

# COLORADO VETERAN

and Auxiliary News

“No One Does More For Veterans”



August, 2015

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

Volume 55, Issue 1 2015 - 2016

## Peter Buchanan and Gloria Otwell were installed as Department Commander and President at Colorado Department Convention

***Finally!!!*** I have the microphone!!!

Where did the last five years go?

Thank you Comrade Ron Lattin for all your hours and hard work putting this Department Joint Installation together.

Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliaries, thank you for this opportunity to serve with the staff you have given me, and to serve **you** this year.

Looking forward to working along side your lady president, Gloria. As we work together to build a strong Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars through increased membership and serving the veteran community.

A new membership committee will be working to develop ways to increase our much needed membership in the VFW, Ladies, Men's, and Cooties Auxiliaries, as well as the District Warriors. We will be looking at conventional ways of recruitment as well as increase our numbers of women veterans and student veterans. Steve Kjonaas chairs this 12 person committee.

My challenge to each of you to take back to your Posts is 5 new VFW members per Post this coming year. I'm asking for 500 new members this year.

Be the first in your post to receive the new member pin, and no, it's not

my commander's pin. We're going back to the trusted donkey, newly designed and in addition, this year get in for the drawings for trips for two to Mesquite, Nevada. Two separate drawings will be held, one in December and one next June.

To the love of my life, my first lady Barbara, who patiently has put up with me, and all my fussing the past 10 VFW years, ***what a ride!*** Honey, here we are, ***the white tux still fits!***

It has been an education working with you, commander Jim Lafferty, and your entire staff this past year.

A special thank you Remy, Dawn & my granddaughter Jacqui for your help (behind the scenes) and your encouragement. Unfortunately my dad can't be with us tonight, a WWII Veteran. We will be visiting with him in August.

A shout out to my friends for their ears whether they wanted to hear what I had to say or not. I'm honored you're with me tonight.

And finally, family isn't always your blood. - - Family is the people in your life who want you in theirs, the ones who accept you for who you are, the ones who would do anything just to see your smile and who love you no matter what.

To you, my "VFW" family, let's serve our veterans by our ***"Focus on Veterans"*** this coming year.

My charge to each of you this year

is really very simple, **help me** by your promise to; ***"Help Carry The Load"***. One more time, everyone - ***"Help Carry The Load"***

Thank you all!

Peter Buchanan  
Department Commander 2015-2016



VFW Membership, Ladies Auxiliary, Men's Auxiliary, Family and Guests, I appreciate each one of you who support this organization. You all know how hard we work to support our Veterans. I know I'm a relatively new comer to our wonderful organization but I pledge to do all I can to make this a productive year. Commander Pete Buchanan and I will work closely together to make sure each of you will be represented in the most respectful manner.

I don't want to take up much of your time, but I want you to have some of my thoughts. I have decided on my colors; Kelly Green, Sunflower Yellow, and Sky Blue. My theme is ***"Cultivate the Caring for our Veterans and their Families"***. Anyone who knows me well will tell you families and gardens are very important to me. Throughout the year you will see many watering cans and sunflowers. Sometimes we forget that the families have suffered as well.

My special project for the coming year will be ***The Crawford House***. The Crawford House takes in Homeless Veterans and helps them to become a productive part of the community. The Veterans receive job training and a comfortable place to live. They each have their own room and there is a community kitchen where they eat together.

I want to thank all of you for being here tonight. I know the team I have assembled will be there for you. Bless all of you, our Veterans, and ***God Bless America!***

Loyally and with Love,  
Gloria M. Otwell  
Department President, 2015-2016

### IN MEMORY

**Joan Follett**  
Past Department President 1976-1977  
Passed Away September 20, 2014  
John S. Stewart Ladies Auxiliary #1

**Jacqueline Sentena**  
Past Department President 1982 - 1983  
Passed Away May 8, 2015  
Pikes Peak Ladies Auxiliary #4051

Rest in Peace - "Peace be thine"

## VFW Elects New National Commander

### Biedrzycki calls ‘service to others’ VFW’s most important mission

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (July 22, 2015) — The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) concluded its 116th National Convention by electing Pittsburgh-native John A. Biedrzycki Jr. as its new national commander.

Biedrzycki served in the U. S. Army from 1967-1970. He served in Korea with the 7th Infantry Division, and his decorations include the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and Korean Defense Medal. He is a VFW Legacy Life Member and served in elected and appointed positions at the Post, County, District and Department (state) levels prior to his elections to national office. He has been a member of the VFW for 46 years, having first joined the VFW at Post 418 in McKees Rocks, Pa., in 1969.

In his acceptance speech, the VFW’s new leader called on the organization’s nearly 1.4 million members to recommit themselves in service to others, which was one of the primary reasons his organization’s founders formed in 1899, and formerly merged here in Pittsburgh in 1914. He also urged everyone to consider how much poorer the country would have been had the VFW never existed.

“If not for the VFW, who in our communities will help organize and participate in patriotic salutes to our nation and remember those who serve or fell?” he asked. “If not for the VFW, who will help America’s veterans and troops navigate the complex VA claims system, or ensure their individual needs are properly taken care of? And if not for the VFW, who will give a collective voice on Capitol Hill against all the noise generated by 30,000 registered lobbyists who, other than lip service, don’t have the best interest of veterans, service members and families first on their agendas?”

While addressing convention delegates, Biedrzycki had high praise for the work being done by VFW members in communities across America. He cited several examples of projects and programs that well-illustrate the VFW’s mission to stand up for veterans, service members and their families.

A retired high school history teacher, Biedrzycki also stressed that “freedom isn’t free” – something America tends to forget.

“The success of America was built on the service and sacrifice of many Americans, but our continued freedom falls squarely on the shoulders of those who wear the uniform. Everyone in the VFW understands that,” he remarked.

During his tenure he will log thousands of miles within the U.S. and internationally to promote the VFW, veterans’ issues, and quality of life initiatives for active-duty, Reserve and Guard members, and all their families.

Also elected were Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Brian J. Duffy of Louisville, Ky., and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Keith E. Harman of Delphos, Ohio.

Biedrzycki will lead under the theme Loyalty, Honor and Service for the ensuing year; values that have long-guided the VFW and its new national commander alike.



## Chapel Escort and Coffee Hour Schedule

Aug	2	Francis Brown Lowry #501	Denver
	9	Golden #4171	Golden
	16	Retired Enlisted (TREA #39)	
	23	Verle Huffman #9644	Sheridan
	30	Mile High #1771	Lafayette
Sept	6	Silver Dollar PT #1	Denver
	13	Skyline #2797	Denver
	20	Rocky Mountain #1781	Ft Collins
	27	Eastern Star Oriental Ch #98	
Oct	4	Verle Huffman #9644	Sheridan
	11	Francis Brown Lowry #501	Denver
	18	Joseph J Jacques #7945	Thornton
	25	Englewood #322	Englewood
Nov	1	Golden #4171	Golden
	8	Aurora #3631	Aurora
	15	Longs Peak #2601	Longmont
	22	Joseph J Jacques #7945	Thornton
	29	Dean K Phillips #5061	Denver

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

**If you are unable to keep your assigned date, please work out a trade and then call, Betty Melsen at 303-237-6646 IN ADVANCE.**

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

### Council of Administration Meetings

<b>August 8 - 9, 2015</b>	<b>VFW Post 899</b>	<b>Alamosa</b>
<b>October 31 - November 1, 2015</b>	<b>VFW Post 2551</b>	<b>Fort Morgan</b>
<b>March 12 - 13</b>	<b>VFW Post 3917</b>	<b>Security</b>
<b>June 15 - 18, 2016</b>	<b>State Convention</b>	<b>Security</b>

### Department of Colorado Loyalty Day Parade

**May 7, 2016  
Calhan, CO**

**“Salute to the Services”  
“Thanks for What You Do”  
“Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard”<sup>a</sup>**

### VFW Spring Sweepstake Winners

<b>1st Place</b>	<b>David McCracken</b>	<b>Ft Morgan</b>	<b>\$2,500.00</b>
<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>Donnie Kauger</b>	<b>Morrison</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>3rd Place</b>	<b>Randy Ray</b>	<b>Black Hawk</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>4th Place</b>	<b>Robert Jobin</b>	<b>Lafayette</b>	<b>\$ 300.00</b>
<b>5th Place</b>	<b>Bruce Hogan</b>	<b>Ft Morgan</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>
<b>6th Place</b>	<b>Scott Bell</b>	<b>Lakewood</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>
<b>7th Place</b>	<b>James Bilello</b>	<b>Denver</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>
<b>8th Place</b>	<b>Myron Shoemaker</b>	<b>Carbondale</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>
<b>9th Place</b>	<b>Tanya Walker</b>	<b>Gypsum</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>
<b>10th Place</b>	<b>Gordon Burke</b>	<b>Ft Collins</b>	<b>\$ 100.00</b>

### 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**

### COLORADO VETERAN and AUXILIARY NEWS

Official periodical of  
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Colorado

Colorado Veteran (ISSN 1056-0807) is published quarterly Feb., May., Aug., Nov. 4 issues a year. \$2.00 to non-members, \$1.00 per year to widows of VFW members.

Send all correspondence, typewritten (double-spaced, upper and lower case to Department Headquarters, 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214  
Telephone 303-421-1630, 800-965-1630 (Colorado only - Denver Metro excluded) FAX 303-421-1727

Advertising deadline 1st of preceding month - Article deadline 1st of preceding month  
Stories, pictures, etc., received after these dates may be withheld ‘till the next publication

Published by:  
Dept. of Colorado VFW  
1400 Carr Street  
Lakewood, CO 80214  
Periodicals postage paid at Lakewood, CO.

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Ann Mauck, auxiliary news chairman

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Send address changes to:

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



## Jr. Vice Column Ed Aitken



First I would like to thank you for allowing me to serve you as Junior Vice Commander. I look forward to working with you in promoting your post and its comrades.

I have the opportunity to be the Departments representative for the National Home For Children. As I learn I believe it is my duty to inform you about the National Home For Children also.

