

January 31, 2012

## District 8 February Newsletter

Hello to all!

The **Mid-Winter Education Conference** is over and it was an enjoyable experience. The Department Chairmen put on skits and kept them within the new Pods! It just shows how so many of our programs overlap one another! Picking out what your unit excels in or has time for or even has special skills for make so much sense; rather than trying to do it all. Let's not forget to have fun while we work for our veterans and the different programs.

I know I have been sending a lot of emails about our **membership** lately. It is time to recognize the Units that are WAY UP THERE! As of January 23<sup>rd</sup> Valley is coming in at 104.762%, Springfield at 104.054% Ft. Calhoun is at 101.000% and Herman at 100.00!!! Congratulations!! Kennard is the next highest and the only one in 90% range with 96.14% and only one member to go for 100%!!!! WOW! The greatest majority are in the high 80 percent range and then a few with less than that. We only need 481 renewals or new members to make our goal for the entire district!!! Most importantly is that a great big thank you goes out all of our units. Simply amazing! There is a lot of hard work that goes in to membership. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! I have no doubt that we will be reaching our goals in no time!

Hopefully you have heard by now that the **Whirlwind Tour** has been postponed to February 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. I will certainly get something out the minute I receive the schedule so that everyone can make plans to host the group or to attend.

By now your **scholarship** information is at the High Schools as is the **Girls State** information. Please note that the completed Department Scholarship Forms are to be post marked by March 16<sup>th</sup>. The Girls State Applications must be to Department by March 10<sup>th</sup>. Girls State Orientation will be held at South Omaha Post #331 on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

The next thing is the **District 8 Convention** which is February 18<sup>th</sup> at Valley, Nebraska! Registration begins at 8:00am and the Auxiliary meeting begins at 9:00am. Please consider this my formal invitation to come and experience it!!! We will have the County reports which will be full of ideas how to work our programs! (My favorite part!) Also, our Department President, Donna Hatfield will be there along with the VA&R Chairman Sharon Scott and our Membership Chairman, JoAnn Sieck. Of course our Department Poppy chairman, our very own, Kathy Mazur will be there too!!

We already have *volunteers* to judge the History Books (2), the Resolutions (2), Publicity Books (2) and the Valley ladies have graciously agreed to handle the registration table among many other duties. **Thank you so much** to the gals that have already volunteered to help with all of this.

We still need one Page (who is super important yet a very easy job), two judges for the poppy centerpieces (Very Fun!) and two judges for the Prayer Books (which is very inspiring)!

!!!!!!!CORRECTION!!!!!!! In the January newsletter I requested Unit Reports for the Convention. This is incorrect!!! Your County President will be giving the reports for the units in her county. You should have sent or given a report at your county meeting. That is what she will report on. If you have done something unusual since your county meeting that you would like included, please let her know. If you have not had your County meeting please contact the county president with your accomplishments. I have listed their names, addresses and phone numbers at the end of this newsletter.

Also please remember to mail or email your **deceased members** list from 2-19-2011 to 2-18-2012 to me by February 10th. Please return the **History Report Form** mailed to you earlier. Be sure to include the programs that you will be completing from **6-1-11** until the end of the reporting year, **5-31-12**. Our Historian, Marlene Ingram needs them to make the District 8 History. Without them our history will be incomplete.

Finally, I am hoping that each Unit will bring at least one **Poppy Hat** to be judged at the Convention. Let your imagination go and decorate the hat in any way that you choose! Just be sure to use poppies. This will be fun!!! It also will be a great fundraiser with the profits being split between the Creative Arts Festival and the Ride-2-Recovery. Both are important programs for our disabled veterans.

Everyone take care, and continue doing all of the important things that you do. We have so many great ladies that are so dedicated. Also be sure to have fun as you get together and work!! And, as always, **thank you for the wonderful work that you do** for our veterans and their families, the children and our communities.

Sincerely,

Sally Johnson – President  
17511 O St. Omaha, NE. 68135  
402-891-6760  
email: sarpy52@cox.net  
402-680-8206

**DOUGLAS COUNTY**  
**PRESIDENT**  
Lois Musel  
PO Box 144  
Bennington, NE.68007  
402-238-2485

**SARPY COUNTY**  
**PRESIDENT**  
Kathy Iske  
13005 S. 192<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Gretna, NE. 68028  
402-332-3877

**WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
**PRESIDENT**  
Ember Arnold  
1425 Prospect Ave.  
Blair, NE. 68008  
402-426-5551

## Nebraska ALA

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**From:** sarpy52@cox.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2012 11:22 AM  
**To:** Sally Johnson  
**Subject:** District 8 Convention

Hi Ladies – I just wanted to clarify the times of the Convention. I had sent a newsletter several months ago with the incorrect time, so here it goes. **The registration for the Convention is at 8:00am and the meeting will start at 9:00am.** I sent a correction the following month, but am afraid that it was put on calendars with the incorrect time. Thank you and I hope this is not an inconvenience for anyone. Sally Johnson  
District 8 President