

COLORADO VETERAN

and Auxiliary News

“No One Does More For Veterans”



May, 2016

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

Volume 55, Issue 4 2015 - 2016



John E. Hamilton

Adjutant General
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.

National Representative
Colorado State Convention'
June 15 - 18, 2016
Security, Colorado

John E. Hamilton was appointed Adjutant General of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in July 2013. Prior to this he served as Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars from 2012-2013.

Mr. Hamilton served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1968-1970, including a tour in Vietnam. His decorations include three Purple Hearts, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Vietnam Civil Actions First Class and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

He joined the VFW in 1974 at Post 7909 in Jacksonville, Fla., where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life membership. He has served the VFW in many leadership positions, including the National Council of Administration from 1989-1991, and as State Commander of Florida from 1987-1988. He served on the board of the VFW National Home from 2002-2008 and as its president from 2004-2005. He also served as Supreme Commander of the Military Order of the Cootie from 1992-1993.

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

Mr. Hamilton was named Florida’s Young Veteran of the Year in 1981. He has been honored by Presidents Jimmy Carter and George H. W. Bush for his outstanding community service and leadership. He remains dedicated to community service and currently serves as a commissioner on the United States World War One Centennial Commission board located in Washington, D.C., and on the board of the World War One Museum located in Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. Hamilton is a member of the Military Order of the Cootie, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion and the Semper Fidelis Society.

He was a longtime resident of Jacksonville, Fla., and currently resides in Kansas City, Mo.



Gwen Rankin

Past National President
Past National President

National Representative
Colorado State Convention
June 15 - 18, 2016
Security, Colorado

Gwen Rankin of Sacramento, California, currently serves the VFW Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States as a member of the National Budget Committee and as a member of the National Council of Administration. In 2011-2012, she led 520,000 members under her theme “*Step Up ~ Leave No Veteran Behind.*”

A Life Member of Mission Santa Clara Auxiliary #3982, she joined on the eligibility of her husband, Rick, who served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam from 1964-1966.

Since joining in 1976, she has served the organization in several capacities, including President for her Auxiliary, Santa Clara County Council, and District 12. She was named Outstanding Department President in her membership group for the 2003-04 term. On the National level, Gwen was named Outstanding Conference Chairman while serving as Western States Conference Chairman for the

Membership Program in 2004-05. She was the 2005-06 Director for the Cancer Aid & Research Program. She has been a VAVS Deputy Representative and hospital volunteer, and is a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children.

Gwen also belongs to St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Retired after 20 years with Four-D Metal Finishing in Sunnyvale, California, she enjoys reading, meeting people and camping. A devoted student of Hawaiian dance since age 7, her first hula was in a show for wounded veterans at Army Tripler Hospital in Honolulu. After reviving her interest in the early 1990s in California, she went on to competition. Despite no time for lessons now, Gwen still listens to her favorite music, dances when she gets the chance and carries that “Aloha spirit” everywhere she goes.

The Rankins have three children, four granddaughters and one grandson.

Have you made your reservations for Colorado State Convention?

June 15 - 18, 2016

Security, Colorado

Looking forward to seeing everyone in June

In Memoriam

Past State President

Wanda L. Painter

1989 - 1990

Passed away February 4, 2016

**“He closed your tired eyes. He whispered to you,
“Peace by Thine” and gave you wings to fly”.**



G. Anthony "Tony" Wolusky

Asks for your support to become the 2016-2017

VFW Judge Advocate General

Colorado Department Judge Advocate
Assistant Department Judge Advocate
District Judge Advocate

All American Post Cdr (2010-11, 2011-12)
National Aide-De-Camp (2009-10, 10-11, 11-12)
Military Order of the Cootie

Life Member, VFW Post 3917, Colorado Springs, Colorado
Licensed attorney: Colorado and California
Named Outstanding Career Air Force Attorney (1999)

Qualifying Military Service:

- **OP SOUTHERN WATCH** and **OP DESERT FOCUS**, Staff Judge Advocate, 4409th Operations Group (Provisional), Riyadh Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (1996)
- **51st Fighter Wing**, Staff Judge Advocate, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea (1998-2000)
- **OP JOINT FORGE**, Senior Ops Attorney, NATO SFOR Cdr, Camp Butmir, Bosnia (2002-2003)

Other Prior Service:

- Minuteman ICBM Crew Commander, Malmstrom AFB, Montana
- Intelligence Applications Officer, IRD 49, George AFB, California
- Chief of Military Justice, Ogden Air Logistics Center, Hill AFB, Utah
- Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, HQ USAF Academy (USAFA), Colorado
- Area Defense Counsel, Ramstein Air Base, Germany
- Associate Professor, Department of Law, USAFA
- Deputy District Attorney, San Bernardino County, California



Current Service: Faculty: MSU Denver, Dept. Crim Just & Criminology (Ph.D., J.D., M.Ed., M.A.)