The VFW National Home for Children serves as a living memorial to America's veterans by helping our nation's military and veteran families during difficult times.

It was founded in 1925 as a place where the families left behind by war -- mothers and children, brothers and sisters -- could remain together, keeping the family circle intact even when their serviceman didn't come home.

Today's families face different challenges -- reintegration, post-traumatic stress, high unemployment and rehabilitation from battlefield injuries, among others -- and the National Home has evolved over our decades-long history to meet those changing needs.

### The Idea

The idea for the National Home was first planted in 1923 when the **Military Order of the Cootie** presented the concept to the VFW at its national convention. Members of the VFW embraced the idea of a home for the children and families of veterans, and the VFW National Home for Children was born as a non-profit corporation separate from the VFW itself.

### The Beginning

The beginning of today's VFW National Home for Children lies with a poignant story of a young girl named Amy Ross. On a cold February day in 1922, 23-year-old Amy Ross walked into the office of Dr. Clarence L. Candler, the VFW Department of Michigan Commander with the idea to find jobs for the thousands of veterans who were walking the streets of Detroit looking for work.

While the task seemed insurmountable, Dr. Candler turned over the limited facilities of the VFW to Mrs. Ross, and she went to work. "What followed is history (over 9,000 veterans were found employment)," he wrote in the Nov. 1924 issue of the Golden Stripe, Michigan's VFW Newspaper. "But not all of you know that the present high standing of the VFW in Michigan, our wonderful headquarters in

the General Motors Building, the Yanks Convalescent Camp, Inc., our 300-grave burial plot at Roseland Cemetery, and our new \$500,000 VFW National Home, Inc. all came as a direct result of Amy Ross' sacrifices for the veterans of this community."

Through Amy Ross' efforts, millionaire cattleman Corey Spencer came to meet with Dr. Candler in the summer of 1924. Having learned of Amy's great work and the needs of the VFW, Mr. Spencer had an idea. He had 472 Acres of land near Eaton Rapids, Michigan, known as the Grand River Stock Farm, and he wanted to make it a gift to the VFW. Spencer's offer was presented to the 1924 Convention in Atlantic City, where the Commander-in-Chief appointed a committee to investigate the offer and report back to the National Council of Administration.

Tragically, Amy Ross never lived to see the VFW National Home become a reality. After her untimely death in 1924, the VFW gave Miss Ross a military funeral. Dr. Candler was quoted as saying, "Amy Ross dead? No, she has just commenced to live...When that new little city arises out of the ground near Eaton Rapids called the VFW National Home, you will hear Amy singing a lullaby to some veteran's orphan."

On December 6, 1924, the National Council of Administration approved the idea of the VFW National Home. Articles of Incorporation were prepared, and on January 7, 1925, the dreams of Amy Ross, Corey Spencer and the Military Order of the Cootie had at last come true. The Veterans of Foreign Wars had taken a giant step forward in fulfilling its pledge to "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living."

The December 1924 issue of the Gold Stripe devoted all of its content to the sad parting of Amy Ross and the great news of the VFW National Home. The editor wrote, "This VFW National Home is the greatest objective ever placed before any veterans' organization. It will give each and every post something tangible to work for."

I have taken this information the website of the VFW National Home. There is a wealth of knowledge on there site. <http://www.vfnationalhome.org>. I will be visiting with the staff at the VFW National Convention, and hope to have information at the Council of Administration.

Edward T. Aitken  
Department Junior Vice Commander

## Surgeon's Column David Stone



To the VFW members of the Department of Colorado, a heartfelt thank you for electing me as your Department Surgeon. To our wonderful Auxiliary

members, I was truly amazed by your kind words of support. I look forward to fulfilling the role of Surgeon for the Department of Colorado, VFW which is to visit and assist the Veterans Homes and Community Living Centers throughout Colorado. Clearly, serving the needs of these Veterans is an important part of what we, the VFW, does.

But are we doing enough? Are we reaching out to the veterans in the nursing homes in our communities? Do we visit our community's home bound veterans?

Do we offer them assistance where we can?

Supporting organized events like Pueblo's All Patients Day or Homelake's Summerfest is easy. We are told when to be there and what to bring. Then the veterans are brought around to see us. With a few phone calls and some planning it could be just as easy to organize a visit to a community nursing home or organize a "home-bound veterans" day.

Let me know if your Post has such a program. I would be interested in learning how you run it. Also, if you are interested in developing a program at your Post or District feel free to contact me. I would be happy to help.

David Stone  
State Surgeon

## Sr. Vice Column Allan Stone



Thank you for electing me your Department Senior Vice Commander at the State Convention in June. I will strive

to maintain and uphold the high standards established by previous Senior Vice Commanders.

In May, as your Junior Vice Commander, my wife and Auxiliary Junior Vice President, Linda Reinhold, visited the VFW National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids Michigan. What a beautiful facility located in the rolling hills of Michigan! The National Home provides:

- Housing
- Educational Support
- Daycare
- Basic Needs
- Recreation
- Case Management Services

The National Home also provides the Military and Veteran Family Helpline (800-313-4200) which

- Provides caring, compassionate listening
- Helps put the "puzzle" together and find lasting solutions
- Makes meaningful and relevant connections to services that assist the caller, providing advocacy

- Partners with human service organizations, veteran service groups and service officers.

I would like to encourage you to become a Lifetime Member of the VFW Home for Children. The cost is only \$35.00. To enroll, contact the VFW National Home for Children at [info@vfnationalhome.org](mailto:info@vfnationalhome.org).

In July, VFW Post #2461, 1350 South Broadway, Denver, CO 80210 had a United States flag mural painted on the front exterior of the building. Patriot Painter Scott LoBaido is painting these murals as a gift to those who have served in the United States Armed Forces and his Flags Across America 2015 tour. As the only Post in Colorado, and just one of 50 selected for this honor, thank you Mr. LoBaido and his sponsors, Home Depot and Behr Paints.

In July, I will be attending the 116th National VFW Convention in Pittsburgh and the 96th Supreme Scratch of the Military Order of the Cooties.

I look forward to working with all comrades and sisters to make this an excellent year for veterans in Colorado. Let's all work together with Commander Pete to "help carry the load!"

Allan P. Stone  
Department Senior Vice Commander

## Quartermaster's Column Bruce Dolan



Greetings to all my fine comrades.

As the new year begins, I want to thank all of you for giving me the honor to serve again as your Quartermaster.

As always, I will be again looking at your Quarterly Audits. There is one thing I do notice on a lot of reports, a lot of Posts do not have a relief fund. Section 219 of the By-Laws tells us, "A relief fund will be established and maintained by the Posts." It goes on to state where the funds are to come from. The MOP tells us what they are to be spent on. There is no set dollar amount or time limit the fund should operate. BUT, there has to be a relief fund. This NEEDS to be reported on the Quarterly report.

Along the same lines as the Relief fund, Posts must also maintain a Dues reserve.

Please refer to Section 717 for an effective explanation of how this works.

On August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> will be the Council of Administration in Alamosa. On Saturday there will be a Post Quartermaster workshop conducted by 2 All American Post Quartermasters. They have been Quartermasters for many years and can probably answer Any questions you would have. The training will be held from 11am to 12pm on Saturday at Post 899, 519 Main St. in Alamosa. It is open to anyone who wants to learn, so please feel free to attend.

Again, I look forward to serving under our new leadership this upcoming year and also look forward to working with the entire Department.

Hope everyone stays cool and healthy.

Bruce R. Dolan  
Department Adjutant / Quartermaster

## All State Commanders 2014 - 2015

<b>Christopher Martinez</b>	# 899	<b>Alamosa</b>
<b>Damien Berg</b>	# 2585	<b>Johnstown</b>
<b>Shawn Buckendahl</b>	# 4171	<b>Golden</b>
<b>Kevin Reinhold</b>	# 6461	<b>Fountain</b> CAPTAIN
<b>Anthony Lopez</b>	# 9565	<b>Broomfield</b>
<b>Louis Ruggeri</b>	# 9644	<b>Sheridan</b>
<b>Steven Davidson</b>	#12009	<b>Conifer</b>

**All State District Commander Warren Tellgren District 10**

## Thank You Colorado!!

Thank You for all the cards, phone calls and visits during my knee surgery. It really helped to get me up and moving again. Each day is better than the previous day, and I will soon be back to normal, Thanks again, comrades, auxiliary sisters and all of my VFW friends.

Ron Lattin, PDC



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

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 1  
June 20, 2015 SERIES: 2015-2016

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

The following officers have been duly elected and installed at the 93rd Annual Convention held June 17-20, 2015, Sheridan, CO., and will have full authority to act and shall be obeyed accordingly:

**COMMANDER:**

Peter Buchanan, #1771  
12004 Monaco Dr., Brighton 80602  
303-255-3984 303-981-1606 (cell)

