

COLORADO VETERAN

and Auxiliary News

“No One Does More For Veterans”



May, 2019

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

Volume 58, Issue 4 2018 - 2019



John E. Hamilton
Past Commander-in-Chief
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.

**National Representative
for
State Convention**

John E. Hamilton was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on July 25, 2012, at the 113th VFW National Convention in Reno, Nev.

In July 2013 he was appointed Adjutant General of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a position he held until his retirement in 2016.

Since his retirement from VFW National Headquarters in 2016, he is currently serving as executive director of Florida's Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation.

John served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1968 to 1970, including a tour in Vietnam. His decorations include three Purple Hearts, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Gallantry Cross Color, Republic of Vietnam Unit Citation Civil Actions Color (First Class) and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

He joined the VFW in 1974 at Post 7909 in Jacksonville, Fla., where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life membership. He has served the VFW in many leadership positions, including the National Council of Administration from 1989 to 1991, and as Florida's Department

Commander from 1987 to 1988. He served on the board of the VFW National Home from 2002 to 2008 and as its president from 2004 to 2005. He also served as Supreme Commander of the Military Order of the Cootie from 1992 to 1993.

John graduated with honors from Georgia Military Academy in 1967. He worked as a professional wrestler throughout the United States and the world for 15 years as Johnny Montana (also known as “Dr. Death”), along with other names and identities.

He was named Florida's Young Veteran of the Year in 1981. John served as a commissioner on the United States World War I Centennial Commission board located in Washington, D.C., from 2014 to 2016, and served on the board of the World War I Museum located in Kansas City, Mo., from 2011 to 2016. He has been honored by Presidents Jimmy Carter and George H. W. Bush for his outstanding community service and leadership.

John is a member of the Military Order of the Cootie, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, AMVETS, Fleet Reserve Association, and the Semper Fidelis Society.

He resides in Crestview, Fla.



Sandra Onstwedder
National Jr. Vice President
VFW National Auxiliary

**National Representative
for
State Convention**

Sandra Onstwedder of White Cloud, Mich., was elected National Junior-Vice President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States Auxiliary at its 105th National Convention in Kansas City, MO., on July 25, 2018.

She is now in the fourth of five offices leading to the National Presidency, which she is expected to hold in 2020-2021.

A Life Member of Renner-Lobker Auxiliary 3306, she joined on the eligibility of her brother, who served in the U.S. Navy from 1963-1967.

She has served the organization in several capacities including Auxiliary and District President, and

as Department (state) President she earned Outstanding President of the Year for her membership group. On the National level she has served as Director for the Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen and Americanism/Patriotic Instructor programs and Big Ten Chairman for the Veterans & Family Support and Community Service Programs.

She is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and the Military Order of the Cooties. In her spare time she enjoys exploring the great outdoors.

Sandra and husband Charles' family includes five children, 16 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Reflections from Hannah Karg

Hannah wrote about her experience in Washington D.C. during the National Voice of Democracy competition. When I first met her in Greeley at our Voice of Democracy Banquet, she said “I can't believe I'm the State Winner, I felt everyone's essay was better than mine.” Hannah clearly was in for a trip of a lifetime with the chance to win \$30,000 at the national competition. Nonetheless, she honored all of us here in Colorado and when I talked with her in D.C., she was still in amazement and grateful for the opportunity to make the trip. She said to thank all the VFW and Auxiliary members back in Colorado for the amazing time.

Steve Kjonaas
VFW Colorado Commander

Hannah Karg writes

Having never been to Washington D.C. before, I had no idea what to expect. What would the other winners be like? How would I handle being in a city by myself and way out of my comfort zone? However, the people that I was originally scared to meet made me feel a lot less lonely in the middle of a big city and became the

best part of my trip.

The first day after breakfast, we started off with a trip to Mount Vernon, where we stood in the very house in which our first president once lived. Later that day, we visited the Holocaust Museum and I don't think any of us were prepared for the impact that it was going to have on us. I wandered through, lost in words and pictures of horrific events, and wondered how people could let this happen and take part in such atrocities. We then took a nighttime tour of the monuments, which glowed and looked even bigger and grander than they did during the day.

The second day started off with a visit to Arlington, to see rows and rows of white stones that went on as far as the eye could see, each one a glaring reminder that represented someone's brother, father, sister, or friend. We watched the changing of the guard at the tomb of the unknown soldier in silence and reverence. We then visited the Newseum, where we learned how impactful our freedom of the press is. At the awards

(continued on page 2)

State Convention Buddy Poppy Display Contest

A Buddy Poppy Display Contest will again be held in connection with the State Convention. Rules have been designed to put emphasis on the purpose and effectiveness of the displays.

rules

(1). Displays will be presented and judged in three categories:

CATEGORY 1 Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign.

(Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)

(a). Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy

(b). At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

CATEGORY 2 Memorial or Inspirational Displays

(Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)

(a). Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy.

(b). At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

CATEGORY 3 Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies

(Post Home displays, table centerpieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)

(a). Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.

(b). At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

The State Buddy Poppy Committee shall have no responsibility in setting up, taking down, or returning displays. Displays may be entered and set up at any time from 7:30 a.m. Thursday June 13.

Displays shall be set up in space provided in the Convention exhibit or meeting halls. At the time the display is set up, the responsible person must complete an entry form which will show the category of competition, the number of Poppies used, the purpose of the display, the use to which it has been put and plans for future use, the Post and/or Auxiliary number and location, and the name of the person who will dismantle and remove the display at the close of the Convention.

Displays may be accompanied by a white card, not to exceed 4 inches by 6 inches in size, on which is lettered in black ink an explanation of the theme for the display or other information of interest to the viewer or the judges. Post name, number or location may not be visible on display entries; failure to comply will result in disqualification.

judging

Judging of displays will be on the basis of effectiveness, purpose, clarity of theme, suitability, originality, beauty and number of Poppies used. Where a sample of a large number of identical items (such as corsages or wreaths) is entered, full credit shall be given for the total number of Poppies used.

prizes

Plaques will be awarded to the first, second, and third place winners in each of the three categories. Plaques will be awarded at the Military Banquet when the winners are announced.

First Place Winners in each Category

First Place winners in each category will be eligible to be taken to National Convention and be entered in their respective category. Entry forms **must** be signed by the Department Adjutant. If someone from your Post or Auxiliary is not taking the entry to National Convention, you must designate someone to be responsible to set up and take down the display at National Convention.

SPECIAL NOTE: Departments purchasing over 250,000 Poppies will be allowed two displays in each of the three categories for the National Display Contest. All others will be allowed one display in each of the three categories.

**Are you busy on your Buddy Poppy Display?
State Convention time is almost here!**

**Be creative and make sure you have at least
one original with label attached**

COLORADO VETERAN and AUXILIARY NEWS

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Chapel Escort and Coffee Hour Schedule

We have sad news: we have canceled the Chapel Escort program at the Denver VA Hospital.

Over the past few months, many of the VFW Post and Auxiliaries have talked with us about the program. Several do not want to participate in the program if we do not have patients at the services.

When the new hospital opened, many procedures changed, one that affected the chapel program is the patients must have authorization and a nurse with them when they leave the floor. We cannot escort anyone to chapel, most Sundays we have only one person and sometimes not any patients are attending.

Chaplain Skaggs, Director for the chapel program, has been trying to work with the hospital to get more people to attend each Sunday, but to date we have very low attendance. The VA is to start the Video Chapel services in January so each patient can view services in their room.

In reviewing the Chapel program the VFW & Auxiliaries will not be providing refreshments any longer. The VA Chapel will still have services each Sunday, and all are welcome to attend.

Thank You to the VFW & Auxiliaries that supported the Chapel program in the past few months.

Ronald Lattin, VFW VAVS

Charlotte Lattin, VFWA VAVS

Colorado VFW Foundation

From the Board of Directors: First and foremost THANK YOU!!! VFW, VFW Auxiliary, Family and Friends. With your help and support we have been able to continue to help Colorado's Veterans and their families.

We are approaching the end of the Fiscal Year for 2018-2019: this year we have processed over 150 applications and have approved 130 applications expending over \$63,400.00. Applications are still being screened and processed by

the Board of Directors.

The Grant Application is available on the Department Website. Any eligible Veteran in need of emergency assistance across the State of Colorado can apply for a one time Grant of up to \$500.

As always we are asking for donations. Please make your checks payable to Colorado VFW Foundation and mail to 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214.

Reflections from Hannah Karg

(continued from page 1)

ceremony, we met up with our State Commanders and Auxiliary Presidents, then met the VFW Commander in Chief. During the ceremony, from the parade until receiving my award and listening to the first place winner's speech, I was humbled by the support and encouragement that all of these veterans showed to us. I was glad that by writing a simple essay, I could honor their sacrifice and the freedoms they secured for me. I celebrated with each scholarship awarded and was beyond grateful to be given \$2000 along with a brand new laptop.

Tuesday was my favorite day of the trip. By then, my little group had become close. We first visited the Martin Luther King Jr. Monument before making our way to the White House, where I admired and took pictures of every chandelier I saw. Afterward, we went to the Smithsonian, and my group went first to the American History Museum, exploring the displays on the First Ladies, the Presidents, and the wars. Next, we made a quick stop at the Air and Space Museum. We visited the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam, and Korean War

memorials, which were especially impactful. As another one of the state winners and I were walking through the area, we realized the symbolism behind the Vietnam Memorial reflecting back the people who were viewing it on its shiny surface. To everyone's name on that wall, we are the ones who were worth dying for. That evening we had one of my favorite adventures of the week, the nighttime boat ride on the Potomac River.