Hobbies: Team Captain & President (USAFA Intramural Bowling League) & Marathon Runner

Colorado's Choice

2016 Department Convention Hotel & RV List

Radisson Hotel
Colorado Springs Airport
(Headquarters)
1464 N Newport Rd 719-597-7000
Deadline April 30, 2016
(Code "VFW Convention")

Super 8
Colorado Springs Airport
90 Aeroplaza Dr
719-570-0505

Holiday Inn Express
Colorado Springs Airport
815 Aeroplaza Dr
719-591-6000

Days Inn
Colorado Springs Airport
1780 Aeroplaza Dr
719-574-7707

Quality Inn
2115 Aerotech Dr
719-380-9000

Colorado Springs KOA
Bandle Dr., Fountain
719-382-7575

Cheyenne Mountain State Park
410 State Park Rd
719-576-2016

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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Peter Buchanan, commander
Bruce Dolan, editor
Ann Mauck, assoc. editor &
computer layout

For the Auxiliary
Gloria Otwell, president
Cindy Anderson, treasurer
Martine Arndt, jr. past president
Ann Mauck, auxiliary news chairman

www.vfwcolodept.org

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:

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

Chapel Escort and Coffee Hour Schedule

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 Post #9644	Sheridan
Jun	5	Paul A Westover VFW Post #3471	Morrison
	12	Dean K Phillips VFW #5061	Denver
	19	Retired Enlisted (TREA #3)	Denver
	26	Englewood VFW #322	Englewood
Jul	3	Skyline VFW #2797	Denver
	10	Mile High VFW #1771	Lafayette
	17	Pat Hannon VFW #4666	Littleton
	24	Dean K Phillips VFW #5061	Denver
	31	Francis Brown Lowry VFW #501	Denver
Aug	7	Golden VFW #4171	Golden
	14	Retired Enlisted (TREA #39)	Denver
	21	Verle Huffman VFW #9644	Sheridan
	28	Mile High VFW #1771	Lafayette

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.

2016 VFW State Convention Ad Sheet

Full Page	\$125.00	8 1/4 x 10 3/4"
Half Page	\$100.00	8 1/4 x 5 1/4"
Fourth Page	\$ 35.00	8 1/4 x 2 3/4"
Business Card Ad	\$ 25.00	3 1/2 x 2"

Business Name _____

Phone Number _____

Webpage URL _____

POC _____

Ad Size Full Half Quarter Business Card

Business that purchase business card and quarter page ads will also have a linked listed on our website's convention sponsor page. Those purchasing half and full page ads will have a linked banner ad prominently displayed on our webpage. Use this form to indicate the ad size and provide business information. Submit it along with your copy ready ad, artwork and payment to the address below before 13 May 2016.

Mail all Ads to the Convention Book Chairman: **Robert M Kidd Sr.**
4114 Morley Circle
Colorado Springs CO 80916-2831

POST & AUXILIARY CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

NAME: _____

NEW ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MEMBERSHIP NO. _____ VFW POST NO. _____

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

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

THANK YOU
EDITOR

Commander's Column Peter Buchanan



I WANT YOU TO JOIN THE VFW. Seems a strange way of beginning an article to members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Our Ritual book on the

inside cover states: **Men and women returning from all quarters of the globe stand before our altars of comradeship, pledging loyalty to the nation and to one another. Through the generations we give life to our impressive ritual, for it solemnly binds young and old who have fought for America on land, on sea and in the air.** Simply put, as found on the vfw.org website, the VFW strives to do good things for deserving people – our veterans, their families and their communities. From local grassroots ideas to national influence, we work every day to make a difference. It's our strength as an organization. And, with each individual membership, we only grow stronger.

With more than 6,899 VFW Posts and more than a thousand SVA Chapters, there are many opportunities for cooperation and engagement. Find a SVA Chapter near you to get involved.

Our Auxiliary is the nation's oldest veterans' service organization auxiliary with nearly 465,000 members representing all

50 states, the District of Columbia, and several foreign locations. For more than 100 years, the Auxiliary has been supporting the Veterans of Foreign Wars, serving veterans and their families, active-duty military and their families, and spreading patriotism nationwide.

This is my final article submission as your Colorado Commander. I wish I had the right words to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the work each of you do each day in support of our Nation and our Veterans. It would be easy to fill this entire Colorado Veteran with all the good works we did this past year. We collectively have performed so many Community Service hours for our communities and veterans. It was a proud moment when in each of our legislator's offices this year in Washington, D.C. to tell them of what we do in Colorado and why they need to listen to our Priority Goals in the coming year to better our Veteran Community.

In closing I wish each of you success and health in life. It has been an honor to serve you this year. I will carry so many memories for the rest of my life. Please remember to "Focus on Veterans" and, Fair Winds and Following Seas.

Peter Buchanan
Department Commander

Jr. Vice Column Ed Aitken



Comrades, Sisters and Brothers.

It was a pleasure visiting with those of you at could make the Council of Administration in Security, Colorado. I hope that you

had a safe trip home.

For those of you could not make it we had a great training on Saturday. The business session on Sunday was very informative. A revised set of By-Laws, for the Department, where introduced that will be revisited and voted on at State Convention.

In my last article I talk about the financial structure and how the funds were managed at the National Home for Children, this time I would like to visit with you about our Crown Jewel.

The Colorado House:
It was built in 1950. It has 2,874 square feet, a large kitchen, dinning area and large living room. On the 2nd floor there is 4 bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms, It also has one bathroom in the basement. It is

a magnificent home and it is sponsored by you, the members of the Department of Colorado.

The following was taken from a letter to the department with the financial report "Please accept a sincere "thank you" to all the members from Colorado for their hard work and support for the VFW National Home for Children. The funds and commitment you have made to support your Colorado Home have made it an attractive and very pleasant haven for our families and you all can be very proud of that". Signed by Todd Marriott Facilities Director

I Thank you for allowing me to serve as your National Home for Children representative, I hope that I have enlighten you on the various aspects of the National Home for Children and their different programs.

See you at the State Convention in Security, Colorado

Ed Aitken
Department Jr. Vice Commander

Thank You to District 3

What a surprise when we opened a package from District 3 and found a blanket made by the members that fits our bed. We want to thank everyone for remembering us and we really do not have enough words to tell you how much it means to us. Our friends in Colorado have a special place in our heart and we miss all of you.