**SR. VICE COMMANDER:**

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

**JR. VICE COMMANDER:**

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

**QUARTERMASTER/ADJUTANT:**

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

**CHAPLAIN:**

Steve Kjonaas, #3917  
639 Blue Ridge Pt., Colo Spgs 80921  
719-574-2130

**JUDGE ADVOCATE:**

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

**SURGEON:**

David Stone, #3917  
6740 Goldfield Dr., Colo Spgs 80911  
719-391-9470

**CHIEF OF STAFF:**

Robert Kidd, Sr., #3917  
4114 Morley Cr., Colo Spgs. 80916  
719-390-1170

**INSPECTOR:**

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

**SERVICE OFFICER:**

Terry Jacobson, #3471  
155 Van Gordon, Rm 360  
Lakewood 80228  
303-914-5596

**PAST DEPT. COMMANDER:**

Jim Lafferty, #3411  
P O Box 207  
Wild Horse 808621  
719-688-5490

**DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER:**

Duane Johnson, #2461  
2778 Ingalls Way  
Denver 80227  
720-999-0539

**DISTRICT 2 COMMANDER:**

Bruce Tjosvold, #5812  
1193 E Sapinero Dr, Pueblo West 81007  
719-647-2041

**DISTRICT 3 COMMANDER:**

Steve Kroh, #2585  
P O Box 773, Johnstown 80534  
970-587-4500

**DISTRICT 4 COMMANDER:**

Michael Barber, #2551  
14568 Road S  
Fort Morgan 80701  
970-370-3149

**DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER:**

George Snyder, #101  
5232 Rondo Way, Colo Spgs 80911  
719-271-9976

**DISTRICT 6 COMMANDER:**

Louis Torrez, #4281  
P O Box 564, Lamar 81052  
719-336-3382

**DISTRICT 7 COMMANDER:**

Christopher Martinez, #899  
309 West Ave., Alamosa 81101  
719-588-1531

**DISTRICT 8 COMMANDER:**

Steve Davidson, #12009  
545 Conifer Dr., Bailey 80421  
303-358-9378

**DISTRICT 9 COMMANDER:**

Mark Wick, #4265  
P O Box 222, Craig 81625  
970-326-6998

**DISTRICT 10 COMMANDER:**

David Cook, #8449  
57251 E 24<sup>th</sup> Ave., Strasburg 80136  
720-984-9529

**DISTRICT 11 COMMANDER:**

Michael Stahly, #3571  
821 1525 Road, Delta 81416  
970-874-9203

**DISTRICT 12 COMMANDER:**

Richard Buehrer, #5181  
P O Box 433, Dove Creek 81324  
970-562-6496

**DISTRICT 13 COMMANDER:**

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

**1. COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:**

The next Council of Administration meeting will be Sunday, August 9, 2015. Joint Opening will be at Alamosa Time: 8:30 A.M. SHARP. VFW and Ladies will be at the American Legion for Joint Opening and then the VFW will go to VFW Post #899, 519 Main St., Alamosa for the VFW Council of Administration Meeting.

**Training Sessions will be on Saturday August 8, 2015 at VFW Post #899 Alamosa. ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS OR THEIR PROPER REPRESENTATIVE MUST BE PRESENT.**

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

**2. PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY:** All Department Officers are instructed to comply with Sec. 515, Paragraph (c) "Proof of Eligibility". Such proof must be on file at Department Headquarters **prior to August 8, 2015.** Failure to comply will disqualify Council Members from participation in the Council of Administration and District Commanders for reimbursement of expenses.

**3. 2015 SPRING SWEEPSTAKES:** Prize winners of the Spring Sweepstakes are listed in this Colorado Veteran.

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

**5. NATIONAL CONVENTION:** The 116<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. was held in Pittsburgh, PA July 18-22, 2015.

**6. NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE:** All Posts are reminded of the provision of the National By-Laws, which requires at least one registration from each Post. The registration fee of \$25.00 for the first Delegate and \$10.00 for the rest of the Delegates and a completed registration form must be sent

**Chaplain's Column  
Steve Kjonaas**



Many Comrades have been heard, "the Post Chaplain is nice, but what contributions have they brought to the VFW besides reading prayers?"

Agreed, sometimes we are lured into a sense of peaceful togetherness as he or she stands up and recites a ritual prayer for a meeting, grace, or maybe to honor a fallen Comrade. The peace we feel is the presence of mind and harmony a gathering of Comrades will bring to soul. We feel deeply the words of the opening prayer from the VFW Rituals as we hear the Chaplain say "Enable us to better the community in which we live through our devotion to duty as citizens." Our sense of community is what brought many of us together in the first place. Long ago, way back when you were young and considering military service, you dug into your being and know it or not let your sense of community guide your decision to serve.

The sense of community you

VFW General Order #1 (continued)

to the Quartermaster General, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.

**7. 2015-2016 POST OFFICERS:** Posts that have not submitted Report of Election forms will do so immediately. Posts that have not submitted their Election Report to Department will not be listed in the Department roster.

Posts who did not properly reported elected officers by July 15, 2015, were suspended for a period of ninety (90) days by the Department Commander. This suspension will automatically terminate when a properly completed Report of Election of officers is received at National Headquarters. At the end of ninety (90) days, the Commander-in-Chief may cancel the charter of any Post not properly submitting a list of officers to National Headquarters.

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

**8. QUARTERMASTER BONDS - AUDITS:** It is the duty of Commander to see that the office of the Quartermaster is bonded and that Trustees Reports of Audits are completed, signed by the Commander, Trustees, and Quartermaster and mailed to Department Headquarters no later than 25 days following the close of each quarter. All Quartermaster bonds carried through Department expire **August 31, 2015. The foregoing is a requirement of the National By-Laws.** Bond Applications have been mailed to the Post and District Quartermaster.

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

**10. COMMUNITY SERVICE and OTHER REPORTS:** Post Commanders are advised to send an **ORIGINAL report form - Community Service, Youth Activity, Americanism, Loyalty**

and your Comrades have is the glue that binds us together. Our comradeship is often the focus of our organization, but our individual special interests are what cause our energy move in separate directions. We discover through our sense of community what fills our soul and provides service to our communities and Veterans. The opportunities to help and serve in our communities are numerous and enriching. When the Chaplain stands and recites a prayer at your meetings, be reminded that he or she is helping you find the spirit that will assist the VFW and the community. Prayer brings us antidote to unease, a relief to our worries so that we may change our focus toward other's needs.

Through prayer, the Chaplain had assisted you in finding the opportunity to help others in need.

Steve Kjonaas  
Department Chaplain

**Day, Hospital and others pertaining to the Department Program report - DIRECTLY** to Department Headquarters, 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO, 80214. Department Headquarters will duplicate same and send copies to the various VFW State Chairmen. The reporting year commences May 1, 2015. Do not report programs completed prior to that date for the reporting year 2015-2016. Please make a copy of these forms for your Post files. Forms are available from Department Headquarters. **THERE ARE NEW FORMS FOR 2015-2016 REPORTING.**

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

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

**12. 2014-2015 AWARDS:** Posts or individuals who have not received the appropriate awards they earned from the Department of Colorado in the 2014-2015 year, please notify Department, in writing, within Thirty (30) Days by applying for the appropriate awards.

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

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

BY COMMAND OF:  
/s/ Peter Buchanan  
Peter Buchanan  
Department Commander



**VFW Post Membership by District as of June 30, 2015**

Number/ City	2014	2015	%	Number/City	2014	2015	%
<b>DISTRICT #1</b>				<b>DISTRICT #8</b>			
1 Denver	868	875	101*	859 Leadville	44	43	98
501 Denver	381	337	88	1166 Buena Vista	155	155	100*
2461 Denver	216	170	79	3820 Salida	103	96	93
2797 Denver	74	59	80	8661 Bailey	162	146	90
3971 Denver	100	95	95	10721 Minturn	92	93	101*
5061 Denver	446	369	83	11411 Lake George	46	45	98
TOTAL	2085	1905	91%	12009 Conifer	128	129	101*
<b>DISTRICT #2</b>				<b>DISTRICT #9</b>			
61 Pueblo	94	89	95	2371 Walden	32	30	94
984 Trinidad	63	60	95	4264 Steamt Spgs	100	98	98
2788 Penrose	103	122	118*	4265 Craig	139	141	101*
3641 Pueblo	89	92	103*	5261 Rangely	17	28	165*
4061 Canon City	370	354	96	5843 Meeker	49	47	96
5812 Pueblo West	232	212	91	9374 Kremmling	41	40	98
7305 Colo. City	48	48	100*	9471 Hayden	12	12	100*
8898 Boone	46	50	109*	TOTAL	390	396	102%*
12063 Westcliffe	44	42	95	<b>DISTRICT #10</b>			
TOTAL	1089	1069	98%	322 Englewood	132	133	101*
<b>DISTRICT #3</b>				<b>DISTRICT #11</b>			
41 Loveland	315	305	97	3471 Morrison	77	74	96
807 Boulder	54	50	93	3631 Aurora	382	369	97
1771 Lafayette	371	316	85	4121 Idaho Spgs.	59	61	103*
1781 Ft. Collins	324	330	102*	4171 Golden	538	540	100*
2121 Greeley	191	184	96	4266 Parker	85	69	81
2585 Johnstown	119	130	109*	4331 Arvada	285	296	104*
2601 Longmont	447	403	90	4444 Cmmrc Cty	258	243	94
4334 Ault	82	75	91	4666 Littleton	147	144	98
6011 Platteville	70	66	94	7563 Black Hawk	17	23	135*
6624 Evans	328	301	92	7945 Thornton	447	424	95
9565 Broomfield	132	134	102*	8449 Bennett	38	50	132*
9741 Dacono	51	48	94	9644 Fort Logan	709	796	112*
TOTAL	2484	2342	94%	TOTAL	3174	3222	102%*
<b>DISTRICT #4</b>				<b>DISTRICT #12</b>			
2551 Ft. Morgan	280	264	94	4031 Durango	241	230	95
3378 Yuma	70	67	96	5181 Dove Creek	57	54	95
3541 Sterling	115	105	91	5231 Mancos	185	167	90
3551 Brush	40	39	98	9058 Nucla	28	31	111*
3951 Ovid	29	29	100*	TOTAL	511	482	94%
3961 Otis	26	25	96	<b>DISTRICT #13</b>			
4191 Crook	24	22	92	3411 Kit Carson	27	30	111*
4671 Wray	65	63	97	6491 Burlington	85	83	98
6482 Holyoke	61	60	98	6612 Hugo	51	46	90
7153 Fleming	39	36	92	9491 Deer Trail	21	21	100*
8064 Akron	45	45	100*	9700 Chynn Wlls	36	31	86
TOTAL	794	755	95%	TOTAL	220	211	96%
<b>DISTRICT #5</b>				<b>DISTRICT #6</b>			
101 Colo. Spgs.	504	473	94	336 Ordway	107	101	94
3917 Security	692	677	98	2411 LasAnimas	108	106	98
4051 Colo. Spgs	781	733	94	3621 Lamar	63	58	92
5221 Calhan	105	112	107*	4001 Springfield	48	51	106*
6051 Wdln Park	44	45	102*	4091 Rocky Ford	62	59	95
6461 Fountain	302	308	102*	4281 Holly	30	28	93
7829 Monument	116	119	103*	TOTAL	418	403	96%
10649 Elizabeth	43	47	109*	<b>DISTRICT #7</b>			
TOTAL	2587	2514	97%	899 Alamosa	132	140	106*
<b>DISTRICT #6</b>				<b>DISTRICT #7</b>			
336 Ordway	107	101	94	3228 Monte Vista	39	41	105*
2411 LasAnimas	108	106	98	4849 La Jara	67	62	93
3621 Lamar	63	58	92	6101 San Luis	79	70	89
4001 Springfield	48	51	106*	8121 Del Norte	62	58	94
4091 Rocky Ford	62	59	95	TOTAL	379	371	98%
4281 Holly	30	28	93	<b>DISTRICT #7</b>			
TOTAL	418	403	96%	899 Alamosa	132	140	106*
<b>DISTRICT #7</b>				<b>DISTRICT #7</b>			
899 Alamosa	132	140	106*	3228 Monte Vista	39	41	105*
3228 Monte Vista	39	41	105*	4849 La Jara	67	62	93
4849 La Jara	67	62	93	6101 San Luis	79	70	89
6101 San Luis	79	70	89	8121 Del Norte	62	58	94
8121 Del Norte	62	58	94	TOTAL	379	371	98%
TOTAL	379	371	98%	<b>DISTRICT #7</b>			

