

COLORADO VETERAN

and Auxiliary News

"No One Does More For Veterans"



February, 2016

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

Volume 55, Issue 3 2015 - 2016

"My Vision For America"



Catherine Hale 1st Place

Sponsored by District 13 and VFW Post Hugo #6612 and Auxiliary

My vision for America is that one day the pride and honor that was felt when you said you were from America would be restored. The type of pride we had after both world wars that made people feel honored and happy to be able to say that they lived in this country.

Imagine for me that it's the late evening of September 1st, 1945; you walk across your living room and turn your radio on. You and your family sit intently and listen to Harry S. Truman's speech while Japan surrenders to the U.S.A. on the U.S.S. Missouri. You genuinely take in what the president is saying during his speech. One part in particular sticks out; "Our first thoughts, of course, thoughts of gratefulness and deep obligation-go out to those of our loved ones who have been killed or maimed in this terrible war ... American men and women have given their lives so that this day of ultimate victory might come and assure the survival of a civilized world." At that moment in time, those words had never been truer. We had just overcome the Great Depression, won the Second World War, and restored our economy by supporting the war effort. Our

economy was now stronger than it had ever been and the country had a high and a respectful sense of nationalism.

But now fast forward twenty years to 1965. Our troops are being deployed to help prevent the spread of communism in Vietnam. This was all due to the domino theory from Japan in World War II and the Russians during the Cold War. By 1969 five hundred thousand troops were in Vietnam fighting. However back home the support that American troops had during WWII was nonexistent. In 1973, our troops were withdrawn with 57,937 troops dead or missing. Those who did come home witnessed unimaginable horrors while serving their country. Neighbors, brothers, friends, fathers and uncle's deaths were witnessed not only by our troops but by our nurses and doctors. But when our troops and medical care came home from this horrendous experience they weren't greeted with the support and celebration as they had been in 1945. Instead, they were treated with hatred and disrespect. In "Coming Home: A Study In Contrast" troops were called: baby killers, psychos, drug addicts, and war mongers. Troop homecomings were protested, members of the armed forces had urine flung at them, and were refused service in restaurants.

Nationalism as a whole had seemed to plummet, almost completely. No longer does it seem that Harry S. Truman's words mattered. No longer do "our first thoughts of gratefulness and deep obligation-go out to those of our loved ones who have been killed or maimed in this terrible war. .. "Yet it was still our fellow "American men and women" that had "given their lives so that this day ... might come and assure the survival of a civilized world." Where did our deep sense of love and support towards our troops disappear to? Where did our common respect for our neighbors, brothers, friends, fathers, uncles, sisters, mothers, and aunts go?

As a nation today we are still proud of our troops, but no longer is it like September 1, 1945. No longer are there huge celebrations in honor of our troops. I believe that to best restore the pride we once had in America, we must each develop a pride for our past accomplishments. This means that we must first respect and celebrate those that have earned our freedom for us. Their accomplishments lead to America being a great country, and we must work to understand and help them. By doing this, we can strive to once be the America we were. We need to reach out our hand to others instead of expecting handouts. We need to work hard in school to obtain higher paying jobs, instead of exerting the bare minimum for higher pay. We, as Americans, are the creators and destroyers of our own nationalism, and bringing back that nationalism would allow us to work toward being a united country.

our own nationalism, and bringing back that nationalism would allow us to work toward being a united country. My vision for America is to one day breathe the pride back into our country that we once had. The same pride we had after both world wars. The type of pride we reveled in the night of September 1, 1945,



2nd Place, Emma Brown sponsored by District 6 and Las Animas VFW #2411 and VFW Auxiliary.



3rd Place, Joshlyn Traum sponsored by District 10 and Arvada VFW #4331 and Auxiliaries.



4th Place, Hanna Hurlbut sponsored by District 1 and Demver VFW #501 and VFW Auxiliary.



5th Place, Mark Dunlap sponsored by District 5 and Pikes Peak VFW #4051 and Auxiliaries.

Security

Council of Administration Meetings

VFW Post 3917

March 12 - 13, 2016

after Japan surrendered to us.

June 15 - 18, 2016

State Convention Security hosted by VFW Post 3917 and Auxiliary

Please make plans to attend

FEBRUARY DISTRICT MEETINGS

NO.	DATE	LOCATION	TIME RE	PRESENTATIVE
5	2/21/16 Sunday	Post No. 101	1:00 pm Lunch Meeting to follow	Allan Stone Linda Reinpold
11	2/14/16 Sunday	Post No. 3571 Delta	10:00 am Registration 11:00 am Jnt Meeting Voice of Democracy / Pa 12:00 noon Lunch Meetings to follow	Steve Kjonaas triot Pen
12	2/14/16 Sunday	Post No. 5181 Dove Creek	11:00 am Jtn Mtg 12 noon meal Meeting to follow	David Stone Linda Reinpold
13	2/21/16 Sunday	Post No. 9700 Cheyenne Wells	2:00 pm Meeting Snack after meeting	Steve Kjonaas
	– Mar 2 nd – Mar 3 rd		acy, Washington DC erence, Washington DC	
1	3/19/16 Saturday	Post No. 3971 Denver	TRICT MEETINGS 11:00 am Jt Mtg 12:00 noon Meal Meeting to follow	Allan Stone
3	3/06/16 Sunday	Post No. 1771 Lafayette	12:00 Meal Meeting to follow	Ed Aitken
4	3/20/16 Sunday	Post No. 2551 Fort Morgan	12:00 noon Meal Meeting to follow Voice of Democracy / Pa	Jim Lafferty triot's Pen
7	3/06/16 Sunday	Post No. 3228 Monte Vista	12:00 noon Meal Voice of Democracy Patriots Pen Meeting to follow	Steve Kjonaas Caroline Gelatt
10	3/20/16 Sunday	Post No. 9644 Sheridan	Breakfast 11:00 am Memorial Serv	
	Mar 27 th	Easter	Meeting	Gloria Otwell

Legislative Update

We hear a lot of promises from the Presidential candidates. Our ears are continually bombarded with their plans. Yet very little is said about our veterans, their families and our active duty, reserve and National Guard troops. When the time for voting comes, we need to remember their voting records and past support for these people. But it takes our commitment to SPEAK OUT and let our members of

<u>Will you be the one?</u> If only 1 in 10 of VFW members were to contact their representative and senators, the impact would be monumental. We need to tell them our feelings about pending legislation and the effect that it has on their lives. The VFW members are the strongest potential lobbying force in America.

You had what it took to fight for our freedoms and world peace. Doyou have what it takes to STAND UP and FIGHT for our benefits and entitlements?

Warren R. Tellgren, National Legislative Director

COLORADO VETERAN and AUXILIARY NEWS

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> POSTMASTER Send address changes to:

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

Martine Arndt, jr. past president Ann Mauck, auxiliary news chairman

www.vfwcolodept.org

Chapel Escort and Coffee Hour Schedule

Feb 7	John S Stewart VFW #1	Denver
14	Broomfield VFW #9565	Broomfield
21	Mile High VFW #1771	Lafayette
28	Joseph J Jacques VFW #7945	Thornton
Mar 6	John S. Stewart VFW #1	Denver
13	Golden VFW #4171	Golden
20	Longs Peak VFW #2601	Longmont
27	Aurora VFW #3631	Aurora
Apr 3	Silver Dollar PT #1	Denver
10	Arvada VFW #4331	Arvada
17	Mile High #1771	Lafayette
24	Francis Brown Lowry VFW #501	Denver
May 1	Dean K Phillips VFW #5061	Denver
8	So Denver VFW #2461	Denver
15	John S Stewart VFW #1	Denver
22	Joseph J Jacques VFW #7945	Thornton
29	Verle Huffman VFW #9644	Sheridan

Please plan to bring 3 dozen doughnuts and some sugar free goodies, like cookies, croissants or bagels with cream cheese. Bring enough for both services. Coffee will be supplied to the Hosts, and you may bring juice or fruits if you wish. **Protestant service begins at 9:00 AM. Please meet in the Chapel at 8:30 for assignments of volunteers to escort from the Community Living Center.** *If you are unable to keep your assigned date, please work out a trade and then call, Betty Melsen at 303-237-6646 or Juanita Bowen 303-935-4271 IN ADVANCE so they*

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

APRIL DISTRICT MEETINGS

NO.	DATE	LOCATION	TIME F	REPRESENTATIVE
3	4/10/16 Sunday	Post No. 2121 Greeley	12:00 noon Lunch 1:00 pm Memorial Meeting to follow	Service Gloria Otwell
4	4/10/16 Sunday	Post No. 2551 Ft Morgan	11:00 am Memorial 12:00 noon Meal Election/Installation	
5	4/17/16 Sunday	Post No. 4051 Colo Spgs	1:00 pm Lunch Meeting to follow Election/Installation	Robert Kidd Shelley Schlieman
6	4/09/16 Saturday	Post No. 2411 Las Animas	11:00 am Meeting Election/Installation	
7	4/24/16 Sunday	Post No. 899 Alamosa	12:00 noon Lunch 1:00 pm Meeting Memorial Service -	Peter Buchanan Linda Reinpold Election/Installation
8	4/09/16 Saturday	Post No. 11411 Lake George	12:00 noon Lunch Meeting to follow VFW Election	Peter Buchanan Gloria Otwell
9	4/16/16 Saturday	Post No. 5843 Meeker	12:00 noon Mtg Election/Installation	Peter Buchanan Gloria Otwell
13	4/17/16 Sunday	Post No. 6491 Burlingson	2:00 pm Meeting Voice of Democracy Patrioit's Pen - Mem	norial Service
A	pril 23 rd	Salute to Service	Election / Installatio Greeley #2121	n

POST & AUXILIARY CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

NAME:

NEW ADDRESS

TOWN

MEMBERSHIP NO.

