
P.O. Box 878, 328 20th Ave SE, Minot, ND 58702-0878

(701) 852-1491



**INTERSTATE
BATTERIES**
Outrageously Dependable®

HOME OF THE MEG-A-TRON
BUILT TO LAST

AUTO • TRUCK • TRACTOR
GEL • MARINE
EMERGENCY LIGHTING

(701) 232-4409
4430 17th Avenue SW
Fargo, ND

Local Posts in the News

Bottineau Post #42

The Bottineau American Legion Post 42 supports the Bottineau County Cancer Association with a significant donation to the organization. The Bottineau Cancer Support provides numerous to all that apply. The best is that numerous organizations donate, thus providing funds to people who need help with cancer.



Left to Right: Vice CDR Art Lund, CDR Heather Thompson, presenting a check to Jackie Klingbiel, Judy Higgins, Ron Bergman, Legion Member, JoAnn Beirstin, Colleen Brudwick, Jan Nahurnick and Reggie Myhr, Legion members. Submitted by Alan Wondrasek, Bottineau Post Officer.

Grand Forks Post #6

Fundraisers have been our specialty this year especially when it comes to doing the “extra” for our own community. Point taken is our latest fundraiser at the Grand Forks Pizza Ranch. We had a dual purpose in mind for the occasion as we wanted to support the Honor Flight Campaign where Veterans are flown to Washington D.C. for an experience of a lifetime attending to and witnessing the monuments and venues that make our freedoms stand out.

We have three such flights scheduled for this year and our dollars raised will be supporting those Veterans who participate in the tours of the Washington D.C. area. Additionally, being that it was Easter Break after all, one of our own members Legionnaire Gary Spicer did a fantastic job dressed in costume as the Easter Bunny who met with parents and their children at the front door and provided some stuffed animals for the youngsters to remember their visit to Pizza Ranch for that evening.

Gary does this out of the kindness of his heart and the perspiration of his hide as the costume-wearing usually results in a 5-pound water loss. If you’ve never seen a “drenched” Rabbit, Gary is a perfect example of it before the night is over. Needless to say, the group of Post 6 volunteers and indeed Gary’s presence helped raise

awareness of The American Legion and its Community Support on Wednesday, 20 March. And the Community responded very well with overwhelming support of almost \$1100 in contributions and Pizza Ranch purchases. A most successful night for everyone’s efforts.

Dennis A. Almer, Post Adjutant



Mandan Post #40



Mandan American Legion Post #40 donated \$2,000 to the Mandan Lions Club for the Fire Relief Fund. L/R: Mark Forester, Leo Phillips, Charles Niska and Steve Rogalla. Submitted by Nick Ressler, member.



Mandan American Legion Post #40 donated \$2,000 to the Civil Air Patrol to help new cadets purchase their uniforms. L/R: Chuck Weiland, Bethany Unrath and Nick Ressler. Submitted by Nick Ressler, member.

Harwood SAL Squadron 297 Spaghetti Feed

On March 23, 2024, the Harwood Richard E. Nelson Memorial Squadron 297 put on a freewill Spaghetti Feed, with the proceeds to be donated to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. After expenses we were able to donate \$700 to the Foundation. It was a great evening, we served nearly 100 guests and enjoyed camaraderie with our fellow SAL members and those that came out to support our project.



Front Row, L-R: Kip Terry, Eric Olerud, Neil Landstrom
Back Row, L-R: Ben Bush, Chad Rice, Nick Olerud, Austin Walcker, Brian Rook. Not pictured-Jim Hughes

Gackle Post #250

Post 250 recently held a Disposal Ceremony to dispose over 150 unserviceable flags. Photos were posted in our local newspaper to remind our local community of the responsibilities of flag ownership, display and disposal.

We are also planning another disposal ceremony during the local 4th of July celebration for the public. Many people in the surrounding area have already stated that they have flags at home that should be disposed of properly. We are now giving them a chance to do just that.

The post is also planning to add a drop off container at the Legion Hall to allow them to properly dispose of their unserviceable flags.

