



To: Unit Presidents

From: Connie Frandson, District 1 President

It is not quite February, but I want to make sure this letter gets to every President before the unit meets in February. We had a great Mid-Winter Conference in Norfolk. The ALA programs were presented by the various chairmen in the form of skits which were not only informative, but entertaining. Department President Donna had a "Meet and Greet" at the Vet's Club in Norfolk which was very nice. National Vice President Peggy Thomas attended part of the conference and visited the veterans' home in Norfolk. She talked about some of the programs from Nationals perspective, and shared that the Veterans Arts Festival is her passion.

District Convention * March 30 & 31 * Hay Springs

Joint Session at South Legion Hall in the morning * Auxiliary at Security First Bank in afternoon

Our District Convention is not very far away, and I have some new information. Department President, Donna Hatfield, will be our guest! I am excited that she will be attending, as I know you ladies are too. Because we are always so short on time for our meeting in the afternoon, we will not have a flag procession this year. However, we would encourage each unit to bring their flag and we will display them at the front of the room.

We will have a new competition this year for the best poppy hat. I am hoping all units will participate. Here's how it works--members of each unit make a poppy hat that is judged by the unit (or the unit could make one hat). The winning hat for the unit should be brought to District Convention to be judged. Members attending the convention will be the judges by placing a \$1.00 vote on the hat of their choice. The winning hat at District Convention will be sent to the Department Convention in June. Proceeds will go to our veterans programs. Come on, ladies, start making those awesome poppy hats. Let's see if we can have the winning hat at Department Convention. If you have questions, call me.

Units do not need to make corsages this year the convention. The Hay Springs unit will provide them.

Please note the bullets below regarding where to send books for competition and date they must be received.

- **Send History Books for competition to Mary Schubert; 619 S. Park; Bassett, NE 68714 by March 1st.**
- **Send Prayer Books for competition to Marilyn Philben; 1126 E. 1st Street; Ainsworth, NE 69210 by March 1st**
- **Send Publicity Books for competition to Vicki Kotchwar; 90 Mann Rd.; Chadron, NE 69337 by March 1st**
(Please note the changes in dates of coverage for this year's book. Questions: contact Beverly Neel at 402-471-2716)
- **Send names of deceased members since last convention to Betty Schultes; PO Box 464; Rushville, NE 69360 by March 15**
- **Bring your poppy centerpieces for competition to Convention**
- **Bring your unit's poppy hat for competition to Convention**

More information will follow but May De Beal Cake Day will be held at the Hot Springs VA on April 21. The May De Beal Shadowbox will be presented to the facility in her memory. Make plans to be there—it will be worth the trip.

I trust you are all working on your selection for Girls State. Orientation will be in Valentine on April 29 at 1:00 p.m. at the Legion Hall and in Alliance on May 6. Contact Bill West at 308-635-2858 if you want your girls to attend the orientation in Alliance.

Continue to work on membership. Next target is 85% by March 30th.

American Essay theme this year is "How can I show my Patriotism in my Community?"

Have a great Valentines Day--show our veterans how much we love and appreciate them,

Connie Frandson,

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