

BOOK OF ANNUAL REPORTS 2023-2024

*With God's Guidance,
We Serve Veterans*



Deanna Meyer
Third District President 2023/2024

THIRD DISTRICT
 AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA

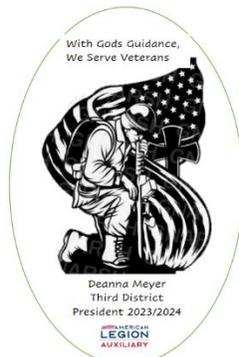
American Legion Auxiliary 2023/2024



National President
Lisa Williamson
2023/2024
"Be The One"



Department of Minnesota President
2023/2024
Sharon Cross
"Be the One to Dance in the Hearts of Veterans."



Third District President
2023/2024
Deanna Meyer
"With Gods Guidance We Serve Veterans"



Third District Jr
President
Evelyn Koran
"Lending a Helping Hand"



Department of Minnesota Jr President

Third District Members Who Serve at the Department of Minnesota.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Deanna Meyer | Third District President |
| Karla Otterness | Leadership Chairman |
| Cavalene Regan | Finance Committee |
| Linda Kelly | Girls State Chairman |
| Darlene Wondra | Hastings Vets Home Representative |
| Janet Thompson | MPLS Veterans Hospital |
| Kat Benjamin | Brain Science |

2023-2024 Third District
President Deanna Meyer



This has been a wonderful year for me. I have met so many new people in the district. Everyone is very important in the Auxiliary. There is always something you can do to help the district and our veterans.

Visiting units and meeting new people was so wonderful. By visiting units, you learn how they do things and get new ideas. Also, Mid-Winter and Convention are places to learn from others. I have so enjoyed meeting new people from other Districts.

My theme for this year was “With Gods Guidance We Serve Veterans. I am getting religious supplies for the Hastings Veterans Home and the St Peter Treatment

Center. My faith has always been very important to me. It has helped me through many rough times over the years. I also know that many veterans have been helped when they trust God to be there for them. My symbol is a soldier by a cross with a United States flag wrapped around him.

There has been so many people there for me this past year. My Secretary, Karla Otterness, has so much knowledge about how the district runs. I could never have done this without her. I would also like to thank President Sharon Cross and my “sisters” other District Presidents. Put this group together and you can learn many things. Within our own District there are so many people to help you learn. Past Presidents are always willing to help you out. I have had so many people that keep saying if you need help let me know. I so appreciate all the offers of help and sometimes just being able to talk to someone about how things are going. These are the ones behind the scenes that really help to get things done. Also, would like to thank Commander Rod and SAL Dave Arends for all they have helped with. Thank you to all who are always willing to help where needed.

Every month I have ended my article in the newsletter with the same phrase. It is from the “Christmas Carol” and I have always thought it was a perfect prayer for all. So, I would like to end with Little Timmy’s prayer.

“God Bless Us Everyone”

Deanna Meyer, Third District President



President's Agenda 2023/2024

- May** *Our Third District Convention was held in Forest Lake. I was elected Third District President My Installing Officer was Barbara Klehr. I also held my first District Executive Committee meeting.
*I assisted with the City of Brownton Memorial Day Program. I played the piano and took pictures.
*I attended the Third District Testimonial Dinner at Chanhassen for Kim Carlander and Gary Richardson.
- June** *I did an Installation Ceremony for Unit 145, St Paul Park.
- July** *Attended the Third District Picnic in Elysian.
*Attended the Department Convention and DEC meeting in Redwood Falls
- Aug** *Held a Third District Executive Committee Meeting at Post 143
*Attended Department DEC meeting in Melrose
- Sept** *Attended the Department Patriot Rally in Legionville
*Attended Montgomery Unit #79 meeting by invitation
*Led the Third District Auxiliary Rally at Post #143 in Brownton
- Oct** *Attended Past President's Parley meeting and luncheon.
*Went to Convention Planning Meeting in New Prague
*Attended Department Fall Conference and DEC meeting in St Cloud
*Attended the Membership Dinner at Faribault by invitation
- Nov** *Attended the Auxiliary Birthday Party held at Elysian.
- Dec** *Attended the Department Pearl Harbor rally at Paynesville.
*Hosted the Brownton Christmas Party
*Attended the Stewart Unit #225 Christmas Party by invitation
- Jan** *Held the Third District Mid-Winter Conference in Apple Valley
- Feb** *Attended the Department Sweetheart Rally in Forest Lake
*Attended Convention Planning Meeting in New Prague
- Mar** *Attended the Department Appreciation Rally in Montgomery also DEC meeting.
*Was invited to the Salad Luncheon at Faribault but due to injury was unable to attend
- Apr** *Due to injury was not able to attend meetings etc. I talked to many on the phone who had questions about reports.
- May** *Lead Third District Executive Committee meeting at Convention
*Lead Third District Convention

Also attended my home unit meetings. Took many phone calls and answered numerous emails. Thank you to all who helped me throughout the year. We have a great group in the Third District.

Chairman 2023/2024

Family Support Pod

- Americanism** – Tamara Thayer, Elysian Unit 311
- Education** – Karen Rasmussen, Faribault Unit 43
- Community Service** – Kelly Kauss, Elysian Unit 311
- Memorial** – Cavalene Regan, Forest Lake Unit 225

Youth Development Pod

- Children & Youth** - Betty Schlueter, Hutchinson Unit 96
- Juniors Activity** – Lynn Duffy, St Paul Park Unit 98
- Girl State** –Linda Kelly, Pine Island Unit 184

Veteran/Military Support & Advocacy Pod

- Legislative** –Michele Leonard, Northfield Unit 189
- National Security** –Kim Carlander, Chanhassen Unit 580
- Armed Forces Center** – Lois Wenz, Chaska Unit 57
- Poppy** – Ann Bovy, New Germany Unit 601
- Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation / Service to Veterans-** Joanne Joachim, Chanhassen 580
- St Peter Treatment Center** –Darlene Wondra, Montgomery Unit 79

Membership Development Pod

- Membership** – Deb Chicos Chanhassen 580
- Leadership** – Karla Otterness Winsted Unit 407
- Public Relations** – Ginny Schuelke, Winsted Unit 407
- Auxiliary Emergency Fund** –Cynthia Wenz, Chaska Unit 57

Organizational Support Pod

- Parliamentarian/ Standing Rules Chairman** – Barbara Klehr, Shakopee Unit 2
- Finance** –Teri Richardson, Mahtomedi Unit 507
- History** – Jeannie Ray, Hutchinson Unit 96
- Memory Book** –Jane Tongen, Brownton Unit 143
- Past President Parley** – Joanne Joachim, Chanhassen
- Nominating Committee** Chairman Michele Leonard, Northfield Unit 189

2023-2024 Unit Presidents

Apple Valley Unit 1776	Maryalyce McCabe	Stewart Unit 125	Barbara Eitel
Bayport Unit 491	Janet Eder	Waconia Unit 150	Stephanie Hodges
Belle Plaine Unit 144	Ruth Westphal	Winsted Unit 407	Ginny Schuelke
Brownton Unit 143	Marcie Baysinger	Winthrop Unit 314	Gayle Grams
Chanhassen Unit 580	Ellen Differding		
Chaska Unit 57	Jennifer Stolz		
Cleveland Unit 207	Christine Thomas		
Eagan Unit 594	Paulette Stark		
Elysian Unit 311	Sharon Brandt		
Faribault Unit 43	Kathrine Larson		
Farmington Unit 189	Kimberly Lomas		
Forest Lake Unit 225	Judith Hanna		
Gaylord Unit 433	Jill Hewitt		
Glencoe Unit 95	Mary Sellnow		
Green Isle Unit 408	Rosemary Theis		
Hastings Unit 47	Becky Peterson		
Hugo Unit 620	Mary Brake		
Hutchinson Unit 96	Donna Telecky		
Inver Grove Hghts. Unit 424	Judy Thomsen		
Kilkenny Unit 380	Janice Sellner		
Lafayette Unit 300	Carol Hoffman		
Le Center Unit 108	Shauna Whipps		
Lester Prairie Unit 463	Audrey Litzau		
Lonsdale Unit 586	Andrea Zellner		
Mahtomedi Unit 507	Katie Busson		
Montgomery Unit 79	Connie Shriver		
Morristown Unit 149	Jean Pesta		
New Germany Unit 601	Ann Bovy		
New Prague Unit 45	Ruth Dols		
Nicollet Unit 510	Linda Wells		
North Mankato Unit 518	Lynette Rohlfing		
Northfield Unit 84	Barbara Swenson		
Norwood Unit 343	Diane Mackenthun		
Pine Island Unit 184	Karla Haugen		
Prior Lake Unit 447	Betty Roe		
Red Wing Unit 54	Judy Mann		
Rosemount Unit 65	Jessica Luedtke		
St. Paul Park Unit 98	Jeoria Cluckey		
St. Peter Unit 37	Angie Glassel		
Savage Unit 643	Susan Harper		
Shakopee Unit 2	Phyllis Zondlo		
Silver Lake 141	Cyndi Fouquette		

Americanism
3rd District Year End Report
2023-2024
Tamara Thayer, Chair



Department Chair Mary Kuperus states the purpose of the national Americanism program is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship. The work of the Americanism program is educationally based and divided into *three phases: work with youth, work with adults, and work within the community*. All matters about the flag or patriotic education are rightly classified as Americanism activities.

The 3rd District Americanism program had 17 Units reporting, a *few* examples follow:

Work with Youth: Third District is in their 2nd year of the Americanism Essay Contest. 49 students in Elysian had an Americanism field trip to the Legion where they learned about the flag, & military service and to the memorial where the different flags, statues and pavers were described. Faribault students received the cords and their parents received the Blue Star Banner. Poppy Poster Contests, and Poppy Coloring Contests were held by most of the units, with Faribault having the winners ride in the Memorial Day Parade. Shakopee lays a wreath at each cemetery while the flag is raised and lowered, and Taps is played. A natural wreath is thrown into the river in honor of those lost at sea. Shakopee presented their Good Citizen Awards to 6 boys and 6 girls from each of 3 schools with 8th graders and two from high school. Purple Up! Activities honoring military kids was celebrated. All military children ate free at the omelet breakfast in April. Many units reported the “Star Spangled Kids” program was promoted by educating our youth about US history, Americanism, and the US Constitution. A class of home-schooled American Sign Language students learned how to sign the National Anthem and the pledge on the National Anthem Day. One unit started working on the Junior Americanism patch.

