

More honors and awards from the 2015 Department Convention



BOYS STATE POSTS HONORED -- Posts that sponsored a Boys Stater who won one of the major award or elections during Boys State this year were honored with plaques at the convention. From left: Department Commander Peggy Moon; Bruce Kottom, Buffalo Post 270; Gloria Burt, Wayzata Post 118; John Grams, St. Paul North End Post 474; Ray Turnquist, Anoka Post 102; Wes Thompson, Waite Park Post 428.



EAGLE SCOUT AWARD -- Cody O'Halloran, Olivia, was honored as Eagle Scout of the Year. He was presented with a plaque by Department Commander Peggy Moon and Boys Scout Chair Tom Hallett.



GOLD BRIGADE -- John Lenvik of Apple Valley Post 1776 was awarded the Gold Brigade plaque and jacket as the state's top recruiter. He brought in 71 new members. He was ranked fourth nationally. From left are Pat Logan, Third District Commander Duane Anderson, Lenvik and Commander Moon.



TOP DISTRICT IN STATE MEMBERSHIP -- The Fourth District was honored with a Tony Oliva signed bat for having the best percentage of goal in this year's membership competition. From left: Pat Logan, Department Vice Commander Dennis DeLong, District Membership Director Mickey Ostrum, District Commander Dan Williams, Commander Moon.



PREMIER RACE WINNER -- An American flag made out of baseball bats was presented to the Sixth District for winning the Premier Race. From left are Membership Director Pat Logan, Department Vice Commander Arne Gynild, Department Vice Commander Glenn Mueller, District Membership Director Jim Lucas and Commander Peggy Moon.



THIRD PLACE IN MEMBERSHIP -- Tenth District was honored for its third place finish in membership. From left: Pat Logan, Commander Peggy Moon, District Commander Tom Sanders and District Membership Director Bill Johnson.



TOP ORATOR -- Caroline Donaldson of Eden Prairie was honored as Minnesota's top orator in the annual Oratorical Contest. She also made the semi-finals at the national Oratorical Contest. She is between Commander Peggy Moon and Oratorical Chair Tess Davis.



SELECTIVE SERVICE DIRECTOR -- Bill Barbknecht, Minnesota's new Alternate National Executive Committeeman, gave a report on Selective Service. He was named the volunteer state director of the agency in May.

VA's McDonald answers questions on status, future of agency

VA Secretary Robert McDonald visited The American Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis on July 23. During an interview, McDonald spoke about the challenges VA faces, and its progress in technology and patient care.

Q: How does your experience in corporate leadership help you lead the VA?

A: The leadership in the private sector and government are the same. If you look across my core leadership beliefs that I have codified over the last 30 years or so, they are the same. They are about leading a purpose-inspired life, the idea that everybody wants to succeed. I've never met anybody in the world who wants to fail. These things are the same in government and the private sector. I think the difference is that in government the role of purpose and inspiration is greater. You can't have a better purpose than to take care of the veterans in this country. One percent of people have protected 100 percent of people in this country. In that sense, it is not difficult to find purpose and leverage that when I get groups together. Always start with the purpose. Always start with the values. And always start with the amazing history of our country and VA.

Q: Is VA too big and unwieldy to change in order to address the problems with patient access, etc. Why or why not?

A: I don't think so at all. In fact, it is my mission – and

the mission of the employees of the VA – to be the most customer-friendly organization in government. This is a different concept in government. It is one I am bringing from the private sector. For the best customer service organizations in the world, size doesn't matter. What matters is the culture of how you deal with customers. What we are trying to do as part of the MyVA transformation is to put the customer first. In fact, our very first strategy is to give the veteran a better experience. To do that we are learning from the private sector, we are learning from Disney, we are learning from Ritz-Carlton, we are learning from Starbucks. We also know what's going on (with complaints). So we are training people in good customer service. The second important point is that we have to do a better job of caring for our employees. There are not good customer service companies in the world that have had relationships with their employees. When I arrived at the VA, I discovered a not very positive relationship with employees. We weren't meeting with union leaders. We weren't asking for or giving responsibility to staff to make the change. I would guess that if you looked at Fortune's list of best companies and matched it with the list of best places to work, you would find it to be pretty congruent.