Submitted by Post Adjutant Randy Entzminger



Veterans Free Day at the Medora Musical™

VETERANS, RESERVISTS, AND ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBERS RECIEVE FREE MEDORA MUSICAL TICKETS

SUNDAY, JULY 14

5:30PM & 8:30PM SHOWS

- Veterans Panel
- Keg social at the Tjaden Terrace
- Preshow presentation on the Burning Hills Amphitheatre stage
 - Presenting of the Colors
 - Flyover
 - Key note address by Andrew Armacost

Andrew Armacost
• UND President
• Retired Brigadier General U.S. Air Force

Andrew Armacost is the current President of the University of North Dakota, having begun his tenure in 2020 after serving 30 years in the United States Air Force where he had extensive academic experience having served at the Air Force Academy as an instructor in the Department of Management, then as the Head of the Department of Management, and finally as the Dean of the Faculty.

Make it a family outing, kids 17 and under also go free!
Book your tickets at Medora.com/Veterans

FOR THOSE WHO SERVED TO PROTECT OUR LAND... TAKE TIME TO ENJOY IT.

The FREE AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL NATIONAL PARK PASS is available for Veterans, Active Military, Reserve, and National Guard.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.

Dakota Prairie Grasslands

Present your valid Military ID or DD 214 at a DPG office in Bismarck, Dickinson, Lisbon, Watford City, ND, or Lemmon, SD.

Local Posts in the News

Drake Post #32

By Thomas Weninger, Commander

Last year on May 29, 2023, Drake American Legion post held a special dedication along with the Memorial Day program at the Veterans Cemetery in Drake. The dedication included a soldier statue and new flagpole, which was donated by Robert Stancel who is a former Drake resident and the son of George and Orpha (Schmidt) Stancel. Bob wanted to give back to the community where he and his brother Steve grew up and his family planted roots.

Also dedicated was the Veterans Memorial Monument and granite benches which were purchased by the Drake Legion with donations of \$15,000 collected from people near and far as well as businesses. This outpouring of

generosity helped make this project possible.

The granite monument includes names of all Veterans buried in the four cemeteries at the north end of town which include Veterans, City, Trinity Lutheran, and St. Margaret Mary/Holy Cross Cemeteries. Future deceased Veterans' names will be added to the monument.

The following quote has been engraved on the front of the monument.

"To honor all American service members past and present.

--- -All gave some, some gave all.--- -

Let us never forget the sacrifice endured in the pursuit of freedom, liberty and justice."



Fargo Post #2

Several members of the Legion Family of Post/Unit 2 in Fargo also serve as musicians in the Red River Valley Veterans Concert Band. This amazing band plays in the Fargo area in the winter at area retirement homes and they take their talents on the road in the fall and spring! The motto for this hardworking group is "Promote Patriotism Through Music!" The members of the band shown are as follows:



Front row: Jean Hanson, Auxiliary; Linda Whaley, Dual Member Auxiliary and Post; Michele Grindahl, Dual Member Auxiliary and Post; Bonnie Miller, Auxiliary. Second row: Shauna Dubuque, Auxiliary; Chuck Monroe, SAL; Cheryl Hosie, Post; Mike Koshney, Post; Todd Pfingsten, Post; Cathy Keogh, Dual Member Auxiliary and Post; Lawrence Woodbury, Post; and LaVonne Matthews, Auxiliary. Submitted by Michele Grindahl, Post Commander

Kensal Post #103



Herman Kulla turned 100 years young on February 11th. Herman is an 80-year member of John Florhaug Post 103 in Kensal, ND. Submitted by Bill Lipetsky, Post Adjutant

Devils Lake Post #24



Devils Lake JROTC Cadets Earn American Legion Awards

Cadet Bentley GreyBear III and Cadet Natalie Schall received awards from the American Legion during the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Dining In event at the Devils Lake High School for their outstanding performances. Cadet GreyBear received the American Legion General Military Excellence Award for being in the top 25% of his class in JROTC and non-JROTC subjects and having demonstrated outstanding qualities in military leadership, discipline, character, and citizenship. Cadet Schall received the Scholastic Excellence Award for being in the top 10% of her class in non-JROTC subjects, being in the top 25% of her class in JROTC, demonstrated qualities of leadership, and having actively participated

Bismarck Post #1



American Legion Post 1 supporting Community Action who assist veterans in the community. Submitted by Janette Fetch, Post Adjutant.

in related student activities such as student organizations, constructive activities, or sports.