Work with Adults: Norwood went to 5 places to present a citizenship lesson with facts and history of the flag. Faribault participates with the Hometown Hero Banners, Frontline Ceremony, Operation 23 to 0, and a 23-hour vigil prior to Veterans Day. To celebrate Veterans Day; Bayport put on a veteran’s dinner, many units gave gifts to veterans, and some invited veterans to be part of the Veterans Day Programs. Chaska participated in the Wreaths Across America and laid wreaths at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Work within the Community: Several auxiliary members from different units were guest speakers to a variety of adult groups in the community. Elysian partnered with FFA on a fundraiser. Norwood participated in the Artisan Fair Valentine’s party. Lester Prairie worked a fund raiser at the citywide garage sale days. Faribault sponsored a Christmas Market. Elysian worked on many 4th of July community events. Stewart and Elysian donated to a local Girls Scout troop. Shakopee held a breakfast with Santa and Halloween bingo. Belle Plaine helps with 8 different holiday events for the community. St Paul Park participated in the Civil War Hero Dedication. Hutchinson participated in a bloodmobile, and gave flag pins for the Good deed awardees, essay entries, and at the kids game.

Flag Promotion and Protection: Four of the Units reported a Flag Disposal Ceremony. Small flags were used for classroom prizes, and they were distributed during parades. Many Units held a Flag Poster contest. The flag was displayed at all Auxiliary meetings. ALA grave markers with USA Flags were placed at the gravesites for Memorial Day. A USA Flag was given to foreign exchange students. Kelly Kauss carried the American flag for the 3rd District at Department convention.

Americanism/Patriotism: Units recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble of the ALA Constitution at all meetings. Trivia questions on Americanism, Patriotism, and the flag was played at Americanism classes with prizes like a copy of the American Constitution, Flag Etiquette, a small flag etc. Chaska arranged for Richard Middleton to bring in several authentic flags and give the history of each flag.

Veterans/Military Family: Military who die by suicide are remembered with a 23-hour vigil prior to the Veterans Day Ceremony. 23 long-stemmed red roses are put in combat boots placed in a circle at their Veterans Memorial. "Operation Green Light" encourages homes to shine a green light to show their support for Veterans the week of Veterans Day. Karen Rassmussen spoke on "The History of the American Flag" on Veteran Day. Most of the units reporting described wonderful Veterans Day programs and activities they provided as well as detailed Memorial Day celebrations.

Branding: Members from most units' report wearing uniforms at public events to promote the Auxiliary.

Summary: Just over 1/3 of the 3rd District 46 units sent in their Americanism reports. From those, 8 participated in Americanism school programs. There were 16 flag education programs given. 3,771 flags were distributed not counting the numerous ones handed out in parades. There were 18 Veterans Day programs or events on Veterans Day. There were 38 Memorial Day programs and services given. Units participated in 42 other Holiday or community events where members were wearing ALA branding while serving the community. Units participated in youth programs such as the National Essay contest, Girl Scouts, Junior Activities, Poppy Poster contest, Poppy Coloring Contest, Flag Poster Contest, Girls State, and delivered gifts to veterans with the Juniors. Units participated in the American Legion Baseball, SAL programs, and Blue Star Banner Program. 1,018 flags were presented to schools or organizations using 49 volunteer hours.

The totals from the 17 Units reporting on Americanism are:

Total number of hours volunteered= 1,022

Total money donated/spent= \$5,340.24

3rd District Americanism Awards '23-'24: 5 judges representing 4 Units evaluated the essay contest. 4 people not competing, judged the other 2 awards. Tamara did not judge since her unit was competing.

Certificates of Merit

Units 50 and Under Membership – Unit 463 Lester Prairie, Unit 343 Norwood

Units 51-100 in Membership - Unit 491 Bayport, Unit 2 Shakopee

Units 101-200 Membership - Unit 144 Belle Plaine, Unit 57 Chaska, Unit 311 Elysian, Unit 43 Faribault,
Unit 98 St Paul Park, Unit 96 Hutchison

Units 201 and Above None

Sieg & Ann Schmidtke Americanism Certificate of Award _____

Dolores Goettl Patriotic Education Award - (only one entry) _____

2023 Americanism Essay Winners for District 3:

Class I - 3rd and 4th grade Winner: Mae E Wright, St Paul Park Unit 98

2nd Place: Owen Akerlund, Montgomery Unit 79

Class II - 5th and 6th grade Winner: Casey Bruzek, Montgomery Unit 79

2nd Place: Cooper Sladek, Montgomery Unit 79

Class III - 7th and 8th grade Winner: Arianna Devine, Montgomery Unit 79

2nd Place: Adam Rynda, Montgomery Unit 79

Class IV - 9th and 10th grade Winner: Madelyn Ryan, Montgomery Unit 79

Class V - 11th and 12th grade Winner: Jake Tyler Matejcek, Montgomery Unit 79

2nd Place: Emma Malicki, St Paul Park Unit 98

Class VI - Open Class Winner: Jackson Cooney, Elysian Unit 311
The number of entries tripled from last year. All entries will receive the judges' comments. All winners will receive cash prizes and medals at the Convention in May.

The number of entries tripled from last year. All entries will receive the judges' comments. All winners will receive cash prizes and medals at the Convention in May.

"Thank you President Deanna Meyer for this appointment as Third District Americanism Chair" Tamara Thayer





Education Report
3rd District Year End Report
Karen Rasmussen
2023-2024

Of 46 units in Minnesota's 3rd District, 17 sent an education report with five reporting that they did not participate. From the financial data in the 12 reports, \$14,772 was the amount units dedicated to schools, staff, and students in some way, including grants of \$9200. Education is very important to our District's units.

April 15th is Purple Up Day. One unit purchased 28 purple T-shirts for military children plus gave them pencils. Students wearing purple, red, white, or blue got a treat. One class was 100% purple, so they were featured in the newspaper and on Facebook. Seven students received Good Citizen Awards in three schools. Ten graduating seniors in two schools entering the military received military honor cords to wear at graduation and one unit also gave parents a Blue Star Banner; a Girls Stater received a gold Girls State sash. Third graders in one school had a field trip to the American Legion and toured two memorials. One unit did a Youth Coloring Contest and blue, red, or white ribbons were given to the top three students in grades 1-5 from 100 entries. Top winners also received a flag, a medal on a lanyard and rode in the Memorial Day Parade as did the Poppy Poster Contest winner. Three students entered the Americanism Essay Contest winning both unit and district awards, and one received the first place Dept award. One unit had a student compete in the AL Oratorical Contest. Prizes for various unit level contests were all \$25 for the winners totaling \$325. Three students attended Girl State from two units, and one sponsored a student to Legionville Safety Camp.

Nine units gave local scholarships, including two units' Past Presidents Parley, for a total of \$2300. A template was found online for awarding an auxiliary scholarship. Donations were made to the Dept of MN Scholarship (\$200), and the American Legion Legacy Scholarship (\$400). Four students applied for either Dept or National Scholarships.

Units provided education in classrooms. One unit visited nine classrooms in three schools and gave lessons on the American flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to 155 students and gave them small flags. Home schooled deaf students were taught the Pledge and the National Anthem with sign language. The book *I'm Your Flag, So Please Treat Me Right* by Julia Cook was read to students by two units, with one presenting the book to the school. Another unit donated books to the public library but the amount wasn't specified. Three flags were donated to three new classrooms. One unit donated 75 Box Tops for Education with a value of \$50 and five ink cartridges. Mittens were collected and donated to the Food Shelf.

Give Ten to Education tracking sheets were sent by two units that totaled 320 items worth \$553; others reported in items given in their narrative so a total of seven schools received supplies valued at \$1378. A suggestion was made at a Christian Women's Luncheon to donate items for teachers to give to students; they were very generous. A 'Certificate of Participation for Give Ten' was found online and given to their chair.

Eighteen veterans from one post went to three schools and three nursing homes near Veterans Day. Another unit observed Veterans Day with a school-wide assembly. The seniors pinned flowers on the veterans, the band played, the kindergarten led saying the Pledge and received small flags, the third grade sang, and two Quilts of

Valor were presented. Students gave back by making over 200 holiday cards for active/reserve military and the unit sent them with gift cards.

National Education Week was observed Nov. 13-17th. Nine units treated 54 schools for a total of \$887. Most often apples and goodie baskets or bags with a thank you were presented to teachers, staff, bus drivers, though one unit treated the staff and bus drivers at 21 schools with 1400 granola bars (much lighter than apples). One unit included the Americanism Essay Contest cover sheet with their baskets. Sandwiches were made for P-T Conferences and food was prepared for workers building a new school.

Certificate of merit

Units (50 & under) Unit 343 Norwood, Unit 407 Winsted, Unit 601 New Germany

Units (51-100) 144 Belle Plaine,

Units (101-200) 311 Elysian, 96 Hutchinson, Unit 43 Faribault,

Units (201 and greater membership) none

Third District Education Certificate_____





Community Service
3rd District Year End Report
2023-2024
Kelly Kauss, chair

I received 19 reports out of 46 for the 3rd District. They were sent electronically and mailed by PO service.

Summary of District Report for

Individual Members did an extraordinary amount of work as captured in the reports.

Cities, Counties and State projects were held by many units that continually served Veterans and their families.

Total hours volunteered by individual members 7069

Total amount of money spent/donated by individual members \$8814

Total numbers of miles driven by individual members when volunteering 7363

Projects in Units included bake sales, baskets for many holidays, breakfasts and meals of all kinds, bags with gifts, service hours to many organizations.

Units did participate in ALA days of service and were attended by unit, veterans, and community members. Units were well received by other organizations in their communities.

Many units are celebrating American Legion Family Day with picnics, membership awards & banquets, and family nights. Total hours volunteered by Units 7833

Total amount of money spent/donated by Units \$35,503

Auxiliary apparel worn YES

None of the units met all the criteria for the Juanita Lutz Community Service Framed Plaque, however, there were three outstanding reports that met most of the criteria.

#	Location	Members	Individual Hours	Individual Miles	Total Hours	Total	
601	New Germany	18	178	\$1762.00	500	270	\$2272.00
57	Chaska	165	1988	\$1438.00	4571	3786	\$19874.00
311	Elysian	169	2553	\$2553.00	2000	3004	\$3750.00

It has been a great privilege for me to be a part of the President's team. Thank you for your assistance, support, and encouragement.

It has been an outstanding year for "Service not Self." Thank you for this appointment.