2016 dues are now DUE.  
Be 100% +1 in 2015-2016

**We are on Subscription Dues  
Have you paid yours??  
Buy a Life Membership**

**Thank You Colorado**

The family of Jacqueline Sentena wishes to say "THANK YOU" to all of the VFW members, Ladies Auxiliary members, John Holland, Department Auxiliary Officers for their cards and show of concern when Jackie passed away. Services were held in Colorado Springs with John Holland officiating. Memorial Service was by the Department Auxiliary Officers. Many VFW members and Auxiliary members attended the services and the Luncheon afterwards. Pikes Peak Auxiliary 4051 prepared the Luncheon and we say "Thank You" to Auxiliary 4051. The VFW and Auxiliary was Jackie's life, even when she did not remember other events, she always was proud of her Auxiliary and her membership. "THANK YOU".

Johnny and Donna Sentena and family

**Thomas A. Pouliot**  
**Commander-in-Chief 1998-1999**  
**National Representative to**  
**Colorado Mid-Summer Conference**  
**VFW #899 Alamosa, Colorado**



Thomas A. Pouliot was elected VFW Commander-in-Chief on September 4, 1998, at the organization's 99th National Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

Pouliot served in the United States Navy from January 1962 through May 1966. During that time, he was assigned to an aviation wing and saw duty on three aircraft carriers, the USS Independence, the USS Midway and the USS Coral Sea. He was aboard the Coral Sea when it conducted operations against North Vietnam from the Gulf of Tonkin. He was awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and several Navy Unit Commendations.

Following military service, Pouliot joined the VFW in 1977 at Post 1116, Helena, Montana, where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life Membership. Since then, he has held several elected and appointed positions in the organization, including National Judge Advocate General. He was an All-American Department Commander in 1990-1991.

Pouliot received his law degree from the University of Montana School of Law. He has a private law practice and has served as a city judge in East Helena, Montana.

He belongs to the Montana Lawyers Association, the Montana Magistrates Association, the American Legion, and is a Life Member of the VFW Cooties.

He and his wife Shirley reside in Helena.

**COLORADO MEMBERSHIP PLAN 2015 - 2016**

It is Donkey Time. Every member needs to get their Donkey ready to "Help Carry The Load" to 100% in Membership 2015-2016. That means that your Donkey will be going the right way in the Colorado Veteran News.

Be sure to read your 2015-2016 Membership / Leadership book from cover to cover and watch for announcements about new contests that will be happening December and June. This year we will be giving a trip to Mesquite, NV, in December 2015 and June 2016. Be sure and read what will qualify you and a guest to take a trip to Mesquite, NV.

We will have more contests during the year. If you need help on Membership, give us a call and we will send someone, remember that our Officers are busy, so be sure to send your request as soon as you can.

We have a new type Membership Team this year, so be sure to read your 2015-2016 Roster Book to see who they are. If you have any suggestions, please call me.

Jim Mauck  
colofatalbert@outlook.com  
303-588-7518

**Men's Auxiliary**

As you are likely aware, the VFW passed a resolution to amend Article XI, Sections 1101-1104 of their National Bylaws at their 116th National Convention in Pittsburgh last week, allowing male spouses and family members to join the VFW Auxiliary effective August 21, 2015.

There has been some misinformation regarding the amendment that needs to be addressed.

- It is not a merger of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW and Men's Auxiliary VFW.

- It changes the name of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW to VFW Auxiliary and allows spouses and eligible male relatives to join the VFW Auxiliary.

- Males who wish to join the VFW Auxiliary will be required to fill out a membership application, provide proof

of eligibility, and their application will be voted on just as females who wish to join.

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters staff will meet with VFW staff and legal authorities in the coming days and weeks to discuss the transition and provide the most accurate information to their membership. Please wait for information from National Headquarters to formally address the change before you send any information to members, potential members and local media regarding the name change and eligibility information.

We will have this information to you as soon as we can, but please be aware that the change does not take effect until August 21, 2015.

Thank you for your patience!  
VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

**Roster Change 2015 - 2016**

**Page 69**  
**Men's Aux 6461 Fountain**  
President: Thomas Ruppel, 7 Taos Cr., Fountain 80817 719-360-7406  
Secretary: Tom Edwards, 432 Squire St., Security 80911 234-738-8630  
Treasurer: James Rash, 10 Taos Cr., Fountain 80817 719-306-7368

**Please notify Department Headquarters with all  
2015-2016 Roster Changes**



Post 3471: James Wilson  
Post 4051: Sterling Mac Gregor, Donald E. Weirauch, Robert Welsh, James E. Zar  
Post 5061: Wayne J Thompson, Jr., John Rothfuss  
Post 6461: Weston E. Thomas  
Post 7305: Eugene R. Johnson, Gunny W. Lundbert, Stanley M. Senderak  
Post 11411: Marvin H. Miller, Robert W. Peters  
Men's Aux 6624: Ed Branch





1st Place, Public Promotion, Golden VFW #4171 and Ladies Auxiliary. All American Hat with VFWLA Golden wants you sign with all 5 service flags, US and POW/MIA Flag.



1st Place, Memorial or Inspirational, Delta VFW #3571 and Ladies Auxiliary. Cemetery with all Service, POW/MIA and U.S. flags with "Never Forgotten" and Bear guard.



1st Place, Artistic and Decorative use of Poppies, Thornton VFW Post #7945 and Ladies Auxiliary. Flag with President Theme.



1st Place, Jr. Girls Memorial or Inspirational, Evans #6624. Memorial Wall with POW/MIA, U.S. flags with Buddy Poppy Crosses made with empty shell casings and Poem.



State Convention Saturday morning. members parade with their Buddy Poppy hats and all are winners. Plan on decorating a hat for next year's Convention.



National Guard (L) Peggy Haake, (C) President Arndt, (R) Dept. Jr Girls Counselor Stephanie Trujillo, Alma Smith (Golden) and five (5) Jr Girls at State Convention.



2015-2016 Auxiliary Officers and District Presidents that were installed at State Convention June 20, 2015.



Fourteen (14) Past Department Presidents were honored at State Convention by President Arndt. Each in turn told their year, theme, Commander and interesting tid-bits.



Auxiliary members with 45 years + of continuous membership were honored at State Convention. Ellie Ford, Norma Timmerman, Marie Worley, Jane Ledesma and Frances Aragon were honored by President Arndt.



President Martine Arndt, shimmied her way around the Auxiliary meeting, and waved her magic wand to become a PDP Friday morning at State Convention.





Fifteen (15) Past State Commanders attended Breakfast Saturday morning at State Convention. Ron Lattin is not pictures as he was cooking breakfast. L-R: Kirk Rosa, Ron Davies, Steve Rylant, Bruce Dolan, D J Alberts, Terry Jacobson, Jim Mauck, Bill Esch, Warren Tellgren, Darrell Anderson, Larry Mitchell, George Palmateer, Earl Havens and Doug Raymond.



Commander Elect Peter Buchanan and National Chief of Staff Bruce Hollinger from Nevada, relaxed at the Past State Commander's Breakfast at State Convention. Commander Pete is now very busy taking care of business and National Chief of Staff Hollinger returned to Nevada. Both attended National Convention in Pittsburgh, PA in July and then returned home. Bruce Hollinger is also Nevada Adjutant / Quartermaster.



Lyle Carter, VFW Post 322 Englewood, presented a banner to Gov. Hickenlooper for presentation to a Korean War Veterans family at the Memorial Day Tribute in downtown Denver. The Korean War Veteran was recently identified and returned to Colorado for final burial.



Warren Tellgren was sworn in as President of the All American Commander Club at National Convention in Pittsburgh, PA. Warren is from Verle Huffman VFW Post 9644 Sheridan, and has been both a Post and Department All American Commander. This is a yearly meeting at National Conventions.



Commander VFW Post #807 Willard Wells (center) and Quartermaster Kenneth Camell (right) presented a certificate and medal to ROTC Cadet in a ceremony in Boulder.



Ten (10) ROTC Cadets attended the ceremony in Boulder, CO. Quartermaster Camell is on the Left and Commander Wells is on the right from Boulder VFW Post #807.



PDC Steve Rylant and also representing the UVC, officiated at the Rally for the New VA Hospital. It was attended by many VFW and Auxiliary members officers and members, Department VFW Color Guard, as well as UVC members, Senators and Representatives and interested citizens to see that the VA Hospital is built as promised,



Monument VFW 7829 Auxiliary supports, with care packages, a troop in Afghanistan. They said "Thank you so much for supporting us while we are here! It is organizations like yours that make our job worth doing. Thank you for being true Americans and showing that we are not forgotten! We had just finished filling sand bags to use to build a fighting position on our base when the picture was taken".



