

# COLORADO VETERAN



and VFW Auxiliary News

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UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

May, 2021

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

Volume 60, Issue 4 2020 - 2021

## National Representative to the 100th Department Anniversary Convention Past Commander-in-Chief John E. Hamilton

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.

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.

## National Representative to the 100th Department Anniversary Convention Past National President Sandi Kriebel

### VAVS Executive Committee Member 2020 - 2021

Past National President Sandi Kriebel of Ellicott City, Md., continues to serve the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) Auxiliary as the 2020-2021 VAVS National Representative.

A Life Member of Yingling-Ridgely Auxiliary 7472 in Ellicott City, she joined on the eligibility of her father, a World War II and Korean War U.S. Army veteran.

She has served the organization in several capacities, including as Auxiliary and District President, and as Department President, for which she earned Outstanding President of the Year in her membership group in 1996-1997.

On the National level, she served as National President in 2018-2019, and as National District Council Member, Eastern Conference Chairman for the



Americanism and Membership programs, and National Director for the Cancer Aid & Research, Hospital and "Buddy"® Poppy programs. She has also been National Patriotic Instructor.

Sandi is a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children and a member of the Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary (MOCA).

In her spare time, Sandi enjoys collecting thimbles and cameo broaches, watching old movies and spending time with her family: husband Paul, three grown children (including a son who is a 100-percent disabled veteran who served in Desert Storm), seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

### MEMORIAL DAY

Far Away  
From all they knew  
With hearts of pride  
And courage true.

Vowed to serve  
As freedom's light.  
And through their strength  
Our nation's might.

They gave all  
Our brave defenders,  
Where poppies lie  
We will remember



### National Council Member Report



The National Council of Administration meet virtually over Zoom on 4 – 6 March 20, 2021, here are some highlights. The National Organization is in very good shape financially with a \$2 million operating budget surplus and an increase of \$11.6 million in unrestricted cash and long-term investments since August 31<sup>st</sup>. Expenses have been reduced by over \$300,000 and salaries and benefits will be under budget by more than \$1.3 million. Overall, it is currently estimated that the savings in reduced expenses could be more than \$2 million.

The National organization has also experienced a great response in their fundraising appeals with a projected 256,000 new donors and 201,000 reactivated lapsed donors along with reduce cost to acquire new donors and an increase of average gifts by 35%. The calendar appeal netted over \$1 million for the first time. On the flip side COVID has had a significant negative impact in Buddy Poppy and VFW Store sales with reduc-

tion in gross sales of \$950,000.

There were two items concerning salaries. First was the adoption of a standard pay rates for the top employees. This measure provides a standard, industry method of determining salary ranges and did not result in any pay raises. Future raises will be tied to the social security cola increases and eliminates programed merit raises. The second pertained to salaries for the top three officers, Commander in Chief, Sr Vice Commander in Chief and Jr Vice Commander in Chief. Both motions carried.

There was also a motion to shift the Voice of Democracy national program from DC to the national convention and Freedom Foundation. The top 5 contestants would be escorted onto the stage by their Department Commander during the convention joint opening session. This motion did not carry due to concerns that it would impact the ability of the Department Commanders to attend the Legislative Conference.

Thank you, Colorado, for allowing me to serve in this capacity. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

David Stone  
National Council Member  
719-339-9112  
davids@vfwco.org



Monument VFW #7829 Auxiliary Chaplain and Hospital Chairman, Linda Lyons, makes lap quilts for Veterans who are very ill. They also designed and purchased 50 letter-sized stickers that they attached to the outside windows of veterans in their three local nursing homes, Jackson Creek, Bethesda and Liberty Heights, to give them hope during COVID.

### MAY DISTRICT MEETINGS

NO.	DATE	LOCATION	TIME	REPRESENTATIVE
1	5/22/21 Saturday	Post No. 5061 Denver	10:00 am 12:00 noon Meal Joint Meeting Election/Installation	Tony Archer
3	5/16/21 Sunday	Post No. 6624 Evans	12:00 noon Meal 1:00 pm Meeting Election/Installation	Bruce Dolan
4	5/2/21 Sunday	Post No. 2551 Fort Morgan	12:00 noon Meal Joint Meeting Meeting to follow Election/Installation	John Keene
5	5/16/21 Sunday	Post No. 4051 Colo Springs	12:00 noon Meal Joint Meeting Meeting to follow Election/Installation	Robert Kidd
10	5/16/21 Sunday	Post No. 4171 Golden	1:00 pm Election/Installation	Geraldine Rimpley
11	5/01/21 Sunday	Post No. 3981 Grand Junction	9:30 am Register 10:30 am Memorial Service 11:00 am Joint Mtg 12:00 noon Lunch Meeting to follow Election/Installation	Barbara Green

### COLORADO VFW FOUNDATION

From the Board of Directors: We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. Our Thanks to you our Members, Family and Friends for your contributions. We are still processing grant applications and helping our members and Colorado's Veterans and their families.

Our office still has funding to help veterans in need. We have not received the applications that we normally receive- we have processed 40 grants- approved 32 and declined 8 (incomplete/situation changed), expending \$17,498.28 in assistance. We have also been talking to our referral sources and they have report-

ed a slowness in requests for assistance. If you know of a veteran in need of assistance please call our office. We try to make the process as painless as possible and as timely as possible.

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.



Post 501: Frank Varisco  
Post 1771: Joe Gurule, Donald Thoele  
Post 3820: Lawrence A. Walrath  
Post 4051: Donald O'Hare, Robert Turner, Howard Fenske, Ronald Welborn, Richard Clifton, Glenn Driscoll, Ronald Sanger  
Post 5221: Burton W. Paul  
Post 5485: George H. Soefker  
Post 6101: Rudy Arguello  
Post 7305: James L. Sterk, William R. Tilley

### COLORADO VETERAN and AUXILIARY NEWS

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Kansas City, MO 64111

vfwco.org

### POST & AUXILIARY CHANGE OF E-MAIL FORM

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

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP NO. \_\_\_\_\_ VFW POST NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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

EDITOR



## Commander's Column Robert Kidd, Sr.



Comrades

As I sit here thinking about what to say in my last article as your Dept Commander, it is hard to believe that this year is

coming to an end. And, what a year it has been. We have had to deal with many unusual things. Like having most of our events and meetings canceled while continuing to accomplish our core programs and recognizing the individuals who have done outstanding things throughout the state. It has been difficult and trying for most and heart breaking for some of our members. It was inspiring to see all the Members and Auxiliary who have stepped up to the plate to achieve our goals and help Veterans all over our state in spite of the lack of social gatherings.

We have had to learn how to use virtual meetings. Boy, has that been a fun time on its own. My thanks to all the tech savvy Members within posts who have stepped up to help their Membership on how to use all the different meeting platforms. Also, thanks to all those who made phone calls, sent texts and emails to Members and friends to see how they are doing.

Because of all this, I have not made a big deal about Membership; but we are now close to the end of the 2020/2021 year, and we need to make a final push to get our Posts and Districts to 100%. At

the time of this article, there are over 50 Posts within the State that only need 10 or less Members to reach the 100% mark. So let us please, make the final push for the Outstanding job our Post and District Commanders have done for our great organization.

Many of our Brothers and Sisters have been able to get the Covid19 Vaccine. That being said, we are going to have an in-person Department Convention 9-12 June 2021. The staff at Department Headquarters is working extremely hard to put it all together. It has been over a year since the pandemic started and we have been able to physically get together. So, please make plans to attend if you can. For those individuals who don't feel comfortable attending in person, there will be a Zoom link. But I am asking everyone to stay safe and healthy; so, if you are feeling under the weather when Convention rolls around, please stay home and join us on Zoom.

