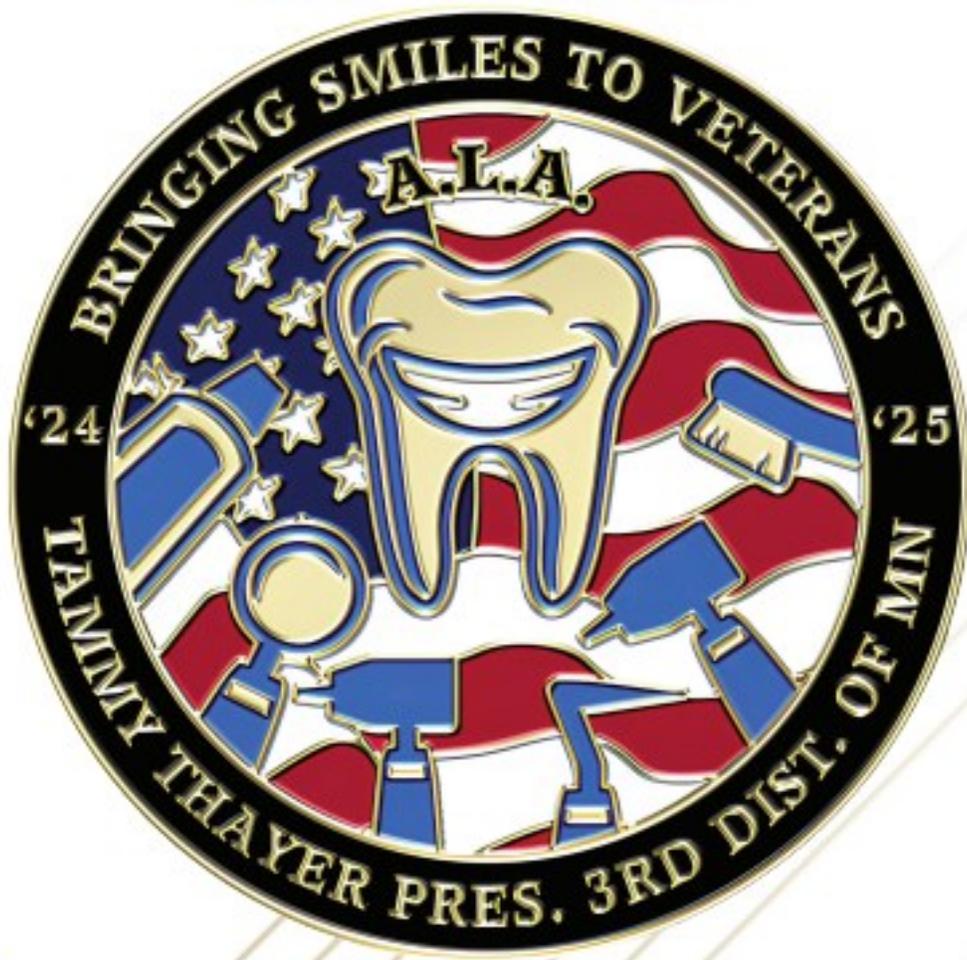


BOOK OF
ANNUAL REPORTS
2024-2025



 AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA
THIRD DISTRICT



American Legion Auxiliary 2024/2025



National President
Trisha Ward
2024/2025



Department of Minnesota President
Judy Ackerman
2024/2025



Third District President
Tamara Thayer
2024/2025



2024-2025 Third District
President Tamara Thayer
"Bringing Smiles to Veterans"

This has been a wonderful opportunity to see all the ways our 45 Units in these 10 counties have served our veterans, communities, and youth. I appreciated all the invitations to your meetings and special events. I enjoyed the camaraderie, parties, trivia night, salad luncheon, doing talks on the Four Chaplains, talks on my project, Memorial Day Keynote speaker, presenting essay awards, conducted Initiation of new members, met with Unit officers on how to get their membership up, etc.



A special thank you to our 3rd District Legion Family Leaders for their teamwork, Legion Commander Joe Tappainer, and SAL Commander David Arend, in planning many District events, beginning with our Summer Picnic for the new leadership to meet and get their Program Chair guidebooks and share a potluck with the Legion family. We then held 2 opportunities for 3rd District to meet at the National Convention in New Orleans, with a dinner cruise and meeting at the National WWII Museum for a group photo and to hear the 9th District Band perform. District events we held were the Fall Family Gathering hosted by 3rd Dist. Auxiliary at the Elysian Legion, the Mid-Winter Conference in Lonsdale, and the Spring Membership Rally hosted by SAL at St Paul Park Legion. I was so proud to have my mother, Edna Thayer, as our guest speaker for the Fall Family Gathering talking about the many ways to bring smiles to veterans through humor. I think everyone will remember Edna's homemade mints in the shape of teeth served at the Fall Gathering, Mid-winter,

Testimonial, Convention, and at every free dental clinic. What a great way to really jump start my theme and project.

My theme was "Bringing Smiles to Veterans." As I visited each Unit I asked for ideas on how to do this and shared some each month in our newsletters. Thank you all for the creative ideas!

My project was to provide 3 free dental clinics for veterans with a goal of raising \$5,000. I chose this project because only 7% of all veterans have dental coverage and of the veterans who qualify for VA medical, only 15% have dental coverage. My first free dental clinic was partnered with the Mankato State University Dental Program. My second Interprofessional Clinic was held at RCTC in Rochester with their Dental Hygiene Students and Bridges, PC of Winona which provided nurses and social workers to provide resources and services in their expertise. This second clinic was held on 3 different days. The third free clinic was held at Mission Outpost, Burnsville. All together we provided free dental care for 63 veterans, with over 100 volunteers. Thanks to the generosity of the Legion Family: Posts, Auxiliaries, SAL, and individual members, the donations are over \$16,000 to date. Full exams, x-rays, fluoride treatments, and dentist evaluations valued at \$12,000 was provided by volunteers. The restorative care: extractions, fillings, crowns, and partial dentures were provided by my fund and are expected to use the full amount. The cost of the individual restorative care over \$5,000 was referred to a VSO to apply for a grant and any pending amount not paid will be covered by our fund. At least 6 veterans are in this process. Thank you to our Auxiliary Units who donated dental supplies to be given to each veteran attending the clinics. Thanks to the Junior members who provided dental care kit supplies and attended the District 3 Fun Day event to help assemble them for Evelyn Koran's Honorary

3rd District Junior President's Project. I truly wish you all could have seen how grateful the veterans were to have this opportunity, and it really did make them smile.

All of our Executive Committee, Program Chairmen, and Committee Members really went above and beyond with their duties this year, and I thank them for their commitment to the Auxiliary and in serving veterans. Highlights are reported in their annual reports.

A special thanks to our Department President Judy Ackerman for her leadership and to our 1st VP Robin Dorf, and 2nd VP Linda Kelly. All 4 of us started working together at the National Convention in New Orleans with the Community

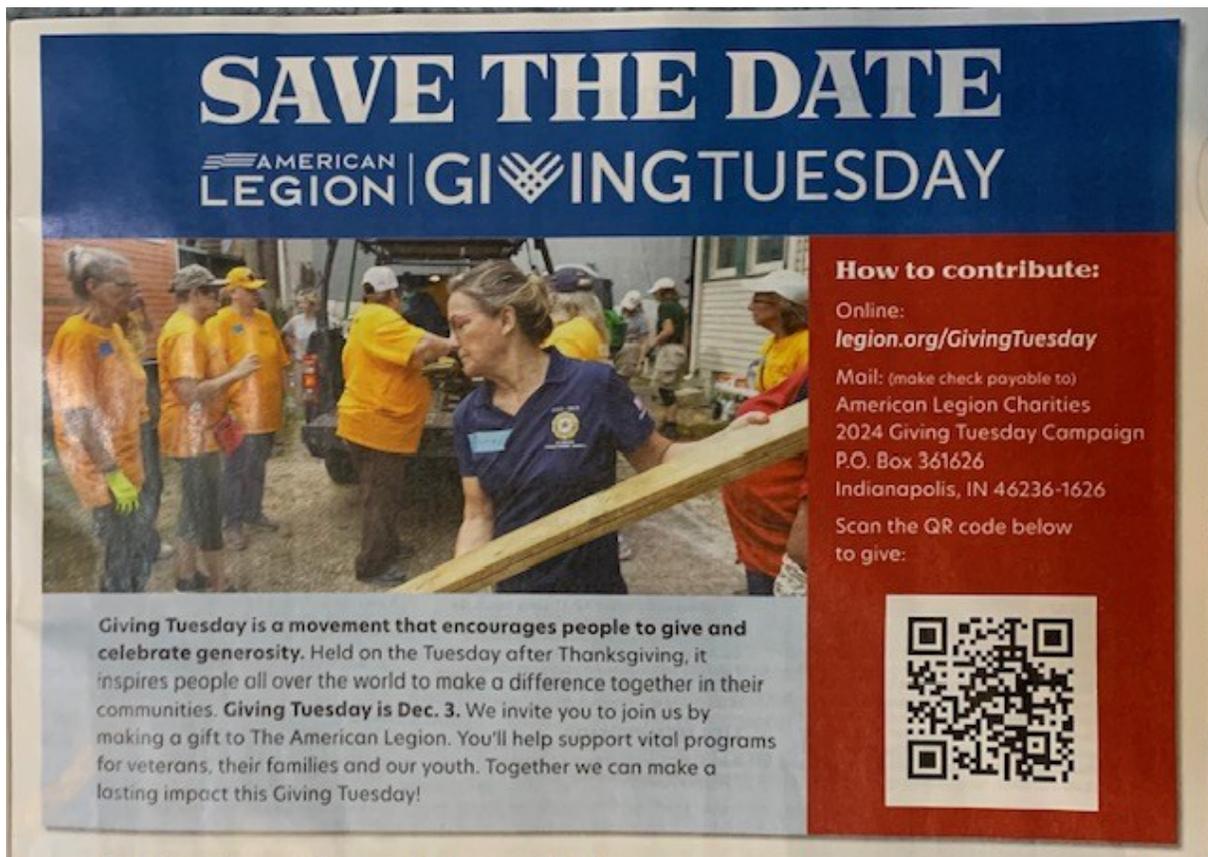
Outreach Project helping with 2 veterans' homes. I enjoyed attending every DEC meeting and every Department Rally held this year.

At the national convention I was honored to be one of two Pages for the MN delegation. I attended all the sessions and special events as well as an optional "Be The One" training which was so rewarding. I'm looking forward to

attending my 5th national convention in Tampa this August and guarantee you if you decide to join us this year you will be inspired with the wealth of information and networking opportunities to bring back to our state.

I'd like to thank my home Unit and Post 311 Elysian for all the support they gave me in my President's Project. Thanks also to my family who supported me this year. My daughter Alli Cooney helped at the Junior Fun Event and made the poppy crochet magnets for my officers. My daughter and hygienist Andrea Nelson volunteered at my clinics and arranged for all the volunteer hygienists at the Burnsville Clinic, and provided the volunteers with thank you gifts.

Thank you for the opportunity and honor to serve as your 3rd District President!