**Vietnam Veteran is  
Life-Long Veterans'  
Advocate**

**A calling to give back is  
fulfilled**

**May 06, 2015**



Terry Jacobson served in the Navy from 1963-1967 aboard the U.S.S. Taylor. It was the summer after high school when he enlisted. He was 18, unemployed and looking for purpose.

Now 69 years old, Jacobson has spent his whole life serving and advocating for his fellow veterans. As a VFW Service Officer in Denver, veteran and 50-year VFW member, Terry Jacobson is a true veterans' advocate.

Jacobson has served as everything from All American Department Commander to All American District Commander and, currently, Post Commander.

But Jacobson's biggest reward comes from helping veterans receive their due from the VA.

"I love talking to the veterans, listening to their stories," said Jacobson. "They tell me about their families. We talk about the war. It's a very enjoyable job."

Over the years, Jacobson has helped countless veterans get back on their feet. Two that stuck out to him were both WWII veterans.

"One man was captured at the end of the war," said Jacobson. "They marched him all over Germany, from camp to camp. He suffered from severe back problems and PTSD."

The other was shot down in Belgium in 1944.

"His daughter called me when his wife passed away, and I went to their house. He was rated at 100 percent."

In perhaps his most personal case, Jacobson helped his wife's uncle secure his benefits.

"We talked over breakfast one day. He injured his shoulder in WWII but had never done anything with the VA," said Jacobson. "He lacked full range of motion in his shoulder and suffered from hearing loss and tinnitus. It was really hard for him because he was an avid golfer."

Jacobson helped him get the care and benefits he needed to get back out there on the golf course.

"Any time I can help a veteran improve their quality of life, it's a success," said Jacobson.

Jacobson wants everyone to know he and the VFW are always here to help a veteran in need.

"We are out in the community, and we are happy to come to you," said Jacobson. "You don't have to be a VFW member. You don't have to have gone to war. If you are a veteran, we are here always."

As Jacobson continues his life's mission to help veterans, he is especially hopeful about the future ... the improvements the VA has made to its systems.

"With paperless claims, we now don't have to wait for claims to travel from one desk to the other. In fact, fully developed claims are getting processed in as little as 90 days. It's made a big difference for my veterans and certainly makes my job easier," Jacobson concluded.

.....  
 Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars Service Officer Terry Jacobson has worked for all Veterans in Colorado for 10 Years in the Department Service Office, 155 Van Gordon Room 360, Denver, CO 80225. He can be reached at 303-914-5596. He has dedicated himself to helping veterans and travels to meet with veterans that are not able to come to the office. When you see or meet Terry "Thank Him for his Service".  
 .....

**Colorado State Veterans Center  
Homelake 14th Annual Summerfest!**

**Schedule of Events:**

**Saturday September 12, 2015**

**8:00 - 9:00 am** Cinnamon rolls, juice and coffee served in the Homelake Theatre to all "Homelake Summerfest" participants

**9:00 am** Flag Raising Ceremony

**9:15 - 11:00 am** Tables/Booths will be open to the residents for the 14th Annual Summerfest volunteers!

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

**All Activities Day  
Pueblo, Colorado - 2600 Oakshire Lane**

**Schedule of Events**

**Saturday September 12, 2015**

**Beginning at 7:00 a.m.**

**9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**11:00 a.m.**

**11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**11:45 a.m.**

**12:45 p.m.**

**1:25 p.m.**

**1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**3:00 p.m.**

**Volunteers Assemble Carnival Booths**

**Volunteer Registration**

**Patients Go Through The Lunch Line**

**Entertainment**

**Volunteers Go Through The Lunch Line**

**Gift Presentations by Organizations**

**Balloon Release-Volunteers Report to Game Booths**

**Carnival Booths Open For Business**

**Volunteers Disassemble Carnival Booths**

**All American Post Commander  
2014-2015**

**LouisRuggeri**

**#9644**

**Verle Huffman**

**Sheridan**

**ALL STATE QUARTERMASTER'S  
2014 - 2015**

**Dewell Zinser**

**# 322**

**Englewood**

**Charles Cooper**

**# 899**

**Alamosa**

**Steven Kroh**

**# 2585**

**Johnstown**

**James Lafferty**

**# 3411**

**Kit Carson**

**Shaun Shenk**

**# 4171**

**Golden**

**Charles Ackerman**

**# 4663**

**Clifton**

**Ronald Grider**

**# 6461**

**Fountain**

**Dennis Marty**

**# 9333**

**Hotchkiss**

**Russell Mehls**

**# 9565**

**Broomfield**

**Donald McNeely**

**# 9644**

**Sheridan**

**CAPTAIN**

**Allisha D. Cody**

**#12009**

**Conifer**

**VFW Warriors – On a Roll**

Ever wonder about what those VFW Warriors are all about? Well let's take a look. During the last several months, the VFW Warriors participated in a wide variety of rides in support of Veterans and the Community, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and allied organizations such as the American Legion Riders and the Combat Veteran Motorcycle Association with a focus of "Service To Veterans". Maybe you saw the VFW Warriors at the Loyalty Day Parade in Calhan, the Defenders of Freedom: Veterans Recognition Ride in support of the El Paso County Homeless Veterans Coalition in Colorado Springs, the Good News Jail and Prison Ministry ride in support of chaplains that help incarcerated Veterans and the correctional institution staff or perhaps you saw the VFW Warriors at the American Legion Fallen Brothers and Sisters Run or at the F.T.D.T. rally in support of the completion of the replacement Rocky Mountain VA Medical Center in Aurora, CO or at the State Convention. Would you believe that the VFW Warriors raised over \$15,000 for "Service to Veterans" projects this past quarter?

Coming up in July are the July 4th Parade in Monument, the Vander Clute ride at the National Convention in Pittsburgh in support of National Military Services, and the Honor Flight Motorcycle Run which supports The Northern Colorado Honor Flight, to name a just a few events on the VFW Warriors' July calendar. Then in August, the VFW Warriors will attend the Council of Administration meeting in Alamosa, have a ride in and around Alamosa, and lead the parade in the Salute to American Veterans Rally in Cripple Creek. A rolling motorcycle gathers no moss – a bit corny, I know.

If you are looking for an active and dedicated group of VFW and Auxiliary members that are "Service to Veterans" oriented the VFW Warriors are that group.. Want to know more about the VFW Warriors - take a look at the VFW Warriors web site <http://www.vfw-warriors.com/>, send me an email [jcarlson@vfw7829.org](mailto:jcarlson@vfw7829.org) or give me a call 405-326-2588. The VFW Warriors' motorcycles are a vehicle (pun intended) to increased membership, participation and "Service to Veterans" efforts.

Joe Carlson aka Deer Slayer  
State Chairman VFW Warriors



**National Patriot's Pen Award**



**Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary, beginning in the 2016 - 2017 program year, will be a sponsor of a perpetuate \$1,000 National Patriot's Pen Award. The "Veterans of Foreign Wars, national award will continue to spark additional interest in Patriot's Pen.**





# Auxiliary News

Published by the Department Auxiliary  
to the Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Department of Colorado

Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman



## Hospital

**Congratulations** to all the auxiliaries that received awards at the convention for your support of the hospital program last year. Colorado is very proud of our Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year--Betty Melsen. Betty also received a national award in our group for her many years of dedicated service to the VA hospital and our hospital program.

I have the honor again this year to serve as Department Hospital Chairman and work with many great ladies. This year the National Ladies Auxiliary has shifted priorities for the programs and is focusing the resources on fewer programs. The Hospital program is one of the first nationally adopted programs, Started in 1920, and is still one of the cornerstones along with Veterans & Family Support.

We can begin by focusing on volunteering in VA medical facilities, we must recruit new volunteers. We need more volunteers to assist our veterans in all of the facilities. Not every community has a VA facility; however, most have a nursing homes, clinic or veterans home. Contact them to see how your group can volunteer. All of the Colorado State Veteran's Living Centers are filled and would welcome special parties or visits to brighten the resident's day. In the next few months all of the facilities have planned special activities this would be a great time to invite members to visit and see what a rewarding experience volunteering can be. We have many possibilities to assist our veterans including the Veterans Writing Project all veterans can submit an article. The Suicide Awareness program is also part of the hospital program. Plan an expo at your post informing all veterans of the resources available, this difficult problem affects numerous veterans and is often unnoticed.

The VA has announced a new nationwide initiative "Summer of Service" to increase volunteers dedicated to serving veterans. Contact the VA Hospital for more information or to schedule a "vol-

unteer expo" at your Post. Valor Point a Domiciliary linked to the Denver VA Medical Center it is a 40 bed facility to aid homeless male & female veterans. The mission for this center is to provide veterans transitional, recover-focused treatment to overcome homelessness. This is a new center in south-west Denver they need volunteers to provide Bingo and other activities. The veterans need clothing, shoes, personal items, new underwear and household articles as they move into housing. This center offers many opportunities for auxiliaries in Denver to assist our veterans. I will be happy to attend a meeting and update your group on the numerous opportunities available to aid the hospital program. Recognition for service is an important part of the hospital program; auxiliaries could host a special lunch for all volunteers as a thank-you and possibly recruit other new volunteers. I will have a special pin for all ladies that recruit a new volunteer. **Auxiliaries need to report each month**; this is vital for the auxiliaries to receive credit for all you do to aid veterans and to help with judging for the year-end awards. If you have questions or need assistance let me know. Auxiliary President it is very important you or someone from your auxiliary attend the parade of programs in August to receive all the material on the programs and the goals for this year. At all the district meetings information will be given and help thought-out the year to assist you as we all work for veterans.