Harland and Dorothy Smith, PDC

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"
Lineup 10:00 AM Parade 11:00 AM

Sr. Vice Column Allan Stone



In the last issue of the Colorado Veteran, my article informed you about Fort Logan National Cemetery.

Fort Lyon National Cemetery is the other national cemetery in Colorado located in Bent County, seven miles east of Las Animas. The fort was originally named Fort Wise in honor of Henry A. Wise, governor of Virginia. However, with the outbreak of the Civil War, it seemed inappropriate to have a Union fort named after the governor of a Southern state, and the name was changed. The new name Fort Lyon was chosen to honor Brevet Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon, who was killed at the Battle of Wilson Creek on August 10, 1861. He was the first Union general to die in battle.

Shortly after its establishment in 1887, Fort Lyon was moved to its current site just below the mouth of the Purgatoire River because floods at the original location threatened to destroy equipment and personnel belongings. Within days of the move, the fort commander Captain Penrose began constructing new buildings. Fort Lyon is noted for being the last residence of the famous Army scout, trapper and adventurer, Christopher "Kit" Carson.

The U.S. Army abandoned Fort Lyon in 1897 and its troops were transferred elsewhere. The remains of soldiers buried at the post were disinterred and moved to Fort McPherson National Cemetery in Nebraska. In 1906, the U.S. Navy took advantage of Colorado's mild, dry climate and opened a sanitarium for treating sailors and marines suffering from tuberculosis. On June 22, 1922, the Veteran's Bureau assumed operations and the hospital was opened to veterans from all branches of the service. In

1930, administration of the hospital was transferred to the newly created Veterans Administration and within three years the VA designated Fort Lyon a neuropsychiatry facility.

The original burials commenced in 1907 as the Naval Hospital Cemetery, and they continued under the Veteran's Bureau and Veteran's Administration. Records indicate that the first veteran interred at Fort Lyon was Youayoshi Hosi, a Japanese-American from Pennsylvania who served as a Navy warrant officer during the Spanish-American War. During World War I, German prisoners of war who had contracted tuberculosis were entitled to treatment in American hospitals under the Geneva Convention. A number of these prisoners resided at the Naval Hospital at Fort Lyon. Relations between German soldiers and the Americans were friendly and a custom was established for decorating the graves of two members of the German Imperial Navy interred in the national cemetery with the German flags on Memorial Day. The cemetery was transferred to the National Cemetery System in September 1973.

In 2001 the hospital was closed and the facility was turned over to the state of Colorado for conversion to a minimum security prison. The prison closed in 2011. In September 2013, Governor John Hickenlooper announced that Fort Lyon had reopened as an isolated rehab facility for homeless people with substance abuse issues operated by the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless.

I look forward to visiting with you at the State Convention in Security June 15 - 19. Let's all work to support and honor veterans!

Allan Stone
Department Sr. Vice Commander

VFW Post #1
Invite Veterans-- Spouses--Friends
To Join Their Toastmasters Club
841 Santa Fe Drive - every 2nd & 4th Wednesday
6:30 - 8:00 PM

Quartermaster's Column Bruce Dolan



I hope this finds everyone well and ready for warm weather again.

We are getting better on the timely reporting of Quarterly Audits. We have one Post that has

done no Audits, one that has missing audits for September and December, and eleven that have not turned in December Audits. This is 11% of our Posts that are not getting Audits done on time. I will say this is better than we've done in a while, but it should be less than 10%. In reality, it should be 0%. I do understand some Posts do have troubles, but we need to keep trying. And except for the one Post with no audits, I would like to thank all of you that done what we need to do.

I need everyone to read Article VII Section 704 of the By-Laws. (Yellow pages.) This dictates that the Post SHALL establish and maintain a relief fund. I'm receiving more Audits that has no relief fund reported. If you distribute Buddy Poppies, those monies received go into the relief fund. There is no set amount,

but each Post must have a relief fund.

I would like everyone reading this to read Article VII Section 704 in the Manual of Procedure. This deals with the expenditure of the relief fund. The relief fund comes from the net proceeds of the distribution of Buddy Poppies and any donations received for the purposes outlined in this Section.

Another thing I find on Audits is the lack of a Dues Reserve Fund. Again go to Article VII of the "Yellow Pages." Section 717 dictates the Post must have a Dues Reserve Fund. If you then read the Manual of Procedure, Article VII, Section 717, it will explain how the Fund works. The down to earth purpose is to ensure there are operating funds for the new VFW year. If you have any questions, please call Department Headquarters.

I hope everyone had a pretty good year. I can report to you the Department is in good shape. If you get in Denver, stop by and say hi to the Staff. Hope to see all of you at Convention in Security.

Bruce R. Dolan
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

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

**General Orders No. 4
May 1, 2016 Series 2015-2016**

1. **96th DEPARTMENT CONVENTION** will be held in Security, June 15th through 18th. The Council of Administration will meet at 6:00 pm, June 16th at James Irwin Charter School. All Council Members are requested to attend!! Uniform for the Convention will be: Council of Administration - casual; Joint Opening - Blues & Greys; Business Sessions - Black & White; Joint Memorial - Dark Suit or Blues & Greys.

2. **POST QUARTERMASTERS:** Request the assistance of your members in completing the list of deceased members form and return to Department Headquarters no later than May 20, 2016.

3. **DISTRICT COMMANDERS** must attend Council of Administration meeting June 16th at State Convention in Security, CO. You must also be present at ALL Business Sessions to receive your full travel expense check plus per diem for your motel room.