I want to give a heartfelt Thank You to all the Veteran of Foreign Wars Members and our Auxiliary Members who have worked so hard and helped me to get through this difficult year as your Commander. It has been a privilege to have served as your State Commander.

Robert M Kidd Sr  
Department Commander

## Chaplain Column Kevin Reinhold



Brothers and Sisters,

It has been a long and blessed year. Even with all that has been happening this past year you all still found the time and

resources to help our veterans, family members and your communities. This is a truly blessed and great organization.

A lot of your chaplains have been working hard this year to support and comfort you through your hard times. Even if you did not see them, they were praying for you and your family. We have been working with the auxiliary this year and would like to work closer with them in the coming years. All chaplains in our organization VFW and its Auxiliary should be working together for our members.

With the 100th Department Convention coming up, I would like to meet as many incoming chaplains at the convention as possible. If you are one of the chaplains in our state and are attending the convention, please introduce yourself to me. If you are a new, first time chaplain and have any questions let me help you. I will be running for State Chaplain again this year and look forward to being a servant to you in the coming year. Hope to see you at the convention.

In the past three years as we all are doing our chaplain duties, we have started a Bible Ministry with the American Bible Society who will give your chaplains free bibles and other materials for veterans and family members. Faith Comes by Hearing, who supports us with Bible Sticks (MP3) to listen to the Bible.

GriefShare Ministry, if any of our members are grieving the loss of a loved one, refer them to griefshare.org. They can go on the GriefShare web page, find a church near them that facilitates the ministry and attend the seminars. I have seen grieving people being comforted through this ministry. I am the Director and one of the facilitators at our church.

In the coming year if I am elected, we will continue the above ministries and start a zoom where our chaplains can pray together, help each other with questions, concerns, or issues and do some training together. Also, so we all can meet.

"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16 (NKJV)

Kevin Reinhold, Department Chaplain

"Doing our Lord's Work  
for All Veterans"

**Everyone has worked very hard for a successful 2020 - 2021 Year  
Thank You VFW Members. from the VFW Department Officers**

## Sr. Vice Column Barbara Green



I want to thank everyone for supporting me in my quest to be your Commander next year. Please join me at the State Convention 9-12 June at

the Double Tree Hotel in Denver.

I do have a few committee positions open

Membership  
Guard  
Color Guard Captain

Please contact me ([barbara-green241@hotmail.com](mailto:barbara-green241@hotmail.com)) if you are willing to be a member of my team.

I wanted everyone to know that my installation will be in Blue and Gray and that there will be no flowers for VFW members to wear. The installation will begin at 1400 on Saturday 12 June with a reception to follow.

My theme for next year is "Veterans FIRST" and this is mainly based on VFW Legislative Priorities and the Colorado United Veterans Committee (UVC) who supports and promotes Veteran issue bills at the State level. I am looking forward to joining Steve Kjonaas as your voice at the UVC meetings.



My project for 2021-2022 is "Operation September Freedom" where "Dream Flights" is offering 20 minute flights in Stearman bi-planes to World War II Veterans (dates of service 7 December 1941-31 December 1946). The deadline for entry is 1 June 2021.

This is also 2021-2022 National Commander-in-Chief Matthew M. Mihelcic's Project and he has asked all of his 2021-2022 State Commanders to also adopt "Dream Flights" as their State Project.

Only the World War II Veterans that win will be allowed to board the bi-plane, Dream Flights never charges veterans, their families, or the communities where they live for Dream Flights.

Not everyone who applies will get a flight, but the pilots do plan on visiting over 300 cities, nationwide, from 1 August to 30 September 2021. More information is available on the Dream Flights website at [www.dreamflights.org](http://www.dreamflights.org).

Sincerely  
Barbara Green  
Department Sr. Vice 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 allow-

ing 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 members 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 4 Posts that have not turned in any Audits. This is not good. If you need help, contact your District Commanders and let them know you need help. A couple of things I can say about the audits, Posts are REQUIRED to have a relief fund. Also, Posts are no longer required to have a dues reserve.

If any of you remember the gold donkey pins from years ago, we have a few here in the office we are selling for \$5. We also have the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary VFW Donkey coins we are selling for \$10. Proceeds will go to our programs.

Election reports are coming due. When you fill out the report, make sure the information submitted is correct. Also, make sure all submitted Officers are current on their dues. Guess what, if a member on the election is not current, their name will automatically be rejected.

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

Bruce R. Dolan  
Department Adjutant/Quartermaster.

**This is the 100th Anniversary of the Department of Colorado  
Pre-Registration for Department State Convention is on Page 6 of this Colorado Veteran  
Agenda for VFW Convention Meetings is on Page 6  
Stay Safe and we hope to see everyone June 9th - 12, 2021**



**DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
1400 CARR STREET  
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO 80214**

**General Orders No. 4  
May 1, 2021 Series 2020-2021**

**1. 100th DEPARTMENT ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION** will be held in the Double Tree Hotel, 3203 Quebec, Denver, CO., June 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>, hosted by Department of Colorado VFW, Lakewood, CO. The Council of Administration will meet at 6:00 pm, June 9<sup>th</sup>. 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 20, 2021.

**3. DISTRICT COMMANDERS** must attend Council of Administration meeting June 9<sup>th</sup> 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 your motel room.

**4. 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, 2021, your Post will not be allowed to vote at State Convention.

**Section 213 – Arrearages, Deficiencies and Omissions states:** Any Post in arrears for any financial obligations to District, Department or National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, fail-

ing 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.

**5. POST AND DISTRICT ELECTION REPORTS:** If not sent to Department by July 1, 2021 your officers will be omitted from the Department Roster. No exceptions.

**6. 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 8<sup>th</sup>, VE Day; June 6<sup>th</sup>, D Day; June 14<sup>th</sup>, Flag Day. It is requested that all Posts and their members honor Memorial Day on May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**7. 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/ Robert Kidd, Sr.  
Robert Kidd, Sr.  
State Commander

**Attention VFW Members and VFW Auxiliary Members**

**DoubleTree Hotel, 3203 Quebec, Denver  
will be Headquarters for  
VFW State Convention June 9-12, 2021**

**Without members participation, we cannot have a successful Convention.**

**Pre-Registration is posted on Page 6 of this Colorado Veteran  
and on the VFW Colorado Web Site**

**This will be the 100th Celebration of the  
Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Help us make it the best VFW Convention!!**



**Monument VFW Auxiliary 7829 member Jill and her 1st-3rd graders at Buena Vista Montessori school in Colorado Springs, and Jill's Troop 223, made 100 Valentine cards, member Maria and Grant, Jill's son, made 50 Valentine Hearts using poppies, and finally Jen Rowedder, Art Teacher at Prairie Winds Elementary, Monument, and her students made 109 Valentine cards!**

**Monument Auxiliary Hospital Chairman, Linda, and I delivered the cards on Friday to the Pueblo VA Community Living Center, Bruce McCandless Veterans Community Living Center at Florence, Liberty Heights, Bethesda Gardens, and Jackson Creek Community Living Center. Many Veterans received joy due to your efforts!**

**Has your VFW Post and/or VFW Auxiliary  
resumed Activities in your Community?  
Be sure to send a story of what is happening,  
pictures, and who is in the picture.  
We would love to hear from you!**



**Members of Minturn Mt. Holy Cross VFW Post 10721 meet each Tuesday morning on top of Vail mountain where they ski for about three hours then head to lunch at Vendetta's, one of the most notorious restaurants in Vail Village. Most of the group are in their 70's, there are a few in their 40s and 50s. But they all work to keep up with COL Kleckner who will be 90 May 2021. All are former or retired NCOs and officers.**