**Let's all work hard to live up to Department President Gloria's slogan "Cultivate the Caring for Our Veterans and their Families"**

Charlotte Lattin  
Department Hospital Chairman  
ronlattin@att.net  
303-909-6303 (cell)

## Legislative Program

The goals of the Legislative program are to keep members up-to-date on all issues and pending bills relating to veterans, their dependents, active-duty military, and national security; to let legislators know our views regarding such legislation; and hold them accountable for honoring America's promises to veterans.

### History

The Legislative program got its start in 1928, at which time it was called Legislation. As the years have gone by, the Ladies Auxiliary VFW has progressed greatly with letter-writing, personal contacts, e-mails, and invitations to legislators to attend our functions so that we can share our views with them and they can tell us their positions on veterans' issues.

### Action Corps Weekly

- Recipe Card to Receive Action Corps Weekly
- Video Tutorial on how to sign up for Action Corps Weekly
- VFW Action Corps Weekly - to sign up for this e-mail update!
- Action Corps

### Resources

- Veterans Vote Brochure
- \*VFW Fact Sheet
- VFW's Checkpoint Newsletter
- VFW National Headquarters
- National Legislative Service
- Washington, D.C. Office
- Citizens Corps

### Web Sites

- www.house.gov
- www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW.html
- www.senate.gov
- www.whitehouse.gov
- www.archives.gov/records\_of\_congress/index.html
- www.vfwdc.org/nls/legis(your state).us

## Francisca Guilford National President 2015-2016



Francisca Guilford of Anchorage, Alaska, was elected National President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States at its 102nd National Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on July 22, 2015.

A Life Member of Gen. John R. Noyes

Auxiliary #9978 in Anchorage since 1989, she joined on the eligibility of her late husband, who served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

Since joining, Francisca has served the organization in several capacities - as Auxiliary and Department President, Western States Conference Chairman for the Americanism and Buddy Poppy programs, National Americanism Director/Patriotic Instructor and National District Council Member #16.

Francisca will lead the organization under the theme "Our Veterans – Now and Forever" for the 2015-2016 year. She will focus on strengthening membership and encouraging Auxiliaries to do all they can for veterans and their families.

She served in all positions in her Department leading up to President, when she was named Runner-Up President of the Year. She served four terms as Chief-of-Staff and held various chairmanships as well.

With a bachelor's degree in Education from Alaska Pacific University, Francisca has been employed by the Anchorage School District for 27 years.

She is a VAVS Deputy Representative and volunteers at the VA Domiciliary. She loves helping veterans pick out gifts for their families for the holidays. She also visits veterans at Providence Extended Care Facility in Anchorage, Alaska.

She is a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children, as well a member of Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary (MOCA), Alaska Disabled Veterans Sports Program and American Legion Auxiliary.

Francisca is blessed with five daughters, 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren

## Resolution passed by the VFW

As you are likely aware, the VFW passed a resolution to amend Article XI, Sections 1101-1104 of their National Bylaws at their 116th National Convention in Pittsburgh last week, allowing male spouses and family members to join the VFW Auxiliary effective August 21, 2015.

National Headquarters staff will meet with VFW staff and legal authorities in the coming days and weeks to discuss the transition and provide the most accurate information to our membership. Please wait for information from National Headquarters to formally address the change before you send any information to members, potential members and local media regarding the name change and eligibility information.

We will have this information to you as soon as we can. We know you are excited to welcome men into your Auxiliaries, but please be aware that the change does not take effect until August 21, 2015. See Page 5 of this Colorado Veteran for added information.

Thank you for your patience!

## All State Presidents 2014-2015

### All-State

Beverly Archer	# 101	Colo Spgs
Sharleen Tartaglia	# 322	Englewood
Sharon Swett	# 859	Leadville
Pamela Valdez	# 2411	Las Animas
Audrey Quick	# 5812	Pueblo West
Kathy Carlson	# 7829	Monument
Elsie DeHerrera	# 9644	Sheridan

### Runner Up

Marsha Harrison	# 1	Denver
Jo Ann DeSamber	# 2551	Fort Morgan
Caryl Rowland	# 3571	Delta
Gayle Stockwell	# 6624	Evans
Betsy Strawn	# 8121	Del Norte/So Fork
Janiece Tyler	#11411	Lake George
Donna Tellgren	#12009	Conifer

## Congratulations



## VFW National Home for Children

Hello everyone, my name is Lucille Chavez and I am the VFW National Home for Children- Chairman for 2015-2016. Most of you wonderful Ladies know me and some of you may not, but I am a Life Member of The Ladies Auxiliary in Golden, Colorado Post 4171.

I first want to let you know that I will be working very closely with Carol Anderson and Barbara Buchanan.

We will be called THE ABC TEAM: Anderson, Buchanan and Chavez.

My GOALS for this year as Chairman for VFW National Home for Children is:

To have all the Ladies Auxiliaries here in this wonderful State of Colorado send their gift of the 10 cents per member to Health and Happiness.

To have the Ladies Auxiliaries make donations to the VFW National Home for all they do for our Veteran's and their Families.

To PROMOTE the VFW National

Home Military and Veteran Family Helpline!

BE HEARD –BE HELPED! This help Line is for the Families of our Nation's Veterans & Active-Duty Military. We NEED to be sure that they are HEARD and HELPED!

Please plan to be at our First Council of Administration meeting in Alamosa, as I will have much more information for the Ladies Auxiliary to take back to their meetings.

Thank you Department Gloria Otwell for allowing me to be your Chairman for the VFW National Home for Children this year.

If you need to contact me, please feel free to email me at: lovethosedenverbronsos2@yahoo.com.

With Loyalty,  
Lucille Chavez  
Department VFW National Home for Children Chairman

## ALL STATE PRESIDENT/ACHIEVEMENT

2015-2016 has started and we hope all Presidents and Auxiliaries have a wonderful year. We want to make it easy for you to keep your records to complete your year end reports. Please see the section in the Colorado Program Book for the report forms, to do list and instructions. Good record keeping will make the completion of the reports easy.

How do we determine what is on the Auxiliary Achievement Report? The report form is a recap of both the National and Colorado programs to record the activities in each program by the Auxiliary. Are these the only activities that count for Achievement—Of Course Not. Each Auxiliary has special activities in each program and these are to be recorded on the report too. Use the Achievement To Do List and you will always know what you have done and what is left to be done. Try to complete as many items on the To Do list as possible.

What activities are for the All State President Report? Only the participation of the Auxiliary President is recorded on

this report and only activities for the Auxiliary. It is possible that there are activities on the Auxiliary Achievement Report that the President had no participation. Again, the Achievement To Do List is a tool for the President to track her activity.

Answers to FAQ Reporting year for 2015-2016 is April 1, 2015-March 31, 2016/Due to the volume of Reports, email to the Chairman is not acceptable/the President and Achievement Report must be mailed together/Reports must be received by April 15, 2016.

We believe Colorado has the BEST Auxiliaries and Presidents in the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Every Auxiliary and President has the opportunity to be honored as the BEST OF THE BEST. This is not just about getting an award, it is about recognition for a job well done. Again, have a wonderful year!

“Cultivate the Caring for Our Veterans and Their Families”

Sue Tartaglione, Jo Najera, Phyllis Stone, Ruth Gulden, Chairman

## Outstanding Treasurer 2014-2015

### 1st Place

Group #1	Gladys Wilson	#9058	Nucla
Group #2	Nancy Johnson	#2797	Denver
Group #3	Peggy Haley	#3228	Monte Vista
Group #4	June Balster	#9221	Cedaredge
Group #5	Kathleen Tomlin	#2411	Las Animas
Group #6	Jean Jaffe	# 1	Denver
Group #7	Bonny Nelson	#4171	Golden

### 2nd Place

Group #1	None Qualified		
Group #2	Rhonda Renz	# 899	Leadville
Group #3	Jana Bartlett	#11411	Lake George
Group #4	Nancy Hutchins	# 101	Colorado Springs
Group #5	Rosalyn Mitchell	# 8121	Del Norte/So Fork
Group #6	Carolyn Simon	# 322	Englewood
Group #7	Linda Jensen	# 4051	Colorado Springs

## Congratulations

Established 1914, members of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars set out to serve the veterans of this country and our communities in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of very man and woman who has served in uniform. We have...

**UNWAVERING SUPPORT  
FOR UNCOMMON HEROES**

## Scholarship Programs

My name is Beverly Archer and I am honored to be President Gloria Otwell's Scholarship Chairman. Sabrina Feagaiga will be assisting through out the next year.

The Scholarship Program encompasses all programs that provide scholarships through a competitive process that encourages patriotism. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with each of these programs and submit your entries to the appropriate person by the appropriate deadline.

The Department of Colorado is proud and honored that the 2015 National Winner of the Voice of Democracy, Adam Densmore, is from Colorado. Hopefully, this will be the beginning of a yearly trend.

To continue that trend it is important that we get the word out now, not just for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Programs, but for the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest and the Continuing Education Scholarship as well.

You can get the word out through a variety of organizations, not just your local schools. Be sure to contact Church or youth groups, the local home school association, local Parent-Teacher Associations, youth focused organizations (i.e. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Frontier Girls) and youth sports teams.

### 2015-16 Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest

#### Theme: My Vision for America

This contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades 6-8. Students must be a resident of the state where entered. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

### 2015-16 Voice of Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

#### Theme: What Freedom Means to Me

This contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades 9-12. Students must be a resident of the state where entered. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

### Deadlines for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen:

- Entries to VFW Post – Midnight, November 1
- Completion of Post Judging–November 15
- Completion of District Judging – December 6
- Submission of District entries to Department – December 10
- Completion of Department Judging January 7
- Department Winner to VFW National Headquarters – January 15

### National Awards

- First Place - \$30,000 scholarship
- Second Place - \$16,000 scholarship
- Third Place - \$10,000 scholarship
- Fourth through 31<sup>st</sup> Place - \$7,000 to \$1,500 scholarship
- Remaining Department Winners -

\$1,000 scholarship

All Department Winners receive an all-expense paid trip to Washing, D.C, where their essays will be entered into the final competition.

**Department Awards:** Voice of Democracy Awards Banquet (date and location to be determined). Please watch for these announcements and others in the Colorado Veteran.

