

COLORADO VETERAN

and Auxiliary News

“No One Does More For Veterans”



August, 2017

Department of Colorado, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
and its Auxiliary Official Publication

Volume 57, Issue 1 2017 - 2018

Edward Aitken

VFW State Commander 2017-2018



Today we turn the page and start a New Chapter in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Colorado.

I would be remiss if I didn't introduce a few key players, so please bear with me, Will all Post Commanders and Presidents please rise, Will all District Commanders and Presidents Please rise, now may I have the Department and Auxiliary Officers please rise. Will the staff please rise.

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers I take great pleasure in introducing to you the 2017-2018 Leadership team. We are here to serve you the Membership. Please be seated.

In Writing our new chapter we must communicate with each other on all levels, Post, District and State. Communicate and interact in the communities we live in, I do

believe that we are all Proud to be members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars family. **COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS.**

I listen to a motivational speaker, Jim Rohn, who speaks about the wind and setting of sails. The wind is what life brings us. The Sail is how we handle those situations and steer our vessel to a positive outcome. So let us the Leader Ship Team and members of the Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars family set our sail and take our Post, District and Department to new and greater levels of **SUCCESS**

There by Making every day in Colorado Veteran Day.

God Bless You, God Bless the Veterans of Foreign Wars and of course God Bless America.

Thank You.

I would like to at this time introduce a few people, first two of my good friends from my Post Ed Longhini and Larry Arnt. Next my brother Lieutenant Colonel Alexander J Aitken United States Marine Corp Retired and his wife Nancy, next is my best friend and wife Diane.

(Installation Speech)

“Thank You for attending State Convention”

Allan Stone & Linda Reinbold - Ed Aitken & Caroline Gelatt

Caroline Gelatt

VFW Auxiliary President 2017-2018



Thank you to everyone for being here tonight on this very special occasion for both Ed and myself.

Let me take time to intro-

duce my family that is here this evening to celebrate the culmination of my journey over the last sixteen years.

My husband David Gelatt, USS Navy Retired 1972-1993 who I own my eligibility to. To him I would like to say I LOVE YOU, if it wasn't for you coming into my life I would not be standing here tonight. You have stood by me, encouraged me and most importantly put up with me. Just like Ralph from “The Honeymooners” would say to Alice “*Ooh, one of these days: bang! Zoom! Straight to the moon!*”

My brother Raymond Moelder, US Navy who served but is not eligible to join the VFW, so instead was a charter president of Post 6624's VFW Men's Auxiliary and a member from 2008 – 2015. He joined our VFW Auxiliary in August 2015 as a Life Member. We, as an organization are constantly evolving as seen recently with the addition of male membership. Hooray for us, we finally saw the light.

My brother Robert Moelder, US Army 1982 – 1986, recently retired from the United State Parks Service and his girlfriend Taylor Scott. Our daughter Jessica Blackburn, her husband Brandon, US Air Force and their beautiful children Abigail (3) and Quentin (2). Our son Robert Gelatt, US Navy, his wife Ginny and

their children Jason (16), Ryan (14), Hallie (8) and Thomas (2)

My family has a long history of serving our country and has made great sacrifices defending the United States of America and preserving its freedom.

Like my brother Bill Werden currently serving in the US Army since 1992 and could not attend as he is at Joint Readiness Training Center @ Fort Polk preparing his unit for another tour in Afghanistan.

My father Edwin Moelder, US Air Force 1961-1969. My grandfather Edwin Moelder Sr., US Army WWII Philippines. My great Uncle Harry Payne United States Navy POW WWII Philippines at Bilibid Camp 1942 to 1945. My great Uncle Lowell who lost his left arm in the Korean War.

To all my family here tonight and to those not present, I thank you for loving me unconditionally. So, our family knows, just like most of those present here this evening, what it means to serve and the importance of advocating for our veterans and their families.

For those of you who don't know me or who would like to know more let me just recap my auxiliary journey. I joined the auxiliary in October of 2000 and less than a year later 9/11 happened that's when I really felt I had a calling to be an advocate for veterans and their families. Throughout my involvement with the VFW Auxiliary I have been an outspoken advocate becoming more knowledgeable and informed about our organization every day. In 2007, I became Auxiliary President for Adamson Warmuth Post #6624 Evans Colorado.

Installation Speech
(cont. on page 9)

In Loving Memory

**Past Department President
Beulah Collins
1985 - 1986**

Rest In Peace - You Will Be Missed

Commander's Special Project

Colorado Aviation Business Association and Veterans of Foreign Wars Annual Holiday Veteran Food and Toy Airlift

What is the airlift? Donations from the Re-Distribution Center, Marine Corps League, 20 VFW Posts and Auxiliaries and huge discounts from King Soopers. This is a VFW/CABA with the MSU pilot's volunteer project to help veterans. We all intend to make the holiday season a little less stressful for our fellow veterans by giving them donated food and toys and a little cheer during the holiday season. We flew planes into Burlington, Pueblo, Las Animas, Alamosa, Walsenburg, and Montrose airports. Over the past 6 years this program has delivered nearly 18,000 pounds of donated material to Colorado's veterans and their families. This year the project had generous donations from VFW Posts and Auxiliaries and kind hearted friends with a total \$4,407.38. This money was used to purchase more food and toys to supplement all the donated food and toys. This material was given to 353 Adults and 65 kids as well as 15 families with children from Fort Carson.

How can I help with this program? You can help with donated money from your Post relief fund. Your Check is made out to Department of Colorado VFW with "CABA" in the memo section.

You can gather food and toys at your Post or local business places. Gather these donated items and deliver them to Department Headquarters by December 1st.

My Post would like to participate, what do we do? If you have veterans in your local area that could use food and toys at Christmas is the only requirement. You would need to identify these veterans or families that are needing some extra help and make arrangements to either have them come to your post on a special day or preferably show up at your airport on the airlift day, usually the second Sunday in December depending on the weather. Contact the Department CABA Chairperson to make the arrangements for your Post to be involved.

2017 will be the 7th Annual Airlift and it is this year's Commander's Special Project. More information will be coming at the Council of Administration meetings and your District meetings going forward throughout the year. Questions should be directed to PDC Peter Buchanan, peterbuchanan@comcast.net, 303-981-1606.

If you missed your local TV station coverage this year, here is a link where you can view our Las Animas airlift. <https://vimeo.com/195849186> This report was put together by MSU Denver videographer John Arnold who did a wonder job covering our operation.

Chapel Escort and Coffee Hour Schedule

Aug 6	Golden VFW #4171	Golden
13	Retired Enlisted (TREA #39)	Denver
20	Verle Huffman VFW #9644	Sheridan
27	Mile High VFW #1771	Lafayette
Sept 3	Silver Dollar PT #1	Denver
10	Skyline VFW #2797	Denver
17	Rocky Mtn. VFW #1781	Ft Collins
24	Eastern Star Ch. #98	Denver
Oct 1	Verle Huffman VFW #9644	Sheridan
8	Francis Brown Lowry VFW #501	Denver
15	Joseph J Jacques VFW #7945	Thornton
29	Golden VFW #4171	Golden

Please plan to bring 3 dozen doughnuts and some sugar free goodies, like cookies, croissants or bagels with cream cheese. Bring enough for both services. Coffee will be supplied to the Hosts, and you may bring juice or fruits if you wish.

Protestant service begins at 9:00 AM. Please meet in the Chapel at 8:30 for assignments of volunteers to escort from the Community Living Center. If you are unable to keep your assigned date, please work out a trade and then call, Betty Melsen at 303-237-6646 or Juanita Bowen 303-935-4271 IN ADVANCE so they are aware of any changes.

Please contact Betty Melsen if your VFW and Auxiliary would volunteer for Chapel Escort and Coffee Hour, VA Bingo Parties, or VA Birthday Parties. She is needing to fill vacancies left by VFW Posts and Auxiliaries that are unable to have enough volunteers to continue.

ALL STATE POST COMMANDER'S 2016 – 2017

David M. DeCamp	41
David Dater	1771
Donald W. May	1781
Richard T. Atkinson	2585
Robert Cordona	2797
Leonard Ladue	3981
Ron C. Logan	4331
Andrew A. Tyler	6051
Joseph E. Carlson	7829
John L. Kuiee	8449
Michal R. Davis	9333
Kirk R. Rosa	12009

ALL STATE POST QUARTERMASTER'S 2016 – 2017

Steven A. Rylant	41
Douglas B. Goodman	1771
Dennis Jensen	1781
Steven Kroh	2585
Darold J. Stafford	3981
Ron Fiedler	4331
Leslie E. Bullock	5221
Carol M. Kenney	6051
Thomas Dowd	7829
Robert M. Quinn	8449
Greg Goettsch	9741
Allisha D. Cody	12009

ALL STATE DISTRICT COMMANDER'S 2016-2017

Gary Williamson	District 1
Steven Davidson	District 8



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

ALL ACTIVITIES DAY

September 16, 2017

VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System
2600 Oakshire Lane
Pueblo, CO 81001

7:00 am - 7:30 am	Volunteer Registration
7:30 am - 10:00 am	Volunteers Assemble Carnival Booths
10:00 am	Opening Ceremony/Color Guard Flag Raising/ Volunteers Report to Game Booths
10:15 am - 1:30 pm	Carnival Booths Open for Business
11:00 am - 1:00 pm	Entertainment (various times during event)
11:00 am	Veterans Go Through the Lunch Line
12:00 noon	Volunteers Go Through the Lunch Line
1:30 pm	Gift Presentations by Organizations
2:00 pm	Volunteers Disassemble Carnival Booths

NOTICE: we would appreciate all left over items from your booth be given to Recreation or Voluntary Service Staff after the carnival. We use these extra prizes throughout the year for impromptu parties and bingos. Any excess items not used by the CLC Veterans such as clothing & toiletry items are used for homeless Veterans in the annual stand-down event.

COLORADO VETERAN and AUXILIARY NEWS

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Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Colorado

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118th VFW National Convention

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Stories, pictures, etc., received after these dates may be withheld 'till the next publication

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Linda Reinhold, jr. past president
Ann Mauck, auxiliary news chairman
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POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:

VFW National Headquarters
406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

Voice of Democracy 2017-2018 Theme

“American History: Our Hope for the Future”

POST & AUXILIARY CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE MOVED OR WILL BE MOVING.

NAME: _____

NEW ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MEMBERSHIP NO. _____ VFW POST NO. _____

NOTE: YOUR RETURN ADDRESS IS ON THE BACK SIDE OF THIS NOTICE.