Q: Recently LaVerne Council took over technology office leadership at VA. In her words, she plans "to

bring core capabilities to the VA and create a fiscally responsible organization led by employees that have the ability to quickly drive to the expected results." What are the expected results and what is the path to get there?

A: Better veterans experience and better employee experience. Internal support systems which help employees get the job done. Right now our internal support systems, especially IT, are broken. Creating a culture of continuous improvement. Taking advantage of strategic partnerships. We have not been a very good strategic partner. There is a lot of good will for veterans in this country, and we need to take advantage of that. Those are the outcomes we're looking for in terms of MyVA. Relative to IT specifically, I have been recruiting LaVerne virtually since I became secretary. Now that she is in place, we have a big transformation in IT to make. We are the second largest department in government, yet we have one of the lowest – probably the lowest – per capital IT budget in government. When I asked David Shulkin, our new undersecretary for health, what a medical system spends on IT, he told me they spend about 3 percent of their budget. At the VA, we spend about 1.5 percent – Congress gives us 1.5 percent. We have to more than double our investment in IT to include enterprise systems like our financial management system.

Listening Post

News from around the State



HAYFIELD STOP -- The First District American Legion Riders Legacy run stopped at Hayfield Post 330. Jerry McCloud presented a check to Dennis Lewison for the scholarship fund.



STILL ACTIVE IN TYLER -- Les Sanderson, 94, recently created in his woodshop a new exterior sign for Tyler Post 185. He is still active in the post.



WILLMAR CERTIFICATES -- Willmar Post 167 provided certificates and pins for longtime members. From left: Frank Wilkins, Delloyd Torkelson, Robert Jacobson, Vernon Flaig, and Patrick Curry.



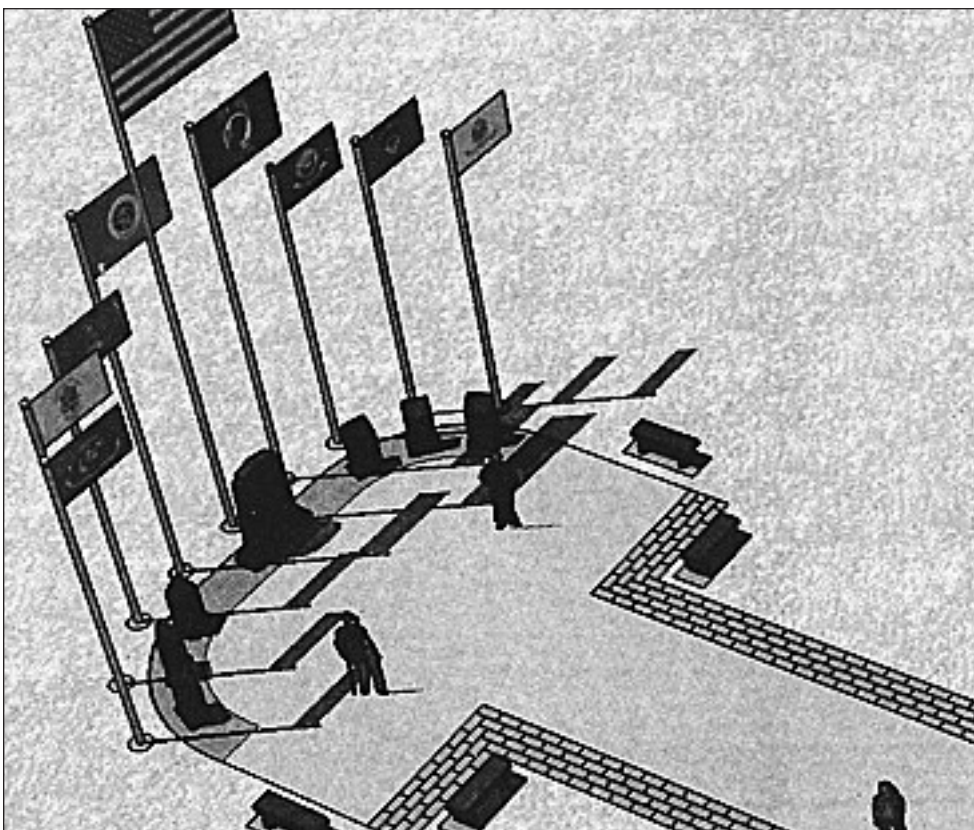
RIDERS IN EMMONS -- The American Legion Riders in the First District made a run that collected over \$11,000. They received a check from Arne Troe when they stopped at Emmons Post 317.



