



American Legion Auxiliary

Third District Newsletter

October 2026

Be proud of the work you do and the difference you make!

President Message



"Stitching Together Our Family, One Piece at a Time," reflects the strength of our unity. Each part of the American Legion Family brings its own traditions and dedication, and together we form something stronger than any one organization alone. As members of the American Legion Family, we have shared responsibility to honor the past, serve the present, and build a stronger future—one stitch, one act of service, and one piece at a time.

Here we are just breezing through the new year. It feels like we are so far behind, did someone change the calendar? LOL We came home from National Convention and hit the ground running in different directions. Most recently I was welcomed into ALA Unit 79 in Montgomery Minnesota. Those ladies had a busy and beautiful summer serving the Veterans and their Community. They held a Bake Sale and gave out Children's books. For the 250th Birthday of our Country they had the local businesses participate in patriotic window displays. Gave pins to the 2026 Seniors entering the military. What an excellent group of women I was able to meet. Thank you, Montgomery, for including me in your September meeting. The next day I was able to go to Winnebago MN and tour the Bravo Zulu house. As you know this is my project this year and after the tour, I am more excited than ever to raise the funds to get this off the ground. You will be getting updates as the year progresses. Remember - every \$ can help us fund this program and if you know anyone that suffers from PTSD or thoughts of Suicide than you want to be part of this amazing project.

October will keep us moving into the year with requested donations from the Department Donation forms due, some of the Units that took time off for the summer are getting back in the swing. Reminder that membership renewals have started and the membership committee has new goals set as they tour the 3rd District with a fun "Shop Hop"! Every Unit has an opportunity to participate in this event. I will let Sherri Neville get you up to speed with her plans and the teams to help get this done. Good Luck to all of you.

Next, we will be heading for the Fall Conference on the 22nd through the 24th. If you cannot make the two days of session, try to get to one of them. Friday will be a full day and Saturday a half day but one thing for sure will be lots of fun and everyone is welcomed to participate, give your opinions and gain a wealth of information and bring it back to your Unit.

If you have an interest in having a Presidents visit at your Unit meeting or event, please reach out and let me know. I look forward to hearing from all of you and sharing more as the year unfolds.

Through it all, our mission remains "Service Not Self" as we continue supporting veterans, their families, and our communities.

May God Bless you and your families.

Cavalene Regan

ALA 3rd District President

October is Constitution/ByLaws and Standing Rules Month

Do you know why we need you to make and review your Unit Standing Rules every year?

As a unit you are covered by that periodic Bond Fee you pay to Department, that if you are sued for any reason you are covered by National under their bond insurance program. Districts have never been covered before and were not considered in their 501C19 (veterans) program either. Over the past recent years we have had to obtain our own 501C19 status. And now we need to obtain our own bond as you will have heard if you attended our District Convention. If something does happen, you need to have your Standing Rules up to date.

Which part is most important?

You need to state when, where and what times your meetings are held. You need to state your annual dues amount. These two items probably change more than any other item in your Standing Rules. Working members ask you to hold your meeting later than you used to, you lost your post home and now meet somewhere else. But ALSO letting Dept. and District know what your Standing Rules are if we need to back a ruling for you.

Also, if you reimburse members for certain events, have commitments to outside organizations of donations. Those can change too. You don't have the money anymore to pay hotel rooms for conventions, but you still state you will do that, you are obligated to do it. Your Standing Rules state you will donate \$250 every year to the Boy Scouts. You don't have the money. You are still obligated.

If you change who is an elected position in your officers and you state their names in your Standing Rules. Please use the Unit Constitution written for us by Department of MN as your guide.

https://www.mnala.org/files/ugd/c57f49_8395442a7b7c4b6c9a4437736f353f53.pdf

Remember you are obligated to follow your own Unit Standing Rules, what you leave out or leave in is up to you as it is your own Unit. But if someone should protest that you are not following your Standing Rules, they might have a case. Example: Your dues stated they were \$25 oh how many years ago, but you are now charging \$40. Did you change your Standing Rules to state that? If you didn't a new member can argue that dues are only \$25! If you moved where you meet and a member shows up to a meeting where your Standing Rules say you meet and you don't meet there anymore? You might have just lost a member!

It does matter! Please review your Standing Rules this fall and when your membership has voted to approve them, please send a copy to me at babsklehr@hotmail.com and to Dept. at deptoffice@mnala.org. When you have done that, you just completed part of your Annual Report!

District President Cavaleone Regan's theme is "Stitching Together Our Family – One Piece at a Time"
Let us keep our members informed, keep our Veterans in our hearts and work together with our Legion Family.

Need help in writing your Standing Rules? The Unit Guide has a format you can follow, and that is also available free on the Dept. Website. But if you have any questions or concerns, please call. My committee members this year are Cynthia Wenz of the Chaska Unit 57 and Betty Schlueter of the Hutchinson Unit 96.