STATE ZIP 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

Periodical Committee
Peter Buchanan, commander Bruce Dolan, editor Ann Mauck, assoc. editor &
computer layout For the Auxiliary
Gloria Otwell, president
Cindy Anderson, treasurer

Commander's Column Peter Buchanan



This time of year is always exciting with the holidays recently past, family get-togethers, parties and finally some time for rest. The daylight

hours are now getting longer each day to allow us to once again reflect why we belong to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Our mission is to foster camaraderie among United States Veterans of overseas conflicts, to serve our Veterans, the military and our communities. We are to advocate on behalf of all veterans.

To be honest, the most common words heard as I travel the state is: 'we need more new members to do the work". How then are we to promote patriotism, honor military service, serve our communities, and finally, ensure the care of veterans and their families?

The state of the Department of Colorado in my opinion is healthy and robust. Look at all the Community Service Reports for all the good work so many Posts and Auxiliaries are doing continuously. Look at the membership reports to see how those same posts are growing and working hard to increase our ranks.

This VFW administrative year is now half over and already our Department is at 89.1% membership. The goal of course is 100% +1. This is excellent work by so many working not only for the Department goal but their individual Post and District goals. As of this writing we have 8 Districts over 90% and 5 Districts over 80% membership.

District 6 is the present membership leader sitting at 94.6%. The Posts in the state are strong with only 2 posts in the 50% and 7 posts in the 70% range. We have 5 posts over 100% and 54 in the 90% range. Leader today is at 104.25% and that honor goes to Post 5843 in Meeker. Can our Department get to 100% in the next 6 months?

Although the winner hasn't been drawn yet as of this writing, Congratu-lations to the winner of 2 including airfare for a weekend in Mesquite from the last 6 months membership drawing at Department. The next drawing will be after June 30, 2016 for new memberships during the next 6 months. Auxiliary members who recruit new members for the VFW, be sure to submit the new member form found on the front page of our web site: www.vfwcolodept.org so you can get in the drawing.

If you want to leave a legacy for your VFW Post, go to your Quartermaster and ask him/her if you can make phone calls to help get your unpaid members up to date with their dues. Don't lose your post membership base. Be a worthy comrade and call a buddy to the next meeting. Your post may have members serving overseas in the military. You can pay their dues with your relief fund. You may have elderly or physically impaired members who can't get in to your meeting they too should have their membership paid from your relief fund. Stay in touch with them in person and by phone.

Pete Buchanan Department Commander

Jr. Vice Column

Ed Aitken



Sr. Vice Column **Allan Stone**

Happy New Year! Wishing you and your families a Happy and Healthy 2016! Many of us made New Years resolutions and I hope

one of your resolutions was to support and honor veterans.

There are four Veterans of Foreign Wars objectives that we need to remember as we start this year. 1. To ensure the national security through

maximum military strength. 2. To speed the rehabilitation of the

nation's disabled and needy veterans. 3. To assist the widows and orphans and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.

4. To promote Americanism through education in Patriotism and constructive service to communities in which we live.

Let us all strive to promote these four objectives as we begin 2016 and inform Coloradoans about VFW and what we do for veterans!

Many of us have attended services for comrades or sisters at federal cemeteries located in Colorado. The largest cemetery is Fort Logan located in Denver County near the southwest boundary of the City of Denver.

The first soldiers to arrive at the fort were members of the 18th Infantry from Fort Hays and Leavenworth, KS, who immediately set up a temporary barracks and guardhouse while construction began on permanent facilities. The name of the fort, originally known as "the camp near the city of Denver" became Fort Logan in August 1889. General John A. Logan had risen to the rank of Union Army general and commander of volunteer forces during the Civil War. As head of the post-

war veterans organization the Grand Army of the Republic, he issued Gen-eral Orders No. 11, establishing May 30 as "Decoration Day" to honor the Civil War dead. This later became a national holiday called Memorial Day.

Fort Logan closed in May 1946. In 1960, much of the land was deeded to the State of Colorado to establish a state hospital that still operates as the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan. On March 10, 1950, Congress authorized the use of military lands at Fort Logan as a national cemetery, but limited the size to no more than 160 acres. Since that time, the cemetery has expanded from the original 160 acres to 214 acres.

There are three Medal of Honor recipients, Seven Buffalo Soldiers and a German POW interned at Fort Logan. Also, there are 17 memorials at Fort Logan National Cemetery - most commemorating soldiers of various 20thcentury Wars.

Have you ever noticed various coins placed on the headstones in na-tional cemeteries? A coin left on a headstone lets the deceased soldiers? family know that someone stopped by to pay their respect. Leaving a penny means you visited. A nickel means that you and the deceased soldier trained at boot camp together. If you served with the soldier, you leave a dime. A quarter is very significant because it means that you were there when the soldier died.

As we look forward to 2016, we need to help Commander Buchanan "Carry the Load". Let's all work together to help and honor veterans!

Allan P. Stone Department Sr. Vice Commander

Quartermaster's Column **Bruce Dolan**

Community Service Six Months Report of 2015-2016

(\$111,381,846)

\$21,090,477

Nationally

4,827,995



Section 704 of the By-Laws has one simple statement; "A relief fund shall be established and maintained by the Post." It goes on to say where the monies come from, and the Manual of Pro-

cedure describes how the funds are to be expended. This fund is not optional.

Line 4 under FUNDS on the Quarterly Audit is expressly to report the activity of the funds. Approximately 20% of the Quarterly Audit received at Headquarters have nothing to report about a Relief Fund

Going forward, any Quarterly Audit not have anything in this fund will be returned. There is no reference to any amount in the By-Laws, although it does specify net proceeds from the distribu-tion of Buddy Poppies must go into this fund

Also on the Audit form it references a

Amount of monies spent/donated

No of Volunteer

to complete projects

hours donated

"Dues relief fund." Section 717 in the Manual of Procedure explains how a Dues reserve Fund is set up and used. I ask all Quartermasters to read this and call me if you have any questions.

There is one area we are being policed on that has to carefully watched. If an officer lets his dues expire, he will be removed from his office for the remainder of the fiscal year. National sends out a 90 day, a 60 day, and a 30 day notice of expiration of an annual members dues. The quartermaster should watch the rooster on the National web site to remind members whose dues are getting set to expire, especially officers. A lot of Posts have a difficult time getting officers already. Having an officer removed from office for non payment of dues is an extra burden Posts don't need.

I hope everyone had great Holidays, and don't forget to fly our Flag.

Colorado

\$1,435,992

\$263,602

62,245

Bruce R. Dolan Department Adj./Quartermasterr

ve 15 Barbara Stodell.	
The National Board of Trustees com-	
ittee's serve to contribute to the efficient	
peration of the Board of Trustees and	
assist the board with their over all re-	
oonsibilities, governance and fund rais-	
g. The Board Committees function to	
evelop and recommend agency policies	
elect and evaluate the Executive Direc-	

tor, provide financial oversight, develop I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and the New Year brings you all that One of the things we

should look at when donating our monies to an organization is how it is structured and how our donations are dispersed, so let's look at the National Home. Structure

you desire.

Comrades, Sisters

They are a 501c3 Corporation with Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, through the state of Michigan.

They have 17 Board members, 12 elected and 5 ex-officio members. The 5 ex-officio are the National Officers Commander-in-Chief, Adjutant General, Quartermaster General, VFW Auxiliary National President and the National Secretary Treasurer. The 12 elected trustees are elected from the Life Members of their respective districts. The Board of Trustees annually elect a President and Vice President of the Board who lead the National Home and the Board through the year October through September. Colorado's District is 11, our representaresources, conduct strategic planning and to promote positive community agency relations. Through the committees, Trustees maintaining for familiarity with the opportunities and challenges presented to the National Home and act upon them accordingly

Managing Funds

The VFW National Home is supported solely by contributions from private individuals and organization - no government funding. You can give with confidence knowing the National Home meets Better Business Bureau Wise Giving standards.

They are pleased to display this seal of approval from the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance, confirming that they meet the Alliance's 20 Standards for Charity Accountability. The nation's most experienced charity evaluator, carefully evaluates each charity before they can even apply to use the seal. Factors like the charity's governance, effectiveness, finances, solicitations and informational materials are all taken into consideration.

The National Home website has their IRS Form 990, Annual Report Audit and the Annual Report, They to large to add to this information but I suggest that you visit their website and view them for yourself.

Ed Aitken

Department Sr. Vice Commander

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

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 3 February 1, 2016 2015-2016

Please remind all Posts that you MUST be 100% +1 to qualify for All State. Deadline is April 30, 2016. <u>Entry forms</u> will be mailed to all that qualify.

1. As prescribed by Sec 217 & Sec 221 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, Posts having two (2) meetings a month will hold nominations at the first meeting in April with elections at the next regular in April. While Posts with only (1) one meeting a month will hold nominations in March and elections in April and that all members must be notified of such elections.

notified of such elections. (a) The officers of each Post will consist of a Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Adjutant, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Surgeon and three (3) Trustees.

(b) The Post shall elect the Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain and three trustees.

(c) The Appointed officers of each Post shall consist of at least an Adjutant, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Officer of the Day, Service Officer and Guard to be appointed as prescribed in Section 216 in the Manual of Procedure.

2. Proof of Eligibility Requirements for Officers: All Posts, Districts and Department should be reminded of the provisions of Sec. 216(c), 316, 414(c), and 515(d) of the National By-Laws and Manual or procedure that officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility has been submitted to the respective Adjutant for review.

3. Registration for the VFW National Convention: Each Post will pay, in advance, a national registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the national convention will pay a ten dollar (\$10) delegate fee, in accordance with the requirements of Sec 222 of the National Constitution and By-Laws. **Delegate fees should be sent directly to the Ouartermaster General at National Headquarters.**

4. Attention is directed to Sec. 213 of the National By-Laws concerning arrearages of Posts for National, Department, or District Dues, National Convention registration, poppy money, supply money or other financial obligations, or failure to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National By-Laws, or failure to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit or Post Election Reports.