Certificate of merit

Units (50 & under) 601 New Germany, 407 Winsted, 95 Glencoe, 343 Norwood

Units (51-100) 580 Chanhasen, 141 Silver Lake, 144 Belle Plaine, 81 Bayport

Units (101-200) 57 Chaska, 311 Elysian, 98 St Paul Park, 96 Hutchinson

Units (201 and greater membership) Unit 1776 Apple Valley

Juanita Lutz Community Service Certificate _____



Memorial
3rd District Year End Report
2023-2024
Cavalene Regan, Chair

As the Chaplain is the Spiritual Leader of her Unit, District and Department. It is with great sadness that we mourn the loss of the 46 3rd District Auxiliary Members reported from only 10 Units as passing in this past year. 6 of those were Past Unit or District Presidents. Please join me in prayer for their families.

While this is overwhelmingly sad news, I am very proud to report some of the events and activities reported from 9 of our 46 Units. There were 4 Units that applied for the Lemke Memorial Plaque.

All the Units Reporting showed their Chaplain's offer the Opening and Closing prayer at meetings.

Send out cards to members and families that are ill hospitalized and families of deceased. Some Units have done the memorial service or celebration of life for members that have passed. They will present Poppies with a service at the time of the Memorial Service.

Several Units offer various dollar amounts given with Sympathy Cards sent to a family member. One Unit also sends money to members who have been hospitalized.

Some Units noted information shared with the Unit Historian to update the Unit Historical Books. There is also a Service in Units for Draping the Charter for those that have passed away, the black drape will remain on the Charter or the Members Photo for 90 days. It was interesting to see that most Units have a special Memorial Service in May to honor those that have passed from their Units each year. Some will drape their Charters during that time for up to a month and post the list of those that passed.

The First Sunday in February – several Units also presented the Story of the 4 Chaplains (the story of the Chapel).

Flags and Wreaths are taken to the Cemeteries for Memorial Day and Christmas and other holidays throughout the year– some will also toss a wreath in the lake or river to honor those lost at sea.

It was noted that Graveside Markers and Flags were purchased or replaced at over 60 deceased Veterans and or spouses as well as Auxiliary Members.

As the 3rd District Chaplain, it was my pleasure to provide prayer for all the district meetings and events throughout the year. Also, some history and prayers for the 3rd District monthly newsletters' for a special project, I put together a prayerbook for the District President for the 2023 -2024 year that included words of wisdom, prayers and poems from the District Units and Department of MN District Presidents. My hope is this gift will allow her to remember and reflect on the wonderful year she has given of her time.

This is just a sample of the many ways the Chaplains are working in the 3rd District. Congratulations and thank you for all you do.

Thank you, President Deanna, for trusting me with this position.

Nancy Lemke Memorial Plaque_____

In Loving Memory

****District President**

***Unit President**

Unit 43, Faribault

Gayle Aidrich
Dorothy Butterfield
Kay Goracke
Janice Hansen
Betty Hoffaman Judy
Johnson
Helen Reveland

Unit 57, Chaska

Georgiana Arlt
Aldoris Engelharndt
Lois Kemitz
Shirley Lebo
Connie Lonto
Kathryn Meuwissen
Marcella Schmidt
Carolyn Stark
Frances vetschner
Joyce Van Eyll

Unit 79, Montgomery

Yvonne Embretson
Patricia Filipek
Nancy Hix
Myrtle Kucera
Lillian Malecha-
Novotny
Mildred Schoenbauer
Caroline trcka
Barbara Weiers

Unit 96, Hutchinson

Lorraine Nemitz
Wilma Thunstrom
Tracy Kleiman
Andrea Koenig
Margerie Block

Unit 141, Silver Lake

Cindy Tews
Bernadette-
Pokornowski
Bonnie Dahl
Adline Hlavka
Carol Navratil

Unit 144, Belle Plaine

Carol Peterson

Unit 225, Forest Lake

Shirley Hallberg
Phyllis Westberg
Loretta Houle
Irene Nelson
Nancy Immel

Unit 407, Winsted

Viola Kieser
Lorraine Kohler
Colleen Loe

Unit 84 Northfield

Nadine Kivens

Unit 601 New Germany

Marie Latzig

Unit 1776 Apple Valley

Barbara Schauer
Colleen Oberg

Let Me Go

***When I come to the end of
the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom
filled room
Why cry for a soul set
free?***

***Miss me a little, but not for
long
And not with your head
bowed low
Remember the love that
once we shared
Miss me but let me go.***

***For this is a journey we all
must take
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the master
plan
A step on the road to
home.***

***When you are lonely and
sick at heart
Go to the friends we know.
Laugh at all the things we
used to do
Miss me but let me go.***



Children and Youth
3rd District Year End Report
2023-2024
Betty Schlueter, Chair

There are 46 units in the Third district. Only 18 Units submitted year end reports to me. The number was very low, but the reports I did receive were wonderful. April is Children and Youth month in the American Legion Auxiliary and is also known as month of the Military Child. Children and Youth is also the fourth pillar of the American Legion/ American Legion Auxiliary.

18 Units reported \$8,808.90 spent on donations with 995 volunteer hours.

Units participated and reported on the following:

American Legion child Welfare foundation donations

American Education week involvement

Legionville donations

Registered students for Girl State

Eagles healing nest donations

scholarship donations

Adopt a family at Christmas.

library donated children's books

School safety patrol

Collected pop tabs -for Ronald McDonald house.

Supported Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts

Set up military children's table- 2 units.

Children activities bags brought to 2023 Fall Conference

Presented 9 Good Deed Awards

Presented 1 Hero Award

Units held holiday parties at Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas. Special Needs, Easter egg hunts, Easter bingo giving tree, veterans Day etc.

April 15 was Purple Up Day for Military kids. Unit members showed their support by wearing purple.

Three articles on children and Youth were printed in the third district newsletter this year.

Children and youth had a tri fold board on display at the 2024 Third District Mid-Winter. It will be on Display at the 2024 third district convention in May. Thanks to all the units that took the time and made the effort to do reporting. The narratives were very informative.

Thank you, Madam president Deanna, for this chairmanship for 2023-2024.

Certificate of merit

Units (50 & under) Unit 343 Norwood, Unit 463 Lester Prairie, Unit 447 Prior Lake, Unit 84 Northfield, Unit 424 Inver Grove Heights, Unit 125 Stewart, Unit 407 Winsted

Units (51-100) 580 Chanhassen, 144 Belle Plaine, Unit 2 Shakopee, Unit 141 Silver Lake

Units (101-200) 57 Chaska, 311 Elysian, 98 St Paul Park, 96 Hutchinson, Unit 43 Faribault, Unit 79 Montgomery,

Units (201 and greater membership) Unit 1776 Apple Valley

Shirly Hamre Children and Youth Plaque_____



Junior Activities
3rd District Year End Report
2023/2024
Lynn Duffy, Chair

Of these Units, the juniors were very active. Five of the juniors attended the Department Conference in New Prague in April of 2023. Throughout the year they donated a total of \$2,417 to various programs and organizations. They volunteered 698 hours. Of those hours 208 volunteer hours were dedicated for veterans and veterans families. The juniors have taken an active role in the city, county, 4th of July, Memorial, and Winter Carnival parades and activities.

They participated in Veterans Day programs, sending cookies overseas, and visiting veterans. Help serve meals in support of Post and Unit activities, as well as Veterans Day meals. They participate in the Poppy program raising funds for veterans and their families, maintain Poppy plantar boxes, participate in Miss Poppy and Poppy contests. They help children and youth by participating in fundraising and help with Easter Egg hunts, distribution of candy, cookies, and help with Halloween safety parties and Christmas parties. They helped raise funds to send students (future farmers of America) to Ireland. One set-up a sign-up sheet for Key Club and the National Honors Society. Have made and dedicated two little libraries to local cities. Raised funds for Military families impacted by the Maui fires. Another raised funds for Ark Animals and donated her time to that organization.

Merits winners

Units (50 & under) 601 New Germany, 343 Norwood, Unit 125 Stewart, Unit 463 Lester Prairie, Unit 447 Prior Lake Unit 141 Silver Lake, Unit 84 Northfield

Units (51-100) 580 Chanhassen, 144 Belle Plaine, Unit 2 Shakopee

Units (101-200) 57 Chaska, 311 Elysian, 98 St Paul Park, 96 Hutchinson, Unit 43 Faribault, Unit 79 Montgomery,

Units (201 and greater membership) Unit 1776 Apple Valley

The Luverne B. Marier Plaque is awarded to:

_____.

The Pat Kerber Junior Membership Plaque is awarded to: _____.





Girls State
3rd District Year End Report
2023/2024
Linda Kelly, Chair

I received a few reports this year – not as many as I wish I would have. Many of our units reserved a spot at Girls State for one or more junior students. Thank you for your participation.

Units used money from different sources – some from their general funds or a special fundraiser for Girls State. The program appreciates those that made Girls State a part of their annual budget. The cost of your sponsorship was sometimes shared with other units or the unit's post – some from Gambling money.

(As a reminder if your Gambling Committee pays any share of the student cost, their check must be payable to the ALA Foundation. After the Department receives the check, they will process through the ALA Foundation at the National Office.)

Several units told how they choose from their candidates. I know that many units rely on our schools to choose a student but remember that the final decision is yours. I hope that you take part in that decision by meeting with interested candidates and interviewing them. Past attendees that you have sponsored are a good source of information for the new candidates. It is important to find the right person to send to Girls State.

Ask your student to come to your meeting after Girls State. Let them tell you about the week and what they learned.

I participated at Girls State last year as a Counselor. This week-long event is such an opportunity for our youth. They can learn about the three branches of our government, hearing speakers from all three. They see first-hand how the election process works, participating as candidates, campaigners, and voters. Just think how that prepares them to be educated voters participating in our annual elections. We don't know – one of units may have sponsored a future member of our State or Federal legislature, governor, or even President of the United States.

I hope that all units will consider participating next year. Build it into your budget or plan a fundraiser for the fee – advertise it as such and invite past attendees to be there to answer questions from parents and the public.

I thank Deanna for this appointment. I find that no matter what Program I chair, I learn so much about it.

No awards





Legislation
3rd District Year End Report
2023-2024
Michelle Leonard, Chair

The American Legion Auxiliary's Legislation program is, at its core, an effort to affect change for the betterment and security of veterans, active military, and their families through outreach to elected officials at the local, state and federal levels.