Barbara Klehr
3rd District Constitution/ByLaws and Standing Rules Chairman
Parliamentarian
babsklehr@hotmail.com
952-649-1291



Third District
American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary,
SAL, & Riders

Fall Family **GATHERING**

NOVEMBER 7, 2026
11 AM - 2 PM

Guest Speaker
PAM KRILL
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

LUNCH COST
\$15.00

PINE ISLAND POST 184
108 1ST AVE SE
PINE ISLAND MN 56963

RSVP to President Cavalene Regan
612/867/4248 or ALA100YRS@GMAIL.COM

Please pay at the door.

Bravo Zulu House Women's Veterans Facility

A new opportunity to serve women veterans is becoming a reality.

Bravo Zulu House has officially acquired the property in Mankato that will become what is expected to be the nation's first sober living facility dedicated exclusively to women veterans struggling with PTSD and addiction. Designed with input from a Women's Advisory Board, the facility will provide a safe, secure, and private environment while maintaining convenient access to essential community services and support networks.

In September I was able to tour the men's home in Winnebago and learn a great deal about the project and how it benefits the Veteran residents who are living there now and in the future.

This new project carries an estimated cost of \$1.9 million and is expected to open in late 2027. While fundraising efforts are still in the early stages, planning and development continue to move forward with great enthusiasm and determination. The Mankato location is being planned by a committee made up of all women for women. It was impressive.

This year, I am honored to partner with the Minnesota Department Commander Pam Krill, fellow District Presidents, and the Sons of The American Legion (SAL) and the Riders to help raise the funds necessary to bring this groundbreaking project to life. Like the men's facility in Winnebago, this effort depends largely on the generosity of individual donors, veteran organizations, and community sponsors.

Your support can help provide women veterans with the stability, resources, and healing they deserve. Together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of those who have sacrificed so much in service to our nation.

For God and Country, let us continue to support those who have served.

Cavalene Regan
ALA 3rd District President

GIRLS STATE - Joanne Joachim Chairman

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! MINNESOTA GIRLS STATE WILL BE HELD JUNE 13-18, 2027.

Planning is already underway for another exciting year of Minnesota Girls State, one of our premier programs dedicated to developing future female leaders.

In 2026, 194 citizens attended. As you prepare your annual budgets, please be sure to give consideration to Girls State.

The impact of Girls State extends well beyond the week-long session. Invite recent citizens to share their experiences with your Unit. From my personal experience, listening to a citizen who had attended Girls State inspired me to be a counselor at Girls State.

It's not too early to plant the bug to attend Girls State to girls in their Junior year of high school. And if some of you have had successful recruitment plans, I'd like to hear what you did.



October

3rd Past President Parley meeting
17th Convention Committee meeting 9-12
23-25th Dept. Fall Conference

November

7th Dist. Family Gathering Pine Island
8th Past Unit Presidents Luncheon Morristown
10 Happy Birthday American Legion Auxiliary
11 Veterans' Day.

December

5th Pearl Harbor Rally

HISTORIAN Tami Paul Chairman

For those who may not know me yet, my name is Tami Paul, and I am honored to serve as your 3rd District Historian and 2nd Vice President for the 26-27. I'm excited for the year ahead and especially excited to help capture and preserve the amazing things our Units and district are doing.

Every unit in our district has a story, a story built by the members who give their time, the veterans whose lives touch ours, and the communities we are proud to serve.

Sometimes we get so busy doing the work that we forget to stop and capture the moments along the way. But those moments matter.

The pictures we take, the stories we write, and the memories we save today will become the history someone treasures tomorrow.

Take the picture, even when everyone groans. Save the flyer. Write down the veteran's story that touched your heart. Capture the laughter, friendships, traditions, and little moments that make your Unit special.

Someday, a member we haven't even met yet may look back at what we did and find the inspiration to keep our mission moving forward. Each Unit holds a piece of their heart and history of Minnesota's 3rd District. We aren't just preserving the past—we are leaving inspiration for the future.

Capture the moments. Tell the stories. Remember the people.

Preserve your history.

Tami Paul
3rd District Historian & 2nd Vice President

Work Hard,
≡ Have Fun ≡
and
MAKE HISTORY

Leadership is appreciating and thanking our members for making our programs and events a success. November 8th at Morristown's American Legion Post, will be a Past Unit Presidents luncheon with Trivia and a guest speaker. See the poster for all the details.

THANK YOU!! PAST UNIT PRESIDENTS

APPRECIATION LUNCHEON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8TH @ 1PM

Morristown American Legion

101 W Main St, Morristown, MN 55052

Trivia.....Guest Speaker \$10

RSVP Oct 31: to Darlene Wondra, 3rd District Leadership Chairman

12451 100th St W Montgomery, MN 56069

507-351-3141

Let me know of any dietary needs when RSVP

Attached is the poster!!



