



Districts caucused before a vote on delegates at large to the National Convention in Reno.



Auxiliary President Carol Kottom.



Department Juniors showed off their muscle. (Karla Otterness photo)



Oratorical Champion Elise Sopelle.



Firefighter of the Year Mark Denn of Madelia.



Police Officer of the Year David Watson of Lakeville.



New SAL Detachment Commander Shawn Davis.



National Vice Commander Douglas Boldt.

Legion Installation



District and Department officers took their oath of office from Installing Officer Marland Ronning.



Past Department Commander Dennis Henkemeyer escorted his wife, Past Department Commander Denise Milton, from the stage with her colors.



Installing Officer Marland Ronning paid tribute to outgoing Commander Denise Milton.



Commander Mike Schaffer posed with gold badge of past commanders.

Auxiliary Installation



Outgoing President Carol Kottom passed the gavel to incoming president Donna Arends.



President Carol Kottom pinned President Donna Arends as First Vice President Jean Walker looked on.



New Honorary Junior President Courtney Rogat spoke to the Auxiliary delegates.



Mary Hendrickson of Cloquet was elected Second Vice President.



Kottom presented Arends with a small gift during the installation ceremony.

World War II Round Table announces programs for 2017-18

This year's programs for the World War II History Round Table have been announced.

The Round Table usually meets at the Fort Snelling History Center on the second Thursday of each month starting in September. Some months have more than one program.

Admission is \$5. The programs begin at 7 p.m.

This will be the 31st year for the Round Table, considered one of the best in the nation. Most programs feature a noted war history author as well as veterans who were there.

The programs include:

September 14 - Winning the Pacific War. James D. Hornfischer, Author of *The Fleet at High Tide* along with Veterans will discuss the Campaign in the Central Pacific that led to the final victory over the Japanese.

October 12 - The First Invasion - Operation Torch - noting 75th Anniversary. Vincent O'Hara, author of *Torch* and Tim Brady, Author of *His Father's Son* along with Veterans will discuss the Politics and Naval and Ground Operations in the most complicated Landing Operation in the early War period

October 26 - POW's of Japan - Palawan. Stephen L. Moore, author of *As Good as Dead* will discuss the much overlooked POW Camp that held several veterans from Minnesota

November 9 - The Dr. Harold C. Deutsch Lecture - Allying for Victory. William T. Johnsen, Author of *The Origins of the Grand Alliance* will discuss the partnership between Roosevelt and Churchill to form an Allied Force to defeat the Axis Forces in Europe and expand into the Pacific Victory

December 14 - Victory in the Battle of the Bulge.

Martin King and Michael Collins, authors of *Voices of the Bulge* and four new titles on units involved in the Ardennes fighting, with veterans of the largest land battle in western Europe, will reveal the struggle that led to the Victory.

January 11 - Eastern Front - Final Victories. Jonathan House, author of *Stalingrad*, and veterans of the Soviet Military will describe the savage battles between the Germans and Russians that are too often overlooked by western Military Historians.

February 8 - The Berlin Airlift - First Allied Victory of the Cold War - noting 70th Anniversary. Roger G. Miller, Author of *To Save a City*, and veterans of the mighty endeavor will tell the Stalin attempt to starve out a City devastated by War and struggling to rebuild and establish a new future.

March 8 - American Airpower in WWII. Conrad C. Crane, author of *American Airpower Strategy in World War II*, and Veterans that participated in the air operations will describe the strategy and personal experiences that contributed to a Victory in WWII.

March 22 - Architecture of the Nazis. Ray and Josephine Cowdery, Authors of *Reich Chancellery*, will show their collection of period pictures of the monumental architecture of the Nazis' regime to impress their power, and current photos of what remains.

April 12 - The Greatest Field Commander - Lucian Truscott. Harvey Ferguson, Author of *The Last Cavalryman*, and veterans that served in his commands will reveal the experiences of what happened in Italy and France by a commander who has been rated as the greatest field commander of WWII.

May 10 - To Save the Victory After Defeat. Benn Steil,

Veterans wanted to tell their WWII experiences

The World War II Round Table is seeking veteran panelists for this year's slate of programs.

Panelists are needed to tell their stories for the following programs:

- Naval and Air Forces in the Pacific
- Those involved in Operation Torch
- Veterans in the Battle of the Bulge
- Any involvement in the Berlin Airlift
- Army Air Corps or Naval aviators
- Veterans of Italy or Southern France
- Occupation Troops in the post war era.

Those who would like to volunteer should contact the Round Table organizer Don Patton at coldpatton@yahoo.com or 612-867-5144.

The programs are held at the Fort Snelling Visitor Center in south Minneapolis. Transportation can be arranged.

Author of *The Marshall Plan*, and veterans of the occupation, will highlight the great success that sealed the victory in Europe and led to the state of peace that resulted in the establishment of NATO and European Union.

Listening Post



LAKE CITY FLAGS OF VALOR -- Over 600 flags were placed on the River Walk Trail along Highway 61 by Lake City Post 110. The flags honor veterans.