SAVE THE DATE
AMERICAN LEGION | GIVING TUESDAY

How to contribute:
Online:
legion.org/GivingTuesday
Mail: (make check payable to)
American Legion Charities
2024 Giving Tuesday Campaign
P.O. Box 361626
Indianapolis, IN 46236-1626
Scan the QR code below
to give:

Giving Tuesday is a movement that encourages people to give and celebrate generosity. Held on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, it inspires people all over the world to make a difference together in their communities. **Giving Tuesday is Dec. 3.** We invite you to join us by making a gift to The American Legion. You'll help support vital programs for veterans, their families and our youth. Together we can make a lasting impact this Giving Tuesday!





3rd District American Legion Auxiliary '24 – '25 President Tamara Thayer's Calendar of Events and Duties

April 2024

- 20th – Introduced as the “3rd District Auxiliary President Elect” I was the program speaker for the District Membership Rally held in Pine Island. I had my book display and dressed in character as “Barbara Fritchie” as I told her story in first person as Barbara, a Civil War Patriot.

May

- 17th – 18th Third Dist. Convention in New Prague. My Theme, Symbol, Pin, and list of officers and chairman were ratified. Later, I co-hosted a welcome reception for the attendees of the 3rd District convention. I attended the District Convention and subsequently led my first Post Executive Board Meeting. I was given the gavel by Outgoing President Deanna Meyer. It was an honor to be installed at the evening banquet by Past Dist. Pres. Karla Otterness. I was touched to have my mother Edna Thayer do the pinning.
- 24th – National Poppy Day, I spoke as 3rd District President at three 3rd grade classes on the meaning of the poppy. Explained what the American Legion Auxiliary is.
- 24th – Decorated 18 graves in 4 cemeteries for Memorial Day
- 27th - Memorial Day, I served as the Keynote Speaker in Elysian, where I was introduced as the new District President. Ireland Cooney (my granddaughter), Little Miss Poppy laid the poppy wreath. I was also in the early morning Honor Guard at 6 cemeteries and Waterville Veterans Memorial.
- 31st – Morristown Dam Days, I met their Auxiliary President and a couple officers, toured their Legion, and I marched in their parade.

June

- 2nd – Presented District Americanism essay awards at St Paul Park
- 3rd – QOV presentation for Mayor Tom McBroom
- 8th – 3rd Dist Joint Testimonial for Deanna Meyer Aux. Pres, Rod Reifsteck Commander, and SAL Commander Dave Arend in LeCenter.
- 9th and 16th - Marched in 2 June Parades: Waterville Bullhead Days and Janesville Hay Daze
- 14th – Attended a QOV presentation in Faribault for Karen and Dan Rassmussen's daughter, an Army veteran who served in Iraq, and her husband Army Col. Tim Sikorski.
- 22nd – Attended Dept. Commander Paul's Testimonial in Montgomery

July

- July 4th – Marched with Color Guard wearing 3rd District President's Pin in Elysian Parade. Visited with the visiting color guard units about my project when back inside our Legion.
- 7th – 3rd Dist Legion Family Picnic for incoming chairman and committee members in Apple Valley
- 10th – 13th Department Convention in Willmar. Attended caucus Thursday and Friday, installation Saturday and formal photo taken with my district sisters and Dept President Judy Ackerman. I attended the Dept. Executive Committee meeting. I handed out my District 3 President pins and pens to all the District sisters and others.

- 27th – Helped pack 50,000 meals for veterans in Stewart

August

- 3rd – Department Executive Committee Meeting, Anoka. I gave a report on 3rd district and my President's Project, Theme, Goal, Symbol, Pin and pen. There was a lot of department business, resolutions, program reports, etc. that was discussed.
- 9th – Spoke to Unit 311, Elysian about my project and was given a donation
- 10th – 3rd District Executive Committee Meeting held at Elysian Post 311. We approved the new 3rd District website, the annual budget, and lots of agenda items.
- 20th – attended the Post 311 Executive Board meeting
- 23 – 29th, I attended the National Convention in New Orleans.
 - Arrived one day early to volunteer with the Community Outreach Program to help 2 veterans with their homes. There were 5 of us from Minnesota. The event was on the national news and all 5 of us from MN were caught in that footage that aired nationwide. A still-shot of me carrying a board was used in the national Legion magazine to advertise "Giving Tuesdays."
 - Served as one of two Pages for the Minnesota delegation. The Department President Sharon picked the top 2 districts for membership to be the Pages.
 - Planned with the Dist. Commander and SAL Commander and organized for 2 get-to-gathers with our attendees from 3rd District. The first was a dinner cruise on a paddle boat. The second event was attending the national WWII Museum and hear the MN 9th Dist. Band play there. I had ordered 3rd District banners ahead of time for photo ops at both events. Everyone who attended these events received Mardi Gras beads for the theme.
 - Attended ALL National Convention meetings, sessions, and special events.
 - I attended an optional "Be the One" very impactful training session
 - I wore my 3rd District name badge the whole time to represent our District.

September

- 7th – Attended Legionville Camporee. I Had a tour and ate lunch.
- 10th – Spoke to Unit 311, Elysian on project and received a donation check. 11th – Spoke on my free dental clinics to Montgomery Unit 79 and received a check and Kolackies.
- 21st – Attended Dept. Harvest Rally in Fridley
- 28th – Third Dist. Fall Family Gathering in Elysian

October

- 1st – Attended Hugo Unit meeting
- 5th – Attended Past President's Parley meeting in Shakopee
- 19th – Attended the Dist. Convention '25 Steering Committee meeting at Forest Lake
- 19th – Attended the District 3 Junior Activity Fun Day at St Paul Park.



- 24 – 26th – Fall Dept Conference in St Cloud. DEC on 10/24. Lunch with National President Trish Ward. Dist. 3 competed in Dept. Pres. Judy's Poppy making contest.

November

- 2nd – Third District ALA Birthday Party at Norwood. Wonderful speakers on teaching Americanism in the classroom.
- 4th – Bayport Unit meeting
- 11th – Held the 1st Free Dental Clinic for veterans at Mankato State University. Many hours preparing for this event, provided a lunch for the volunteers and a certificate of appreciation. The oldest veteran served at the 3 clinics was a WWII veteran in Mankato.
- 28th – Guest speaker at Post 311, Elysian about my project

December

- 2nd Member Initiation at St Paul Park
- 6th – Bayport Christmas Bake Sale
- 7th – Attended Department Pearl Harbor Rally in Spicer
- 7th & 8th – Sold my books with a veterans display table at Forest Lake High School Play, "White Christmas." I donated the proceeds to the Forest Lake Unit poppy fund.
- 11th – Enjoyed a Christmas potluck and BINGO party at Stewart Unit.

January 2025

- 24th – Set up in Lonsdale for Mid-Winter with Deb Chicos, Amy Larsen, and Al Loney.
- 25th – Third District Mid-Winter Conference, Lonsdale. 3rd District made a video of us singing "You're a Grand Old Flag" for the national Americanism challenge.

February

- 3rd – Guest speaker on the Four Chaplains Day to the Chanhassen Unit meeting
- 4th – St Peter Unit officers meeting to discuss ways to grow their unit and answered many questions
- 14th Interviewed on KIMT news about the upcoming dental clinic
- 15th – Attended the SAL Steak Dinner fund raiser and made announcement about my dental clinics.
- 18th – First day of the 2nd free dental clinic for veterans at RCTC in Rochester
- 19th – Guest Speaker on Four Chaplains for Hutchinson American Legion Family combined with Post/Aux/SAL together
- 22nd – Last Convention Steering Committee meeting in Forest Lake
- 25th – 2nd day of the 2nd free dental clinic at RCTC. Interviewed for a 2nd time but with the Dept. Dental Hygiene Dean and the head of Bridges, PC. It was aired on KIMT channel 3, and KTTC used some of the footage for their channel 10 news.
- 27th Spoke on my project and answered a variety of Auxiliary questions at Savage Unit 643. Presented with a check.

March

- 1st – Dist Gathering Membership Rally at St Paul Park hosted by SAL.
- 4th – Third day of the 2nd free dental clinic at RCTC. Talked with the head of the Bridges, PC on resources veterans may need that come to their clinic in Winona. President of RCTC visited the clinic and interviewed me about why veterans need this clinic. He was moved and offered to increase the clinics from 3 to 8 at RCTC beginning in the Fall!
- 8th – Spring DEC meeting in Chanhassen.
- 8th – Dept. Appreciation Rally, Chanhassen
- 10th – Brownston Unit/Post/SAL Birthday party and potluck. The Dept Commander, Dept President, and I talked about our projects. It was a wonderful social and meal.
- 11th – Participated in the Unit 311 Paint and Sip class.
- 15th – Competed in the TV Sitcom Trivia Night hosted by the Shakopee Unit. My team consisted of Joanne Joachim, her sister and brother-in-law, and my daughter Andrea and son-in-law. We had a great time and won prizes.
- 22nd - Attended the SAL Fishing Contest and announced on the microphone when the next dental clinic was. I had on my Dist 3 Pres. Pin and answered questions about the district events. Granddaughter worked the food stand and we both won prizes.
- 22nd – Enjoyed a delicious Salad Luncheon Fundraiser in Faribault, open to the public and in a packed Legion, their Unit President Gina Little introduced me on stage to talk about my project, thank you Gina!
- 22nd – attended a QOV meeting

April

- 5th - Helped set up for the Steak and Shrimp Fundraiser at Post 311 benefitting the FFA. Introduced as Dist Pres, I used the mic to announce my project and details for the last clinic.
- 6th – 100th Birthday Celebration for Mahtomedi. What a wonderful display of their history, slide show, drawings, food, and a great crowd.
- 7th – Unit 311 meeting, I announced the last dental clinic and many things going on in the district. My granddaughter asked the Mayor to declare May as Poppy Month.
- 9th – Veterans Day on the Hill. Rode the bus from Mankato to the St Paul Armory to hear speakers and have lunch. I announced on the bus and passed out my clinic flyer. I met a politician Bjorn Anderson who was very interested in meeting to find a solution to the dental needs of veterans. We are meeting later to discuss in detail what can be done.
- 11th – 12th, Dept. Junior Conference in Anoka. As 3rd District President, I attended with my granddaughter.
- 13th – Worked the Purple Up omelet breakfast fundraiser to support military kids
- 14th – attended the Post 311 Executive meeting to invite them to the Testimonial and upcoming district convention
- 19th – Last Free Dental Clinic for Veterans hosted at Mission Outpost in Burnsville. At every clinic the volunteers were given my pin, pen, appreciation certificate, and teeth mints. At this last one, my daughter donated gift bags with a candle, thank you note, Easter candy, \$25 gift card for each

- volunteer. Pat Kassel from Savage donated an Olive Garden meal and Edna Thayer donated desserts.
- 26th – Wrapped the QOV as Dist Pres. in Elysian.
- 26th Attended a reception for Drew Sande, a Navy Seal and honored “Distinguished Alumni Award for Faribault Senior High School ‘25” held at the Faribault Legion Post 43.
- 27th – Helped plan the Third District Joint Testimonial in Lonsdale. Gave a summary of my project and appreciation gifts to my officers, program chairs and committee members.
- 29th – Vietnam Event in Faribault with social, wings, and video at their Post 43

May

- 12th – Installed at Unit 311 President and will give them my summary of year as Dist 3 President.
- 16th – Third District Executive Bd meeting, Forest Lake. Dinner for Past District 3 leadership and outgoing Commanders and President.
- 17th – Third District Convention, Forest Lake. I spent hours preparing a short power point of my dental clinics and year as President.
- 20th – I do the New Member Initiation for Apple Valley Unit 1776
- 26th – Memorial Day Service, I’m in Honor Guard at 6 cemeteries and Waterville Veterans Memorial, followed by the Elysian Memorial Day Service duties.