PAST 3rd DISTRICT UNIT PRESIDENTS APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8, 2026

**Morristown American Legion
101 W Main St, Morristown, MN 55052**

1:00 PM

Cost \$10.00



RSVP by October 31, 2026

Darlene Wondra, 3rd District Leadership Chairman

12451 100th St W Montgomery, MN 56069

507-351-3141

Let me know of any dietary needs when RSVP

Article II Section 2		8/1/2026		
District Dues for 2026-2027 year		Amt Due by Dec 1st 2026		
Art II Sec 1	Membership as of	7/31/2026	\$4.00 per	amt
Unit #	Unit Name	Mbrshp	mbr amt due	paid
2	Shakopee	75	\$300.00	\$0.00
37	St Peter	64	\$256.00	\$0.00
43	Faribault	146	\$584.00	\$0.00
45	New Prague	77	\$308.00	\$0.00
47	Hastings	28	\$112.00	\$0.00
54	Red Wing	162	\$648.00	\$648.00
57	Chaska	130	\$520.00	\$0.00
65	Rosemount	55	\$220.00	\$0.00
79	Montgomery	114	\$456.00	\$0.00
84	Northfield	30	\$120.00	\$0.00
96	Hutchinson	127	\$508.00	\$0.00
98	St Paul Park	133	\$532.00	\$0.00
108	LeCenter	120	\$480.00	\$0.00
125	Stewart	29	\$116.00	\$0.00
141	Silver Lake	56	\$224.00	\$0.00
143	Brownston	17	\$68.00	\$0.00
144	Belle Plaine	91	\$364.00	\$0.00
149	Morristown	105	\$420.00	\$0.00
150	Waconia	91	\$364.00	\$0.00
184	Pine Island	89	\$356.00	\$0.00
189	Farmington	31	\$124.00	\$0.00
207	Cleveland	37	\$148.00	\$0.00
225	Forest Lake	225	\$900.00	\$0.00
300	Lafayette 15	17	\$68.00	\$0.00
311	Elysian	169	\$676.00	\$0.00
314	Winthrop	19	\$76.00	\$0.00
343	Norwood	25	\$100.00	\$0.00
380	Kilkenny	10	\$40.00	\$0.00
407	Winsted	35	\$140.00	\$0.00
408	Green Isle	23	\$92.00	\$92.00
424	Inver Grove	5	\$20.00	\$0.00
433	Gaylord	45	\$180.00	\$0.00
491	Bayport	65	\$260.00	\$0.00
507	Mahtomedi	45	\$180.00	\$0.00
510	Nicollet	43	\$172.00	\$0.00
518	North Mankato	79	\$316.00	\$0.00
580	Chanhassen	63	\$252.00	\$0.00
586	Lonsdale	70	\$280.00	\$0.00
601	New Germany	19	\$76.00	\$0.00
620	Hugo	70	\$280.00	\$0.00
643	Savage	51	\$204.00	\$0.00
1776	Apple Valley	217	\$868.00	\$0.00
		3102	\$12,408.00	\$0.00

Unit District Dues

Hello Everyone,

I hope you all had a great summer. As President Cavaleine leads us throughout the year, please keep our Veterans and members in your thoughts and prayers. Let's make this a great year.

Per the 3rd District Standing Rules,

ARTICLE II FINANCES

SECTION 1. THE DISTRICT DUES WILL BE FOUR DOLLARS (\$4.00) PER SENIOR AND JUNIOR MEMBER BASED ON THE DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN POSTED IN JULY FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR AND TO BECOME EFFECTIVE IN 2026.

SECTION 2. DISTRICT DUES MUST BE REMITTED TO THE DISTRICT TREASURER NO LATER THEN DECEMBER 1ST.

The amount each unit will be asked to pay is based on the total of the unit's membership shown on the final Department membership bulletin that was released on 7-31-2026. The District dues to be sent to the District Treasurer by December 1st should have been collected with the membership dues for the 2026 membership year between August 1st, 2025, and July 31st, 2026.

The amount that each unit is being asked to pay is shown to the right of the unit's name and the number of new and renewed members the unit had as of July 31st, 2026.

Unfortunately, my September newsletter article was left out of the September Newsletter. So here is the information that was sent out to each Unit Treasurer. Thank you to those units that have sent in their Unit dues.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to send me an email or give me a call.

Teri Richardson
3rd District Treasurer 651-429-3885
Dist3AuxiliaryFinance@outlook.com

Happy Halloween



3rd District

American Legion Auxiliary

2026-27 District Dues Form (for 2026 dues) and 2026-27 Donation Form

Unit #:		Location:	
Submitted By:		Date:	
Phone #:		Email Address:	

3rd District Dues See the **3rd District Newsletter** starting September 1st 2026 for the amount due from the Unit by Dec 1st 2026. (These dues were collected August 1st 2025 though July 31st 2026)

District Dues Check #:		Amount Due	
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Please submit a separate check for the unit District Dues

1. Make checks payable to the **American Legion Auxiliary** Please write **District Dues** on the memo line

2. Mail the check and District Dues form to the 3rd District Treasurer at the address shown below:

3rd District Auxiliary Programs				Amount
3rd Distict Presidents Project				\$ -
3rd District Honorary Jr Presidents Project				\$ -
St Peters Treatment Center for Veterans Christmas and Spring Fling Parties				\$ -
Total 3rd District Auxiliary Program Donations				\$ -

Donation Check #:	
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Donation checks MAY NOT include any other payment. DONATIONS ONLY!