These cadets were recognized for their outstanding attributes and their demonstrated leadership. The American Legion North Dakota Department Sergeant-At-Arms and Devils Lake Post Adjutant Bryce Crosby attended the event and was there on behalf of the Post Commander Jack Volk to witness the presentations of the certificates, ribbons, and medals to these exceptional cadets.

The JROTC program provides students throughout the United States with crucial social values – such as discipline, leadership, citizenship, and personal responsibility.

Submitted by Bryce Crosby, Post Adjutant & Dept Sergeant-at-Arms

STEVE ANDERSON & PASTOR MARK ANTAL FOR YOUR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN AND ALTERNATE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN

STEVE IS A 20-YEAR USMC VETERAN. HE IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 79 IN CANDO. STEVE HAS HELD SEVERAL LEGION POSITIONS, INCLUDING DEPARTMENT COMMANDER. STEVE IS THE CURRENT AMERICAN LEGION RIDER STATE DIRECTOR. WHILE COMMANDER, STEVE'S PLATFORM WAS "REMEMBER THE FALLEN, SUPPORT THE LIVING," TO BRING AWARENESS TO PTSD AND VETERAN SUICIDE. STEVE CONTINUES TO WORK TOWARDS THOSE SAME GOALS TODAY. HE WORKED TIRELESSLY TO TRAVEL THE STATE TO ATTEND EVENTS AND TO "SHOW UP" FOR NORTH DAKOTA VETERANS. HE WILL CONTINUE TO SHOW UP FOR THIS DEPARTMENT, SHOULD HE BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE YOUR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN. STEVE HAS BEEN MARRIED TO HIS WIFE, MICHELE FOR 11 YEARS AND THEY HAVE TWO DAUGHTERS, TAYLOR & ERYKKA AND TWO SONS, JUSTIN & BRANDON. THEY ALSO HAVE TWO GRANDSONS, LEWIS AND BODIE.

PASTOR MARK SERVED AS AN ENLISTED SOLDIER FOR 6 YEARS AND AS A CHAPLAIN FOR 20 YEARS IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY. HE IS A GRADUATE OF THE ASSOCIATION FREE LUTHERAN BIBLE SCHOOL, VALLEY CITY STATE COLLEGE AND THE ASSOCIATION FREE LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY. PASTOR MARK HAS SERVED SEVERAL CONGREGATIONS, INCLUDING BEMIDJI, LEEDS, PARK RIVER AND EDINBURG. PASTOR MARK HAS ALSO HELD SEVERAL POSITIONS WITHIN THE AMERICAN LEGION. HE HAS BEEN THE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN FOR 7 DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS AND WAS MOST RECENTLY THE 2022-2023 AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CHAPLAIN. PASTOR MARK HAS BEEN MARRIED TO HIS WIFE, RUTH FOR 46 YEARS. TOGETHER THEY HAVE FOUR ADULT CHILDREN AND 11 GRANDCHILDREN. THEY MAKE THEIR HOME IN APPLE VALLEY, MINNESOTA.



FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT. NOT THE HAT.

Hannaford Post #113

On Thursday, March 14, at the Hannaford American Legion meeting, Michael Hook was awarded his 50-year certificate of continuous membership and Albert Eslinger his 75-year certificate of continuous membership.



Left to right: First District vice commander Harlan Johnson of Mayville, First District Commander Jon Veile from Hope and 50-year recipient Michael Hook. Sitting in back is Gerald Hanson Post Commander of the Hannaford American legion Photo by Dennis Kubischta Griggs County Veteran Service Officer

On Thursday, March 14, at the Hannaford American Legion meeting, Michael Hook was awarded his 50-year certificate of continuous membership and Albert Eslinger his 75-year certificate of continuous membership.



