Feather Facts

Minnesota State Auxiliary Newsletter

Summer 2026



Back Row: Tandra Landman, Susan Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Diane Haas, Tricia Tobin, Laurie Johnston, Terri Anderson, Elaine Rothbarth
Front Row: Ellie Fee, Tina Giesen, Tina Haugen, Linda Connell, Carolyn Skogstad



State Madam President
Tina Haugen

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

First I want to thank you all for the support all these years. I am so proud to be your auxiliary madam president. Minnesota State convention hosted by Crookston was amazing job well done. I want to take this time to thank everyone who has support the Autism society of Minnesota so far. I am looking forward to representing Minnesota at Grand Convention in Dallas. I am excited to announce that my charity this year is AuSM Autism Society of Minnesota. See you down the Eagles trail. Madam President Tina Haugen.



State Membership Chairmen
Joan Lubitz

It's a New Year! Not in the way we usually think of it but a new Eagle Year. Let's see…the usual resolutions still apply-

- Improve mental well-being. The thing we seem to be most afraid of is to say "hi" to someone we don't know. This year, every time you go into your Aerie, for any reason, say "hi", and smile, to someone you don't know. This doesn't mean you need to buy that person a drink, or dinner, or pay for their Bingo cards. Putting yourself out there has great rewards personally and maybe eventually your club. Start small.
- Check in on your physical health. Oof, this is a big one. Your physical health contributes to how well you can move your body. Moving more may mean volunteering to help the Christmas Children's Bowling party or checking in on another member at home who you haven't seen at the club in a while. This doesn't mean you have to do everything, but if you help with even 1 more event than last year, you are moving more and helping someone else too.
- Learn something new. Picking up a new hobby or take a class. How about this- volunteer to help, start, or attend an event you had no intention of going to before? Shake up your routine! Show interest and

you become interested and someone who is interesting. The list goes on and on. Remember President Tina's motto- There is no limit with the FOE! You can do this. Start somewhere. Now.



State Madam Secretary
Ellie Fee

Hello Sisters!

It's been a busy summer. I have revamped the Feather Facts. Coming soon...a brand new website. There will be a password protected page that will house anything with sensitive information like addresses, emails, phone numbers, and birthdates. The password will ALWAYS be the word written inside the button you click to bring you to the page. The first one will be "Hotdish".

The state convention was very successful. We would love your feedback on having games and raffles for district hospitality night and the incoming president's room. Collectively, Auxiliaries raised over $181,000 for charities this past year.

The International Convention in Dallas was a great time for Minnesota. We won the hospitality room! Debra Henry was installed as Grand Madam Trustee again. While there is always fun, there must be business as well. Here is a summary of everything we learned that is important to ALL Auxiliaries:

- The hard cards for membership have been processed. The first run will be the membership roll as of July 11th after the drop date. Larry Rush (CFO) will be paying the mailing permit this upcoming week, and the cards will be mailed out. The second run will be members that have been added since July 11th. Please give some additional time for them to be mailed out. As reported before, after that, every seven days they will send new and reenrolled members that have been INITATED to the printer to be mailed out. The return address will be the local aerie address, so you will get the return mail for any bad address, and then you can work on getting the correct address or contacting that

member so they can receive their card. If there is a mailing error and the member does not receive their card, the Grand Aerie will send a replacement card. If the member loses their card, they must pay the cost of the card and mailing, and they will soon be able to request and pay for it in the members only section on the **foe.com** website. In the coming weeks, the printing of dues receipts (membership cards) will be taken away on MMS as we transition to the hard cards. Since a member may not receive their card for two weeks (maybe more), it will be replaced with the ability to print out a temporary receipt that will be good for 30 days. This receipt may be printed on regular copy paper. The member needs to be properly initiated and have that date entered into MMS in order to print out the temporary receipt just like we had to with the dues receipt. The Grand Aerie is paying for all postage and printing of the new hard cards and will be a savings to the local aeries.

- The **foe.com** members only section will soon be live in the coming days with the full contents that there was before and some additional ones.
- Online dues payments are in the internal testing stage right now. After they are satisfied with the testing, they will do some external testing before launching it to members in the members only section on the **foe.com** website. They will be allowing members to pay up to three years out and will also have the auto renew option. There are a lot of moving pieces to this one so no hard date other than it will be live before dues renewal time this spring.
- For any secretary that might have missed it on the mms message board, please see the following: The Grand Aerie is aware of the situation with the IRS concerning Aeries and Auxiliaries filing IRS Form 990, 990-EZ, and 990-N. Until further notice, please do not file IRS Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N. Please do not call the IRS regarding the filing issue. The Grand Aerie is in contact with the IRS and trying to resolve the problem. Please make sure each Aerie and Auxiliary **uses its own EIN** and related information when filing all

required forms including IRS Form 990, 990-EZ, and 990-N. **DO NOT use the Grand Aerie's EIN while filing.** The Grand Aerie will provide an update as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience with this matter.