ARGONNE DAWG DAYS -- Argonne Post 32 held its second annual Dawg Days. Deputy Sheriff Mike Schei and his K9 partner did a demonstration of the dog's abilities.



WAITE PARK PRESENTS COLOR -- Waite Park Post 428 Color Guard presented the colors before an Apollo High School baseball game.

News from around the State



BOWLUS FLOAT -- Bowlus Post 642 made this recreation of Iwo Jima for the Bowlus Fun Day parade this year.



EAGAN HONORS YOUTH -- Eagan Post 594 honored youth for their participation in a flag retirement ceremony. From left: Post Adjutant Wayne Beierman, Macy and Duane Buxman, Post Commander John Flynn. Legion Rider Mike Wallace and Scoutmaster Brad Weber.



ALEXANDRIA HONORS MEMBERS -- Alexandria Post 87 honored three long-time members: Kenneth Olson, 50 years, Jerry Prettyman, 50 years, and Alvin Tvrđik, 60 years.

Awards and presentations made at the 2017 convention



TOP SERVICE OFFICERS -- The Department's top veterans service officers were honored at Mahnonmen with certificates of meritorious service. From left: Heather Larson, Department Assistant Service Officer; Garylee Davenport accepting for Dennis Anderson, Montevideo Post 59; Sylvan Fix accepting for Emery Fick, Lake City Post 110, Ron Wolford accepting for Frank Menter, Anoka Post 102; Allen Rusch accepting for Dave Hallan, Bagley Post 16; Wes Thompson, Waite Park Post 428; Carl Renalls, 3M Post 599; Ryan Hill, accepting for Gerald McConkey, Worthington Post 464; Jeremy Wolfsteller, Department Service Officer.



100 PERCENTERS -- Districts were honored with certificates for reaching 100 percent on posts turning in Consolidated Post Reports. From left: Commander Denise Milton, First District Commander Sylvan Fix; Fourth District Commander Randy Bastyr; Fifth District Commander Ray Eiden; Americanism Chair Art Tobkin.



3M POST EXCELLENCE -- 3M Post 599 was recognized for Post Excellence. From left: Commander Denise Milton, Carl Renalls, Bird Partridge and NECman Marland Ronning.



NISSWA COMMUNITY SERVICE -- Niswaga Post 627 was honored for most dollars spent in Category III for Community Service. Accepting the plaque was Ray DeZurik.



WAITE PARK SERVICE -- Waite Park Post 428 donated the most hours to community service in Category IV. Accepting was Tom Fernlund.



HOPKINS BOWLING TROPHY -- Hopkins Post 320 won the State Bowling Tournament for Legionnaires. From Left: Department Commander Denise Milton, Bowling Chairman Bob Mace, Larry Woods, Bowling Secretary John Torma.



BRUNO SERVICE -- Bruno Post 563 won the Community Service Plaque for most hours donated in Category I. Tenth District Membership Director Paul Orson accepted for Bruno.



MELROSE SERVICE -- Richard Cross accepted the plaque for Melrose Post 101 for Category III for most dollars spent on Community Service.



3M MOST DOLLARS SPENT -- 3M Post 599 won the Community Service Award for Most Dollars Spent for Category I. From left, Department Commander Denise Milton, Carl Renalls, Chairman Bob Locker.



BOYS STATE AWARDS -- Boys State presented plaques to posts who sponsored boys who won awards at this year's program. From left: Commander Denise Milton, Paul Orson accepting for Fridley Post 303, sponsor of Eric Olson, winner the Myron and David Way Award; Tom Schottenbauer, St. Louis Park Post 282, sponsor of Henry Bird, Director's Award; Ron Wolford, Anoka Post 102, sponsor of Eric Sem, Director's Award; Lee Talakson, Boys State.



APPLE VALLEY MOST DOLLARS DONATED -- Apple Valley Post 1776 won the Category 4 Community Service Award for most dollars. From left: Department Commander Denise Milton, District Commander Mike Maxa accepting for the post; Chairman Bob Locker.

More honors and awards from the 2017 Department Convention



AWARD TO V4V -- The Fourth District presented an award to the Veterans for Veterans Foundation for its support of the district's Shop, Ship and Share program. From left: V4V board member Marland Ronning, Teresa Ash, V4V's Don Pankake; Commander Denise Milton and Fourth District Commander Randy Bastyr.



PAT CLIFF AWARD -- Carl Renalls of 3M Post 599 was the winner of the Pat Cliff Award presented to the Department's top service officer.



LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR -- David Watson, a detective from the Lakeville Police Department was honored as The American Legion Law Office of the Year. From left: Commander Denise Milton, Watson, and Law and Order Chair Tom Conway.



FIRE FIGHTER OF THE YEAR -- Mark Denn, fire chief at Madelia Fire Department, was selected as the department's Fire Fighter of the Year. From left: Commander Denise Milton, Denn, Law and Order Chair Tom Conway.



NISSWA WINS LINDELL -- Nisswa Post 627 was the winner of the Lindell Trophy for Community Service. From left: Commander Denise Milton, Ray DeZurik, Community Service Chair Bob Locker.