I am beyond grateful for the opportunities the VFW has given me as I have taken part in this contest in the past two years. As the Department winner for Colorado this year, I was able to take my first trip to our nation's capital, which was an unforgettable senior trip. While I was there, I experienced so much of our nation's history and also gained hope for our future as I looked at all of the young patriotic leaders that I was surrounded by. I will forever cherish the memories that I made there and the many people I was able to meet. As I stepped onto the plane, I was not scared of the unknown as I had been on the way there, but I was ready to embrace the many unknowns

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 Steve Kjonaas



I am beyond thrilled, grateful, and overjoyed on our progress during this year. All thirteen Districts had participated in the Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pens scholarship contest, and Teacher of the Year! Early on we could see that well over half the Posts in the State were set to be 100% or better, moreover, we now see that 80 to 90 of our Posts will be 100% or better by the end of June. Which also means that all the Districts are likely to be 100% by the end of June.

Come the COA in August, the award winner line will be long and noble.

How did we get here with membership? My theory on membership as I said to you many times before is that it's a direct reflection of leadership on all levels. From the Post member who is an informal leader but is always there to lend a hand or a few thoughts, the Buddy Poppy drives that get you out in the community, to the formal leadership of the Posts who drive the Post Commander's priorities and keeps it all moving like a large organization should.

You all have something very much to be proud of. That is, not only are you part of a great team, you brought friends, family, veterans, military and their families together, you helped an amazing number of veterans through troubled times. You are the best part of an elite organization of veterans!

Creating teamwork that produces desirable and positive outcomes is your charge. Making the mission and goals focus on *Our Way* and not *My Way* or *Your Way* is the defining element of team building. You have already done it and I believe you will continue moving forward creating outcomes that serves our membership, veterans, military, and their families. Your team is what makes all of us better and more effective.

Thank you everyone for your honesty, values, hard work, and for the progress we achieved. I am humbled by all of you and if it were possible I would easily accept the privilege of being the State Commander one more year because of you.

Steve Kjonaas
State Commander

Quartermaster's Column Bruce Dolan



Greetings, I hope this finds everyone well.

As we come to the end of another wonderful year in the VFW, I would like to thank all of you for al-

lowing me to be your Quartermaster. Every day I learn something new. Most good, some not. The good is always interesting. The things that are not so good always seem to take care of themselves.

I am glad to be working with the cast of Line Officers we have this year. Please know what they do is greatly appreciated.

As elections and installation approaches, please research your By-Laws as to the specifics of the Post and Districts. They are both done differently. Just remember, everything is done at one meeting at the District level, and the Post uses several meetings. One thing I do suggest. Even though it is allowed, don't use a show of hands voting. Everyone likes their privacy and should be allowed that privilege. Use small pieces of paper and number each one in sequence. Let the voters write their choice, fold the paper and have someone collect them in a hat or something. You should then select three people to count

the votes. If the Post is a smaller Post, adjustments can be made that are agreeable to all.

The quarterly audits are getting better and better for most Posts and Districts. As of this writing, we have 2 Post that have not turned in any Audits. We have 2 Posts who have not turned in an Audit for June, there are 4 Posts who have not turned in for September, and there are 10 Posts that have not turned in an Audit for December. This really isn't too bad, but could be lower. If you need help, contact your District Commanders and let them know you need help.

We do have Viet-Nam challenge coins that are sold as a set of 2 for \$25. Please contact Department. These coins help support our Salute to Service Program.

As elections are quickly approaching this means Election Reports will be due. Dead line for National is June 1st. We would like to have them here in Department by the middle of May so we can look them over. Even an incomplete report is better than no report.

Hope everyone has dug out your speedos and bikinis for summer, it's almost here.

Bruce R. Dolan
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

State Convention Ditty Bags

Donations for State Convention Ditty Bags would be GREATLY appreciated.

**Donations can be dropped off at Verle Huffman VFW Post 9644,
2680 W. Hampden, Sheridan, CO or
they will gladly pick them up in the Denver Metro area.**

Items are needed by the middle of May 2019

Cash donations also accepted

**Call or email Karen Davidsmeyer,
303-347-9401 neff1962@yahoo.com**

Thank You

Hope to see everyone in June 2019

Sr. Vice Column David Stone



Greetings comrades, Congratulations to the Department of Colorado for achieving 100% in membership! Job well done! Now, just to be clear,

we were still short 62 when I wrote this article but I'm sure that we will pass that mark by the time you read it. Membership is important for several reasons, one being that it accounts for a good portion of the Department budget, which is operating in the red when comparing our reoccurring revenue with our expenses. Membership growth will help but we should be looking at other ideas.

Those of you who attended the March COA in Greeley know that I pitched the idea of reducing the cost of publishing and delivering the Colorado Veteran by significantly reducing the number of papers that we print and mail from the current 18,500 copies to 5,000, providing a potential savings of \$17,000. 5,000 copies should be more than enough for those members that do not have internet access. Everyone else would receive email notice of new issues which would be published on the Department website in several ways. The key is that we need to deliver the news, but not at 40 cents per copy. This will be a topic of discussion at the State Convention and you can learn more at <https://vfwco.org/index.php/members/225-meeting-our-budget-chal->

lenge.

Speaking of the State Convention, it is quickly approaching. For me, assuming I will be elected, it's crunch time. I have been very busy planning my calendar and talking to people about appointments and programs. For the most part everything is covered but there are a couple of gaps.

For elected positions, we do not have candidates for the Department Surgeon. The Surgeon is probably one of the best offices in the Department. They get to visit the State and VA Community Living Centers throughout the state and frequently serve as the Department Representative at some of the District meetings through the year. Although long considered as one of the chairs leading to the Department Commander it is not required to do so.

For appointed positions I am looking for someone that wants to serve as the photographer / social media publisher. I am also looking for someone who would be interested in serving as the point person for Outreach Veteran Services and Support Organizations. If you are interested or just have questions drop me a line at davstone23@gmail.com or call me at 719-339-9112.

See you on the trail.

David Stone
Department Sr. Vice Commander

Jr. Vice Column Robert Kidd Sr.



It was nice to see everyone that came to the March Council of Administration in Greeley. Thanks to Post 2121 for hosting the Council of Administration

meetings. Thanks also goes out to Post 6624 for hosting the Membership training on Saturday. There was a lot of good training on Saturday. Plus there were some very important discussions, held for both the Post Membership and the Auxiliary.

I would like to reiterate that the Posts and the Auxiliaries need to work as a team. I can tell you that if it wasn't for my Post and Auxiliary working together, the Post wouldn't have accomplished all of the events that we have throughout the year.

Well the final push is on. As we near the end of the Veterans of Foreign Wars year, there is still a lot of work to be done, including the year end reports, events, and the nominations, election

and Installation of the Post officers for the 2019-2020 year.

With that being said, please get all of your election reports in. Don't forget the delegate fees for National & Department; they are mandatory expenses every year. If they are not paid, then the Post doesn't have a vote at the Department Convention and then National can pull your charter for failure to pay your delegate fees. Sorry, that is the Quartermaster coming out in me. It must be that time of the year.

There are many Posts in the Department that probably have just a few items to check off their lists to become an All American Post. And with that said, the Department also has a chance to make All American. So just keep doing what you are doing and the goals can be achieved.

Robert M Kidd
State Jr Vice Commander

MOC and MOCA Grand Convention

Listen Up, Cooties!

There is still time to register for the Grand of Colorado Convention. The Convention will begin at VFW Post 3917 with a Social Hour on May 17, 2019. Doors will open at 6:00 pm and the Social kicks off at 7:00 pm.

Stop by to meet-and-greet with our Supreme Representative, Bert Logan!

The Grand Scratch will be at VFW Post 3917 on May 18, 2019. Doors will open at 12:00 pm, Past Commander's meeting at 1:30pm, Joint opening at 2:30pm, and Installation of Officers at 5:00pm.

A banquet dinner will follow. MOC and MOCA members can register for the Grand Convention for \$15 each, which can be paid at the door. Ads for the Convention Booklet are \$15 per page (8"x 5.5") and can be submitted to the Grand Adjutant, Christopher Linski, at linski3@hotmail.com. Make all checks out to MOC 3 PT 2. Let's have a lousy Convention!

Bob Green
MOC Grand Commander



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

General Orders No. 4
May 1, 2019 Series 2018-2019

1. 99th DEPARTMENT CONVENTION will be held in the Sheridan High School, Denver, CO., June 12th through 15th, hosted by Verle Huffman. VFW Post 9644 and VFW Auxiliary, Sheridan, CO. The Council of Administration will meet at 7:00 pm, June 12th at Sheridan High School. All Council Members are requested to attend!! Uniform for the Convention will be: Council of Administration - casual; Joint Opening - Blues & Greys; Business Sessions - Black & White; Joint Memorial - Dark Suit or Blues & Greys.

2. POST QUARTERMASTERS: Request the assistance of your members in completing the list of deceased members form and return to Department Headquarters no later than May 17, 2019.

3. DISTRICT COMMANDERS must attend Council of Administration meeting June 12th at State Convention in Denver, CO. You must also be present at ALL Business Sessions to receive your full travel expense check plus per diem for you motel room.

4. REQUESTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT from 2018-2019 Council Members between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019, must be submitted in writing and approved by the State Commander. If NOT submitted by July 10, 2019, the request will not be paid.

5. POST ELECTION REPORTS: It is the responsibility of the membership to insist that the responsible officer reports the elections of officers to Department immediately after the election is completed. If not sent to Department Headquarters by June 1, 2019, your Post will not be allowed to vote at State Convention.

Section 213 – Arrearages, Deficiencies and Omissions states: Any Post in ar-

rears for any financial obligations to District, Department or National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

6. POST AND DISTRICT ELECTION REPORTS: If not sent to Department by July 1, 2019 your officers will be omitted from the Department Roster. No exceptions.

7. POSTS SHOULD ARRANGE SPECIAL CEREMONIES and all Commanders shall alert comrades to their obligations for appropriate commemoration of the following outstanding action dates in U.S. History: May 8th, VE Day; June 6th, D Day; June 14th, Flag Day. It is requested that all Posts and their members honor Memorial Day on May 31st.

