



American Legion Auxiliary District 11 Newsletter November 2023



Remember Those Who Gave Their All

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Trudy Spicer, Poppy Chair

Vicky Thompson, Past President
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Original oil painting by Nebraska native Rita Romsdal Jarvis. Rita was raised in York County and her father served in the military. This painting will be raffled to raise funds for the District President's Project. Raffle tickets are available at 1 for \$1.00 / 6 for \$5.00 / 13 for \$10.00.

Let us all remember President Lisa's theme.

**Nebraska Strong & Faithful
Serving Veterans Always**

Check out the Department of
Nebraska, Auxiliary website at:
[NEBRASKA - Nebraska American Legion
Auxiliary \(nebraskalegionaux.net\)](http://NEBRASKA - Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary (nebraskalegionaux.net))
(www.nebraskalegionaux.net)

It has been updated. Thank you, Amanda!
For me, I always check out the Governing
Documents, the ABC Book, Scholarships,
Contact – has the new address, phone
number and email address, Department
Events – and so much more.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

ALEXANDRIA / MERIDIAN SCHOOL

Veterans Day Program at Meridian School on Friday, November 10 at 10:00 a.m. Daykin Post #198 will present the flags. National Honor Society students present the program. The speaker will be a Meridian Alumni, Lance Hamm, Commander, United States Navy Reserves, Retired. Quilts of Valor will be presented to five (5) Veterans. Legion & Auxiliary with Bear 'n' T's Restaurant are serving a Thanksgiving Dinner on November 19 from 5 pm to 8 pm in the Legion Hall.

BRUNING-DAVENPORT SCHOOLS

The Bruning-Davenport schools will be hosting Veterans' Day Programs at each of the locations on November 13. Don Suchy, Past Department President, will be the speaker at both schools. Davenport program will begin at 9:30 a.m. Bruning program will be held at 11:00 a.m. All veterans attending in Bruning will be treated to lunch at the Bruning Café.

FRIEND SCHOOL and AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Friend Public School is happy to host, on November 10 at 8:30 a.m., the Veterans' Day Program. The Friend Unit #183 American Legion Auxiliary is inviting everyone to their Fundraiser Meal on November 11, 5:00 p.m. until 7 p.m. This is happening at the Friend Legion Hall, and they will be serving goulash.

MILLIGAN

Milligan looks to have a very patriotic Veterans' Day Program on Saturday, November 11 at 4:00 p.m. at the Milligan Auditorium. The program will consist of a reading "Patriotic Inspiration on Iwo Jima", Quilts of Valor presentations and the Milligan Brass Band. A Soup Supper will follow the program.

PLYMOUTH

Plymouth is hosting their 77th consecutive Veterans' Day Observance on November 11. The ceremony begins at 10:45 a.m. with the raising of the American Flag, firing of the volleys and the sounding of Taps. Tri-County School Band will play the National Anthem. This ceremony continues in the Community Building. The speaker is Chief Petty Officer Fire Controlman Brian Jantzen, a native of Plymouth. Quilts of Valor will be presented. Following the Ceremony, lunch will be served. There will be a Vendor/Craft Fair in the Meeting Room until 2:30 p.m.

SHICKLEY

Shickley School is hosting the Veterans' Day Program on Friday, November 10 at 10:00 a.m. There will be a luncheon served after the program at the Community Center. Also happening that day is their Blood Drive from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you are able, please attend both events.

TOBIAS

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit #311 in Tobias will be hosting a Veterans' Day Dinner on November 12, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Tobias Legion Hall. It is a turkey dinner with a free will donation. Veterans are invited to be guests and eat free. Be sure to attend.

District 11 Fall Round-Up Report for October 15, 2023

Can I say, "WOW". There was so much information presented by so many people. The Joint Meeting began at 2:20 pm. A lot of introductions. District 11 Commander Tom Crisman mentioned that the National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year was from District 11 – Audrey Arbuckle, who serves with the Crete Police Department.

There were 29 members of District 11 attending, which included six officers. There was one guest, Vicki Colson, Department Children & Youth Chair. There were 14 Units represented. There is a total of 35 Units in our District. The quorum is 20% of Units – which is 7 Units. There were no corrections to the 2022 Fall Round-Up minutes, and they were approved. The treasurer reported a current balance of \$2,382.14. The treasurer report was filed. Five Units had not paid their per-capita dues.

Vicki Ozenbaugh brought greetings from Department President Lisa Moore. Vicki reported on President Moore's projects and the Mid-Year Conference on January 19-21 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney. Announced that National President Lisa Williamson will be here August 3-5, 2024. As National Executive Committee Member and National Security Chair, Vicki distributed a "National Security 101" flyer. That each Unit should be encouraged to recognize the Blue Star families. Vicki also shared a handout on how to request a DD-214 – discharge papers.

Deb Albers, Northwest Division Community Service Chair and District 11 parliamentarian, announced that National Family Day will be held on the third Saturday in April (April 20, 2024). Deb talked about correctly moving a motion and other etiquette for a meeting.