For the year 2023-2024, 15 of the Third District's 46 units submitted reports for Legislation. Of those to participate in the program:

- 7 units visited the American Legion's Legislative website to keep current on legislative priorities.
- 6 unit members indicated they are subscribed to the American Legion's legislative action alerts
- 3 units downloaded and reviewed the American Legion Auxiliary Advocacy Guide

The 2024 Veterans Day on the Hill was scheduled after the deadline for submitting annual reports, so participation in that event is an estimate, only. Three units indicated they planned to send a cumulative of eight Third District members to 2024 Veterans Day on the Hill.

Units to participate in the Legislation program contacted a total of one city council member, one county commissioner, five state legislators, and five members of Congress. Outreach was conducted through three phone calls, six emails, two letters, and three in-person meetings. Five units indicated they heard back from their representatives.

Two units reported planning events to educate members in January as part of Legislation month. In both class, the unit chairmen shared the American Legion's legislative priorities with members. Units rightly noted that 2024 is a biennium year at the Minnesota State Legislature; therefore, this year's requests have been policy-driven in nature, as it is not a budget year. Nonetheless, one unit chairman shared contact information for their area's legislators with members, and another unit cited efforts to research bills and policies that affect veterans, active military, and their families at a state and federal level.

There is no Third District award for this program. Thank you to all unit chairmen who submitted reports for Legislation.

Certificate of Merits

50 And Under Norwood-Young America Unit 343
51-100 Belle Plaine Unit 144
101 and over Chaska Unit 57, Elysian Unit 311,
Faribault Unit 43, St. Paul Park Unit 98





National Security
3rd District Year End Report
2023- 2024
Kim Carlander, Chair

Our National Security program is where we as Auxiliary members focus our efforts to help promote a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting our military service members and their families. We also contribute to the community overall, by working with the Red Cross for blood donations, and other emergency readiness efforts. It's an important area that covers a wide range of activities. I was pleased with the hard work and creativity Units in our District demonstrated in our National Security program for this year. Thank you so much for doing this important work.

Of the 46 Units in our District, I received 18 reports. Of those 18 reports, 4 "Did Not Participate" (I'm still glad they sent in a report, so at least they're accounted for). Honoring our POW/MIA was strong throughout all Units reporting. I was glad to see "Be the One" activities gaining traction too. "Be The One" to save one. Learn more about how to help a veteran or service member in crisis at legion.org. Our "Quilts of Valor" is going strong. In most reports that mentioned they participated; no exact number of quilts was recorded. In total, through activities such as giving Holiday gift cards to veterans or military service members and their families, care packages sent overseas to deployed service members, USO donations and donations made to the Armed Forces Service Center and other direct programs, \$9,327.00 was given to strengthen and support our National Security. Well, done!!

There are SO MANY wonderful ways to continue to reach out and show support. Some Units sent baked goods and thank you cards to their local first responder locations. Some found ways to acknowledge and honor the young men and women in their area who are graduating high school and entering the military. Don't forget to set up "Buddy Visits" to home bound veterans. Attend Memorial Services, as well as events that will keep you informed. Become familiar with the Family Readiness Center that are set up on nearby military installations. They will help you connect with a FRG (Family Readiness Group) among other things. Your local VSO (Veteran Service Organization) or VSO Officer can also give you ideas on where help is needed. Find what opportunities to volunteer might fit with the members in your Unit and give something new a try. Even if you're home bound, you can send out cards or clip coupons. All activities are important and help to strengthen our National Security.

Thank you for all you do!

Certificates of Merit

50 and Under: Norwood Young America Unit 343

51-100: Shakopee Unit 2

101-200: Elysian Unit 311, Faribault Unit 43, Hutchinson Unit 96

Barbara Stussy National Security Award: _____



ARMED FORCES SERVICE CENTER
3RD District Year End Report
2023 - 2024
Lois Wenz, Chairman

The Armed Forces Service Center (AFSC) at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport is top-rated with dedicated volunteers serving those who served. Military personnel who may use the Center include Traveling Active Duty, National Guard Reserve, Retirees, Purple Heart and Medal of Honor recipients, former POW, Dependents and Department of Defense. This wonderful center was founded on November 22, 1970 by a mother Maggie Purdum after her son died in Vietnam.

Five Units reported. Two Units donated \$300 each and two units donated \$100 each totaling \$800. Other Units may have only reported under the National Security Program.

Information was received from one Unit who has a member volunteering at the AFSC for the past several years serving several four-hour shifts each month. It's great to know that a Unit and our District has a volunteer. We extend our Thanks to you for being a volunteer! She states and reminds us that since the Center opened November 22, 1970, over one million active-duty military personnel dependents and retirees have passed through the AFSC. From October 2006 the AFSC "Troop Greeters" have welcomed more than 334 military charter flights (over 89,000 combat troops) and over 1,110 military charter buses (around 46,000 troops). If any ALA members are seeking a place to volunteer, she and this Chairman highly recommend contacting AFSC at www.mnafsc.or/volunteer-ii.

One Unit involved 12 volunteers to make and donate 12 children's activity bags valued at \$20 each. Shopping and delivery totaled 30 hours with 175 mileage to MSP Airport.

One Unit encouraged members to wear Red on Fridays – Remember Everyone Deployed.

Stop in to say Hello and Thanks to the AFSC staff. The Center is located at Terminal 1 inside security at the entrance to the A concourse on Level 2. Take the Tram on the C concourse to the last stop and exit right. Follow signs to the elevator across from the Gift Shop.

As District Chairman, I had an article in the Third District Newsletter, and one was read at Mid-Winter Conference.

The work by volunteering at the AFSC has been done with "God's Guidance, We Serve Veterans". We have seen "Dancing into the Hearts of Veterans" through our donations and help. We know the sacrifices of our military is the reason we live in freedom, so let's step up and "Be the One" to reach out and give our support.





POPPY
3rd District Year End Report
2023-2024
Ann Bovy, Chair

There was twelve units out of forty-six that participated in the Third district American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program. 256 large poppies were ordered. 13,000 small poppies were ordered.

The total dollar amount for poppies distribution was \$34,686. There were 214 members participating in the Poppy drives for this year. In the reports from the American Legion Auxiliary Third District, two units claimed to use display the poppy cards.

In the Poppy Poster contest, there were 4 units that participated. From those units, 4 entries were sent to the Department of MN, poppy chair for consideration of awards.

There was one unit who sponsored Little Miss Poppy, she went door to door distributing poppies in her community. She spoke of being a junior member and poppy princess. While being Miss Elysian, she participated in 17 parades during her reign, giving recognition to the legion auxiliary and poppy program.

Here are some things that our units did to educate the community. They put articles in the newspaper that explained the meaning of the poppy program. Some of the units use poppies at Memorial Service.

The ways the units promoted the Poppy program were Newspapers, social media, fundraiser, display boards. They also made donation cans that were decorated with poppies.

Poppy Posters class 1 = Grande 3 Penelope Hoisington 311 Elysian

class 11= grade 5 Zaza Spitzack 311 Elysian

class 111= grade 6 Elliette Spitzack 43 Faribault

class 1v= no enter

class V= grade 10 Charles Tenhoff 311 Elysian

class V1= no enter

class V1= no enter class V11= no enter

High Lights:

District Leadership chairman sponsored a session on how to make poppies and it was called "Poppy Palooza." Our members learn how to make small and large poppies. The Poppy Lady book was read, and history was shared. Our members were challenged with Trivia questions. The prizes that were given out were poppy button ribbons, and poppy pins.



One unit spoke about Poppies at their Memorial Service.

A Unit stated they had two displays; one was at their Legion Office. Wear it was lite 24/7. The other was in a poppy contest in the Department Convention a then on display their local office.

One unit had elementary children come to the Mayer Memorial Wall. They passed out the poppies and talked to the children about what the poppies mean.

Certificated of Merit:

50& under membership: Unit 125 Stewart, Unit 424 Inver Grove Heights, Unit 601New Germany, Unit 343 Norwood

51-100 Membership: Unit 54 Red Wing, Unit 141 Silver Lake, Unit 580 Chanhassen, Unit 144 Bell Plain, Unit 95 Glencoe

100-200 membership: Unit 57 Chaska, Unit 311 Elysian, Unit 96 Hutchinson

200 and up; No entries

Doris Fink Poppy Plaque_____

Savage Poppy Plaque_____



St Peter Regional Treatment Center
3rd District Year End Report 2023-2024
Darlene Wondra, Chair



At the St Peter Regional Treatment Center there are less than 25 veterans. From your donations each veteran was given a long sleeve T-shirt with their branch of service on, at the pheasant dinner for Veterans Day. At the spring pizza party in April, each Veteran will receive socks and toiletry items. One Unit toured the Treatment Center and donated T-shirts for each veteran, and a monetary donation. Once a month I do sewing and mending at Nursing home part of the facility, and I take home mending and sewing from another part of the facility.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
3rd District Year End Report
2023-2024
Acting Chair Karla Otterness

The Third District submitted 21 reports for the VA & R program. The questionnaire sent out by the Department chair gave support to those who write reports. Our information is as follows.

12,681 hours were volunteered helping and serving veterans around the Third District and beyond. A total of \$50,904 were spent on events programs dinners that were provide for veteran. About \$9225. was given in “In-kind” donations. They were taken to VA Medical Center, hospitals, homes, and Veterans affiliated programs.

Units reported that it was too hard to judge how many veterans were served and did fill out this portion.

Units did report that 245 veterans participated in school programs, on veterans’ day, educational awareness and they presented scholarships to students.

Total donations for The Department of MN sponsored programs were \$9543.

The units that sent an essay reported providing Poppy Flowers to veterans. They also said they were used to decorate post homes, in letters to veterans and used for Remembrance Day for individual funerals.

Our district units love to help Hastings Veterans Home. They provide entertainment for the residence. These events are bingo with prizes, BBQ rib dinners, and steak dinners. Our Auxiliary sent gifts for the adopt a vet program for birthdays and holidays.

We also proved mending and sewing for Hasting Veterans Home and St Peter treatment center.

Our units sewed 8 QOV Quilt and handed them out to Veterans. They also sewed lap robes and wheelchair bags.

Members also provide transportation to and from medical appointments. With the assistance of the DAV Van.

Several Units said they helped with the gift shop at Christmas time and had a lot of fun. They said it was inspirational and were honored to be asked.