AVOCA PRESENTATION -- Avoca Post 576 Commander Denis Schneider presented a 70-year certificate to Stanley Schaeffer.



BACKUS PICNIC -- Tuck-a-Way resort provided a fishing outing for local vets and Backus Post 368 provided the picnic afterwards.



PAYNESVILLE MEMORIAL -- A new veteran's memorial is being planned for Paynesville Post 271. It will be done as an Eagle Scout project at the post.

Membership Chart

As of July 22, 2015

District	2016 Goal	Total 2015	Total 2016	Percent of Goal	Same Date '14
1	9,627	9,569	2,221	23.07	2,178
2	7,779	7,695	1,061	13.64	932
3	12,165	12,100	2,468	20.29	2,193
4	2,561	2,537	428	16.71	699
5	2,829	2,806	668	23.61	516
6	12,485	12,414	2,768	22.17	2,679
7	6,997	6,919	1,289	18.42	1,266
8	4,630	4,589	870	18.79	882
9	7,332	7,167	1,764	24.39	1,687
10	10,964	10,910	2,216	20.21	2,352
At-large	2,663	2,661	389	14.61	129
Totals	79,932	79,367	16,142	20.19	15, 513

MORE FROM THE CONVENTION



Commander Peggy Moon said that during the year traveling with President Chris Ronning that she never knew what Chris was going to say.



President Chris Ronning speaks softly and carries a big stick.



Alt. NECman Marland Ronning presented his wife with a little bauble to commemorate her year as president.



National Vice President Lori Skallerud and President Chris Ronning placed a wreath at the Department Memorial Service.



The Junior Auxiliary leadership paid a visit to the Legion Convention at Redwood Falls. Honorary Junior President Jules Efta introduced Eva Burket of Bellview, who earned all her patches for the year, and Honorary First Vice President Kiana Coleman-Woods.



Donna Arends found out she was elected second vice president at the Auxiliary Convention.



The Auxiliary Bulletin

No. 16-1

President Sandy Fredrickson

August 2015

Secretary Sandie Deutsch

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

The President's Column

By
Sandy
Fredrickson



A new year, a new beginning carrying forward our goals for the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota.

This year we will be "Serving Those Who Served." We will continue the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary 2014-2019 Centennial Plan—

Goal 1 Attain a Million Members

Goal 2 Create an Internal Culture of goodwill

Goal 3 Develop Leadership at All Levels

Goal 4 Strengthen Departments and Units

Goal 5 with The American Legion, Raise Awareness to Build Brand Loyalty.

Your Department Staff, Department team of officers, Department Executive Committee members, all Department Chairmen and committee members have taken an oath to "embrace" this mission. All members have been asked to foster a Culture of Good Will. This plan was voted by the members two years ago at National Convention. This is real. If we all "embrace" the plan, we will succeed.

We have been hearing over and over how our organization has declined in membership—we must be realistic, the loss of members is not just due to death, the majority of losses are not being able to retain our memberships. Our National organization has worked hard trying to realize why, why?—45% of new members drop out after three years of membership. The most concerning problem our organization has is "Civility."

Your Department membership chairman, Jean Walker, will be working with each and every member retaining and attaining the goals set by our National membership team. Ladies, it is time we all do our part and ask one—just one—to join us in this wonderful organization.

If our veterans are your passion as they are mine, it's my hope your strengths, ability to communicate, to listen, and not blame will help resolve issues within our units, districts, and yes, our department. Before you say something, ask yourself; is it necessary, is it kind, and/or is it true? We can all commit to a common goal and move forward. If this happens and others see it; these others; will want to be a part of our organization—the American Legion Auxiliary. Our organization will be around another 100 years.