4. **REQUESTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT** from 2015-2016 Council Members between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016, must be submitted in writing and approved by the State Commander. If NOT submitted by July 10, 2016, the request will not be paid.

5. **DISTRICT AND POST ELECTION REPORTS:** It is the responsibility of the membership to insist that the responsible officer reports the elections of officers to Department immediately after the election is completed. If not sent to Department Headquarters by July 1, 2016, your officers will be omitted from the Department Roster.

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

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

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

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

COLORADO VFW FOUNDATION

Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation is a non-profit 501c(3) Established to provide financial assistance to worthy Colorado Veterans and their families. Grant Applications are received from Veterans that are in need of assistance with rent, utilities, medical expenses, travel/transportation in the event of an emergency, higher/continuing education course expenses, vehicle repairs/registration/insurance as determined on a case by case bases, and other basic needs, etc.

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

for any additional state assistance as they may qualify for.

This Fiscal year we have received (7/1/2015-3/2/2016) 245 grant applications of which we were able to approve 123 applications providing a total of \$60,019.24 in grant funds. As of March 2, 2016 we ran out of funds and are now turning Veterans away that are in need of assistance. We are expecting to turn away 100-250 Veterans for lack of available funds.

Our goal is to be able to assist more Veterans in the State of Colorado and help prevent/remedy the homeless Veterans population.

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

We are asking you our members and your family and friends to donate to the Colorado VFW Foundation. Past fundraisers have not been as successful as we had anticipated. Make your checks payable to Colorado VFW Foundation and mail to 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214.

Sponsor a Hole at the State Convention Golf Tournament

All VFW Posts are eligible to sponsor a hole for \$100.

As a proud sponsor, you will have your Post name on a sizable sign next to one of the 18 holes. Additionally, you will be verbally recognized as a sponsor at the kick off of the tournament and mentioned as one of the sponsors in the State Convention book.

All signs will be given to the Sponsor after the tournament. (Checks payable to Cheyenne Mountain VFW Post 3917)

Please respond by 15 May 2016 to: Cheyenne Mountain VFW Post 3917
Attn: Joe Barbosa
P O Box 5355
Security, CO 80931

**Chaplain's Column
Steve Kjonaas**



The values that are woven in all of us

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. – John F. Kennedy

When a person expresses their appreciation for a job well done or even when you hear someone say, "Thank you for your service." Many of you will say, "Shucks ma'am, no need to say thanks, I was just doing my job." The bounds of the public thanking service members keep expanding, as I submit to you that they are putting words into action that the recognition of who we represent is alive and well.

Comrades, Brothers, and Sisters, you have accomplished many hours of volunteer service plus directly or indirectly raised funds to which we use to help hundreds of Veterans in need. Your accomplishments have proven to help solve Veteran Homelessness, prevent suicides, educated thousands in Colorado on the value that Veterans and their families supply to communities, and you educated our school age children on Americanism and patriotism. Your teamwork and camaraderie have garnered the attention of major news outlets, our elected officials, and those who manage the Veterans Affairs administration. In a nutshell, your talent,

skills, and hard work are being felt across Colorado.

You have created and energized a collaboration that is catching on and you have the power to create great things for your community and Veterans across Colorado. I know you were not motivated to take action for the reward of a simple thank you. Your motivation comes from the ability to identify a need and see that the need is something you can do within the resources you can influence. In short, you want to see something get done and you have the power to make it happen. Great, what now?

Take on the challenge of accomplishing another worthy cause for the community; as you do possess the influence to create good things for fellow Veterans and their families plus the larger community which you live. I stand before you to say, expressing your appreciation for the freedoms and liberties you have cannot come from a better group of people, to which you are not just saying but living the words of Kennedy by loudly declaring a thank you to all those Comrades, Brothers, and Sisters who blazed the path before us and shown us that the value of service before self is woven inside all of us.

Steve Kjonaas
Department Chaplain

**Surgeon's Column
David Stone**



Greetings comrades,

In February I had the privilege of visiting what must be one of the most unique Veterans homes in the country. The Veterans

Community Living Center at Homelake is the only home in the state that offers two levels of care: a skilled nursing home and domiciliary cottages (similar to assisted living). The cottages enable residents to transfer between levels of care while remaining in a familiar environment. Life-

enhancing friendships can be maintained, and couples with different needs for care still can reside on the same campus. And what a beautiful campus it is, surrounded by towering spruce trees, historic buildings, the Homelake History Center and the Homelake Cemetery. The next time you are traveling west of Alamosa, stop by Homelake for a visit. And tell them David sent you.

David Stone
Department Surgeon

Veterans Affairs Identification Card

Veterans, you can access and print a free Veterans identification card through the joint VA/DoD web portal, eBenefits. This paper identification card serves as proof of honourable service in the Uniformed Services, as defined in laws about the Department of Defense (DoD).

When I visit Posts, the new Veteran ID Card legislation often comes up and most are not aware on how to obtain a temporary one until the permanent cards are ready to issue.

When the VA does start producing hard ID cards, by all means, go to the VA and obtain a more durable card. Until then, the paper Proof of Service will work as well.