July

- 3rd – Dist President duties in Forest Lake, and will stay over night there.
- 4th – March in the Forest Lake 4th of July Parade
- 9th - DEC meeting at Department Convention
- 10th – 12th Dept Convention

August

- National Convention in Tampa, Florida
 - 21st – Arrive in Tampa. I was the 1st volunteer to sign up to volunteer for the Mission Outreach Project.
 - 22nd – 29th, - Serve as delegate
 - Will plan 3rd District get-to-gathers again with Commanders.

September ’25 – May ’26, - The Third District ’24 – ’25 President’s Project of Free Dental Clinics will continue with 8 free dental clinics at RCTC

Nov 11, 2025 – MSU together with me will host a Free Dental Clinic for veterans.

Note: There were also many phone calls from Unit officers with questions, and emails to answer, zoom meetings, etc. For the clinics, there were many meetings with the clinic managers to go over the planning, creating the flyers and distributing them as well. I also attended my monthly Unit 311 meetings, fundraisers, and activities. I only listed the Unit activities when I had Dist 3 duties. It was an amazing year and so rewarding to see the impact the clinics had on the veterans and the awareness of the need for improved dental care it brought to the volunteers. Thank you all for your support and giving me this experience to serve as Third District President ’24-’25.

THIRD DISTRICT PRESIDENT PROJECT



FREE DENTAL CLINIC FOR VETERANS!

SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH, 2025

Bringing Smiles to Veterans



When:
Saturday
April 19th, 2025
9:00am - 5:00pm

Where:
Mission Outpost Dental Clinic
13801 Fairview Drive
Burnsville, MN 55337
(located in Prince of Peace Church)

For All Active, Reserve, Retired Military, and for all those who served in the military, we would like to say "thank you for your service" by providing you with free dental and wellness services. Free dental care kits made by the 3rd District Auxiliary Juniors are also provided.

3rd District of the American Legion Auxiliary will be teaming with volunteer Dental Hygienists, and Mission Outpost Dental Clinic, to provide free dental cleanings, exams, x-rays, & fluoride treatment. Fillings, extractions, root canals, and other restorative care will be provided. There will be a vendor table area to offer veterans information for resources and benefits, if needed.

Appointments are limited, please call the ph# below to schedule. If you need assistance with transportation let Tammy Thayer know, 507-319-4349. Vendors wanting to join us please call Tammy to reserve your space.

- Dental Cleaning (952)-898-9318



Family Support Pod

Americanism –Michelle Leonard, Farmington Unit 189

Education – Barb Van Eyll, Chaska Unit 57

Community Service – Kelly Kauss, Elysian Unit 311

Memorial – Deanna Meyer, Brownton Unit 148

Youth Development Pod

Children & Youth – Paulette Jameson, Faribault Unit 43

Juniors Activity – Sally Strasser, St Paul Park Unit 98

Girl State – Suzette Maluchnik, Chaska Unit 57

Veteran/Military Support & Advocacy Pod

Legislative – Judith Henna, Forest Lake Unit 225

National Security –Karen Rasmussen, Faribault Unit 43

Armed Forces Center – Kim Carlander, Chanhassen Unit 580

Poppy – Linda Kelly, Pine Island Unit 184

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation / Service to Veterans- Wendy Arndt, Forest Lake Unit 225

St Peter Treatment Center –Darlene Wondra, Montgomery Unit 79



Membership Development Pod

Membership – Ann Bovy, New Germany Unit 601

Leadership – Karla Otterness, Winsted Unit 407

Public Relations – Jeorgia Cluckey, St Paul Park Unit 98

Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Deb Chicos, Chanhassen 580

Organizational Support Pod

Parliamentarian/ Standing Rules Chairman – Barbara Klehr, Shakopee Unit 2

Finance –Diane Albers, Apple Valley Unit 1776

History – Edna Thayer, Elysian Unit 311

Memory Book –Karen Rasmussen, Faribault Unit 43

Past President Parley – Joanne Joachim, Chanhassen Unit 580

Nominating Committee Chairman Karla Otterness, Winsted Unit 407



2024-2025 Unit Presidents

Apple Valley Unit 1776	Maryalyce McCabe	Stewart Unit 125	Barbara Eitel
Bayport Unit 491	Rebecca Wolfe	Waconia Unit 150	Tammy Sartwell
Belle Plaine Unit 144	Ruth Westphal	Winsted Unit 407	Julie Baruch
Brownton Unit 143	Marcie Baysinger	Winthrop Unit 314	Gayle Grams
Chanhassen Unit 580	Deb Chicos		
Chaska Unit 57	Jennifer Stolz		
Cleveland Unit 207	Lisa Stadler		
Eagan Unit 594	Paulette Stark		
Elysian Unit 311	Sharon Brandt		
Faribault Unit 43	Gina Little		
Farmington Unit 189	Kimberly Lomas		
Forest Lake Unit 225	Cavalene Regan		
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	Anne Schuelke		
Le Center Unit 108	Shauna Whipps		
Lonsdale Unit 586	Andrea Zellner		
Mahtomedi Unit 507	Katie Busson		
Montgomery Unit 79	Debora Vlasak		
Morristown Unit 149	Jean Pesta		
New Germany Unit 601	Ann Bovy		
New Prague Unit 45	Linda Dvorak		
Nicollet Unit 510	Linda Wills		
North Mankato Unit 518	Lisa Roberts		
Northfield Unit 84	Barbara Swenson		
Norwood Unit 343	Diane Mackenthun		
Pine Island Unit 184	Anita Witthoeft		
Prior Lake Unit 447	Betty Roe		
Red Wing Unit 54	Judy Mann		
Rosemount Unit 65	Jessica Luedtke		
St. Paul Park Unit 98	Jeorgia 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
2024-2025
Michelle Leonard, Chair



When you belong to the American Legion Auxiliary, Americanism becomes one of the most natural programs for you and your Unit to participate in. And so it was for the 26 Units who submitted their Annual Reports for the 2024-25 year.

Nine Units reported holding Americanism programs in their local schools; 10 Units executed a cumulative 40 Flag Education programs. And, 10 Units reported distributing a whopping total of 1,748 US Flags this year.

17 Units participated in Veterans Day programs and activities, which included five school programs, four breakfasts for veterans, and two community Veterans Day programs. 22 Units participated in a cumulative of 45 Memorial Day services in

2024.

11 Units reported taking part in 103 other holiday or community events, including but not limited to tabling at county fairs and community celebrations; holding special events for veterans for Christmas, Fourth of July and St. Patrick's Day; and holding community events to recognize Vietnam Veterans Day and the Marine Corp Birthday. In addition, several Units reported having members who participated in Veterans Day on the Hill at the Minnesota State Capital.

15 Units reported they exhibited the American Legion Auxiliary branding while working Americanism events and programs.

Eight Units took part in the National Essay Contest, five supported Girls Scouts, and six Units worked the Junior Activities program. In addition, two Units had students participate in The American Legion's Oratorical Contest, five Units supported American Legion Baseball, three Units participated in Post Home or SAL programs, and three Units took part in the Blue Star Banner program.

A total of 225 US Flags were presented at schools and organizations, with a cost of \$100 and 16 hours reported as part of that distribution.

Overall, 1,361 volunteer hours and \$3,422 in donations or expenses were reported by the Third District Units for Americanism.

On a final note, I am disappointed to have not recognized the outstanding work of several Units with Certificates of Merit. There were exceptional programs reported but the Unit information at the beginning of the report was incomplete; complete Unit information is required for consideration.



Certificates of Merit have been awarded to the following Units:

Units 50 and under membership

343 Norwood
463 Lester Prairie
207 Cleveland

Units 101-200 membership

57 Chaska
96 Hutchinson
79 Montgomery
98 St Paul Park

Units 51-100 membership

141 Silver Lake
2 Shakopee
70 Chanhassen
144 Belle Plaine

Units 201 and over membership

1776 Apple Valley

Units regardless of membership

311 Elysian

Sieg & Ann Schmidtke Americanism Certificate of Award _____

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



Education Report
3rd District Year End Report
Chairman Barbara Van Eyll
2024-2025

District 3 has 47 Units, 19 submitted an education report with 5 reporting they did not participate.

Scholarships: 10 Units awarded scholarships in the amount of \$4,150. Between 3 Units \$1800 was donated to the American Legacy Scholarship fund. 1 Unit donated \$25 to Minnesota Department Scholarship Fund and 1 Unit donated \$500 to the Department Education Program. When a member of one Unit passes away \$30 is donated in that member's name to the Unit's scholarship fund which is awarded to Junior Members who will graduate from High School who apply for a \$250. scholarship.

Education Program: 4 Units participated in the Give Ten for Education Program, supporting 5 schools with 1,343 items with a value of \$937.59. One Unit contacted two schools in their district and requested wish lists from their teachers for classroom needs. 2 Units collected Box Tops totaling \$64,60. Another Unit donated \$250 worth of gently used clothing to an elementary school, 1 Unit conducted 5 hours of classroom reading while another Unit reported spending \$50 and 5 hours on a Literacy Program.

During American Education Week, members of 9 Units volunteered 114 hours to organize \$1,325.50 worth of treats for staff at 51 schools. 150 apples that were donated to 1 Unit to be given to staff at a school.

1 Unit invited 18 veterans to visit 4 schools spending a total of 11 hours talking to students.

1 Unit reported 1 school participated in Purple Up.

1 Unit handed out small American Flags to 1st graders and Pledge of Allegiance bookmarks to 4th graders. Another Unit presents the flag and Pledge of Allegiance program to K through 2nd grades at all elementary schools in the district.

Certificate of Merit Recommendations:

Units (50 and under membership)

601- New Germany

343 - Norwood Young America

Units (101-200 membership)

57 - Chaska

311- Elysian

43 – Faribault

96 - Hutchinson

Units (51-100 membership)

2 - Shakopee

184 – Pine Island

141 – Silver Lake

144 – Belle Plaine

433 - Gaylord

Unit (201 and greater membership)

1776 – Apple Valley



Community Service
3rd District Year End Report
2024-2025
Kelly Kauss, chair

I received 21 reports, out of 46 for the 3rd District, which is over 45%. It was a pleasure to read and report on these incredible units and their activities. They were sent electronically and mailed by PO service.

Summary of District Report for:
Individual Members accomplished so much this past year. Overall, Units reported an increase of activities including participation in all local events.