MAIL TO: DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO VFW,
1400 CARR ST., LAKEWOOD, CO 80214

**THANK YOU
EDITOR**

Commander's Column Ed Aitken



Comrades, Sisters and Brothers,

I would like to thank you for allowing me to serve as Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Colorado for the 2017-2018 year.

I would like to thank the Installing Officers Team: Tony Archer, Greg Wawrytko, Doug Raymond, Dave Gelatt and special thanks to Kirk Rosa who put it all together. It was a very impressive ceremony.

I had the pleasure of attending a VA Summit, facilitated by David Francavilla, what an eye opener. We now have a network outside of our own to bring the messages of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Colorado to communities we have not yet reached.

We would like to assist you in making your Post the center of your communities, but we need you to take an active part in your Council of Administration (COA), District meetings and any training that is offered. We also need you to be engage in your communities. There are several ways to accomplish this; attend the Council of Administration Meetings/Workshops, and District meet-

ings, encourage all of your officers and members to attend. The more involved and engaged you are the more involved and engaged your members will be. When the community sees the VFW Members engaged you will see the support you need to accomplish the goals and projects of the VFW.

At the caucus, I stated that just because we have done it this way for 20 years does not mean we should continue that way in the future. That being said, the officers of the Department have a few things we would like to accomplish but we can't do it without you, **THE MEMBERSHIP**. Now it is time for us to step out of our comfort zone and help in the changes and show our communities that we are **VETERANS** and members of **THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS** and damn proud of it!

Again thank you for allowing me to serve as your Commander and I look forward to being a part of this **GREAT TEAM**.

God Bless you, God Bless the Veterans of Foreign Wars and of course God Bless the United States of AmCongratulations on your successful year for 2016 – 2017! We ended the year with our membership at 96.92%, as well our Service Officers helped Veterans obtain

Jr. Vice Column David Stone



Thank you for allowing me to serve you as the Department of Colorado Jr. Vice Commander. It is truly an honor to represent you and the interests of

Colorado's veterans.

What an exciting time to serve in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Nationally we are seeing the shift of leadership to a younger generation and with them new ideas are coming to the convention floor. Ideas like a less formal meeting format, support for technology, and a change from Demeter's Manual of Parliamentary Procedures to Robert's Rules of Order as our parliamentary foundation.

I agree that the VFW should adopt many of these ideas but not at the expense of our core traditions such as recognizing our dead by draping the charter or insuring that members can ex-

press themselves at meetings. Change is necessary but it needs to be carefully thought through and executed well. Hopefully the changes will come with guidance.

Throughout the year there is going to be a lot of talk about membership, not because of white hats and awards, but because membership truly matters to our communities. I think that we as an organization need to understand that building our membership is a year around effort. That we need to help posts develop membership committees, train them, and give them access to the information and resources that they need to be successful. It is often said that we lose members through the back door because we don't take the time to welcome and engage them. Let's figure out how to fix that this year.

David Stone
Department Jr Vice Commander

2016 - 2017 All American Post Commanders

Post 3981 - Grand Junction	Leonard P. Ladue
Post 4331 - Arvada	Ronald G. Logan
Post 7829 - Monument	Joseph E. Carlson
Post 8449 - Bennett	John L. Kuiee

2017 - 2018 Council Meeting Schedule

August 12 - 13	Craig CO	VFW Post #4265
October 28 - 29	Fort Morgan CO	VFW Post #2551
March 24 - 25	Pueblo West CO	VFW Post 5812
June 13 - 16	Thornton CO (Ramada Plaza & Conference Center)	VFW Post 7945

Sr. Vice Column Steve Kjonas



Congratulations on your successful year for 2016 – 2017! We ended the year with our membership at 96.92%, as well our Service Officers helped Veterans obtain millions

of dollars in earned compensation and pension, health care, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, and more. Through your hard work, we met our moto "No one does more for Veterans."

#VFWCO #VFWPostPride

We are working on exponentially increasing our footprint on the web and becoming much more recognizable to all Veterans and civilians. I was just talking with a friend and I remembered long ago when he was a new post Commander, I asked him to set this goal. That is to be the first organization when anyone thinks of Veterans. Our goal is to be the most recognizable Veterans organization and the go to place for help and comradery.

Quartermaster's Column Bruce Dolan



Greetings,

I hope this find everyone well.

I would like to congratulate the new slate of Officers recently elected at our State Convention. I'm looking forward to

working with you this coming year.

We have recently sent out letters and forms to those Commanders and Quartermasters who have qualified for All State judging by reaching 100% + 1 by June 30. The second thing that must be done is to send in the leadership manual (The yellow book with the eagle on the front) by end of business on July 10th. THEN you will entered into the judging. Even if we get the entry form, your manual MUST be returned to Headquarters.

Over the past several years we have been keeping a closer look at the Quarterly Audits. This year will be no different. There are a few things that are required. Line 4 on the Audit form addresses a Relief Fund. Section 704 of the By-Laws states "A relief fund shall be established and maintained by the

Connecting with Veterans who use social media involves a lot of things, but the #Hashtag works great to be found. Hashtags connect your content with other people talking about the same thing or looking for information about something. When used properly, hashtags are a great way for us to become more visible and increase engagement. Embrace hashtags but don't go crazy with them. On your own Veteran centered posts, please use either #VFWCO or #VFW-Postpride. Pro-Tip, use two hashtags at the most, as any more significantly reduces the amount of engagements with your post and tweet.

We now run Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and SnapChat feeds. Simple enough to find us, Google #VFWCO or our handle @VFWCO to connect. We will talk much more about connecting with Veterans via social media at our COA in Craig, CO and afterward you will also find our slideshow and documents on the website. Have a great year and see you soon!

Post." This is the monies receive by poppy distributions or from donations. There is no set amount, but you must have a relief fund. Close to 90% of the Audits I send back are due to no relief fund.

Line 5, Dues Reserve, Is also addressed in the By-Laws, but there is a proposed By-Law change coming before the National Convention to do away with this due to the Subscription Dues. We'll keep you informed.

One last thing that will get your audit returned, they must be signed by the Quartermaster, Commander, and Trustees. This verifies that the numbers on the Audit are accurate to the best of the signors knowledge.

If anyone has any questions, or would like a line by line instruction sheet on filling out an audit, please contact me at the office.

As we enter a new year, I hope you can start out with a great attitude and outlook. As I begin my 5th year as your Quartermaster, I know I can.

Bruce R. Dolan, Quartermaster
Department of Colorado
Veterans of Foreign Wars

Surgeon's Column Robert Kidd, Sr.



I would like to thank everyone for your support as I run through the Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars chairs. I am now on to the

second office and that is as your Department Surgeon. I am looking forward to filling my duties.

As you know that my passion is all about helping Veterans that live within the local Cities, Counties, and within the State of Colorado. I will be going around the State visiting all the VA hospitals, Clinics, Nursing Homes and Assisted living facilities on behalf of the Department of Colorado Veterans of

Foreign Wars membership. I am looking forward to meeting more of the VFW Members and The Auxiliary members as I travel throughout the state.

I hope that everyone that made it to the Department Convention had a memorable event. As always, a lot of business was conducted and hopefully some fun also. Now that the new Veterans of Foreign Wars year is beginning, let's all start working together for a productive year for the Department of Colorado.

Yours in Comradeship
Robert M. Kidd Sr.
Department Surgeon

**Department of Colorado, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80214**

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 1

June 17, 2017 SERIES: 2017-2018

1. Having been duly elected and installed into the office of Commander, Department of Colorado, according to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I hereby assume command of the Department of Colorado. All previously appointed officers and committeemen's term of office is hereby declared expired and now ineffective.

The following officers have been duly elected and installed at the 94th Annual Convention held June 14-17, 2017, Colorado Springs, CO., and will have full authority to act and shall be obeyed accordingly:

COMMANDER:

Edward Aitken, #41
5000 Norwood Ave.
Loveland 80538
970-669-6327

SR. VICE COMMANDER:

Steve Kjonaas, #3917
639 Blue Ridge Pt.
Colorado Springs 80921
719-574-2130

JR. VICE COMMANDER:

David Stone, #3917
6740 Goldfield Dr.
Colorado Springs 80911
719-391-9470

QUARTERMASTER:

Bruce Dolan, #7945
1400 Carr St.
Lakewood 80214
303-421-1630

CHAPLAIN:

George Snyder, #101
5232 Rondo Way
Colorado Springs 80911
719-271-9976

JUDGE ADVOCATE:

Kirk Rosa, #12009
416 S Pine Drive
Bailey 80421
720-226-1902

SURGEON:

Robert Kidd, Sr., #3917
4114 Morley Cr.
Colorado Spgs. 80916
719-648-6818

ADJUTANT:

Ronald Lattin, #5061
8912 W Radcliff Pl.
Littleton 80123
303-476-8175

CHIEF OF STAFF:

Fredric Scheck, #6624
110 E Juneberry St.
Milliken 80543
970-580-5117

INSPECTOR:

Gregory Wawrytko, #101
2402 Parkview Blvd.
Colorado Spgs 80909
719-632-1645

SERVICE OFFICER:

James Emerson, #5061
155 Van Gordon, Rm 360
Denver 80225
303-914-5596

PAST DEPT. COMMANDER:

Allan Stone, #4666
9947 E Ida Ave.
Grnwd Village 80111
303-770-4005

DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER:

Gary Williamson, #5061
9074 W Peakview Dr.
Littleton 80123
303-979-1901

DISTRICT 2 COMMANDER:

Donald Kindell, #3641
243 Co Rd 143A
Florence 81226
719-569-0425

DISTRICT 3 COMMANDER:

Marvin Pruitt, #9565
2550 Winding River Dr Unit M1
Broomfield 80023
303-263-1455

DISTRICT 4 COMMANDER:

Lonnie Brungardt, #3541
14020 Summit Dr.
Sterling 80751
970-522-5369

DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER:

Kevin Reinhold, #3917
9705 Bar B Rd.
Fountain 80817
719-425-0807

DISTRICT 6 COMMANDER:

Clayton Chidester, #2411
611 Hurd Ave.
Las Animas 81054
719-569-2071

DISTRICT 7 COMMANDER:

William Flores, #899
20024 CO RD 6
La Jara 81140
719-580-4053

DISTRICT 8 COMMANDER:

Randy Ford, #11411
32 Roger Circle
Florissant 80816
719-748-5344

DISTRICT 9 COMMANDER:

Mark Wick, #4265
P O Box 222
Craig 81626
970-326-6998

DISTRICT 10 COMMANDER:

Ronald Davies, #9644
3399 W Hillside Pl.
Littleton 80010
303-419-1891

DISTRICT 11 COMMANDER:

David Rowland, #3571
P O Box 602
Delta 81416
970-560-1891

DISTRICT 12 COMMANDER:

Robert Valencia, #5231
10400 Hwy 491
Cortez 81321
970-565-0770

DISTRICT 13 COMMANDER:

Rod Houser, #3411
P O Box 11
Kit Carson 80825
970-580-5510

1. COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:

The next Council of Administration meeting will be Sunday, August 13, 2017. Joint Opening will be at 8:30 A.M. SHARP. VFW and VFW Auxiliary will be at the Craig Middle School. VFW will go to VFW Post #4265, 419 E Victory Way, Craig for the VFW Council of Administration Meeting.