- What happened was a local aerie used the Grand Aerie EIN number for their filing and created a colossal mess with our tax-exempt status. As many of you know, we are only exempt because of the Grand Aerie. Larry Rush and his staff have worked with the IRS to clean everything up and all documents that needed to be completed by the Grand Aerie have been submitted to the IRS and now we have to wait for the IRS to complete things on their end. As the Grand Aerie stated, DO NOT send in any form of a 990 to the IRS right now. They will be rejected and you will need to resubmit when things are cleaned up. The due date is October 15th, and we hope that we will get notice in the next month to file. The Grand Aerie will send out notice when it is okay to file okay, and John Batchelder and myself will also send out notification when we get the all clear to file again Any questions on this, please reach out to me.
- The Field Service manager, Grand Aerie Secretary, and others have asked that we get notice out to the local aeries and membership on some things. If you have an issue within your local aerie, please resolve them locally first. If needed, use the trial process as outline in 63.1 or an incident report as outline in 89.3. If these cannot resolve an issue, improper or lack of action is taken, then contact the State Secretary. If that still cannot resolve it, then contact the proper Grand Aerie Department. What is currently happening throughout the FOE is that they are receiving emails and calls to the Grand Aerie and us, the State Aerie, without attempting to resolve it locally first. The State Aerie is here for advice and counsel, and we are always willing to help, but you must make an attempt to resolve it locally first.

Communications

- Thank you to my MN State Sisters, especially my New Brighton Sisters who wrote the letter for my award as Mn Hall of Fame. I am sorry I was not in Crookston, but stayed close to home, as my daughter had a kidney transplant in May. Brenda is doing well, these first 2 months were critical to make sure the new kidney is accepted, but all is good now. Keep raising money for our charities, as we are People Helping People that we know, are grateful for your help! Kathy Plank

- 2026 Eagles State Auxiliary Bowling Tournament will be held on October 10th & 11th, 2026. It will be at Sparetime Entertainment in Owatonna, MN. Information and the form to sign up are available on our website **here.**

- Grand Madam President Kim Haidsiak was scheduled to visit Minnesota over Labor day weekend. After careful consideration, we have decided to reschedule to next year. Unfortunately most clubs are not open on Labor day and we feel we would not have shown her the time she deserves from our Auxiliaries and membership.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of July 31, 2026 for the Fiscal Year

AERIE	AUXILIARY	MEMBER COUNT	NET GAIN	% OF NET GAIN
DISTRICT 1				
351	Bemidji	347	-60	-14.74%
2469	Grand Rapids	291	-50	-14.66%
	District 1 Total	**638**	**-110**	**-14.71%**
DISTRICT 2				
873	Crookston	153	-13	-7.83%
2342	Detroit Lakes	77	-14	-15.38%
2368	Thief River Falls	123	-7	-5.38%
3882	Roseau	84	-9	-9.68%
4195	Warroad	53	-13	-19.70%
	District 2 Total	**490**	**-56**	**-10.26%**
DISTRICT 3				
287	Brainerd	207	-14	-6.33%
620	Morris	85	-5	-5.56%
622	St. Cloud	212	-16	-7.02%
2334	Willmar	30	0	0.00%
3063	Alexandria	122	-8	-6.15%
3424	Litchfield	35	-11	-23.91%
	District 3 Total	**691**	**-54**	**-7.25%**
DISTRICT 4				
2212	Hastings	49	-13	-20.97%
3718	New Brighton	225	-23	-9.27%
4120	Shakopee	48	-10	-17.24%
	District 4 Total	**322**	**-46**	**-12.50%**
DISTRICT 5				
269	Mankato	139	-15	-9.74%
703	Austin	71	-34	-32.38%
1791	Owatonna	272	-35	-11.40%
2228	Rochester	266	-29	-9.83%
2258	Albert Lea	240	-29	-10.78%
	District 5 Total	**988**	**-142**	**-12.57%**
DISTRICT 6				
3282	Worthington	42	-2	-4.55%
3394	Fairmont	15	3	25.00%
3405	Marshall	18	0	0.00%