Cities, Counties and State projects continued to be shared by the Auxiliary in all avenues of charitable tithing, time and talents that stay focused on Veterans and their families.

- Total hours volunteered by individual members 8,369
- Total amount of money spent/donated by individual members \$22,700
- Total numbers of miles driven by individual members when volunteering 8,488

Projects in Units included meals on wheels, local food shelves, visiting and donating to Veterans nursing homes, donated flags, 23-0 Vigils held, World Heart Day celebrated, Purple Up Day, Wreaths Across America, muffin donations, yearly ham and turkey donations, bake sales, silent auction baskets, parade participation, donated meals of all kinds, gift bags, including many local and national project that affect Veterans and their families.

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 the local American Legion Posts, Auxiliary Units, Sons of the American Legion, Riders, and Jr family members with potlucks and certificate awards of participation.

Total hours volunteered by Units 15,807

Total amount of money spent/donated by Units \$33,396

Auxiliary apparel worn YES

Certificates of Merit Recommendation.

Units (50 & under)

- 433 Gaylord 553 hours
- 601 New Germany 167 hours
- 343 Norwood 48

Units (101-200)

- 96 Hutchinson 6500 hours
- 311 Elysian 2922 hours
- 43 Faribault 1474 Hourd
- 57 Chaska 883 hours

Units (51-100)

1. 491 Bayport 1427 hours
2. 580 Chanhassen 175 hours
3. 144 Belle Plaine 145 hours
4. 141 Silver Lake 109 hours

Units (201 and greater membership)

- Forest Lake 499 hours
- Apple Valley 380 hours

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	137 \$225.00	1300	167	\$225.00
57 Chaska	136	1496 \$3654.00	4687	883	\$1,478.00
43 Faribault	170	425 \$2910.00		1474	\$9,785.00

It has been a pleasure to work with President Tammy Thayer. Congratulations to each and every Unit. Thank you for this appointment and keep up the great work.

Juanita Lutz Community Service Certificate _____

Memorial
3rd District Year End Report
2024-2025
Deanna Meyer, Chair

We received 17 reports from the units. We had 58 deceased reported.

Most units do similar things as far as remembering their loved member. Several Drape the Charter and have a small service at their meeting. Cards and money are sent to the family. Sometimes the money is donated in the name of the deceased to an organization chosen by the unit.

Also, many included other items in their reports. Many have memorial services in their May meeting. All units that reported send cards to the sick. Sometimes donations are included. A few units reported serving meals to those in need.

All units start their meetings with prayer and several close with prayer.

This is a very important mission of Auxiliary Units. Always remember our passed members. God Bless

Nancy Lemke Memorial Plaque_____



In Loving Memory

**District President

*Unit President

Apple Valley #1776

Frances Thom
Carol Heiger
Pam Bartol

Bayport #491

Debra Francis
Evangeline Nolde

Belle Plaine #144

Janell Stock
Deb Edaburn
Laurie Behnke
Darlene Hogeboom

Chanhassen #580

Joanne Meuwissen

Chaska #57

Virginia Burfield
Flora Stark
Laura Worm

Elysian #311

Leatrice Edwards

Forest Lake #225

Lucille Carlson
Denni Main
Joan Thistlewood
Mary Ward
Susan Burrows
Shirley Hallberg

Hutchinson #96

Marilyn Krueger
Pearl Seale
Catherine (Cathy) Plath
Roxanne Jensen

Pine Island #184

Carol Moreland
Delores Kramer Skalicky
Virginia (Ginny) Kish
Madelyn Shelstad

Shakopee #2

Laura Mathie
Donna Harcey

Silver Lake #141

JoAnn Ardolf
MaryAnn Mallak

St Paul Park #98

Arline Witzel Hessler
Jacquelyn Zenner
Katherine Garringer
Eleanor Ruth Kincaid
Roberta Chapman
Marlene Koontz
Donna H Sylvester
Betty Wenger

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
2024-2025
Paulette Jameson, Chair

Out of 46 Units in our District, I received reports from 20 Units. Six of those 20 Units did not participate in the Children and Youth program. One Unit gave out six Good Deed Awards, and one Unit gave out Youth Hero Awards to two Middle School boys for coming to the aid of a teacher who was choking on her food during their lunch time.

Four Units displayed the Military Child's Table with an explanation of the significance of each item. Our Units are very generous with their funds. One Unit donated \$1,000 to the Department's Children and Youth Fund, and six Units gave a total \$1,175 to Legionville. One of those Units also received a 3M Grant for \$1,000 to be given to Legionville, and another 3M Grant of \$500, which they donated to a local parochial school. One Unit gave \$200 to the American Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program, and three Units gave a total of \$250 to the American Legion's Child Well-Being Foundation (CWF). Girls' State received \$700 from one Unit and another Unit donated \$300 to Youth Suicide Prevention. Funds for two \$500 scholarships were given to Dollars for Scholarships, and also \$250 was given to a county foster children's organization by one Unit.

Our Auxiliary members have been very busy volunteering for or sponsoring events involving the youth or for the youth in their communities. Examples include:

- Sewing lessons for girls
- Winter coat drive
- Kids Bingo/Family Bingo
- Special Olympics
- Toys for Tots
- Collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Donating school supplies
- Donating stuffed animals to a Halloween event for children Halloween, Christmas, and Easter parties
- Having children make Christmas cards and/or write letters to active-duty military
- Coloring and poppy poster contests
- Donations to the Armed Forces Service Center,



Certificate of Merit:

Units 50 & under: Unit 601 New Germany

Units 51-100: Unit 144 Belle Plaine, Unit 2 Shakopee

Units 101-200: Unit 79 Montgomery, Unit 96 Hutchinson, Unit 311 Elysian

Units 201 & up: Unit 225 Forest Lake, Unit 1776 Apple Valley

Shirly Hamre Children and Youth Plaque_____

Junior Activities
3rd District Year End Report
2024/2025
Chair Sally Strasser



This year has been a busy year around the 3rd District. 17 units reported and of those 17 units 6 of them have an organized Junior unit. 8 of the unit have Juniors that do participate in volunteer activities with either the Seniors or their own Junior groups. Some of the units have encouraged the Juniors to participate with the senior meetings. Some of the units increased their Junior members. New members and graduating members were recognized during either the Junior or Senior meetings. A couple of Juniors from one unit received \$1000.00 scholarships for their graduation. We had 4 Juniors participating in the patch program and 4 patches were earned.

Donations and volunteer hours were done District wide here are some of the things that these busy juniors have been up to:

Volunteer hours were 407 and direct hours to Veterans were 61. Now here goes the fun. They participated in Veterans and Memorial Day programs, marched in parades when appropriate. Passing out poppies and working at all fund raisers in their respective units. Some of the fundraisers are steak fry's, vendor fairs, and decorate Christmas trees for their units. Giving holiday bags and Christmas gifts and cards to veterans and seniors. The District Presidents project was "Smiles for our Veterans" the Honorary District Junior President assisted with this project by collecting oral care supplies and during a District Junior Fun Day they packed up these supplies in bags to give to the veterans. These bags were then distributed to the Veterans at the free dental clinic that were held in the 3rd District. Money was donated by 1 unit to Girls State and purchases were made for oral care and school supplies. Total donations of money \$321.00. There were 5 Juniors that went to the Department Junior Conference.

The Honorary Junior District President Evelyn Koran held a junior fun day where there were 4 girls in attendance they held a meeting, played auxiliary trivia and packed oral care supplies and at the unit level Evelyn also collected school supplies for 2 area elementary schools.

We should be proud of what the Juniors do for our Veterans and their families and communities.

Merits winners

Units (50 & under) Lowell Stander #601, Norwood Unit 343

Units (51-100) Belle Plain Unit 144

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

Units (201 and greater membership) Forest Lake Unit 225

The Luverne B. Marier Plaque is awarded to: _____.

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

Girls State
3rd District Year End Report
2024/2025
Suzette Maluchnik, Chair

Eighteen reports were received. Twenty girls were sponsored. Sponsorship was provided by Units, American Legion posts, and others. Many Units provided the citizens with some extra money to buy swag from the Girls State canteen. Units raised funds to sponsor girls through a variety way: pop and snack sales at the Post Bingo night, silent auction, bake sales, omelet breakfasts, garage sales, craft shows, raffles, steak fries, other dinners, pillow cleaning, selling hamburgers and brats, and serving at funeral luncheons. Our Units all have excellent ideas for fundraising!! Most Units required an application from interested students. Most Units interviewed and made the final selection of the citizen but, a few Units have the Unit Girls State chairman make the selection and some Units had Unit committees make the selection and also some Units had the student write an essay and then decide from that. Many Units held an informational meeting for interested students and their parents. Our Unit members volunteered a total of 602 hours to the Girls State program. Many Units used social media to increase awareness. Other ways Units increased awareness of the Girls State program included:

- Girls State handouts to counselors, sent flyers to the schools and posted information at Posts and Clubs
- Unit chairman met with school counselors and other faculty members
- Articles were put in local newspapers
- Have Girls Staters speak at Legion and community events
- One Unit President was featured in the National ALA magazine with an article about her time when she attended Girls State
- Talked to upcoming Juniors
- Promoted the National release of the Girls State documentary that was shown on Apple TV.

Legislation
3rd District Year End Report
2024-2025

Judy Hana, Chair

This has been a very hard year for me personally.

But I have never forgotten that our Legion family need to always remember that we are advocates for our veterans, we always, every chance we get to encourage our legislators to wear poppies proudly, as the symbol and they understand the sacrifices veterans made for us.

There are so many past bills and new bills to be heard and discussed.

Health-long and short term/dental care. Housing-affordable. Just to name a couple. The list is unless. Some are very complicated, all are serious, so we need to continue to educate everybody not just our Legion Family!



President Tamara and Co Vice Chair of Veterans and Military affairs Division Rep Bjorn Olson (R ST Paul)



National Security
3rd District Year End Report
2024- 2025
Karen Rasmussen, Chair



Nineteen of our 46 District 3 Auxiliary units responded either by mail or email with eight units reporting no activities for their annual report. The other eleven had an assortment of activities to honor, serve and remember our active-duty military, veterans, and their families.

Some activities are financial, such as donations to the Armed Forces Service Center, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, the USO, the Child Well-Being Foundation, Fisher House, Believet Canine Service Partners, and Paralyzed Veterans, Minnesota Chapter. Others are visible reminders, such as wearing red on Fridays to **Remember Everyone Deployed**, “Be the One” T-shirts and pins on the first of the month for the suicide prevention initiative and wearing purple on April 15th to “Purple Up” for the military child. We buy “Support Our Troops” license plates and fly the American flag even when it isn’t a holiday. One unit member volunteers at the AFSC.

Activities to honor include giving military honor cords for graduating seniors enlisting in the military, honoring the families with a servicemember a Blue Star Banner and families whose servicemember died in service to our country with a Gold Star Banner, and wrapping veterans in Quilts of Valor or Quilts of Honor. We give gifts to veterans on holidays, such as Veterans Day, Christmas, Memorial and/or Flag Day. One unit member serves on the Honor Guard as a rifleman for ceremonies and funerals.