Training Sessions will be on Saturday August 12, 2017 at VFW Post #4264 Craig. ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS OR THEIR PROPER REPRESENTATIVE MUST BE PRESENT.

Any and all District and Post Officers and members are invited to attend. Uniform of the day will be black and white. All attending Officers must sign the roster with the Department Adjutant to record your presence at Council of Ad-

ministration meeting and workshops.

2. **PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY:** All Department Officers are instructed to comply with Sec. 515, Paragraph (c) "Proof of Eligibility". Such proof must be on file at Department Headquarters **prior to August 4, 2017.** Failure to comply will disqualify Council Members from participation in the Council of Administration and District Commanders for reimbursement of expenses.

3. **2017 SPRING SWEEPSTAKES:** Prize winners of the Spring Sweepstakes are listed in this Colorado Veteran.

4. **SUBSCRIPTION DUES** notices will be mailed to the membership by National Headquarters. Call Department Headquarters with any questions.

5. **NATIONAL CONVENTION:** The 118th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. was held in New Orleans, LA July 22-26, 2017.

6. **NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE:** All Posts are reminded of the provision of the National By-Laws, which requires at least one registration from each Post. The registration fee of \$25.00 for the first Delegate and \$10.00 for the rest of the Delegates and a completed registration form must be sent to the Quartermaster General, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.

7. **2017-2018 POST OFFICERS:** Posts that have not submitted Report of Election forms will do so immediately. Posts that have not submitted their Election Report to Department will not be listed in the Department roster.

Posts who did not properly reported elected officers by July 1, 2017, were suspended for a period of ninety (90) days by the Department Commander. This suspension will automatically terminate when a properly completed Report of Election of officers is received at National Headquarters. At the end of ninety (90) days, the Commander-in-Chief may cancel the charter of any Post not properly submitting a list of officers to National Headquarters.

Please also send a copy of the Report of Election of officers to Department Headquarters.

8. **QUARTERMASTER BONDS - AUDITS:** It is the duty of Commander to see that the office of the Quartermaster is bonded and that Trustees Reports of Audits are completed, signed by the Commander, Trustees, and Quartermaster and mailed to Department Headquarters no later than 25 days following the close of each quarter. All Quartermaster bonds carried through Department expire **August 31, 2017.** The foregoing is a requirement of the National By-Laws. Bond Applications have been mailed to the Post and District Quartermaster.

9. DEPARTMENT COLOR GUARD:

All requests for the State Color Guard Units or Ritual Teams will be directed by the State Commander to Chuck Cooper and will be handled in order of priority established by the Commander and recommendations from the District being considered. All requests will be submitted in writing to the State Commander, and it is requested that a copy be sent to Captain Chuck Cooper.

10. **COMMUNITY SERVICE and OTHER REPORTS:** Post Commanders are advised to send an **ORIGINAL report form - Community Service, Youth Activity, Americanism, Loyalty Day, Hospital and others pertaining to the Department Program report - DIRECTLY** to Department Headquarters, 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO, 80214. Department Headquarters will duplicate same and send copies to the various VFW State Chairmen. The reporting year commences May 1, 2017. Do not report programs completed prior to that date for the reporting year 2017-2018. Please make a copy of these forms for your Post files. Forms are available from Department Headquarters. **THERE ARE NEW FORMS FOR 2017-2018 REPORTING.**

11. **VFW CAPS, OFFICIAL:** All personnel are advised that there is only one official cap of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, namely, a cap of the overseas type, lettered with VFW initials, Post numerals, State, rank of office (when applicable), and bearing the Cross of Malta emblem. The color shall be regulation Army Shade 51 or Suntan, tropical worsted. Organizational echelons will be designated by the appropriate color of the braid and lettering on the cap. **Caps will not be worn while eating or seated during meals.**

All other types of headgear, i.e., baseball types, western types, sporting types, are not official headgear and will not be worn at meetings of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

12. **2016-2017 AWARDS:** Posts or individuals who have not received the appropriate awards they earned from the Department of Colorado in the 2016-2017 year, please notify Department, in writing, within Thirty (30) Days by applying for the appropriate awards.

13. **MEMBERSHIP:** The new membership year has started. Sign up a new and/or reinstated members and earn awards from Department.

ATTESTED BY:

\\s\ Ronald J. Lattin
Ronald J. Lattin
Department Adjutant

BY COMMAND OF:

\\s\ Edward Aitken
Edward Aitken
Department Commander

2017 Spring Sweepstake Winners

1st Place	Leroy Knettle III	Loveland, CO	\$2,500
2nd Place	Pedro Rosado-Velazquez	Yabucoa PR	\$1,000
3rd Place	Jack Huml	Golden, CO	\$ 500
4th Place	Steven Franklin	Bailey, CO	\$ 300
5th Place	Steve Davidson	Bailey, CO	\$ 200
6th Place	Dallas Godsey	Wray, CO	\$ 100
7th Place	Bobby Cannon	Loveland, CO	\$ 100
8th Place	Glen Mallory, Jr.	Salida, CO	\$ 100
9th Place	Vernon Crum	Hartman, CO	\$ 100
10th Place	Heidi Bishop	Alamosa, CO	\$ 100

Congratulations

VFW Post Membership by District as of June 30, 2017

Number/ City	2016	2017	%	Number/City	2016	2017	%
DISTRICT #1				DISTRICT #8			
1 Denver	940	960	102*	859 Leadville	38	38	100*
501 Denver	335	347	104*	1166 Buena Vista	139	132	95
2461 Denver	158	161	102*	3820 Salida	93	93	100*
2797 Denver	67	68	101*	8661 Bailey	143	138	97
3971 Denver	93	84	90	10721 Minturn	96	102	106*
5061 Denver	325	310	95	11411 Lake George	45	47	104*
TOTAL	1918	1930	101%*	12009 Conifer	129	137	106*
DISTRICT #2				DISTRICT #9			
61 Pueblo	82	77	94	2371 Walden	28	26	93
2788 Penrose	97	88	91	4264 Steamt Spgs	97	92	95
3641 Pueblo	87	81	93	4265 Craige	140	134	96
4061 Canon City	322	313	97	5261 Rangely	23	31	135*
5812 Pueblo West	193	188	97	5843 Meeker	54	54	100*
7305 Colo. City	44	46	105*	9374 Kremmling	36	35	97
8898 Boone	48	44	92	9471 Hayden	11	9	82
12063 Westcliffe	52	54	104*	TOTAL	389	381	98%
TOTAL	925	891	96%	DISTRICT #10			
DISTRICT #3				DISTRICT #11			
41 Loveland	284	297	105*	322 Englewood	122	113	93
807 Boulder	48	47	98	3471 Morrison	74	69	93
1771 Lafayette	313	315	101*	3631 Aurora	349	348	99.7
1781 Ft. Collins	328	330	101*	4121 Idaho Spgs.	55	54	98
2121 Greeley	181	173	96	4171 Golden	479	456	95
2585 Johnstown	215	217	101*	4266 Parker	67	76	113*
2601 Longmont	397	365	92	4331 Arvada	289	331	115*
4334 Ault	73	66	90	4444 Cmmrc Cty	242	218	90
6624 Evans	303	281	93	4666 Littleton	137	140	102*
9565 Broomfield	138	119	86	7563 Black Hawk	23	24	104*
9741 Dacono	50	66	132*	7945 Thornton	426	395	93
TOTAL	2330	2276	98%	8449 Bennett	45	59	131*
DISTRICT #4				DISTRICT #12			
2551 Ft. Morgan	235	219	93	9644 Fort Logan	676	459	68
3378 Yuma	66	63	95	TOTAL	2984	2742	92%
3541 Sterling	97	115	98	DISTRICT #13			
3551 Brush	37	37	100*	3411 Kit Carson	23	28	122*
3951 Ovid	26	26	100*	6491 Burlington	74	69	93
3961 Otis	23	20	87	6612 Hugo	43	38	88
4671 Wray	58	55	95	9491 Deer Trail	19	20	105*
6482 Holyoke	58	57	98	9700 Chynn Wills	28	28	100*
7153 Fleming	33	28	85	TOTAL	187	183	98%
8064 Akron	45	41	91	15006 MAL	2590	2606	101%*
TOTAL	698	661	95%	TOTAL DEPT	17378	16844	97%
DISTRICT #5				2018 dues are now DUE.			
101 Colo. Spgs.	540	493	91	Be 100% +1 in 2017-2018			
3917 Security	681	648	95	We are on Subscription Dues			
4051 Colo. Spgs	708	658	93	Have you paid yours??			
5221 Calhan	112	113	101*	Buy a Life Membership			
6051 Wdln Park	47	50	106*				
6461 Fountain	327	307	94				
7829 Monument	122	136	111*				
10649 Elizabeth	50	51	102*				
TOTAL	2587	2456	95%				
DISTRICT #6							
336 Ordway	100	95	95				
2411 LasAnimas	98	98	100*				
4001 Springfield	46	46	100*				
4091 Rocky Ford	55	52	95				
4281 Holly	27	27	100*				
TOTAL	326	318	98%				
DISTRICT #7							
899 Alamosa	119	113	95				
3228 Monte Vista	41	39	95				
4849 La Jara	57	56	98				
6101 San Luis	68	67	99				
8121 Del Norte	56	56	100*				
TOTAL	341	331	97%				

**Chaplain's Column
George Snyder**



Greetings Colorado;
YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!! I want you to know as you read this, that we value your service and commitment to enhancing the lives of Veterans.

their leadership, and a wonderful year!! To our new leadership team headed by Commander Ed Aitken, and Department President Caroline Gelatt, I extend to you my best wishes and pray that your year is filled with much success.