**After three hours of skiing, Minturn VFW members end up at Vendetta's in Vail Village for Lunch.**

**Thank You Pioneer VFW Post 2121 Greeley**



**This is big "Thank You" to Pioneer Post 2121 in Greeley for their continued support for the Scout of the Year Program. This year's winner is Charlotte A. H. Beatson sponsored by Post 4666 in Littleton. Charlotte is a member of Troop 114G. Thank you again Post 2121 for your \$1,000 prize.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**National Convention July 31 - August 5, 2021 has been Canceled  
Due to COVID-19 Restrictions in Baltimore, MD**

**VFW National Headquarters is working to secure  
another Host City, but time is short.  
More information when available**

**Correction to 2020-2021 Patriot Pen State Winners**

**3rd Place  
Dist 13, Post and Aux 6491  
Elle A. Bohnen  
23581 CR S  
Bethune CO 80727**

**Please note the change in Loyalty Day Parade**

**#10 above states: Loyalty Day Parade will be in Penrose, CO., May 15, 2021  
More information will be on the Colorado Web Site**



### VFW Post Membership by District as of April 27, 2021

Number/ City	2020	2021	%	Number/City	2020	2021	%
<b>DISTRICT #1</b>				<b>DISTRICT #8</b>			
1 Denver	921	886	96	859 Leadville	34	32	94
501 Denver	328	266	81	1166 Buena Vista	126	124	98
2461 Denver	114	110	96	3820 Salida	74	70	95
5061 Denver	263	251	95	8661 Bailey	119	117	98
TOTAL	1626	1513	93%	10721 Minturn	136	127	93
<b>DISTRICT #2</b>				<b>DISTRICT #9</b>			
2788 Penrose	90	95	106*	4264 Steamt Spgs	93	93	100*
3641 Pueblo	106	103	97	4265 Craig	113	111	98
4061 Canon City	260	260	100%*	5261 Rangely	22	24	100*
5812 Pueblo West	208	197	95	5843 Meeker	46	46	100*
7305 Colo. City	46	45	98	9374 Kremmling	33	29	88
8898 Boone	37	38	103*	TOTAL	307	303	99%
12063 Westcliffe	52	46	88	<b>DISTRICT #10</b>			
TOTAL	799	784	98%	322 Englewood	97	101	104*
<b>DISTRICT #3</b>				<b>DISTRICT #11</b>			
41 Loveland	290	289	99.7	3471 Morrison	66	67	102*
807 Boulder	38	35	92	3631 Aurora	294	288	98
1771 Lafayette	253	244	96	4171 Golden	399	382	96
1781 Ft. Collins	314	301	95	4266 Parker	75	74	99
2121 Greeley	183	169	92	4331 Arvada	257	254	99
2585 Johnstown	182	178	98	4444 Cmmrc Cty	182	160	88
2601 Longmont	317	296	93	4666 Littleton	122	116	95
4334 Ault	58	58	100*	7563 Black Hawk	22	20	91
6624 Evans	225	226	100*	7945 Thornton	320	308	96
9565 Broomfield	100	100	100*	8449 Bennett	55	47	85
12174 Brighton	35	31	89	9644 Fort Logan	412	400	97
12189 Berthoud	39	38	97	TOTAL	2301	2217	96%
TOTAL	2034	1965	97%	<b>DISTRICT #12</b>			
<b>DISTRICT #4</b>				<b>DISTRICT #13</b>			
2551 Ft. Morgan	231	163	71	784 Montrose	123	125	102*
3378 Yuma	61	57	93	1247 Grnd Jnctn	248	245	99
3541 Sterling	94	88	94	3571 Delta	57	54	95
3551 Brush	37	33	89	3981 Grnd Jnctn	147	173	118*
3961 Otis	18	14	78	4663 Clifton	61	59	97
4671 Wray	53	51	96	5485 Parachute	39	37	95
6482 Holyoke	50	42	84	9221 Cedaredge	98	95	97
7153 Fleming	25	18	72	9304 Rifle	30	26	87
8064 Akron	46	43	93	9333 Hotchkiss	19	20	105*
TOTAL	615	509	83%	TOTAL	826	834	101%*
<b>DISTRICT #5</b>				<b>DISTRICT #14</b>			
101 Colo. Spgs.	469	469	100*	4031 Durango	221	216	97
3917 Security	605	569	94	4181 Dove Creek	49	46	93
4051 Colo. Spgs	577	549	95	5231 Mancos	133	137	103*
5221 Calhan	103	96	93	9058 Nucla	32	32	100*
6051 Wdlnr Park	50	49	98	TOTAL	435	431	99%
6461 Fountain	317	310	98	<b>DISTRICT #15</b>			
7829 Monument	158	140	89	3411 Kit Carson	19	19	100*
10649 Elizabeth	45	41	91	6491 Burlington	61	58	95
TOTAL	2324	2223	96 %	6612 Hugo	33	30	90
<b>DISTRICT #6</b>				<b>DISTRICT #16</b>			
336 Ordway	84	81	96	9700 Chynn Wlls	24	23	96
2411 LasAnimas	78	71	91	TOTAL	155	130	95%
4001 Springfield	33	32	97	<b>DISTRICT #17</b>			
4281 Holly	24	23	96	15006 MAL	2734	2686	97%
TOTAL	219	207	95%	<b>TOTAL DEPT</b>	<b>15264</b>	<b>14652</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>DISTRICT #7</b>				<b>2021 dues are now DUE</b>			
899 Alamosa	88	85	97	<b>Be 100% +1 in 2020-2021</b>			
4849 La Jara	45	44	98				
6101 San Luis	56	55	98				
8121 Del Norte	43	39	91				
TOTAL	232	223	96%				

### Membership 2020 - 2021

At the time of writing this article District #11 has achieved their goal of 100%+1 and I hope to see many more raise to the 100% level. There are 4 Districts that are needing 10 member or less to achieved 100% also. Great job remember that the membership year ends June 30, 2021.

At the Post level there are 16 Post have achieved their goal of 100%+1. A Thanks for a job well done. There are still 58 Post that are needing 10 or less to make a 100%+1. With that being said you are so close let's put the final push within your Post to join the other Post that have achieved 100%+1 within Colorado.

Right now, the Department of Colorado is at 95.95% for membership. We currently have 14591 paid members. That is 673 below last years high. We are 177 members lower than this time last year. We need to sign up 8.85 members per day to reach 100% of last years membership. Interesting enough, we have 902 unpaid members from the last two years plus we have another 710-member expiring this VFW year.

The Quartermaster has access to your Post unpaid list. With not a lot of interaction with member this year due to the COVID-19 we need to work ex-

tra on reaching out to are membership. Quartermasters get your lists to the Post Commanders so that they can work their unpaid membership. We have their addresses and phone numbers at our fingertips. Give them a call. They may not have renewed their dues because they might need a little help.

Just let everyone know that per MOP Sec 209 (g) Post Relief fund can be used for the remission of dues of sick, needy or disabled members. I know that every Post must have a Relief fund. I realize not every Post can help pay for 5 or 10 members who may need help, but I also know some Posts can, just help your fellow Comrades in needy times. So, I'm asking every Post to look through your records and give an unpaid member a call and see how they are doing. You never know, you could be helping with more than membership.

What the math tells me if we work the Post unpaid list, we should be able to have all the Post within the Department at 100%. I know we must consider members passing. Members moving away. But I think that falls into statistical range of losing 10% of your membership to situations we can't control.