Posts that are delinquent in any of the aforementioned shall be deprived of all representation in County Council meetings, District, Department and National Conventions. 5. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Sec. 218, Manual of Procedure, Duty of Trustees. Trustees Report of Audit must be completed by the Trustees, in detail, at the close of each quarter, one of which ends March 31st. Commanders are reminded that all funds are to be under the custody and control of the Post Quartermaster. Persons other than the Post Quartermaster who may handle Post funds, such as club manager, bingo chairman, or committee chairmen are responsible to the Post Quartermaster to maintain accurate records and accounts and should be properly bonded. Post Trustees are to ensure that the financial records of these special funds are also audited in the same manner as the other accounts of the Post Ouartermaster.

6. Commanders on all levels should begin organizing their 2016 Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Campaign. To qualify for Post All American, VFW Posts must order a minimum of five (5) Buddy Poppies per member for the program year from Department Headquarters.

7. All-State Commanders and Quartermasters. Entry forms for All-State Commanders and Quartermasters <u>will be</u> <u>mailed to all qualified persons</u>. Posts and Districts must be 100% + 1 in membership by April 30, 2016, in order for the Commanders and/or Quartermasters to be eligible for this award. The Commander's Department Leadership Manual, along with the entry form, must arrive at Department Headquarters not later than close of business on Wednesday May 11, 2016, to be judged. Post Quartermasters need only submit the entry form by the same deadline date.

8. Council of Administration meeting will be March 13, 2016 at VFW Post No. 3917, 4715 Clearview Dr., Security, 8:30 am for Joint Meeting. Workshops will begin March 12 at the Post home 10:00 am.

9. State Convention is scheduled for Security, Colorado, June 15 through June 19, 2016. See Page 8 of the Colorado Veteran for pre-registration, golf, hotels and Convention Book ads.

10. The Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars Loyalty Day Parade will be in Calhan, CO., Saturday May 7, 2016 10:00 am line-up time. Please contact Jim Crim 719-541-2650 or Rowland Hannon 719-347-2522 for further information.

11. Applications for the Department State Convention Site for <u>2017</u> can be obtained by contacting State Adj./Qm. Bruce Dolan, 1400 Carr St., Lakewood, CO. 80214, (303) 421-1630. A check for \$300.00 deposit must accompany the bid application.

ATTEST BY: Bruce R. Dolan, State Adj./Qm.

BY COMMAND: Peter T. Buchanan, State Commander

MOC and MOCA 2015 - 2016 ScheduleFebruary 27, 2016Pikes Peak VFW #4051Colorado SpringsApril 30, 2016Grand Convention VFW Post #322Englewood

Chaplain's Column Steve Kjonaas

We are all leaders, not just Commanders, Surgeons, or Chaplains; we can be a leader in a household, a business, a unit of an organization, or a leader inside a club or similar organization.

Your influence to help steer the organization may be a formal one or an informal leadership position, I suggest you are likely filling both rolls.

A desire to help fellow Veterans and their families is probably fueled by your motivation to see others succeed and further the organization triumph; that is a transformable leader who can convert a person's current position to develop and flourish.

Often you will need to look past the quirks in others and correct the gaffes that are getting in the way of improvement. No need to hold those quirks and gaffes against a person, rather that often wastes your time and energy. Make those moment's moments of value for all involved. A transformable leader makes the best of the situation and moves the organization forward by looking past the minor missteps and transforming its vision beyond expatiations.

A transformational leader knows the joy it is to serve regardless of the difficulty of the job or conditions. All this by a leader's deed to help is because he or she wants to help others become better people, not just better organizational members. Once applied and practiced a transformable leader's investment grows past those he or she direct touches and the synergy bursts forward.

A transformational leader can celebrate in the gifts that he or she sown and provided to others, especially other leaders, even when they are far superior to his or her own skills, knowledge, and education.

Grow your organization and see the difference you create by cultivating the synergistic power you hold as informal and or formal leader. The benefactor of your energy maybe you one day.

Steve Kjonaas Department Chaplain

Surgeon's Column David Stone



Greetings comrades, In October I visited the Spanish Peaks Veteran's community Living Center near Walsenburg Colorado and spoke with Jill Wilson

about an interesting program that she was working on called Music and Memories. Music and Memory is about helping people access wonderful memories from their past through songs that they have special memories associated with. Individualized play lists stored on personal digital players can do this. The home asks the resident and their families what were their special songs which are purchased by the home for the residents use. Even people with severe dementia can tap into deep emotional recall and access names places, and facts they may have buried for years. Music also has the power to improve resident mood, lessen pain, and help lessen difficult and challenging behaviors. Often residents remember the words and sing along. They become more engaged with others and the environment around them as they become more communicative with some actually becoming more mobile.

The home is asking for donations of used iPod or iPod Touch players (must be Apple products) and iTunes gift cards to purchase the music with, or monetary donations for this purpose. If you are interested in helping with this program please contact me at 719-339-9112 or by email at daystone23@gmail.com.

David Stone State Surgeon

VFW DEPARTMENT ANNUAL PUBLICATIONS CONTEST

VFW Post & Auxiliary Newsletter Contest 2015 - 2016

VFW District & Auxiliary Newsletter Contest 2015 - 2016

Please select your three (3) best Publications and mail or bring them to VFW Department Headquarters 1400 Carr Street

Lakewood CO 80214

BY March 23, 2016 Entry form available January 1, 2016

Judging will be based on News' content, layout and graphics and general excellence

All issues published between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015 are eligible

Salute to Service Awards Banquet

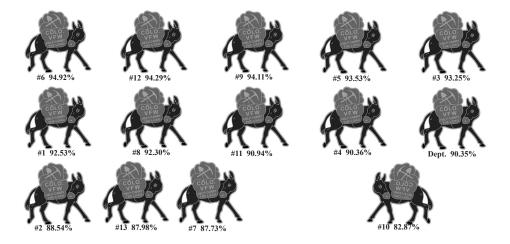
April	23,	2016
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Pioneer VFW Post #2121 Greeley, CO.

Nomination Forms available: www:vfwcolodept.org deadline is March 31, 2016

VFW Post Membership by District as of January 26, 2016

			-
Number/ City 2015	2016	%	Number/City 2015 2016 %
		, -	
DISTRICT #1			DISTRICT #8
$\frac{1}{1}$ Denver 852	852	100*	$\frac{1}{859}$ Leadville 43 34 79
501 Denver 331	306	92	1166 Buena Vista 154 139 90
2461 Denver 170	144	85	3820 Salida 95 89 94
2797 Denver 58	34	59	8661 Bailey 144 139 97
3971 Denver 92	86	93	10721 Minturn 93 87 94
5061 Denver 359	301	84	11411 Lake George 44 44 100*
TOTAL 1862	1723	93%	12009 Conifer 129 116 90
			TOTAL 702 648 92%
DISTRICT #2			
61 Pueblo 86	80	93	DISTRICT #9
2788 Penrose 121	93	77	2371 Walden 29 28 97
3641 Pueblo 84	76	90	4264 Steambt Spgs 97 94 97
4061 Canon City 339	313	92	4265 Craig 138 128 93
5812 Pueblo West 208	176	85	5261 Rangely 28 21 75
7305 Colo. City 48	43	90	5843 Meeker 47 52 111*
8898 Boone 50	43	86	9374 Kremmling 40 36 90
12063 Westcliffe 42	42	100*	9471 Hayden 12 9 75
TOTAL 978	866	89%	TOTAL 391 368 94%
DISTRICT #3			DISTRICT #10
41 Loveland 298	269	90	322 Englewood 129 121 94
807 Boulder 47	44	94	3471 Morrison 72 70 97
1771 Lafayette 311	298	96	3631 Aurora 364 333 91
1781 Ft. Collins 323	304	94	4121 Idaho Spgs. 59 53 90
2121 Greeley 180	168	93	4171 Golden 530 457 86
2585 Johnstown 130	131	101*	4266 Parker 68 63 93
2601 Longmont 390	353	91	4331 Arvada 293 268 91
4334 Ault 75	66	88	4444 Cmmrc Cty 239 225 94
6011 Platteville 63	59	94	4666 Littleton 142 134 94
6624 Evans 300	284	95	7563 Black Hawk 22 22 100*
9565 Broomfield 134	123	92	7945 Thornton 415 388 93
9741 Dacono 48	45	94	8449 Bennett 50 43 86
TOTAL 2299	2144	93%	9644 Fort Logan 782 446 57
101111 22))	2111	1570	TOTAL 3165 2623 83%
DISTRICT #4			10111E 5105 2025 0570
2551 Ft. Morgan 262	233	89	DISTRICT #11
3378 Yuma 66	64	97	784 Montrose 153 137 90
3541 Sterling 101	92	91	1247 Grnd Jnetn 327 290 89
3551 Brush 38	37	97	3571 Delta 65 59 91
3951 Ovid 29	24	83	3981 Grnd Jnetn 118 120 102*
3961 Otis 25	24	96	4663 Clifton 97 85 88
4191 Crook 22	19	86	5485 Parachute 44 43 98
4671 Wray 63	57	90	9221 Cedaredge 111 104 94
6482 Holyoke 60	54	90	9304 Rifle 33 28 85
7153 Fleming 36	32	89	
8064 Akron 45	39	87	
TOTAL 747	675	90%	TOTAL 983 894 91%
, , , , ,			DISTRICT #12
DISTRICT #5			4031 Durango 228 219 96
101 Colo. Spgs. 472	464	98	5181 Dove Creek 54 49 91
3917 Security 668	628	94	5231 Mancos 160 147 92
4051 Colo. Spgs 708	660	93	9058 Nucla $31 \ 31 \ 100^*$
5221 Calhan 111	98	88	TOTAL 473 446 94%
6051 Wdlnd Park 45	43	96	101AL 475 440 5470
6461 Fountain 303	275	91	DISTRICT #13
7829 Monument 119	100	84	3411 Kit Carson 30 24 80
10649 Elizabeth 47	45	96	6491 Burlington 82 73 89
TOTAL 2473	2313	94%	6612 Hugo 46 39 85
	-	-	9491 Deer Trail 19 19 100*
DISTRICT #6			9700 Chynn Wlls 31 28 90
336 Ordway 101	97	96	TOTAL 208 186 88%
2411 LasAnimas 103	96	93	101AL 200 100 00/0
4001 Springfield 48	44	92	1500C MAL 2604 2267 0104
4091 Rocky Ford 56	55	98	15006 MAL 2604 2367 91%
4281 Holly 27	26	96	
TOTAL 335	318	95%	TOTAL DEPT 17587 15890 90%
DISTRICT #7	117	0.4	2016 dues are now DUE.
899 Alamosa 138		84	Be 100% +1 in 2015-2016
3228 Monte Vista 41	40	98	DC 10070 T1 III 2013-2010
4849 La Jara 61	56	92	
6101 San Luis 69	54	78	We are on Subscription Dues
8121 Del Norte 58		97	Have you paid yours??
TOTAL 367	322	88%	
			Buv a Life Membership