As we face a new year together, it is my hope that we continue to work together as a team, with one common goal in mind; serving our Veterans. They deserve our best!! I pray that we do not let petty jealousies or grievances cloud our judgement or serve for self-interest. I truly believe that we are stronger when we are together as one. I pray that through our work, we strengthen our communities and aspire to serve others, in that our work may bear fruit worthy of God's glory.

I look forward to seeing all of you in August at the Council of Administration in Craig, CO. Always remember, the things that are not seen, but are felt, are the most important things to the members within this great organization. God Bless.

George Snyder
Department Chaplain

I want to thank each and every one of you for allowing me to serve as your State Chaplain. I consider it an honor, privilege, and a blessing to serve our Veterans. As we give thanks to our Heavenly Father for the successes of another year completed, we remember the strength, perseverance, and determination of our leadership team, and its members throughout the past year. That is what makes the Department of Colorado special; it's members. Members that encompass Comrades, Brothers, and Sisters. What I see when I take the time to look, and I often do; are members that are resilient, hardworking, compassionate, and above all willing to go the distance. On that note, I want to thank both Junior Past Commander Allan Stone, and Past Department President Linda Reinbold, and their teams for

Vietnam Veteran Elected VFW National Commander

Ending sequestration will remain a top priority under new leadership

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States concluded its 118th National Convention today with the election of Keith Harman of Delphos, Ohio, as its new national commander.

Harman served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1969, including service in Vietnam as a crew chief and door gunner on Huey helicopters.

During his acceptance speech, he spoke highly of the nearly 1.7 million members of VFW and its Auxiliary, citing the members' camaraderie as the driving force to the success of the organization.

Every member of our organization has walked the talk, and every member of our great Auxiliary has lived the fear of having a loved one downrange. I believe in what the VFW stands for — to take care of veterans, service members and their families — and I am proud to be a part of it, and honored to lead it," the new national commander told the crowd.

Harman has been a member of the VFW for 34 years, belonging to VFW Post 3035 in Delphos, Ohio. He has served in elected and appointed positions at Post, District and Department (state) levels, and achieved All-American status during his year as commander of the VFW Department of Ohio in 2004.

Throughout his remarks, he stressed the importance of the VFW's work to those it serves, and praised today's service members' resolve and dedication. "Sixteen years ago, no one would have thought it possible for America to fight a nonstop, two-front war for so long without restarting the draft, but we have — they have — and they continue to do so magnificently, which is a testament not only to their patriotism but also to their character," he said.

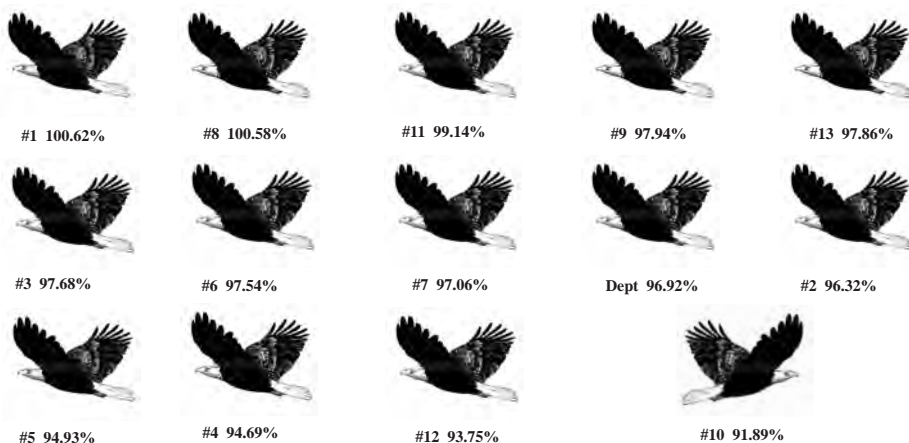
The national commander also discussed his recent fact-finding trip to Southeast Asia. It was his first return to Vietnam after ending his military service there 49 years prior. He noted the dedication and commitment to America's Full Accounting Mission of those associated with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, and reiterated the VFW's commitment to the program.

With the demand, "Sequestration must end!", Keith made clear during his remarks ending sequestration will again top the VFW legislative agenda for his term as national commander.

He will lead the organization under the theme Service not Self. "Those three words represent the life I've led for more than four decades," he explained.

During his tenure as national commander, Harman will log thousands of miles across the U.S. and abroad to promote veterans' issues and advocate for better quality of life programs for all veterans, service members and their families.

Also elected were Senior Vice Commander Vincent "B.J." Lawrence, of Alamogordo, N.M., and Junior Vice Commander William J. "Doc" Schmitz of Corning, N.Y.



Post 1771: Dan S. Durkee, John E. Gauna, Darrell P. Howe, Wayne M Larsen, Charles A. Parise, Henry J. Rickers, Carl E Rotz
Post 3820: Jerry W. Long, Sam A. DeLeo
Post 4051: Donald Coblentz, Russell Ericson, Harlan Long, Michael Roysce
Post 8121: Lloyd Gould



Twelve members of VFW Post 10721 braved the rain and hail to visit the “Vietnam Soldier Stone Memorial” near the Continental Divide at Sergeant’s Mesa, CO. We suggest all Colorado VFW Post members make this trip - you will have never seen anything like this in a war memorial on a mountain top.



District 5 VFW Warriors Chairman Bill Byes (L) & VFW Post 7829 Commander & District 5 Warrior Joe Carlson (R) welcomed Warren Williamson (C), Executive Director of Tribute to Fallen Soldiers which holds an annual Memorial Torch Motorcycle Ride from the West Coast (Eugene, OR) to Arlington National Cemetery with scheduled stops at homes of fallen soldiers, and 15 motorcycle riders to VFW Post 101 where: as the “Overnight Host”; District 5 VFW Warriors & VFW Post 101 provided the group with dinner & breakfast and a place to stay on the night of July 22nd. Truly a “Service to Veterans” activity.



PDC Peter Buchanan installed the officers of Meles-Jain VFW Post 807 Boulder June 3rd. Commander is Willard “Bucky” Wells, Quartermaster is Kenneth Camell. Qm Camell is center with white hat and Cmdr. Wells is left with white hat hidden by PDC Buchanan.



PDP Ruth Gulden (center right) installs 2017-2018 VFW Auxiliary State President Caroline Gelatt (center left) at State Convention at Hotel Elegante. L-R: VFW Auxiliary Officers: Chief of Staff Colleen Rylant, Treasurer Cindy Anderson, Secretary Ginny Rosa; VFW Officers: Judge Advocate Kirk Rosa, PDC Allan Stone, State Commander Ed Aitken, Quartermaster Bruce Dolan. PDC Kirk Rosa was installing officer for the 2017-2018 VFW Department of Colorado officers which was a Joint Installation ceremony with the VFW Department Auxiliary Officers. Well Done!!!



Janine Barth & son Kurt Barth, VFW Post 9304 Rifle, presented Air Force JR-ROTC award to Matthew Haines, Glenwood Spgs HS Senior.



State Quartermaster Bruce Dolan presenting AFJROTC Cadet Master Sergeant Dillon Ratliff of Aurora Central 4/6/17 his award at Hinkley High School.



Members of Mount Holy Cross VFW Post #10721 were proud to participate in the official installation ceremony for the new Postmaster, Samuel Wittner at the Eagle, CO Post Office July 2017. L-R: Lt Col Berne Krueger, USMC (Ret), Iraq; Mr. Wittner; Lt Col Tamara Higgins, USAF (Ret), OIF/OEF; and Dave Schneider, USA, Vietnam.



May 6, 2017
Department of Colorado
VFW
Loyalty Day Parade
Calhan, CO



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

First-place Department winners were judged at National Convention. We're excited to announce the National Winner of the 2016-2017 Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest:

First Place: \$10,000 Scholarship, Department of Colorado
 Bayleigh Wynkoop | Wray, Colorado
 Sponsored by Auxiliary 4671



National Convention Presentation of State Presidents with Flags. L-R: Sr. Vice President Shelley Schlieman, State President Caroline Gelatt, Jr. Vice President Sabrina Feagaiga.



VFW National Convention, New Orleans, LA. Colorado VFW & VFW Auxiliary were well represented at all events. Jr Past President Reinbold & State President Gelatt were having fun at the Patriotic Rally; State Qm Dolan met up with ND Commander Shawn Shank. The Dolan Gang & Dick Wellensiek were out on the town and Lennie Dolan and President Gelatt with National Officers.

COLORADO VFW FOUNDATION

Thank you to the VFW Posts, VFW Auxiliaries, family members and friends for your donations. Every donation received makes a difference in the lives of Colorado's Veterans and their families.

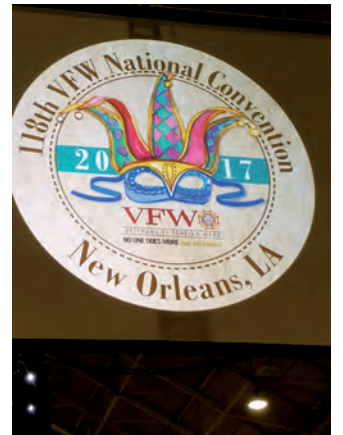
We are now accepting and processing applications for Eligible Veterans and their Families in the State of Colorado. All complete applications are processed in the order received.

Grant Applications should be submitted for assistance with utilities, medical expenses, travel/transportation in the event of an emergency, higher/continuing education course expenses, vehicle repairs/registration/insurance as determined on a case by case bases, and other basic needs, etc.

Any eligible Veteran in need of assistance across the State of Colorado can apply for a one time Grant of up to \$500. We receive referrals from VA Social workers, Veterans Service Officers, and other non-profit organizations. In the event the need is greater than the assistance that can be provided, the veteran will be referred to outside resources for: additional assistance to prevent eviction/ or loss of shelter, help with employment/interviewing/resume writing. Veterans will also be referred to our Veterans Service Officers for help with VA Claims and Benefits or, to their Local Human Services Agencies for any additional state assistance as they may qualify for.

The Grant Application is available on the Department Website to download; follow the requirements and submit the application to our office.

We are asking you our members and your family and friends to donate to the Colorado VFW Foundation. Make your checks payable to Colorado VFW Foundation and mail to 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214.