Robert M Kidd  
State Commander

### Jr. Vice Column Geraldine Rimpley



"Although the world is very full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it." -Helen Keller

And that my comrades, is how I feel about this past

year. We encountered suffering through the COVID pandemic, nation unrest, and economical and financial struggles but still managed to accept those challenges and thrive. Each one of those hindrances could have resulted in all of us just laying down our "swords" and quitting, accepting that we could not overcome the trials and tribulations. But we defied the odds and managed to meet, and in some cases, exceed VFW standards!

Many of you took the time to learn how to communicate by other means to ensure meetings were still conducted. You also thought outside the box to accomplish the tasks of meeting VFW program standards and contacting current members to renew their membership and recruiting new Veterans. Job well done!

In this next year, with the medical challenges of COVID hopefully diminishing, we all now have more tools available to make our future even brighter and those Veterans whom we have yet to meet. We will always have the challenge

of ever growing our numbers to keep our posts successful, so I ask those that conquered the "dragons" to share your wisdom with others.

As the Dept Jr. Vice, one of my duties was to attend a conference at the VFW National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. We pray for their welfare and safe keeping during our Post meetings, but how much do we really know about the organization? The in-person conference was canceled but a ZOOM meeting is still scheduled to show us how they operate, receive funding and what they have achieved over the last year. I look forward to sharing this information during the convention to give you a better understanding of their purpose.

We will be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dept of CO VFW during the June convention and I hope many of you will wipe the fatigue and sleep from your eyes and join us in Denver. There we can share our strengths and weaknesses and try to find ways to make next year even more successful!

Many thanks,  
Gerri Rimpley  
Department Jr Vice Commander

### Surgeon Column John Keene



I have good news to share this month. First, thanks to the SAVE LIVES Act, all veterans, spouses (including surviving spouses), caregivers and

CHAMPVA recipients are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Simply sign up online and the VA will call you to schedule your appointment: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/>

There is also a provision in the American Rescue Plan that waives all co-pays for VA healthcare between April 6, 2020 through September 30, 2021. If you have copayments that were suspended when the pandemic began, they are now forgiven. If you've made payments already you can expect a refund!

I also want to share information I recently received on a VA approved PTSD treatment that is available through the

Community Care Program. A representative from TMS Solutions (<https://www.tmsolutions.com>) attended the April Post 1 membership meeting and, to me, Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation seem promising. It is a non-invasive, outpatient therapy that uses MRI strength magnets to provide relief from PTSD, depression and anxiety. If medication and talk therapy haven't helped, this could be a new avenue for you or a comrade who is still suffering. If you are interested, ask your VA provider for a Community Care referral.

Lastly, I want to say "thank you" for letting me serve as you Surgeon for the past year. While I wasn't able to travel the State and visit our comrades at the Community Living Centers, I hope our next surgeon will allow me to tag along sometimes when the CLCs reopen.

John Keene  
Department Surgeon



State Commander Robert Kidd giving out recruiting awards at District 11 meeting. L-R: Past District 11 Commander Michael Davis, District 11 Commander Len Ladue, State Commander Robert Kidd.



Western Slope VFW Post 3981, Grand Junction, Deputy Sheriff recognition. L-R: Outstanding Mesa County Deputy Sheriff Kandyce, John Havens, Qm Jim Stafford, Commander Len Ladue, Deputy Sheriff Tony Barnes.

VFW Convention Pre-Registration – June 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
 VFW Department of Colorado 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention  
 Double Tree by Hilton- 3203 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80207



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

2020-2021 Officer Title \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: VFW Department of Colorado • 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214  
 EMAIL: [vfw@vfwco.org](mailto:vfw@vfwco.org)

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet Must Reserve Banquet tickets before 5/14/2020:

	# Tickets		# Tickets
Beef	_____	Fish	_____
Chicken	_____	Other	_____

**Convention: HOTEL RESERVATIONS**  
 Double Tree: Phone 303-321-3333  
 VFW Room Rate \$119 and up +Tax  
 Book Room after March 24, 2021  
 Cutoff Date May 14, 2020  
 SUBJECT TO CHANGE



VFW Auxiliary Convention Pre-Registration – June 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
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 Double Tree: Phone 303-321-3333  
 VFW Room Rate \$119 and up +Tax  
 Book Room after March 24, 2021  
 Cutoff Date May 14, 2020  
 SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Last updated 3/19/2021 \* Changed Room Rate

### MOC and MOCA Grand Convention

MOC and MOCA Council of Administration and Grand Convention is scheduled for May 22, 2021. The meetings will be held in person at VFW Post 322, 3800 Windermere, Englewood, CO 80110.

Friday May 21, 2021 at VFW Post 322 from 5:00 to 7:00pm, Meet and Greet for the Supreme Representatives. Food will be available for purchase.

Saturday May 22, 2021  
 MOC Grand Audit 11:00 am  
 MOCA Grand Auxiliary Audit 11:00am.  
 Lunch at 12:00 noon  
 Past Grand Commanders Meeting 1:00 pm  
 Past Grand Presidents Meeting at 1:00 pm  
 Followed by Joint MOC/MOCA Memorial Service,  
 Followed by MOC / MOCA Grand Business Meetings and Election of Officers.  
 Followed by MOC / MOCA Installation of Officers  
 There will be a small reception after Installation.

If you need hotel reservations: Best Western Hotel, 3440 S Vance St. Lakewood, CO 80227. Direct telephone to hotel 303-989-5500

MOCA Advance Registration is \$10.00, payable to Grand MOCA Treasurer, Rosie Mitchell, P O Box 262, So Fork CO 81154. Must be received by May 12, 2021. On-Site Registration is \$12.00

### Past District Presidents Club and Past Auxiliary Presidents Club

Presidents, did you know that in Colorado, we have both a Past Auxiliary & a Past District Presidents Club. We only meet during the Department Convention for a break-fast. Dues are a one time fee of \$1.00 and if you want a Pin it is \$3.00.

What do we do? We elect Officers, pass the hat for donations, decide what to donate it for and the new President presents it during Convention.

Due to the 2019-2020 Convention being held by zoom (Covid-19), we had no way to meet. This year with things being at just 2 days for business and Department hosting an Anniversary Breakfast on Saturday June 12th, it will be hard pressed to meet.

Department President Lucille also agreed that we keep all Officers as is for now and plan to meet at the 2021-2022 Convention.

Past District President Rena Cales  
 Past Auxiliary President Queenie Barz

### State Convention - VFW Hosted by Department of Colorado VFW

#### Wednesday June 09

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Registration	Doubletree Hotel
6:00 pm	Council of Administration	Doubletree Hotel
7:00 pm	Hospitality Reception	Doubletree Hotel:

#### Thursday June 10

7:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration	Doubletree Hotel:
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Doubletree Hotel:
12:00 noon	Dept Commanders Luncheon	Doubletree Hotel:

	<b>(by invitation only)</b>	
	<b>OR Lunch on your own</b>	
1:30 pm	General Resolutions	Doubletree Hotel:
1:30 pm	Service/Rehab Resolutions	Doubletree Hotel:
1:30 pm	Time & Place Committee	Doubletree Hotel:
1:30 pm	Warriors Meeting	Doubletree Hotel:
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Registration	Doubletree Hotel:
4:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	Doubletree Hotel:
6:00 pm	Past Commanders Banquet	VFW Post 3631 Aurora
8:00 pm	Hospitality Reception	Doubletree Hotel:

#### Friday June 11

	Breakfast on your own	
8:00 am - 10:00 am	Registration	Doubletree Hotel:
8:30 am – 12:00 pm	Business Session	Doubletree Hotel:
	Lunch on your own	
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Business Session	Doubletree Hotel:
	(Election of Officers)	
6:00 pm	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Banquet	Doubletree Hotel:
8:00 pm	Hospitality Reception	Doubletree Hotel:

#### Saturday June 12

7:00 am – 9:00 am	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Breakfast	Doubletree Hotel:
10:00 am	Installation Practice	Doubletree Hotel:
	Lunch on your own	
2:00 pm	Joint Installation of Officers	Doubletree Hotel:
4:00 pm	State Commander/President Reception	Doubletree Hotel:

### BUDDY POPPY / SCRAPBOOK ROOM AT HOTEL AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE

### State Convention – VFW Auxiliary Hosted by Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary

#### Wednesday, June 9

10:00 am	Dept. Audit	Doubletree Hotel
11:00 am	Dept. Staff Meeting	Doubletree Hotel
	Lunch on your Own	
2:00-4:00 pm	Floor Team Practice	Doubletree Hotel
4:00-6:00 pm	Registration	Doubletree Hotel
6:00 pm	Council of Administration	Doubletree Hotel
7:00 pm	Hospitality	Doubletree Hotel

#### Thursday, June 10

7:00-9:00 am	Registration	Doubletree Hotel
9:00-11:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Doubletree Hotel
11:30 am	Dept. Thank You Luncheon	Doubletree Hotel

	<b>(by invitation only)</b>	
	<b>OR Lunch on your own</b>	
1:00-2:30 pm	Registration	Doubletree Hotel
1:00-3:30 pm	Business Session	Doubletree Hotel
4:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	Doubletree Hotel
6:00 pm	Past Dept. President Dinner <b>(by invitation)</b>	
8:00 pm	Hospitality	Doubletree Hotel

#### Friday, June 11

	Breakfast on you own	
8:00-10:00 am	Registration	Doubletree Hotel
8:30-12:00 am	Business Session	Doubletree Hotel
	Lunch on your own	
1:30-4:00 pm	Business Session (Elections)	Doubletree Hotel
6:00 pm	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Banquet	Doubletree Hotel
8:00 pm	Hospitality	Doubletree Hotel

#### Saturday, June 12

7:00-9:00 am	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Breakfast	Doubletree Hotel
10:00 am	Installation Practice	Doubletree Hotel
	Lunch on you own	
2:00 pm	Joint Installation of Officers	Doubletree Hotel
4:00 pm	Commander/President reception	Doubletree Hotel

### BUDDY POPPY / SCRAPBOOK ROOM AT HOTEL AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**DOUBLETREE HOTEL**  
**3203 QUEBEC, DENVER, CO**



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

# Auxiliary News

Published by Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary  
Department of Colorado

Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

## President's Column Lucille Chavez



Hello Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters,

Best wishes that everyone is healthy and staying safe. What a challenging year we all have had and

still need to get through. Hoping the rest of 2021 will bring us back to normal and allow us to get back to the business of working our programs, having meetings and fundraising and, of course to be able to hug one another! Though we have not been able to be together much, it was so good to see all that attended our Council of Administration in March at Cheyenne Mountain VFW Post 3917 in Security whether in person or on zoom. Thank you to VFW Post 3917 for your hospitality and technical expertise.

As you all may know, Dee Chappell-Haley resigned as our Department of Colorado Auxiliary President due to her health. We wish Dee a full recovery on all that she has gone through and will be going through. Please keep Dee in your thoughts and prayers.

As I move up as your Department President for this year ending, I will do the best job that I can do for the months ahead. I do want to thank everyone who has reached out to me with congrats and best wishes and thank you cards for stepping up from Senior Vice to Department President. I truly appreciate it. I look forward to June to be able to run as your Auxiliary Department President for the year 2021-2022.

I also look forward to seeing everyone at our VFW State Convention on June 9-12. Hosted by Department of Colorado VFW celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Congratulations to you all! Thank you, for everything you do for our Veterans. Please keep up the good work and I look forward to meeting and working with each of you.

Please be safe and until we meet again. Thank you!

With Loyalty,  
Lucille Chavez  
VFW Auxiliary Department President



## Pioneer VFW Auxiliary #2121 Proudly Endorse

Ron Boone  
for  
Department Sr. Vice President  
2021-2022

As Past Pioneer Post 2121 and District 3 President, I am honored to endorse Ron Boone as the 2021-22 Department's Auxiliary Sr. Vice President.

Ron has demonstrated such a tenacious attitude this past year. After the unexpected death of his wife, Arlene, Ron has continued to heal and surround himself with his Auxiliary sisters and brothers.

Ron has held multiple offices in our Auxiliary, as well as District and Department offices. Ron started out his involvement with the Department as serving as the Department's Buddy Poppy Auxiliary Chairman. He became very committed to the Buddy Poppy program, assisting in the production of some very creative Buddy Poppy displays for the Colorado VFW/Auxiliary State Convention.

Ron has shown a curious side, observing, asking questions, always trying to learn more. He is a caring, kind, goal oriented, and a motivated individual. He shows such leadership skills and will be a great Sr. Vice President for our Department of Colorado.

Ron served in the U.S. Army, National Guard for 6 years. He joined the Men's Auxiliary and then the Auxiliary under his brother. Besides working as an electrical engineer, Ron has dedicated himself to volunteering for the VFW and its Auxiliary.

I am very proud to endorse Ron Boone to become 2021-22 Sr. Vice President of our Department.

Respectfully,  
Rosie Naughton, Lifetime Auxiliary member, 2121 Pioneer Post

## Community Outreach Program

Thank you to all of you for making our Colorado VFW Auxiliary an exceptional one. It has been an honor to have the opportunity to see how many members in our organization have volunteered and participated in community activities during the past year. It has been a year of doing what can be done in creative ways to work with other organizations and providing many types of local assistance.

Throughout the year there were many food drives, assistance to the elderly, working with youth programs, volunteering in cancer programs, drive-by parades and working in libraries. Your dedication and commitment made such a difference in helping and it has been in-

credible. As I reviewed the reports submitted, it can be seen these efforts have made an impact in your local communities which you can be proud of!

Thank you again for all your time and thoughtfulness to be involved and I know you will continue to be an important part of your communities. Your hard work has been appreciated and everyone of you should take deep satisfaction in the work you have accomplished this year!

I look forward to seeing you at Department Convention. Please take care and be safe!

Linda Reinpold  
Auxiliary Community Outreach



## Pueblo West VFW Auxiliary #5812 and District #2

Proudly Endorse  
Phil Reinpold  
for  
Department Jr. Vice President  
2021-2022

Pueblo West VFW Post and Auxiliary 5812 and District 2 proudly support Phil Reinpold for Department of CO Jr. Vice President. He is a Life Member and has held a wide range of Auxiliary, District and Department Offices. Phil helped charter the Pueblo West Men's Auxiliary and served as Quartermaster for 5 years. He serves on the POW/MIA Ceremony Team at Aux 5812. Phil served as Department Auxiliary Hospital Chairman for 3 years and received the Western Division National Hospital 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award in 2019. Last year, he served as Department Auxiliary Chaplain and Programs Chair.

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

in developing and presenting a Suicide Prevention and Awareness program at the state and local levels. This presentation has been now expanded to include the VFW, the American Legion, and the Disabled American Veterans.

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 vote and support at the Department Convention in June.

Respectfully,  
Danny Daffron, President  
VFW Auxiliary #5812

Toni Liebnow  
District #2 President

## Hospital Program

Congratulations !!! You made it through a difficult year for getting accomplishments done, yet You did it.