The winner of the trip to Mesquite, NV

We have a new membership contest

that started January 1, 2016 and will end

June 30, 2016. Details were sent to each

Post and District Commander, Past State

Commanders and State Line Officers.

Recruiter names will be saved for this

drawing for each new member recruited

and place in the next trip drawing. Check

Thanks for all your continuted "Good

Work". Every member needs to recruit

Poppy display at the State Convention it

District Commanders and Presidents

pleas check with each of your Posts and Auxiliaries in your District and find out

if they have purchased them and are dis-tributing them and if not why not and see

if you can help Colorado be #1 in Poppy purchasing this year. Like I said before we wonder how are they helping Veterans and Families and why is our membership

going down if nobody know what we do

Our little Poppy is the best Advertisement of all for the VFW and Auxiliary

stands for when people see us out dis-

tributing it is the best time to recruit new

members and bring back old ones. Remember "Nobody does more for Vet-

erans". Thank you for all that you do.

your membership book for details.

one member by June 30, 2016.

a/k/a colofatalbert@outlook.com

Jim Mauck

303-588-7518

is never to early to start.

for Veterans and Families.

was Andrew Longbotham from Lafayette VFW Post #1771. This membership con-

test drawing ended December 31, 2015.

Membership News From the Colorado Donkey

week

First we would to congratulate the eight (9) VFW Posts that have made 100% as of this writing; they are Westcliffe #12063, Johnstown #2585, Meeker #5843 at 108%, Blackhawk #7563, Grand Junction #3981, Nucla #9058, Deer Trail #9491, Lake George #11411 and John S. Stewart Post #1. Good Job - keep it up.

We have some Posts that are very close to being 100%, some that only need one (1) or two (2) more members to pay their dues. Please set up a membership drive, or a membership dinner to get your continuous members to pay.

If you have a member that is having trouble coming up with the money to pay his/her dues, you can use your Relief Fund to help this member.

We would like to get Department high enough in membership, so we can send Commander Pete out of state, for a

Buddy Poppy Happy New Year! We hope all of you had a great Holiday season and used our

little Poppies in all of your Decorations. A new year has started, but the year for the VFW and Auxiliaries still has a few months to go. For all of you that have purchased and distributed our little Poppy we Thank You as the Poppy know that are helping all Veterans and their Families. For those Posts and Auxiliaries that have not purchased Poppies, we wonder how are helping Veterans and Families and getting the word out about how much the VFW and Auxiliaries do for our Veterans?

Remember every day is Poppy Day. There are a lot of days left of this year that you can use them in your Decorations. Valentine's Day and Easter for two, also at you District meetings or for any Dinner that you may have. You might also be thinking of having a entry the Buddy

Department of Colorado VFW Scout of the Year Program

Buddy Poppy Chairman

Michael Stahly

The VFW Scout of the Year scholarship program is available to members of the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts who display standout citizenship, patriotism and love of country. Scouts who are registered, active members of a boy or Girl Scout troop, Venturing Crew, or a Sea Scout Ship who have received the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award are eligible.

The entry form is available on the National VFW website at: http://www. vfw.org/Scout/

Eligibility requirements are listed on the form. Deadline for entry to VFW Post is

March 1st 2016. Posts must have their entries to the Department by April 1st 2016. Entries do not need to go through the districts and district certification is not necessary

Department of Colorado Scouting Program Contact: Dave Stone (Post 3917) 6740 Goldfield Dr Colorado Springs, CO 80911 719-339 - 9112 davstone23@gmail.com

Post 501: Buddy W. Staffacher Post 784: Clayton L. Purcell

Post 899: John Medina

III

Post 1771: Norman E. Duncan, Gregory James, Jeffrey Jones, Norman Cleveland, Jose Romero, Jan Jancosek, Fabain Carmenoros

Post 3411: Rodney Blankenbaker

Post 3631: Lawrence Trenn

Post 3820: Lloyd E. Devore

Post 3917: Philip R. Lucas

Post 3981: Mark Louden, Michael Aubert

Post 4051: Adolf Wolf, Dave Metzger, Christopher McEwan, San Avalos, James Laxson, Bob Doverspike, Warren Butts, James Rentz, Lewis Wilcox, Gary MacPherson, Fermin Strock

Post 4171: William Kinney

Post 4666: Thomas J. Slack, Julian R. Dracon

Post 5812: Larry Cormier

Post 9565: James R. Van Buskirk, Gerald E. Kirby, Joseph I. Berger

Post 9644: Bob Perkins, James Jones

TAPS



Commander's Special Project 2015

Colorado Aviation Business Association Hosts 5th Annual Holiday Charity Drive for Veterans.

This is part of the Immediate Press Release from Chairman Mike Straka of CABA. The Colorado Aviation Business Association (CABA) is proud to announce the 5th Annual Holiday Charity Drive, Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) of Colorado, and the Precision Flight Team of the Metropolitan State University of Denver. The project results in the distribution of thousands of pounds of food and toys to military veterans and their families in rural communities around the state.

Collection began at the VFW State Commanders home coming on August 1st in Lafayette, Colorado. In late October collection efforts began with the placement of donation bins in numerous airport and business locations as well as VFW Posts along the Front Range and Western Slope.

CABA's regional groups in Montrose and Colorado Springs also collected donations, and all goods were combined and transported during the airlift. Donating their time and expenses, the flight team and volunteer private pilots flew the food and toys to Montrose and the western slope, Alamosa and Pueblo in southern Colorado, and Las Animas and Burlington on the eastern plains.

The VFW delivered food and toys to Fort Collins Vet Center as well as Fort Carson to 8 WA2 wounded warrior families. Flights went on December 6th to the various airports and the Holiday Charity Drive continued through Christmas Eve to other locations in the State.

Over the past four years this program has delivered nearly 12,000 pounds of donated material to Colorado's veterans and their families, which helps tremendously, especially during the holiday season. This year many of the children were identified by name and age and gifts were purchased and donated specifically to each child.

The following locations received the air or vehicle deliveries this year; Burlington, Las Animas, Alamosa, Pueblo, Montrose, Fort Carson, Fort Collins and Delta. There was a total distribution of 6,500 pounds of toys and food to 222 total families, including 160 gifts to children. Total cash donations given to the project was \$3,737.56.

I am so appreciative of all the hours so many donated to make this project this year the success it has been. At first count there were 31 CABA Staff & Pilots, 75 VFW and Auxiliary members, 24 Helping Hands organization and 7 from the Re-Distribution Center in Wheat Ridge donating turkeys, and filling three pickup trucks with food headed to Fort Carson.

To re-cap an earlier article I sent, there is so much hustle and bustle this time of year with our VFW youth programs, Post parties, family parties, it has been a blessing to see all those who stepped up to help needy veterans have a better holiday season. We have indeed "focused on Veterans".

Peter Buchanan State Commander Department of Colorado



MOC Charles Ackerman returned to Fruita, CO on the 2nd of November from the Arlington National Cemetery in Washington DC where he helped with the laying of 340 wreaths for the 81st Supreme Tomb Trek (Tomb of the unknown Soldiers) with the Military Order of the Cootie. The MOC is the Honor Degree of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Membership in the MOC is recognition of outstanding service to the VFW and its programs. You cannot just join the MOC, you have to be asked. You also have to be an active member of the VFW to be asked. If you with to be a member of the MOC, contact a MOC member and let them know that you wish to join. They will then look into seeing if you are eligible. This is the 3rd year that Chuck has participated in the Tomb

This is the 3rd year that Chuck has participated in the Tomb Trek and he finds it very rewarding and plans to do it every year that he is able to make the trip.



CABA Christmas flight to Pueblo West for 26 families. L-R:Roger Duffield, Linda Reinpold, Pilots Cody Drageger & Dagmar Kress, Ellie Ford, Audrey & Steve Quick.



CABA Christmas 2nd plane into Pueblo West. L-R: Pilots Ben Cramer & Angel Lopez, Ellie Ford, Audrey & Steve Quick, Roger Duffield and Phil Reinpold.



Las Animas #2411 visit to Fort Lyon Homeless Coalition for Veterans houses 40 Veterans. L-R: Kathleen Tomlin, Karen VanEgmond, Veteran with new hat and gloves, Donna Dodson, Barb Martin and Amelia Valdez.



Las Animas VFW Auxiliary #2411 visit to Fort Lyon Homeless Coalition Veterans. It was a Great Day! 40 Veterans received new winter hats and gloves.