To all who read this, I promise to each of you—be assured the team effort, the understanding that all members are equal (it doesn't matter what title you have -- we are all members), the negative attitudes will see and know. We can and will turn this organization around. We must learn to agree to disagree, and then let it go. This year there will be no room for negativity or bickering. Indifferences will be worked through, all ideas will be heard (good listeners) and some might even be acted on! Negativity will be left at the door. We will work hard but we will also have fun.

The core values of our organization are predicated on our founding purposes:

-- Commitment to the four founding principles: Justice, Freedom, Democracy, Loyalty

-- Services to God, our country, its veterans and their families.

-- Tradition of patriotism and citizenship

-- Personal integrity and family values

-- Respect for the uniqueness of individual members

-- Truthful, open communications in dealing with the public and our members

-- Adherence to adopted policies and rules

We must all remember everything we do, every program we work and grow has members tied to it somehow! We are all trustworthy, respected, and valued members.

You will be reminded many times this year—the word TEAM does not have an I in it; therefore I won't be doing

Fredrickson is President of Department for 2015-16

On Saturday, July 18th, the year of "Our Veterans - Past, Present and Future" under the wonderful leadership of President Chris Ronning, came to its conclusion and became yet another page in the history of the American Legion Auxiliary.

The 96th annual Department Convention was held at the Jackpot Junction Casino/Hotel, hosted by The American Legion Post and Unit 38 of Redwood Falls, approximately 250 Delegates, Alternates and Guests representing 123 Units hearing the various reports and conducting the business of the Auxiliary over the three days of the convention. Another busy year of programs and activities carried on by you, our Unit members, had come to its conclusion.

Our special congratulations to newly elected Department President Sandra Fredrickson, Department First Vice President Carol Kottom, and Department Second Vice President Donna Arends who assumed their duties at the close of the Department Convention.

Our newly elected Department President Fredrickson has chosen "Serving Those Who Served" as her theme for the 2015-16 administrative year. Her symbol is the Eagle.

The ratification and election of 34 delegates and 16 alternates to the 2015 National Convention in Baltimore, Maryland brought the business portion of the convention to a close.

Chris Ronning will serve as our Delegation Chairman with Shirley Frederick representing us as our National Executive Committeewoman at the National Convention.

Our appreciation and congratulations are given to Chris for her dedicated service as Department President this Auxiliary year. She traveled to all areas of the state and did her best to honor all of her invitations. Chris is very dedicated to our organization and serving and supporting our Veterans. Chris really made an effort to keep things fun and uplifting for all members.

SPECIAL THANKS

Our special thanks to Jeannette Mertens, Auxiliary Convention General Chairman, and the members of the Redwood Falls Unit and Post 38 as well as the Second District for their excellent preparations and arrangements in hosting the 2015 Department Convention. Their many hours of planning were reflected in the smooth operation of our 96th annual convention. Thank you for your warm hospitality and for making this convention such an outstanding one.

The 2016 Department Convention will be held in Rochester, Minnesota with the Rochester American Legion

it—we will do it and it is Our organization, not mine.

This is the year of the member and Unit. We need input from each of you as to what it is that makes your unit special (how are you succeeding?) We need each unit to take a look at itself and ask how we are doing. Why are we doing it? What can we do to make changes? How can we entertain enthusiasm and interest in our Unit? How can we involve others, younger or older to get involved?

This will be my question to each of you as I travel the state this year. I will be taking invites first come, first served— but also know I may just drop in. We need to let you know just because we are department officers we are no more than a unit officer—We are in this together! Know we care and want you to be successful. We want you to know there are many resources available to your unit (at no cost), they are online @ alaforveterans.org.

It is you, I say you, which make the grass roots of our organization reality. It is you that make a difference in the lives of our veterans, their families and our communities.

Feel free to contact any member of the team, invite any member of the team, and know we will all work this year by "Serving Those Who Served." We will "Keep the Promise."

Remember this month is: Department Junior Fun weekend, July 31, Aug 1 & 2 @ Legionville. Mom, grandma, bring a junior—Come see our juniors grow!

Until next month, God bless those serving our country, keeping us free, God bless each of you, and God Bless America.

Family #92 hosting. We look forward to see all of you there.

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

At the Department Convention President Ronning was to presented her special "Presidents Awards of Excellence" to those Unit members in each of the following programs. These awards were based on the Unit's annual report and the activities it carried on under the program.