Log into ebenefits <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/> with your DS login creden-

tials

You can create an account at the same page > Need a DS LOGON? > Register Before attempting to login, be sure to click the button immediately above "By selecting the checkbox, you are agreeing with the consent to monitor statement" First

After you log in, click > Manage > Documents and Records > VA Letters > Veteran Proof of Service > then print the resulting form






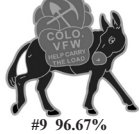
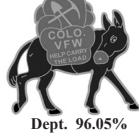
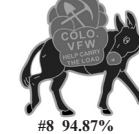
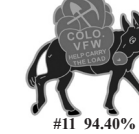
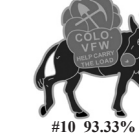
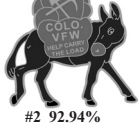
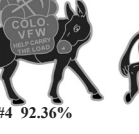













This ID card is not for obtaining medical care, access to military installations, etc., but is intended to satisfy the times that you need to prove you are a Military Veteran.

Steve Kjonaas

**2016 Calendar Raffle
Contact your District Commander if you have not entered**

**\$20.00 must be returned with the stub with your name and address
Drawing is held every Friday at 9:00 AM
Help support our Department Service Office**

VFW Post Membership by District as of April 21, 2016

Number/ City	2015	2016	%	Number/City	2015	2016	%
DISTRICT #1				DISTRICT #8			
1 Denver	852	908	107*	859 Leadville	43	36	84
501 Denver	331	334	101*	1166 Buena Vista	154	140	91
2461 Denver	170	154	91	3820 Salida	95	94	99
2797 Denver	58	67	116*	8661 Bailey	144	141	98
3971 Denver	92	94	102*	10721 Minturn	93	91	98
5061 Denver	359	316	88	11411 Lake George	44	45	102*
TOTAL	1862	1873	101%*	12009 Conifer	129	119	92
DISTRICT #2				DISTRICT #9			
61 Pueblo	86	82	95	2371 Walden	29	28	97
2788 Penrose	121	97	80	4264 Steamt Spgs	97	97	100*
3641 Pueblo	84	83	99	4265 Craig	138	131	95
4061 Canon City	339	320	94	5261 Rangely	28	23	82
5812 Pueblo West	208	188	90	5843 Meeker	47	52	111*
7305 Colo. City	48	45	94	9374 Kremmling	40	36	90
8898 Boone	50	47	94	9471 Hayden	12	11	92
12063 Westcliffe	42	47	112*	TOTAL	391	378	97%
TOTAL	978	909	93%	DISTRICT #10			
DISTRICT #3				DISTRICT #11			
41 Loveland	298	278	93	784 Montrose	153	143	93
807 Boulder	47	48	102*	1247 Grnd Jctn	327	303	93
1771 Lafayette	311	301	97	3571 Delta	65	60	92
1781 Ft. Collins	323	317	98	3981 Grnd Jctn	118	123	104*
2121 Greeley	180	175	97	4663 Clifton	97	85	88
2585 Johnstown	130	196	102*	5485 Parachute	44	43	98
2601 Longmont	390	368	94	9221 Cedaredge	111	114	103*
4334 Ault	75	72	96	9304 Rifle	33	28	85
6624 Evans	300	300	100*	9333 Hotchkiss	35	29	83
9565 Broomfield	134	138	103*	TOTAL	983	928	94%
9741 Dacono	48	49	102*	DISTRICT #12			
TOTAL	2299	2242	98%	4031 Durango	228	226	99
DISTRICT #4				DISTRICT #13			
2551 Ft. Morgan	262	233	89	3411 Kit Carson	30	24	80
3378 Yuma	66	66	100*	6491 Burlington	82	74	90
3541 Sterling	101	97	96	6612 Hugo	46	42	91
3551 Brush	38	37	97	9491 Deer Trail	19	19	100*
3951 Ovid	29	26	90	9700 Chynn Wlls	31	28	90
3961 Otis	25	25	100*	TOTAL	208	187	90%
4191 Crook	22	20	91	15006 MAL	2604	2501	96%
4671 Wray	63	58	92	TOTAL DEPT	17587	16894	96%
6482 Holyoke	60	56	93	2016 dues are now DUE.			
7153 Fleming	36	33	92	Be 100% +1 in 2015-2016			
8064 Akron	45	39	87	We are on Subscription Dues			
TOTAL	747	690	92%	Have you paid yours??			
DISTRICT #5				Buy a Life Membership			
101 Colo. Spgs.	472	489	104*				
3917 Security	668	670	100*				
4051 Colo. Spgs	708	667	94				
5221 Calhan	111	103	93				
6051 Wldnd Park	45	44	98				
6461 Fountain	303	305	101*				
7829 Monument	119	115	97				
10649 Elizabeth	47	47	102*				
TOTAL	2473	2441	99%				
DISTRICT #6							
336 Ordway	101	99	98				
2411 LasAnimas	103	98	95				
4001 Springfield	48	45	94				
4091 Rocky Ford	56	55	98				
4281 Holly	27	27	100*				
TOTAL	335	324	97%				
DISTRICT #7							
899 Alamosa	138	117	84				
3228 Monte Vista	41	40	98				
4849 La Jara	61	57	93				
6101 San Luis	69	68	98				
8121 Del Norte	58	56	97				
TOTAL	367	338	92%				
							
							

Membership News From the Colorado Donkey

Membership is at a crucial point, now we need to help the Department get to the status that it deserves.

We have the best set of officers and members that are working to help Colorado make 100%.

When we go to National Convention's we are placed on the floor by our membership, the better we are, the better we are seen.

Please check your unpaid members to see why they have not paid their 2016 dues. Maybe they would like to become a Life Member and never have to pay dues again.

If you cannot obtain a list of your unpaid members, contact me 303-588-7518 or Department Headquarters 303-421-1630, and request the list. Remember if the member is having financial problems, you can use your Relief Fund to help their 2016 dues.