Units Consider for merit:

Membership

50 and Under Membership: Unit 343 Norwood, Unit 463 Lester Prairie, 407 Winsted, Unit 207 Cleveland

51-100 Membership: Unit 2 Shakopee, Unit 95 Belle Plaine, Unit 141 Silver Lake, Unit 150 Waconia

101-200 Membership: Unit 43 Faribault, Unit 57 Chaska, Unit 98 St Paul Park, Unit 96 Hutchinson, Unit 225 Forest Lake

201 and up Membership: Unit 1776 Apple Valley

Lois Wenz Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Plaque:

150 and under in memberships _____

Over 150 memberships _____

Service to Veterans Dolly Huron and Darlene Wondra Service to Veterans Certificate: _____



AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND
3rd District Year End Report
2023 - 2024
Cynthia Wenz, Chair

Out of 46 Units, 17 annual reports were received via mail and email with 13 Units showing participation.

Three Units hosted an event to raise funds for the AEF: One Unit served lunch during a Craft Sale; amount raised was \$300. Another Unit at the closing of each monthly meeting, members placed donations in a container marked "AEF" (\$122.02 was collected and sent to Dept.). One Unit donated additional \$30 from members attendance drawings at their meetings, plus \$200.

Fundraisers were held by Units. A Unit hosted a Bake Sale several times during yearly Steak and Fish Fries and sent \$50 to Department for the AEF. A Unit had Fall and Spring Salad Luncheons and requested \$100 donation from gambling. Another Unit donated \$200 from gambling, plus additional \$25. Two Units sent \$100 each to Department for AEF and one Unit sent \$1,000. A small Unit sent in \$10.

The total amount of monetary donations to AEF that Units made was \$2,237.02.

Five Units had members who made personal donations. Nine members were reported from the following units: Unit 343 - Diane Mackenthun \$30; Unit 57 - Cynthia Wenz \$100, Lois Wenz \$100, Susan Wherley \$100; Unit 311 - Edna Thayer \$100; Unit 43 - Paulette Jameson \$43, Karen Rasmussen \$13; Unit 96 - Betty Schlueter \$50, Jeanne Ray \$50. Donations were also received from Janet Thompson, \$50 from Unit 1776; and Cavalene Regan, \$100 from Unit 225. Individual members gave a total of \$736.00.

One Unit had Juniors participate. Four were servers, and worked in the kitchen.

One Unit gave two members the form to receive assistance from AEF, as both are fighting cancer. One Unit hosted their own Silent Auction to help pay bills for a past Unit President undergoing cancer treatment.

At the Department Fall Conference in St. Cloud, four Units and two individuals donated to the Silent Auction. One Unit made baskets with a value of \$50. Another Unit brought memorial wreaths and another Unit collected eight items to bring to this event.

At the Third District Mid-Winter Conference in Apple Valley, the Silent Auction was cancelled due to limited space. Instead, I brought a patriotic box with a sign to collect donations. This Chairman and an Executive Committee Member went around with the box to accept donations. Total amount received was \$701.00. Many Thanks to all who donated to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) for "Members Helping Members" in crisis!

As District Chaiman, I had two articles in the Third District Newsletter and gave a report at the Mid-Winter Conference.

Certificates of Merit

50 and under: Stewart Unit 125

51-100: Belle Plaine Unit 144 and Shakopee Unit 2

101-200: Chaska Unit 57, Faribault Unit 43, Hutchinson Unit 96 and Montgomery Unit 131

201 and up: Apple Valley Unit 1776

Regardless of Membership: Elysian Unit 311 and St. Paul Park Unit 98



Membership
 3rd District Year End Report
 2023-2024
 Deb Chico's, Chai.

I'd like to thank our 3rd District Membership Team: Joanne Joachim, Diane Mackenthun, Karen Rasmussen, Teri Richardson, and Ann Bovy. They played a crucial role in supporting our 3rd District counties. These ladies are very much appreciated for their time and effort.

My theme this year was 'Not on our watch'. I wanted to keep 3rd District's momentum alive from last year. We dipped a little bit earlier in the year, but we have bounced back. Over the last couple of weeks, we have been in 2nd place. I have faith in our district, and I believe we will end the year strong - to the best of our abilities.

Membership goals have always been aggressive - set forth by National. We breathe deep at the beginning of the year as goals are announced and ask for help and guidance as the year goes along. It takes all of us to reach and maintain our goals - hence the reason we are a team - no one stands alone.

As of this report, there are 3 Units over 100%: Hugo with 112.07%, Gaylord with 110.64%, and Elysian with 101.75%. And 8 Units over 90%: Bayport with 98.80%, New Prague with 96.97%, Faribault with 93.06%, Belle Plaine with 92.52%, Cleveland with 92.50%, Lafayette with 90.48%, Chanhassen with 90.24%, and Stewart with 90%.

Unit Goal Awards:

Percentage	Date	Prize	In Honor of:	Unit Winner
20%	Sept 19, 2023	\$25	POW Day, Sept 15th	Chanhassen, Unit 580
40%	Oct 17, 2023	\$25	Navy Birthday, Oct 13th	Hugo, Unit 620
50%	Nov 14, 2023	\$75	Veteran's Day, Nov 11th	Apple Valley, Unit 1776
70%	Feb 6, 2024	\$25	Four Chaplains Day, Feb 3rd	35 Units eligible - Raffle held at 3rd District Conference
90%	March 26, 2024	\$25	Rosie the Riveter Day, Mar 21st	7 Units eligible - Raffle held at 3rd District Conference
100%	May 14, 2024	\$75	Poppy Recognition Day, May 18 th	Raffle held at 3rd District Conference

Membership Certificates of Merit:

Units (50 and Under): Unit 433 Gaylord, Unit 601 New Germany, Unit 95 Glencoe, Unit 463 Lester Prairie, Unit 125 Stewart, Unit 207 Cleveland, Unit 380 Kilkenny, Unit 300 Lafayette

Units (51 - 100): Unit 620 Hugo, Unit 491 Bayport, Unit 643 Savage, Unit 45 New Prague

Units (101 - 200): Unit 311 Elysian

Units (201 - over):

The Forciea-Dixon Memorial Membership Plaque: _____



Leadership
3rd District Year End Report
2023-2024
Karla Otterness, Chair

Leadership can be scary! You put yourself out there hoping for your Unit to support your ideas, listen to your suggestions, and help you to reach the end goal. Unfortunately, there are always those who criticize or drop the ball. That is life. But a great leader surrounds herself with people she can count on and will share the success with all. In the Third district we have some standout leaders, mentors, and friends.

I received 19 leadership reports out of 46 Units. Two units nominated a candidate for Department Member of the year. 14 members attended breakout sessions at the 2023 convention. 21 members attended this year's midwinter at Apple Valley Post 1776. We did have some confusion about dates as they were changed. We also have one person climbing the department chair and is running for department 2nd vice president.

We had several district activities like family gatherings, birthday celebrations and executive meetings, that had a great attendance. These activities are a lot of fun but always have an educational element to them. They also take a good leader to organize and carry out these events. The Fall Conference held in October had an attendance of 25 members from the Third District. National Mission Training held in Nebraska had 1 person that attended. 4 Units promoted the ALA academy online class.

Our District and Department Leadership chairman was karla Otterness she held 2 classes. The first was on November 18 at Kimball Post 261, and 11 members from the third came to hear and support her. There was a total of 38 auxiliary members that attended. The second was November 19th, Poppy Pa- loose -a had, 15 members attended. A special thank you to Waconia Unit 150 who came over a taught us how to make poppies.

Good communication is one component to being a good leader. The Third district puts out a monthly newsletter where there were 4 articles from the leadership chairman in them. Lots of unit activities and photos are turned in monthly to be published in the newsletter or Facebook to inspire other Units to act.

Our department Leadership Chairman published the "Golden Rule of Leadership" in the department monthly mailing and some units reported they would read these articles at their monthly meetings.

Other Units purchased Department Unit Guides for auxiliary members. To learn about our organization.

Others would bring in guest speakers from their community, veteran organizations or government officials, school board or representatives from suicide prevention to speak about topics related to our cause.

Mentoring new members is important to the stability of our organization. Having a contact person for new members to call when they have a question is a key element to a healthy unit.

Having a greeter at the door when someone new walks in to welcome them.

A unit held their own leadership workshop for new members.

Under the leadership program we should always remember to thank or recognize those who helped us. Many units did this with certificates, awards or handing out treats. These small tokens go along way for getting participation the following year.

Great leaders don't set out to be a leader...they set out to make a difference. It's never about the role- always about the goal."

Thank you to everyone who sent in a report.

Units Consider for merit:

Membership

50 and Under Membership: Unit 343 Norwood, Unit 463 Lester Prairie, 407 Winsted

51-100 Membership: Unit 2 Shakopee, Unit 95 Belle Plaine,

101-200 Membership: Unit 43 Faribault, Unit 57 Chaska, Unit 98 St Paul Park, Unit 96 Hutchinson, Unit 79 Montgomery, Unit 150 Waconia

201 and up Membership: Unit 1776 Apple Valley

Audrey Tolzmann Leadership Certificate _____





Public Relation
3rd District Year End Report
2023-2024
Ginny Schuelke, Chair

Public Relations is critical to promoting the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary. Everything ALA members promote, publish and post should be tied to our mission.

The mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support the American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve, enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for Veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote

patriotism, good citizenship, peace, and security.

Annual reports were received from 19 units in our district. Our units used a variety of resources to promote our mission. These resources included unit newsletters, e-bulletins, Social Media pages and websites. Additionally, units worked with their local newspapers and radio stations to share information regarding activities and events occurring within the community.

Seven of our units have a website, of those seven three are a joint website with the post. There is one unit that is currently working with the post to create a website. Of the units that completed annual reports, six units send out a newsletter to their members and three units utilize e-bulletins. Eight of our units have a Facebook page; of those eight, two units are new to Facebook this year. In addition to Facebook, one unit also uses Instagram. Twelve of the units reported that they worked with their local newspapers to submit articles, meeting notices and activity flyers. The number of articles submitted by unit ranged from 1 to 15. One of the units reported that they were on the local TV station and three units utilized the local radio station.

The ALA National Website offers a variety of items to assist in the area of Public Relations. Seven of the units reported that they accessed the National Website to assist with promoting our mission.

In regard to branding, many of our units participated in local community activities which included local parades and festivals, Easter Hunts, Halloween Activities and other community events. While participating, they wear Auxiliary T-Shirts, Emblems, etc. to build the image and raise awareness of our organization. Additionally, members attend the Memorial Day Service and Funerals in uniform. Several units presented Good Deed Awards and one unit invited the Mayor to participate in the presentation, another unit held an Open House.

Of the reporting units, 133.5 volunteer hours were reported and \$640 were spent.