SAFETY PATROL HONOR -- Officer Michelle Giampolo of the St. Paul Police Department was honored with the George J. Kaisersatt School Safety Patrol Distinguished Service Award. Presenting were Commander Denise Milton and Safety Patrol Chairman Jim Blakesley.



TOP EMPLOYER -- Don Knutson of Green View Inc. accepted the Employer of the Year Award from Employment Committee Chair Carl Moon. Greenvew provides maintenance at Minnesota state parks and rest areas. At left is Commander Denise Milton



ST. FRANCIS SERVICE -- St. Francis won the most hours donated award in Category II for Community Service. Paul Orson accepted for the post.



AUXILIARY WINNERS -- Norma Tramm and Cindy Goepford, at right accepted the plaque for winning the Auxiliary Bowling at the Minnesota American Legion State Bowling Tournament. Bowling Secretary John Torma and committee member Pam Hoshal presented the award.



RIDERS IN PARADE -- Chuck Stone and Steve Sullivan accepted a check from Commander Milton for the Riders outstanding participation in the parade.



BUESSELMERS HONORED -- Mel Buesseler accepted a Community Service Award from the Legionville Board for contributions made to the Safety Patrol camp by the John and Cathryn Buesseler Foundation.



PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR -- Department Rehabilitation Chairman Wilson Spence announced that The American Legion's VA Physician of the Year was Dr. Candy Heinlein from the Minneapolis VA Medical Center.

More honors and awards from the 2017 Department Convention



DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP TEAM HONORED -- Membership Director Mark Dvorak presented his final membership awards at the convention. From left: Sixth District Membership Director Judith Ficek and Commander Veronica Fernlund, Goose Egg and Premier Race; Second District Membership Director Mike Schaffer and Commander Mark Coney, Goose Egg, Fall Conference, Kaisersatt and Growing Strong awards; Third District Membership Director Gene Leifeld and Commander Mike Maxa, Goose Egg, New Member and Oak Awards; Fifth District Membership Director Walt Lyndsley and Commander Ray Eiden, Appreciation Rally, Spring Rally; Fourth District Membership Director Mickey Ostrum and Commander Randy Bastyr, Goose Egg and Pearl Harbor Awards; First District Membership Director Dennis Lewison and Commander Sylvan Fix, Goose Egg; Ninth District Membership Director Tim Haugen and Commander Eric Wilkens, Goose Egg; 10th District Membership Director Paul Orson and Commander Bonnie Hanson, Sweetheart Rally; Eighth District Commander Ken Oliver and Membership Director E. Jerry St. Michel, Acorn Award; Seven District Membership Director Richard Wog and Commander Garylee Davenport.



BELLEFEUILLE HONORED -- Phil Bellefeuille was honored with a Distinguished Service Award for his longtime chairmanship of the Convention Corporation. Bellefeuille is a member at Detroit Lakes Post 15.



ORATORICAL WINNER -- Oratorical Contest winner Elise Sopelle accepted the Ed Thielen Award. From left are Deb Norman, chair; Jim Lucas, Sixth District; Commander Denise Milton, Sopelle, Linda Dvorak, assistant chair.



CONEY PROJECT -- Second District Commander Mark Coney presented a check for \$6,000 to Commander Milton. Coney's project for the year was Brain Science Foundation.



FIFTH DISTRICT PARADE -- District Commander Ray Eiden accepted a check for the Fifth District finishing third at the Department parade.



FIRST DISTRICT PARADE -- District Commander Sylvan Fix accepted a check for the First District finishing first at the Department parade.



SILVER BRIGADE -- Terry Larson of Forest Lake Post 255 won the Silver Brigade Award, presented by Department Commander Denise Milton and Membership Director Mark Dvorak. John Lenvik of Apple Valley Post 1776 won the Gold Brigade Award.



THIEF RIVER FALLS AWARD -- Arlo Rude accepted a check for third place in the Patriotic Theme at the Department parade.



TOP COLOR GUARD -- Waite Park Post 428 again won the top color guard competition in the annual parade. From left: Commander Denise Milton, Bob Mace, Wes Thompson, Gerald Gohman, Veronica Fernlund and Tom Fernlund.



NINTH DISTRICT PARADE -- Ninth District Commander Eric Wilkins accepted a check for second place for districts in the annual parade.

Taps

Mack, Reuben F., 89, Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War, died July 6, 2017. He served as Department Chaplain, 2000-01, Fifth District Commander, 1983-84; and Department Vice Commander, 1990-91. He was a member of Gopher Post 440.

Webster, Peter, 91, Navy veteran of World War II, died July 10, 2017. He served on the USS General C.G. Morton, a transport ship. He was a member of Lake City Post 110.

Korfe, John H., 98, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died June 24, 2017. He was a member of Windom Post 206.

Simonson, Robert P., 90, Army veteran of World War II, died June 30, 2017. He was a member of Sanborn Post 286.