Many of you will be receiving a phone call from the Department Membership Committee. We will be asking you to work on your membership.

A letter from 11 year old Sarah Falco to "Veterans"

Dear Veteran,
"America is a tune. It must be sung together." Gerald Stanley Lee said this, and when I first heard it, I didn't quite understand. Then it hit me. America must stand together, fight together, unite. What holds this country together? Who unites everyone and inspires them, giving hope? I've been thinking about this, and I've kept coming to the same conclusion. The answer is all of our veterans, just like you.

I don't know you personally, and even though I'm only 11 and in 5th grade, I understand that you sacrificed very important privileges like rights, and freedoms for our country's gain. So many Americans often take for granted what you did for us, and today, I hope that everyone takes a minute to thank our veterans who brought us I freedom, gave their valuable rights so that we could have ours. I

These sacrifices that you made were probably extremely difficult to make. I am very thankful for my family being together, and that I get to see my family members almost every day. You may have had to endure being separated from them, but to save America. I am also extensively thankful for my

April 30, 2016 is the deadline for your Post Commander and Quartermaster to be qualified for the All State Team. BUT the Membership year does not end until June 30, 2016. You must be 100%+ 1 member to qualify for All State. This is also an honor for your Post, it takes everyone working on membership to achieve this honor. All State is not just for the Post Commander and Quartermaster, it is an honor for all your members.

Don't forget about our contest for new and reinstated members and try to win a trip to Mesquite NV. The State Quartermaster will get the recruiter name from National and place it in the drawing, which will be after June 30, 2016.

We hope you have all enjoyed the return of the Colorado Donkey. State Commander Buchanan, his Officers and I thank all of you for your membership.

Hope to see everyone at State Convention.

Jim Mauck, (aka Fat Albert)
 Department Membership Director

freedoms, and being able to make most of my own choices. When you joined, these might have been taken from you, and you may have been told where to live, or other decisions may have been made for you. I am very lucky to live here, in this country, only because of people like you.

My name is Sarah Falco, and I go to Red Rocks Elementary. Every morning I stand to say the pledge of allegiance with my classmates. I look deep into the red, white, and blue star spangled banner that represents our freedom, the American flag. Veterans are the colored threads that hold that hold that flag together, all 50 states.

"America is a tune. It must be sung together." This is a quote from Gerald Stanley Lee, and I finally understand. If we all take the time to thank veterans, to recognize what they've done for us, I don't think that so many of us would take what they did for granted. Thank you, veterans, for everything that you have done for us.



- Post 322: B F Jackson
- Post 501: Koehly Manford
- Post 1771: Marvin McDaniel, Thomas Ryan, Hyman Copeland
- Post 3631: Raymond Oross
- Post 3917: Everett Webster, Robert Hiatt, Jesse E. Brown, Robert Wright
- Post 4051: Clarence Pfeifer, William Parker, William Lane, Robert Mollo, Eldon Lyon, Oscar Jameson, John Eck, Harold Tweedy, Jim Shellhammer, Wesley Kelley
- Post 4444: Gus Garcia Jr.
- Post 5061: J W Turner
- Post 5231: John H. Glazner, Robert L. Fordem, Wayne S. Harrison, Jack G. Niemann, James C. Sheek, Gilbert Washington Sr., Charles D. Wiesel
- Post 6331: Cecil A. Oliver Jr.
- Post 8121: James C. Beckley Jr.
- Post 7563: Louis Fisher
- Post 9221: Gilbert Cox, Gene Clawson, Robert Erdmann, Richard Miklich, Wallace McKenney Sr.
- Post 9565: Darwin H. Dykes
- Post 11411: Phillip Griswold, William Woerle



ALLAN STONE
FOR
COLORADO VFW COMMANDER
2016-2017

IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR AND A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH ALL OF YOU, WHILE RUNNING THROUGH THE CHAIRS AS CHAPLAIN, SURGEON, JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER AND SENIOR VICE COMMANDER. I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THIS GREAT RELATIONSHIP AS YOUR COMMANDER. TOGETHER, WE CAN DO GREAT THINGS FOR OUR VETERANS IN THE FUTURE.

LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO SUPPORT AND HONOR OUR VETERANS IN COLORADO

EVERY DAY IS VETERANS DAY!

EVERY DAY WE SHOULD ASK OURSELVES
"WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR A VETERAN TODAY?"

DUTY. HONOR. COUNTRY.

FOR THE OFFICE OF
SR. VICE COMMANDER 2016-2017



EDWARD T. AITKEN

- Department Jr. Vice Commander 2015 - 2016
- Department Surgeon 2014 - 2015
- Department Chaplain 2013 - 2015
- Department Hospital Chairman 2013 -2015
- Department Fund-raising Chairman 2012-13
- Department Americanism Chairman 2011-12
- Warriors District 3 Treasurer 2011- 2015
- District 3 Commander 2012-13
- All State Commander 2010, 2011
- Cootie PT-1Member 2013---
- Life Member National Home 2012---
- VFW Life Member 2009---
- Vietnam Veteran**
- U.S. Army**

ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Robert M. Kidd Sr.
For
State Chaplain 2016-17

Doing all that I can to help Veterans and their Family members is what I believe in.

I have been a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Post 3917 for over 20 years. I have held all the elected line officer positions at the Post, District level and held appointed Chairmanships, Offices at the State and National level.

