 DISTRICT 11 News Letter

November 1, 2021

 Vicky Thompson, President

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Theme: Remember, Honor & Respect our Veterans

Symbol: Flag

**SNOW ALREADY ON NOVEMBER 1ST!!! -** Winter is just around the corner. Hopefully, we will have more “fall” weather before the heavy snow falls.

**FALL ROUND-UP** - Fall Round-Up was held in Deshler on October 16, 2021, with 22 Auxiliary members (one guest from District 10) and 6 Legionnaires in attendance. Information was shared by Vicki Ozenbaugh, Department Vice President (on behalf of Department President Barb Meyer); Deb Albers, National Jr. Activities Chairman and Department Community Service Chairman; Sharon Brozovsky, Department Jr. Activities Chairman; Kimberly Gurley, Department Membership Chairman; Loree Hendrickson, Department Leadership Chairman; Alice Vieselmeyer, Department Service to Veterans; and Lisa Moore, Department Secretary/Treasurer.

Some of the highlights: Department President’s project – Double Down for Dollars Days, Nebraska Auxiliary – 100th Anniversary, we are a “Family”, Unit Member Community Service Award (new), Omaha will be the site of the Junior Northwestern Division meeting on April 2, 2022, Junior Activities handbook was revised in 2020 (it can be ordered or viewed on-line), Nebraska is leading in membership in the Northwest Division, 25 door hangers are needed for the G.I. Med Center – a good project to do with your Juniors (no tray favors), the Jr. Department President’s theme is “Giving back to Veterans one book at a time”. The Jr. Department Convention will be April 9, 2022, in St. Paul.

The deadline for History Books, Prayer Books and Publicity Books is February 1, 2022. Please have these to the respective chairman by this date. Vicki Fleming, Historian – 416 1st Street, Deshler, NE 68340. Saundra Karst, Chaplain – 431 E. 3rd, Wilber, NE 68465. Kimberly Gurley, Publicity – P.O. Box 277, Milligan, NE 68406.

**VETERANS DAY –** November 11, 2021. Does your unit have plans for observing Veterans Day?

**DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT’S PROJECT – (THIS INFORMATION IS NOT NEW BUT ONGOING).** My project for this year is to earn enough funds to purchase a garden storage shed for either the Community Living Center (CLC) or the Transitional House (TR) at the Grand Island VA Medical Center. Our veterans need a place to store their gardening tools and their grills to keep them out of the weather. I will be raffling off a wooden flag (the same as what was given to past President Arlis Hohl – reference the picture from my first newsletter).

**MEMBERSHIP –** Is always important. Currently, the Jetsons are in 6th place. Keep those dues “Jetsoning” in to Department. Did you know that when shopping on Amazon, you can support the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation? Amazon donates to various charities and if you shop at “smile.amazon.com” or use “AmazonSmile ON” and select the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation as your charity, a donation will be made by Amazon.

**NEW MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE** - The first District to reach 75% membership before December 1st will receive $75.00.

**HISTORY** - Our Department Historian would like each unit to participate in a special project of creating a Unit Time Capsule. Use the time capsule to document unit activities, photos, list of unit members, local news articles, or something representing your town are just a few suggestions. Bring the “time capsule” to Mid-Year Conference in January. It will be displayed at the Cavalcade of Memories Table and prizes will be awarded.

**GRAND ISLAND MEDICAL CENTER**  - Will be closed through the end of the year. The staff will hand out the money for Dollar Days. For the Gift Shop, it will be like last year with no personal contact. Shoppers will buy the gifts, then wrap them in the Activities Room. The staff will hand the gifts out.

**DEPARTMENT ABC BOOK –** The ABC Books were sent to Unit presidents the last week of October. If your unit has not received your ABC Book, be sure to contact Department Headquarters.

**SYMBOL – FLAG – Care of the Flag -** It is acceptable to wash or dry clean an American flag when it is soiled or otherwise dirty. You do not have to destroy a flag that has touched the ground. If it becomes dirty, the flag should be cleaned. When a flag is no longer serviceable or repairable, it should be destroyed in a dignified manner, such as at a proper flag burning ceremony at your local American Legion post.

**WORDS OF WISDOM** – Muddy water is best cleared by leaving it alone.

**DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR**

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| Daylight Savings Time Ends | November 7, 2021 |  |  |
| Veterans Dollar Day Distributions | November 9, 2021 | Grand Island | 10:00 a.m. |
| District 11 Oratorical Contest | November 13, 2021 | Dorchester | 10:00 a.m. |
| Veterans Medical Center Gift Shop – Set Up | December 6, 2021 | Grand Island | 10:00 a.m. |
| Veterans Medical Center Gift Shop | December 7, 2021 | Grand Island | 10:00 a.m. |
| Gift For Yanks Who Gave | December 14, 2021 | Grand Island | 10:00 a.m. |
| Mid-Year Conference | January 21–23, 2022 | Columbus |  |
| District 11 Convention | March 26, 2022 | Crete | Registration 9:30 – 10:00 |
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**DAYS IN NOVEMBER TO FLY YOUR AMERICAN FLAG**

November 11, 2021 - Veterans Day

November 25, 2021 - Thanksgiving Day