Department Legislative Chair Vicky Thompson reported that the National Legislative Conference will be held in Washington, D.C. from February 26 to March 1, 2024. Vicky promoted utilizing the Grass Roots Action Center, which is on the National American Legion's website. On Facebook, Melissa Steinle of the Nebraska American Legion Press Association, shares the National Legislative Weekly bulletins on the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary page.

Marla Furrow, Department Community Service Chair and District 11 Vice President, touched on the National Family Day and National Days of Service. Marla gave examples for ways to approach Community Service. She stated that the Community Service Program is offering awards for the Most Outstanding Unit and the Best Promotion of Family Day. As District 11 Vice-President, Marla is responsible for District membership and for the District Junior Activities.

Loree Hendrickson, Department Membership and District 11 Secretary/Treasurer shared that she was able to attend District 6 Fall Found-Up. Loree reported that President Lisa Moore believes the best way to increase membership is to be more visible in our communities. Work the programs, invite others to attend.

A short recess was called to stretch and get a little to eat and drink. Fairmont Auxiliary Unit #21 did a wonderful job. Their welcome sacks were amazing! The bags were filled with many items. All those in attendance gathered for a group photo prior to reconvening. There were four (4) door prizes given away during the afternoon.

Department Children & Youth Chair Vicki Colson passed two collection cans to raise funds for the American Legion's Child Welfare Foundation. She highlighted programs which affect our children – Girls' State, Youth Baseball, Shooting Sports, etc. She mentioned that coloring books are available to download and print or you can order them from Emblem.Legion.org. Vicki stated that "Plan Our Work in Order to Work Our Plan."

District 11 Historian Alice Vieselmeyer and Chaplain Jan Holtmeier stated that the Rules are in the ABC Book for the History Book and the Prayer Book. Both are due to their respective person by March 1, 2024 for judging prior to the District 11 Convention on March 23, 2024 in Wilber.

Trudy Spicer, District 11 Poppy Chair, gave an overview of the poppy program. The Rules for the Poppy Centerpieces are in the ABC book, and they are due at 9:15 a.m. the day of our Convention for judging. She mentioned that the Poppy Poster information was in the ABC Book and is due to Department Poppy Chair Lori Reimers by April 15, 2024.

President Lukan had the members play a game with the letters M E M B E R. Using these letters as the starting letter, give a quality of an Auxiliary member. There were quite a few qualities given, but Vicki Fleming from Deshler kept us laughing – she could come up with ideas that most of us never thought of.

President Lukan asked that Units share events that have occurred in their Unit during the last year. She will then report for the District at the Mid-Year Conference. The Rosewood Gavel goes to the Virginia Unit #367 for having the highest percentage of members by September 1. There will be an auction at the District Convention in March. Units are asked to donate and bring an item.

Reply to In Flanders Field

John Mitchell

Oh! sleep in peace where poppies grow;
 The torch your falling hands let go
 Was caught by us, again held high,
 A beacon light in Flanders sky
 That dims the stars to those below.
 You are our dead, you held the foe,
 And ere the poppies cease to blow,
 We'll prove our faith in you who lie
 In Flanders Fields.

Oh! rest in peace, we quickly go
 To you who bravely died, and know
 In other fields was heard the cry,
 For freedom's cause, of you who lie,
 So still asleep where poppies grow,
 In Flanders Fields.



As in rumbling sound, to and fro,
 The lightning flashes, sky aglow,
 The mighty hosts appear, and high
 Above the din of battle cry,
 Scarce heard amidst the guns below,
 Are fearless hearts who fight the foe,
 And guard the place where poppies grow.
 Oh! sleep in peace, all you who lie
 In Flanders Fields.

And still the poppies gently blow,
 Between the crosses, row on row.
 The larks, still bravely soaring high,
 Are singing now their lullaby
 To you who sleep where poppies grow
 In Flanders Fields.

CELEBRATION DAYS!

NOVEMBER

05	Sunday	Daylight Savings Time Ends
09	Thursday	World Freedom Day World Adoption Day
10	Friday	Marine Corps Birthday
13	Monday	World Kindness Day
16	Thursday	National Rural Health Day
20	Monday	Future Teachers of America Day Universal Childrens Day
21	Tuesday	World Hello Day
24	Friday	American Indian Heritage Day
28	Tuesday	Giving Tuesday

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 11	Veteran's Day		
November 16	Thayer County Government Day		
November 23	Thanksgiving Day		
January 19-21, 24	Department Mid-Year Conference	Kearney	Holiday Inn
January 25	Saline County meeting		
January 28	Fillmore County meeting	Shickley	2:00 p.m.
February 3	NW Division Mission Training and Junior Conference Lincoln Cornhusker Marriott		
February 8	Thayer County meeting	Alexandria	6:00 pm registration
February 11	District 11 Executive Committee Meeting		2 p.m. (tentative location)
March 23	District 11 Convention	Wilber	10 a.m.