Steve Kjonaas
ASKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO BECOME THE
2016-2017
VFW Colo. Dept Junior Vice Commander



- Current VFW Colo. State Chaplain
- Chair, VFW Colo. Dept Student Veterans
- Chair, El Paso County Board of Adjustments
- Member, Congressional District 5 (Rep. Lamborn)
- Military Advisory Committee

VFW Colo. Dept Representative to the Continuum of Care Advisory Council on Homes for All Veterans (Homeless Veterans)

Let's do things right AND do the right things

David Stone
For the office of
Department Surgeon



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

Re-Elect Bruce Dolan
Joseph J Jacques Jr. VFW Post 7945
State Quartermaster 2016-2017



- Bruce has served as
- Department Quartermaster 2013-2016
- Department Commander 2012-2013
- Department Sr Vice Commander 2011-2012
- Department Jr Vice Commander 2010-2011

"Always working for Colorado Veterans"



Ft Carson Commander's Award was presented to: Mrs. Donna J. Watkins (center) for her commitment to duty as she welcomed every deployed Soldier upon their return to Ft. Carson. Also, receiving the award were Charles Watkins (right) and Paige Lanier (left). The 4th Infantry Division, the Army, and the Nation will remain forever grateful for their dedicated service, "Steadfast and Loyal."



Over 30 VFW Warriors gathered for a ride at the March COA. They rode south from VFW 3917 to Posts 2788, 5812, and 6461, stopping at a memorial site where an original VFW Warrior lost his life.

Joseph J. Jacques Jr. VFW Post 7945 its Auxiliary and District 10

Proudly Endorse Bruce R. Dolan



Served in Post and
District Chairs
2005 - 2009

All State
Post Commander
2010

All American
Department Commander 2013

National Aide-de-Camp
2008

Served on Various
National Committees
2008 - 2015

for National Council of Administration 2016-2020

Department Commander 2012 - 2013
Department Sr. Vice Commander 2011 - 2012
Department Jr. Vice Commander 2010 - 2011
Department Surgeon 2009 - 2010
Department Adj. / Quartermaster 2013 - Present

Gold Legacy Life Member Post 7945
Vietnam Veteran

RONALD J. LATTIN FOR NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION 2016 - 2020



National Council of Administration Dist 13 2011-2016	Department Surgeon 2000-2001
Triple Crown 2013-2014	National Veterans Care Committee 1999-2000
Western Conference Chairman 2010-2011	All American District Commander 1998-1999
Western Conference Vice-Chairman 2009-2010	Co-Captain All State District Commander 1998-1999
All American Department Commander 2003-2004	National Aide-de-Camp 1997-1998
Department Sr. Vice Commander 2002-2003	District Officer 8 Years
Department Jr. Vice Commander 2001-2002	Post Officer 8 Years
Department Operation Uplink Chairman 2002-2003	Life Member- U.S. Navy- Vietnam Veteran

Military Order of the Cootie, Past Seam Squirrel PT1 Silver Dollar
Kroger Volunteer of the Year 2008-2009, for his continued support of our Veterans and Military Families

SERVING VETERANS WITH PRIDE-LOYALTY-DEDICATION



Joe Carlson, Monument 7829, addressing over 150 volunteers before doors opened and 246 homeless vets were escorted in. Most volunteers were from District 5 Posts and Auxiliaries. Veterans were offered flu shots, Hep C testing, haircuts, boots back packs, shirts, jeans, blankets, donuts, coffee, lunch, etc. Fourteen, with their families, were selected to be housed at the Clarion in Colorado Springs for 18 days as they received help in getting a job, permanent housing, counselling, etc., as part of the Transitional Housing Initiative. Four District 5 Auxiliaries fed them an evening meal, along with other groups throughout El Paso County.

Greeting from Kandahar!



We're doing fairly well over here. We officially "take over" in a few days. The Soldiers are doing well and starting to master the mission. All is pretty safe (or as best as can be expected) and the men/women are living pretty well. We have "hard-stand" barracks and a pretty good dining facility, which is nice.

We got our first VFW care package today (3/14/16). Post 4171 from Golden sent a great array of games and snacks. The set is going to 2nd Platoon, A Battery, 2/77. Please pass on my sincerest appreciation for their support of the troops.
v/r LTC Neil Snyder
Cdr, TF Straight Steel, KAF

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS CONVENTION
PRE-REGISTRATION
SECURITY, CO. JUNE 15 THRU 18, 2016**

NAME: _____
Post #: _____
ADDRESS: _____
OFFICE/POSTION/TITLE: _____

Pre-Registration is \$15.00, and will include a ditty bag, convention book.

Make checks to: VFW POST #3917

Mail to: Robert M Kidd Sr. 4114 Morley Cir, Colorado Springs, CO 80916-2831.

REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS WILL BE READY UPON ARRIVAL IN SECURITY.

Registration at the Convention will be \$17.00

Military Banquet: Knights of Columbus Hall

If you wish to pre-purchase your Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$20.00 each.

Pork roast Number of tickets: _____.

Vegetarian meal by request _____

**THE AUXILIARY CONVENTION PRE-
REGISTRATION
SECURITY, CO. JUNE 15 thru 18, 2016**

NAME: _____
The Auxiliary #: _____
ADDRESS: _____
OFFICE/POSTION/TITLE: _____

Pre-Registration is \$12.00, this will include a ditty bag, convention book.

Make checks to VFW POST #3917.

Mail to: Robert M Kidd Sr. 4114 Morley Cir, Colorado Springs, CO 80916-2831.

REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS WILL BE READY UPON ARRIVAL IN SECURITY.

Registration at the Convention will be \$15.00

Military Banquet: Knights of Columbus Hall

If you wish to pre-purchase your Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$20.00 each.