Some activities are a call to action, to serve those who serve us, such as giving treats to our First Responders and their K-9 partners, giving blood and working at bloodmobiles, adopting a veteran at Hastings Veterans Home, collecting coupons for military bases, sending Christmas greetings to servicemembers around the world as well as CARE packages for deployed servicemembers, winterizing homes and vehicles, contacting legislators on pertinent veteran matters, and working with the National Guards’ Family Readiness Group and VSOs to support our servicemembers and their families, wherever they may be.

We remember in our moments of silence in our meetings, at our POW/MIA displays and ceremonies, and at veterans’ memorials.

Certificates of Merit

50 and Under: Mahtomedi Unit 507

51-100: Belle Plaine unit 144, Chanhassen Unit 580, Gaylord Unit 433,

101-200: Elysian Unit 311, Faribault Unit 43, Montgomery Unit 79, St Paul Park Unit 98

200 and up Forest Lake Unit 225, Apple Valley Unit 1776

Barbara Stussy National Security Award: _____

ARMED FORCES SERVICE CENTER
3RD District Year End Report
2024 - 2025
Chair, Kim Carlander



Our AFSC is located at MSP Terminal 1 airport, at the entrance to Concourse A. I am a volunteer at the service center, where we welcome between 1200 to 1800 military guests per month. I especially enjoy assisting the new recruits en route to basic training. Their energy is incredible! At the center, we offer comfortable recliners, large flat screen televisions, bunks, showers, food, beverages and more. The AFSC is a very special place indeed, and is much appreciated by those who visit.

I'd like to thank those Auxiliary members that volunteer at the AFSC. The volunteers work 4 hour shifts between 8AM and 10:45PM 365 days a year. If you'd like to know more about how you can become a volunteer, go to mnaafsc.org. We'd love to have you!

I'd like to thank all the Units that support the AFSC in various ways. At Mid Winter, I was given 5 boxes of donated items I brought into the service center. And through the Unit reports I received, I'm happy to say that Auxiliary Units made important monetary donations to the AFSC as well. Thank you! At the beginning of 2025, I received an email sent to all volunteers from the Director of the AFSC. She stated that due to the increased price of food and beverages, she was sending out a funding request to any of us that might have a connection to a company or organization etc. The AFSC is a 501(c)(3) and exists on donations. In answer to the funding request, I would like to give a special thank you to my home post, Chanhassen Post 580 for their combined donation of \$4,000 (Legionnaires \$2,500, Auxiliary \$1,500). We have a very busy travel season approaching. Any and all contributions to the AFSC help a great deal, and are always much appreciated.

If you happen to have a moment while inside security at the airport and would like to stop in at the AFSC, please come by and check it out! We'd love to show you around. It's a very special place and I thank you all for your continued support.

Thank you President Tamara for this appointment. It's been a pleasure working with you.



POPPY
3rd District Year End Report
2024-2025
Linda Kelly, Chair



I was hoping for reports from half of our units in District 3, but didn't quite make it. I received 18 reports, and I thank those units for sending them in. I found that most units put poppies and donation cans in their community and in their posts. Please remember that we accept donations and that we do NOT ask for donations for the poppies, we give them out. A list of what donations are supported by donations can be posted. Several send information and maybe a poppy to their membership and local businesses, hoping for donations. As a district we ordered almost 600 large poppies and over 14,000 small poppies.

Making poppies has been a popular event for our members both as a unit project and as a participant in a department project. It is likely that our shortage of veterans making poppies will remain with us, so it is great that our auxiliary members are stepping up to fill this void. Several of our units purchased a kit rather than ordering poppies from the Department, which helped immensely.



I found that the poppy income really varied – anywhere from less than \$200 to thousands of dollars. It surprised me when I compared the unit's membership with that amount. I first assumed that the dollars would be greater for our larger units – not so. What I did find is that the larger dollars collated with the number of volunteers

for this great project. The total volunteers were 287, ranging from two members to 59 members involved in the poppy program. The unit with the 59 volunteers is the unit taking in the most money. District 3 collected \$38,305.23.

Two units sponsored Little Miss Poppy and two sponsored the Poppy Poster. This is certainly one area where we can improve. Seven units sent poppies to their local officials, attended a council meeting, and asked their mayor to make a Proclamation for Poppy Month/Day.

Many units used poppies throughout the year, which is a goal that I put out at the beginning of this year and it was so awesome how some units took this to heart. Seeing the poppy throughout the year, reminds our communities the importance of the poppy. The more information we give to both our members and our community, the better informed they are.

The poppy program is one of our easier programs – especially for our smaller units. It may take more time donated by our members, but the money spent on the poppies is the only cost involved. Hopefully, the units take in enough money to cover those costs and have extra that can be used for the approved donations. Remember that money donated from poppies can only be used for the approved programs for our veterans. Check that list against your donations to be sure you are using poppy funds properly

Certificated of Merit:

50& under membership None

51-100 Membership: Pine Island #184

100-200 membership: Elysian #311, Hutchinson #96

200 and up; Forest Lake #225

Doris Fink Poppy Plaque _____

Savage Poppy Plaque _____



St Peter Regional Treatment Center
3rd District Year End Report 2024-2025
Darlene Wondra, Chair



St Peter Regional Treatment Center has less than 25 Veterans in various part of the Treatment Center. At their annual Pheasant dinner this past fall, we the Third district gave each Veteran Sweatpants and personal care items.

This April we sponsored their Spring party with a water bottle or sweatshirt and pizza party, also BINGO was played with personal care gifts as prizes. The pizzas and pop were donated by Dominos.

Thank you for your donations towards the St Peter Regional Center, the veterans there look forward to our events that we honor them with.

I do go there once a month to do mending and sewing for the residents there.

Last year Past President Deanna donated money to them for religious items as part of her president project, at this time 2 alter clothes were made for them, some books were also bought.



Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
And Service to veterans
3rd District Year End Report
2024-2025
Chair Wendy Arend

MN ALA District 3 made an incredible impact this year, contributing a total of \$73,624.05 in direct financial support, \$139,023.60 in in-kind donations, and 327 members volunteered 13,313 hours to benefit veterans, military families and caregivers. The year might've started with Buddy and Caregiver visits, but it didn't end there. The numbers reflect the deep commitment, compassion, and energy our members dedicated throughout 2024–2025.

This year, District 3 showed unwavering commitment to our veterans, their caregivers, and families through a wide range of activities and donations. With energy and heartfelt dedication, we collaborated with Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion, American Legion Riders—such as SAL's John Zgoda Memorial Disabled Veterans Deer Hunt—and other civic organizations—like Invisible Wounds Project—to extend support across our communities.

Our Units brightened lives through programs like Wreaths Across America, Twin Cities Honor Flights, Stand Down, and VA Voluntary Service. We supported our veterans at St. Cloud and Minneapolis VA Medical Centers and the Hastings Veterans Home, along with county Veteran Services. We contributed to the Armed Forces Service Center at MSP, delivered 22 Quilts of Valor, and supported Fisher House, BelieVet Canine Service Partners, \$5 Bill Shower, Child Welfare Foundation, Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, and so many more. We proudly stood behind Operation Green Light, Operation 23 to 0, and Be the One—raising awareness and offering hope to struggling veterans.

Special projects included the 3rd District President's "Bringing Smiles to Veterans" free dental care clinics for vets and generous participation in the Honorary Dept Junior President's and Dept President's Projects. We embraced brain health initiatives through our support of Brain Science and strengthened emergency assistance through Fund 85, Temporary Financial Assistance Fund, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, ALA Foundation, and the Legion Family Hospital Association. The Veterans Rest Campground and Eagles Healing Nest were uplifted by our donations and volunteer efforts, providing spaces of healing and camaraderie for those who have served.

Our members made an enormous impact through flood relief efforts—raised money and filled sandbags to protect 5 veterans' homes in Waterville MN and restored a flood-damaged home in New Orleans. Free childcare was provided for a veteran attending appointments at the VAMC, ensuring no veteran faced barriers to getting needed care. Through Adopt-a-Veteran, delivering hand-made cards and gifts, and bingo events at Hastings Veterans Home, personal connections were made and sustained, bringing comfort and companionship to our heroes. Legionville was also supported, ensuring the next generation understands the importance of service and safety.

Units served thousands of regular and Holiday meals, crafted Chemo and Hygiene Care kits, drove veterans to appointments, recognized parents of high school graduating military enlistees with Blue Star banners and gave red, white, and blue honor cortle to the 8rad9. We delivered hundred of gift cards and handcrafted items with personal touches of love and gratitude. Our spirit of service extended even further—gifting handmade Afghans and personal hygiene kits, driving veterans to medical appointments, and delivering \$25 Visa gift cards to over 200 patients at Minneapolis VAMC. We celebrated Military Child Day with Military Kids Tables and Purple Up! Clothing. Across every endeavor, District 3 stood strong for those who stood for us. Madam President, this concludes my report.

Certificates of Merit:

Units with 50 or less members: 507 Mahtomedi/WilLermie, 491 Bayport, 125 Stewart, 189 Farmington, 84 Northfield.

Units with 51–100: 580 Chanhassen, 144 Belle Plaine, 2 Shakopee, 141 Silver Lake, 184 Pine Island.

Units with 101–200: 311 Elysian, 57 Chaska, 96 Hutchinson, 43 Faribault, 98 St. Paul Park.

units As with 201 or more: 225 Forest Lake, 1776 Apple Valley.

Any Unit: 601 New Germany, 207 Cleveland, 79 Montgomery.



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
2024 - 2025
Deb Chicos, chair



The ALA Emergency Fund was established in 1969 with a bequest from the estate of Helen Colby Small of Burlington, WI. The fund continues today as a result of the generosity of the Auxiliary members.

Twenty-one Units submitted Annual Reports to the 3rd District - fifteen participated in the AEF Program.

Ten Units made cash donations, totaling \$2952. One of which was from their yearly budget. Another Unit created a donation jar for their Monthly Unit Meetings. Seven Units had personal donations, totaling \$1600. Five of these personal donations were sent on to the Department since the individual value was \$50 or above. Nine Units donated items/gift baskets/baked goods to the Department Fall Conference in St Cloud. Two Units reported helping with the Dept Fall Conference Silent Auction setup. Eight Units donated items/gift baskets to the 3rd District Silent Auction at their Mid-Winter Conference in Lonsdale. Two

Units reported discussing the AEF Program at their Unit Monthly Meetings. No Units reported receiving assistance from the fund.

The AEF Silent Auction at the 3rd District Mid-Winter Conference raised \$324 for the fund.

23 = total Auction Items (8 Unit donations and the rest personal donations)

\$600 = total Value of items

\$289 = total Bids

\$35 = total Cash Donations

\$324 = Grand Total for money

8 Units participated (Chanhassen Unit 580, Elysian Unit 311, Faribault Unit 43, Farmington Unit 189, Forest Lake Unit 225, Hutchinson Unit 96, Montgomery Unit 79, St Paul Park Unit 98)

As District AEF Chairman, I published 1 articles in the District Newsletter prior to the 3rd District Mid-Winter Conference for solicitation of donations for the Silent Auction. Thank you to our Units and members for their generous support of the ALA Emergency Fund during 2024 -2025. Due to this generosity, we donated a total of \$4876 to the fund

this season. Your continued support is the reason the Program is able to help our fellow members.