Certificate of Merit:

Units 50 and Under: Norwood/Young America Unit 343 Northfield Unit 84

Unit 51 – 100 Membership: Belle Plaine Unit 144, St. Paul Unit 98, Shakopee Unit 2, Waconia Unit 150 Unit

Units 101 – 200 Membership: Montgomery Unit 74, Apple Valley Unit 244 Elysian Unit 311, Hutchinson Unit 96,

Margaret Lonergan Communication Certificate: _____



Constitution/By-Laws and Standing Rules Parliamentarian and Constitution/By-Laws and Standing Rules 2023/2024 Chairman Barbara Klehr

Every unit, everywhere, needs to be aware of the changes that are happening and revise their documents accordingly to match National's Constitution and By-Laws! It does take time, but units need to understand that it is one of the most important things they will do for their unit. The ALA's eligibility includes spouses, so make sure your wording has been updated. If the section is referencing general membership, consider swapping out "she" and replacing with the neutral term "member(s)." If the section refers to the duties of a specific office — for example, the unit president — consider changing "she" to "the president." Instead of saying "she shall preside over unit meetings," change the text to "the unit president shall preside over all unit meetings." The American Legion eliminated great-granddaughters. Does your unit's Standing Rules reflect all the new changes?

Your governing documents state the fundamentals of your unit. These rules and procedures should be as clear as possible. Did your unit raise its dues, will it be raising it next year? Does your Standing Rules state what your dues are? They must. The three things your unit's Standing Rules must declare are what your dues are set at, when you hold your meetings and where. Anything else you add is operational information for new members on how your unit functions. My unit has chartered a boy scout troop since its inception. They turned in their charter this year. We had to remove that from our Standing Rules. Think of it as spring cleaning or fall cleaning, whenever you go over your Standing Rules, but you need to do it to keep up with all the changes.

One thing that continues to be true is that old saying: "If you stay ready, you won't have to get ready." That simply means spring/fall cleaning can be greatly lessened by staying on top of your closets and your governing documents. Take the time after each unit meeting to update any changes voted on by your unit. Assign segments of your Standing Rules to be reviewed by members of your unit. Have them check for accuracy, clarity, and specificity. If there is room for interpretation, consider rewriting the section with clearer, stronger language. If you do it on a regular basis, it won't take a whole meeting to do it.

There will be five resolutions and six recommendations that will be brought up at the District Executive Committee meeting before the Convention. Those that are passed by the Executive Committee will be brought to the floor for a vote. You are the members of this organization. You get to decide. Organizational governing documents are so important because they state the fundamental purpose, structure, and limits of an organization, as well as containing the procedures the organization must follow to conduct business effectively and efficiently. Up to date, well-written, clear, and concise governing documents help to clarify authorities, outline responsibilities, and can ultimately serve to solve issues before they become problems. Your governing documents matter, so this spring/fall while you work to get your house in order, consider doing the same for your governing documents.

This committee doesn't have any awards or commendations, but we are still vital and need your information. I received one annual report. One (frown), other than my own unit. My email contact is in the District Newsletter. Let's try harder this next working year. Every Unit is unique in what they wish to promote. And that should be in your Standing Rules. If you have a small unit, you can't possibly do everything. You can post those programs in your Standing Rules that you wish to really push. If you can't meet every month, list in your Standing Rules the months, day and time you do meet. These are YOUR Standing Rules and your members need to know those rules.

Constitution/By-Laws and Standing Rules Committee Members:
Michelle Leonard Unit #189 Farmington
Ann Bovy Unit # 501 New Germany

Past Presidents Parley
Third District Year End Report 2023-2024
Teri Richardson Acting Chair

There are 46 units in the 3rd District and 15 reports were received for the Past Presidents Parley. Of the 15 reports received 2 units did not participate, 6 units do not have a Past Pres Parley but 4 of those units sent in a report which stated how their unit Past Presidents participated in activities. There were 7 units reporting that have an active Past Presidents Parley.

The units hold an annual meeting and go over their Past Presidents Parley Standing Rules and collect dues and fines, they discuss activities they will provide throughout the year such as cards, letters and gifts for our female veterans, scholarships, recognition of our first responders and veterans, and speakers for auxiliary luncheons and programs. They team up the Past Presidents with newer members to actively mentor the newer members.

The units reported they are recognizing female Veterans by sending birthday cards, Christmas gifts, Valentine Day cards, donating to Eagles Healing nest and Sauk Center Lady Liberty dorms and paying Auxiliary dues. One unit has a banner program called "Hometown Heros" where a 5' tall banner is displayed with the hero's photo, name, and rank along Highway 60 for 6 months where they honored several women veterans. They also donated to the Department Past Presidents Health Care scholarship fund with some of the donations in honor of deceased members.

For Women's History month, one unit wrote articles that were published in the local newspaper about a 99-year-old WWII Army nurse, a 60-year member of the Auxiliary, and using the scrapbook a recently deceased Unit Past President from 1977-1978 who had been a member for 49 years.

Donations were made to McCleod County Yellow Ribbon. The past Presidents helped with Essay judging for unit awards, membership renewal, maintaining white crosses for the Memorial Day, helping to distribute poppies, and filling out year-end reports.

Two units supported the musical "Hello Girls" based on a true story about women in WWI who went to the front lines as telephone operators.

The 3rd District Past President held their annual Past Presidents Parley meeting on October 7, 2023, in Shakopee. There were 11 Past Presidents in attendance, and one guest, 3rd District President Deanna. We held our business meeting, and everyone brought a dish to share for lunch. We donated to the Department Past Presidents Health Care scholarship fund in honor of 3rd District Past President Marcie Schmidt.

Certificate of Merit

Units 50 and Under: Lester Prairie Unit 463

Units 51-100: Belle Plaine Unit 144, Silver Lake Unit 141

Units 101-200: Chaska Unit 57, Elysian Unit 311, Faribault Unit 43, Montgomery Unit 79, St Paul Pk Unit 98

Units 201 and up:

Charles-Hale Past Presidents Parley Plaque



Third District American Legion Auxiliary Past Presidents

*Emma Lueben (Mrs. S.C.), Farmington (Acting Chairman at first meeting)	Sept. 15, 1921	*Millie Hansen (Mrs. Gerald), Winthrop	1977-78
*Bertha Herman (Mrs.), LeSueur	1921-22	*Harriet Schoenbauer (Mrs. Raymond) New Prague	1978-79
*Eva Dempsey (Mrs. Charles), St. Peter	1922-23	*Helen Biemert (Mrs. Roman), Forest Lake	1979-80
*Mrs. E.E. Shrader, Watertown	1923-24	*Rose Mary Diercks (Mrs. Gerald), Red Wing	1980-81
*Isabelle Zurst (Mrs. John), Glencoe	1924-26	*Dolores Goettl(Mrs. Kenneth) Montgomery	1981-82
*Ida Scherkenback (Mrs.), Shakopee	1926-28	*Shirley Hamre (Mrs. Dean), St. Paul Park	1982-83
*Elsie Jorgensen, Hutchinson	1928-30	* Joan Tompkins (Mrs. Jerome), Rosemount	1983-84
*Edna Dressel (Mrs. H.C.), LeSueur	1930-32	*Dolly Huron (Mrs. Franklin), Red Wing	1984-85
*Sara Clark (Mrs. Robert), Northfield	1932-34	*Pattie Black (Mrs. Arthur), Forest Lake	1985-86
*Alice Barry (Mrs. R.R.), South St. Paul	1934-35	*Mary Ellen Hale (Mrs. Robert), Hastings	1986-87
*Lena Lewis (Mrs.A.S.), Pine Island	1935-36	*Audrey Tolzman (Mrs, Kenneth), Nicollet	1987-88
*Rose Hawlish (Mrs. Henry), Silver Lake	1936-37	*Dolores Fink (Mrs. Bernard) Apple Valley	1988-89
*Mabel Sargeant (Mrs. H.L.), Northfield	1937-38	Barbara Stussy (Mrs. Fred), Pine Island	1989-90
*Ruth Stussi (Mrs. Earl), Stillwater	1938-40	Betty Schuelter (Mrs. Elroy) Hutchinson	1990-91
*Cora Rhea (Mrs. C.J.), Waconia	1940-41	*Clara Urban (Mrs. Ron) St Paul Park	1991-92
*Celia Satrum (Mrs. Henry), Zumbrota	1941-42	Ann Bode (Mrs. David) Nicollet	1992-93
*Lois Roell (Mrs. Ed), Cannon Falls	1942-43	*Patricia Kerber (Mrs. Lee), Chanhassen	1993-94
*Margaret Arvidson (Mrs. R.H.), Kenyon	1943-44	Elaine Schilling (Mrs. Alloyd), Nicollet	1994-95
*Tinnie Olesen, Faribault	1944-45	*Nancy Lemke (Mrs. Romaine), St Paul Park	1995-96
*Rose Schumacker (Mrs. R.T), Shakopee	1945-46	Donna Beck, Lakeville	1996-97
*Loretta Greulich (Mrs. W.W.), St. Peter	1946-47	*Laila Schroeder, Shakopee	1997-98
*Bernice Flotterud, Zumbrota	1947-48	Darlain Kaufmann (Mrs. Norbert), Green Isle	1998-99
*Olive Simmer (Mrs. Thomas), New Prague	1948-49	*Agnes Berg, Apple Valley	1999-00
*Cora Noltmier (Mrs. W.F.) St. Paul Park	1949-50	*Barbara McGowan (Mrs. Marlow), Pine Island	2000-01
*Mabel Duncan (Mrs. Howard), Cannon Falls	1950-51	Darlene Wondra (Mrs. Glenn), Montgomery	2001-02
*Billie Hundt (Mrs. Ray), LeCenter	1951-52	Joanne Bratland (Mrs. Maynard), Shakopee	2002-03
*Lucy Mattsfield (Mrs. E.J.), Hutchinson	1952-53	Lois Wenz (Mrs. Donald), Chaska	2003-04
*Viola Forcia (Mrs. Harold), Stillwater	1953-54	Diane Mackenthun (Mrs. David), Norwood	2004-05
*Minnie Erickson (Mrs. E. O.), Northfield	1954-55	Molly Smisek (Mrs. Donald), Lonsdale	2005-06
*Dolly Thompson (Mrs. Donald), Hugo	1955-56	Marilyn Hardt (Mrs. Brad), North Mankato	2006-07
*Elsie Rustad (Mrs. Arthur), Faribault	1956-57	Suzette Maluchnik (Mrs. Randy), Chaska	2007-08
*Hope Meehl (Mrs. Roy), Morrison	1957-58	Barbara Klehr (Mrs. David), Shakopee	2008-09
*Ruth Vollmers (Mrs Maynard), Redwing	1958-59	Teri Richardson (Mrs. Gary), Mahtomedi	2009-10
*Virginia Ieiverman (Mrs.Cy), Chaska	1959-60	Cynthia Wenz, Chaska	2010-11
*Lois Vollmer(Mrs. Charles), LeCenter	1960-61	Deb Rottman, Cannon Falls	2011-12
*Irene Jones (Mrs. B.W.), Northfield	1961-62	Lisa Tolzmann (Mrs. Kim), Nicollet	2012-13
*Grace Kraft (Mrs. Seymour), Cannon Falls	1962-63	Joanne Joachim, Chanhassen	2013-14
*Elsie Brockmeyer (Mrs. Hugo), Glencoe	1963-64	Michelle Leonard, Farmington	2014-15
*Juanita Lutz (Mrs. Edward), Hugo	1964-65	Karla Otterness, Winsted	2015-16
*Sylvia Balfour (Mrs. William), Faribault	1965-66	Marcie Baysinger, (Mrs. Elmer) Brownton	2016-17
*Ann Schmidtke (Mrs. Sieg), Morristown	1966-67	Kat Benjamin, (Mrs. Bob) Chaska	2017-18
*Irene Anderson (Mrs. Martin), Red Wing	1967-68	Lynn Duffy, (Mrs. Joe) St. Paul Park	2018-19
*LuVerne Marier (Mrs Narcisse), Hugo	1968-69	Linda Kelly Pine Island	2019-20
*Mary Monkemeier (Mrs. Henry), Glencoe	1969-70	Linda Kelly Pine Island	2020-21
*Ivy Hoffman (Mrs. Luverne), Morristown	1970-71	Cavalene Regan, Forest Lake	2021-22
*Marcy Schmidt (Mrs. Alois), Shakopee	1971-72	Kim Carlander Chanhassen	2022-23
*Elizabeth Roberts (Mrs. Arthur), Faribault	1972-73		
*Alice Goetz (Mrs. Ervin), Northfield	1972-73		
*Margret Lonergan, Bayport	1973-74		
*Ida Mae Charles (Mrs Fank) Hastings	1974-75		
*Blanche Coppa (Mrs. Peter), Bayport	1975-76		
*Elaine Hein (Mrs. Warren), Cleveland	1976-77		