8. DELEGATE FEE NOTICES are being sent to each Post Quartermaster. Fee must be paid to Department Headquarters prior to State Convention or your vote will not be accepted. Post Commander Delegate Card will be mailed to the Post Commander.

ATTESTED BY:
/s/ Bruce R. Dolan
Bruce R. Dolan
State Adjutant

BY COMMAND OF:
/s/ Steve Kjonaas
Steve Kjonaas
State Commander

Chaplain's Column
Edward Williamson



When I was stationed in Charleston at the Navel Station I loved to canoe and kayak. The base would rent you a kayak

and you would drive to the nearby boat ramp, park and launch.

Like every good physical activity there was some training and some rules you had to learn. With kayaks you had to learn to right yourself when you tipped over, and away from boats and their wakes and to pace yourself on the water.

The only thing about kayaking on the James River that I did not care for was the end of the day. You had to get back to the boat ramp before the sun went down. The mosquitoes would come out if you got there too late and eat you alive and so the most tiring thing I would do is race the sun back to shore as the sun went down.

One day as I was plodding home I saw a fellow kayaker paddle out and position himself between two fishing boats as they were coming in. The kayaker passed between them and proceeded to surf the large wake back to the boat ramp.

He was whooping and a hollering and having a great time as the normal 30 minute ride to the ramp was over in 9 minutes for him.

We all stared in wonderment as he picked up his kayak and put it on his car then walked into the nearby clubhouse

for a drink. I pulled up the ramp much later and put my kayak on the car and went in the clubhouse myself.

When I got inside...the Surfing Kayaker was talking to a small crowd about all the places he had been and his ideas about kayaking. He was enthusiastic about his sport and everybody in the clubhouse, whether they kayaked or not, left with a desire to try it someday.

Just like churches or clubs or service organizations, like the VFW with a need to increase our numbers, we all benefit from an enthusiastic member like the kayaker to talk up our organizations.

We all have great plans to increase our memberships and achieve our goals and they all require a human face ... our faces!

At all our posts we have recruiters who talk and live and breathe the benefits of our Post Homes to our communities with major enthusiasm. Most have hit our goals already!

Saint Paul exhorts us from almost 2000 years ago " ... we must not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up!

Our Posts in Colorado are so close to 100 membership. Good work all you enthusiastic recruiters! I look forward to the good news to come!

Edward Williamson
Department Chaplain

Surgeon's Column
Barbara Green



Thanks to Phil Reinhold (preinhold@q.com) (719-252-5667) Auxiliary member Post 5812 for much of the information for this article.

Recently President Trump created a Federal Task Force (Cabinet level). This "roadmap" will be across federal agencies to prevent veteran suicides. This task Force will be led by Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert Wilkie. It will work with state and local governments to provide resources, technical assistance and grants.

It is important to recognize the signs of a person thinking of attempting suicide.

Sad or depressed most of the time
Deteriorating physical appearance

Withdrawal from friends or family
Losing interest in activities they used to care about
Frequent and dramatic mood changes
Feelings of guilt or shame
Feelings of failure
Feeling that life isn't worth living
Giving away prized possessions
Risk taking – if a new behavior for this person
Seeking access to firearms, pills or other means of harming oneself
Increased alcohol or drug use
Negative feelings about themselves

But, most people considering suicide want someone to save them. No one should be afraid to ask for help.

Barbara Green
State Surgeon

EVERYTHING WE DO, WE DO FOR VETERANS.

VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Learn more or join at vfw.org.

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

2019 VFW Spring Sweepstakes

Closing date - June 21, 2019

Awards will be paid within 10 days following the close of the program

Have you returned your Spring Sweepstake Tickets?

If not, please do so ASAP

If you do not return them, you cannot win!

and

Thank You for your donation of \$5.00 or more

VFW Post Membership by District as of April 24, 2019

Number/ City	2018	2019	%	Number/City	2018	2019	%
DISTRICT #1				DISTRICT #8			
1 Denver	952	969	102*	859 Leadville	35	31	89
501 Denver	353	337	95	1166 Buena Vista	123	137	111*
2461 Denver	136	121	89	3820 Salida	87	80	92
2797 Denver	66	72	109*	8661 Bailey	126	130	103*
5061 Denver	290	292	101*	10721 Minturn	112	120	107*
TOTAL	1797	1791	99.7%	11411 Lake George	48	44	92
DISTRICT #2				DISTRICT #9			
2788 Penrose	85	88	104*	4264 Steamt Spgs	93	95	102*
3641 Pueblo	152	142	93	4265 Craig	127	124	98
4061 Canon City	272	285	105*	5261 Rangely	28	24	86
5812 Pueblo West	195	197	101*	5843 Meeker	44	50	114*
7305 Colo. City	43	48	112*	9374 Kremmling	31	32	103*
8898 Boone	43	42	98	TOTAL	323	325	101%*
12063 Westcliffe	51	51	100*	DISTRICT #10			
TOTAL	841	853	101%*	322 Englewood	102	114	112*
DISTRICT #3				DISTRICT #11			
41 Loveland	291	294	101*	784 Montrose	139	134	96
807 Boulder	41	45	110*	1247 Grnd Jcnctn	269	272	101*
1771 Lafayette	270	278	103*	3571 Delta	64	56	88
1781 Ft. Collins	330	354	107*	3981 Grnd Jcnctn	129	131	102*
2121 Greeley	186	178	96	4663 Clifton	70	74	106*
2585 Johnstown	189	187	99	5485 Parachute	37	40	108*
2601 Longmont	369	354	96	9221 Cedaredge	109	108	99
4334 Ault	61	65	107*	9304 Rifle	33	29	88
6624 Evans	253	249	98	9333 Hotchkiss	28	26	93
9565 Broomfield	109	103	94	TOTAL	878	870	99%
9741 Dacono	67	59	88	DISTRICT #12			
12174 Brighton	0	35	0	4031 Durango	227	237	104*
TOTAL	2166	2201	102%*	5181 Dove Creek	50	52	104*
DISTRICT #4				DISTRICT #13			
2551 Ft. Morgan	216	193	89	5231 Mancos	144	146	101*
3378 Yuma	64	66	103*	9058 Nucla	36	38	106*
3541 Sterling	97	103	106*	TOTAL	457	473	104%*
3551 Brush	30	39	130*	DISTRICT #14			
3951 Ovid	23	21	91	3411 Kit Carson	22	21	95
3961 Otis	20	19	95	6491 Burlington	67	71	106*
4671 Wray	55	51	93	6612 Hugo	36	35	97
6482 Holyoke	54	51	94	9491 Deer Trail	17	20	118*
7153 Fleming	26	26	100*	9700 Chynn Wlls	29	25	86
8064 Akron	39	49	126*	TOTAL	171	172	101%*
TOTAL	624	618	99%	15006 MAL	2627	2671	102%*
DISTRICT #5				DISTRICT #15			
101 Colo. Spgs.	485	494	102*	TOTAL DEPT	16065	16103	100%*
3917 Security	629	624	99	2019 dues are now DUE			
4051 Colo. Spgs	609	579	95	Be 100% +1 in 2018-2019			
5221 Calhan	107	101	94	CONGRATULATIONS COLORADO			
6051 WdlnD Park	50	49	98				
6461 Fountain	322	310	96				
7829 Monument	151	149	99				
10649 Elizabeth	53	51	96				
TOTAL	2406	2357	98%				
DISTRICT #6							
336 Ordway	93	92	99				
2411 LasAnimas	88	88	100*				
4001 Springfield	43	42	98				
4281 Holly	27	29	107*				
TOTAL	251	251	100%*				
DISTRICT #7							
899 Alamosa	98	100	102*				
4849 La Jara	51	52	102*				
6101 San Luis	59	61	103*				
8121 Del Norte	54	44	81				
TOTAL	262	257	98%				

Membership 2018 - 2019

Comrades,

Congratulations on an outstanding year on membership! This will be the first time since 2012-2013 that the Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars is eligible for All-American status; this is thanks to our members that work hard recruiting and aid in retention. Recruiting, mentoring, and retention is vital to keeping our organization strong so that we can continue to advocate for veterans and their families.

More than half of the Posts in our state will be ending their fiscal year with over 100% +1 in membership; almost all of the 13 Districts will also be finishing with over 100% +1 in membership. Our Department is projected to end the year with at least 107% in membership, but I would like our members to help exceed this expectation. Do not stop recruiting when you reach 100%+1, continue to make our organization stronger. Aid and mentor members so that they feel valued, as that will greatly assist in retention efforts.

Recruiting, mentoring, and sustaining

members is what makes our organization strong. Comradery, family, and a sense of purpose is what keeps our members. Show our membership the purpose of our great organization, and why nobody does more for Veterans than the VFW. Unfortunately, only 147 out of over 17,000 members have recruited or reinstated members; that is less than 0.01%. We can do much better than that. Help us keep our organization strong.

I am proud to be your Director of Membership, not only because it has been a successful year, but because every Post and District is doing their part aiding in membership efforts. That means we are working as a team for the greater good. Continue to recruit, retain, and reinstate members so that we can exceed expectation and let national know that the Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars is strong, and we will only get stronger. Thank you all for your efforts this year.

Lexi Faulkner
State Membership Director

Honoring the Vail Veterans Program

by Capt. (Ret) Pete Thompson, U.S. Army

It started 15 years ago, when one of our Vail neighbors met a combat injured Army captain in a hospital far, far away. I wish I could have heard that conversation, but they made a pact that changed the world (something like: "You organize, I'll get the troops").

That pact created the Vail Veterans Program (VVP). This year that program is being honored for hosting over 3000 seriously wounded American veterans and their families to the magic of Vail, to the magic of skiing and horseback riding, to the magic of high mountains and long life vistas. To commemorate this 15th anniversary, the Vail Symposium hosted an evening presentation entitled

"The Journey Home: Celebrating the Resilience of the Human Spirit"

Three of the Vail Veterans Program's Purple Heart recipients participated in a live interview:

---Colonel Greg Gadson is a West Point graduate with 2 Super Bowl rings who lost both legs in an IED explosion.