Krumrei, Elizabeth, 94, Marine Corps veteran of World War II, died July 9, 2017. She was a past chaplain of Bloomington Post 550.

Bruellman, Roger, 77, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died July 5, 2017. He served in the United States. He was a member of the honor guard of Gaylord Post 433.

Boyd, Tilford Sandum, 85, Army veteran of the Korean War, died July 9, 2017. He served in Germany. He was a member of Austin Post 91.

Hoss, Christopher, 84, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died June 13, 2017. He was a member of Marshall Post 113.

Fischer, Robert "Buck," 84, Army veteran of the Korean War, died June 18, 2017. He served in Fairbanks, Alaska. He was a member of Marshall Post 113.

Stigman, Lloyd Alwyn, 94, Army veteran of World War II, died July 6, 2017. He was severely wounded at the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium. He was a member of Park Rapids Post 212.

Spencer, Ted, 85, Air Force veteran of the Korean War, died July 13, 2017. He was a member of Park Rapids Post 212.

Von Itter, Joseph W., 94, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died July 10, 2017. He was a member of Little Falls Post 46.

Pedersen, Allen Robert, 101, Army veteran of World War II, died July 13, 2017. He served in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and the Philippines. He was a member of Crookston Post 20.

Murray, Richard J., 86, Navy veteran of the Korean War, died July 21, 2017. He was a longtime finance officer of Claremont Post 422.

Olbrich, John R., 84, Army veteran of the Korean War, died July 20, 2017. He was a member of Claremont Post 422.

Hughes, William Keith, 87, Navy veteran of the Korean War, died June 17, 2017. He served on the battleships USS Missouri and USS Wisconsin. He was a member of Hackensack Post 202.

VanHove, Steven R., 61, Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War, died June 26, 2017. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Hayunga, Donald W., 82, Army National Guard veteran of the Vietnam War, died June 28, 2017. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Skaja, Anthony J., 71, Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, died July 4, 2017. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Stowater, Herbert F., 93, Navy veteran of World War II, died July 8, 2017. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Schneider, Ronald H., 82, Navy veteran of the Korean War, died July 10, 2017. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Rustad, Gerald R., 74, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died July 12, 2017. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Lofback, Lloyd Wilfred, 92, Navy veteran of World War II, died June 6, 2017. He was an electrician's mate serving in California. He was a member of Virginia Post 239.

Reinholz, Thomas R., 81, Army veteran of the Korean War, died July 15, 2017. He was a member of Cold Spring Post 455.

Rygg, Charles O., 79, Army veteran of the Korean War, died July 16, 2017. He served in Japan. He was a member of East Grand Forks Post 157.

Setterquist, Jerry, 87, Army veteran of the Korean War, died July 5, 2017. He was a member of Cloquet Post 262.

Orr, Tom, 80, Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, died July 9, 2017. He served for 21 years and retired as a lieutenant commander. He was in search and rescue in the Arctic. He was a past finance officer and commander of Long Prairie Post 12.

Haines, Richard, 86, Army veteran of the Korean War, died July 7, 2017. He was a member of Paynesville Post 271.

Palmquist, Russell Charles, 89, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died July 11, 2017. He served in the medical corps in New York. He was a member of Chisholm Post 247.

Tungsvik, Floyd Russell, 95, Navy veteran of World War II, died June 18, 2017. He served on an ammunition

ship in the Pacific. He was a member of Nicollet Post 150.

Plaeger, Merritt F., 86, Army veteran of the Korean War, died June 15, 2017. He was a member of Alexandria Post 87.

Urban, Ronald F., 84, Army veteran of the Korean War, died July 6, 2017. He was a member of the Chosin Few. He was a member of St. Paul Park Post 98.

Meyer, Maurice Frank, 91, Army veteran of World War II, died June 3, 2017. He served in Japan as a medical aidman. He was a member of North Branch Post 85.

Westermann, Dwight W., 74, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died June 30, 2017. He served in Oregon and France. He was a member of Dent Post 148.

Rush, Kenneth A., 94, Army veteran of World War II, died June 6, 2017. He was a tech sergeant in the 82nd Airborne Division and served in Europe. He was a member of Nisswa Post 627.

Nordine, Donald S., 86, Army veteran of the Korean War, died July 1, 2017. He served in Germany. He was a member of East Grand Forks Post 157.



GIFT FROM NVC -- National Vice Commander Douglas Boldt of Nebraska presented Membership Director Mark Dvorak with a pen and pencil set. He noted that Minnesota led the region in membership.

Mjoen, Marlin D., 70, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died July 3, 2017. He was a clerk-typist. He was a member of Park Rapids Post 212.

Dirkx, Peter A., 96, Navy veteran of World War II, died June 30, 2017. He served on a troop carrier in the Pacific with duty at Okinawa. He was a member of Amboy Post 276.

Ouellette, Donald Thomas, 85, Navy veteran of the Korean War, died June 24, 2017. He served on the USS Rendova (CVE-114) and was an atomic veteran. He was a member of Golden Valley Post 523.