3420	St. James	58	-4	-6.45%
	District 6 Total	**133**	**-3**	**-2.21%**
TOTAL		**3,262**	**-411**	**-11.19%**



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ausm autism society of minnesota | Autism Society

State Auxiliary Charity for 2026 - 2027

DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

2026-2027

DISTRICT 1	2026-2027
Bemidji #351	10/17 @ 1pm
Cloquet #1163	4/3 @ 12pm

DISTRICT 2	2026-2027
Roseau #3882	9/26 @ 12pm
Hallock #2617	10/24 @ 12pm
Karlstad #3486	11/21 @ 12pm
E. Grand Forks #350	12/19 @ 12pm
Warroad #4195	1/23 @ 12pm
Crookston #873	2/27 @ 12pm
Thief River Falls #2368	3/20 @ 12pm
Detroit Lakes #2342	4/17 @ 12pm

DISTRICT 3	2026-2027
Morris #620	9/12 @ 1pm
Alexandria #3063	11/14 @ 1pm
Willmar #2334	1/9 @ 1pm
St. Cloud #622	3/13 @ 1pm
Litchfield #3424	4/10,11 @ 1pm

DISTRICT 4	2026-2027
New Brighton #3718	10/17 @ 1pm
New Brighton #3718	1/9 @ 1pm
New Brighton #3718	3/6 @ 1pm
New Brighton #3718	4/24 @ 11am

DISTRICT 5	2026-2027
Austin #703	9/13 @ 1pm
Mankato #269	10/18 @ 1pm

Faribault #1460	**11/15 @ 1pm**
Albert Lea #2258	**2/21 @ 1pm**
Northfield #2242	**3/21 @ 1pm**
Owatonna #1791	**4/17,18 @ 1pm**

DISTRICT 6	**2026-2027**
St. James	**8/29 @ 1:00**
Worthington	**10/3 @ 1:00**
Tracy #3918	**11/7 @ 1:00**
Marshall #3405	**3/6 @ 1:00**
Fairmont #3394	**4/10 @ 1:00**



You're Invited!

NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Conference

Rocking the 50's

SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2026

Valley City, North Dakota





Join Eagles from across the North Central Region for a fun-filled weekend of fellowship, leadership, and Rockin' 50's style!

Friday, September 18

GOLF TOURNAMENT

9:00 a.m. Registration

10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Valley City Golf Course



PAST NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL PRESIDENTS BANQUET

Friday Evening

5:00 p.m. Social

6:00 p.m. Dinner

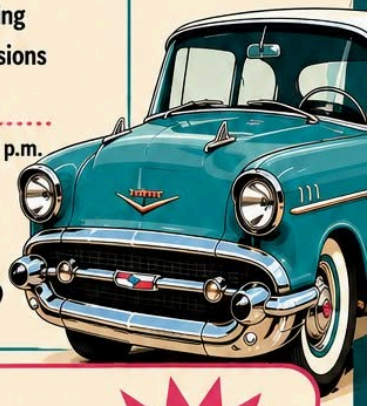
Saturday–Sunday, September 19–20

- Membership Ideas
- Fellowship & Fun
- Receiver Training
- Break Out Sessions
- 50's Music

Banquet Social 5:00 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Let's continue Rockin' the future of the Eagles!



Let's Make Wishes Come True!

EACH AERIE IS ASKED TO BRING A

SILENT AUCTION BASKET

TO BENEFIT Make-A-Wish®

Your generosity helps make dreams come true for children facing critical illnesses.

Thank You!



*Good Friends * Great Memories * Stronger Together*

Rock On, Eagles!



For more information, contact your North Central Regional Presidents.


North Central Regional
EAGLES
CONFERENCE
FOE
SEPTEMBER 18 • 19 • 20, 2026
Join Us for a Weekend of Fellowship, Fun & Memories!
Econo Lodge
280 Winter Show Rd SW, Valley City, ND
701-845-5333
★ Free Wi-Fi ★ Continental Breakfast ★ Free Parking
30 Rooms Available
$100 PER NIGHT
GrandStay Hotel & Suites
271 Winter Show Rd SW, Valley City, ND
701-490-3500
★ Free Breakfast ★ Indoor Pool
★ Fitness Room ★ Free Wi-Fi
15 Rooms Available
$159.99 PER NIGHT
AmericInn
BY WYNDHAM – CONFERENCE CENTER
280 Winter Show Rd SW, Valley City, ND
701-845-5551
★ Free Hot Breakfast ★ Pool & Hot Tub ★ Fitness Center ★ Free Wi-Fi
10 Rooms Available
$175 NIGHT
Reserve Early – Rooms Are Limited!

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