



American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Minnesota
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History

March/April 2018

Ladies, this is it! Our American Legion Auxiliary year ran from April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018. If you're old school, it's time to sharpen your pencil. If you're a techie start exercising your finger, because it's time to write your Unit and District reports. I am dreaming of 100% reporting from our Minnesota Units and all 10 Districts.

If you haven't been taking notes all year, then you need to start collecting your information now. Try looking in the secretary minutes, treasurers register and your scrapbooks to help you remember events that have occurred.

There are many ways to write your history. You can write them by the month like a diary, or by what your Unit participated in, under the appropriate chairmanships.

Remember to include:

- What your Unit has done to enhance the lives of our veterans, military and their family.
- Has a person stepped forward to be an advocate either by supporting our veterans or perusing our legislators?
- Has your Unit done anything to educate our youth, communities and government.

Please take a moment to write your history something that is a routine to your unit might inspire others.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact your District Historian or myself.

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March is Women's History Month. Historians/ Presidents, what are your plans to honor our great women who have lead this country or our organization? This is our opportunity to share, celebrate and educate our unit members on the accomplishments of our past auxiliary members or ways to honor them. If recognizing one of our District or Department Past President, be sure to ask the question, "What is their why?"

- make an educational board and give a presentation.
- make a power point presentation
- Interview a senior member, record it with your cell phone
- Look up information on the internet or read past minutes and write a paragraph on a past president.

You might also like to recognize our dual members. Use your imagination and do something. Then record it in your report.



History Project First, I want to thank all the Units and individuals who have donated to the History project. Kim Carlander, our Third District Historian, has been working with Images of the Past, from Stillwater, and has several photos finished. They are beautiful. Thank you, Kim. Unfortunately, we have more work to do and display cases that need to be built by Veterans, at the Hasting Veterans Home. **We still need donations from all Units, to make this project work.**

I also want to thank Renee Berscheid, our Sixth District Historian. She did an interview with Past District President, Doris Peterson (1973/1974). It was nice to see Doris' past programs and the changes that have been made through time. Wonderful job Renee.

Remember History will only be remembered by others if you take the time to write it, record it or photograph it.

Karla Otterness
Department of Minnesota Historian 2017/2018