Welcome to the 113th National Convention in New Orleans, LA. There was plenty of food, snacks and fun to be enjoyed by all the Delegation. There was also meeting time, which they all attended!!



It was Mardi Gras time at the Patriotic Rally; VFW Delegates with VFW Post 1 member Christopher Cassidy, a USN SEAL; Jr Past President Reinbold and Auxiliary delegates; VFW Delegates with Lt Gen Rex McMillian USM Reserve and Maine Forces Northern Commander in Colorado Springs who gave the keynote speech during the Joint Memorial Service.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION WEEKEND

August 12th and 13th, 2017

Hosted by VFW Post 4265 and VFW Auxiliary

Friday August 11, 2017

Starting at 3:00 PM Dogs on the Grill
\$ "Donation" & Cash Bar

SATURDAY August 12, 2017

VFW Workshops

9:00 am

VFW Post 4265, 419 E Victory Way, Craig, CO 81625

Auxiliary Parade of Programs

2:00 pm

Craig Middle School, 915 Yampa Avenue, Craig, CO 81625

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

Dinner/Music/Cash Bar 6:00 PM

VFW Post 4265

BBQ Pig, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Dinner Roll

\$21.00 / plate

RSVP by August 7, 2017 303-421-1630

SUNDAY August 13, 2017

8:30 AM

Joint Opening

Craig Middle School

VFW Auxiliary Council Meeting

9:00 AM

Craig Middle School

VFW Council Meeting

9:00 AM

VFW Post 4265

Times and Locations Subject to Change

Colorado Veterans Community Living Center Homelake's 16th Annual Summerfest

Our "New Look" to Summerfest last year received such great feedback that we are going to continue that set-up. You can still sponsor a booth and have giveaways for the residents but we will have a game to go along with your booth. We will again have some carnival type booths and a food court. Rather than having the residents hurry through the line, we are going to have several areas for them to visit and our hope is that you will have more time to visit with our residents and staff.

Schedule of events:

Saturday, September 9, 2017

8:00 - 9:00 Set-Up then Cinnamon rolls, juice and coffee served in the Homelake Old Dining Room to all "HOMELAKE SUMMERFEST" participants

9:00 Flag Raising Ceremony

9:15 - 11:00 Tables/Booths will be open to the residents for the 16th Annual Homelake Summerfest!

11:00 - 12:30 Lunch will be served to all residents and Summerfest volunteers by Homelake staff. Awards/Certificate Ceremony (presented during lunch)

VFW National Foundation Community Service Grant

VFW community service projects are extremely important and shouldn't be hindered by budgetary limitations. In an effort to help VFW Posts and Auxiliaries succeed in serving their communities, the VFW Foundation - the official 501(c)(3) charity of the VFW - established the VFW Foundation Post/VFW Auxiliary Community Support Grant to help fund local community service projects.

Available to any VFW Post or Auxiliary, a VFW Foundation Post/VFW Auxiliary Community Support Grant will provide up to \$1,000 for performing important and needed qualifying outreach projects in your community! With an easy and streamlined application process, Posts and Auxiliaries can expect to receive a decision within thirty (30) days of the application submission. Review the details of the community service grant and apply.

PLEASE NOTE: Funds for the VFW Foundation Post/VFW Auxiliary Community Support Grant have been exhausted for the current fiscal year. The VFW Foundation will be accepting applications for the next grant cycle beginning September 1, 2017.

Buddy Poppy Program

The Buddy Poppy got its association with the great loss of life in the Great War (WWI) 1914-1918, in the fields of Belgium, France, and Gallipoli, by its brilliant red color in battle fields of tom up brown dirt. During the Spring of 1915 April and May were warmer than normal and the fields of Belgium and France were tom up by battle. Life was beginning to return and the little plant known as the corn poppy started to grow and bloom with the red flowers. This red flower caught the attention of Canadian soldier named John McCrae in May 1915 near his artillery brigade position. It is reported that he wrote his famous poem "In Flanders Fields" following the death of a friend, which some of the most famous lines read, "In Flanders fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amid the guns below."

During the morning of November 9, 1918 two days before the Armistice stopping the great war on November 11 "The Poppy Lady" Moina Michael was working at the YMCA Overseas War Secretaries office in New York City. Moina took a few minutes to read a magazine article which caught her attention by the vivid illustration with a poem named "We Shall Not Sleep" which was another name for "In Flanders Fields."

At this moment Moina pledged to keep the Faith, and she wrote her own poem at that time titled "We Shall Keep The Faith" which reads, "Oh! You who sleep in Flanders Fields, sleep sweet-to rise anew! We caught the torch you threw And holding high, we keep the faith With All who died." She also

vowed to always wear a red poppy in remembrance. She took \$10 and bought 25 red poppies. She made her first poppy sales on November 9, 1918, and took up the campaign for the official symbol of the poppy in 1919.

In 1920, the National American Legion agreed to use the Flanders Fields Memorial Poppy as the USA's National Emblem of Remembrance. In 1922, after the French-made poppies for war widows and orphans, the VFW agreed in 1923 that American veterans of WWI could also benefit from donations collected from the red Memorial poppy.

For or more than 90 years the Poppy has been assembled by disabled and needy Veterans for each poppy sold to posts/Auxiliaries. Did you know that from the sales:

5 cents goes to the Department's Veterans Service Fund

1 cent goes to VFW National Headquarters Veterans Service Fund
1 cent goes to VFW National home for Children

The disabled and needy Veteran workers are also given a small stipend

Other money raised from donations goes to support veterans programs across the nation.

For more information on the valuable programs please see the VFW and VFW Auxiliary web sites.

SO LET ALL OF US GO OUT
SPREAD THE WORD AND
COLLECT DONATIONS FOR
POPPIES

Ron Boone
Department VFW Auxiliary
Buddy Poppy Chairperson

Legislative

The VFW and Auxiliary are powerful voices for our Veterans. In fact, they "advocate for justice for our nation's veterans, service members and military families on an array of issues and continue to be the voice for veterans everywhere." (vfw.org) In effect, they are the tip of the spear when it comes to advocating for our Veterans.

In an effort to be most effective, they have identified Priority Goals for 2017. These goals will work on the key issues affecting Veterans and their families. For more information regarding these particular initiatives, please visit the website <https://www.vfw.org/-/media-VFWSite/Files/Advocacy/PriorityGoalsBrochure.pdf> and see for yourself the actions the VFW will be taking on behalf of our Veterans and their families. More information is also found on the National Legislative Service page of the VFW: <https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service>

You may find yourself asking "How can I make a difference? How can my

voice be heard?" One way to start might be heading the VFW's Grassroots Efforts page where you can join the VFW Action Corps and stay updated on the VFW's advocacy efforts as well as have immediate access to a congressional directory so you can contact your legislators. <https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-efforts>

Or, contact your legislators directly. For the Senate, go to www.senate.gov/senators/contact

For the House of Representatives, visit www.house.gov/representatives

This provides you a direct opportunity to be the voice of change, the voice of advocacy, the voice that represents our Veterans and their families.

Remember, together we can be "One Voice UNITED for Veterans and Their Families."

Sara Robley
Department VFW Auxiliary
Legislative Program Chairman

VFW National Foundation Regular Grant

No one understands military and veteran support quite like we do. To help VFW Departments, Posts and Auxiliaries, as well as qualifying nonprofits provide the vital support America's heroes and their families deserve, the VFW National Foundation has established the VFW Foundation Regular Grant.

Grants ranging from \$1,000 - \$15,000, will be awarded for activities that directly benefit veterans, active duty military personnel and their families. Requests displaying innovation in service delivery, unique program design that addresses an under-served need and the likelihood of sustainability after the grant period ends will be given special consideration.

Review the details of the grant and apply. www.vfw.org/foundation



Auxiliary News

Published by Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of Colorado

Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman



Presidents's Column Caroline Gelatt



(cont. from page 1)

This is when my adventure truly began to take a turn. Members from across our state began to find out who and what I was about. Many past department

presidents mentored me, offering me opportunities to hold numerous chairmanships at the district and department levels. Attending Council of Administration and Parade of Programs continued to bring me a wealth of knowledge but it also opened my eyes to other auxiliary issues. When asked to run for Department Guard in 2013, for the third year in a row, I finally said YES. I have had many obstacles, changeless, and disappointments to overcome and I will tell you, that it wasn't always easy and there were many times that it would have been very easy for me to give up, but as you can see I stayed the course. This was because of each of you, our members, my family and my friends who encouraged me to never give up and.

My travels over the last ten years have allowed me to see how fortunate we are to be a part of an organization whose members make our work so impactful. I have found it such a privilege to work with such dedicated men and women who are passionate about ensuring the promises made by our government to its veterans and their families are fulfilled. We need each of you to have the passion in your heart to mentor and educate newer members to carry on our traditions and mission of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary. I will not always have the answers you want but I will seek them out. I will not always make the right decisions but I will ask for guidance. It will be my honor to represent each of you, our members, who serve the auxiliary.

I would like to introduce you to our members who will make up our team of program chairmen for this year. Auxiliary members please rise as I call your name and program. Please hold your applause until everyone has been introduced.

Program Coordinator Past Dept. President Carolyn Simon; *Achievement & All State Presidents Team* chaired by: Past Dept. President Ruth Gulden, Past District President Queenie Barz, Past District President Gayle Stockwell and Past District President Pam Valdez; *All*

State Treasurers: Past Dept. President Cindy Anderson; *Counselor to our District Presidents* will be Past Dept. President Pat Garcia; *Veterans & Family Support:* Rosie Naughton and because Veterans & Family Support is so important to our cause and is multifaceted Rosie will be supported by *National Home Chairman*, Raymond Moelder and *Buddy Poppy Chairman*, Ron Boone; *Americanism Chairman*, Rena Cales who will work closely with our Patriotic Instructor, Kathy Boatman; *The Colorado Veteran and VFW Website* will continue to be our Past Department President Ann Mauck and Rita Fama will update the Auxiliary webpages; *Way & Means* which includes selling our Veterans Pin will be chaired Stephanie Trujillo; *Our Extension & Chief of Staff*, Past Dept. President Colleen Rylant; Phil Reinbold will continue as our *Hospital Chairman*; *Games & Raffle Chairman* will continue to be Glenna Medina; Sara Robley is our newest face on the block, chairing our *Legislative Program*; *Membership*, Past Dept. Present Rosie Mitchell with additional support from our Sr. Vice President Shelley Schlieman; Our Jr Vice President, Sebrina Feagaiga, will Chair *Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen*; Due to last minute changes Patsy Gilmore, our newly elected Conductress has agreed to chair *Youth Activities*.