1. Make checks payable to the **American Legion Auxiliary** Please write **Donation** on the memo line

2. Mail the check and Donation form to the 3rd District Treasurer at the address shown below.

3. Any questions email Dist3AuxiliaryFinance@outlook.com or call 651-429-3885

(THE 3RD District Auxiliary cannot accept GAMBLING FUND DONATIONS)

Any donations made with Gambling Funds must be made out to and sent Directly to MN Veterans Food Pantry

Please put 3rd District Pres Project in the memo line if sending Directly to the food pantry

Please let the 3rd District Treasure know if you have made a gambling donation for the Presidents Project

Teri Richardson
3rd District Treasurer
200 Hallam Ave S
Mahtomedi MN 55115

Past Presidents Parley Healthcare Scholarship is not just for nursing, it is for any course of study in the medical field. It is open to any American Legion Auxiliary member who has been a member for three years and their current dues are paid. It is a \$1,000 scholarship and up to 10 are given each year, if the donations received from units to the Department Office have enough funds to do so. The September Unit Mailing has more information. The applications will be sent out to units with the 2024-2025 Plaques and Awards material in a Unit Mailing.

EDUCATION Diane Mackenthun

To educate is to provide with information and the American Legion Auxiliary does some amazing work with the Education program. Scholarships are a huge necessity for seniors as they set out on their future challenges. The units give scholarships and many are available through the American Legion at the district, Department and national level. Our unit (#343) gives an award (not a scholarship) to a senior girl, with cash and an American flag. It is called the outstanding Senior Girl Award.

There are many ways to become involved in Education programs Give 10 education is promoted by units in Minnesota. Contact your local schools to see what's on their wish list. Items may include pens, pencils, crayons, markers, Kleenex, tablets, and so on. Box Tops for Education can help a military family. Many units have presented flags to students and schools. Our unit (#343) has two members who visit several schools to present a program on flag etiquette and history to students (kindergarten - second grades). During poppy distribution time we hold a poppy coloring contest with cash prizes.

Saving pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House has been a favorite for a long time and some are saving Campbell's soup labels. The oratorical contest is a good way for giving students an opportunity to prepare for public speaking and earn a scholarship.

American Education Weeks is a time for units to show their appreciation to the education staff (janitors, teachers, bus drivers, special needs staff, etc.) at schools. Various items are always appreciated.

We hold a Veterans Day program, and we participate in the Memorial Day program at school along with the Legion Post. Units may want to invite local veterans to speak at these services.

Units must remember to report their activities on the year end reports. Remember each time you have an event or participate in these programs be sure to get the word out to the public. The more you inform the public the more you educate them on what our organization is about and what we do.

Past President *Party* Fall Potluck Luncheon



Good
Food!

Great
Friends!

October 3 • 10 am



All Saints Lutheran Church

511 Merger St
Norwood Young America, MN 55368

To all Past District Presidents, our dues are **\$1.50** each year.
If you cannot attend it is your responsibility to send your
dues to Past President Teri Richardson.

*also please drop Linda a note
and tell us how you are doing*

Father, help build meaningful connections with the students. Teach me to listen, understand, and quid with empathy and kindness. Let the words uplift and encourage them, helping them grow academically and spiritually. Grant the patience to address their struggles and wisdom to celebrate their successes. May our interactive forest trust, respect, and cooperation, creating a safe space for learning reflection, and personal growth. Let your love shine through actions so students feel valued, supported, and inspired to reach their fullest potential. Amen



Children's HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Keep the Magic, Keep Them Safe!

-  **Go in Groups**
Trick-or-treat with friends or family.
-  **Stay in Well-Lit Areas**
Choose neighborhoods with good lighting.
-  **Look Both Ways**
Cross streets at crosswalks and watch for cars.
-  **Check Your Treats**
Only eat sealed, wrapped candy and treats.
-  **Wear Bright Colors**
Make sure costumes are visible and fit well. Add reflective items if possible.
-  **Be Aware**
Never go into a stranger's home or car.
-  **Keep Phones Handy**
Have a way to contact your parents if needed.

Safe Kids Make a Happier Halloween!