---Captain Dawn Halfaker, also a West Point graduate, was a Military Police commander when her vehicle was hit by RPG rockets.

---Lt. Jason Redman is a 20-year Navy SEAL whose team was chasing an Al Qaeda target when the machine guns started firing.

These Purple Heart warriors answered questions posed by one of our local veterans, Captain Pete Thompson. Pete asked a couple of easy questions concerning their entry into the military, but then asked the difficult and probing questions about their combat injuries.

All three expressed sincere appreciation that the American military provided them with the best equipment and the most rapid responses. Lt. Redman said that the armor vest that shielded his chest was absolutely life-saving. Captain

Halfaker remembered that although her Humvee had been hit twice by RPG rockets and gunfire, it drove them away from the ambush.

And Colonel Gadson remembered the sound of the Medivac helicopter which took him to the field hospital where he received 129 blood transfusions.

Then, Captain Thompson asked them what the Vail Veterans Program meant to them. This is the question that takes their breath away. This is the question that they answer with their rejuvenated spirit. Unanimously, they said that this small, privately funded program, that brought them to the gorgeous mountains and the living activities of skiing and snowboarding was trans-formative. "It saved my life". They each emphasized the many different aspects of the VVP: family, friends, activity, involvement, humor, learning, learning that the only disability in life is a bad attitude.

Col. Gadson described sharing a life experience with his family on the back of a horse less than 5 months after his legs were amputated. In describing that moment away from the hospital, but securely with his family, he had a tear in his voice.

To close, Captain Thompson reiterated why the Symposium was honoring this noble program: "Please understand that combat injuries are something that we should all know about, because it is happening to our children, to our American soldiers, somewhere in the world, every day. And the Vail Veterans Program is a trans-formative experience to rebuild confidence, rebuild friendships, and rebuild lives, .. every day.

Capt.(Ret) Pete Thompson lives in Vail and is the Sr. Vice Commander of VFW Post 10721 Minturn

State Convention Hotels

June 12 - 15, 2019

- Best Western**
3440 S. Vance Street, Lakewood CO 80227 303-989-5500 ext 305
- Holiday Inn Denver**
7390 W. Hampen Ave., Lakewood CO 80227 303-985-4938
- LaQuinta Inn**
7190 W. Hampden Ave., Lakewood CO 80227 303-969-9700 ext 5
- Courtyard Marriott**
7180 W. Hampden Ave., Lakewood CO 80227 303-985-9696 (VFW)
- Hotel Lakewood**
3605 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood CO 80235 303-989-6900
- Quality Inn**
7240 W. Jefferson Ave., Lakewood CO 80235 303-989-4600
- Flying Saucer RV Park**
2500 W. Hampden #151, Englewood CO 80110

Make your reservations ASAP

Reservations made after 5/10/2019 will be on a space available basis



Post 1771: Robert Ross, Doug Goodman, Doc Toepfer, Benny Latora
Post 2585: Ronald J. Surace, Frank C. Stewart, Anthony J. Masi, Ben L. Gutfelder, Darwin A. Frei, Willard E. Davisson, Dean H. Bechtold, Delayne D. Asmussen
Post 3541: Dale W. Hurst, G. N. Hurst, William J. Schneider, Gottlieb J. Walther



Lt. Col (Ret) Buddy Sims, USAF and VFW Post 10721 Minturn Quartermaster, visited Hanoi, Vietnam during February 2019. This visit closed out his “bucket list” after 50 years of serving. He visited Huu Tiep Lake (B-52 Lake) in the old quarter of Hanoi where B-52D aircraft, call sign Rose 1 still resides.



Rose 1 was shot down on 18 December 1971 during Linebacker II. Buddy served as a O-2A Forward Air Controller (FAC) in 1968 and a B-52D bomber pilot in 1972. Following Hanoi, Buddy traveled to Nha Trang, Da Nang, and Saigon.



Minturn VFW Post 10721 “Bowling Thunder Warriors” bowling team showed up in matching team shirts to help the Edwards Rotary Club raise \$20,000 for local high school scholarships. L-R: JP Power, Claire Noble, Pete Thompson.

All VFW Post Election Reports must be submitted by June 1, 2019 to vote at State Convention

All VFW Post and District Election Reports must be submitted by July 1, 2019 to be listed in the 2019-2020 Roster

JOIN HANDS SUPPORT VETERANS

AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT RAFFLE 2019

JUST A REMINDER

IF YOU STILL HAVE TICKET STUBS & MONEY TO SEND IN
DEADLINE FOR MAILING IS **JUNE 5, 2019.**

If anything is sent after this time there may be a chance I will not receive them.

SO IF YOU HAVE UNSOLD TICKETS, I NEED THEM ALSO.

PLEASE SEND THEM TO ME OR BRING THEM TO CONVENTION.

YOU MAY SEND YOUR STUBS WITH THE MONEY COLLECTED
TO **GLENNA MEDINA; P.O. BOX 874, PLATTEVILLE, CO 80651**

Please make checks payable to: VFWA DEPT. OF CO

Remember these funds are used to provide awards to winners in: Youth Scholarship Programs; Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Creative Patriotic Art Booklets of tickets have been distributed to all Auxiliary Presidents, District Presidents, Department Officers and Department Chairmen to sell.

ALL Auxiliary members are encouraged to sell tickets.

I have had a tremendous response from our members.

Thank you ALL for the work that you do.

If you are coming to Convention I look forward to seeing you there.

BRING THE UNSOLD TICKETS TO CONVENTION

I will be at the registration desk during convention to take your ticket stubs and money.

So go to work Auxiliary Members, sell those tickets! Time is running out!

Contact me for more information

Glenna E. Medina; Games and Raffle Chairman

PO Box 874; Platteville, CO 80651

970-352-1028 work or 970-381-0137 cell

District #10 President Brigitte Dolan, “Thank You For Your Service” U.S. Flag Project for homes of Joseph J. Jacques Jr., members:
L-R: PDC Bruce Dolan; District 10 Commander Leroy Chavez; VFW Post #7945 Commander Scott Evans.



David Stone

For Department Commander



- Department Sr Vice Commander
- Department Jr Vice Commander
- All American District Commander
- District Quartermaster
- All State Post Commander
- Department VOD Chairman
- Department Scouting Chairman
- District VOD, Patriots Pen Chairman

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO CHAPLAIN VOTE FOR SOMEONE THAT CARES KEVIN REINHOLD



- Department Chaplain 2018-2019
- All State District Commander 2017-2018
- Military Order of the Cootie 2016
- All State Post Commander 2013-2016
- VFW Warriors 2013
- Department Membership Director 2017-2019
- Department Hospital Chair 2016-2018

Things we started this past year
Worked with Chaplains in our state, helping them with their duties and responsibilities.
Connected with an organization that will support our Chaplains with Bibles and other materials to support our ministry.
Ministry support to other veterans' organizations and civilian programs.
These are just a few of the things started.

Re-Elect Bruce Dolan

Joseph J Jacques Jr. VFW Post 7945
State Quartermaster 2019-2020

- Bruce has served as
- Department Quartermaster 2013-2019
- Department Commander 2012-2013
- Department Sr Vice Commander 2011-2012
- Department Jr Vice Commander 2010-2011
- National Council Member 2016-2020

“Always working for Colorado Veterans”

VFW National Convention

Every year, thousands of VFW and Auxiliary delegates gather to represent the organization's total membership of nearly 1.6 million at the weeklong convention. While there, our mission is to approve new national priorities to guide our organization as we lobby Congress on issues important to the nation's veterans, service members and their families.

Convention delegates also elect new leadership, as well as recognize prominent individuals and organizations for their support of veterans and military personnel.

Save the date for the 120th VFW National Convention which will be held in Orlando, Fla., July 20-24, 2019.

120th National Convention Housing has officially opened. Housing reservation information will be located on the convention website accessed through National VFW website, including a tentative agenda.

ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Robert M. Kidd Sr.
For
State Sr. Vice Commander 2019-2020

I have been a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Post 3917 for over 24 years

As I finish out my year as the State Jr. Vice Commander. I am looking for your support to be elected to the position of the State Sr. Vice Commander

Doing What is Right



Barbara Green
Candidate
for
State Jr. Vice Commander 2019-2020

- State Surgeon 2018-2019
- District 5 Commander 2016-2017
- VFW Post 4051 Commander 2016-2017
- M. O. C. Grand Commander 2015-2016
- Past Post Quartermaster, Adjutant and Chaplain
- Department Community Service Chairman
- Past Department Patriots Pen Chairman
- 1st Gulf War Veteran, USAFR

Thank You for Your Support

A Letter to All Veterans

Dear Veteran,

Heroes don't wear capes or tights, they wear dog tags and combat boots." This quote is unknown. I am sure that many people have said this to the veterans that have served our country. I want to thank you and would like to let you know how much you are appreciated. I couldn't do it better and be more proud of the missions and battles you might have fought for me, for my parents, for my family, and for my friends. You have sacrificed a lot for each everyone of us.

"Heroes are made by the path they choose, not the powers they are graced with" - Brodi Ashton This means that you can still be a hero no matter how you look, but how you are on the inside. I believe that each and everyone of you are special. I wish that you all are treated that way. I want to let you know that I appreciate each and everyone of you.

"In the war the heroes always outnumber the soldiers ten to one" H. L. Mencken. You all are heroes, so now tell your story, if its sad I will cry with you, if its funny I'll laugh, and trust you in all the ways. I believe

veterans are magicians and I will respect you everyday and every night.

"Our veterans accepted the responsibility to defend America and uphold of values when duty called" -Bill Shuster. That quote speaks the truth that you defended America and when duty called, came to the rescue. To fight for our rights and fight for our freedoms.

