

## 9TH DISTRICT



## NEWSLETTER

### **“HONOR OUR VETERANS, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE”**

#### **Greetings from Your 9th District President**

We got off to a great start this year with all our Units help. We are off the goose egg!

Fall Conference was great. The 9<sup>th</sup> District was awarded the Callen-Carlson Trophy for the fourth year in a row. Great job! It was good to learn more about some of the programs out there that have new things added.

I've been to a few Unit membership meals, Roosevelt, East Grand Forks and Moorhead. I went to the VA Hospital Volunteer supper at the VFW in Dilworth. And the Pheasant Dinner at Minnesota Veterans Home Fergus Falls.

Things coming up: there's the Christmas party at Waubun on December 9th at 12p.m with a short membership rally turn in. Bring some membership with you. We will have a gift exchange of \$10 and a pot luck meal. Come for the fun.

Mid-Winter will be in Thief River Falls on January 12th and 13th. Everyone is invited.

I'm looking forward to visiting some if not all our Units this year. Have a great year.

God Bless You All.

Thanks to all our Veterans for their service.

Honor Our Veterans Past, Present and Future

Doreen Norgaard

9th District President

National Security

Send Christmas Cards and Care Packages to our troops. Check with members in your Unit to see if they have any names and addresses, check with other organizations in your community.

Send Christmas Cards to A Recovering Soldier - % Walter Reed Med Center – 6900 Georgia Ave NW – Washington, DC 20307 – 5001

Do you have your Winter Survival In Your Car? If not please make sure you have one so you are prepared in case you get stranded.

Your Unit can hold Blood Drive or work with other organizations.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Diane Hayes

National Security

9<sup>th</sup> District Chairman

## LEADERSHIP REPORT for NEWSLETTER /DECEMBER 2017

Members attending the first of several workshops to come experienced the format of three program chairmen working together as ONE doing a joint presentation. Leadership, Membership, and Public Relations were the programs, and Sandy Wersal, Mary Kuperus and Robin Dorf were the Department leaders. They used a "front and center" approach in sharing ideas, methods and ways to spread the word using Face Book and other media outlets in getting the information out to others. Try to attend further team presentations by being a participant at one of following workshops near you. New material on the topics will be given to help us in our work.

TIME for ALL WORKSHOPS	. . . .	9AM TO 2PM
Saturday, December 2, 2017		West Duluth MN
Saturday, February 10, 2018		New London MN
Saturday, February 24, 2018		Waite Park MN
Saturday, March 10, 2018		Buffalo MN

Take it easy on the Thanksgiving Turkey. Do have a very Happy Holiday. See you next year.

Mary Trowbridge

## Past Presidents Parley

November was Past Presidents Parley Month. Hopefully you took time to celebrate the Past Presidents of your Unit. They are the **foundation** of your Unit. This may include Past Presidents of your District, Department and National levels.

They are an invaluable asset and are ready to assist you in any way possible. It is the goal that every Unit in Minnesota to have an organized Past Presidents Parley.

Now is the time to think about a member that you could submit as the Unit Member of the Year. See November unit mailing for further information.

Please note that the deadline for the Past Presidents Parley Health Care Scholarship is earlier than the Annual reports.

Margee Keller  
Past Presidents Parley Chairperson



**The District Finance Committee will be hosting a Silent Auction at our Mid Winter Meeting in Thief River Falls on January 12 and 13<sup>th</sup>. Be creative and bring a pie, homemade canned goods, and a basket of goodies.**

**Finance Committee: Linda Gibson, Joanie Krantz and Margee Keller**

## **GIRLS STATE**

The time to choose your Girls State citizen(s) for 2018 is right around the corner. But that doesn't mean it is time to forget your 2017 citizen. Have you had her give a presentation to your Unit? Have you had her give a presentation to the school assembly? Have you published an article about her and her experiences in the local paper? This not only honors her experience at Girls State, it also encourages this year's class to ask about their opportunity to go to Girls State.

American Legion Auxiliary Minnesota Girls State 2018 will be held June 10-16 at Bethel University. The registration fee remains at \$300 and it is due to Department office by March 31. Remember the UNIT makes the final selection. If your Unit does not have the funds to send a girl or girls, please consider having a fund raiser to add funds to your Girls State Fund. Ask your American Legion Post to consider making a donation to your Girls State Fund.

This year's Girls State committee has 4 goals:

1. Increase the number of citizens
2. Increase presence on social media
3. Increase fund raising efforts
4. Increase the number of volunteers

Is your Unit able to help them meet these goals?

Jean Horack, chairman

## **Americanism**

Greetings, We have just celebrated Veterans Day so perhaps Veterans were honored in some special way with a meal or program.