American Legion Auxiliary
Serving Our Veterans,
Their Families and
Our Communities



Halloween is often associated with darkness, but God light can shine brighter than any shadow. Their Christian prayers for Halloween night invite the Lord's presence to fill every heart and home with light. As children walk through the street and families gather, we can pray for God protection and peace. His word reminds us that, He is the light no darkness can overcome. Tonight. Every night, we ask him to make his glory known.
Amen

2026 QUILT SHOP HOP MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

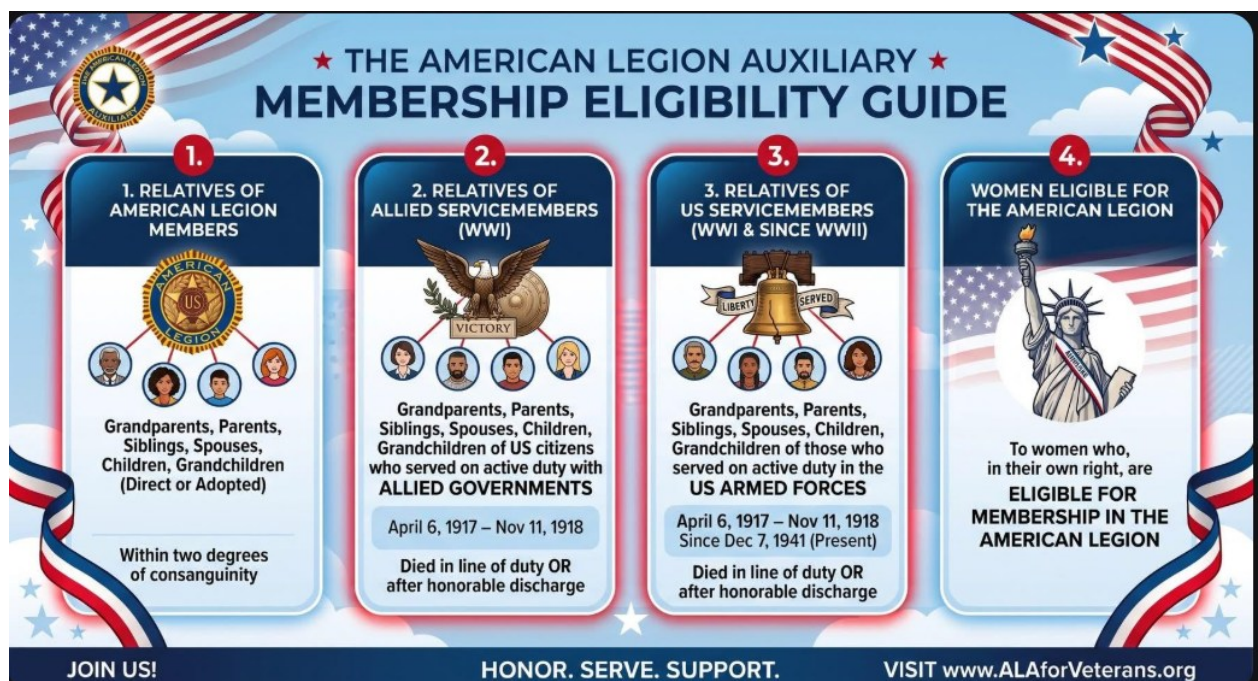
This year's Third District membership theme is **Quilt Shop Hop!** Five team leaders will guide their county groups through a fun membership challenge with a quilting twist. As units reach their membership goals, quilt blocks will be added to help build a completed quilt and show the progress being made across the district.

At the end of the challenge, the winning team will receive the completed quilt, and the unit may use it however they choose. Thank you to all units and team leaders for helping make this year's membership campaign creative, friendly, and fun.

How the Quilt Block Challenge Works

There are 42 units in the Third District and 30 quilt blocks available to complete the membership quilt. Each time a unit reaches a membership milestone or goal, a quilt block will be added to the quilt. Blocks will continue to be added throughout the year as units reach 30%, 50%, 80%, 100%, and 102%+ membership goals.

The five Quilt Shop Hop teams will encourage and support their assigned units along the way. The completed quilt will serve as a visual reminder of the hard work, progress, and teamwork shown throughout the membership year.



Membership Update

Congratulations to Unit 98, St. Paul Park, for winning the first \$25.00 drawing!

Great news: Third District is currently in **2nd place** for membership! Keep up the great work as we continue moving toward our next goal.

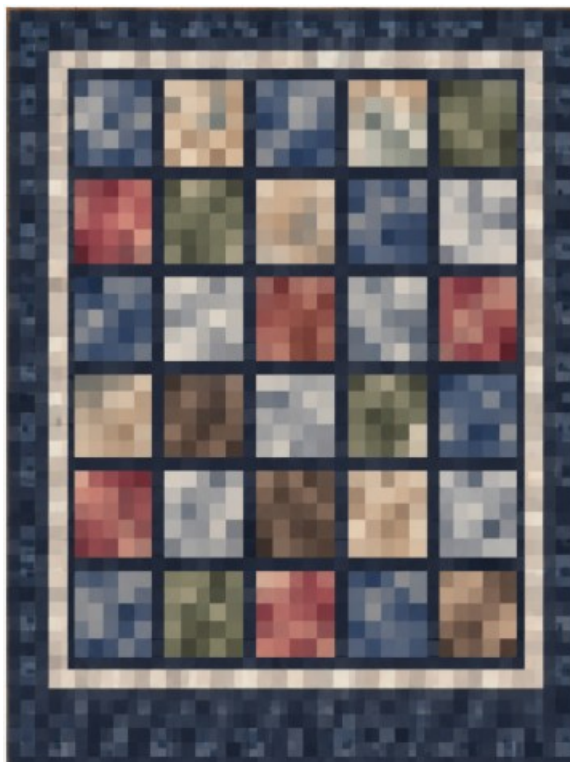
Kudos to the units that reached the first membership goal: Unit 98 St. Paul Park, Unit 141 Silver Lake, Unit 150 Waconia, Unit 189 Farmington, Unit 225 Forest Lake, and Unit 424 Inver Grove Heights.