"Veterans are a symbol of what makes our nation great, and we must never forget all they have done to ensure our freedom" -Rodney Frelinghuysen. This is a quote of trust and honor to all the veterans in our community, in our states, in our country. I will shout it from the rooftop if I need to YOU ARE A HERO.

To those of you that honor the red, white, and blue, and wore dog tags, I want to honor you in anyway I can. How may I help you? I hope to work hard and give my best effort to honor your service. I appreciate all you have done and I just can't thank you enough. We are music and you are the writers, we only read in amazement. Thank you again.

Alaina Rivera



2019 VFW State Convention Golf Tournament

Deer Creek Golf Course
8135 Shaffer Pkwy
Littleton 80127
303-978-1800

Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2019
Time: 7:30a.m. – 18 Hole Shot Gun Start
Format: 4 Man Scramble
Price: \$66.00 Per Player

Price includes green fee, golf cart, range balls. Also included is a lunch following the golf tournament at VFW 9644 on the patio. At that time we will be handing out awards and prizes. This event should bring in many golfers so please get your foursomes ready and signed up early. If you don't have a foursome, we will fit you in.

Deadline for sign up is April 29th, 2019

Name, Address & Phone No.:

Please make check payable to: **VFW Post 9644**

Mail Check to: VFW State Golf Tournament
2680 W Hampden Ave
Sheridan CO 80110

Thank you for your support

Ron Davies 303-419-0472

**VFW Post Membership Convention Pre-Registration
Sheridan, Colorado June 12 – 16- 2019**

Name _____ Post # _____

Address _____

2018-2019 Officer Title _____

Pre- Registration is \$15.00 and will include a ditty bag and convention book
Early registration MUST be received on or before April 15, 2019 to be eligible to win A \$100.00 gift card.

Make Checks payable to: VFW Post 9644
Mail to: VFW Post 9644 2680 W Hampden Englewood, CO 80110 ATTN: Convention
Registration at the door will be \$20.00

Will you be attending the Military Banquet? Yes ___ No ___ Beef ___ Chicken ___
Military Banquet Tickets \$25.00 each.

**Auxiliary Convention Pre-Registration
Sheridan, Colorado June 12 – 16 - 2019**

Name _____ Auxiliary # _____

Address _____

2018-2019 Auxiliary Officer Title _____

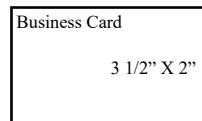
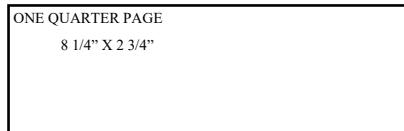
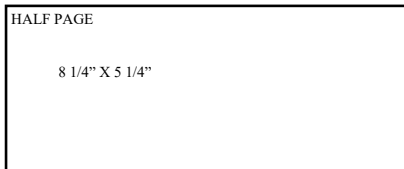
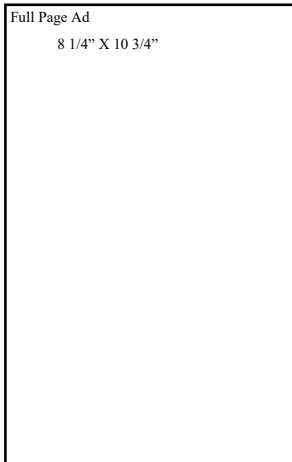
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Early registration MUST be received on or before April 15, 2019 to be eligible to win A \$100.00 gift card.

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Mail to: VFW Post 9644 2680 W Hampden Englewood, CO 80110 ATTN: Convention
Registration at the door will be \$20.00

Will you be attending the Military Banquet? Yes ___ No ___ Beef ___ Chicken ___
Military Banquet Tickets \$25.00 each.

2019 VFW State Convention Ad Sheet

FULL PAGE \$100.00 8 1/4" X 10 3/4"
HALF PAGE \$75.00 8 1/4" X 5 1/4"
FOURTH PAGE \$50.00 8 1/4" X 2 3/4"
BUSINESS CARD AD \$25.00 3 1/2" X 2"



Business name: _____
Phone number: _____
Webpage URL: _____
POC: _____ Phone: _____
Select Ad size: ___ Full ___ Half ___ Quarter ___ Business Card

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Submit : Copy this form along with your Ad (JPEG FILE ONLY) to:
M.J. Davies Email: mommadavies59@gmail.com by 15 May 2019.

Payment must be received by May 15, 2019
(Ad will not be printed if payment is not received)

Make Checks Payable to: VFW Post 9644
Mail Form, Ad (Photo) & Payment to: Attn: Shelly Hall
2680 W. Hampden
Englewood, CO 80110

**State Convention - VFW
Hosted by Verle Huffman VFW Post 9644**

Wednesday June 12

8:00 am	Golf Tournament	Deer Creek Golf Course
12:00 noon – 1:30 pm	Lunch for Golfers	VFW Post 9644
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Registration	VFW Post 9644
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Lunch	VFW Post 9644
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Service Officer Claims	VFW Post 9644
5:00 pm	Memorial Service Practice	Lakewood Vineyard Church
7:00 pm	Council of Administration	Sheridan High School

Thursday June 13

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration	Sheridan High School
8:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Sheridan High School
12:30 pm	Dept Commanders Luncheon (by invitation only)	VFW Post 9644
1:00 pm	General Resolutions	Sheridan High School
1:00 pm	Service/Rehab Resolutions	Sheridan High School
1:00 pm	Time & Place Committee	Sheridan High School
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Registration	Sheridan High School
5:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	Lakewood Vineyard Church
7:00 pm	Past Commanders Banquet	VFW Post 9644
8:30 pm	Theme Party	VFW Post 9644

Friday June 14

7:00 am	All American Cap & VFW Line Officers & Staff Breakfast	VFW Post 9644
8:00 am - 10:00 am	Registration	Sheridan High School
8:30 am	Business Session	Sheridan High School
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Open Houses - Caucuses	VFW Post 9644
2:00 pm	Patriotic Rally	VFW Post 9644
7:00 pm	Military Banquet	VFW Post 9644
7:00 pm	Patio Karaoke	VFW Post 9644

Saturday June 15

7:00 am	Past State Commanders Breakfast	VFW Post 9644
7:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration	Sheridan High School
8:00 am	Business Session /Election	Sheridan High School
11:00 am	VFW Warriors Meeting	TBA \
2:00 pm	Installation Practice	Sheridan High School
5:00 pm	Joint Installation of Officers State Commander/President	Sheridan High School
	Reception	VFW Post 9644

Sunday June 16

10:30 am	VFW Warriors Ride	TBA
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**State Convention – Department Auxiliary
Hosted by Verle Huffman #9644**

Wednesday June 12

8:00 am	Golf Tournament	Deer Creek Golf Course
12:00 noon to 1:30 pm	Lunch for Golfers	VFW Post 9644
9:00 am	Staff Meeting	VFW Post 9644
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Registration	VFW Post 9644
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Lunch	VFW Post 9644
2:00 pm	Floor Work Practice	TBA
5:00 pm	Memorial Service Practice	Lakewood Vineyard Church
7:00 pm	Council of Administration	Sheridan High School

Thursday June 13

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration	Sheridan High School
8:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Sheridan High School
12:30 pm	Dept Presidents Luncheon (By invitation only)	VFW Post 9644
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Registration	Sheridan High School
5:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	Lakewood Vineyard Church
7:00 pm	Past Dept. Presidents Banquet	TBA
8:30 pm	Theme Party	VFW Post 9644

Friday June 14

7:00 am	Past District President's Breakfast	VFW Post 9644
8:00 am - 10:00 am	Registration	Sheridan High School
8:30 am	Business Session	Sheridan High School
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Open Houses - Caucuses	VFW Post 9644
2:00 pm	Patriotic Rally	VFW Post 9644
7:00 pm	Military Banquet	VFW Post 9644
7:00 pm	Patio Karaoke	VFW Post 9644

Saturday June 15

7:00 am	Past Auxiliary President's Breakfast	VFW Post 9644
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration	Sheridan High School
8:00 am	Business Session / Election	Sheridan High School
2:00 pm	Installation Practice	Sheridan High School
5:00 pm	Joint Installation of Officers State Commander/President	Sheridan High School
	Reception	VFW Post 9644

Sunday June 16

9:00 am	Department Officers Breakfast	VFW Post 9644
10:30 am	VFW Warriors Ride	TBA

**Buddy Poppy Displays and Community Activities Scrap Books
Sheridan High School - Rooms will be Posted
SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



Auxiliary News

Published by Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of Colorado

Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman



President's Column Shelley Schlieman



Dear Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers, you all know that old adage "Time Fly's When You Are Having Fun". I must tell you, it is so true. It seems like it has

been just a matter of weeks that the Department Convention for 2018-2019 took place and now we are little over two months away from Department Convention 2019-2020. The time has flown and it has been a whirlwind of traveling throughout the state, attending District meetings, seeing old friends and new members, learning of all the wonderful projects you have undertaken this year, your support of our National programs, your work on membership, and giving your hearts to our organization. It has been great fun!

