American Legion Auxiliary of South Dakota
District 1
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National News

Highlights from National Director Ben Henricks

New eligibility language expands ALA membership: Delegates at The American Legion National Convention adopted new membership eligibility language for the ALA, expanding eligibility to additional family members. National Headquarters is updating membership and marketing materials to reflect the changes and help welcome newly eligible members into the Auxiliary.

New strategic plan adopted: Delegates at National Convention adopted the ALA's new strategic plan, establishing priorities that will guide our work in the years ahead. Built around Mission, Members, and Means, the plan provides a framework for strengthening our impact, supporting and growing membership, and ensuring the people and resources necessary to meet the mission.

Convention fundraising exceeds expectations: The Wall of Heroes raised more than $31,000 for the ALA Foundation Mission Endowment Fund, exceeding its $20,000 on-site goal. An additional$5,725 was raised for the Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund through the "Chance to Win a PUFL Membership" fundraiser at States Dinner.

ALA Girls State leaders coming to National Headquarters: For the first time, the ALA Girls State Leadership Conference will be held at National Headquarters Sept. 18–20, bringing leaders from across the country together to collaborate, share ideas, and strengthen ALA Girls State programs.

For the full report from Ben, please go to the State website at https://sdlegionaux.org/national-news

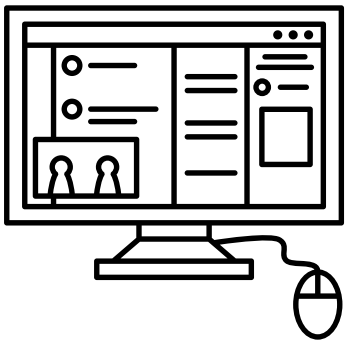
Department News

The Department President Patrice Sorensen is currently traveling across the state attending Fall District Meetings, connecting with members, sharing department goals, and encouraging participation in upcoming programs and activities. These visits provide valuable opportunities to hear from local units, celebrate accomplishments, and discuss priorities for the year ahead. If you would like her to visit your Unit, please don't hesitate to reach out to her.

Program Chairs also participated in the meetings by providing updates on their respective programs and initiatives. Members received information on current projects, upcoming events, and opportunities to support the mission and objectives of the Auxiliary. Their reports highlighted the dedication and hard work taking place at all levels.

ALA MIS system is back online and available for use. While the system has been restored, staff continue to work through a few remaining glitches to improve functionality and ensure a smooth user experience. Members are encouraged to be patient as adjustments are made and to report any issues they encounter.

The South Dakota American Legion Auxiliary website is being updated nearly daily. The new 2026-2027 Program Guide has been uploaded. The Department Policies have also been updated and the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules will follow closely. Every member is encouraged to check back to the website often for any new updates.





Unit	District Dues	Paid?
Bell Fourche	$2.10	
Bison	$10.85	
Box Elder	$14.70	
Buffalo	$14.70	
Bullhead	$0.70	
Dupree	$9.10	
Eagle Butte	$25.20	
Faith	$7.00	
Isabel	$24.85	
Lead	$8.75	
Lemmon	$20.30	
Little Eagle		
McIntosh	$15.05	
McLaughlin	$1.40	
Piedmont	$43.40	
Rock Creek	$4.55	
Spearfish	$26.95	
Sturgis	$19.25	
Timber Lake	$15.75	

District News

As we continue working together to support our programs and strengthen our Auxiliary, I encourage all Units to schedule a Unit visit with me. These visits are a wonderful opportunity to share President Patrice's theme, your successes, discuss challenges, and learn more about the great work being done in your communities. I look forward to meeting with members, hearing your ideas, and celebrating your accomplishments.

Our recent District Meeting provided valuable updates, fellowship, and inspiration as we continue our mission of serving veterans, military families, and our communities. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the meeting's success. We had 16 members and 7 Units were represented.

Looking ahead, preparations are beginning for our annual Christmas Gift Shop. This special event helps bring holiday joy to children and families and is always a highlight of the season. We appreciate the volunteers and supporters who help make this event possible. Set up at Fort Meade will be on November 15 starting at 10:00am. Please reach out to Joanann Georginger if you have any questions.

We are also excited about our upcoming Christmas Party, which will provide an opportunity for members to gather, celebrate the season, and enjoy fellowship with Veterans at Fort Meade. We hope you will join us as we celebrate the Christmas season.

Thank you for all you do throughout the year. Your dedication and commitment continue to make a positive difference in our organization and communities.



9.29.26			MEMBERSHIP-2027			MANDATORY OBLIGATIONS				****	REHABILITATION				CHILDREN AND YOUTH			PROGRAMS									
District 1	Unit #	Unit	Membership Goal	Membership Credit Available	Current Membership	National Convention	Quarters $0.25 per Member	Bond $6 per Unit	Department Convention	Convention Proceedings Book	Veterans Care	Christmas Party	Christmas Gift Shop	Creative Arts	Donations	Scholarships	Child Welfare Foundation	Auxiliary Emergency Fund	Juniors	Past Presidents Parley	National Presidents Project	Spirit of Youth Scholarship	Department Presidents Project	Legion Band	VAR Christmas Gift Shop Postage	Total
	32	Belle Fourche	6		0																					$ -
	255	Bison	31	$ (28.00)	0																					$ -
	315	Box Elder	42	$ 32.00	4																					$ -
	147	Buffalo	42	$ 13.00	7																					$ -
	82	Bullhead	2		0																					$ -
	124	Dupree	26		5																					$ -
	191	Eagle Butte	72	$ 56.00	16																					$ -
	106	Faith	20		4																					$ -
	120	Isabel	71	$ 7.00	3																					$ -
	31	Lead	25	$ 4.00	5	$ 8.00	$ 7.00	$ 6.00	$ 5.00																	$ 26.00
	66	Lemmon	58	$ 44.00	1	$ 11.00	$ 13.75	$ 6.00	$ 15.00		$ 50.00	$ 30.00	$ 500.00		$ 20.00	$ 5.00				$ 10.00			$ 50.00			$ 710.75
	239	Little Eagle	0		0																					$ -
	139	McIntosh	43	$ 2.00	7																					$ -
	121	McLaughlin	4		2																					$ -
	311	Piedmont	124	$ 5.00	41																					$ -
	324	Rock Creek	13	$ -	0																					$ -
	164	Spearfish	77	$ 32.00	9																					$ -
	33	Sturgis	55	$ 24.00	5																					$ -
	83	Timber Lake	45	$ -	19																					$ -
		Total	**756**		**128**	$ 19.00	$ 20.75	$ 12.00	$ 20.00	$ -	$ 50.00	$ 30.00	$ 500.00	$ -	$ 20.00	$ 5.00	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 10.00	$ -	$ -	$ 50.00	$ -	$ -	**$ 736.75**

7.24.26 Isabel used $5 credit towards new member

9.21.26 Isabel given $7 credit for online dues payments

9.21.26 Spearfish given $5 credit for online dues payments

ANNOUNCING

AMERICAN LEGION

AUXILIARY



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American Legion Auxiliary.

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amazon

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American Legion Auxiliary

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https://smileassociate.com/alahq

See video on website (Coming soon) on how to do it

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