Certificates of Merit Recommendations:

Units 50 and Under = Mahtomedi Unit 507, Norwood Unit 343, Stewart Unit 125

Units 51 - 100 = Belle Plaine Unit 144, Chanhassen Unit 580, Pine Island Unit 184, Shakopee Unit 2

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

Units 201 and Up = Apple Valley Unit 1776, Forest Lake Unit 225

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

Membership
3rd District Year End Report
2024-2025
Ann Bovy



My theme was Gathering and Growing. The idea behind the theme was to Gather new members to join our units while retaining our existing members to Grow our Membership to help support our Veterans and our programs all year.

As of the last membership bulletin available from the Department on April 15th, the Thundering Third District was in 2nd place. We were only behind 1st place by 14 members. There is still time for us to Gather and Grow into 1st place by Department Convention in July.

Congratulations and a big Thank You to the following units for reaching and /or exceeding 100% of your goal. Forest Lake Unit 225 106.93%, Rosemount Unit 65 108.77%, Le Center Unit 108 111.61%, Morristown Unit 149 115.73% and Norwood Unit

343 100%.

The winner of the drawing for reaching 40% of goal on September 28 was Brownton Unit 143. The winner of the drawing for units reaching 60% of goal on October 26 was Red Wing Unit 54. The winner of the drawing for units reaching 80% of goal on December 7 was Siver Lake Unit 141. The winner of the drawing for units reaching 90% of goal on February 8 was Rosemount Unit 65. The winner of the last drawing for units reaching 100% of goal on March 15 was Rosemount Unit 65. Congratulations to all the winners throughout the year. I would like to thank all the units that worked so hard trying to reach their goal. Some of you were so close.

I would like to thank my Membership Team, Wendy Arend, Diane Mackenthun, Kelly Kauss, Betty Schlueter and Deb Chicos for all their hard work. I would also like to thank Teri Richardson for being the best advisor/coach you always had encouraging words for me to follow.

Certificates of Merit

Units (50 and under) 143 Brownton, 594 Eagan, 380 Kilkenney, 601 New Germany, 343 Norwood, 447 Prior Lake,

Units (51- 100) 45 New Prague 65 Rosemount, 150 Waconia 443 Gaylord

Units (101-200) 96 Hutchinson, 108 Le Center, 149 Morristown

Units (201-over) 225 Forest Lake

The Forcina Dixon Memorial Membership Plaque _____

Leadership
3rd District Year End Report
2024-2025
Karla Otterness, Chair



I received 19 reports under the leadership chairmanship.

2 members reported attending the workshop from the Department Chair Carol Kottom, and 2 said they attended national mission training. Others took part in the online academy classes that are offered on the national web site

We had three members that were nominated for “Member of the Year” at eighter district or department level.

Unit Level - fantastic ideas that were shared.

- Mentorship program for incoming officers.
- Meeting with Legion officers, auxiliary officers and sharing of standing rules
- Mentorship for new members
- Reading synopsis of what it takes to be a good leader at unit meetings.
- Giving members leadership roles to carry out, less burden for president.
- The unit has a balanced tradition with innovation.
- Adapting communication with senior membership.
- Encouraging all members to be a part of their communities in leadership roles.

At the district level 16 members reported attending Mid-Winter, 22 have attended district meetings. Our district leadership chairman shared 3 leadership articles for the third district newsletter. She did not host a workshop this year, but did encourage members to attend the department workshop classes that were available. She gave a 5-minute presentation at midwinter on what makes a good leader. I talked about the awards that we have available for leadership. She also organized a class before our executive board meeting, and had the parliamentarian speak on “how to make a motion”, The Sargent at Arms talked about “There is no I in team”. The secretary talked about formal procedures, voting, and representation in the district.

At the Department level 12 members reported attending department Convention break-out sessions. 17 members attended the Fall Conference.

Units Consider for merit:

Membership

50 and Under Membership: Unit 407 Winsted, Unit 601 New Germany

51-100 Membership: Unit 141 Silver Lake, Unit 433 Gaylord, Unit 580 Chanhassen

101-200 Membership: Unit 96 Hutchinson, Unit 311 Elysian, Unit 57 Chaska

201 and up Membership: Unit 1776 Apple Valley,



Audrey Tolzmann Leadership Certificate _____

Public Relation
3rd District Year End Report
2024-2025
Jeorgia Cluckey, Chair

What an amazing year the Auxiliary has had at the Unit level. I would like to congratulate you all on your achievements over the past year and encourage you to keep the momentum going as we move into 2025-2026.

Eighteen Units in the Third District submitted reports for review.

Newsletter: Fourteen Units have a newsletter. Twelve have an E-Bulletin. Nine Units have a joint publication with their Post. There are no Units that currently gift a subscription to the Auxiliary magazine to a business/facility in their community.

Social Media: Seven Units have a website. Ten Units have a Facebook page. There were no new accounts this year for either one. There are currently no Units that have a YouTube Account, "X" (Twitter) Account or Instagram Account. Several Units were actively engaged using their Facebook accounts to create events and share the events of the other Legion Family.

Media: Fourteen Units were mentioned in local media. Eighty-nine times via print, Eleven times via television/cable and six times via radio. Units met with reporters fourteen times and thirty-two letters of appreciation were sent out along with numerous email acknowledgements and Thank You cards. Resources on the National Website were utilized by six Units for training and research. A total of \$940.00 and 342 hours were spent on PR efforts.

Brand Loyalty: Multiple events were hosted by our Units for Veterans along with those to support the local community/organizations. Promoting the positive impact the Auxiliary has on the community was demonstrated by your support of Veterans, Community Projects, Blood drives, Poppy Day, Memorial Day Events, Laying of wreaths, Veterans Day, Participating in Parades, All different kinds of meal events, Parties for Seniors, Children and those with Special needs, Co-sponsoring and volunteering at Legion Family events to name a few. You are the brand by wearing apparel, logo, pins and providing members with lower cost T-shirts and wearing vests and uniforms at group events.

I would like to mention a couple of things in the reports that stood out to me that you may want to consider for Public Relations in the upcoming year. Advertising on place mats, Local School District websites/newsletters, Local government information calendars are all great ways to get the mission of the Auxiliary and its brand out there.

Kind regards,

Certificates of Merit:

Units 50 and Under: Unit #125 Stewart, Unit #447 Prior Lake, Unit # 601 New Germany, Unit # 84 Northfield, Unit# 433 Gaylord, Unit #189 Farmington Unit # 207 Cleveland

Unit 51 – 100 Membership: #98 St. Paul Park, Unit #141 Silver Lake, Unit # 507 Mahtomedi/Willernie, Unit#144 Belle Plaine, Unit #580 Chanhassen

Units 101 – 200 Membership: Montgomery Unit 74, Unit #43, Faribault, Unit #184 Pine Island Units 201 and up Apple Valley Unit 1776, Unit #225 Forest Lake,

Margaret Lonergan Communication Certificate: _____



Constitution/By-Laws and Standing Rules Parliamentarian and Constitution/By-Laws and Standing Rules 2024/2025 Chairman Barbara Klehr

18 out of 45 Units reported. 6 Units have said they did **not** have Standing Rules, 10 Units have a Parliamentarian, 12 Units have a Constitution & Standing Rules Chairman with 9 Units having their Parliamentarian and Standing Rules Chairman as the same person. 14 Units reviewed their Standing Rules and 10 of them sent them on to Dept. 16 Units have a copy of our National Constitution & Bylaws and 17 Units said they repeat the Preamble at every Unit meeting. 2 Units said they wrote a resolution this year and 5 Units sent me a copy of their Standing Rules.

The focus for each Unit this year was to update your Standing Rules and send a copy to Department and to District. The Unit mailings provided a great source of information this year along with the District Newsletter and your Unit Guide. The articles encouraged Units to review or develop Standing Rules that are unique to your Unit. Every member has a responsibility to become familiar with the rules that govern this great organization. I was excited to see the 18 Units who sent me reports this year. So much better than the last few years. One Unit even made provisions as to where their funds would go if they should have to dissolve their Unit. But I was really disheartened to learn that 6 Units reported that they did not even have Standing Rules. Maybe we need a class on how to write your Standing Rules for next year. We can make it a fun workshop 😊 Members are encouraged to stay interested and be active in ensuring their Unit, District, and Department activities are governed accordingly. The objective of each meeting is always to allow for every member's opinion with courtesy and fairness.

As Parliamentarian, I attended the District President's planning meeting. During the year the committee reviewed the District Standing Rules and at the first District Executive meeting. The recommended changes and corrections will be addressed at the 2025 District Convention Executive meeting and presented at the Convention for acceptance or rejection by the voting delegates. I also attended a Department Leadership workshop that many of you attended also.

Parliamentary law along with common sense, courtesy, and justice will protect the rights of the members, and keep our meetings interesting and fun.

Thank you President Tamara for this appointment. Congratulations to you on a great year!

And to **"Bringing Smiles to Veterans"**.

Reports that earned a Certificate of Merit from the District are:

51-100: Shakopee #2, Belle Plaine #144

101-150: Montgomery #79, and Faribault #43

151 and up: Hutchinson #96, and Elysian #311

Standing Rules Committee Members were:

Barb Van Eyl, Unit #57 Chaska

Betty Schlueter, Unit #96 Hutchinson

Past Presidents Parley
Third District Year End Report 2024-2025
Joanne Joachim, chair

Our 3rd District has 46 units. I received reports from 17 Units. Of these 17 Units, 8 reported they have a Past President's Parley and one of these was organized this year. The Past President's Parley is comprised of members who have been either a District or Unit President.

Duties for members of the Parley include mentoring and educating new members and officers.

Parleys in the 3rd District have done the following:

- Help members pay their dues if needed
- Sending female veterans cards on special holidays
- Units have presented female veterans with gifts.
- Helping with special events their Unit puts on
- One Unit has a member at the Hastings Home and the Unit takes her out for lunch and to the quilt shops and is remembered with a gift for special occasions.
- Past presidents communicate with each other on experiences that worked out well and those that did not work out so well
- One Unit submitted articles on their female veterans for "Women's History Month" to their local newspaper. And nominated a member for a Hometown Hero Banner.
- One Unit encouraged their Junior members to write essays on Americanism
- Units have given out scholarships and donated to the Past President's Parley Health Care Scholarship Fund.

The 3rd District Past President's Parley met in October at Northridge Court in Shakopee. We had a potluck lunch with each President bringing a delicious dish. We go over minutes from the previous meeting, go over standing rules, each one present gives a brief update on their past year, and update our contact list and contact information.

