

THE DAKOTA MESSENGER

A Publication of the South Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association Auxiliary

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Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope this finds you all healthy and enjoying the New Year so far! It has certainly been a cold one. Time has gone by so fast and with the busyness of everything I realize that it has been a while since my last newsletter. I truly hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Our time was spent with many family and friends.

As the New Year begins, it marks the beginning of our membership drive for the 2019 year. The application for membership is on the SDNGEA website. If you know if anyone who is interested in being a member please direct them to this website under the Auxiliary tab. We have a wonderful group of people in this organization. Please encourage any spouses you know to become a member of the Auxiliary. Membership strength and numbers help to support our voice on the legislative issues that can make a difference to all the airmen, soldiers, and their families. Please contact me or any other member if you have any questions about membership.

There are many opportunities within the Auxiliary. One of the biggest is the availability of scholarships. This year the SDNGEA is offering 2-\$1000 scholarships. Applications and information can be found on the SDNGEA website under the Auxiliary tab. Applications are due March 15, 2018. The National Association also offers scholarships. The information on these is also found on the SDNGEA website. I encourage everyone that is eligible to apply.

The Legislative Dining out is scheduled for February 1st in Pierre. I look forward to seeing some of you there. It is a great time for everyone and a chance to meet some new people. Registration is available online now for this event as well.

The State Conference will be held in Deadwood this year on April 19-21st. Registration forms are on the SDNGEA website. I encourage everyone to attend the conference if you can. It is a great way to see what this organization is about. I guarantee you will have a great time and meet many new people. Let me know if you have any questions about the conference.

Thank you all for your support of this organization. I look forward to seeing you at the Dining Out and the Conference.

Your President Kayleen Meyers

The following was in our newsletter about a year ago and I thought it would be fitting to put it in here again. This information can be found on the National Parks.org website. Some fun and interesting facts about Presidents Day coming up in February. There was a wealth of information on the website including the following.

As a tribute to our fearless leaders, here are some neat facts about Presidents Day and our parks that honor their life and legacy. Did you know that ...

1. Presidents Day is celebrated on the third Monday in February, thanks to the 1968 Uniform Monday Holiday Act.
2. It was established in 1885 in honor of President George Washington's birthday
3. Washington's birthday was actually on February 22, 1732 (this would be his 282nd birthday!)
4. Washington's birthplace is a [national monument](#) and is located in Colonial Beach, VA
5. It is still officially called Washington's Birthday by the federal government
6. The government debated renaming the holiday to Presidents Day to include President Abraham Lincoln's birthday, but the proposal failed in committees
7. Lincoln's birthday was actually on February 12, 1809 (this would be his 205th birthday!)
8. Lincoln's birthplace is a [national historical park](#) and is located in Hodgenville, Kentucky
9. President Ulysses S. Grant established [Yellowstone](#) as the first national park.
10. President Theodore Roosevelt has the most national parks named in his honor
11. Lincoln is a close runner-up for that title
12. Roosevelt's birthplace is a [national historic site](#) and is located in New York City, NY
13. [Adams National Historical Park](#) was the birthplace of two presidents: John Adams and John Quincy Adams
14. The most recent presidential birthplace added to the National Park System belonged to [William Jefferson Clinton](#)
15. There are 35 parks named after American Presidents, and one park that celebrates four of them (but it's named after a [New York attorney](#))

The National Parks website is a great website to look at and get information about various things on. I would recommend it to anyone. Especially those that have children in school. It is a great resource for information.

SILENT AUCTION BASKETS

We decided at the Conference in Pierre to do Silent Auction baskets at the Conference in Deadwood. If you have any ideas for these please contact myself or Mary Williams. I am currently crocheting an American Flag blanket for the Auction. If anyone has any ideas for baskets please let us know.

Additional Information

I am looking for someone to help with the Newsletter. If anyone has an interest in being the Publication person/Editor for the Newsletter let me know. We would work together to put together the Newsletter mostly via email. In addition, if anyone has an information that they would like to have put in the Newsletter please let me know.

SDNGEA Scholarship information can be found on the SDNGEA website! The deadline is March 2018.

Mark Your Calendars!

National Conference

August 12-15, 2018

Charleston, WV

**Black Hills Veterans Honor
March**

September 15, 2018

Area V Caucus

May 18-19, 2018

Rochester, MN

I encourage you to take a look at the December Signal I sent out. It has a lot of information in it about scholarships and other future dates as well.

Below you will find some pictures that were sent to me from those that attended the National Conference in August. I enjoyed reading the reports from the Conference and look forward to sharing those with you all at the State Conference. Edna and Dean Steinberg received a "Legislative Award" for Area V which had 356 Legislative contacts. South Dakota reported 275 contacts. Great job to Edna and Dean and Thank you for all you do!





CLOTHESPIN WREATH



Spray paint a green wire wreath white



Spray paint clothespins red, white & blue



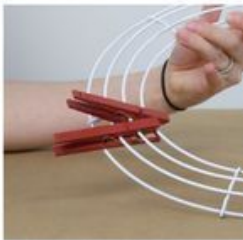
Use hole punch to cut out stars



Glue stars to blue clothespins



Put 1st red clothespin on 3rd & 4th rings



Put 2nd red clothespin on 2nd & 3rd rings



Alternate between 5 red & white clothespins. Finish with blue clothespins.

Hang and enjoy!



I saw this and thought it was cute idea especially with the cold and flu season upon us. There are so many fun things you can do with Mason Jars these days. This is one of many that I have found.

How to Make a Mason Jar Tissue Holder

You Will Need

- 1 half-gallon, wide-mouth Mason jar
- Isopropyl alcohol
- Glass paint (the color “sea glass” was used in this project)
- Small painting sponge
- 1 emery board
- 1 square box of tissues
- 1 wide-mouth jar band

How to Make a Mason Jar Pop-Up Tissue Holder

- 1 Wash and dry the jar and then wipe it down with isopropyl alcohol.
- 2 Using the paint sponge, sponge the glass paint over the entire outside of the jar.
- 3 When the paint has cured, use an emery board to carefully sand off the paint from the jar’s embossing.
- 4 Open the box of tissues at one end.
- 5 Remove the tissues from the box, keeping them in one stack.
- 6 Free the corner of the tissue on the top of the pile, and gently feed approximately half of the pile into the top of the jar, short side of tissues down.
- 7 Screw on the jar’s band and you’re done.