Wonder who the "Barrel Man" is? Oh, it is Fred Scheck! During Voice of Democracy weekend they visited the Denver Art Museum and they have one on display that you can try on.





VFW Auxiliary #9374 Kremmling hosted a successful first year Wreaths Across America event, December 12th. Approximately 100 people turned out in the snow to help the auxiliary with the wreath laying ceremony, including at least 20 veterans, representing our Armed Services from the Vietnam era up to the current War on Terrorism. Auxiliary President, Micah Benson, encouraged all those who attended to take a moment and reflect on the person laid to rest in the grave they were covering and to research them after the event to find out who they were. The Auxiliary sold 190 wreaths, covering all 126 veteran graves in Kremmling and sending 64 wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery. As TAPs was played at the conclusion of the ceremony, many who were present shed a tear. The auxiliary is expecting the event to grow every year.



Kremmling Honor Guard participated in the ceremony before wreaths were placed on veteran graves on a snowy wintry day.



Colorado VFW Comrades Angelo Mazzi, Louis Zoghby, and O'Dell Plyar are World War II Combat Veterans whose efforts liberated France from Nazi occupation and control. Previous awardees include Generals Dwight D. Eisenhower and Douglas MacArthur, and Admiral Michael Mullen.

The Colorado Supreme Court chambers were filled to capacity as friends, fellow Veterans, Family members, plus members of the media watched the Consulate of France in Denver, Honorary Consul Jeffry Richards make the presentation. All five awardees felt an immense and profound feeling of honor during the ceremony and upon reflection the most repeated expression by the awardees was the amount of support shown by all the ceremony attendees.

L-R: District 5 Commander Geroge Snyder, Odell Plyar, Louis Zoghby, and State Chaplain Steve Kionaas. Louis Zoghby is a Life Member of VFW Post #4266 Parker.



The Legion of Honor, France's premier award, was founded by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802 to recognize eminent accomplishments of service to France. The Legion of Honor is a French Order and is the highest decoration in France. American veterans who risked their lives during World War II and who fought on French territory qualify to be decorated as Knights of the Legion of Honor

Community Service

The VFW uses Community Service statistics to let Congress know how many hours, miles and cash donations are being accomplished by our members.

So, Post Community Service chairmen please query your members about their Community Service hours, miles and cash donations from outside the Post.

Reporting this information also keeps your District Commander happy as they have a report where many of the statistics on this report come from the Community Service report.

This is an election year. So when you watch the debates, read about the candidates in the newspaper or on-line or email, write or call your elected officials or candidates for office count this under "legislative" on the Community Service form. Later this year members will have the opportunity to help with voter registration and be election judges in their communities. Also as delegates to local and state conventions – and who knows maybe the national party conventions.

The Community Service form has separate places for help to veterans and homeless veterans and help in your community to include senior citizens. Examples of help to veterans are sending packages to deployed troops, or donations to individual veterans or charitable veterans' organizations. Include attendance at veterans' or family members of veterans' funerals here. In the community, shoveling snow for a senior or taking them to a doctor's appointment would count. Service to the community is not just for seniors. Helping with Habitat for Humanity is just one example of this area of Community Service.

Then there are the times when members show their pride in VFW membership by participating in parades and other civic events. Other examples are having buddy poppy drives, presenting medals and certificates at JROTC/ROTC awards ceremonies or speaking to classes about patriotism.

Don't forget the youth programs: Patriot Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teacher of the Year and Post sponsored Boy and Girl Scout troops.

The final section of the Community Service report covers hospital visits – to Veterans' Community Living centers and visits to veteran friends and family members in the hospital.

This year's deadline for submission of reports to Department is 30 April.

Barbara Green

Department VFW Community Service Chairman



L-R: Prior to the Minturn VFW Post #10721 Veterans Day ceremony at Freedom Park Memorial, Post Member Jim Kleckner, USAF Vietnam Fighter Pilot and Post Commander Pete Thompson, USA Vietnam Forward Observer, chat with attendees.



Vail Ski and Snowboard Academy teacher Kelli Parish (L) presented a \$100 donation check to VFW Post Commander #10721 (R) Pete Thompson at the end of the school's Veterans Day assembly. A graduate from the VSSA will receive a \$1000 college scholarship in the Spring funded by these local school PTA donations. VFW Post #10721 provided \$7500 in College scholarships in August 2015. Veterans Day Awareness patriotic assemblies at 11 schools in the Vail Valley November 2015. 30 Post members attended these assemblies and provided honor guards, speakers, and answered individual questions from the students about military service.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION	2 016 VFW	/ State Convention Ad Sheet
SECURITY, CO. JUNE 15 TH THRU 18 TH , 2016.	FULL PAGE \$125.00 HALF PAGE \$100.00	8 ¼ X 10 3/4 8 ¼ X 5 1/4
NAME:	FOURTH PAGE \$35.00 BUSINESS CARD AD \$25.00	8 ¼ X 2 3/4 3 ½ X 2
Post #:	FULL PAGE	HALF PAGE
ADDRESS: OFFICE/POSTION/TITLE:	8 1/4" X 10 3/4"	8 1/4" X 51/4"
OFFICE/POSTION/TITLE:		
Pre-Registration is \$15.00, and will include a ditty bag, convention book.		
Make checks to: VFW POST #3917		ONE QUARTER PAGE
Mail to: Robert M Kidd Sr. 4114 Morley Cir, Colorado Springs, CO 80916-2831.		8 1/4" X 2 3/4"
REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS WILL BE READY UPON ARRIVAL IN SECURITY.		
Registration at the Convention will be \$17.00	-	Business name: Phone number:
If you wish to pre-purchase your Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$20.00 each.	BUSINESS CARD	Webpage URL:
Pork roast Number of tickets:		POC:
Vegetarian meal by request	Se	lect Ad size:FullHalf Quarter Business Card
	convention sponsor page. Those purchasing displayed on our website. Use this form to in	arter page ads will also have a linked listed on our website's half and full page ads will have a linked banner ad prominently ndicate the ad size and provide business information. Submit it payment to the address below before 13 May 2016.
 	Mail all Ads to the Convention Book Chairm Robert M. Kidd Sr. 4114 Morley Circle Colorado Springs, CC	
THE AUXILIARY CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION	2016 Department	Convention Hotel & RV List
SECURITY, CO. JUNE 15 TH thru 18 TH , 2016.	-	Springs Airport (Headquarters)
_	1464 N Newport Rd 719	-597-7000 (Code "VFW Convention")
NAME:		
The Auxiliary #:ADDRESS:	Super 8 Colorado Springs 90 Aeroplaza Dr 719	s Airport 9-570-0505
OFFICE/POSTION/TITLE:	Holiday Inn Express Cold 815 Aeroplaza Dr 719-59	orado Springs Airport 91-6000
Pre-Registration is \$12.00 , this will include a ditty bag, convention book. Make checks to VFW POST #3917.	Days Inn Colorado Sprin 1780 Aeroplaza Dr 719-	gs Airport 574-7707
Mail to: Robert M Kidd Sr. 4114 Morley Cir, Colorado Springs, CO 80916-2831. REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS WILL BE READY UPON ARRIVAL IN SECURITY.	Quality Inn 2115 Aerotech Dr 719-38	80-9000
Registration at the Convention will be \$15.00 If you wish to pre-purchase your Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$20.00 each.	Colorado Springs KOA Bandley Dr., Fountain 71	19-382-7575
I you wish to pre-purchase your Danquet tickets. Cost will be \$20.00 each.	Cheyenne Mountain State	- Park
Pork roast Number of tickets:	410 State Park Rd 719-5	76-2016
Vegetarian meal by request		nvention Golf Tournament on 15th June 2016
1		dows Golf Course (Ft Carson)
1	Registration:	Best ball format, shotgun start @ 8:00 am
	Name:	
MENS AUXILIARY CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION	Name:	
SECURITY, CO. JUNE 15 TH THRU 18 TH , 2016.	Name	
	The cost is \$65.00 a person. This lunch, and goody bag.	s will include one round of golf with cart,
NAME:	POC: Joe Barbosa e-mail: joecs	sco@msn.com
Mens Auxiliary #:	Make all checks payable to VFW	V Post #3917
ADDRESS: OFFICE/POSTION/TITLE:	Registration needs to be received	d by April 30, 2016 Robert M Kidd Sr
		4114 Morley Cir Colorado Springs, CO 80916
Pre-Registration is \$15.00 , this will include a ditty bag, convention book. Make checks to: VFW POST #3917	Sponsor a Hole at the	State Convention Golf Tournament
Mail to Robert M Kidd Sr. 4114 Morley Cir, Colorado Springs, CO 80916-2831.	All VFW Posts are eligible to	sponsor a hole for \$100. As a proud sponsor, you
REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS WILL BE READY UPON ARRIVAL IN SECURITY.	will be have your Post name on a ally, you will be verbally recogni	sponsor a hole for \$100. As a proud sponsor, you sizable sign next to one of the 18 holes. Addition- ized as a sponsor at the kick off of the tournament sors in the State Convention book. All signs will be rnament. (Checks payable to Cheyenne Mountain
Registration at the Convention is \$17.00	and mentioned as one of the spons given to the Sponsor after the tou	sors in the State Convention book. All signs will be rnament. (Checks payable to Chevenne Mountain
If you wish to pre-purchase your Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$20.00 each.	VFW Post 3917)	
	Please respond by 15 May 2016 t	to: Cheyenne Mountain VFW Post 3917 Attn: Joe Barbosa
Pork roast Number of tickets:	1	P O Box 5355
Vegetarian meal by request	_	Security, CO 80931
	_	

Auxiliary News

Published by Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary **Department of Colorado**

Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman

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Presidents's Column Gloria Otwell



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HOUSE The Crawford House program provides safe emergency housing for veterans who are homeless and receiv-

CRAWFORD

ing mental health care, and it provides a temporary structured living environment for veterans in VA-provided substance abuse rehabilitation.