Moe, Robert Lewis, 87, Army veteran of the Korean War, died June 29, 2017. He worked in demolition and mile removal. He was a member of Dent Post 148.

Lodin, Robert W., 95, Army veteran of World War II, died July 21, 2017. He was a lieutenant who served in the 94th Division in Europe. He was a member of Richfield Post 435.



GIFT TO COMMANDER -- National Vice Commander Douglas Boldt of Nebraska presented Commander Denise Milton with a pen and pencil set. Boldt spoke before the convention at Mahanomen.



LONG DAY -- Department President Carol Kottom takes a break while introducing new Commander Mike Schaffer and Membership Director Larry Ryan to the Auxiliary audience. (Karla Otterness photo)



The Auxiliary Bulletin

No. 18-1

President Donna Arends

August 2017

Secretary Sandie Deutsch

Department Headquarters, Veterans Service Building, St. Paul, MN 55155 651-224-7634

The President's Column

By Donna Arends



Hello American Legion Family,
My first Legionnaire letter to you all. I am very honored and humbled to be in this position. Thank you those of you that made this possible.

In my acceptance speech I stated my Legionnaire articles would be substantially shorter than in the past years. However with my first one, I have a lot to share with you. So this may take a little more space than I anticipated.

First off the project I have chosen for this year. I would like to garner \$26,000. I will divide this amount between the five Veterans Homes in the state, and the Servicemen's Center at the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport. Any over and above that amount will go to the Department Office for their day to day operations of us working for our veterans.

This year's symbol will be a Lighthouse. The theme this year will be "Lighting Veterans Paths."

Another small project I have is to obtain the smaller L.E.D. flashlights. At every function I attend (and I sincerely hope there are many) I would like to pick up a few of those flashlights.

I will personally deliver them to the St. Stevens Outreach Group. These folks go out into the streets and offer supplies to the homeless that are sleeping in the streets and elements. Unfortunately as we all are aware many of them are our veterans.

I am attempting this year to shorten my letters, simply so that Department chairmen, unit members, and districts, will have more space to share their news and events. Please send pictures of events and a small caption of what that event was to the Auxiliary headquarters. As well as Department Chairmen, please send a shortened version of your unit mailing to the headquarters as well.

My travels so far have taken me to the Hopkins Post 320. While there I was honored to ride in a very nice convertible (thank you Denny Sculthorp) with the Honorary 10th District Junior President Emily Suess and the Department Honorary Junior President Courtney Rogat in the Raspberry Festival parade.

I am told the Post, Auxiliary, Juniors, SAL and Riders have been doing this for many years. That was wonderful for me to hear as Public Relations getting out into the community and Education are big on my list this year. Kudos to Post 320 and all in Hopkins.

Well so much for a shorter letter, but I had so many things to share with you.

Until next time God Bless our Military, their Families and You.

Donna Arends elected President of the Auxiliary

On Saturday, July 15th, the year of "Thank a Veteran – all gave some, come gave all" under the wonderful leadership of President Carol Kottom, came to its conclusion and became yet another page in the history of the American Legion Auxiliary. The annual Department Convention was held at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen, hosted by The American Legion Post and Unit #31 of Mahanomen, approximately 240 Delegates, Alternates and Guests representing 110 Units hearing the various reports and conducting the business of the Auxiliary over the three days of the convention.

Our special congratulations to newly elected Department President Donna Arends, Department First Vice President Jean Walker, Department Second Vice President Mary Hendrickson and Alternate National Executive Committeewoman Raleen Tolzmann who assumed their duties at the close of the Department Convention.

Our newly elected Department President Donna has chosen "Lighting Veterans Paths" as her theme for the 2017-2018 Auxiliary year. Her symbol is a Lighthouse. The ratification and election of 30 delegates and 16 alternates to the 2017 National Convention in Reno, Nevada brought the business portion of the convention to a close.

Carol Kottom will serve as our Delegation Chairman with Shirley Frederick representing us as our National Executive Committeewoman.

Our appreciation and congratulations are given to Carol for her dedicated service as Department President this Auxiliary year. She travelled to all areas of the state and did her best to honor all of her invitations. Carol went non-stop all year while maintaining her weekly trek to St. Cloud to volunteer at the St. Cloud VAHCS.

SPECIAL THANKS

Our special thanks to Jean Horack, Auxiliary Convention General Chairman and all the members of the Mahanomen Unit and 9th District who helped make this a successful convention. Their many hours of planning were reflected in the smooth operation of our 98th annual convention.