Thank you to Ruth Gulden for installing me tonight and to Kathy Boatman for acting as my installing secretary. And thank you to Glenna Medina and Rosie Naughton for being my conductresses.

I am here to ask each of our members to stand with me, believe as I do, that as "One Voice United for Veterans and their Families" we can continue to grow in membership and sustain our organization for generations to come. I pledge to each of you that I will share information with you because the more each of our members know, the stronger we will be!

To the Veterans that we serve, to the line officers of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Colorado and most importantly to our Commander Ed Aitken, I pledge my support and that of our Auxiliary for the Department of Colorado as we each strive to be "One Voice for Veterans!"

(installation speech)

Caroline Gelatt
Department President

National Certified Recruiter Training Program

Thank you to the everyone who worked so hard to reach the Department goal of over 100%+ in the 2016-2017 year! We can do it again in 2017-2018!

The purpose of the program is to help Auxiliary members recruit new members, retain our current members and help grow membership through outreach strategies such as member training, special public events, Auxiliary and VFW joint activities and membership events.

We need to get out the word and raise public awareness about who the VFW Auxiliary is, what we do and how it helps improve the lives of our veterans and their families. One way to do this is through advertising our events in newspapers, in the free section of the local paper and through community flyers. After the event, an article can be published thanking everyone for attending and a brief overview of the activity.

Our mission is to help develop a recruitment plan that can be effective by providing better knowledge about the benefits received when you become a member to the VFW Auxiliary. We can encourage those who are eligible to join

us and not get discouraged along the way. Remember – it is about getting one member at a time!!

I look forward to working with Department Membership Chair Rosie Mitchell, her membership team and all Auxiliaries throughout the upcoming year to continue growing our membership this year! Please call me with questions you might have. National has provided many resource tools to hand out, videos and access to their website for many ideas to help in promoting membership.

All Auxiliary members are working so diligently to keep our Department a healthy and active one. Each one of you has provided so much to veterans through your hard work, hours and hours of volunteerism, participation in fundraisers, activities and hospital work to support veterans and their families. THANK YOU!! We can all work together to have "One Voice UNITED for Veterans and Their Families"!

Linda Reinbold
National Certified Recruiter Trainer
Department of Colorado

Hospital Program

I would like to thank Caroline Gelatt, Department President and Dee Guillory, National Auxiliary President for again giving me the opportunity to be Department Hospital Chairman. Linda Reinbold is the Co-Chair and we are very much looking forward to working with all of the Deputies, VAVS Representatives, Hospital representatives and volunteers during this upcoming year.

This year I am going to shift focus somewhat from just visiting all of the facilities, to making myself available to attend important functions and activities at our hospitals and CLCs. If you have an event or activity (Christmas party, patient's day, community day, etc.) that you think would be good for Department Hospital Representatives to attend, please send me a note and we will make an effort to be there. There are 10 facilities within the Department of Colorado, and if possible I would like to make at least one special function for each one.

I was very pleased with the reporting of hours and events last year, but I am certain that much more is being done than is being reported. Completely documenting the many areas in which we volunteer is more crucial than ever. As you know, funding and additional support of these facilities is directly tied not only to every hour that Hospital volunteers serve, but also to accurately documenting that service. It will be one of my goals to help increase the number of hours that are really served and support the recording of that time. Hospital volunteers give so generously of themselves in this effort and often do not take the time to record their time or contributions, or just chalk this up as doing their job. We all need to under-

stand how important it is to keep track of all that we do. Many volunteers are not recognized for their valuable efforts because of this.

Another goal this year is to emphasize the recognition of volunteers for all that they do. We must submit their names and hours so that they can receive their pins and awards. Please submit an application for Outstanding Hospital Volunteer from your Auxiliary. Also, in your Auxiliaries, be sure to send in \$.50 per member by Oct 31 to assist all VA Hospitals and Nursing Homes for Christmas gifts and events. There are so many ways that we can give back in a small way to those who have given us so much—Our Veterans!

Another important part of our program is Military Suicide Awareness and Prevention. Pass on information on the Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1 to connect to a specially trained and experienced person, text 838255 to connect to a VA responder or go on-line to www.veteranscrisisline.net. I will be getting additional materials to pass out and make available to Auxiliary members to highlight this program. This will be a priority for me this year as well and I hope to make the support of this program easier and more accessible for Auxiliary members.

With your support and assistance, we can continue the incredible service we have provided in the past. We can make this a time where we expand our service to those that need us and value our time and contributions the most, our veterans, by emphasizing "One Voice UNITED for Veterans and Their Families".

Phil Reinbold
Department Hospital Chairman

Thank You Colorado

To all of my VFW and Auxiliary members. Thank you for all your support, calls, cards, thoughts and prayers during my sons last days and after his passing. God bless you all.

Sue and Louis Tartaglione & family

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO
GENERAL ORDERS #1**

All General Orders from the Department President are official and must be read at the first meeting following receipt before being filed for reference.

1. Having been duly elected and installed into the office of President, Department of Colorado, according to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary, I hereby assume command on June 17, 2017. All previously elected, appointed and committeemen's term of office is hereby declared expired and now ineffective.

The following officers have been duly elected and installed at the 93rd Annual Convention held in Colorado Springs, CO on June 14 – 17, 2017 and will have full authority to act and shall be obeyed accordingly:

PRESIDENT:

Caroline Gelatt (6624)

3201 Claremont Ave, Evans CO 80620

SR. VICE PRESIDENT:

Shelley Schlieman (7945)

3537 W. 113th Ave, Westminster CO 80031

JR. VICE PRESIDENT:

Sabrina Feagaiga (101)

4555 Harwood Rd, Colo Sprngs CO80916

SECRETARY:

Ginny Rosa (12009)

416 S Pine Dr, Bailey CO 80421

TREASURER:

Cindy Anderson (4331)

9134 W 93rd Ave, Westminster CO 80032

CHAPLAIN:

Kathy Carlson (7829)

19527 Kershaw Ct, Monument CO 80132

CONDUCTRESS:

Patsy Gilmore (3917)

1719 Ascot Rd, Colo Springs CO 80906

GUARD:

June Spencer-Burton (101)

3280 S Academy Blvd, Lot C,

Colo Sprngs CO 80916

2. Department Officers, Department Chairmen, District Presidents and Auxiliary Presidents:

All communications must be answered promptly, using the proper channels as listed on page 12 of the Booklet of Instructions.

3. Following are the Program Chairs for the 2017 - 2018 year:

Program Coordinator – Carolyn Simon (322), 3550 S Harlan St, Apt 192, Denver CO 80235

Achievement – Ruth Gulden (1), 10658 Crystal Way, Morrison CO 80465

Gayle Stockwell (6624), 2038 27th Ave Ct, Apt 4, Greeley CO 80634

Pam Valdez (2411), 8555 Cty Rd GG, Las Animas CO 81054

Queenie Barz (5231), P O Box 533, Mancos CO 81328

All State Treasurers – Cindy Anderson (4331), 9134 W 93rd Ave, Westminster CO 80021

Americanism – Rena Cales (6461), 7461 Fortman Avenue, Fountain CO 80817

Auxiliary News – Ann Mauck (2601), 2130 Squires St, Longmont CO 80501

Buddy Poppy – Ron Boone (2121), 2906 57th Ave, Greeley CO 80634

Ways & Means – Stephanie Trujillo (6624), 636 S Ursula Avenue, Milliken CO 80543

Courtesy – Kathy Carlson (7829), 19527 Kershaw Ct, Monument CO 80132

Chief of Staff/Extension – Colleen Rylant (41), 130 E 22nd St, Loveland CO 80538

Games & Raffle – Glenna Medina (2121), P O Box 874, Platteville CO 80621

Hospital – Philip Reinbold (5812), 834 W El Portal Drive, Pueblo West CO 81007

Legislative – Sara Robley (5812), 571 E Paradise Dr, Pueblo CO 81007

Membership – Rosie Mitchell (8121), P O Box 262, South Fork CO 81154

Program Report/Community Service – Jackie Newlander (3631), 3218 S Andes St, Aurora CO 80013

Scholarships – Sabrina Feagaiga (101), 4555 Harwood Rd, Colorado Springs CO 80916

Social Media – Andi Montoya (1), 8743 Santa Fe Dr, Denver CO 80260

Christopher Tone (9741), 655 Aspen Cir, Frederick CO 80530

Lynette Foxe (3917), 131 Kokomo St, Apt H, Colorado Springs CO 80911

Veterans & Family Support – Rose Naughton (2121), P O Box 715, Galeton CO 80622

National Home for Children – Ray Moelder (6624), 1518 39th Street, Evans CO 80620

Youth Activities – Patsy Gilmore (3917), 1719 Ascot Road, Colorado Springs CO 80906

4. Department Officers, Department Chairmen, District Presidents and Auxiliary Presidents: Please place the names of Caroline Gelatt, Department President and Ginny Rosa, Department Secretary on your mailing list so all activities will be reported to this office.

5. All Auxiliary Presidents, District Presidents and Treasurers: In accordance with the Bylaws must be bonded no later than September 15, 2017. All Installation reports must be received by the Department Secretary no later than May 31, 2017 and at National Headquarters by June 30, 2017.

6. Auxiliary Presidents and Treasurers: In accordance with the change to Department Standing Rules as approved at the June 14, 2017 Council of Administration, dues notices may be sent out to all unpaid members and the Auxiliaries will be charged for the postage unless the Auxiliary Treasurer has notified the Department Treasurer in advance that they have sent out their own Auxiliary Dues notices.

7. Auxiliary Secretary and District Secretary: Please send names and addresses of the Auxiliary and District Chairmen to the corresponding Department Chairman and Department Secretary.

8. District Presidents: Please send a complete schedule of your District meetings including dates, time and location to Department Secretary, Ginny Rosa, 416 S Pine Drive, Bailey CO 80421 or email to humming657@gmail.com. Please do this promptly so representatives may be scheduled. We ask that you do not schedule any District Meetings during Western Conference to be held November 2 – 5, 2017, in San Diego California.

9. District Presidents: A reminder that Annual Inspections are very important and must be conducted. The Inspecting Official should sign the Secretary's and Treasurer's books only if they are kept according to procedures outlined in the Booklet of Instructions. Every question on the Inspection Form should be answered. Copies of your W-9 that has been sent to National and a copy of your filed 990-N should be provided to the Inspecting Official.