### Continuing Education Scholarship

This scholarship is open to any Ladies Auxiliary member (who has belonged for at least a year), her spouse, son or daughter with a financial need. Entrant must be at least 18 years old, complete the application and submit an essay of 300 words or less.

Applications must be received at National Headquarters by February 15, 2015. They should be mailed to: Director of Programs

Ladies Auxiliary VFW National Headquarters  
406 W 34<sup>th</sup> St., 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Kansas City, MO 6411

\$1,000 will be awarded to an applicant in each of the four Conferences. Applications are available from Department Scholarships Chairmen or on the National website.

### Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

This contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades 9-12. No digital art will be accepted, and artwork must be on canvas or paper. It will be judged on patriotic theme and technique. One Department winner will be forwarded to the Ladies Auxiliary National Headquarters. Please see the student brochure at [www.ladiesauxvfw.org](http://www.ladiesauxvfw.org) for more details and requirements. Students must be a resident of the state where entered.

### Deadlines:

- Entries received by the local Ladies Auxiliary – March 31
  - Entries received by Department – April 15
  - Entries received by National – May 5
- National Scholarships**
- First Place - \$10,000
  - Second Place - \$5,000
  - Third Place - \$2,500
  - Fourth Place - \$1,500
  - Fifth through Eighth Place - \$500

Please remember to report all participation and/or promotion in each of these programs on the Department Program Form. When you report your activity, you are not patting yourself on the back – you are informing National and Congress about the important role you play in our community.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance.

Beverly Archer  
Department Scholarship Chairman  
bevarcher@me.com 719-304-4643



- Aux 2121: Marguerite Ingram
- Aux 3411: Mary Louis Dechant
- Aux 3541: Daisy Gemaehlich
- Aux 3917: May Ellen Epps, Shirley Mae Lossing, Choi Miles, Ingiborg Martinez, Matilda Guillory, Christine Williams
- Aux 4061: Ruth Long
- Aux 4331: Donna M. Guzowski
- Aux 6461: Mary Hines
- Aux 8121: Cecelia Archuleta



## Membership 2015-2016

Welcome VFW Auxiliary members to your 2015-2016 membership year. We, your line officers, program chairmen and our mentees are all excited to support our members as we “**Cultivate the Caring for Veteran’s and Their Families**”. Our newly installed president, Gloria Otwell has entrusted my mentee Shelly Schlieman, your Department Chaplain and our National Recruiter, Linda Reinpold and myself to make sure you have all the information and resources you need to have a successful year. The only way we can continue to **GROW** our organization is by the perennial seeds we sow because they will be the strength of our membership. When you ask someone to join, they will be honoring a veteran in their family by their eligibility. We know that not everyone is eligible to join but if you don’t ask, how will our garden grow. If they can join ask them to participate, but remember, not everyone that joins will actively participate in your events but their membership still counts because they will become the roots for the future success of our organization. Always keep a few of our brochures handy to share with others, so you can inform possible new members of who we are and what we do. Our benefits are **Bountiful** and will continue to include Cancer Grants, Scholarships opportunities, assisting veterans and their families, promoting patriotism and a place to come together as family with a common purpose. As of July 1<sup>st</sup> we will no longer be able to reinstate members who let their annual dues lapse, they will have to start as a new member. Now more than ever, we must stay in touch with our continuous membership to make sure they know how important they are to our success, as a new generation of veterans

## Recruiter Training Program

I would like to thank Department President Gloria Otwell, National President Francisca Guilford and National Secretary-Treasurer Jan Owens for giving me the opportunity to be the National Certified Recruiter Trainer for the Department of Colorado throughout the 2015-2016 year.

We need to get out the word about who the VFW Ladies Auxiliary is, what we do and how it helps our veterans and their families. We need to raise more public awareness about our organization and encourage those who are eligible to join us. We need not get discouraged along the way. Remember – it is about getting one member one at a time and some will join and some will not.

The purpose of the program is to help Auxiliary members recruit new members and retain our current members at the state and local level. It is also meant to help grow membership through outreach strategies such as member training, public events, LAVFW/VFW joint activities and membership events. I will be working closely with the Department Membership Chairman, Caroline Gelatt and her team to help complement building increased

will be depending on our organization to care from them and their families. We as individuals have an opportunity to be the leaders of our organization in this second century of serving veterans and it is time to rename and remember what our **3 R’s** should be:

**1. RECRUIT!** New members will ensure the future success of our organization

**2. RETAIN!** Our continuous members need to be informed by any means of communication that best serves their needs i.e. postal mail, e-mail, Facebook, LinkedIn, teleconferencing, webinars, or your own individual, state or national website.

**3. RESPECT EVERYONE!** Set your difference aside, we are here for one purpose and that is to serve our veterans, their families and our country.

This year’s membership program will have many opportunities for you to be recognized for all your efforts in strengthening our membership and I look forward to sharing them with you at our first Parade of Programs in Alamosa on August 8th. Your Department of Colorado Auxiliary Team will be working closely with the VFW Membership Team as partners to ensure that our year is successful. Being a member of our organization continues to inspire me every day as I have seen how our members pull together in times of need. I am proud to tell others about what I do, I am always excited to share with others about our events and I am passionate about our veterans and their families. Please share your enthusiasm with everyone you meet so our organization will continue to BLOOM.

Caroline Gelatt  
Department Membership Chairman  
cagekatt@netzero.net  
970-396-3275 cell

membership.

Our mission together is to help develop a recruitment plan that can be effective by providing better knowledge about the benefits of the Ladies Auxiliaries, to provide understanding about the important work that is being done for veterans such as legislation to maintain and improve benefits for veterans and their families, and inform them how we are involved in our communities through programs such as hospital volunteerism.

I look forward to working with Caroline, her membership team and all Auxiliaries throughout the upcoming year and am very excited about this recruiting for growing our membership this year! Please call me with any questions and to schedule a training session.

Thank you to all Auxiliary members working so diligently to keep our Department a healthy and active one. We can all work together to “Cultivate the Caring for Veterans and Their Families” and watch our membership grow!

Linda Reinpold, National Certified Recruiter Trainer  
lindareinpold@q.com

## Thank You Colorado

To the Department of Colorado Auxiliary:

A special “Thank You” from me to you. I am so humbled by the support shown to me in my run for National District 13 Council. To all of the members - you have my support and if you need anything, I am only a phone call away. (We will learn more together.)

Again, thank you for your overwhelming support.  
Ginny Rosa, National District 13 Council elect

## Auxiliary Membership by District 2014 - 2015 June 30, 2015

Number	City	2014	2015	%	Number	City	2014	2015	%
<b>DISTRICT #1</b>					<b>DISTRICT #7</b>				
1	Denver	175	171	98	899	Alamosa	77	82	106*
501	Denver	153	150	98	3228	Monte Vista	40	42	105*
2461	Denver	120	119	99	4849	La Jara	48	49	102*
2797	Denver	37	36	97	6101	San Luis	46	46	100*
3971	Denver	44	41	93	8121	So Fork	93	95	102*
5061	Denver	139	113	81		TOTAL	304	314	103%*
	TOTAL	668	630	94%					
<b>DISTRICT #2</b>					<b>DISTRICT #8</b>				
984	Trinidad	23	0	0	859	Leadville	31	31	100*
2788	Penrose	44	46	105*	1166	Buena Vista	89	93	104*
3641	Pueblo	89	79	89	8661	Bailey	63	34	54
4061	Canon City	171	162	95	11411	Lake George	42	47	112*
5812	Pueblo West	40	50	125*	12009	Conifer	35	30	86
7305	Colo. City	30	30	100*		TOTAL	260	235	90%
	TOTAL	397	367	92%					
<b>DISTRICT #3</b>					<b>DISTRICT #9</b>				
41	Loveland	140	127	91	4264	Stmbt Spgs	33	34	103*
1771	Lafayette	346	324	94	4265	Craig	59	51	86
1781	Ft. Collins	75	82	109*	5843	Meeker	38	32	84
2121	Greeley	106	95	90	9374	Kremmling	17	18	106*
2585	Johnstown	43	44	102*		TOTAL	147	147	92%
2601	Longmont	260	244	94					
2841	Brighton	55	36	65					
4334	Ault	37	36	97					
6011	Platteville	38	33	87					
6624	Evans	207	201	97					
9565	Broomfield	37	39	105*					
	TOTAL	1344	1261	94%					
<b>DISTRICT #4</b>					<b>DISTRICT #10</b>				
2551	Ft. Morgan	144	144	98	322	Englewood	113	113	99
3541	Sterling	91	91	95	3471	Morrison	52	51	98
4671	Wray	30	30	103*	3631	Aurora	108	113	102*
8064	Akron	38	38	84	4171	Golden	338	323	93
	TOTAL	303	303	96%	4331	Arvada	136	123	88
					4444	Cmmrc City	177	180	101*
					6331	Aurora	49	0	0
					7945	Thornton	254	253	92
					9644	Fort Logan	372	347	91
						TOTAL	1599	1503	91%
<b>DISTRICT #5</b>					<b>DISTRICT #11</b>				
101	Colo. Spgs.	64	68	106*	784	Montrose	58	53	91
3917	Security	238	244	103*	1247	Grnd Jcnctn	102	96	94
4051	Colo. Spgs	323	320	99	3571	Delta	79	74	94
5221	Calhan	37	27	73	3981	Grnd Jcnctn	24	20	83
6461	Fountain	114	119	104*	4663	Clifton	74	57	77
7829	Monument	17	22	129*	9221	Cedaredge	67	67	100*
	TOTAL	793	800	101%*	9304	Silt	23	23	100*
					9333	Hotchkiss	25	24	96
						TOTAL	452	414	92%
<b>DISTRICT #6</b>					<b>DISTRICT #12</b>				
336	Ordway	92	87	95	4031	Durango	75	73	97
2411	LasAnimas	98	108	110*	5181	Dove Creek	43	41	95
3621	Lamar	17	16	94	5231	Mancos	68	61	90
4001	Springfield	33	29	88	9058	Nucla	20	19	95
4091	Rocky Ford	15	0	0		TOTAL	206	194	94%
4281	Holly	13	10	77					
	TOTAL	268	250	93%					
<b>DISTRICT #13</b>					<b>“100 Years of Serving Veterans” Department of Colorado Ladies Auxiliary VFW</b>				
3411	Kit Carson	32	29	91	15006	At Large	187	258	138%*
6491	Burlington	11	17	155*		TOTAL DEPT.	7,030	6,751	96%
6612	Hugo	59	54	92					
	TOTAL	102	100	98%					

## Extension

As we start a new year, I’m asking each auxiliary to plant seeds of kindness so we can Cultivate the Caring For Veterans and Their Families”. We can do this by being kind and courteous to all members.