Crawford House provides a drug and alcohol-free structured environment with 24/7 on-site house managers, case management, counseling, training in independent living skills and job search assistance. It also provides residents with semi-private rooms and bathrooms, three meals every day, snacks, communal kitchen and living areas, laundry facilities and a computer lab.

Crawford House has beds for 15 veterans, including separate, private and secure accommodations for two women. Ten of the beds are contracted for by the VA Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Program; five are contracted for the by the VA Substance Program. The adjacent houses at 425 and 431 S Weber Street, which e owned and operated by the Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition (CVRC) as transition housing for homeless veterans, have 10 beds total and provide temporary, low-cost rental housing in a boarding-house environment for up to two years.

The goal of the program is to make it possible for homeless veterans to get a job and a place to live on their own by

the time they complete their program or they enter a subsidized housing program

or one of the adjacent transition houses. Therapeutic and rehabilitative services provided to all residents include:

-Structured group activities (social, physical, etc.) emphasizing community interaction

-Supportive social services & case management provided by a licensed clinician on staff

-Counseling on self-care skills, adaptive coping skills and anger management skills

-Vocational rehabilitation counseling including computer access and training and collaboration with the VA Vocational Rehabilitation program

-Assistance in learning responsible living patterns to achieve more adaptive psychosocial functioning, upgraded social skills and improved personal relationships

-Instruction and assistance with health and personal hygiene -Discharge planning and housing as-

sistance

The entire program is funded by VA contracts, the Veterans Trust Fund, grants, individual and corporate donations, fund-raisers, contributions from various agencies and business, and rent paid by veterans in the transitional housing.

Department President Special Project

Gloria Otwell Department President

Legislative Program

New year has began for our legislators they say there is going to be things done different and there is going to be change in America.

But what kind of changes are we going to do? Go back to personnel responsibility and accountability from or government or are they going to give us everything and let others be responsible for paying for it? Are we going to forget the most responsible people that have given us the Freedom and Liberty to what we want to do? Our Veterans!

Are we going to let our Legislators forget the promises made to our Veterans when they marched off to war to protect us? Or are we going to remember to keep speaking out on Capitol Hill for veterans and their families to protect the promises made for those that sacrificed for our country and are not forgotten? We must continue to write letters, e-mail, fax or make phone calls to bring issues affecting veterans and their families to the attention of lawmakers on all levels.

There is a lot of issues and reasons that we must be diligent for our veterans and families, from Health Care, VA benefits, VA Hospital budget and funding plus a

lot more issues concerning our newest Veterans that are fighting as we speak. Please keep abreast of the promises made and make sure they are kept. If you get the Washington Weekly or Action Core, stay informed and keep our legislators informed on how you feel in what they are doing. Veterans are the first ones to give their all and the Government is the first ones to take it away as they think they have a better idea on how to spend our tax dollars. Please watch the Debates and get registered to Vote for one of the candidates in the Primary elections. If you watch the debates you can count those hrs. on your community service report so PLEASE REPORT!

Our year is beginning to close I have not heard from many of you what you are doing on Legislative so please report all of your activities on the Community Service reports.!!

Remember to "Cultivate the Care for our Veterans and Their Families.'

Loyally Yours Linda L. Stahly Department Législative Chairman



Pueblo West VFW Auxiliary #5812 And District #2 **Proudly Endorse** Linda Reinpold For **Department President** 2016-2017

We the members of Pueblo West VFW Auxiliary #5812 support Linda Reinpold for the office of President for the VFW Auxiliary Department of Colorado. Linda will be a member for 25 years in 2016 having joined Joseph J. Jacques, Jr. #7945 in 1991 under the eligibility of her father, Perry T. Ford a World War II Veteran. She learned much knowledge about the Auxiliary from her mother, Eleanor Ford, a Past Auxiliary President for Auxiliary #7945. Linda has had the complete support from her husband, Phil, during her membership. He has been there for the Post and Auxiliary and in November 2015 became a Life Member to the VFW Auxiliary.

After moving, in 2001 she transferred her membership to Pueblo West Auxiliary #5812. Linda served as Auxiliary President for 4 years and District 2 President for 3 years and has been recognized as an Outstanding Auxiliary President and District President. She received the National Presidents Award for Department Legislative Chair in 2012 and runner-up for Hospital in 2013. Over the past 15 years, Linda has also been a Chair at the Auxiliary and District levels for Americanism, VOD, Patriot's Pen and Teacher Awards. In 2014 she was appointed by National as the Department's Certified Recruiter Trainer to help with membership.

Linda is a dedicated member who is willing to share her knowledge and experience with everyone. As she has travelled throughout the State, she has been extremely impressed by the hard work and dedication the Auxiliary members have shown to our Veterans in their volunteer efforts. Linda has committed herself to supporting the VFW Auxiliary programs and veteran's families in whatever way she can. We believe Linda will serve proudly and we now ask you to support her as the VFW Auxiliary Department of Colorado President in the upcoming election at the June Convention in Security.

Respectfully, Audrey Quick VFW Auxiliary #5812 President

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

Each year, more than 3,500 high school students from across the country participate in the VFW Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. The scholarship contest began in 1979 to recognize up-and-coming artists and encourage patriotism in youth.

The Young American Creative Patriotic Art 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 winner from each Department (state) will be forwarded to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters. View the 2015 National Winners: http://www.vfwauxiliary.org/patriotic-art-winners-2015/ Get the word out in your community about this wonderful scholarship contest!

•Share information about the contest on Social Media. A sample post for Facebook is below:

Attention all 9-12 grade students with a passion for patriotism and art! Enter the 2015-2016 VFW Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest and compete with other student artists from across the nation for your chance at winning one of eight national scholarships, with the first-place winner receiving a \$10,000 scholarship! Find out how you can enter and view the 2014-2015 National Award Winners: http://www. vfwauxiliary.org/patriotic-art-winners-2015/

•Download a Fillable Patriotic Art Contest Media Release for Local Auxiliaries and send it to your local newspaper, radio station, magazine, etc.

•Download and print the Patriotic Art Poster/Flier and distribute it to local schools, churches, youth organizations (i.e. Boys & Girls Clubs, Boy and Girl Scouts, 4-H, etc.) arts and crafts stores, art galleries, grocery stores and coffee shops - anywhere youth spend time!

•Print out Patriotic Art brochures/entry forms from the website or order them from National Headquarters (for free!) using the brochure order form from the website and distribute to the same groups listed above.

Deadlines:

•Entries received by VFW Auxiliary - March 31 •Entries received by Department - April 15 •Entries received by National - May 5

National Awards: •First Place: \$10,000 scholarship •Second Place: \$5,000 scholarship •Third Place: \$2,500 scholarship •Fourth Place: \$1,500 scholarship •Fifth through Eighth Place: \$500 scholarship

VFW National Home for Children

Hello and Happy New Year, Hoping that your 2016 year has started out to be a good one.

National Home have you Donated to this Program? Have you reported on your Community Reporting?

If not please be sure to do so. Any Donations are accepted and helping our Veteran's Families to be able to stay and help these families get back on their feet is their #1 priority. Without Donations National Home will not be able to continue to do the great things they do for our Veterans.

The National Home turned 90 on January 7 2015, so as you can see they are doing a Great Service for our

Military Families. **BE HEARD. BE HELPED! MILITARY & VETERAN FAMILY** HELPLINE 800-313-4200

ALL CALLS ARE ANSWERED AND NO CALL IS TURNED AWAY.

This is a free service that offers information, creates connections and gives hope to struggling military and veteran families.

It's answered by experienced problemsolvers who care deeply about veterans and their families and who have the contacts and knowledge needed to get each caller help.

Keep in mind we have Veterans who need help daily in their lives and for what they have done for us, we need to do all and everything for them.

I will see you all at our next C.O.A. in Security and I will have Supplies from National Home. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me or email me at luvthosedenverbroncos2@yahoo. com.

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

State Convention Buddy Poppy Display Contest

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

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

CATEGORY 1 Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign.

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

(a). Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy (b). At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with

label attached. **CATEGORY 2** Memorial or Inspirational Displays

(Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)
(a). Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy.

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

CATEGORY 3 Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies (Post Home displays, table centerpieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)

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

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

The State Buddy Poppy Committee shall have no responsibility in setting up, taking down, or returning displays. Displays may be entered and set up at any time from 7:30 a.m. Thursday June 16.

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

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

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

prizes

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

First Place Winners in each Category

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

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







Hospital

Thank You to all the Auxiliaries that supported our Veteran's activities during the holidays. As we start a new year why not make a resolution to volunteer each month at one of the VA Centers or Veterans State Living Care facilities? The Hospital program purpose is to meet the needs of hospitalized patients at the VA Medical Centers and Colorado State Living Care Centers. With the influx of this generation of veterans and the rise in long-term rehabilitate services, there is a much greater need for volunteers. The coffee admission program at the Denver V! was started by the VFW & Ladies !uxiliary in the 40's. We are in need of volunteers to cover all the days to ensure the veterans that visit the Denver VA can have a cup of coffee as they wait, let's insure this great program will continue. Opportunities to volunteer at the Denver VA are endless to provide assists and encouragement to our veterans. Possibly your Post & Auxiliary could visit each month and serve ice-cream and sugar free snacks throughout the hospital or make a special visit as a group to let the veterans know we care. Let me know and I will be happy to set up a special visit with the voluntary service director. All of the Living Care facilities would welcome a visit and support with the many activities they plan for the residents. Be sure your auxiliary has donated .50 per member to the hospital fund to help support all of the facilities special events

We have some special hospital activities coming up; Salute to Hospitalized Veter-ans Feb. 7-13 auxiliaries make plans now to visit to one of the facilities to thank our Veterans. Also your auxiliary could sign Valentine's cards and deliver them to one

Greetings to all Auxiliary members!