The Legislative Conference in Washington DC, the first week of March, was a good trip. Department Commander, Steve Kjonaas, and I had the privilege of escorting Hannah Karg, Colorado's Voice of Democracy winner, to the stage. Hannah placed 20th and received a \$2,000 scholarship and a Dell laptop. It was cold and windy, but the VFW delegation presented their agenda to the Colorado Congressional members who were back in town. It was great fun! Our Mid-year Conference was held in Tucson and we left Colorado the day after the cyclo-storm, going from cold and snow to, two hours later, warmth, blue pools and flowering cactus. The National Ambassadors hosted a Family Freedom Festival and our new National Secretary/Treasurer, Ann Panteleakos, was installed. It was great fun! Our third and final COA was hosted by Post /Auxiliary 2121, Greeley, and they did an outstanding job. Delicious food, lots of coffee and dough-nuts, well set up meeting room and warm, smiling members made us all feel so welcome. The Department Chairmen did a superb job presenting

all their important information to members at each of our three COA's throughout the year. A big thank you. It was such great fun! April 16th and 17th we hosted National President, Sandi Kriebel, for her visit to Colorado. I hope that many of you were able to attend some or all the activities we planned for her. During our visit to Fairmount Cemetery, District 1 gave us a grave marker that Sandi and I were able to place on the grave of Pearl W Hartung, 1921 National President. It was great fun! Salute to Service was such a heartwarming event, as we honored those members who were nominated by their respective Post and Auxiliary for their work for Veterans, Active Duty, Families and Communities. It was great fun!

Thank you to all who supported my special project this year, The Ralph Emerson, Jack Gulden Blood Cancer Fund of Colorado. The grant Post and Auxiliary members can apply for will, hopefully, bring some measure of relief to a difficult time in their lives. Thank you to all of you who accepted positions in your Auxiliaries and Districts for the ensuing year. I hope that the "Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation" has been, and will continue to be, a guiding light, imparting knowledge and confidence in each of you. Thank you to all the VAVS Representatives, those who accepted appointed positions, the members on Council, our wonderful line officers, and each member – everyone of you are a link in our chain, growing bigger, growing stronger for our Veterans. I would be remiss if I didn't send out a big thank you to our Department Commander, Steve Kjonaas, for always being responsive, for wisdom and council and "Joining Hands" with us. We will continue to work on the "Foundation" but as you can see, I have had a memorable, busy year and, as you can count in this article, I have had "GREAT FUN".

Shelley Schlieman
Department President



Fort Morgan Auxiliary #2551

**proudly endorse
Dee Chappell-Haley**

**for
Department Sr. Vice President
2019-2020**



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary #2551, Post #2551 and District #4 VFW Auxiliaries proudly endorse Davina (Dee) Chappell-Haley for Department of Colorado, VFW Auxiliary Department Sr. Vice President for 2019-2020. Dee is a VFW Auxiliary member and is eligible through the service of her dad Dave Chappell, a WWII and Korean veteran.

JoAnn DeSamber
Fort Morgan VFW Auxiliary #2551 President

Message from Kathy Carlson

Since 2015 I have had the honor to serve you as a Department officer:

- Greeting you at the door as **Guard**
- Assisting PDP Linda Reinbold as **Conductress**, where I made lasting friendships with Linda and the floorwork team
- Praying for and with so many of you and your families as **Chaplain**
- Finally, this year as your **Sr. Vice** and your **Membership Chairman**, getting to know so many of you personally, and counting all of you as my friends

In preparing to be your **State President**, many hours were spent with David Stone, your upcoming Dept. Commander, and with Donna Tellgren and Linda Lyons, who had agreed to be my Chief of Staff and Secretary, respectively. We planned and researched ways to make reporting easier, and ways to get program information to you in a fun and productive manner. We worked on finding additional funding sources for our budget. An incredible team was selected, and we planned to work with you, in a positive and cheerful man-

ner, having great fun serving Veterans!

Sadly, **my Veteran**, my husband, is ill. For that reason, I have chosen to step down and not run for Department President. As my family begins this new chapter in our lives, my time and energy must be spent supporting and caring for Joe, as we both continue to guide and love our 3 wonderful children.

It has been a great honor to serve you these past 4 years. Thank you for all the support, friendship, and love you have shown me. A special thank you to Dave, Donna, Linda and all the Program chairmen and other appointees that believed in my vision. I am so sorry we couldn't complete it. I hope that many of the ideas planned will still be brought to life. Thank you, COA members, for putting your trust in me, as I prepared for the new year. To everyone, thank you, again, and know you will always be near and dear to my heart.

Kathy

Kathy Carlson, Sr. Vice President
Auxiliary to the VFW
Department of Colorado

**Cheyenne Mountain Post
#3917 Auxiliary**

**proudly endorse
PATSY GILMORE**

**for
Department President
2019-2020**



We, the members of Cheyenne Mountain VFW Post 3917 Auxiliary, are proud to endorse Patsy Gilmore for Department President.

Patsy is a Life Member of the VFW Auxiliary. She joined under the eligibility of her husband of almost thirty-three years, Page. She has been very active since becoming a member in 2012 and converting to a Life Member in 2013. Patsy has been involved at the Post, District and Department levels. She has served as Post Senior Vice, Junior Vice, Conductress, Secretary and Guard. She has also been chairman of Hospital, Scholarship and Program Reporting. Currently she is serving as President for her Auxiliary. Patsy has served as District Conductress, Senior Vice President, Scholarship Chairman and is serving as President for District 5. For the Department of Colorado Auxiliary she has served as Conductress, Color Bearer and Youth Activities Chairman. She is currently serving as Junior Vice

President and Buddy Poppy/ National Home Chairman.

Patsy is very committed to helping out our Veterans and their families. She is always one of the first members to volunteer for our VFW and Auxiliary functions. She is eager to ask questions or do the research on a subject if she doesn't understand it. She has a respect for the traditions and bylaws of the VFW Organization. Patsy is always willing to mentor and pass on the knowledge that she has gained with anyone who might have questions or want to learn more about the VFW Auxiliary. She is willing to think outside the box and invite other people to share their passion, ideas and opinions.

The members of VFW Post 3917 Auxiliary are asking for your support of Patsy as the Department President for the upcoming year.

Barbara E. Kidd
VFW Post 3917 Auxiliary Secretary

Thank You Colorado

**Thank You VFW Auxiliary and VFW Post members for all the cards, emails, phone calls, and prayers for PDC Larry. He is now home and will have rehab and visiting nurses to help him gain back his strength. Homelake was great, but there is no place like home. We still have lots of Dr. visits and lots of medicine to take every day. Your thoughts and prayers helped us both thru some very difficult days.
PDC Larry and PDP Rosie Mitchell**

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO
GENERAL ORDERS #3

May 1, 2019

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. Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary Convention will be held in Sheridan Colorado at the Verle Huffman Post 9644, 2680 Hampden Ave, Englewood, CO 80110 on June 12 through 15, 2019. All business sessions will be held at Sheridan High School. Uniform of the day for Wednesday night Council meeting will be comfortable casual. Thursday Joint Opening uniform will be the official blue shirt, black skirt or slacks and black shoes. Friday business session will be patriotic red, white and blue tops with blue or black slacks and black shoes. Saturday business session uniform will be the official blue shirt, black slacks/skirts and black shoes. This applies to all council members only.

2. Department President Shelley Schlieman's special project is the Ralph Emerson Jack Gulden Blood and Cancer Fund. All Colorado VFW and Auxiliary members are eligible to apply for a grant from this fund. Please forward all donations to Dept. Treasurer, Cindy Anderson. In addition, proceeds from the sale of the Veteran Pins will benefit this fund.

3. Delegates to the Department Convention will be recognized by the Credential Committee upon registration according to the Delegate reports filed by the Auxiliary Secretary. Secretaries be sure to send Department Delegate Forms to the Department Secretary Cindy Anderson immediately following delegate elections. **NO Delegate cards will be mailed to the Auxiliaries.** Remember elected delegates serve for one year.

4. Any Auxiliary in Arrears for submission of audits shall be deprived of their vote at the Department Convention. Audits covering the months of July 2019 through March 2019 must be completed and on file with the Department



Lucille has been a member of the Auxiliary since 2000, joining under the eligibility of her father Patrick A Chavez who served in Korea and Vietnam. She became a life member in 2004. She has held many offices and chairmanships including Auxiliary President 6 times, and named All State President 2000-2001 and 2006-2007. She has also held Offices with District 10 including President for 2 years and being name Outstanding President 2012-2013. Lucille is currently serving as Department VFW Auxiliary Conductress.

We feel Lucille is an asset to our Auxiliary and members. She is always

Treasurer. All rights shall be promptly restored upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

5. Audits for the months of January, February and March 2019 are due by April 30, 2019. Audits must be read on the Auxiliary floor and voted to be approved before sending them to the Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson. If an extension is required, please contact the Department Treasurer as soon as possible.

6. District Presidents: Annual official visits to the Auxiliaries should be completed. The District Officer making the visit should sign the Secretary and Treasurer books to verify that they are being kept in accordance with procedures. Copies of bonds, audits and verification of 990 filings should be available for review. All questions on the visit form should be completed.

7. Membership for those who have not yet paid 2019 dues will end July 1, 2019. Dues for lapsed members can be paid up to June 30. Any member who has not paid by that time will be dropped from the rolls and must re-apply for membership.

8. Department Officers and Chairman must have their year end convention book reports to Department Secretary Cindy Anderson by May 15.

9. A special thank you to all of you who attended the Parade of Programs in Greeley. The Program Chairman did an outstanding job of promoting their programs and I am sure that you were able to take some good information back to your Auxiliaries.

BY ORDER OF:
/s/ Shelley Schlieman
Department President

ATTEST:
/s/ Cindy Anderson
Department Secretary

Golden VFW Auxiliary and VFW Post #4171

**Proudly Endorse
Lucille Chavez**

**for
Department Jr. Vice President
2019-2020**

willing to help with fundraising, encouraging and mentoring members to fill positions and chairmanships within the Auxiliary and District.

Lucille has the full support of her family and Auxiliary members as she sets out on this journey of moving up in the chairs of the Department of Colorado Auxiliary VFW. We ask you to join us in supporting Lucille with your Vote at the Department Convention.

Respectfully
Alice Smith, Auxiliary President
George Grose, VFW Post Commander
Members of Golden VFW and Auxiliary

Scholarships

It was great to see all of you at the last C.O.A. in Greeley/Evans area. If you missed it, then you missed hearing that our State Voice of Democracy winner placed 20th place at Nationals. Also, this year DELL computer partnered up with the National VFW and all Voice of Democracy state winners received a new laptop from DELL. At this time we are not sure if this is going to be an ongoing partnership but we sure can hope it is for our future winners.