Certificates of merit, Units 50 and under: none

Certificates of merit, Units 51 to 100: Montgomery Unit 79, Silver Lake Unit 141,

Certificates of merit, Units 101 to 200: Elysian Unit 311, Chaska Unit 57, Faribault Unit 43, St. Paul Park Unit 98, Hutchinson Unit 96

Certificates of merit, Units 200 +: none

Reports forwarded to Dept for further consideration: Faribault Unit 43; Chaska Unit 57; Elysian Unit 311; Montgomery Unit 79

Charles-Hale Past President's Parley Plaque _____

Third District American Legion Auxiliary Past Presidents

*Emma Lueben (Mrs. S.C.), Farmington (Acting Chairman at first meeting)	Sept. 15, 1921	*Harriet Schoenbauer (Mrs. Raymond) New Prague	1978-79
*Bertha Herman (Mrs.), LeSueur	1921-22	*Helen Biemert (Mrs. Roman), Forest Lake	1979-80
*Eva Dempsey (Mrs. Charles), St. Peter	1922-23	*Rose Mary Diercks (Mrs. Gerald), Red Wing	1980-81
*Mrs. E.E. Shrader, Watertown	1923-24	*Dolores Goettl(Mrs. Kenneth) Montgomery	1981-82
*Isabelle Zurst (Mrs. John), Glencoe	1924-26	*Shirley Hamre (Mrs. Dean), St. Paul Park	1982-83
*Ida Scherkenback (Mrs.), Shakopee	1926-28	* Joan Tompkins (Mrs. Jerome), Rosemount	1983-84
*Elsie Jorgensen, Hutchinson	1928-30	*Dolly Huron (Mrs. Franklin), Red Wing	1984-85
*Edna Dressel (Mrs. H.C.), LeSueur	1930-32	*Pattie Black (Mrs. Arthur), Forest Lake	1985-86
*Sara Clark (Mrs. Robert), Northfield	1932-34	*Mary Ellen Hale (Mrs. Robert), Hastings	1986-87
*Alice Barry (Mrs. R.R.), South St. Paul	1934-35	*Audrey Tolzman (Mrs, Kenneth), Nicollet	1987-88
*Lena Lewis (Mrs.A.S.), Pine Island	1935-36	*Dolores Fink (Mrs. Bernard) Apple Valley	1988-89
*Rose Hawlish (Mrs. Henry), Silver Lake	1936-37	Barbara Stussy (Mrs. Fred), Pine Island	1989-90
*Mabel Sargeant (Mrs. H.L.), Northfield	1937-38	Betty Schuelter (Mrs. Elroy) Hutchinson	1990-91
*Ruth Stussi (Mrs. Earl), Stillwater	1938-40	*Clara Urban (Mrs. Ron) St Paul Park	1991-92
*Cora Rhea (Mrs. C.J.), Waconia	1940-41	Ann Bode (Mrs. David) Nicollet	1992-93
*Celia Satrum (Mrs. Henry), Zumbrota	1941-42	*Patricia Kerber (Mrs. Lee), Chanhassen	1993-94
*Lois Roell (Mrs. Ed), Cannon Falls	1942-43	Elaine Schilling (Mrs. Alloyd), Nicollet	1994-95
*Margaret Arvidson (Mrs. R.H.), Kenyon	1943-44	*Nancy Lemke (Mrs. Romaine), St Paul Park	1995-96
*Tinnie Olesen, Faribault	1944-45	Donna Beck, Lakeville	1996-97
*Rose Schumacker (Mrs. R.T), Shakopee	1945-46	*Laila Schroeder, Shakopee	1997-98
*Loretta Greulich (Mrs. W.W.), St. Peter	1946-47	Darlain Kaufmann (Mrs. Norbert), Green Isle	1998-99
*Bernice Flotterud, Zumbrota	1947-48	*Agnes Berg, Apple Valley	1999-00
*Olive Simmer (Mrs. Thomas), New Prague	1948-49	*Barbara McGowan (Mrs. Marlow), Pine Island	2000-01
*Cora Noltimier (Mrs. W.F.) St. Paul Park	1949-50	Darlene Wondra (Mrs. Glenn), Montgomery	2001-02
*Mabel Duncan (Mrs. Howard), Cannon Falls	1950-51	Joanne Bratland (Mrs. Maynard), Shakopee	2002-03
*Billie Hundt (Mrs. Ray), LeCenter	1951-52	Lois Wenz (Mrs. Donald), Chaska	2003-04
*Lucy Mattsfield (Mrs. E.J.), Hutchinson	1952-53	Diane Mackenthun (Mrs. David), Norwood	2004-05
*Viola Forcia (Mrs. Harold), Stillwater	1953-54	Molly Smisek (Mrs. Donald), Lonsdale	2005-06
*Minnie Erickson (Mrs. E. O.), Northfield	1954-55	Marilyn Hardt (Mrs. Brad), North Mankato	2006-07
*Dolly Thompson (Mrs. Donald), Hugo	1955-56	Suzette Maluchnik (Mrs. Randy), Chaska	2007-08
*Elsie Rustad (Mrs. Arthur), Faribault	1956-57	Barbara Klehr (Mrs. David), Shakopee	2008-09
*Hope Meehl (Mrs. Roy), Morrison	1957-58	Teri Richardson (Mrs. Gary), Mahtomedi	2009-10
*Ruth Vollmers (Mrs Maynard), Redwing	1958-59	Cynthia Wenz, Chaska	2010-11
*Virginia Ieiverman (Mrs.Cy), Chaska	1959-60	Deb Rottman, Cannon Falls	2011-12
*Lois Vollmer(Mrs. Charles), LeCenter	1960-61	Lisa Tolzmann (Mrs. Kim), Nicollet	2012-13
*Irene Jones (Mrs. B.W.), Northfield	1961-62	Joanne Joachim, Chanhassen	2013-14
*Grace Kraft (Mrs. Seymour), Cannon Falls	1962-63	Michelle Leonard, Farmington	2014-15
*Elsie Brockmeyer (Mrs. Hugo), Glencoe	1963-64	Karla Otterness, Winsted	2015-16
*Juanita Lutz (Mrs. Edward), Hugo	1964-65	Marcie Baysinger, (Mrs. Elmer) Brownton	2016-17
*Sylvia Balfour (Mrs.William), Faribault	1965-66	Kat Benjamin, (Mrs. Bob) Chaska	2017-18
*Ann Schmidtke (Mrs. Sieg), Morristown	1966-67	Lynn Duffy, (Mrs. Joe) St. Paul Park	2018-19
*Irene Anderson (Mrs. Martin), Red Wing	1967-68	Linda Kelly Pine Island	2019-20
*LuVerne Marier (Mrs Narcisse), Hugo	1968-69	Linda Kelly Pine Island	2020-21
*Mary Monkemeier (Mrs. Henry), Glencoe	1969-70	Cavalene Regan, Forest Lake	2021-22
*Ivy Hoffman (Mrs. Luverne), Morristown	1970-71	Kim Carlander Chanhassen	2022-23
*Marcy Schmidt (Mrs. Alois), Shakopee	1971-72	Deanna Meyer	2023-24
*Elizabeth Roberts (Mrs. Arthur), Faribault	1972-73	*Denotes Deceased	
*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		
*Millie Hansen (Mrs. Gerald), Winthrop	1977-78		

Third District American Legion Auxiliary Elaine Hein Award Winners

*Violet Forciea (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
Louise Hager, Elysian	2024

* Denotes Deceased

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 3RD DISTRICT HISTORY REPORT
Judy Ackerman, Department President
Patti Coleman, Department History Chair
Tamara Thayer, 3rd District President
Edna Thayer, 3rd District History Chair

Seventeen reports were received from 45 units in Third district. These units reported an amazing amount and variety of activities for Service, Not Self. I know some who did not report also had a lot to contribute. I can only wonder what the report would look like if we had 100% reporting. Sorry, I only have space to report some highlights and some unique activities.

Americanism: Flags dominated activity in this program. Kindergarten kids memorized the pledge from the first day of school in time to lead it on the Veteran's Day Assembly. There was flag education at schools and with adults, including flag etiquette. Thousands of flags were distributed. Flag coloring books were used and flag poster contests were held. Members participated in a national contest involving singing, "It's a Grand Old Flag." Flag retirement events were held. Also reported under Americanism was participation in the Americanism Essay contest, giving the Good Deed Awards and hosting a lunch for widows and widowers.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund: Donations were made to silent auctions, and cash was donated by the units, and by individuals.

Armed Forces Service Center: Some members worked as a member of the armed forces service team. Several units donated activity and/or comfort bags, as well as money.

Children and Youth: Many activities are done with/for children and youth in a variety of settings. A military child's table is set and the military child is honored in April, with the Table, with Purple-up events and in other ways. Easter egg hunts, Halloween spook trails, and visits with Santa are held. Good Deed and Hero awards are presented. One unit provided face paintings at a special needs children's Christmas party. Toys for Tots are gathered and members select names to sponsor from a Giving Tree. Working together with other youth groups is often done for example Girl Scouts helped make poppies and the unit in turn purchased Girl Scout cookies to donate to the food shelf for a summer Kid Friendly food program to provide food to needy children when school is not in session. Joint fund raisers with groups i.e. 4-H and FFA were held where the groups split the work and the profits. Youth attended the Camporee and other events at Legionville. An interesting program was called To Be Continued-----and was a program for suicide prevention and mental health among children.

Community Service: A wide variety of activities for community service included: food shelves, blood banks, Santa anonymous, family night out, library, Meals on Wheels, Adopt a Highway, Relay for Life, Christmas caroling, fishing with friends, weekly dances for people with disabilities, monthly dances for senior citizens, cleaning of graves, contributing winter coats and cold weather gear to schools, and supporting the special Olympics. Special help for veterans was given by sandbagging veteran's homes during a flood, and helping repair a veteran's home in New Orleans. Home-bound members were visited. One program involved efforts to prevent domestic violence and promote awareness of the problem and ways to help. Events and programs were done for people in assisted living and in senior centers, along with other community groups.

Education: Scholarships were promoted and given. One unit initiated a new program of presenting a \$1,000 scholarship to junior members who graduated in May, met the criteria, and became senior members Two were given in 2024. Several had a Dollars for Scholars program.

Programs involving school children included: Give 10 to education, Special treats/recognition for teachers and school staff i.e. apples, pizza, thank you cards, free omelets, assisting the Post with the oratorical contest, Purple-Up, Red Friday, giving military honor cords at graduation for those going into the service, promoting patriotism i.e. with a patriotic field trip to visit a Legion Post and/or the Veterans Memorial, using coloring books about the Military, flag, or Poppy.

Girls State: Many units sponsored a girl or more for Girls State. Her experiences were shared through news articles and various talks in the community including at Legion events.

History: Several reported special activities to honor Women during Women's History Month i.e. sponsoring a downtown banner, or giving special recognition at an event. To preserve history, one unit reframed photo displays along a hallway which showcased photos of past and current members. Juniors were mentored to keep records of their junior history. Minutes of meetings are recorded and saved.

Junior Activities: Units include juniors in their activities i.e. to actively help with poppies, fundraisers, and participating in parades. Some have a Little Miss Poppy. Earning poppy patches is encouraged.

Leadership: More experienced members mentor newer members with less experience. Several attended leadership workshops, heard speakers on various topics, and searched information from other sources. Members attended conferences & conventions for Dist., Dept. and National.

