

THE DAKOTA MESSENGER

A Publication of the South Dakota National Guard
Enlisted Association Auxiliary

MARCH, 2017

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Call to Conference March, 2017

The Annual State Conference is coming up on April 20th-22nd in Pierre at the Ramkota. If you haven't registered for the conference, I encourage you to do so. Registration forms can be found on the SDNGEA website. I am looking forward to seeing everyone. It is a great time to meet others from around the state and to support the Enlisted Association.

The meetings are being planned and the conference times are in this issue of the Dakota Messenger. I am waiting to hear from the conference committee on a room assignment. Along with the meetings there are many activities planned, as well.

I would like to invite you to attend the meetings and I would love to see you all there. If you have anything you would like to bring up for discussion for the Auxiliary, the conference is a great time

for that. Executive Council Meetings start on Thursday. Also on Thursday, at the Enlisted Meeting, there will be a presentation about the bid for South Dakota to host the National Conference in Rapid City. Come and listen if you have a chance.

The brunch this year will be held at the restaurant in the Ramkota after the meeting on Saturday. All spouses are welcome to attend. It is a great time to visit with everyone while we wait for the Enlisted to finish up meetings.

The membership drive for this year is underway. The applications for memberships can be found on the SDNGEA website. I hope to see you all at the conference.

Kayleen Meyers, President

**2017 SDNGEA
AUXILIARY
CONFERENCE
SCHEDULE**

Best Western Ramkota
Pierre, South Dakota

April 20-22, 2017

**THURSDAY, 20 April
2017**

1200-1800 Registration

1600-1800 Auxiliary
Executive Council
Meeting-Hoping to wrap
up early to listen to the
National Bid Brief

1800-2400 Hospitality
Room

FRIDAY, 21 April 2017

0800-1200 Registration

0900-1130 Enlisted
Committee Meetings

1100-1200 Retiree
Luncheon

1245-1445 Opening
Ceremonies

1445-1500 Break (Session
Separation)

1500-1700 Auxiliary
Business Session

1700 Business Session
Adjourns

1800-2000 Social Hour

2000-2400 Evening Event-
“Awkward Family Photo”
night, Informal Banquet
and Live Music

**SATURDAY, 22 April
2017**

0900-1100 Auxiliary
Business Meeting
Reconvenes

0945-1000 Break

1045 Meeting Adjourns

1100-1200 Brunch –
Ramkota Hotel Restaurant

1300-1700 Sporting/Social
Events

Golf/Pierre Historical
Tour/Hot Mess Express; A
ride along poker run

1800-1900 Social Hour

1900-2100 All American
Buffet (Burgers and Brats)
and Music after Awards
and Scholarship
Presentations of the
SDNGEA

2100-2400 Hospitality
Room



**FUTURE
CONFERENCES:**

**April, 2018: Deadwood,
SD**

**April 21-23, 2019: Sioux
Falls, SD (Co-located
with officers)**

FUTURE NATIONALS:

August, 2017: Reno, NV

**August, 2018:
Charleston, WV**





Find a home for this once-loved blouse on the front of your door ... as a welcoming, fabulous up-cycled military camo wreath that took exactly \$3 and 45 minutes to make. Can display while your spouse is on deployment!



You'll need:

A discarded piece of camouflage (I used a blouse, but the slacks would work just as well)

A wreath frame

Pinking shears

A bit of ribbon for accent

Step One:

Take a piece of your accent ribbon and tie it to your frame to determine how long you want your strips of fabric to be. I used a 12" metal frame and used strips that were about 10" long and 3/4" wide.



Step Two:

Cut the strips from the uniform to tie around the wreath. Don't worry about being too precise – or really, don't worry about being precise at all. The beauty of this wreath is that it's easy! Pinking shears leave such a pretty edge that it won't matter at all if one piece is a little wider than another.



Step Three:

Tie the strips to the frame. I used a double knot,

which I found was the best way to keep them affixed. (Also, what if it's windy? They need to be fly-away-proof!)



Step Four:

Decorate your wreath! I tied some yellow ribbon to ours, but you could easily tie on the nametag straight from the cammies or a big, festive bow.

Step Five:

Stand back and admire your awesome no-sew, crafty-impaired, all-hands-on-deck wreath.

This wreath is perfect to hang on your front door or give to a friend – or even new neighbors!

