

## GO #8 Saluting Our Heroes for March 2026

It is with deep regret that I announce the closing of the Quinn/Wall Auxiliary. Those members have left a lasting legacy in their community and their efforts will be sorely missed. I hope neighboring auxiliaries will consider offering them an invitation to transfer into their auxiliary. I would mention that you should evaluate each individual and vote on each separately. Mass transfers are sometimes not a good policy. Nancy Chester can provide you with a list of members eligible to transfer.

Remember year-end reports are due April 15 for all programs which your auxiliary is involved. If your auxiliary does not participate in a particular program, please send a negative report to the chairman.

Department membership has hit every goal set by National so far and we want to continue that record. Chairwoman, Pam Vissia has kept us informed almost every day on our Facebook site as we continue to put up those good numbers. As of this writing, we are only short 16 members to meet 100%. While on the National President's cruise we were told that all members 85 or older are what National is looking at right now for deceased members so this is where you should begin checking your membership to avoid having money clawed back.

My President's project is fighting food insecurity for veterans at the Rapid City Veterans Outreach Center. Each District President has raffle tickets for the Royal Crown blanket and Royal Crown lap robe. Please see one of them to buy a ticket \$5 each or 5 for \$20. I know we have collected food at several events already and several auxiliaries have donated cash – thank you. If your auxiliary has not already donated, please do so now. Any monetary donations should be sent directly to Nancy Chester with a notation it is for the President's project. Make checks to SD VFW Auxiliary. Cash donations will be given to the VOC at a later date. The VOC will utilize that money to purchase food directly from their vendors to fill in the gaps. We will also collect again at the Department Convention for those that have not donated.

Department Convention will be in Mitchell this year June 11-14, 2026 at the Heartland Convention Center and lodging at the Comfort Inn or the Hampton. An email was sent out to all auxiliaries earlier and you can find the tentative Auxiliary agenda, reservation form, a sponsor letter and convention cover flier on our website. Feel free to share with any and all post and auxiliary members. You might want to make your reservations at the hotel sooner rather than later.

Again, I cannot emphasize this enough. Do not be fooled by scams asking for cards or money to be sent to Department officers. Please pass this information on to every member you know.

Thank you for all you have done and what you will continue to do in the year to come. As we Salute our Heroes our TEAM keeps rolling along.

/s/ Sue Jones, President