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

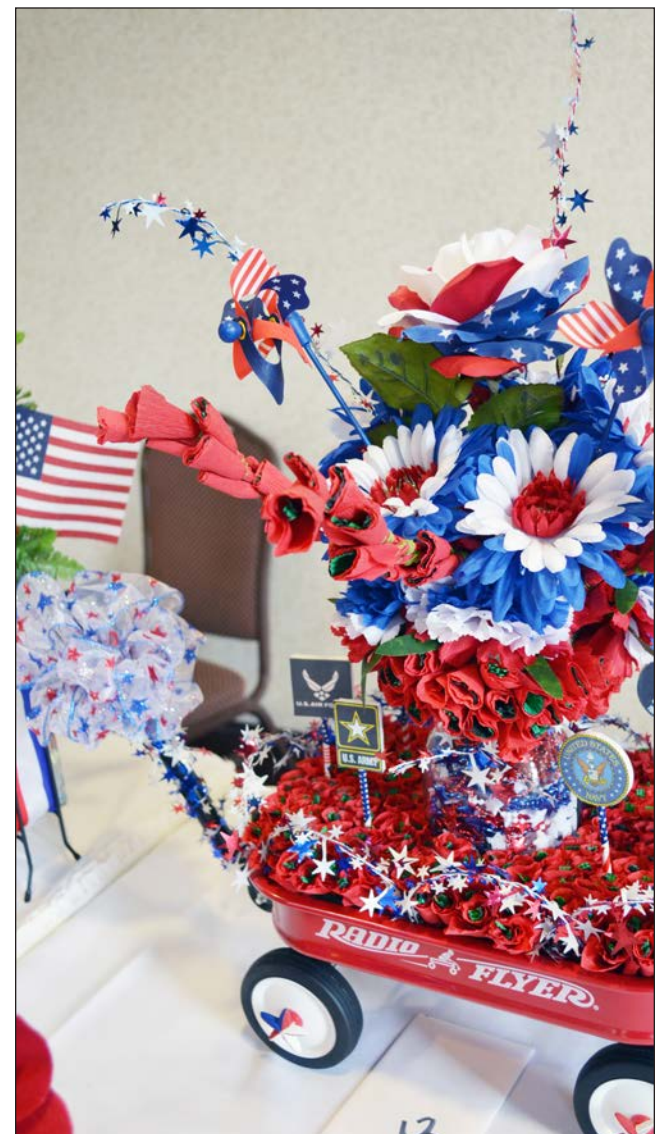
At the Department Convention President Carol was most pleased to present her special "Presidents Awards of Excellence" to those Unit members in each of the following programs. These awards were based on the Unit's annual report and the activities it carried on under the program. Each recipient was given a beautiful angel.

- The recipients were:
- Americanism – Diane Hayes, Detroit Lakes Unit 15, District 9
 - Children and Youth – Barbara Oakland, Hayfield Unit 330, District 1
 - History – Cindy Dickie, Waseca Unit 228, District 1
 - Junior Activities – Mary Efta, Argyle Unit 363, District 9
 - Community Service – Marge Tarbill, Worthington Unit 5, District 2
 - Constitution/Standing Rules – Suzette Maluchnik, Chaska Unit 57, District 3
 - Education – Caryn Wallin, Monticello Unit 260, District 10
 - Past Presidents Parley – Shirley Frederick, Hackensack Unit 202, District 6
 - Legislation – Muriel Kallstrom, Browns Valley Unit 58, District 7
 - Memorial – Jennifer Parker, Blackduck Unit 372, District 6
 - National Security – Robin Dorf, Monticello Unit 260, District 10
 - Poppy – Barb Spencer, Lake Crystal Unit 294, District 2
 - Public Relations – Chantelle Kiputh, Monticello Unit 260, District 10
 - Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Susan Soberg, Mound Unit 398, District 10
 - Leadership – Lois Wenz, Chaska Unit 57, District 3
 - Service to Veterans – Susan Soberg, Mound Unit 398, District 10

OTHER DEPARTMENT WINNERS

Our Department Poppy Chairman Karla Otterness, held two Poppy contests at the 2017 Department Convention. The following winners were announced.

- Educational Poppy Poster Board**
 - 1st place – Betty Schlueter, Hutchinson Unit 96, District 3
 - 2nd place – Sam Wickert, Delano Unit #377, 10th District
 - 3rd place – Sandy Wersal, New London Unit #537, District 7
 - People's Choice – Betty Schlueter, Hutchinson Unit 96, District 3
- Poppy Centerpiece**
 - 1st place - Sam Wickert, Delano Unit #377, 10th District
 - 2nd place – Pam Gades & Pam Lubenow, Morris Unit #29, District 7
 - 3rd place – Renea Snow, Grand Rapids Unit #60, District 8
 - People's Choice – Sam Wickert, Delano Unit #377, 10th District.



TOP POPPY WINNER -- Sam Wickert of Delano Unit 377 created this first place poppy centerpiece contest entry.

DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS

The following Department President's appointments for the 2017-18 Auxiliary year of "Lighting Veterans Paths" were approved by the Department Executive Committee:

- Americanism – Joanie Krantz
- Children and Youth – Diane Hayes
- Community Service – Joanne Joachim
- Constitution and Standing Rules – Marsha Bible
- Education – Mary French
- Finance - Beverly Otterness, Chairman
- Carol Barbknecht, Becky Nelson, Judy Ackerman, Cheryl Schaubman

July 7, 2017, Auxiliary Membership

District	Goal	Membership To Date	Percent of Goal	Membership Last Year
One	5,000	4,681	93.62%	4,852
Two	4,924	4,542	92.24%	4,746
Three	4,411	4,081	92.52%	4,286
Four	720	695	96.53%	697
Five	824	712	86.41%	800
Six	6,042	5,714	94.57%	5,850
Seven	3,934	3,602	91.56%	3,819
Eight	1,628	1,527	93.80%	1,563
Nine	4,350	4,021	92.44%	4,223
Ten	5,159	4,815	93.33%	4,990
1982	160	159	99.38%	156
Totals	37,152	34,549	92.99%	35,982

Auxiliary Bulletin

Continued from Preceding Page

Girls State –Patti Coleman, Chairman
 Peggy Tesdahl, Director
 Amelia Tesdahl, Educational Director
 Joanie Krantz, Americanism
 Sally Strasser, Committee Member
 Zandra Kessler, Committee Member

Junior Activities – Tamara Opland
 Leadership – Sandy Wersal
 Legislation – Jean Walker
 Membership – Mary Kuperus
 Memorial/Chaplain – Carol Holmgren
 National Security – Jean Horack
 Parliamentarian – Dee Dee Buckley
 Past Presidents Parley – Linda Kropuenske
 Poppy – Sharon Thiemecke
 Public Relations – Robin Dorf
 Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Mary Hendrickson

Service to Veterans – Bonnie Wagner
 Gift Shop – Vida Bacon, Chairman
 Linda Deschene, Committee Member
 Audit Committee – Louise Kleiboer, Chairman,
 Lynn Spilman and Suzette Maluchnik

Special Appointments:

Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Cindy Nelson
 Armed Forces Center – Chris Ronning
 Brain Science Foundation – Sue Nunnelee
 Jill Mueller, Jessie Hoppe

Hospital/Home Representatives

Fargo VA – Lynette Anel
 Fergus Falls Veterans Home – Doris LaFayette
 Hastings Veterans Home – Darlene Wondra
 Luverne Veterans Home – Jeannette Mertens
 Minneapolis Veterans Home – Sandy Gibson
 Minneapolis VA - Mary Ann Davis
 Silver Bay Veterans Home - Phyllis Mealey
 Sioux Falls VA – Naomi Hill
 St. Cloud VA – Open

Our best wishes to each of you as you assume the responsibilities of leadership that you have taken on through the programs and activities of the American Legion Auxiliary this 2017-18 year.

LEGIONNAIRE AUXILIARY PAGES

Looking forward to the 2017-2018 year, let's make a point to share some of the Unit Happenings, Big Events, and Big Ideas. Submit your photo and story to Sandie in the Department office, let's share ideas and honor their service together. Items can be emailed to sandie@mnala.org or deptoffice@mnala.org. If you have reproductions from local newspapers, I do need their permission to reprint them. Don't send newspaper clippings, but try to get the original photo so it will look good in the newspaper. It also makes it much easier if you email me pictures via the jpeg format. President Donna is asking for District and Unit articles this year.

MNALA.ORG

We would encourage you to submit any changes or anything you would like to see on the website. This is your site and we want to make it as useful as possible. If there is any event you would like posted to the Department calendar, please send an email to deptoffice@mnala.org. We are adding things all the time and if there are items you would like put on there but can't seem to find, please let us know.

2017 FALL CONFERENCE

Our annual Fall Conference will be held in Willmar, Minnesota, October 27-28, 2017. More detailed information will be in next month's Legionnaire and on our Department website.

OFFICERS

Elections were held and appointments were ratified and following will be leading your Auxiliary for 2017/2018:
 Department President Donna Arends
 Department First Vice President Jean Walker
 Department Second Vice President Mary Hendrickson
 National Executive Committeewoman (2-year term) Shirley Frederick
 Alternate NEC Raleen Tolzmann
 Department Secretary Sandie Deutsch
 Department Treasurer Jan Lauby
 Department Chaplain Carol Holmgren
 Department Historian Karla Otterness
 Department Parliamentarian Dee Dee Buckley
 First District President Cheryl Nymann, Plainview Unit 179
 Second District President Kristen Donnelly, Northrop Unit 522
 Third District President Kat Benjamin, Chaska Unit 57
 Fourth District President Lynn Olson, Rosetown Unit 542
 Fifth District President Sonja Dauphin, Richfield Unit



2017 TOP OFFICERS -- From left, front: 1st Vice President Jean Walker, Department President Donna Arends, 2nd Vice President Mary Hendrickson. In back: 1st District – Cheryl Nyman, 2nd District – Kristen Donnelly, 3rd District – Kat Benjamin, 4th District – Lynn Olson, 5th District – Sonja Dauphin, 6th District – Vicki Bibeau, 7th District – Karla Minnick, 8th District - Anna Eells, 9th District -- Doreen Norgaard, 10th District – Jody Hassing.



WOMAN OF YEAR -- Chris Ronning and President Carol Kottom present Neva Joy Hamann, Minnesota Lake Unit 287, with the 2017 Member of the Year.



HONORING KRIS NELSON -- Past Department Presidents Lori Skallerud, Marie Goede and Chris Ronning honored the memory of Past National President Kris Nelson.