Cards, wow, so many were delivered to our Veterans in the CLCs, Hospitals and Nursing Homes every month, not just for Holidays. As the different stages of covid-19 opened up, the goody bags started being delivered as well as what other donated items that each place would accept. Many of you held "drive by parades", helped places get notebooks so they could do "live talk" with family members, put up "window clings" etc. Even heard of playing tic tac toe and hangman on the windows with residents.

Talk about thinking outside of the circle this year. (I like using circle instead of box as we are a circle of friends and family, not boxed in.) The circle is starting to open up, but please check with the Activity Person to see what you can and can not do yet.

For reporting, we are now on the 2021-2022 year, so keep on reporting what you are doing. Don't forget to report any and all money you send to Department or National for Hospital. A lot of this did not get reported this year and I know you sent in funds.

Rena Cales  
Dept of CO Hospital Chairman

Youth Program Raffle Tickets were in the President's Packets at the COA in Security and mailed to those who were not present.  
Please support this Program!

Attention VFW Auxiliary Members  
As of the publishing of the May 2021 Colorado Veteran,  
the offices of Department Auxiliary Conductress and  
Department Auxiliary Guard are vacant.  
Nominations and Elections will be held at  
State Convention Friday June 11th.  
Any member in Good Standing is eligible for office.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO  
GENERAL ORDERS #4

May 1, 2021

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 Denver Colorado at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel 3203 Quebec St., Denver, CO 80207 on June 09 through 12, 2021. All business sessions will be held at the Doubletree. Uniform of the day for Wednesday night Council meeting will be comfortable casual. Thursday Joint Opening and Business Session uniform will be the official blue shirt, black skirt or slacks and black shoes. Friday business sessions will be patriotic red, white, and blue tops with blue or black slacks and black shoes. This applies to all council members only.

2. **Department President's special project** is the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicines Hero's Clinic. Please forward all donations to Dept. Treasurer, Cindy Anderson.

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 2020 through March 2021 must be completed and on file with the Department Treasurer prior to convention. All rights shall be promptly restored upon proper

adjustment of such deficiencies.

5. **Audits** for the months of January, February and March 2021 are due by May 31, 2021. Audits must be read on the Auxiliary floor and voted to be approved before sending them to the Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson.

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. Completed inspection forms should be mailed or emailed to Department Secretary Cindy Anderson and Chief of Staff Shelley Schlieman.

7. **Membership** for those who have not yet paid 2021 dues will end July 1, 2021. 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 yearend convention book reports to Department Secretary Cindy Anderson by May 03, 2021.

9. **A special thank you** to all of you who attended the Council of Administration held in Security.

BY ORDER OF:  
/s/ Lucille Chavez  
Department President

ATTEST:  
/s/Cindy Anderson  
Department Secretary

### Legislative

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

Happy Spring (?) I love this time of year when April snow showers bring May flowers!

Unbelievably, we are here at the end of our reporting year, and what a year it has been! We have had to adjust how we do our work for the veterans we are committed to help, and for many to step out of their "comfort zone" and learn to use electronic means to communicate.

For the first time, the VFW National Legislative Conference was held on Zoom and the online Congressional sites. I was so privileged to attend these conferences online with our Commander, Bob; Sr. Vice Commander, Barbara; and my Co-Chairman, Steve. Although we met mostly with our Congress persons staffers, we did get our points across for what our Legislative goals are for this Congress. The few Representatives we did meet were very receptive and interested in our needs. Also, Commander In Chief Roesch gave his Congressional testimony completely by virtual means. You may watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jY3h0FOI-UFU>

Be sure to order or download the VFW Priority Goals brochure to refer others to our veteran's needs. Available at: <https://vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net/-/media/VFWSite/Files/Advocacy/PriorityGoalsBrochure.pdf?la=en&v=1&d=20210121T151925Z>

You may also download the Talking Points sheets we used when meeting with the Senators and Representatives. This gives more detail as to the Priority goals.

VFW-Talking-Paper-March-2021.pdf ([vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org))

If you have not yet signed up for the VFW Action Corps please do this ASAP! This will keep you informed about what legislation is affecting our veterans in Washington, D.C.

Thanks to all of you whom have sent in legislative reports! Legislative Director Steve and I are finalizing all of the award results, and look forward to presenting these at Convention.

Honoring Our Mission to Serve Veterans, With Mile High Smiles!!!!  
Martine Arndt  
Legislative Chairman

### VFW Buddy Poppy - National Home for Children

This is the last of the year 2020-2021 Colorado Veteran-Auxiliary Articles for Buddy Poppy- National Home, the new year continues to be full of challenges on how we spread the word to promote both programs, hopefully by State Convention in June we can start up again and have a strong 2021-2022.

#### Buddy Poppy

Remember that from sales of Buddy Poppies to the local posts.

1.5 cents go 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.

Also, the disabled and needy Veteran workers are paid.

Other money raised from donations at the local level does go to support veterans' programs across the state/nation.

#### National Home for Children

The VFW National Home for Children was founded in 1925 in Eaton Rapids,

Michigan as a place for families left behind by wars so families can remain together. They offer case management services to help families establish plans and set goals, education, recreation, and enrichment. Opportunities for parents and children, as well as free housing and day-care.

Remember lifetime membership to National Home cost \$ 50.00. \_

Also, individuals can make donations to National Home, its not just a local auxiliary, district or department thing to do. What a way to remember a sister or brother that has passed by buying a brick

Familiarize yourself with more info about these important programs at [vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org) and at [vfnational-home.org](http://vfnational-home.org)

Stay well and safe till we all can meet again.

Ron Boone  
Buddy Poppy/National Home  
Chairperson

### 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.

**Examples** (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

**Examples** (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

**Examples** (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 AM to 5 PM Thursday June 10 and from 8:00 AM thru Noon Friday.

Displays shall be set up in space provided in the Convention exhibit room. 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 and cell number 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 Friday Night 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:

**Buddy Poppy Hat Parade, due to time restraints this year, is canceled, hopefully at the 2022 State Convention it will be back.**

Let us all remember the long history of the Buddy Poppy, what the donations help fund, and learn the history of the Poppy so we can spread the word.

Check the VFW Colorado Web Page  
for  
State Convention Information



## Membership 2020-2021

Are you a member of MALTA on the National VFW Auxiliary Web Site? There is a lot of useful information on how to retain your current membership and recruit new members. Go to [vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org), register your membership number, and activate your account by following the directions. Choose a password that you can remember. It is that easy. It is not only for Officers, as there is a lot of information for Auxiliary members also. And you can pay your dues while you are there.

### Scholarship

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

Can you believe the 2020 – 2021 program reporting year is already over? Where has the time gone? Even though this program year has come to an end, I would like to encourage you all to continue to plan events and to share all the great things you are doing for our Veterans and their families by continuing to submit program reports. I really enjoy reading the program reports to see how you all are making a difference to Veterans and their families. All the volunteering you have done and will do, whether it be planning, working or doing the paperwork/ reporting for the variety of events is always appreciated. I'm so proud of the "thinking outside the box" you all have had to do during this challenging time. The adapting, rethinking and overcoming this challenge is truly inspiring. Thank you for helping make all information about the Patriot's Pen and the Voice of Democracy Scholarship programs available to students. These programs allow students to share their thoughts and opinions about different subjects. Reading and listening to their thoughts and opinions on these subjects are very interesting. One of the contests I would like to see gain more promotion and participation in Colorado is the

Continuing Education Scholarship contest. This contest provides financial help to an Auxiliary member, their spouse or children if they qualify, submit an application and win the contest. Winning this contest could really make a huge difference in pursuing and attaining an educational goal. The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest is a contest the Auxiliary offers to showcase young artists' talents where they are free to express themselves through their art. The time you all spend promoting, arranging drop off/pickup and getting the artwork to the Department chairman is very time and energy consuming, but I appreciate it. Although all these contests have been either completed or at the National judging portion of the program for this year, it will soon be time to start getting information out to teachers and students for the 2021 – 2022 program reporting year. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the Colorado VFW 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary State Convention in June. Please continue to "Honor Our Mission to Serve Veterans" as we show everyone those "Mile High Smiles for Veterans".