10. Auxiliary Treasurers: Please send your 2017 - 2018 dues for new membership as received. The Department goal is to reach 100% plus by June 30, 2018.

11. Auxiliary Trustees and District Trustees: Audits for the quarter ends of June, September, December, and March must be set to the Department Treasurer 30 days after the end of the quarter.

12. Hospital Reporting: When filling out the Hospital Section of the Program Report forms, you must indicate if volunteer hours are provided by a VFW or Auxiliary member.

13. Minutes of the 93rd Department Convention held in Colorado Springs Colorado, June 14 – 17, 2017 will be mailed or emailed to the members of the Convention Composition, with the exception of the Delegates. See Section 812D.

June 17, 2017

14. Important Information: Fall Council of Administration Meeting and Parade of Programs will be held August 12 - 13 at Samuel J Havenga Jr VFW Post #4265 in Craig. Malta Training for Treasurers will begin at 10:00 am, Recruiter Training will be held at 1:00 pm and the Parade of Programs will begin at 2:00 pm at Craig Middle School, 915 Yampa Ave, Craig CO 81625. The Joint Opening of the Council will begin at 8:30 on Sunday, August 14 at Craig Middle School with the VFW then moving to Post 4265 for their meeting. Meals will be served at the Post. **ALL AUXILIARY MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND ALL FUNCTIONS.**

15. Joint Homecoming will be held August 5, 2017 in Evans, Colorado at Post 6624 beginning at 11:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. RSVP to coloradovfwhomecoming@gmail.com.

16. To Department Commander Ed Aitken, Department Officers and VFW Members: I hereby pledge the continued support of all the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary, Department of Colorado.

BY ORDER OF:

Caroline Gelatt, President

ATTEST:

Ginny Rosa, Secretary

**Ralph W. Emerson / Jack Gulden
Memorial Blood / Cancer Fund**

WHO - all members of a Colorado VFW Post or VFW Auxiliary diagnosed with Cancer

WHAT - grant up to \$500.00

WHERE - VFW Department of Colorado, 1400 Carr Street., Lakewood CO 80214 303-421-1630

WHEN - upon submission of the request form (on Department Website) and approval

WHY - to assist our members with additional expenses. Cancer is not cheap.

These are the basics and all members should know this grant is available. Please spread the word. It is there to assist when Cancer comes calling.

To be able to assist, it is imperative that fundraising support happens. Contributions from all VFW Posts and VFW Auxiliaries are needed. Please plan a fundraiser, send the proceeds to VFW Department of Colorado marked for the Blood/Cancer Fund so assistance for our Colorado VFW Veterans and VFW Auxiliary family members is there when needed.

Thanks for helping!

Dick Wellensiek, VFW Chairman
Ruth Gulden, VFW Auxiliary

Youth Activities

Greetings all Auxiliary members! My name is Patsy Gilmore and I am very honored to be Madame President Caroline Gelatt's Youth Activities Chairman for the 2017-2018 Program Year. I would like to thank Madame President Caroline for asking me to be her Youth Activities Chairman this year.

The Youth Activities Program incorporates both working with the youth and also rewarding them for doing the "right thing" in order to help form a strong bond between our Auxiliaries and the youth. The youth are our future and I believe it is our responsibility to guide and mentor them.

The Outstanding Young Volunteer of the Year Award. All entries are due to the Auxiliary by February 1, 2018 and to Department Youth Activities Chairman by February 15, 2018. Department winner will receive \$200.00 and will be awarded at the State Convention in June 2018.

The Outstanding Youth Group of the Year Award. This award will be available for any organized youth group. A few examples are, but not limited to: Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Frontier Girls, church youth groups, VFW youth groups, Young Marines and JROTC. All entries are due to VFW Auxiliaries by May 15, 2018 and due to Department Youth Activities Chairman by May 31, 2018. Department youth group winner will receive \$300.00 and

will be awarded at the State Convention in June 2018.

The Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citation. This citation is from National and available to any youth group. All entries will be due to The Department Youth Activities Chairman by April 8, 2017.

The Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.). The R.A.P. coins or the R.A.P. cards can be given out when Auxiliary members see a youth "caught" doing a Random Act of Patriotism. Coins can be purchased at www.vfwstore.org item # 01916. The card template is available at www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources/ under the Youth Activities Program.

For my year-end report, some of the information I will be reporting is:

- * number of Auxiliaries who submitted a Youth Group Supporting Our Veterans Citation
- * number of youth groups each Auxiliary worked with during the year
- * number of Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.) cards and coins given out
- * number of youth recognized in your community for academic, athletic, scouting or other accomplishments

My goal for this year is to have at least one citation and four program reports from every Auxiliary. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Patsy Gilmore
Department Youth Activities Chairman

Congratulations!!!

Linda Reinbold, Colorado's 2016 - 2017 Department President earned the Circle of Excellence and was awarded the coveted honor at National Convention in New Orleans, LA

Outstanding performance, excellence; and staff development are encouraged, rewarded, and recognized this year. By excelling in tasks and meeting high standards and benchmarks.

Thank You for your continued support!!

Membership 2017-2018

Membership is the LIFE-BLOOD of the VFW Auxiliary. We need to grow so we can continue to serve those who have sacrificed so much.

In keeping with our Department President's theme, "One Voice UNITED for Veterans and Their Families", we have to stay strong by remembering the 3 R's, Retain, Recruit and Rejoin ..

Treasurers, please send out dues reminders early. Each auxiliary should have a membership committee to contact not only our continuous members, but reach out to those who have let their membership lapse.

Start planning now to have Recruiting Drives. Remember, males can now join the auxiliary.

Have plenty of applications on hand, let them know who we are. what we do and always wear a smile.

***** There will be some monetary awards. *****

All annual members that have their dues paid by October 15, 2017 will have their name in a drawing for \$25,00 at the October COA.

At the October and March COA, for every new or rejoined member you recruit. You will have your name entered in a drawing. There will be three names drawn, each one for \$25,00. If you recruit three new or rejoined members, you will have three entries and so on. More information will be at our August COA in Craig. We hope to see you there.

With the help of every member, Colorado will shine and be UNITED for our Veterans and Their Families.

As "One Voice UNITED for Veterans and their Families", we will "Catch the Dreams For Our Veterans"

Rosie Mitchell
Department Membership Chairman

Chief of Staff / Extension / Mentoring

Hello and Welcome to all of our VFW Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters. What an exciting year this is going to be. Once again, we will be using the ARE YOU HEALTHY form and the member questionnaire. Certificates will be given to those auxiliaries that use these two forms. Special attention will be given to engaging our members and mentoring new and seasoned members alike. As an example; when was the last time that you as a member have read the "new" ritual and bylaws? Auxiliaries will be asked to read a bylaw or ritual section at regular meetings and discuss it. One great starting place would be the GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS located in the Ritual section of our Bylaw and Ritual book. Sharing the working knowledge and customs of your individual Auxiliary.

I will be sending out letters to Bachelor Posts asking them to consider authorizing an Auxiliary to their Post. Generally speaking, Posts tend to be stronger when they have the support of an Auxiliary in working the programs.

There is a new award for this year provided by our National President. A Special National President's Coin will be awarded to one member in each Department who demonstrates the best mentoring in his/her Auxiliary and /or Department. (Nomination form required) At the time of this article the form is not available.

Good Job business cards and a spe-

cial fun recognition drawing will be held starting at the fall and spring COA meetings. Where are these? They will be available on the National website behind the member login. If you have trouble with this, please contact me and we will get there together.

TWO NEW ACRONYMS: CARE & PMMFI (pumfee)

- Catch the member when they first join.
- Ask them to participate.
- Remember what it felt like to be new.
- Engage them in a program that fits them.

PMMFI Yes, Pumfee! PLEASE MAKE ME FEEL IMPORTANT

There is a tremendous amount of work for our auxiliaries this year, to make our goal of 100% plus while connecting with our new and current members. Making all feel wanted and important, while getting back to the basics of HOW our organization works and WHY we are here.

Questions or needing to talk; Please contact me: Colleen Rylant, phone 1-970-669-1832 or cerylant@comcast.net or 130 E 22nd St., Loveland, CO.

The Stronger our Auxiliary, the Stronger our "One Voice United for Veterans and Their Families" will be and we will be able to help "Catch the Dream for our Veterans.

Loyally,
Colleen Rylant
Department Chief of Staff

Courtesy Request

Please send deceased member names to vfw@vfwcolodept.org so they can be listed in "Taps" and also be listed in the Joint Memorial Book for 2017-2018 State Convention.

There is a form on the VFW Colorado Website that can be faxed, emailed or snail mailed to Department Headquarters. Please print names so that they are not misspelled.

Thank You!

TAPS

Aux 336: Betty A. Terry
Aux 1771: Wilma Banecks
Aux 2411: Connie Trujillo
Aux 3411: Glaida Craven