*Denotes Deceased

Third District American Legion Auxiliary Elaine Hein Award Winners

*Violet Forcica (Mrs. Harold), Stillwater	1977
*Elsie Rustad (Mrs. A.L.), Faribault	1978
*Mary Monkemeier (Mrs. Henry), Glencoe	1979
*Olive Simmer (Mrs. Thomas), New Prague	1980
*Lucy Mattsfield (Mrs. E.J.), Hutchinson	1981
*Mabel Sergeant (Mrs. H.J.) Northfield	1982
*Margaret Lonergan, Bayport	1983
Marcy Schmidt (Mrs. Alois), Shakopee	1984
*Mildred Buske, Hutchinson	1985
*Carol Urman, Forest Lake	1986
*Elaine Hein (Mrs. Warren), Cleveland	1987
*Grace Kraft (Mrs. S.G.), Cannon Falls	1988
*Blanche Coppa (Mrs. Peter), Bayport	1989
*Ida Mae Charles (Mrs. Frank), Hastings	1990
*Ruth Vollmers (Mrs. Maynard), Red Wing	1991
*Helen Halberg (Mrs. Charles) Bayport	1992
*Millie Hansen (Mrs. Gerald), Winthrop	1993
*Emma Zelenka (Mrs. James), Montgomery	1994
*Harriet Schoenbauer (Mrs. Raymond), New Prague	1995
*Margery Hanson (Mrs. Carl Sr.), Chaska	1996
*Dolores Goettl (Mrs. Kenneth), Apple Valley	1997
*Agatha Collins (Mrs. Bill), LeCenter	1998
Lois Wenz (Mrs. Donald), Chaska	1999
*Pattie Black (Mrs. Art), Hugo	2000
Betty Schlueter (Mrs. Elroy), Hutchinson	2001
*Pat Kerber (Mrs. Leander), Chanhassen	2002
Pearl Seale, Hutchinson	2003
*Katherine Klingsporn, Pine Island	2004
*Mary Ann Bauer, New Prague	2005
Barbara Stussy, Pine Island	2006
*Audrey Tolzmann, Nicollet	2007
*Ruth Stevenson, Chaska	2008
*Aggie Berg, Apple Valley	2009
Darlene Wondra, Montgomery	2010
Ann Bode, Nicollet	2011
Barbara Klehr, Shakopee	2012
Suzette Maluchnik, Chaska	2013
Diane Mackenthun, Norwood	2014
Marilyn Prchal, Montgomery	2015
Elaine Schilling, Nicollet	2016

Auxiliary Member of the Year

Teri Richardson, Mahtomedi	2017
No entry	2018
Ann Bovy, New Germany	2019
Ruth Westphal, Belle Plaine	2020
Jeanie Ray Hutchinson	2021
Patti Bjorklund Chaska	2022
No entry	2023

* Denotes Deceased

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 3RD DISTRICT HISTORY REPORT



SENIOR HISTORY 2023-2024

Department President Sharon Cross

Department Historian Renee Sues

3RD District President Deanna Meyer

3rd District Historian Jeanne Ray

We have 46 Units in District 3. I received reports from 13 Units. The Unit Annual reports form for the year were not sent to units this year.

Americanism: Kindergarten students that had memorized the Pledge of Allegiance were given flags and led the pledge on Veteran's Day. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited at Unit meetings and a small flag set on the POW/MIA table at dinners. Small American Flags are carried while members march along parade routes. For Memorial Day, American spirit is shown by helping their Legion post with their services and attending grave sites and marking graves with flags. Members attended Flag Disposal Ceremonies. A History of the American Flag was given with several authentic flags with a history of each one.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund: Donations were made to Silent Auctions and by collections at meetings. Three members made personal donations of \$100 each and received the "new" gold pin. The gambling Fund donated \$200.

Children and Youth: 18.2 pounds of pop can tabs were collected for the Ronald McDonald House. Over 7,000 eggs were hidden for Easter Hunts. In preparation for the event 155 hours were completed by 55 volunteers. Donations by Units were Outstanding Girl Citizen Award \$200, Outstanding Girl Citizen (grade 12) \$200 plus a U.S. Flag. \$50 donation to the Post Prom Party, \$50 to local Library for their Summer Reading Program. May Easter baskets were given to children of active military. Halloween parties were held for local children. 284 children in grades 3,4,5, and 6 participated in a flag poster contests. Donations of \$30 were made to the local "Friends of the Library" program. Donations to Child Welfare \$175 was given for National Family Night out. Over 200 holiday cards were made by elementary students for active servicemen and women. Total volunteer hours by Auxiliary members were 82 hours plus over 500 hours by the students through participating, total cost \$480. Ten National Good Deed Awards were given.

Community Service: Units worked at the food shelf, Bake sales, Bingo and meat sales, made pillows and quilts for veterans and the homeless, Cash donations were given to the food shelf, library, Annual Night out, Meals on Wheels, host potluck lunch following Memorial Day service and invited community members to attend \$2,825 spent, Red Cross Blood Mobile (184 hours and \$150 for meals). 225 hours for community Thanksgiving Dinner and assisted with the Post at their monthly breakfast. Total volunteer hours were 2,089. Total dollars spent \$3,200. Donations made by Units: Bountiful Basket Food Shelf \$197, Library Summer Reading Program \$291, Christmas in May \$291, Launch Ministry for homeless youth \$500 and Tree House youth \$291. Total donated hours were 5,281.

Constitution and Standing Rules: Parliamentarian serves as Chair. Units recites the Preamble to the American Legion Auxiliary at each meeting. Standing rules are reviewed and updated annually. Copies are mailed to Department Office. District Parliamentarian, and District Secretary.

Education: Donation of \$150 of clothing. Members helped local schools by collecting manufacturer's coupon/UPC labels to support schools, valued over \$100. An Outstanding Good Citizen Award of \$200 plus a USA flag was given. During Education Week, baskets that included Thank You Notes, prepackaged cookies, apples, small USA flags, and poppy bookmarkers were given at schools, School Bus Office, and Library. \$1,550

for scholarships were given to school seniors. In addition, auxiliary members gave \$650 in scholarships. One unit donated \$25 to the MN Department Scholarship Fund. \$440 was collected to the Give Ten to Education Program.

Finance: The treasurers keep their books up to date. The required forms are submitted to the 3rd District and Department for membership, convention registration, per capita dues, and membership. Also submitted were the proper forms for contributions for designated donations that are sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota. The units file a 990n report each year. All receipts and disbursements are reported to the membership in writing at their regular meetings.

Girl State: Seven representatives were sent to Girl State from 5 Units. The girls were given \$25 or \$50 each, and one unit also gave each an American Flag pin and a small American Flag. They talked about their experience with slides at future meetings. One Unit keeps a record of all past attendees. This list is shared with perspective attendees each February during the Units presentation at the high school. On occasion some girl will find the name of her mother, grandmother, aunt, or sister. To Posts donated a total of \$1,500.

History: Historians, along with Unit members, collected articles, pictures, programs, minutes, financial records, etc. for their Unit scrapbook. Annual reports are kept on file. New and renewed members received a copy of Unit History. Several Auxiliary members volunteer at local Historical locations. Unit historians keep scrapbooks of the year's activities.

Leadership: The many things that the Units accomplished this year could not have been done without team effort. Leaders chaired major events that the Units were holding. Units praised their President and the efforts of many members for the accomplishments. Older members mentor newer members on all their projects. Members attended Department Leadership workshops. Members completed courses with the American Legion Auxiliary Academy. Secretaries emailed monthly minutes, District newsletters, Departmental, or National programs. Speakers attended meetings and spoke on information related to community activities and veterans' needs. Units recognized how important Branding is and ordered new ALA logo vests, shirts, and name tags.

Legislation: Members were encouraged to attend Minnesota Veterans Day on the Hill at the State Capitol. Members subscribed and/or viewed the Dispatch online. Members subscribed and/or viewed the Minnesota Session Weekly or Senate Briefly. Units contacted their US Senator, US Representative, and local Council members by letters, phone calls, emails, and personal contact. Members encouraged everyone to vote. County VSOs were contacted regarding veterans' issues. Members serve as election judges. One Legislation Chairman kept a 156-page scrapbook and reported on current issues at meetings.