Thank you to everyone who sent entries for the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. As always, the judges will have a hard time selecting a winner.

Thank you to each and every one of you who stepped up this year by working the scholarship program. Good job

t everyone who reported their scholarship hours, gave out awards, and made sure their communities knew about all of our scholarship programs. Auxiliary and Districts Presidents please be sure to pat your scholarship chairmen on the back—they really did an outstanding job.

In case anyone is wanting to get an early start—next year's Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen theme will be the same for the first time ever! Drumroll please...the 2018-2019 theme will be "What Makes America Great."

Until convention—I wish you all health, love, and less stress.

Hugs!
Stephane Trujillo
Department Scholarship Chairman

Joseph J Jacques Auxiliary #7945

**Proudly Endorses
Cindy Anderson**

**For
Department Treasurer
2019-2020**



We the members of 7945 are proud to endorse one of the newest members to our Auxiliary, Cindy Anderson for the office of Department Treasurer.

Cindy has been a member of the VFW Auxiliary for 28 years joining under the eligibility of her husband Warren who is a Vietnam veteran serving with the Air Force. Her background includes serving as an Auxiliary President for 3 years, going through the chairs of District 10, and serving as District President in 2005-6. She then held each chair in the Department line and served as Department President in 2011-12. She has held many chairmanships

on all levels. Cindy has held the position of Treasurer for Department of Colorado for four years and will continue to do a wonderful job of overseeing the Department finances and training members and Treasurers alike on the traditions and responsibilities of the Auxiliary.

We have seen her dedication to the job and to the organization over the years and we respectfully ask you to join us in supporting Cindy at the Department Convention with your vote.

Loyally,
Brandi Dolan

Historian/Media Relations

Good day, Brother's and Sister's,
I hope that everyone is doing well. Thank you to all the Auxiliaries that have reported the following:

Do you have a newsletter, do you have a website with/without the Post, did you present a Communication award to local media, did you use the fillable press/media, did you use the VFW Publication Guide and did you use the fillable press/media form?

The National Auxiliary would like all the Auxiliaries in Colorado to continue

doing the COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT. The information for this project is at: vfwauxiliary.org/resources.

If you have any photos of President Shelley that you took when she visited your Auxiliary please send or email them to me.

My address is: 1170 Fulton St., Aurora, CO 80010 and my email address is: arlinedolan@comcast.net.

Lennie Dolan
Historian/Media Relations

**Always take your camera to
VFW Auxiliary events
Department Historian needs your pictures
and so does your President!!**

VETERANS PINS/PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT

Thank you to the Auxiliaries that supported the Ralph W Emerson Jack Gulden Blood Cancer Fund this year.

Your contributions will be accepted through Saturday, June 15 at Convention, so if you haven't donated there is still plenty of time to get your donations, marked President's Special Project, to Cindy Anderson, Department Treasurer.

Although the total numbers aren't in yet, I have a feeling that it is going to be record fundraising. Your support will make that possible. Remember grants for our Colorado VFW and Auxiliary members come from the Ralph W Emerson Jack Gulden Blood Cancer Fund.

1300 Veterans Pins were sold this year. Wear it proudly to show your support of Veterans. Thanks again for all you do to help our Veterans!

Ruth Gulden, Chairman

**All VFW Auxiliary Members are invited
to attend State Convention!!**

Membership 2018-2019

How are we doing Statewide?

We are doing **AWESOME!** On **March 31st** we hit **97.50%**! Since that time, we have continued to grow! See membership chart. ➡

How many Auxiliaries have reached 100% or better?

On **March 31, 2019**, we had **31 Auxiliaries** reach **100% or better...21 Auxiliaries** reached **100% plus** and received **\$25 from National!** That's **\$525** back to our local Auxiliaries! **LOOK** at the Auxiliaries who have reached 100% or better now! ➡

How many new members, and how many TOTAL members do we have?

As of **March 31, 2019**, we recruited **206 new or rejoin members**, and we were at a **membership total of 6,243...LOOK** at our total now! ➡

LET'S CONTINUE RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS!

Awards to recruit new members!



If you **recruit 2 or more** new members, **YOU** earn a **Patriotic Ribbon Pin** from the Department of Colorado! **It matches the key chain!**



If you **recruit 5 or more** new members, **YOU** earn a **Patriotic Top Hat**, and by recruiting **10 or more** new members, **YOU** receive a **Patriotic Vest** from National!



Wall of Honor!

All Auxiliaries who have reached 100% or better will be featured on the **Wall of Honor** at **Convention!** **100%ers**, please send me a **group picture** of your members. Thanks to the 7 Auxiliaries that sent them in and were displaced at the March COA!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

We can do this!

Our goal is to reach 100% in Colorado by June 30th! Let's get those members so they can **JOIN HANDS** with us as we **SUPPORT VETERANS!**



*Kathy Carlson,
Dept. Membership Chair*

Youth Activities

To all our Members,

What a great year we have had, and the year has flown by so fast. Though it is almost over, I have loved every minute of this past year.

This has been a very learning experience for me and I loved meeting all the members, I have not met in the past. Thank you, President Shelly, for letting me be the Chairman and giving me the opportunity to learn so much.

I was honored to be your Youth Activities Chairman this year. Thank you all who sent in the Youth Group of the Year Award and Young Volunteer of the Year Award which we will be giving out at our State Convention in June. I thank you for communicating with me

Chief of Staff / Extension / Mentoring

As our year of "**Join Hands – Support Veterans**" comes to an end, I want to encourage you all to continue to work to "**Build on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation.**" We must continue to mentor and support our new members and our Officers.

As we come to the time that Elections and Installations are taking place, I hope that we take the time to consider who we are placing in these positions of trust and leadership. This year we have done a lot of talking about bullying and mentoring. I hope that everyone understands the importance of being a good role model. When we talk to our members remember

VFW Buddy Poppy - National Home for Children

As we near the end of the 2018 – 2019 Year, I would like to thank each and everyone for all the support you have given to the Buddy Poppy and National Home Programs. Whether you participated in a Poppy Drive, voted on sending a donation to National Home, filled out the program reports or any of the other volunteering you have done to support these programs, I truly appreciate it. Continue the great work you are doing for these programs. Hopefully, most of you have started your Buddy Poppy hat and display for State Convention. Can't

via email and phone calls with all your questions. You as an Auxiliary "SHINE" and make the difference to all the youths that are out there volunteering, and remember the Youth are our Future. The year end reporting is done for this year but continue to still work with the youths and continue your Community Service Reporting for this coming year.

Thank you all again, for your hard work and Dedication!! Hope to see you at our State Convention in June and may God Bless you all.

With Loyalty,
Lucille Chavez
Youth Activities Chairman

Ginny Rosa
Chief of Staff

wait to see them! Please remember that a National Home Life Membership makes a great gift for any occasion. Continue to also promote the different ways Veterans can access help through the Helpline.

Members, thank you for supporting our Veterans and their families through all the hard work you all do and the support of the Buddy Poppy and National Home Programs. Safe travels.

Hugs,
Patsy Gilmore
Buddy Poppy/National Home Chairman

Auxiliary Membership by District as of April 24, 2019

Number	City	2018	2019	%	Number	City	2018	2019	%
DISTRICT #1					DISTRICT #8				
1	Denver	186	186	100*	859	Leadville	26	26	100*
501	Denver	142	134	94	1166	Buena Vista	65	0	0
2461	Denver	106	109	103*	11411	Lake George	46	48	104*
2797	Denver	46	44	96	12009	Conifer	32	32	100*
5061	Denver	133	138	104*	TOTAL	169	106	63%	
TOTAL		613	611	99.7%	DISTRICT #9				
DISTRICT #2					DISTRICT #10				
2788	Penrose	36	41	114*	322	Englewood	87	80	92
3641	Pueblo	79	79	100*	3471	Morrison	46	47	102*
4061	Canon City	133	129	97	3631	Aurora	97	98	101*
5812	Pueblo West	48	45	94	4171	Golden	313	314	100*
7305	Colo. City	227	24	89	4331	Arvada	142	138	97
TOTAL		323	318	98%	4444	Cmmrc City	183	185	101*
DISTRICT #3					DISTRICT #11				
41	Loveland	120	110	92	1247	Grnd Jcnctn	79	82	104*
1771	Lafayette	296	297	100*	3571	Delta	66	61	92
1781	Ft. Collins	115	122	106*	3981	Grnd Jcnctn	25	32	128*
2121	Greeley	94	94	100*	4663	Clifton	50	52	104*
2585	Johnstown	75	74	99	9221	Cedaredge	59	55	93
2601	Longmont	219	206	94	9333	Hotchkiss	24	21	88
4334	Ault	38	38	100*	TOTAL	303	303	100%*	
6624	Evans	218	202	93	DISTRICT #12				
9565	Broomfield	38	33	87	4031	Durango	97	102	105*
9741	Dacono	23	22	96	5181	Dove Creek	39	35	90
TOTAL		1236	1198	97%	5231	Mancos	60	62	103*
DISTRICT #4					DISTRICT #13				
2551	Ft. Morgan	127	127	100*	3411	Kit Carson	25	25	100*
3541	Sterling	67	64	96	6491	Burlington	19	16	84
4671	Wray	27	27	100*	6612	Hugo	41	39	95
TOTAL		221	218	99%	TOTAL	85	80	94%	
DISTRICT #5					TOTAL DEPT.				
101	Colo. Spgs.	79	79	100*	6,403	6,260	98%		
3917	Security	188	168	89	Please send in your 2019 Dues!				
4051	Colo. Spgs	264	251	95	Be 100% in 2018 - 2019				
5221	Calhan	27	26	96	"We Can Do It"				
6461	Fountain	144	150	104*	Samuel Havenga, Jr. Auxiliary #4265 Proudly Endorses Shauana L. Merrill For Department Guard				
7829	Monument	41	57	139*	We the members of Auxiliary 4265 are proud to endorse one of our most treasured members, Shauana L. Merrill, for the office of Department Guard.				
TOTAL		743	731	98%	Shauana has been a member of the VFW Auxiliary since 2016, joining under the eligibility of her father who served in the United States Army receiving the Korean Service Medal, amongst others.				
DISTRICT #6					Shauana began her Auxiliary service as an active volunteer helping with every scheduled event honoring local veterans with her service to the VFW. By her second year, as a life time member, Shauana was nominated and humbly accepted the local office as President to the Auxiliary, serving in her position from 2017-2018, and 2018-2019. As she grew in her knowledge and ser-				
336	Ordway	80	76	95	vice, Shauana was nominated and humbly accepted the position as District 9 President in 2018-2019, holding both offices with a common goal to serve the best interest of veterans in our local community and across the State of Colorado.				
2411	LasAnimas	102	103	101*	Shauana continually learns and grows in her duties with the Auxiliary, endeavoring to help each member of her local auxiliary and District 9, learn and grow as members and servants to our veterans.				
TOTAL		182	179	98%	Shauana surrounds herself with well organized, dedicated, and helpful individuals in order to make her journey as our leader productive and worthy of the honor to serve our veterans.				
DISTRICT #7					Respectfully, Debbie Belleville Samuel Havenga, Jr. VFW Auxiliary #4265 Secretary				
899	Alamosa	78	53	68	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> TAPS </div>				
3228	Monte Vista	51	0	0	Aux 41: Helen Rylant				
4849	La Jara	40	42	105*	Aux 1771: Margaret Sherratt, Florence Cullum				
8121	So Fork	109	113	104*	Aux 2411: Deloris Bewley				
TOTAL		278	208	75%	Aux 2551: Penny Hanson				
					Aux 8121: Joan Ohlrogge				
					Aux 9644: Carolee Hester, Corina Roy				