Auxiliary Membership by District as of June 30, 2017

Number	City	2016	2017	%	Number	City	2016	2017	%
DISTRICT #1					DISTRICT #7				
1	Denver	175	184	105*	899	Alamosa	82	85	102*
501	Denver	140	142	101*	3228	Monte Vista	49	50	100*
2461	Denver	126	120	95	4849	La Jara	49	46	92
2797	Denver	37	42	114*	6101	San Luis	32	28	88
3971	Denver	36	32	89	8121	So Fork	96	109	111*
5061	Denver	106	132	125*	TOTAL		308	318	102%*
TOTAL 620 652 105%*					DISTRICT #8				
DISTRICT #2					DISTRICT #9				
2788	Penrose	38	35	92	4264	Stmbt Spgs	32	33	103*
3641	Pueblo	81	79	98	4265	Craig	52	47	90
4061	Canon City	153	144	94	5843	Meeker	32	31	97
5812	Pueblo West	53	51	96	9374	Kremmling	19	22	116*
7305	Colo. City	27	24	89	TOTAL		135	133	99%
TOTAL 352 333 95%					DISTRICT #10				
DISTRICT #3					DISTRICT #11				
41	Loveland	121	124	102*	784	Montrose	50	47	94
1771	Lafayette	316	319	101*	1247	Grnd Jcnctn	95	88	93
1781	Ft. Collins	97	107	110*	3571	Delta	60	60	100*
2121	Greeley	98	102	104*	3981	Grnd Jcnctn	6	18	0
2585	Johnstown	80	75	94	4663	Clifton	57	54	95
2601	Longmont	234	228	97	9221	Cedaredge	58	59	102*
4334	Ault	34	35	103*	9304	Silt	13	13	100*
6624	Evans	218	217	99.5	9333	Hotchkiss	21	20	95
9565	Broomfield	49	44	90	TOTAL		360	359	99.7%
9741	Dacono	0	22	0	DISTRICT #12				
TOTAL 1247 1273 102%*					DISTRICT #13				
DISTRICT #4					DISTRICT #13				
2551	Ft. Morgan	129	127	98	3411	Kit Carson	27	28	104*
3541	Sterling	81	72	88	6491	Burlington	18	18	100*
4671	Wray	30	30	100*	6612	Hugo	51	47	92
8064	Akron	30	9	30	TOTAL		96	93	97%
TOTAL 270 238 88%					15006 At Large 318 334 105%*				
DISTRICT #5					TOTAL DEPT. 6,633 6,688 101%*				
101	Colo. Spgs.	80	84	105*	"100 Years of Serving Veterans"				
3917	Security	214	215	100*	VFW Auxiliary				
4051	Colo. Spgs	309	286	93	Department of Colorado				
5221	Calhan	27	28	104*	All State President & Auxiliary Achievement				
6461	Fountain	120	133	111*	HONORAL VETERANS				
7829	Monument	31	35	113*	HONOR YOUR VETERAN				
TOTAL 781 781 100%*					Hip Hip Hooray for our 2017-2018 Auxiliary Membership! Hip Hip Hooray for our 2017-2018 Auxiliary Presidents! What a great year everyone will have doing awesome projects for our Veterans, Youth and Communities. Human nature is that we all need to know that "we are appreciated". Don't you like to be appreciated?				
DISTRICT #6					We are asking all Auxiliary Members and Presidents to honor Veterans by allowing us to show our appreciation for the work you have done from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018.				
336	Ordway	79	82	104*	Members INSIST and ASSIST your President to complete the All State President and Auxiliary Achievement Reports at year end. Presidents, not only honor Veterans, honor your Member-				
2411	LasAnimas	110	114	104*					
3621	Lamar	17	0	0					
4001	Springfield	28	26	93					
4281	Holly	8	9	113*					
TOTAL 242 231 95%									



Let's all support our 2017-2018 VFW Auxiliary Membership, Officers and Program Chairman

ship. Show your appreciation for what they do by leading the way for the completion of the All State President and Auxiliary Achievement year end reports.

Now is the time to copy the reports, plan your activity, keep good records because year end will be here again before we know it. Remember all Auxiliaries and Presidents must report so everyone can feel appreciated--including our Veterans. Let them know that what you do is important and you report to honor them. We are "One Voice UNITED for Veterans and their Families" to. "Catch the Dream for Our Veterans".

Thanks far allowing us to appreciate you!

Gayle Stockwell, Queenie Barz, Pam Valdez, Ruth Gulden, Chairman

Americanism

Hello to all of my VFW Auxiliary Siblings!!!

I want to say 'Thank You' to Department President Caroline Gelatt for selecting me for her Americanism Chairman! By using our 'One Voice UNITED for Veterans and their Families', we will be able to rise again this year, just like her flower the Poppy, to make this the best year ever! We need to really embrace her colors, Red, White and Blue, and get out there and promote and educate about Americanism! Patriotism begins at home

One way to do this is to use one of the 'Newest' tools that National has given us. Conduct a 'Family Freedom Festival'. I will have more information on this at the COA/Parade of Programs, Aug 11-13 at Post 4265 in Craig. If you log onto vfwauxiliary.org - Member Log In - Program & Publicity Resources - this is where it should be, as this is written before National Convention and the website has been updated with this years information in it. This site has all kinds of helpful and informative items, to get a running start for the year. 1. Flag Education: Federal Flag Code, Flag Education for Kids, Flag Etiquette at Parades and the Flag Exchange Card so those flags that need retirement can be traded for a New flag. 2. Do you need a copy of the POW/MIA 'Missing Man Table Ceremony'. Here is where you can print it out for your ceremony on Sept. 15th this year. What a great way to have an informative / educational for the classrooms. 3. 'Promote Patriotism' is where you can find 2 styles of the National Anthem/Pledge of Allegiance Bookmarks,

a 'Respect for Flag Letter and Citations' for the schools and a list of America's Patriotic Days. Print off copies of 'Understanding VFW Auxiliary Traditions' and give it to every member. It will help educate the newer members as well as a refresher course for the members with longevity. 4. The 2017-2018 Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teacher Award Application, Chairman's Manual AND the Press Releases to Announce the Program and Announce the Winners. The nominations have to be submitted to the Post no later than Oct 31st. Select your judges early, don't wait till the last minute because they have to be at District by Nov 15th, giving them till Dec 15th to have the winners in to Department who has to have them judged and ready to send to National on Jan 10th so they will be there by Jan 15th. Post/Auxiliary Chairmen, don't forget to send the original nomination form, essay and official VFW Post teacher entry form of the winner from each grade's category level - along with one-page resume, up to five pages of documentation and a good quality head and shoulders photograph from the winning teachers.

As always, Report, Report, Report... Let me know what/where you did, what information you passed on & to whom. Did you 'think outside of the box' & do something different?

"Patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime"- Adlai Stevenson.

Rena Cales
Department Americanism Chairman

VFW National Home for Children

I am very pleased to continue as chairman for another year. As everyone expects I will continue to apply my gregarious personality and fun loving nature to inspire our auxiliaries to continue to put more "fun" in "fun"draining. I will track all the National Home donations reported to the Department of Colorado. I will recognize at the 2018 Department of Colorado VFW Convention the auxiliary with the greatest amount contributed (less our minimum commitment) to the VFW National Home for Children. Please be accurate with the reporting and capture all your efforts toward this worthy cause.

Our VFW Auxiliary Department of Colorado Senior Vice President Shelley Schlieman invited me as her guest to tour the VFW National Home last May. It was a tremendous blessing to visit this small-town community in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. Several families gave testimonials on how this stable edifying environment helped them to recover from their crisis. The VFW National Home for Children provided housing,

daycare, education, recreation & basic needs to give them a path to recovery. They were genuinely appreciative of this life changing gift. To see the inner workings, to touch the bricks & to feel the compassion of the VFW National Home for Children is an experience I will draw upon for many years.

Upon my return I spoke to several people outside of our VFW Auxiliary community, one of which worked at the VA hospital and clinics for many years. No one had ever heard of the VFW National Home. Consequently I will spend time championing this program to my circle of community contacts.

More Information can be obtained at: vfnationalhome.org

Any questions, ideas or comments for the Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary National Home for Children Chairmen can be e-mailed to raymond.moelder@gmail.com

Raymond Moelder
Department VFW National Home for Children Chairman

Hope to see everyone in Craig, CO

Parade of Programs

2:00 - 4:00 PM

August 12th

Council of Administration

9:00 AM

August 13th

Veterans And Family Support

President Caroline and our Colorado Auxiliary members, I am deeply honored to serve as your chairperson for Veterans and Family Support. Thank you, Caroline, for your trust. I have anticipated your term as President, and I sincerely want to do an outstanding job. First of all....CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AUXILIARIES for the incredible job that you did in serving our Veterans. I was so very excited about the award that we received from National for all of our work!! That award is the result of all of your dedication and hard work....All I do is add up the numbers from your reports!! Keep those reports coming....But mostly...keep up the wonderful projects that you do for our veterans.

My goal this 2017-18 is to educate, promote, communicate, and motivate all of you concerning our program. We need to plan ahead to have fundraisers to support our National Veterans Service. This nationwide service called NVS helps veterans navigate the Veterans Affairs system. Please plan to make a donation to the VFW earmarked NVS and sent to National. We also need to plan ahead so that we can donate to the VFW Sport Clips Help-A-Hero

Scholarship Program, Unmet Needs for Military families in financial crisis, Operation Uplink, and Military Assistance Program which help fund VFW's and Auxiliaries hold welcome home get-togethers.

This November has been earmarked "Military Family Month". Please start thinking of some really creative activities to do all throughout the month. Please publicize what you are doing....

Make every day Veterans Day!!! Taking care of those who have taken care of us without asking for anything in return shows true patriotism and love of country.

I am excited to work with Chairmen Ray Moelder and Ron Booth this year,VFW National Home for Children and VFW Buddy Poppy respectively.

I look forward to seeing you for the next Council of Administration in Craig, Colo. on August 11-13.

Please support our new President Caroline Gelatt in donating to her special project, The Colorado VFW Foundation.

This year will be SPECTACULAR!!

Rosie Naughton
Department Veterans and Family Support Chairman



Department Fundraising

Greetings to everyone!!

First of all, Congratulations to our new Department Officers especially our Department President Caroline Gelatt and Commander Ed Adkins.

As some of you know, this year I will be your Department Fundraiser (aka Ways and Means) Chairmen and the Veterans Pins person. I know that Lenny Dolan has left big shoes to feel so any good luck you can send my way would be fabulous!

If you have not seen the veterans pin you're missing out!! It is a gold rectangle, that has red and white stripes, with sections of blue with gold stars. The saying states, "One Voice for Veterans". You can purchase these beautiful pins by sending me an order form in the mail or via email and I will mail the pins to you. The cost per pin is \$3 and you are to resell the pins for \$3. If you resell the pins

at a higher cost, you are to be sending the extra proceeds into myself or Department Treasurer Cindy Anderson. ALL the monies raised from this pin are to go to the Colorado Veterans Foundation that our Colorado Department handles.

This year, at each Council of Administration I will have cards, calendars, other things and at least one drawing each time. There are some great items to give out as prizes for these drawings so you defiantly want to go to C.O.A.'s so you don't miss out on a chance to win one of these items. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Wishing you all a great summer and see you soon at our first C.O.A. in Craig Colorado.

Stephane Trujillo
Department Fundraiser Chairman



2017 - 2018 Veteran's Pins Order Form

Auxiliary Name and Number: _____

Ship To: _____ Title: _____

City _____ Zip: _____

Quantity: _____ Pins x \$3.00 each=\$ _____ Enclosed (Check, Money Order)

Ordered by: _____ Phone: _____

Make check payable to **Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary**

Mail Veteran's Pin order to:

Stephane Trujillo
636 S. Ursula Ave,
Milliken, CO 80543
(970) 396-4197
stephane.trujillo@gmail.com