Membership: Cooperation with Legion Membership Chair helps one Unit get new members. When the Legion gets a new member, they are willing to provide them with information that there might be a possible spouse, daughter, mother, or grandmother that is eligible to join. Members are recognized for their continuous years of membership with certificates and pins. Letters were mailed to new members and renewing members, along with a benefit sheet and their membership card. Units raised dues because National is raising dues \$6 for 2024. Initiation Ceremonies were held for new members.

Memorial: The opening and closing ceremonies of Unit meetings and Executive Committee meetings always include a prayer. Sympathy, get well, and thinking of you cards are sent to Unit members. Members are also remembered with phone calls and visits when hospitalized or loss of a loved one. During the Coronavirus quarantine, members are phoned for wellness checks and encouragement. Memorial services for deceased members are held in May. Units raised money to build Veteran's Memorials. The POW-MIA are remembered. During the Auxiliary year, draping and undraping of the Charter is conducted for deceased senior members.

National Security: Units initiated the "Remember Everyone Deployed" Program from 2017. Members wear red on Fridays and are encouraged to wear Purple during April in honor of Military Children Month. Gold Star Mothers are honored on September 28th in honor of Gold Star Mother's Day. One Auxiliary member attended

a Military Packing project where 170 boxes were filled with treats for the Service People. POW/MIA Empty Table ceremonies were held at Unit meeting and special functions. Care packages were sent from several Units. Over 60,000 coupons were clipped and sent to military bases abroad. \$1,000 was donated to the Armed Forces Service Center inside the MSP airport.

Past President Parley: Past Presidents shared highlights during their tenure. They were recorded and displayed at the unit. Past Presidents share their knowledge through mentoring, and they help collect delinquent membership dues. Past Presidents volunteered at Annual Bake Sale, Silent Auction, and Vendor Fairs.

Senior History Certificate of Merit

Units (50 and under membership)

1. Unit 447 Prior Lake
2. Unit 125 Stewart
3. Unit 463 Lester Prairie

Units (51-100 membership)

1. Unit 580 Chanhassen
2. Unit 144 Belle Plaine

Units (101-200 membership)

1. Unit 98 St. Paul Park
2. Unit 43 Faribault
3. Unit 96 Hutchinson
4. Unit 225 Forest Lake
5. Unit 311 Elysian

Units (201 and up membership)

None

District Plaque for Excellence 50 and Under: _____

District Plaque for Excellence 51-100: _____

District Plaque for Excellence 100-200: _____

District Plaque for Excellence 201 and up: None _____

THIRD DISTRICT OFFICERS

President- Deanna Meyer, 1st Vice President- Ginny Schuelke, 2nd Vice President- Ann Bovy

Executive Committee, Deb Chicos and Kelly Klaus, Secretary-Karla Otterness,

Treasurer- Teri Richardson, Parliamentarian-Barbara Klehr, Jr. Past President- Kim Carlander, Chaplain-Cavalene Regan, Sergeant at Arms- Diane Mackenthun, Historian-Jeanne Ray

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 3RD DISTRICT HISTORY REPORT

JUNIOR HISTORY 2023-2024

Department President Sharon Cross
Department Historian Renee Suess
3RD District President Deanna Meyer
3rd District Historian Jeanne Ray

We have 46 Units in District 3. I received reports from 6 Units of which one said no juniors and the other one said no activity. I do not know how many units have Juniors.

1. One Unit with 13 juniors reported that the juniors participated in the Memorial Day parade by carrying wreaths, at the County Fair Veterans Parade by carrying small flags, and one Junior attended the Veterans Day Program that her unit hosted and passed treats to the Veterans.
2. Another unit junior belongs to a Girl Scout Troop and their unit purchased cookies totaling \$144 to send overseas. Another junior member was Co-Chairman for the Children and Youth Program. She created a sign-up sheet for a Club and National Honor Society members from her high school to assist with distributing eggs in the city park for their Easter Egg Hunt. She also was the emcee and distributed candy to children who did not pick up any eggs.
3. Two new co-Little Miss Poppy girls were crowned before the regular May meeting. During the meeting, four junior members decorated hats for the 3rd District competition at the convention in May and the MN Department competition, and they also made wreaths for Memorial Day. One junior won the Miss City pageant during the fourth of July activities and has been busy representing the city and the Legion Auxiliary throughout the past year. She recognized the auxiliary during her speech and rode a float in 17 parades including the St. Paul Winter Carnival.
4. Their juniors recite the Pledge of Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble at every meeting or event. This year they dedicated their January meeting to learning the proper way to fold a flag. Three of the girls attended the District Event in March and learned more about the American flag and other programs in the Auxiliary. Four juniors submitted an essay for the Americanism contest. 20 volunteer hours. The juniors worked on making and donating two Little Libraries complete with bench to the community. They were painted red, white, and blue and have the Auxiliary Emblem.

Remember to Wear Red on Fridays.

Respectfully Submitted, Jeanne Ray, Third District Historian

Junior History Certificate of Merit

Units (1-15 membership) Unit 96 Hutchinson,
Unit 57 Chaska

Units (16 and up) Unit 311 Elysian, Unit 98 St.
Paul Park



THIRD DISTRICT			Page 1
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY			
UNAUDITED 2023-2024			
FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF 7/9/23 - 4/18/2024			
General Fund Balance 7-9-2023			\$ 1,346.69
3rd District Fund Balance 7-9-2023			\$ 3,961.90
Checking account Bal from 7-9-2023			\$ 5,308.59
RECEIPTS Report 1 Starting 8-1-2023	2023-2024 Per capita 3493 @\$2/	Deposit	
Total Per Capita received 2023-2024 General Fund Report 1		\$ 6,986.00	
Total from 7-9-2023 audit			\$ 1,346.69
Total in General Fund			\$ 8,332.69
3rd Dist funds Balance from 2023-2024 Audit 7-9-2023			\$ 3,961.90
Outstanding receipts from 7-9 to 7-31-2023		Deposits	
Pres Kims project		\$200.00	
Past Presidents Flag		\$300.00	
Total outstanding Deposits July 2023		\$500.00	
3rd District Fund Bal July 31-2023			\$4,461.90
3rd District Funds Receipts 8-1-2023 - 4-18-2024		Deposit	
Pres project Deanna		\$ 2,235.00	
St. Peter		\$ 575.00	
Hastings		\$ 100.00	
Past President's Parley		\$ 126.50	
Hosting Dept Jr Events	46 X 3.00 = \$138	\$ 138.00	
Lois Wenz Plaques		\$ 150.00	
Silent Auction AEF		\$ 262.00	
Past Presidents Flag		\$ 300.00	
Jr Auxiliary Flag		\$ 1,100.00	
Honorary Jr Pres Project		\$ 501.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS 3rd District Funds 8-1-2023 - 4-18-2024			\$ 5,487.50
Total of 3rd District Funds before Disbursements 4-18-2024			\$9,949.40
GENERAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS 8-1-2023 - 4-18-2024		Disbursement	
Report 4 Page 2	2023-24 budgeted expenses		
Past Presidents pin Report 4		\$ 91.99	
checks Report 4		\$ 102.93	
Membership Award budget Report 9		\$ 125.00	
653 Delegate to Natl Conv 2022 Report 4		\$ 734.00	
Exec Committee Report 5		\$ 404.90	
District Convention Report 6		\$ 148.22	
GENERAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS as of 4-18-2024			\$ 1,607.04

				Page 2
Pres Kims Project not included in audit			\$ 200.00	
Past Pres Flag Deposited in July			\$ 300.00	
Total in 3rd Dist Funds 7-31-2023				\$9,449.40
3rd District Fund Disbursements 8-1-2023 - 4-18-2024				
Pres Proj 2021-2022 Cavalene			\$ 485.19	
St. Peter Christmas party			\$ 540.55	
St Peter Spring Fling			\$ 224.00	
Past President's Parley			\$ 10.00	
Auxiliary Emer Fund Silent Auction			\$ 262.00	
Jr Aux Flag			\$ 1,109.30	
Jr Aux Flag			\$ 80.22	
Hon Jr Pres Proj			\$ 501.00	
Total Dispersed from 3rd District funds 8-1-2023 - 4-18-2024				\$ 3,212.26
Total Amount in 3rd District Funds	4/18/2024			\$6,237.14
Total Amount in General Fund plus 3rd District Funds or Checkbook bal 4-18-2024				\$ 12,962.79
Total Amount in General Fund after Disbursements				
				\$ 6,725.65
Total Amount in 3rd District Funds after Disbursements				
				\$6,237.14
Savings Account 3-31-2024				
				\$ 8,002.00
CD's Report 8 Page 1				
			Interest	
Bal 6-8-2022 CD 9025				
				\$ 8,379.43
General Fund CD 9025 6-8-2023				
	3475.39			
Emergency fund CD 9025 6-8-2023				
	4916.61			
Renewed 6-8-2023				
			\$ 12.57	\$ 8,392.00
Emergency fund CD 7699 2-5-2023				
	6756.09			\$ 6,756.09
Total Funds in CD's				
	\$ 15,148.09			\$ 15,148.09
Total Funds Combined Funds				
				\$ 36,112.88

The fiscal reporting year for the 3rd District runs from August 1st through July 31st after which time an Audit will take place and the results will be published in the September Newsletter.

For the 2024 membership year the 3rd District Standing Rules state that the Per-Capita is \$2.00 per member. Each year the membership keeps going down and if we hope to keep the Per-capita at \$2.00 I am asking each unit to concentrate on bringing in new members to maintain or increase the Unit membership and the membership of the District. As of April 10th, the 3rd District membership is down 389 members from last year's total which at \$2.00 per member is \$778.00. I know the membership number will come up between now and July 31st, but this is food for thought.

This year it is estimated the District will spend approximately \$7400.00. The per-capita was \$6986.00, this puts the District about \$400.00 over what was brought in. The 3rd District had \$1346.96 left from 2023 so we are still ahead financially, and we do have \$8000.00 in the savings account that will hold us for a little while, but if we maintain or increase the membership that will keep us ahead. If we do not maintain or increase the membership, we will be looking at a Per-Capita dues raise in the near future.

Please remember to file your 990 N E postcard each year and make sure your Unit is in Good Standing with the State of MN.

Have a Safe and fun summer.

Teri Richardson
3rd District Treasure