Americanism

Greetings sisters and brothers,
As my year as your Americanism Chairman comes to a close, I would like to again thank Department President Shelley Schlieman for giving me this opportunity. It has been an honor to serve you, and I have had a lot of fun and learned a lot. I hope you all have, too! I send my sincerest thank you to all of the Auxiliaries, and to each and every Member who had a part in promoting Americanism via our national program goals this year. Your hard work is very much appreciated! Thank you also to all those who heeded my call to “report, report, report!”. Remember, the only way you can win awards for your

hard work at the Convention is to let us know what you’ve done by reporting it. I hope to see many of you at the June 12-15 Convention, which will be hosted by Verle Huffman Post 9644.

Also remember, just because one year is closing doesn’t mean we stop working on the programs. The new reporting year started on April 1st, so keep on promoting Americanism and report it to be considered for those awards at the 2020 Convention.

Loyally,
Brandi Dolan
Dept. Americanism Chairman

Veterans And Military Support

I know Colorado’s reporting year is done, BUT April started our reporting year for 2019-2020 so don’t stop!! Sometimes something gets added or changed a little bit, but keep reporting all of your information until Department tells us differently. Our 1st COA (usually in Aug.) is when any updates or changes will be presented to us (keep an eye online at <https://vfwco.org/> & <https://vfwauxiliary.org> under resources) PROGRAM GOALS: 1. VFW National Veterans Service NVS is a network of expert service officers who help deal with the claims process and cut through the RED TAPE. 2. VFW Veterans and Military Support Program a. Unmet Needs <https://www.vfw.org/>

unmet needs/ b. Military Assistant Program (MAP) <https://www.vfw.org/TroopSupport/> c. Operation Uplink NEW Link to request Operation Uplink Virtual Pin Request Form https://vfwprograms.formstack.com/forms/operation_uplink_virtual_pin_request_form d. VFW Auxiliary Resource Rack Card <https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/VFS-Resource-Card-revised062818.pdf> e. VFW’s “Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship” <https://www.vfw.org/Scholarship/>

Hope to see you at Department Convention June 12 - 16 at Post #9644

Rena Cales
Veteran & Family Support Chairman

Department Fundraising

First of all, I would like to thank President Shelley Schlieman for the opportunity to serve as her Ways and Means Chairman. I had a lot of fun and learned a lot.

The year end is FAST approaching – BUT – we still have time to raise some money for our Department!

\$1 (ONE DOLLAR) a month or \$12 a year ---- The State of Colorado has over 6,000 members. IF EVERY member sent in \$12 – it would mean over \$72,000 for our Department. This money would go a Long, Long way in helping the

Department support our Veterans.

So far, we have raised almost \$700 with this program. I would sure like to be able to announce to Shelley at State that we have collected more money. Please send your donations to State Treasurer, Cindy Anderson and mark it for the \$1/Month or \$12/Year program.

Hope all of the Auxiliaries get their reports in and we will see you all at State Convention.

Ways & Means Chairman
Queenie Barz

Pioneer VFW Auxiliary #2121

Proudly Endorse
Ron Boone

for
Department Chaplain
2019-2020

Banquet for his outstanding service.

Ron was appointed the Department Buddy Poppy Chairman during the 2017-18 membership year. During 2017-18, Ron served as a Department Guard (Pro-Tem) for one COA and the State Convention. Wanting to continue to grow as an auxiliary member, Ron was elected Department Guard for 2018-2019.

It is very apparent to me that Ron Boone is motivated to learn and will serve as an excellent conductor. With great honor and belief...I support Ron Boone as Department Chaplain for 2019-20. Thank you for your sincere consideration.

Jo Ann Kelley
Post 2121 VFW Auxiliary President



As Auxiliary President of Pioneer Post 2121 I feel very honored to endorse fellow auxiliary member, Ron Boone, for the position of Colorado Department Chaplain for 2019-20.

However, I do believe that we need to know why Ron deserves our support and my endorsement. Ron served in the Army Reserve/National Guard from 1970-1976. 2015 he joined the Men’s Auxiliary in Colorado and then became a life member of VFW Auxiliary 2121. Ron agreed to serve as treasurer for a short period of time while our treasurer was recuperating. He was then elected JR Vice President, became SR Vice President, and is currently our Conductor.

Ron was honored at the 2017-2018 Salute to Service Volunteer Awards

Hospital Program

There is nothing like the feeling of a job well done. Every one of you should take deep satisfaction in the work that you have accomplished this year for the Hospital Department, and for the commitment and caring that you have shown to our veterans. My sincere thanks for all that you have done pales in comparison to the comfort that you have given to one of our veterans recovering from surgery, the sparkle in the eye of a vet who opens a gift that you provided at Christmas, the support you showed to a vet who has no family members who visit, the smile on the face of our vets who you have provided meals at an event. Add to these, your intervention for those who were considering suicide, your countless hours making quilts and hats, making sure anyone who wanted was able to get to Chapel service, contributing out of your own pocket. And yes, filling out reports, going to meetings and scheduling fundraisers. I am incredibly proud of every one

of you and am so fortunate to have been associated with you and this program. Nothing that I put on paper can express how much you have brightened the lives of those in our Hospitals and CLCs.

As we approach the end of this year, please continue to do what you do best—care for our veterans, reward and recognize your volunteers, support those in trouble, continue your work in our hospitals and our communities. As always, please feel free to suggest ways that we can improve and expand the hospital program so that even more service men and women can benefit from the love and care that you provide. You make such a difference in helping to improve the lives of our veterans and their families. Thank you again for your incredible support and assistance over this past year.

Phil Reinpold
Department Hospital Chairman

See Everyone at State Convention
See Page 8 of this Colorado Veteran for details



Pueblo West VFW Post &
Auxiliary 5812
And District 2

Proudly Endorse
Phil Reinpold

for
Department Conductor
2019-2020

Pueblo West VFW Post 5812 and Auxiliary and District 2 proudly support Phil Reinpold for Department of CO Conductor. He is a Life Member of the Auxiliary and currently serves as District 2 Secretary and has been 5812 Auxiliary Treasurer for 2 years. Phil helped charter the Pueblo Men’s Auxiliary and served as Quartermaster for 5 years. Phil has served as Department Auxiliary Hospital Chairman for 3 years.

Phil has received the Salute to Service Award. He received a National Award each year as Department Hospital Chair and Runner-up as Department Outstanding Auxiliary Treasurer. He has

been active in developing and presenting a Suicide Prevention and Awareness program at the local and state levels.

Phil is a committed and energetic member, takes on multiple tasks, and is committed to supporting the Auxiliary, veterans and their families. We believe that he will serve the Department of Colorado in a dedicated and conscientious manner and respectfully ask for your support at the Department Convention in June.

June Bush
Secretary Auxiliary 5812



Pueblo West VFW Post &
Auxiliary 5812
And District 2

Proudly Endorse
Linda Reinpold

For
National Council 13
Representative

Pueblo West VFW Post 5812 and Auxiliary along with District 2 proudly support Linda Reinpold for National District Council 13 Representative. She is a 28 year Life Member of the Auxiliary and has served as Department Auxiliary President in 2016-17, Auxiliary President for 4 years and as District President for 4 years and has won Outstanding Auxiliary President and District President awards.

Linda has received the National Presidents Award for Department Legislative Chair and Runner-up for Department Hospital Chair. She was appointed by National as the Department of Colorado Certified Recruiter and re-

ceived the Circle of Excellence award as Department President for Colorado.

Over the past 18 years, she has been a Chair at Auxiliary and District for Americanism, VOD, Patriot’s Pen and Teacher Awards.

Linda is a dedicated member, shares her knowledge, experience and is committed to support the Auxiliary, veterans and family members. We believe she will serve the Departments of Colorado and Kansas well by being a voice for the concerns and issues of District 13.

June Bush
Secretary Auxiliary 5812