Legislation: Members attended Vets on the Hill to promote the legislative platform. Meet the Candidate forums were held. Voting was encouraged. Snacks and lunches were provided to the workers at the precincts on voting days. Some served as election judges. Monthly reports were given at meetings to alert members to current issues.

Membership: Members were encouraged to carry member applications with them to recruit new members. Member initiations were held. Many units pay dues for older members but there is a wide variety of who that includes, e.g. at what age does this start or does it depend on years of membership i.e. those with over 50 years of membership?

Memorial: Some units sit as a group at the funerals of members who died. Charters were draped. Some helped provide meals after funerals. Prayers were offered, memorials and sympathy cards were sent. Some unit members participate with the Honor Guards from the Post. Units work together with the Post to provide meaningful Memorial Day services at the cemeteries. Carver County has a Memorial Wall with a flag. When a Vet dies, the flag by the Wall is retired and placed on the casket and a new flag is placed on the Wall.

National Security: First responders and fire fighters were recognized/thanked in a number of ways, mostly involving food. The Be-The-One program was emphasized. One unit provided safety bags to children on Halloween with glow sticks in the bag. Talks to members included topics on identity theft, and keeping safe in winter. One unit mentioned the Invisible Wounds Project, highlighting "You are Not Alone". This supports suicide prevention and advocating for mental health.

Poppy: Many units made poppies due to the shortage, and thought of other ways to work the poppy program without using poppies. Several sent letters to all members and some businesses, promoting the program without enclosing any poppies and maybe just a poppy sticker. Two units spoke to third grade classes in different towns in May about the meaning of the poppy. One unit partners with the VFW for the program.

Public Relations: A variety of media was used for public relations such as Facebook, Twitter, emails, newspapers and magazines, radio, TV appearances, and signs and posters. Branding is encouraged. Some units

pay part of the cost of a t-shirt or even provide one for free when joining. One example of promoting the Legion was done in Forest Lake for 8 days. During the performances of the high school play, White Christmas, the school invited the auxiliary to set up displays in the lobby to give information about the Legion and auxiliary programs. White Christmas takes place during WW2.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation: Because a major goal of the auxiliary is to serve veterans, this program was the most active one with many activities reported. Forest Lake held a Vietnam Veterans Day which featured Ann Margret in person. During the war, she performed for the veterans overseas to entertain them. She was an actress in Grumpy Old Men filmed in MN. The club rooms were packed. Other activities included: Honor Flights, Quilts of Valor, buddy visits, care packages, Christmas gifts to veterans, Bingo at Veterans Homes, Visa cards to VSO to distribute to needy veterans at Thanksgiving and Christmas, burger baskets and desserts to veterans and auxiliary members in nursing homes, comfort kits for veterans undergoing chemo and/or radiation, Wreaths Across America, annual picnic for veterans' families and guests, promoting the deer hunt at Legionville for disabled veterans, supporting Believet to provide animals as support to veterans, holding drawings on veterans day for gifts to veterans, giving blankets to veterans in nursing homes, donating personal hygiene kits for vets at the St. Cloud VA and the St. Cloud Standdown. One unit hosts a Last Man's Banquet at which they also honor those who died that year as Heroes to Heaven. The Four Chaplains ceremony was done at several units and one unit decided to honor the chaplains by sending thank yous to area pastors. 3000 cancelled postage stamps were sent to the postal history foundation. The 3rd District president's project was Bringing Smiles to Veterans and a major part of this was providing 3 free dental clinics for veterans. These were held in Mankato, Rochester, and Burnsville, and highly supported by units and members in the district through donations, volunteering services, and providing dental care kits and food. Many monetary contributions were made to veterans' causes. A variety of creative fundraisers were held for this such as: pillow cleaning, Octoberfest, Booya meal, chili cookoff, Trivia night, Pub crawl, salad luncheon, medallion hunt with purchased buttons, Shot 'Til You Drop, and craft sales.

The following units received Certificates of Merit: (Listed in alphabetical order according to membership size.)

Under 50 members: Mahtomedi, New Germany, Stewart

51 to 100 members: Belle Plaine, Chanhassen, Silver Lake

101 to 200 members: Chaska, Elysian, Faribault, Hutchinson

201 and up members, Forest Lake

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: _____

Treasure report
2024-2025
Diane Albers



Hello Everyone!

This will be one of the final correspondences that you receive from me before my term of 3rd District Treasurer is over.

I want to Thank President Tamara Thayer for the honor of being her Treasurer and Finance Chairman. I was not sure what I was getting into, but I have enjoyed learning the ins and outs at the District Level.

I would like to leave you with some thoughts after my tenure at 3rd District.

The 3rd District has great individuals doing an excellent job. Because they care so much about the organization, they use their own money to get their jobs done for the district. With the increase in the Per Capita dues for this coming year, this will help remove the

financial burden put on these individuals. Please take time to Thank your 3rd District team members and tell them they are doing an amazing job.

At all the meetings that I have attended, both unit and district, the main topic has always been we need to maintain and increase membership. I understand that we need new members, or the Auxiliary will eventually cease to exist, however, we need to look internally at why our current members are not engaging and what is preventing new people from joining. Are we welcoming our new members by listening to their ideas? Are we keeping an open mind to changing the way things are done? Just because it has always been done one way, does not mean that it can't be changed or improved for the betterment of the organization. Every organization must change with the times, and I am sorry, we are not getting younger. So, I am asking all of you to keep an open mind and have your senior members take a step back in the leadership of your units, keep their criticism to themselves and let the newer generation in the door. I think you will be surprised at the results, and you might have a better unit because of it.

Now to the financials! 😊 We have 5 accounts at Old National Bank.

Our first account is the General Funds Account. This is the account that the per capita dues go into to run the district and this account matches the current budget for the district. As of 4/25/25 that balance in this account is \$3,056.74. The budget for this year is below. There are three columns, the first column is what we budgeted for this year, the actual column is what we have actually received/spent this year so far and the difference column is the difference between what we budgeted and what we actually received/spent.

The top part of the budget is the expected income for the year. If you take a look at the per capita line, you can see that we are \$1,702.00 short of expected. This is due to many units NOT paying their per capita as of 4/25/25. I have sent notices to these units.

The bottom part of the budget lists out what we expect to use this year to run the district. As you can see, we are projected to spend \$11,928.86 this year. Currently we have spent \$4,589.55 so that leave us with an expected \$7,339.31 to still disburse.

As you can see, our expected income was \$6,680.00 and our budgeted items totaled \$11,928.86 so that leaves us short \$5,248.86 for the year. Now we did have a balance of \$1,084.29 that was left over from last year and I did have to move money from savings in the amount of \$1,584.00 to cover some expenses so our actual money available for year to date is \$7646.29. We have only spent \$4,589.55 so that leaves a balance in our checking account of \$3,056.74

Our second account at Old National is what I am calling the protected funds. This account holds all the money donated for the Presidents project, the St Peter treatment center, the Hastings home, the Jr Presidents project, Jr events fund, plaques, and the emergency fund. This account currently has a balance of \$7,732.86. Tammy has done an excellent job of fundraising this year for her project and \$4,101.00 of this balance is for her president's project.

Our third account at Old National is our savings account and that balance is \$6,419.57. Our fourth account is our Emergency Fund CD with a current value of \$12,199.26 that matures on 5/24/25. And our fifth and final account is our General Fund CD with a current value of \$3,625.97 that mature on 5/24/25 as well.

The current value of all accounts as of 4/25/25 is \$33,034.40.

I want to again Thank Tammy for the honor of being of her Treasurer and Finance Chairman. Have a great year and keep up the great work.

Diane Albers – 3rd District Treasurer,
Finance Chairman – 2024/2025

Thank you, Diane!



**Third District - American Legion Auxiliary
Approved 2024 - 2025 Budget**

	Budget 2024 - 2025	Actual	Diff
Income:			
Balance from 2023 - 2024		\$1,084.29	
Transfer from savings		\$1,584.00	
Per capita for 2023-2024 Year (3340 members x \$2)	\$6,680.00	\$4,978.00	\$1,702.00
TOTAL INCOME:	\$6,680.00	\$7,646.29	\$1,702.00
Expense:			
Mileage and Per Diem Exec Meeting (Elysian)	\$585.75	\$503.14	\$82.61
Mileage and Per Diem Exec Meeting (Forest Lake)	\$658.92		\$658.92
1 Day Per Diem for District Convention	\$125.00		\$125.00
Mileage and Per Diem for District Chairmen/Representatives for the day of District Convention	\$863.76		\$863.76
Presidents Expense	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Family Gathering	\$500.00		\$500.00
Treasurer's Expense	\$150.00		\$150.00
Sgt-at-Arms Expense	\$200.00		\$200.00
Secretary's Expense	\$300.00		\$300.00
Membership Chairman Expense	\$150.00	\$49.77	\$100.23
Past Presidents Pin	\$110.00		\$110.00
Audit/Standing Rules Committee Per Diem	\$60.00		\$60.00
District Convention Room/Board for District President/Secretary	\$300.00		\$300.00
District Convention Banquet Tickets for District President Elect, Chaplain and Installing Officer	\$75.00	\$28.00	\$47.00
Distinguished Guests & Escort	\$74.00		\$74.00
Engraving of Plaques	\$70.00		\$70.00
Large Poppies (need about 125, \$18 doz + \$12 shipping) order 11 dozen	\$210.00		\$210.00
Certificates of Merit	\$130.00		\$130.00
Certificates of Awards (80.64, 11.99 shipping, tax 6.80)	\$99.43		\$99.43
History Book	\$40.00		\$40.00
Press Book	\$40.00		\$40.00
Prayer Book	\$40.00		\$40.00
Book of Annual Reports/Supplies	\$625.00		\$625.00
Special Honorees	\$340.00		\$340.00
2 Delegates to Natl Conv 2024 per diem	\$1,422.00	\$1,422.00	\$0.00
Poppy Program	\$170.00		\$170.00
Americanism Contest	\$150.00		\$150.00
Memory Book 2023-2024 Deanna's	\$90.00		\$90.00
Memory Book 2024-2025 Tamara's	\$115.00		\$115.00
Check Reorder	\$120.00	\$42.11	\$77.89
Membership Award	\$500.00	\$225.00	\$275.00
Secretary's Supplies	\$425.00		\$425.00
Leadership Workshop	\$300.00		\$300.00
Department Hon Jr. Pres Lunch/Gift*	\$40.00		\$40.00
Department Jr. Conf - Dist Jr Act Chair per diem	\$100.00		\$100.00
3rd Dist Hon Jr Pres per diem	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Dist. Jr. Conf./ Jr Conf. Prize Money	\$200.00		\$200.00
3rd Dist.Jr. Fun and Learning Day	\$300.00		\$300.00
Auxiliary Emergency Fund Fundraiser	\$50.00		\$50.00
Legion Social - website	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Misc Officer pins	\$0.00	\$119.53	(\$119.53)
Kim Carlander memory book	\$0.00	\$90.00	(\$90.00)
MNALA ALAMIS user fee		\$10.00	(\$10.00)
TOTAL GENERAL FUND Expense	\$11,928.86	\$4,589.55	\$7,339.31
Balance(should match checkbook)		\$3,056.74	