Hugs  
Patsy Gilmore  
Scholarship Chairman

### Chief of Staff and Extension

As our 2020-2021 year concludes, I thank all of you: Auxiliaries, Auxiliary Officers and Chairman; Districts, District Officers and Chairman; and Department Officers and Chairman. Through this difficult year of dealing with a worldwide Pandemic and the resulting need to shut down our normal lives, you have continued to find ways to carry on meetings, audits, programs, and serve our Veterans, families, and communities. Thank you for giving Good Job certificates and recognizing the work our members do. Thank you for finding time to mentor, use the Building on the Auxiliary Foundation, and to think out-

side the box. Thank you to everyone who accepted or will accept Officer positions and Chairmen ships. Because of all the restrictions on travel and in person meetings, reaching out to unaffiliated Posts to recruit new Auxiliaries has been difficult. I hope in the coming year, and hope as we begin to return to normal business, this will become easier. I have faith that our organization will continue its work and welcome new members, welcome new challenges, and welcome a new year.

It has been my pleasure to serve for and with you.

Shelley Schlieman, Chief of Staff

### Chaplain's Corner

We certainly have been through the trials lately, haven't we? The election, the virus, the economy, the riots, the weather—there seems to be no break in the overcast. How can we deal with it all and still be able to have our daily lives make any sense? Most of us are largely positive individuals with a "can do" attitude; nothing gets us down—or so we say. Still, given all that we face daily, it would not be a real stretch to admit that things seem to be piling up and the answers seem a long way in the distance. Maybe the problem is that we try to solve too many things, we try to gain control or make sense of all the issues that we face all at once. It can be overwhelming if we let it drown us.

E.S. Bouton once observed, "True wisdom lies in gathering the precious things out of each day as it goes by." Anon added, "The most important thing in our lives is what we are doing right

now." And for good measure, Henry Moore offered, "One never knows what each day is going to bring. The important thing is for us to be open and ready for it." We can handle any challenge if we solve it prayerfully and practically, if we tackle it one issue now, another issue later. We have also the added benefit of our friends, family, co-workers, and Auxiliary partners to help us carry these burdens—we are in it together.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day." We should remember that we can likely solve any problem, we can climb any mountain, if we do it one step at a time.

Have a Blessed and Prayerful Month!

Phil Reinbold  
Department Auxiliary Chaplain

## Auxiliary Membership by District as of April 27, 2021

Number	City	2020	2021	%	Number	City	2020	2021	%
<b>DISTRICT #1</b>					<b>DISTRICT #8</b>				
1	Denver	191	185	97	859	Leadville	25	22	88
501	Denver	143	138	97	11411	Lake George	47	47	100*
2461	Denver	105	99	94	12009	Conifer	32	32	100*
2797	Denver	40	0	0		TOTAL	104	101	97%
5061	Denver	142	144	101*	<b>DISTRICT #9</b>				
	TOTAL	621	566	91%	4264	Stmbt Spgs	29	28	97
<b>DISTRICT #2</b>					4265	Craig	45	42	93
2788	Penrose	40	36	90	5843	Meeker	33	32	97
3641	Pueblo	78	61	78	9374	Kremmling	22	22	100*
4061	Canon City	128	127	99		TOTAL	129	124	96%
5812	Pueblo West	53	43	81	<b>DISTRICT #10</b>				
7305	Colo. City	23	20	87	322	Englewood	81	79	98
	TOTAL	322	287	89%	3471	Morrison	46	46	100*
<b>DISTRICT #3</b>					3631	Aurora	100	95	95
41	Loveland	120	120	100*	4171	Golden	310	294	95
1771	Lafayette	284	264	93	4331	Arvada	133	133	100*
1781	Ft. Collins	118	113	96	4444	Cmmrc City	174	166	95
2121	Greeley	101	102	101*	7945	Thornton	271	269	99
2585	Johnstown	68	68	100*	9644	Fort Logan	329	326	99
2601	Longmont	204	190	93		TOTAL	1444	1408	98%
4334	Ault	39	39	100*	<b>DISTRICT #11</b>				
6624	Evans	208	204	98	1247	Grnd Jcnctn	82	78	95
12189	Berthoud	21	17	81	3571	Delta	56	56	100*
	TOTAL	1163	1117	96%	3981	Grnd Jcnctn	37	43	116*
<b>DISTRICT #4</b>					9221	Cedaredge	57	54	95
2551	Ft. Morgan	122	124	102*	9333	Hotchkiss	22	18	82
3541	Sterling	56	56	100?*		TOTAL	254	249	98%
4671	Wray	26	26	100*	<b>DISTRICT #12</b>				
	TOTAL	204	206	101%*	4031	Durango	107	107	100*
<b>DISTRICT #5</b>					5181	Dove Creek	36	35	97
101	Colo. Spgs.	80	78	98	5231	Mancos	60	60	100*
3917	Security	192	183	95		TOTAL	203	202	99.5%
4051	Colo. Spgs	249	233	94	<b>DISTRICT #13</b>				
5221	Calhan	26	26	100*	3411	Kit Carson	22	22	100*
6461	Fountain	139	138	99	6491	Burlington	16	15	94
7829	Monument	63	66	105*	6612	Hugo	39	38	97
	TOTAL	749	724	97%		TOTAL	77	75	97%
<b>DISTRICT #6</b>					15006	At Large	603	599	99%
336	Ordway	73	70	96	<b>TOTAL DEPT.</b>	<b>6,262</b>	<b>6,024</b>	<b>96%</b>	
2411	LasAnimas	113	110	97	<b>Please send in your 2021 Dues!</b>				
	TOTAL	186	180	97%	<b>Be 100% in 2020 - 2021</b>				
<b>DISTRICT #7</b>					<b>"You Can Do It"</b>				
899	Alamosa	51	39	76	<b>Mentoring</b>				
4849	La Jara	41	39	95	As we are nearing the end of our year, I would like to thank Dee and Lucille for allowing me to be your mentoring chair for the year.				
8121	So Fork	111	108	98	Although we have had a rough go of it this year, it has been evident that all of you have learned new ways to communicate and also new ways to navigate through our bylaws. We should all give ourselves credit that our auxiliary has survived and grown stronger through this very trying time.				
	TOTAL	203	186	92%	Looking forward, it is more important than ever to continue on the journey of mentoring all members. Being kind and allowing everyone to have a say in our decision making is critical. Remembering that not everyone is a mind reader nor does everyone possess				

### Mentoring

the knowledge that you have. Let us unlock that knowledge and share with all so that we can be as wise as the next person.

As before, looking forward means that the past mistakes need not be brought to mind in every discussion. Sometimes forgetting may be difficult, yet very necessary to move forward. After all, we are all human and learn not only from our mistakes, we also learn from our successes.

Congratulations to all newly elected officers, may your new year be filled with great ideas, much enthusiasm and even joyful mentoring.