The recipients were:

Americanism – Ivey Vonderharr, Madison Unit 158

Children and Youth – Jean Jackson, Princeton Unit 216

History – Cynthia Wenz, Chaska Unit 57

Junior Activities – Bev Johnson, Warren Unit 27

Community Service - Roberta Chapman, St. Paul Park Unit 98

Education - Marie Goede, Plainview Unit 179

Past Presidents Parley - Jan Reiter & Sandy Phillips, Anoka Unit 102

Legislation – Peggy Carlson, Cokato Unit 209

Memorial – Barb Nelson, Chaska Unit 57

National Security – Pam Schlagel, Princeton Unit 216

Poppy - Patti Bjorklund, Chaska Unit 57

Public Relations – Cheryl Nymann, Plainview Unit 179

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Dolly Zitur, Brainerd Unit 255

Leadership - Cheryl Nymann, Plainview Unit 179

OTHER DEPARTMENT WINNERS

Department Poppy Chairman Mary Kuperus, held two Poppy contests at the 2015 Department Convention. The following winners were announced.

Bouquet in a Vase

1st place – Sam Wickert, Delano Unit 377, 10th District

2nd place – Judy Nelson, Glenville Unit 264, 1st District

3rd place – Teri Richardson, Mahtomedi Unit 507, 3rd District

Peoples Choice – Connie Anderson, Rosetown Unit 542, 4th District

Butterfly Garden Basket

1st place - Betty Painter, Eagle Lake Unit 617, 2nd District

2nd place - Pam Gades/Pat Kieffer, Morris Unit 29, 7th District

3rd place - Jamie Cassavant, Crookston Unit 20, 9th District

Peoples Choice – Lake Crystal Unit 294 - 2nd District

Chairman Mary would like to thank everyone who brought entries to the department convention. It was a very hard job to judge as all entries were gorgeous.

The Book of Annual Reports contains a list of the trophies and awards that were presented at our department convention. You may want to add the above contest winners to your Unit's copy of the Book of Annual Reports.

Congratulations to all who received a trophy or an award in recognition of your outstanding work in the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary for the 2014-15 year.

BOOK OF ANNUAL REPORTS

Every Unit has or will receive a copy of the 2014-15 Department Book of Annual Reports, either at the Department Convention in Redwood Falls or by mail. This book belongs to the Unit and should be shared with all your members. If you would like your own personal copy, they are available from the Department Office. Just give us a call and we will get one to you.

This book contains not only the reports of the Department Officers, Chairmen and District Presidents for this year of "Our Veterans - Past, Present and Future", it also contains a copy of the Department, District and Unit Constitutions and Standing Rules.

DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS

The following Department President's appointments for the 2015-16 Auxiliary year of "Serving Those Who Served" were approved by the Department Executive

Auxiliary Bulletin

Continued from Preceding Page

Committee:

- Americanism – Jessie Hoppe
- Children and Youth – Donna Arends
- Community Service – Zandra Kessler
- Education – Jean Horack
- Finance - AnnaMae Warnier, Chairman
Deborah Rottman
Beverly Otterness
Carol Barbknecht
Becky Nelson
- Girls State –Marsha Bible, Chairman
Peggy Tesdahl, Director
Norma Tramm, Educational Director
Jessie Hoppe, Americanism
Amelia Tesdahl, Committee Member
Sandy Wersal, Committee Member
- Junior Activities – Robin Dorf
- Leadership – Mary Hendrickson
- Legislation – Margee Keller
- Membership – Jean Walker
- Memorial/Chaplain – Cindy Nelson
- National Security – Chris Ronning
- Parliamentarian – Lori Skallerud
- Past Presidents Parley - Shirley Frederick
- Poppy - Donna Redepening
- Public Relations – Michelle Leonard
- Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Carol Kottom, Chairman
- Service to Veterans - Vida Bacon
Gift Shop – Sally Strasser, Chairman
Raleen Tolzmann, Committee Member
- Audit Committee – Jeannette Mertens, Chairman,
Pat Ecker and Louise Kleiboer
- Special Appointments:
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Pam Hoshal
Armed Forces Center – Marge Machgan
Memory Book – Diane Hayes
Brain Science Foundation – Sue Nunnelee
Diane Sullivan
Joanie Bratland