I hope all of you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It doesn't seem possible that 2015 is already in the past and 2016 is already here! I would like to thank all of the Auxiliaries that have continued to send in their reports. All the projects that you have done and all the youth you have worked with are amazing. Thank you also to the Auxiliary members that gave of themselves, either by giving or volunteering to make a difference to our Veterans during the holidays

Recognizing our youth is very impor-tant, please submit Youth Groups Sup-porting Our Veterans National Citations. Completed citations are due to Depart-ment by April 10, 2016. Your Auxiliary should have received the Outstanding Young Volunteer of the Year Award form in the mail. Completed forms are due by February 15, 2016 to Department. Both of these are a great way to acknowledge all the awesome things youth do for our Veterans. Another way to encourage youth

of the Veterans' Centers across the state. St Patrick's Day; you can work with a Scout or other youth groups to make tray favors it would really brighten the day of the patients. Easter is March 27 another opportunity to visit to enhance the day for the veteran that cannot be home. The Disabled Winter Sports Clinic is in April at Snowmass Village. "Miracles on a Mountain" is sponsored by the Department of Veterans Affairs for military service members and Veterans with spinal cord injuries and other disabilities. Nearly 400 disabled Veterans will have an opportunity to develop winter sports skills and take part in a variety of adaptive workshops. The VFW Posts & Ladies Auxiliaries in the western part of the state volunteer at many of the events and sponsor lunch and snacks for two days during the week. Please send donations to help support this program; to Department Treasurer mark for Winter Sports Clinic. Do not forget your nomination for **Outstanding Hospital Volunteer** Deadline is March 1, 2016 send the form to me for judging. One volunteer will be chosen for the Department, and then sent to the National Hospital Director. We have many outstanding volunteers from across the state be sure to check the Auxiliary Program book for the form. See you all at the Parade of Programs if you need any help or have question just call. **BE SURE TO REPORT**—**REPORT** -REPORT all your activities and donations

Charlotte Lattin Department Hospital Chairman

Youth Activities

to continue doing the right thing is to give out Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.) coins and cards. Keep a R.A.P. card handy for when you see a youth doing an act of patriotism. The coins are available at the VFW Store online. The template for R.A.P. cards and the nomination forms for the citation can be downloaded at hhtp://www.auxvfw.org/programs-page/ youth-activities.

I would like to see each Auxiliary attain our Program Goals:

* Submitting at least one Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans National Citation

* Sponsoring and working with youth

groups. * Giving out Random Acts of Patriotism coins and cards.

And please, REPORT, REPORT, RE-PORT.

Patsy Gilmore

Department Youth Activities Chairman

Auxiliary and VFW Members

Thank you for the many cards and calls, but most of all, your support during my mother's illness and service. It was appreciated more than words can say.

Sincerely. Charlotte, Ron and Family



Aux 1771: Nestor Abeyta, Vicki Slavec, Anna Tobias Aux 2601: Dorothy Ulmer Aux 2797: Janet Johnson Aux 3631: Deanna Loving Aux 4061: Ruth Werner, Caerol DiOrio, Hazel Danals Aux 6461: Debra Ren

Membership 2015-2016

This is our time. Past and future generations are depending on us. Celebrating our veterans and their families is what we do best.

I would like to wish everyone a HAPPY NEW YEAR. I hope your holidays were filled with lots of family and friends. I am not sure where 2016 went but The Department of Colorado Auxiliary did go out with a big bang. In Mid-December an email was sent out to all District President's, Auxiliary Presidents and Treasurers requesting your help to make our National goal of 90% in membership, in order for each state to receive a \$300.00 monetary award. Well, we did it! In less than 10 days our Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson, processed over 200 membership dues which but us just over the top at 90.20%.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this possible. If you did not pay your dues by December 31, 2015 then you are no longer a member in good standing. So let's get those dues sent in, this is especially important for all officers. As we continue to recruit new members, please remember to thank each of them for honoring their family member's service by becoming a member of our organization

Our next membership goal is to reach 95% by March 31, 2016 for a \$500.00 monetary award. If each of our members

National Certified Recruiter Program

Thank you for working so diligently to keep our Department a healthy and active one this year. We reached our December 31 goal of 90%. Your recruiting efforts are really showing! We are all working together to "Cultivate the Caring for Veterans and Their Families"! Our membership is growing thanks to your hard work!

There have been three members who have filled out the Auxiliary VFW Membership Awards form to receive their "No Excuse...I Recruit!" pin from National. Please take the form out of the Program Book, fill it out and send it to National to receive your pin for all of your hard work. Send a copy to Caroline Gelatt or me so we can congratulate on your efforts. There are many of you that have signed up 5 or more members!

Here are some Talking Point Tips to help encourage individuals to join: 1) We serve the veterans of this country and our communities in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform, 2) We spread patriotism and educate our communities and our nation's youth about America's

could recruit just one new member this goal would be easily achieved but it will take all of us working together to connect with each of our members who have not paid their dues as of yet or to reach out to those we need to rejoin. Staying connected with our auxiliary members is how we grow our organization. We have not had a 100% plus membership year since 2001-2002. I really believe we can reach this goal this year for our Department President Gloria. Let's show National it is our year, it is our time and we will do what it takes to make sure our veterans and their families will continued to be honored through the strength of our membership.

Congratulations to all our auxiliaries who have already reach 100%. Auxiliary treasurers please remember to recognize individuals in your own post who recruit new members buy sending in your completed awards form not only to me but also national. Please refer to our department and national program books and or website for all additional goals and awards.

If I can help you with membership, please contact myself or our National Certified Recruiter Linda Reinpold anytime

Caroline Gelatt

Department Membership Chairman cagelatt@netzero.com

patriotic holidays and the American Flag, 3) Visits to veterans in VA Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Veterans Homes.

These are only a few of the volunteer efforts our members perform. By high lighting some of the member volunteerism in talking with prospective members you can educate them in a program they may have an interest in and they can see how involved the Auxiliary is in the community.

If you would like special training on specific topics about getting new or rejoined members, working with existing membership or mentoring new members, or if you have concerns or issues you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me. Training for special requests to membership can be done at local or district meetings such as a School of Instruction.

Thank you once again for all of your hard work in keeping our membership growing in Department President's garden.

Linda Reinpold, National Certified Recruiter Trainer

Buddy Poppy Program

"The Veterans Behind the Buddy Poppy", have you seen it yet? Go to vfwauxiliaryprograms.blogspot.com. In the upper left corner type in poppy. Using your computer, play this short film at your next meeting and inform everyone of the behind the scene's story of our Buddy Poppy.

Note, some of the "actors" are our very own. Did you see them?

Poppy sales for Colorado are down about 55%. Remember each Auxiliary is responsible to purchase a minimum of 250 each year. By now you should have a good idea what you"Il need for your poppy project and of course your Auxiliary hat for the Poppy hat parade held at State Convention.

"Buddy Poppy"" wishes everyone a Happy New Year.

Barbara Buchanan Department Buddy Poppy Chairman

Page 11 – Colorado Veteran, February

Auxiliary Membership by District as of January 26, 2016

		e e		Ĩ			·		
Numb	er City	2015	2016	%	Numb	er City	2015	2016	%
DIST	RICT #1				DISTR	RICT #7			
1	Denver	171	168	98	899	Alamosa	82	82	100*
501	Denver	150	135	90	3228	Monte Vista		43	100*
2461	Denver	119	103	87	4849	La Jara	49	45	92
2797	Denver	36	37	103*	6101	San Luis	46	29	63
3971	Denver	41	35	85	8121	So Fork	95	95	100*
5061	Denver	113	105	93	0121	TOTAL	314	294	94%
2001	TOTAL	630	583	93%		TOTIL	511	221	21/0
	101112	020	000	2070	DISTE	RICT #8			
DISTE	<u>RICT #2</u>				859	Leadville	31	27	87
2788	Penrose	46	30	65	1166	Buena Vista	93	78	84
3641	Pueblo	79	74	94	8661	Bailey	34	0	0
4061	Canon City	162	147	91	11411	Lake George	e 47	51	109*
5812	Pueblo Wes	t 50	49	98	12009	Conifer	30	30	100*
7305	Colo. City	30	19	63		TOTAL	235	186	79%
	TOTAL	367	319	87%					
						<u>RICT #9</u>			
	<u>RICT #3</u>				4264	Stmbt Spgs	34	32	94
41	Loveland	127	118	93	4265	Craig	51	50	98
1771	Lafayette	324	310	96	5843	Meeker	32	31	97
1781	Ft. Collins	82	84	102*	9374	Kremmling	18	19	106*
2121	Greeley	95	92	97		TOTAL	135	132	87%
2585	Johnstown	44	43	98	DIGTI				
2601	Longmont	244	234	96	-	<u>RICT #10</u>	112	112	100*
2841 4334	Brighton Ault	36 36	$0 \\ 32$	0 89	322 3471	Englewood Morrison	113 51	113 49	96
6011	Platteville	33	26	89 79	3631	Aurora	113	93	82
6624	Evans	201	194	97	4171	Golden	323	304	94
9565	Broomfield		49	126*	4331	Arvada	123	118	94
)505	TOTAL	1261	1182	94%	4444	Cmmrc City		175	97
	TOTAL	1201	1102	21/0	7945	Thornton	253	241	95
DISTE	RICT #4				9644	Fort Logan	347	313	90
2551	Ft. Morgan	141	124	88			1503	1406	94%
3541	Sterling	86	81	94					
4671	Wray	31	29	94		<u>RICT #11</u>			
8064	Akron	32	11	34	784	Montrose	53	39	74
	TOTAL	290	248	84%	1247	Grnd Jnctn	96	91	95
					3571	Delta	74	57	77
	<u>RICT #5</u>	(0)		<u>.</u>	3981	Grnd Jnetn	20	6	30
101	Colo. Spgs.		57	84	4663	Clifton	57	46	81
3917	Security	244	168	66	9221	Cedaredge	67	58	87
4051 5221	Colo. Spgs	320	307	96	9304	Silt	23	13	57
	Calhan Fountain	27 119	26	96 87	9333	Hotchkiss	24 414	21 331	88 80%
6461 7829	Monument	22	104 30	87 136*		TOTAL	414	331	80%
1629	TOTAL	800	686	77%	DISTR	RICT #12			
	IOIAL	800	000	///0	4031	Durango	73	65	89
DISTR	RICT #6				5181	Dove Creek	41	38	93
336	Ordway	87	78	90	5231	Mancos	61	55	90
2411	LasAnimas	108	104	96	9058	Nucla	19	21	111*
3621	Lamar	16	17	106*		TOTAL	194	179	92%
4001	Springfield	29	26	90					
4281	Holly	10	8	80	DISTE	RICT #13			
	TOTAL	139	233	93%	3411	Kit Carson	32	27	93
					6491	Burlington	11	17	100*
					6612	Hugo	59	51	94
"10	0 Years of	Serving	Veter	ans"		TOTAL	102	95	95%
10		Auxilia			15007	At Lores	250	200	1100/*
		Auxina	•	_	13006	At Large	258	308	119%*