The next important goal is **Fall Conference**, where units will be working toward 50% membership and the **Scallon Trophy**. If any unit needs help getting transmittals to Department, please let me know and I will be happy to help get them submitted.

As some of you may know, the Auxiliary can now accept men as members. That is why you will see the picture at the top. There are families who want to help volunteer but may not have been eligible before, so the wording has been updated to make this easier to understand. If you feel the picture is not clear enough or still have questions, please reach out to me. I would also be more than happy to come speak about it at your unit meeting.

Team Lead Spotlight: Quilt Shop Hop Teams

- **Carver & Scott County:** Ann Bovy — *Oh What a Stich*
- **Dakota County & Washington:** Teri Richardson — *Quilted Dog Quilt Shop*
 - **Nicollet & Le Sueur Counties:** Kelly Kauss — *Quilting by the Hearth*
 - **McLeod & Sibley Counties:** Karla Otterness — *Quilt Haven on Main*
 - **Rice & Goodhue Counties:** Jeorgia Appel Cluckey — *Quilters Dream*



Past President Parley by Linda Kelly



Your 3rd District Past President Parley recently held a day of learning (especially regarding annual reports) for all members and it was well received. Shakopee set up the room with tables for our auxiliary programs and members manned the tables to answer all questions – both about annual reports and other ALA questions.

We heard that there was a lot of learning – both from the attendees and those answering the questions.

Each unit received a 5-page (both sides) listing of activities, events, donations, and volunteer hours that units can make part of their annual report for each of our programs. This not only helps our units determine how they have supported each program, but in many cases, units found other activities their unit can do for our veterans, our military, our youth, and our community. We had a few suggestions for the listing and as soon as it is updated, it can be e-mailed to you. If you are interested, e-mail Cynthia.wenz14@gmail.com

We are already talking about next year and how we can improve and include more information for our members and units. Watch for the details and plan to attend – If you ask anyone that was there, they will tell you that it was well worth it.

A special thank you to Shakopee for hosting.



THIRD DSITRCIT AWARDS

YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT POD

A. SHIRLEY HAMRE CHILDREN AND YOUTH PLAQUE (Shirley Hamre, St. Paul Park, District President 1982-1983): To the Unit reporting the best overall Children and Youth Program. A narrative must be sent to the District Chairman. At the request of Shirley Hamre, donor: when the plaque is full, it will be retired to St. Paul Park Unit 98.

B. LUVERNE B. MARIER PLAQUE (Luverne Marier, Hugo, District President 1968-1969): To the Junior Group having the best program. This plaque was first awarded in 1970.

C. PAT KERBER JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP PLAQUE (Pat Kerber, Chanhassen, District President 1993-1994): To the Unit signing up the highest percentage of new Junior members. Units apply for this plaque by sending in their total membership (Seniors & Juniors), plus the number of new Juniors signed up. **ENTRY FORM:** Number of Unit Membership (Seniors & Juniors), Unit name and number, Membership Chairman and number of new Juniors enrolled. The Honorary Junior President will present the Plaque to the winning Auxiliary Unit after they address the Convention body. If they do not present, the Junior Activities Chairman will present the plaque. Send to: Teri Richardson, 200 Hallam Avenue, Mahtomedi, MN 55155.

VETERAN/MILITARY SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY POD

D. LEGISLATION PLAQUE (ANONYMOUS DONOR): To the Unit reporting the best overall legislation program. A short narrative must be included with the Unit's annual report form. A maximum of four pictures and articles may be included. The Legislation Chairman will be the final judge for this award.

E. BARBARA STUSSY NATIONAL SECURITY AWARD (Barbara Stussy, Pine Island, District President 1989-1990): To the Unit that submits the most outstanding narrative of 500 words or less to the District Chairman. The District National Security Chairman will judge and select the winner.

F. DOLORES FINK POPPY PLAQUE (Dolores Fink, Apple Valley, District President 1988-1989): To the Unit reporting the most outstanding Poppy Program.

G. SAVAGE POPPY PLAQUE AND CERTIFICATE: To the Unit who has the overall winning entry in the Poppy Contests at the Third District Convention with the decision made by the contest judges.

H. LOIS WENZ VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION PLAQUE (Lois Wenz, Chaska, District President 2003-2004): To the Unit (150 and over members) submitting the most outstanding narrative. The winner will be selected by the District Chairman.

I. LOIS WENZ VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION PLAQUE (Lois Wenz, Chaska, District President 2003-2004): To the Unit (under 150 members) submitting the most outstanding narrative. The winner will be selected by the District Chairman.