If you know of an auxiliary that is struggling, please contact me so we can help them before it is too late.

We will be contacting all Bachelor Posts to let them know about the benefits of having an auxiliary and encourage them to approve an auxiliary to their Post

This year we will be using the RU Healthy materials: The Healthy Auxiliary Checklist, the Healthy Auxiliary Member Questionnaire. The Auxiliary Meeting Clinic

and the Healthy Communication Telephone / Text Tree. You can find all this information in the Program Book. Please utilize these materials to help make the auxiliary strong.

We need to reach out and assist the transfer of members from a defunct auxiliary to retain their membership. We also ask all auxiliaries to contact those who did not pay their dues as of June 30th to join again.

If I can be of any assistance, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Loyally,  
Rosie Mitchell  
Chief of Staff / Extension Chairman

## Buddy Poppy

Let’s get off to a good start this year by getting your Poppy orders in to VFW Department. It’s also time to put your thinking caps on and come up with some great ideas for next years Convention hats, and Post/Auxiliary Poppy displays. Stop by the Veterans and Family Support table at the next COA and see pictures of this years winners.

Barbara Buchanan, Buddy Poppy Chairman



## Americanism

Hello Sisters,

I would like to thank President Gloria for asking me to serve as the Americanism chairman for 2015 -2016. It is an honor and I am looking forward to promoting this program that is so important to our veterans and our communities.

The National Goals for Americanism this year are:

- Flag Education
- Promote Patriotism
- POW/MIA Recognition
- Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award

There are many resources available, both in print and online to promote this program. Education of the public is always something we should strive to achieve on a daily basis. I am sure many of you have seen the desecration of our flag by those we are fighting against overseas, as well as some groups in our country. Educate yourselves in the etiquette of our flag, and share the information with others. If you are able to get in your schools for patriotic and flag education, by all means take the opportunity. Don't forget charter schools and homeschooled families. If not, check with youth groups in the communities, Boy and Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc.

We are still in parade season; continue to hand out those small flags to children and parade viewers. Carry flag stickers and give them to those people you see saluting the flag properly. You can also get the R.A.P. (Random Act of Patriotism) coins to hand out to youth at the parades (you also get credit for Youth Activities)!

Recognize those in your community (residents and businesses), that fly their flag on a daily basis with the certificates available from the VFW. Store. This is a great way to let your neighbors know who we are, and our Post and Auxiliary have actually signed up new members by giving these out.

Recognize the patriotic holidays. Coming up in September is Patriot Day (Sep-

### 10 Tips for Working with Youth

When working with youth, it is important to consider their safety and needs. We would like to offer these tips and resources so that you can make sure that all youth you encounter have the best experience possible.

1. **Consider taking Youth Protection training.** Many organizations working with youth provide and require training. One of the best known is done by Boy Scouts. You do not need to be a member or even involved with the program in order to take their free online training. Find it here: <http://www.scouting.org/Training/youth-protection.aspx>
2. **Always respect the time commitments of youth.** They are very busy. Be clear about when an event or project starts and how long it will go for. Parents also very much appreciate it when their child is finished at the stated time.
3. **Parents should always be welcome to stay and take part in the activity.**
4. **No matter the project or event, make sure that proper safety measures are taken for everyone involved.** Also, be sure that activities or projects are age appropriate.
5. **Be extremely conscious of the location where you bring or meet the youths.**
6. **Do not smoke, drink or use drugs around them.**

tember 11), and POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 18 (the third Friday in September. Open your Post to the public, and perform the Missing Man Table ceremony as well as other appropriate readings, etc. Hold an event at your Post or in the community to celebrate other patriotic holidays.

Work with your Post on promoting the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. Recognize teachers that are educating our children how to become good citizens and stewards of our democracy and our country. Show your patriotism daily, wear a flag pin, VFW/Auxiliary products and emblems, and have flag decals or patriotic bumper stickers on your vehicles. Thank a service member or veteran you meet throughout your day.

National has moved the blue Suicide Prevention Teardrop to the Veterans and Family Support program, but I will still have these available for purchase, funds go to our PTSD clinic project.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Parade of Programs in Alamosa on August 8! I will have promotional materials for you at that event.

### Stand Tall, Stand Proud, Three Cheers for the Red, White and Blue!

By showing our patriotism we will "Cultivate the Caring for Our Veterans and their Families" and prove to the world around us that "Veterans, Now and Forever" is our mission and our passion.

Loyally,  
Martine Arndt, Americanism Chairman



7. **If you are taking youth somewhere other than the Post home or a school,** consider getting permission slips from every parent, and make sure the parents understand that the children may be riding in personal vehicles.

8. **Receive training from your local Child Abuse Prevention Council or Child Protective Center on the Mandated Suspected Child Abuse Reporting Laws in your State for those working with children.**

9. **Find out if you need to have individuals working with youth/children fingerprinted before working with youth.** There may be laws in your state.

10. **Maintain and model healthy boundaries with children, be a role model.**

Remember it is never appropriate to display acts of violence or abuse around or towards children.

Remember that it only takes a minute to make a difference in the life of a child. There are lots of small, positive things we can all do to help protect and nurture our children that only take a minute. A few words of praise and encouragement to a child, listening carefully to what a child has to say, showing a child you care, all are simple actions that added together have been shown to have a profound impact on a child's life.

In these very real ways, we can all support children and strengthen families.

## Veterans And Family Support

Hello. Let me introduce the **ABC TEAM** for the 2015-16 Veterans and Family Support Program. **A** – Carol Anderson, Chair Veterans & Family Support Program **B** – Barbara Buchanan, Chair Buddy Poppy Program **C** – Lucille Chavez, Chair VFW National Home for Children

Auxiliary President, Gloria Otwell, has instituted a mentor/mentee concept to offer an introduction to interested auxiliary sisters to serve as a program chair plus to provide assistance to the program chair. I am looking forward to working with the ABC Team to build a strong Veterans & Family Support this year.

CO will continue to strive to work for each of the programs within the guidelines set forth by the National VFW. Please set your local program goals as well. Help us to achieve a 100% participation in each of the following programs:

- . National Veterans Services (NVS)
- . National Military Services (NMS)
- . Buddy Poppy
- . VFW National Home for Children

Please refer to the 2015-16 Program Book for the specifics for each of the above programs.

Homeless Veterans – First my apologies to the auxiliary sister who requested, at the State Convention, that I send her the directions for crocheting the plastic sleeping mats (PLARNS) for the homeless veterans. I misplaced her contact information.

I will happily e-mail or send a hard copy to you and all others interested in making life a bit brighter for those who served us and now down in their luck – a good time for us to serve them. My e-mail is: [votecj@aol.com](mailto:votecj@aol.com). Cell: 303-902-8717. These mats are wonderful to distribute at the local Stand Downs. Remember, there are several outreach programs for homeless veterans throughout the state. Please connect with these programs.

Loyally,  
Carol Anderson  
Department Veterans and Family Support Chairman

### Thank You Colorado

"Thank You". I am thrilled to be the new Department Guard, and that I will do my very best to assist members as we continue serving veterans.

Kathy Carlson  
[carlsonmke@aol.com](mailto:carlsonmke@aol.com)

### Cancer Aid and Research

Hello, my name is Lennie Dolan and I am very happy to be your Cancer Aid and Research Chairman.

This year our Cancer pin is a straw hat with sunflowers and a purple ribbon for all Cancers. Our theme this year is "Cultivate the Caring for our Veterans and their Families". Please purchase Cancer pins at \$3.00 each, using the form included in this book. Cancer donations will be accepted at each Parade of Programs and Council of Administration meetings. Checks should be made payable to: VFW Ladies Auxiliary Department of Colorado, and earmarked Cancer Aid and Research on the note line.

Once again our goal is to achieve 100% of our \$2.00 per member obligation. This \$2.00 per member funds the National Cancer Grants. These funds provide Cancer Grants to a member who has been a member of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW for one (1) full year and current dues must be paid before applying for a Cancer Grant. There is a limit of two (2) grants per life-

time, but must be 12 months apart. (This is **not** related to Specified Disease Insurance, commonly referred to as Cancer Insurance offered by some Auxiliaries.) You may obtain Cancer Grant application forms from your Auxiliary or Department Treasurer, National Headquarters at: **816-561-8655**, e-mail [info@ladiesauxvfw.org](mailto:info@ladiesauxvfw.org) or printed from the website.

ONLY \$2 per member is being requested. That's right – no levels or citations for different amounts. The deadline for Departments to have the money to National Headquarters is June 30, 2015.

You can give a memorial to Cancer Aid & Research in lieu of flowers. "In Memoriam" cards can be purchased through the VFW Store at [www.vfwstore.org](http://www.vfwstore.org) or 1-800-821-2606.

Loyally,  
Lennie Dolan  
1170 Fulton St., Aurora, CO 80010  
303-341-7488 (h) 303-349-7416 (c)  
[linebrd@aol.com](mailto:linebrd@aol.com)



### 2015 - 2016 Cancer Pins Order Form

Auxiliary No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: CO Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Pins for \$3.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

Ordered by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mail Cancer Pin order to: Lennie Dolan  
1170 Fulton Street  
Aurora, CO 80010  
(303) 341-7488