Colleen Rylant  
Mentoring Chairman



Aux 1771: Bonnie Pribble, Betty "Mickey" Duncan, Teresa Mason,  
Aux 2601: Michelle L. Richards, Phyllis Schell

**Please send Deceased Member Names for the Convention Joint Memorial Book to VFW Department Headquarters, [vfw@vfwco.org](mailto:vfw@vfwco.org) by May 20, 2021**



## Americanism

WOW!! The 2020-2021 is fastly winding down! All reports were due into the State Department Chairmen by March 31, 2021.

I would personal like to THANK each and every Auxiliary member who promoted patriotism and Americanism this past year. Even with the COVID-19 pandemic and all of the restrictions and shut downs, you all did an amazing job! I am impressed with the ingenuity that has been reported.

Colorado has done a great job in showing their love of our country and our flag! I truly believe that as I drive around the state of Colorado, I see more flags flying high in the breeze, than I saw the months after 9/11. Colorado is made up of PROUD AMERICANS who are not afraid to show their unfailing love of our country, their loyalty and beliefs to its institutions and ideals, their undivided allegiance to the Flag, their desire to se-

cure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and prosperity for all along with and eagerness to defend our country and flag against all enemies.

I encourage you all to continue to wear your RED Friday shirts to support our troops that are still deployed. Fly your American Flags high in the Colorado breezes. Salute our Flag and loudly sing the Star Spangled Banner. And, most of all, remember to thank our Veterans for their Service to our country.

No matter which side you sit on, or walking down the middle of the political fence, remember that we are all AMERICANS! Let's act and live like it and continue to be AMERICA PROUD!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your 2020-2021 Americanism Chairman.

Queenie Barz  
Department Americanism Chairman

## Youth Program

Greetings Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers!

Can you believe another year is coming to a close? I cannot believe how quickly this year seems to be going by. By now all your program reports should have been sent in, but that doesn't mean you should stop engaging with our youth. Get a jump start on the next program year and have some fun!

I know that this last year was strange, with not being able to engage with our youth in the traditional ways that we are used to, but I am absolutely amazed at the creativity that our auxiliaries have shown. So many of you were still able to reach out and let our youth and communities know about all our exciting programs, despite the hurdles that we had in front of us. I know that many were still unable to get into the schools for some of our programs, and that is more than understandable, as many schools were

keeping their doors closed to those who were not students, staff, or faculty.

The new *Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue!* contest was one of my favorites this year, and I hope to see it continue, as well as all our other programs. Anything to deal with the arts, literature, and history is something I have a fondness for and am so glad that we, as auxiliary members, can bring all of those to our youth. I cannot wait to see what the next year brings!

I want to thank all the auxiliaries for the hard work and dedication that they put into these programs throughout the year, without our auxiliaries and their members, our programs could not succeed as they do. Keep up the great work and I hope to see everyone in person again soon!

Best Wishes,  
Nadia Flores  
Department Youth Activities Chairman

## All State Achievement Program

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

As the 2020-2021 program year comes to an end, I would like to thank all that you have done for our Veterans and their families.

This year has truly been both frustrating and challenging at times. As you know we have made adjustments for the COVID-19 pandemic to the Auxiliary and District All State Achievement forms. Our Department Secretary, Cindy was able to print the revised reports. She distributed them in the Auxiliary and District Presidents packets at our last Council of Administration. For those that did not attend in person, their packets were mailed to them. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would like to encourage those Auxiliaries that have completed all sections of the form, except the membership percentages, to please send them to both Cindy and I. Cindy will be able to confirm your membership totals in MALTA.

Thanks again for all your hard work. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Colorado VFW 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary State Convention in June. Please continue to "Honor Our Mission to Serve Veterans" as we show everyone those "Mile High Smiles for Veteran".

Hugs  
Patsy Gilmore  
All State Achievement Chairman

## Auxiliary News

I have enjoyed working with all the VFW Department Auxiliary Officers and Chairman. Thank You for always sending in your articles, and making sure they were in on time or close to the deadline. This is the last Colorado Veteran for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year.

Since we have gone digital and the Colorado Veteran is not being mailed to all the members, I hope that the members that maybe download the paper from the Web Site, that you share with your

VFW Auxiliary members. Of course any member can sign on to the Web Site and download the paper themselves. If you know of a member that wants to start receiving the paper, we need their email address.

We will have the same schedule next year, 4 issues.

Ann Mauck  
Auxiliary News Chairman



**Joseph J Jacques Auxiliary 7945  
Proudly Endorses  
Cindy Anderson  
For  
Department Treasurer  
2021-2022**

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

Cindy has been a member of the VFW Auxiliary for 30 years joining under the eligibility of her husband Warren who was a Vietnam veteran serving with the Air Force. Her background includes serving at an Auxiliary President for 3 year, going through the chairs of District 10 and serving as District President in 2005-6. She then held each chair in the Department officer 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 six 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,  
Kathy Trickler  
VFW Auxiliary 7945 President

## Historian & Media Relations

Well here we are we made it thru winter and now we can enjoy Spring! A lot of you are now getting to get out and doing things for your Posts and Auxiliaries. It is very important to let me know what your Auxiliary is doing. I know that your Auxiliary has been held back because of the pandemic and the closers we have all been thru but things are getting better.

I want to recognize the following Auxiliaries for the information they have shared with me:

Auxiliary 2411 in Las Animas have been busy laying wreaths on Veteran's graves, along with their post putting up a sign honoring All Women Veterans and conducting a flag retirement ceremony.

Auxiliary 2551 in Ft Morgan has done COBA and given food, clothing and toys to Veterans and their families. They gave 50 gift bags to local Veterans and served them a meal. Also did Poppy Distribution and Poppy Displays at local schools, donations to local food banks and Battered Women's facility; thank

you baskets to Police, Fire Dept., Valley Nursing Home and Hospital, Local Utilities and Ambulance Service.

Auxiliary 3541 in Sterling have given food and money to the local Family Resource Center for Easter Baskets, They have given gift baskets to the Sanitation Workers in Logan County; they worked with Head Start making posters and cards for Veterans thanking them for their service. They also made gift bags for the Veterans Homes.

Please let me know what your Auxiliary is doing or has done this past year so it can be recognized and shared with everyone. This helps all of us share ideas and maybe your area could use some of these ideas to help your veterans and families.

I am looking forward to hearing from all of you and excited to see what your Auxiliary has been able to accomplish.

Yours in Service,  
Cindy Heater  
Historian & Media Relations Chairman

**Samuel Havenga, Jr. Auxiliary #4265  
Proudly Endorses  
Shauana Merrill  
For  
Department Chaplain  
2021-2022**



We, the members of Samuel Havenga, Jr. VFW #4265 Auxiliary, are proud to endorse one of our most treasured members, Shauana Merrill, for the office of Department Chaplain.

Shauana Merrill has been a life member of VFW #4265 Auxiliary since 2016. She joined under the eligibility of her father, Francis Avery Morton, who served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division of the U.S. Army in Korea.

Shauana has been active since becoming a member serving at the Auxiliary, District and Department levels. She has served as Auxiliary President 2017-2021, District Junior Vice 2016-2017, District President 2018-2021, Department Guard 2019-2020, Department Conductress 2020-2021. She has also been a chairman of Scholarship, Membership, and Program Reporting for her Auxiliary.

Shauana is committed to helping our veterans and their families and she

never hesitates to volunteer for VFW, Auxiliary, and community activities and events. She is willing to share any information she gains, seek out answers to questions, mentor those who need help, provide guidance when needed, seek counsel when necessary, give encouragement, and is committed to fairness.

Shauana continually learns and grows in her duties with the Auxiliary, endeavoring to help members of her local auxiliary and District 9, learn and grow as members and servants to our veterans. 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.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Belleville  
Samuel Havenga, Jr. VFW Auxiliary #4265