FAMILY SUPPORT POD

J. DOLLY HURON AND DARLENE WONDRA SERVICE TO VETERANS CERTIFICATE OF AWARD (Dolly Huron, Red Wing, District President 1984-1985 and Darlene Wondra, Montgomery, District President 2001-2002): To the Unit submitting the best Service to Veterans Program. A narrative report of no more than 500 words to be sent to the District Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Chairman.

K. SIEG & ANN SCHMIDTKE AMERICANISM CERTIFICATE OF AWARD (Ann Schmidtke, Morristown, District President 1966-1967): To the Unit, regardless of size, contributing the most to an outstanding Americanism

Program. This program of activities is identified in the Unit Guide. The final selection will take into consideration the use of the Girls State Representative and the Junior Members of the Unit in Unit, Post, and Community functions. It is the hope of the donor that the Units will strive to seek a very well-rounded Americanism Program in a strong effort to better our America. The District Americanism Chairman will be the final judge of the Unit Program Summary. They may, if they wish, have a panel of selectors to aid in the final judgment. (This is not a traveling award).

L. THAYER AMERICANISM EDUCATION PLAQUE (Tamara Thayer, Elysian, District President 2024-2025): To the member of Unit submitting a 500 word or less essay for the best Americanism Education presentation. The class may be for any age including pre-k through adults. It may be held at an “in-school”, “home-school” or community setting. A maximum of four pictures and articles may be included. The District Americanism Chairman will be the final judge for this award.

M. EDUCATION CERTIFICATE OF AWARD (anonymous donor): To the Unit reporting the best overall Educational Program. A short narrative must be sent to the District Chairman. Pictures may be included.

N. JUANITA LUTZ COMMUNITY SERVICE CERTIFICATE OF AWARD (Juanita Lutz, Hugo, District President 1964-1965): To the Unit having the best Community Service Program.

O. LEMKE MEMORIAL CERTIFICATE OF AWARD (Nancy Lemke, St. Paul Park, District President 1995-1996): To the Unit reporting the best overall Memorial Program. A narrative to be sent to the District Chairman.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT POD

P. FORCIEA-DIXON MEMORIAL MEMBERSHIP PLAQUE (Viola Forciea, Stillwater, District President 1953-1954 and Lorraine Dixon, Stillwater, Past Unit President): To be presented by the Membership Chairman to the first Unit (in case of a tie) that shows the greatest member increase in membership using the final Department membership bulletin distributed in July of the previous year. In comparison to the Unit membership bulletin published on or before April 15th of the current year. This plaque will remain a plaque until the donated funds shown in the 3rd District funds from the Stillwater Unit run out.

Q. AUDREY TOLZMANN LEADERSHIP AWARD (Audrey Tolzmann, Nicollet, District President 1987-1988): To the Unit Leadership Chairman reporting the best all around Leadership Program. Send a narrative to the District Leadership Chairman.

R. MARGARET LONERGAN COMMUNICATION CERTIFICATE OF AWARD (Margaret Lonergan, Bayport, District President 1973-1974): To the Unit who submits the most outstanding Press Book and Public Relations Program Summary at the District Convention and truly does transmit to the public the aims and accomplishments of the American Legion Auxiliary.

ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT POD

S. CHARLES-HALE PAST PRESIDENTS' PARLEY PLAQUE (Ida Mae Charles, Hastings, District President 1974-1975 and Mary Ellen Hale, Hastings, District President 1986-1987): To the Unit submitting the best report of the Past Presidents Parley. Send a narrative to the District Past Presidents' Parley Chairman.

T. THIRD DISTRICT HISTORY PLAQUES FOR PROGRAM EXCELLENCE (anonymous donor): For the most Outstanding Unit participation as reported on the Unit's History Report. The categories are 10-50; 51-100; 101-200; 201 & over. The reports shall be judged, and plaques presented by the District Historian.

U. THIRD DISTRICT AUXILIARY MEMBER OF THE YEAR FRAMED CERTIFICATE (Past Presidents Parley 2015-2016): To an outstanding American Legion Auxiliary Member of the Year. Each Unit is eligible to submit one nomination per year (500 words or less) postmarked by March 1st. The nomination is required to have two signatures from Unit Officers from the nominee's Unit, personally signed and dated with phone numbers and addresses. Information is to include how this nominee has made continuous outstanding contributions to your Unit. No pictures, newspaper articles or clippings are allowed. A narrative only will be accepted. Nomination letters will remain on file and active for three years. Please notify the District Secretary if the nominee is deceased. After three (3) years the Unit will need to re-submit an updated nomination letter. The Award recipient is determined by vote of the previous recipients of the Elaine Hein Auxiliary Woman of the Year Award and the recipients of the Third District Auxiliary Member of the Year. The administrative duties will be done by a committee of previous recipients. The name of the coordinator will be announced early in the year to receive the nominations.

UNIT HISTORY SCRAPBOOK RULES

Rules and regulations for judging the 3rd District Convention in May 2026. Judging occurs immediately following the morning session.