- Hospital/Home Representatives --
- Fargo VA - Carolyn Albertson
- Fergus Falls Veterans Home – Doris LaFayette
- Hastings Veterans Home – Darlene Wondra
- Luverne Veterans Home – Judy Kumerow
- Minneapolis Veterans Home – Sandy Gibson
- Minneapolis VA - Mary Ann Davis
- Silver Bay Veterans Home - Phyllis Mealey
- Sioux Falls VA - Gloria Lindquist
- St. Cloud VA – Jan Benson

Our best wishes to each of you as you assume the responsibilities of leadership that you have taken on through the programs and activities of the American Legion Auxiliary this 2015-16 year.

MEMBERSHIP PACKETS

The 2015/2016 membership packets will be mailed to your Unit Membership Chairman provided we had received an officers' list from your Unit. If no Membership Chairman was listed, we will send it to the Unit Treasurer. If your Unit did not turn in an officers list to the Department Office, then we are holding your 2016 cards until we receive the required officers list. We are still in need of 40 Unit Officer Lists - you know who you are!!

Be certain to read the 2015/2016 "Minnesota Guide to Membership" that will accompany your membership cards for instructions. The transmittal forms will be available electronically and on our website (mnala.org) after August 4. Both current and past due dues will be submitted on the same form. The 2015/2016 transmittals are ORANGE, please dispose of any OLD forms. If you have any questions on how to process your membership, please contact the department office.

If you are in need of additional membership supplies they are available from the department office. An order form was included in your membership packet listing items available.

2016 DUES NOTICES

Just a reminder the National organization will be sending out the first dues' notices by September 15th this year. Members don't have to wait until they receive a notice to pay their dues. Please make that personal contact with your members reminding them their 2016 membership dues are due and payable now. Let's get those dues collected early this year and get back to the top of the rankings where we belong! It is in the works this year that you will be able to pay your Auxiliary dues online. Further information will be forthcoming.

LEGIONNAIRE AUXILIARY PAGES

Looking forward to the 2015-2016 year, let's make a point to share some of the Unit Happenings, Big Events, Big Ideas. Does your Unit have a "Wall of Honor?" How about sharing a picture, a story of how it came about. Honoring their service, let's share how it is done. Submit



2015-16 LEADERSHIP TEAM -- Following the conclusion of the 2015 convention at Redwood Falls, the 2015-16 Department and district officers had their official portrait taken. From left, front: First Vice President Carol Kottom, President Sandy Fredrickson, Second Vice President Donna Arends. In back: First District President Patricia Miner, Adams Unit 146; Second District President Darlene Breamer, Minnesota Lake Unit 287; Third District President Karla Otterness, Winsted Unit 407; Fourth District President Connie Anderson, Roseville Unit 542; Fifth District President Julie Martin, Minneapolis Unit 440; Sixth District President Lynn Spilman, Park Rapids Unit 212; Seventh District President Cheryl Schauman, Cosmos Unit 126; Eighth District President JoLynn Detlefsen, Two Harbors Unit 109; Ninth District President Linda Gibson, Moorhead Unit 21; Tenth District President Dawne Juhl, Excelsior Unit 259

your photo and story to Sandie in the Department office, let's share ideas and HONOR THEIR SERVICE together. Items can be emailed to sandie@mnala.org or deptoffice@mnala.org.

DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA AUXILIARY WEBSITE – mnala.org

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

THANKS FROM CHRIS

I wish to thank everybody that attended the 2015 Department Convention to make it a very successful event. This is one that I will remember for the rest of my life. Thank you to everyone that helped in making the Convention such a success as we worked together for "Our Veterans - Past, Present and Future."

2015 FALL CONFERENCE

Our annual Fall Conference will be held at Breezy Point in Pequot Lakes, October 23-24, 2015. More detailed information will be in next month's Legionnaire and on our Department website.