435 Sixth District President Vicki Bibeau, Walker Unit 134
 545 Seventh District President Karla Minnick, Spicer Unit
 60 Eighth District President Anna Eells, Grand Rapids Unit
 16 Ninth District President Doreen Norgaard, Bagley Unit
 550 Tenth District President Jody Hassing, Bloomington Unit
 These ladies have been elected to serve you for the upcoming Auxiliary year. You put them in office, please do not hesitate to contact any of them with questions and/or concerns.

THANK YOU

I am sure everyone knows what a fantastic job Carol Kottom did as our President for the 2016-2017 Auxiliary year but not everyone gets to put it in print. I have that privilege as I get to put this together every month. Carol, the most heartfelt thanks to a wonderful year serving with you – what an experience it was. Between arguing, laughing, hugging and just having a good old time, I don't know how the year could slip away so fast. I wish you only the best and look forward to working together to provide for our Veterans and their families. You are truly the best – Secretary Sandie.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 4-6 – Junior Fun Weekend - Legionville
 August 12 – August Workshop and Department Executive Committee Meeting – Willmar Post
 August 19 – 24 – National Convention – Reno, Nevada
 August 24 – Sept 4 – Minnesota State Fair
 September 4 – Labor Day – Department Office Closed
 September 9 – Harvest Rally – Membership - Legionville

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- Trolley Christmas lights tour including Zoo lights at the Lincoln Park Zoo
- Luggage handling for one suitcase

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Tour Includes:

- 4 Seasons Tour Manager, Cindy Meany
- 7 nights accommodations, with 2 nights on the Riverwalk
- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- 15 Meals: 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 3 dinners
- Market Square (San Antonio)
- Riverwalk district
- San Fernando Cathedral
- San Antonio History Tour
- The Alamo
- Magnolia Market Silo's

\$1,299.00 Per Person Double Occupancy

San Francisco
 City by the Bay
 October 19-24, 2017

Tour Includes:

- 4 Seasons Tour Director, Sue Barber
- 5 nights stay at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites, Fisherman's Wharf
- Breakfast daily
- San Francisco City Tour and Muir Woods
- Visit to Alcatraz Island
- Sonoma and Napa Valley Wine Country Tour
- Boudin San Francisco Sourdough Museum Tour
- Luggage handling for one suitcase per person

\$2,099.00 Per Person Double Occupancy

New York City Tour
 November 8-12, 2017

Tour Includes:

- 4 Seasons Tour Director, Sue Barber
- Roundtrip Delta flight from Minneapolis to New York City
- 4 nights at The Millennium Broadway Hotel in Times Square
- Broadway Musical
- Radio City Music Hall: "The Rockettes Christmas Spectacular"
- Manhattan Island City tour
- 9/11 Memorial and Museum
- Harbor cruise with lunch
- Lunch at Carmine's
- Luggage handling for one suitcase per person

\$2,499.00 Per Person Double Occupancy

Minnesota Twins Spring Training in Florida
 March 8-18, 2018

Tour Includes:

- 4 Seasons Tour Manager, Cindy Meany
- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- 10 nights accommodations
- 18 meals: 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 7 dinners
- Anheuser Busch Brewery Tour, St. Louis, MO
- Best of Nashville Guided tour
- Coca Cola Factory Tour, Atlanta, GA
- 2 Spring Training baseball games
- Luggage handling for one suitcase per person

PRICING TO COME!

Smoky Mountains
 October 23-30, 2017

Tour Includes:

- 4-Seasons Tour Manager, Cindy Meany
- 7 nights accommodations
- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- 11 Meals: 7 breakfasts, 4 dinners
- Dollywood Theme Park
- Nashville Highlights tour
- Guided tour of Smoky Mountains National Park
- Grand Ole Opry, Hatfield and McCoy dinner show and Music Mansion
- General Jackson Showboat tour
- Ole Smoky Moonshine Distillery tour

\$1,289.00 Per Person Double Occupancy

Mexican Riviera Cruise
 November 4-12, 2017

Tour Includes:


- 4 Seasons Tour Manager, Larry Alvey
- Roundtrip Delta flights from Minneapolis to Los Angeles
- 1 night pre-cruise at the Los Angeles Marriott
- 7 night cruise on the Emerald Princess
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1 EXTENDED BY POPULAR DEMAND WWI America exhibit, open through Veterans Day, Nov., 11. Minnesota History Center, St. Paul.

2 VISIT THE MUSEUM & TRADING POST 57th Birthday Celebration, Sat., Aug. 5, Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post, Onamia.

3 CELEBRATE! Three days of events and entertainment! Grand Opening Celebration, Aug. 11-13, Minnesota State Capitol, St. Paul.

4 CIVIL WAR PAINTINGS Take a free guided tour and see six newly restored Civil War paintings on display. Minnesota State Capitol, St. Paul.

5 COMMEMORATE THE WAR World War I Centennial Weekend, Aug. 19 & 20, Historic Fort Snelling, St. Paul.

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