Left to right: First District vice commander Harlan Johnson of Mayville, First District Commander Jon Veile from Hope and 75-year recipient Albert Eslinger. Photos by Dennis Kubischta Griggs County Veteran Service Officer

Learn to save a life
Sanford Health EMS Education

Our qualified, experienced team offers a variety of emergency care courses for teens, adults, or those looking for a career change. For the highest level of convenience, the training is offered at flexible hours and locations.

Courses include:

- CPR
- First Aid
- ABCs of Babysitting
- Pediatric First Aid
- AED Training
- EMT Classes*
- Paramedic Training*
- *College credit available

Visit sanfordhealthemseducation.org to learn more.



PREMIER GAMING, DINING & RESORT DESTINATION

GAMING | LODGING | DINING | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
CAMPGROUND | MARINA | CABINS | GROCERY STORE

Spirit LAKE
Casino & Resort

SPIRITLAKECASINO.COM

105th American Legion
Department Convention

June 21-23, 2024

Bismarck Hotel and Conference Center
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
Make Reservations by Calling
701-660-8063

Thursday, June 20, 2024

4:00 pm DEC Meeting

Friday, June 21, 2024

10:00 am Foundation Meeting
1:00 pm Registration (closes at 5:00 pm)
1:00 pm Future of ND
1:30 pm Resolutions
3:00 pm 40 et 8 Cheminot
3:00 pm Incoming Officers Meet & Greet with Incoming Commander & President
4:00 pm District Officers Flag Rehearsal
4:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting
4:30 pm Past Dept Commanders Social and Dinner
5:00 pm Credentials Committee
5:30 pm First Time Attendees
7:00 pm Joint Opening Session

Saturday, June 22, 2024

8:00 am Registration (closes at 3:00 pm)
8:00 am Constitution and By-Laws Committee
8:00 am Media Alliance
8:00 am VA&R Meeting
8:00 am Americanism/C&Y Committee Meeting
9:00 am 40 et 8 Grand Promenade
9:00 am District Officers/CPR's
9:00 am SAL Meeting
10:00 am Athletic Committee
10:00 am Legion Training Session
10:30 am SAL Training Session
11:00 am Credentials Committee
11:00 am Boys State
11:00 am Legion Riders
1:00 pm Legion General Session
3:00 pm East Region Caucus
3:00 pm Central Region Caucus
3:00 pm West Region Caucus
4:00 pm National Convention Meeting
5:30 pm Social
6:30 pm Department Convention Banquet
Dance by ND American Legion State Band

Sunday, June 23, 2024

8:00 am Oratorical Committee
8:00 am Incoming Officer Pictures
8:00 am Registration (closes at 9:00 am)
9:00 am Credentials Committee
9:00 am Joint Worship Service
Joint Session
Legion Session
Post Convention DEC Meeting
Organizational Meeting

The Forum
OF FARGO-MOORHEAD

INFORUM
Powered by The Forum and WDAY

We have a lot in common

Honoring service
Preserving history
Defending Freedom

Local news
works for you.



inforum.news/hero

Advanced Department Convention Banquet Ticket Order Form

Please reserve the following tickets for (Legionnaire's Name) _____

Under Post # _____ in District # _____ Located in _____

Advanced Banquet Ticket Price if RECEIVED By June 7th: \$35.00

Advanced Banquet Ticket Price AFTER June 7th: \$40.00

ALL advanced ticket orders must be received by the Department Headquarters by June 12th.

Banquet Tickets _____ (quantity) X \$ _____ (price) = _____ Total

TOTAL PAYMENT SUBMITTED: \$ _____

Note: Advanced tickets prices are graduated and must be received at the Department office by the correlating due date to receive the \$35 (June 7th) or \$40 after June 7th. After June 12th, tickets must be purchased at the registration desk. A limited number of tickets are available and sold on a first come first served basis.

Make Checks Payable to American Legion Department of ND



(701) 532-4000

641 32nd Ave. W.
W. Fargo, ND

Military and Senior Discounts