Department of Colorado Extension

Happy New Year to every auxiliary and member! I don't usually make any resolutions, but I feel that each auxiliary should have one and that is to make the auxiliary healthy and strong. The RU Healthy Check List has been

sent to all Auxiliary Presidents. Please check the items off and send them back to me by March 1, 2016. The Auxiliaries that are healthy will be presented a certificate at the March Parade of Programs.

I have asked the Deputy Chiefs of Staff for their assistance in giving me names of members in their District that have done an Outstanding Job in Promoting the Programs of the VFW Auxiliary. Here again, the deadline for me to receive those names is March 1, 2016. Certificates will be presented at the March Parade of Programs.

Membership is the "Key" in keeping our Auxiliaries Strong. Reach out to those members who haven't renewed their membership and encourage them to do so. Try to get them involved. Please utilize the Phone / Text Tree. This is an easy way for you to keep in touch with the members and remind them of an upcoming meeting

6,751

6,179

92%

the work that you do.

"Cultivate The Caring For Our Veterans and Their Families³

'Our Veterans ... Now and Forever''

Lovally! Rosie Mitchell Department Chief of Staff

Thank You! Thank You!

Thank you for all the cards of encouragement. I am getting weaker and now in a wheel chair for most of the time, but still at home. I prefer not go to a care center as long as John can provide the care. Hospice has been great, with visits by the nurse three times a week and an aid or volunteer two or three times a week. Of course having a daughter close by helps also Again THANKS from John Loring and Rose

TOTAL DEPT.

I would like to thank each auxiliary for

Americanism

Happy New Year! & Happy Valentine's Day!

Now is the time for a follow up call or visit to your local schools for the Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. Check to see if the administrators have nominations to turn in. If not, remind them that there is still a week or so to nominate a deserving educator. The deadline has changed for this program and is now February 15, 2016. Encourage each school to nominate at least one teacher for this award. Work with your Post to recognize these educators. Arrange a reception, dinner or other event to recognize the nominees and winners in your Post/Auxiliary. Perhaps your Commander and President can join you and your co-chair at a school assembly to recognize these great teachers.

I have received reports and have seen numerous photos on social media of the Veteran's Day activities presented and attended by your Posts and Auxiliaries. Great job! Also, a shout out to those who participated in Pearl Harbor Recognition and Wreaths Across America ceremonies.

I hope everyone had a joyous holiday and that your New Year is getting off to a great start. Thank you to all of you for your hard work with the Voice of Democ-

racy and Patriot's Pen programs. There is still time to promote the Continuing Education Scholarship. This scholarship is available to assist members who wish to further their education by pursuing a college or technical degree. Spouses and children of members are also eligible to apply. National must re-ceive applications by February 15, 2016. Applications can be found at this link: http://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/up-loads/bsk-pdf-manager/178_VFW-AUX-ILIARY-CONTINUING-EDUCATION-

You are doing an amazing job of promoting Americanism and our organization in your communities!

Presidents Day is the third Monday in February (February 15, 2016). Fly your flag!

Keep reporting your Americanism activities on the Program report forms and my Americanism form. I am always excited to receive your reports to see how you are honoring America!

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Council of Administration meeting in March at Cheyenne Mountain Post 3917 in Security, CO.

If you have questions or need assistance, feel free to contact me. I am happy to help.

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. Thanks for all you do for our heroes,

Martine Arndt

Department Americanism Chairman

Scholarship Program

SCHOLARSHIP-APPLICATION-FILL-

ABLE.pdf Don't forget the **Young American** Creative Patriotic Art Contest. This contest is open to students in grades 9, 10, 11 or 12th. Home-school students are also eligible. Art can be water color, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen-and-ink, or oil, but may NOT be digital. The local auxiliary must receive submissions by March 31, 2016.

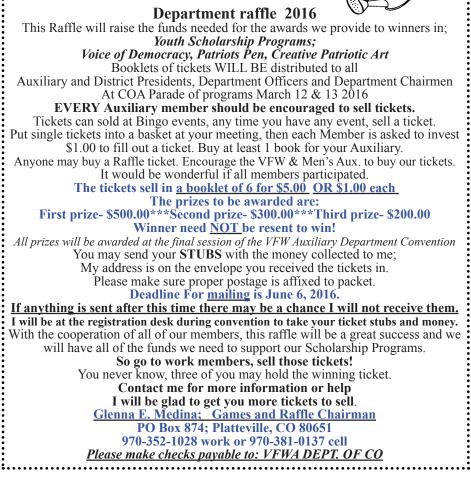
Please be sure to report your scholarship participation. Don't hesitate to con-tact me if I can assist with any of your scholarship endeavors.

Beverly Archer

Department Scholarship Chairman

Cultivate The Caring

For Our Veterans and Their Families



Veterans And Family Support

Taken from the cartoon script, Pickles. "Did you ever think about the word, 'life' - that in the middle of the word are the letters if or IF"? What does this thought have to do with the Veterans & Family Support Program? Well, life is full of "IF's" and as auxiliary members we can look at the IF's in two ways: 1) Positive as members think/act IF not us - who? IF not now - when? eg. Be the movers and shakers! Or 2) Negative (and to watch for) - What IF only - a phrase that paralyzes, puts down – the woulda, coulda, shoulda falk

As I review the Program Reporting Forms, the IF's stand out. By Award Groups, the following auxiliaries have/are participating in <u>each</u> of the Veterans & Family Support Program components: National Veterans Services (NVS) National Military Services (NMS) VFW National Home for Children

- Buddy Poppy Homeless Veterans
- Award Group I = 0Award Group 2 = 0
- Award Group 3 = 0
- Award Group 4 = 0
- Award Group 5 = 0
- Award Group 6 = 0

Award Group 7 = 0 YEEKS!! What's happening – all ZE-ROS. NO auxiliaries have reported any activity with National Veterans Services (NVS). A reminder about this program segment from the 2015-16 Program Book. Spread the Word about National Veterans Service.

Greetings,

Happy New Year! I hope that the holidays have been a wonderful time for evervone

Please don't forget to send in your \$2.00 per member ear-marked for Cancer to Department Treasurer Cindy Anderson.

Has your Auxiliary had a Cancer education program? Early detection of cancer and treatment give a patient a greater chance of survival. Urge annual checkups

Do you know where to get a Cancer Grant application? Has someone in you Auxiliary told you what a Cancer Grant is, where the money comes from and who can get one? If the answer is no to any of these questions, ask your Cancer Chairman about having a education program, to make all members aware of what our Cancer Program consists of.

The VFW NVS helps veterans, service members and their families obtain the benefits they deserve – at no cost. NVS provides a nationwide network

of 276 VFW Service Officers who help veterans navigate the Veterans Affairs system. These professionals assist all veterans in filing claims for:

Disability compensation, including compensation for PTSD

Rehabilitation and education programs, including GI Bill benefits.

Pension and death benefits. Employment and training programs.

NVS also works to ensure veterans receive quality, timely, and accessible VA health care.

How can your auxiliary help? Donate to NVS by sending funds to the VFW earmarked for NVS. Mail checks to: VFW National Headquarters Attn: NVS 406 W. 34th Street Kansas City, MO 64111.

The reporting forms also show some other program components in shaky'conditions:

National Home Hotline - please share this resource with your community

Buddy Poppy - do report the number of promotions and drives

NMS – has your auxiliary promoted the Help-A-Hero Scholarship?

Remember the IF's – IF not us – who? IF not now – when? There is still time to make a difference. Can veterans and their families count on your auxiliary? Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Carol Anderson, Department Veterans and Family Support Chairman

Cancer Fund

February is National Cancer Prevention Month, Gallbladder and Bile Duct Awareness

March is Colorectal Awareness, Kidney Cancer Awareness and Multiple Myeloma Awareness.

I still have Cancer pins on hand so please don't be shy continue to order them and SELL! SELL! SELL! Remember you don't have to sell them just to Auxiliary sisters and brothers. Family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers - anyone can purchase one or more to help Cancer.

"Cultivate the Caring for our Veterans and their Families'

Lennie Dolan Department Cancer Chairman

2015 - 2016 Cancer Pins Order Form

Auxiliary No	Date					
Send to:						
Address:						
City:	State: CO Zip:					
Quanity:	Pins for \$3.00 each = \$enclosed					
Ordered by:	Phone #:					
Make check payable to Department of Colorado Auxiliary						
Mail Cancer Pin or						
(303) 341-7488	1170 Fulton Street Aurora, CO 80010					