SECRETARY SANDIE'S NOTES

Well, I can't believe another year has come and gone at the office and what an interesting year it turned out to be. With our Department Treasurer and bookkeeper leaving last October for greener pastures, Jan and I went it alone for a couple of months, with her taking on all membership and me taking on all bookkeeping - we made it. January brought Julie Deneffe to our office and she has been a wonderful addition. We are looking for getting through August Workshop, National Convention and our budgeting process - then on to Fall Conference. We have a busy few months ahead but never too busy to help any of you with questions and/or issues you may have. It was such a pleasure to see so many of you at Department Convention - I am just sorry that I didn't have much time to visit. I would like to thank my two New London BFF's for another "surprise" bag. I have learned to carry a small purse but sometimes they somehow fill that up too. Well - next time we chat I will have lost my son to his fiancé, not quite sure how this old heart is going to take it. Enjoy the rest of your summer - remember December is just down the road LOL (in computer language).

NEW OFFICERS

Elections were held and appointments were ratified and following will be leading your Auxiliary for 2015/2016:
 Department President Sandra Fredrickson
 Department First Vice President Carol Kottom
 Department Second Vice President Donna Arends
 National Executive Committeewoman Chris Ronning
 Alternate NEC Shirley Frederick
 Department Secretary Sandie Deutsch
 Department Treasurer Jan Lauby

- Department Chaplain Cindy Nelson
- Department Historian Vicki Bibeau
- Department Parliamentarian Lori Skallerud
- First District President Patricia Miner, Adams Unit 146
- Second District President Darlene Breamer, Minnesota Lake Unit 287
- Third District President Karla Otterness, Winsted Unit 407
- Fourth District President Connie Anderson, Roseville Unit 542
- Fifth District President Julie Martin, Minneapolis Unit 440
- Sixth District President Lynn Spilman, Park Rapids Unit 212
- Seventh District President Cheryl Schauman, Cosmos Unit 126
- Eighth District President JoLynn Detlefsen, Two Harbors Unit 109
- Ninth District President Linda Gibson, Moorhead Unit 21
- Tenth District President Dawne Juhl, Excelsior Unit 259



OLDEST MEMBER? 106-year-old member Ella Anderson of Kerkhoven Unit 223 is surrounded by members of her unit on her birthday. She joined in singing hymns and doing the Lord's Prayer.



20,000 HOURS -- Mary Ann Davis, center, is shown receiving her 20,000 Hours Award on June 18 from the Minneapolis VAMC.

Canadian Islands
August 23-September 2, 2015

Tour Includes:

- 4-Seasons Tour Director, Joyce Langerud
- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- 10 Nights accommodations and 19 Meals
- Gaming at the CASION DE CHARLEVIOX
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- 4-Seasons Tour Director, Joyce Langerud
- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- 4 nights accommodations and 7 meals
- Branson Trail of Lights
- Steamboat Arabia Museum
- 6 shows: Six Christmas Show, The Bretts, The Dutton Family, Clay Cooper, and the Hughes Brothers Holiday Show

Double \$719.00 per person

Washington D.C.
September 16-24, 2015

Tour Includes:

- Escorted by 4-Seasons Tour Director, Joyce Langerud
- Deluxe Motor Coach Transportation
- 14 Meals: 8 breakfasts, 6 dinners
- Two full day guided tours of Washington D.C.
- Admission to George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens
- Tour feature: WWII Memorial, Capitol Hill, Embassy Row, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Smithsonian, and more!

Double \$1,059.00 per person

Autumn in New England
September 29-October 7, 2015

Tour Includes:

- 4-Seasons Tour Director, Sue Barber
- Flights between Minneapolis and Boston
- 8 Nights quality accommodations and 15 Meals
- City Tour of Boston, Portland, Hyannis, and Martha's Vineyard
- Tour of the House of Seven Gables
- Visit the resort town of Kennebunkport, Maine
- Ride the Cog Railway to Mt. Washington Summit

Double \$2,599.00 per person

Smoky Mountains
October 5-12 2015

Tour Includes:

- 4-Seasons Tour Director, Joyce Langerud
- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- 7 nights hotel accommodations and 13 Meals
- Shows include: Grand Ole Opry, Blackwoods Variety Show, Country Tonite, Smith Family and Smoky Mountain Opry
- All day guided tour of Smoky Mountains National Park
- Dollywood Theme Park
- Free time in Historic Downtown Gatlinburg
- Gateway Arch in St. Louis, MO

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