

THE DAKOTA MESSENGER

A Publication of the South Dakota National Guard Enlisted Association Auxiliary

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A Message From Your President

Happy Winter Everyone! I can't believe we are at the end of February already. Time, once again, has seemed to have flown by way to quickly and I realize I haven't done a newsletter since June. I hope everyone had a blessed Holiday Season and is staying warm.

This newsletter will be full of updates of things that have happened over the last few months and then the beginning of April there will be a newsletter with information about the Conference that is April 25th-28th, 2019 in Sioux Falls, SD. The Conference is being held at the Holiday Inn-City Centre in downtown Sioux Falls. Registration forms are online on the SDNGEA website. There is an option to **GO GREEN** and register online this year as well. You can register online at signmeup.com/SDNGEA2019. Let me know if you have any questions about this. I hope to see all of you at the conference.

With it being 2019, we are now taking applications for memberships for 2020. I have had a lot of questions about memberships and the scholarships we offer. Just a reminder for everyone that in order for someone to apply for a scholarship that you, your spouse, a parent, or grandparent, has to be a member of the Auxiliary. Associate members can not apply for the Auxiliary Scholarships. Membership applications have to be in by December 31st of that year. The Auxiliary turns dues in on a yearly basis to Nationals and after December 31st we can't accept memberships for the year any longer and instead start accepting memberships for the following year. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask myself or any of the Executive Council members as well. I appreciate everyone that has reached out and asked questions.

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Presidents message continued...

I love to have all the interest in the Auxiliary. Your memberships help support those scholarships as well as many other things the Auxiliary does. Thank you all for your support. Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter and as always don't hesitate to ask any questions you may have.

Thank you,

Kayleen Meyers

I would like to share the following about Sherry Blackwell. Sherry was a big part of the Auxiliary. She will always be remembered. If anyone has any pictures they would like to share at the State Conference of Sherry, I encourage you to bring them.

It is with deepest sympathy that we share the passing of Sherry Blackwell, precious wife of retired SSG James Blackwell. Sherry passed away January 9, 2019, at 4 in the morning surrounded by her dear husband Jim and precious daughter Stephanie. Our hearts and prayers go out to the Blackwell family at this most difficult time!

Perhaps it was put best by a family friend who responded to the Blackwell's Facebook announcement of Sherry's death with these words: "The world is richer for having had Sherry in it. Now Heaven is more perfect because she is there." Prayers to Jim, to Stephanie, to their granddaughter and all members of their family who loved her so much!

BLESSED

BE SHERRY BLACKWELL'S MEMORY!





Mark Your Calendars for the following events!!

National Conference

August 3-8, 2019

Des Moines, IA

**Black Hills Veterans Honor
March**

September 21st, 2019

State Conference

April 25th-28th, 2019

Sioux Falls, SD

Additional Information

Silent Auction Baskets

We had decided at the State Conference last April that we would do a 50/50 drawing. I was informed that the Enlisted Association is doing a 50/50 drawing as well. It was decided upon by the Executive Council in the last few weeks to do Silent Auction Baskets this year instead of the 50/50 drawing. If anyone has anything they want to donate or a basket idea let me know.

This is a co-conference with the Officers Association as well. I think the baskets will do well. Our baskets did really well last year. Looking forward to doing it again this year. If you have any questions let me know.

**Singing in the shower
Is all fun and games
Until you get
Shampoo
in your mouth,
Then it just
Becomes a soap opera.**



I would like to share the following about Doris Haas. She is a Life Member of the Auxiliary who passed away in January of 2019. If anyone has any pictures of Doris to share please bring them to the State Conference.

Doris Jean Brandt was born February 27th, 1932, to Lawrence and Dorothy Brandt (Liekhuis) in Wessington Springs, S.D. Doris married Gerald (Jerry) Haas on April 7th, 1953. Doris ran an in-home daycare for many years. In later years she was caring for the children of the kids she helped raise. Doris took great pride in all the children she helped raise. Doris will be fondly remembered for her love of family. For mom, the best days were when the house was crowded with family. Doris always had fresh baked cookies on hand for the many children who stopped to visit. Doris also loved to sew and embroider. The Black Hills was a special vacation spot for Doris and Jerry. She loved going for drives, camping, fishing and picnics.

**Scholarship
Deadline is March
15th, 2019**

The SDNGEA Auxiliary scholarships are due by March 15th. The scholarship application is located on the SDNGEA website under the Auxiliary tab. The scholarship must be postmarked by March 15th to be eligible for the Scholarship. If you have any questions please let me know.

**National Scholarship
Deadline is June 1st. The
scholarship is located on
the SDNGEA website
under the Auxiliary tab. Let
myself or Marlys List
know.**

If anyone would like to add anything to the Dakota Messenger please let me know. It can be articles, project ideas, recipes., etc... I am always looking for additional items to add. As always let me know if you need anything.