1. Scrapbook shall be no particular size but should be good quality.
2. Scrapbook shall have the American Legion Auxiliary Emblem, name of unit, Unit number, and year on cover.
3. On the first page shall be the name and location of the Unit, the number of members in the unit and the date.
4. The following pages should have a list of officers, and chairpersons, and the standing rules.
5. Include a copy of your history report.
6. Your history may include newspaper clippings, photos with information about the photos (who, what, when, where and why). Pamphlets, memorabilia, must be firmly attached to the page.
7. Remember this is an American Legion Auxiliary scrapbook. You may include information that you Unit did alongside the American Legion, the Sons of the American Legion and the Riders but remember the Unit if the focal point.
8. The last page must be signed by the unit president and the History Chairperson.

Press Book Contest

Rules for Margaret Lonergan Communications:

1. No specific size or type of book is required.
2. Judging will be on the content of the book.
3. The Name of the Unit and Department.
4. The total Membership of the Unit.
5. The Name and Address of the Unit Public Relations Chairman.
6. A Complete copy of the Unit Annual Report form.
7. A Narrative Report not to exceed 1,000 words telling how Public Relations was promoted.
8. Newspaper Clippings and Photographs. (DO NOT underline anything!)
9. No more than three issues of the Unit Newsletter.
10. Press book should tell the story of the how the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary were promoted within the Unit.

Third District Book of Prayers and Devotional Thoughts for Seniors Contest

Rules:

1. Size: Left to the Discretion of the Unit. (Recommendation: the size to be 8 1/2" X 11")
2. Cover: Must show the American Legion Auxiliary Emblem.
3. Contents: Typed or printed preferred, pages may or may not be illustrated.
4. First page
 1. Must show the American Legion Auxiliary Emblem.
 2. Dedication – “to and/or in memory of”.
 3. Name, location and size of Unit and number of people who contributed prayers.
 4. Name of Unit Chaplain or person preparing book.
 5. Name of Unit President
 6. Dates of Auxiliary year
5. Last page:

List of names of the deceased members for the current year. Designate whether Gold Star, Charter member or Past Unit, District or Department Officer.

6.

Section 1.

Page 1 Should read - PRAYERS.

Page 2 Contents

- a. Prayers which are Original or your favorite
- b. original prayers must be signed by the Author.
- c. Favorite Prayers must include:
 1. Name of Author, if known
 2. Name of person submitting prayers

Section 2.

Page 1 Should read – Devotional Thoughts

Page 2 Contents – Verses, poems, quotations, favorite scriptures

When submitting one of the above listed you must include the:

- a. Names of Author, if known
- b. Name of person submitting it
- c. Favorite Scriptures must include Book of Bible, Chapter, Verses.



Third District American Legion Auxiliary



MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Award

(Framed Certificate)

Recognize
Appreciate
Celebrate

- ★ This award is for an outstanding American Legion Auxiliary Member of the Year. Each unit is eligible to submit one nomination per year (500 words or less) postmarked **prior to March 1st**. Information shall be included as to how this nominee has made continuous outstanding contributions to your Unit. No pictures, newspaper articles, or clippings are allowed. **Only narratives will be accepted.**
- ★ Nomination letters must come from the nominee's own Unit with signatures of two Unit officers, including their names, phone numbers, addresses and signed and dated.
- ★ Nomination letters will remain on file and active for three years. After three years, a Unit will need to re-submit an updated nomination letter. Please notify the District Secretary if the nominee becomes deceased during the three-year time frame and was not chosen prior to their death.
- ★ The Award Recipient is determined by the vote of the previous recipients of the Elaine Hein Auxiliary Member of the Year Award and the Third District Auxiliary Member of the Year. The Award recipient will be announced at the Third District Convention in May and awarded a framed certificate.

★ It is up to each Unit

to find a deserving member. Everyone knows there are many members that should be nominated for this award, whether they are working the programs of the Auxiliary in the background or leaders of your Unit. Please take the time to nominate someone in your Unit for this prestigious award.

★ *Also, please include how to contact your nominee for the next year if they are a winner:*

name, email address, phone number and mailing address.

★ **This award is for Third District only** and has nothing to do with the Dept. of Minnesota Auxiliary Member of the Year award, if you note, our qualifications are different from those of Dept.

★ **Also, please,** Past Winners of this award, when you receive a voting letter and nominations after March 15th, please **VOTE**. You are the only ones who can select the next winner for our District.



Please mail/email
nomination letters to:

Barbara Klehr

921 Sommerville Street South
Shakopee, MN 55379

babsklehr@hotmail.com



Together We Make a Difference



OUR UNITS ARE GOLDEN! 2026/2027



As part of our Unit's 433, Americanism program, each year we identify high school graduates who have enlisted in the military post-graduation. They are then presented with a red-white-blue cord that can be worn over their gown at graduation to identify their commitment to serve our country.

What a fantastic idea for our youth



Nice Job - Tami and Barb from Shakopee Unit 2, celebrating Constitution Day