For American education week visit classrooms and talk about flag etiquette. Encourage students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. If you have small flags share them with the students so they can take them home with them.

Contact students to enter the oratorical and/or essay contests.

Promote Americanism as an individual and in the community.

Americanism Chairman,  
Pat Hanson

**December 2017**

**Greetings auxiliary members! This is very busy time of the year. The holidays are approaching very fast. Our Veterans at the V.A. Hospital have been busy with various activities. We will again be having a Christmas party (Dec.11<sup>th</sup>) with gifts, snacks, music & fun for the Veterans.**

**Will be doing the Gift Shop on December 4<sup>th</sup>, after the Department bingo session, around 3:30, along with the \$5.00 Gift Shower. Should be exciting time for all.**

**The V.A. is completely out of neck pillows. Please help make neck pillows! When making neck pillows please make sure they are very firm. Once again if you need a pattern just email me or call. Lande48@gmail.com, or 701-410-7010**

**There are somethings that we do have plenty of. We have an abundance of heart pillows. Most popular for blankets are the patriotic blankets. Some items needed: Neck pillows, deodorant (men), travel size mouth wash, Chap Stick, Nail clippers (large & small, new), backscratchers, reading glasses, lens wipes, & hand-held mirrors**

**Remember no bar soaps, nothing with alcohol,**

**Wish to thank you for your continue support to the veterans. Job well done!!**

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

**Respectfully,**

**Lynette Andel**

**VA&R Representative/Fargo**

## Junior Activities

Does your Unit have Junior Members? All Junior Members have the opportunity to participate in the District Junior Conference to be held in Argyle date TBA, 2018, and the Department Junior Conference to be held April 13-14, 2018. **Juniors can enter all contests and have voting privileges whether they have an organized group on not.** Contest information and rules are included in the Department Trophies and Awards mailing.

Nineteen Ninth District Junior members attended the District fun Day held in at the newly dedicated Military Room at the Marshall County Historical Building in Warren. Juniors learned interesting facts on the history of our country's military involvement and viewed the many displays. They also assembled comfort boxes for the Fargo VAMC, made treat bags for Veterans Day for Veterans at the Fargo VAMC, made door decorations for nursing home residents and made Veterans Day cards for area Veterans. Members also donated school items that were given to local schools as children often cannot bring in all the requested items. And the best part of the day was meeting other Junior members and having fun while making a difference for Veterans, school children and nursing home residents.

I challenge each Unit in the Ninth District to increase your Junior membership. ASK Auxiliary members and Legionnaires to sign up their daughters, granddaughters and great granddaughters. Scholarship opportunities can be a great recruiting tool.

Could you ask your Junior Members to attend and participate in your Christmas celebrations? Maybe they could have a part in the program, help serve the meal, make favors or decorations. It is our responsibility to teach Juniors about the ALA programs, about service to Veterans and how to be great volunteers. The energy and excitement Junior Members bring to the American Legion Family is remarkable.

I can be contacted with any questions on the Junior Activities Program or the District or Department Junior Conference at [lefta@wiktel.com](mailto:lefta@wiktel.com) or at 218-684-0838.

Mary  
A.Efta  
Ninth District Junior  
Activities Chairman



Thank you ladies for the good work on membership. We are doing really great. Please bring some to the Christmas Party in Waubun on the 9<sup>th</sup>.



## Children & Youth

With the Christmas Season upon us, it will be a great time to do something for our Military Kids or for you local community children in need.

Sometimes you can call your local Social Services Department, and ask what items would be needed to help. And they will give you a list of items that are needed, or what area of the community that is in need.

If you have a Military family, have a party for them, and or invite them to a local Christmas Party of the Unit or Post.

Remember in the up coming months, there are scholarships available for High School and Military Children, that will be due in March.

Happy Holiday to all of you, and talk to you in the next newsletter.  
Hope to see a lot of you at Mid Winter in Thief River Falls in January on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

Jan McDonald  
9<sup>th</sup> Dist. Chairman  
of Children & Youth

## Service to Veterans

**As members of the American Legion Auxiliary, we have the best chances to help the Veterans. We know when to donate to the V.A. Homes and we can volunteer at these homes.**

**As Unit members we can help our Veterans in the home and the community. By being close to the Post membership, we know personally which member would need some help, and just some personal attention. Get a group together and send out Christmas Cards and or Birthday Cards.**

**Call your local Veterans Home and or Nursing Home and find out what is needed by the residents. Maybe it is wheel chair bags , bibs, or walker bags, etc.**

**I hope to see you all at Mid Winter Conference in Thief River Falls on January 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**Jean Pederson; 9<sup>th</sup> District Chairman**