Pork roast Number of tickets: _____.

Vegetarian meal by request _____

**MENS AUXILIARY CONVENTION PRE-
REGISTRATION
SECURITY, CO. JUNE 15 THRU 18, 2016**

NAME: _____
Mens Auxiliary #: _____
ADDRESS: _____
OFFICE/POSTION/TITLE: _____

Pre-Registration is \$15.00, this will include a ditty bag, convention book.

Make checks to: VFW POST #3917

Mail to Robert M Kidd Sr. 4114 Morley Cir, Colorado Springs, CO 80916-2831.

REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS WILL BE READY UPON ARRIVAL IN SECURITY.

Registration at the Convention is \$17.00

Military Banquet: Knights of Columbus Hall

If you wish to pre-purchase your Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$20.00 each.

Pork roast Number of tickets: _____.

Vegetarian meal by request _____

**State Convention - Department VFW
Hosted by Cheyenne Mountain #3917**

Wednesday June 15

7:30 am Golf Tournament Cheyenne Shadows Golf Course
Lunch for Golfers Cheyenne Shadows Golf Course
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm Registration VFW Post 3917
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm Lunch VFW Post 3917
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Service Officer Claims TBA
3:00 pm Installation Practice James Irwin Charter School
6:00 pm Council of Administration James Irwin Charter School

Thursday June 16

7:00 am - 8:00 am Registration James Irwin Charter School
8:00 am Joint Opening Session James Irwin Charter School
12:00 noon Dept Commanders Luncheon VFW Post 3917
(by invitation only)
1:00 pm General Resolutions James Irwin Charter School
1:00 pm Service/Rehab Resolutions James Irwin Charter School
1:00 pm Time & Place Committee James Irwin Charter School
1:00 pm VFW Warriors meeting James Irwin Charter School
1:00 pm Men's Auxiliary meeting James Irwin Charter School
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm Registration James Irwin Charter School
4:30 pm Memorial Service Practice Good Shepard Methodist Church
5:30 pm Joint Memorial Service Good Shepard Methodist Church
7:00 pm Past Post Commanders Banquet VFW Post 3917

Friday June 17

7:00 am All American Cap Breakfast VFW Post 3917
8:00 am - 10:00 am Registration James Irwin Charter School
8:30 am Business Session James Irwin Charter School
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Open Houses - Caucuses VFW Post 3917
7:00 pm Military Banquet Knights of Columbus

Saturday June 18

7:00 am Past State Commanders Breakfast VFW Post 3917
7:00 am - 9:00 am Registration James Irwin Charter School
8:30 am Business Session / Election James Irwin Charter School
6:00 pm Joint Installation of Officers James Irwin Charter School
State Commander/President Reception VFW Post 3917

Sunday June 19

District Commander Elect and
District Sr. Vice Cmdr Elect Breakfast VFW Post 3917
(by invitation) (back meeting room)

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**State Convention – Department VFW Auxiliary
Hosted by Cheyenne Mountain #3917**

Wednesday June 15

8:00 am Golf Tournament Cheyenne Shadows Golf Course
Lunch for Golfers Cheyenne Shadows Golf Course
8:30 am Staff Meeting TBA
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm Registration VFW Post 3917
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm Lunch VFW Post 3917
2:00 pm Floor Work Practice James Irwin Charter School
3:00 pm Installation Practice James Irwin Charter School
6:00 pm Council of Administration James Irwin Charter School

Thursday June 16

7:00 am - 8:00 am Registration James Irwin Charter School
8:00 am Joint Opening Session James Irwin Charter School
12:00 noon Dept Presidents Luncheon VFW Post 101
(By invitation only)
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm Registration James Irwin Charter School
4:30 pm Memorial Service Practice Good Shepard Methodist Church
5:30 pm Joint Memorial Service Good Shepard Methodist Church
7:00 pm Past Dept. Presidents Banquet TBA

Friday June 17

7:00 am Past District President's Breakfast VFW Post 3917
8:00 am - 10:00 am Registration James Irwin Charter School
8:30 am Opening & Business Session James Irwin Charter School
(no Memorial Service)
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Open Houses - Caucuses VFW Post 3917
7:00 pm Military Banquet Knights of Columbus

Saturday June 18

7:00 am Past Auxiliary President's Breakfast VFW Post 101
8:00 am - 9:00 am Registration James Irwin Charter School
8:30 am Business Session / Election James Irwin Charter School
6:00 pm Joint Installation of Officers James Irwin Charter School
State Commander/President Reception VFW Post 3917

Sunday June 19

Breakfast VFW Post 3917

**Buddy Poppy Displays and Community Activities Scrap Books Room
James Irwin Charter School**

SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Auxiliary News

Published by Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of Colorado

Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman



Presidents's Column Gloria Otwell



Greetings Sisters and Brothers of the VFW Auxiliary. It is hard to believe that this is my last article to you as Department President. The time has really flown by as I reflect

back to all of the changes that have occurred. It has been an eventful and busy year beginning with accepting our male members and welcoming them into the Auxiliary.

By the time you read this article, our program reporting year will be over. Thank you for the tremendous volunteer work in time, hours, money and donations that made this such a great year for our Veterans. You are truly appreciated in your efforts.

Your efforts to increase our membership has been phenomenal. As of March 31, we were at 95+ percent. We met National's goals throughout the year to receive Department awards and you made Colorado proud! Thank you for all of your hard work during the year and I know we will have an outstanding membership total for the year end on June 30, 2016.

Thank you to all of the Districts that I visited during the year. Your hospitality and kindness during these visits was most enjoyable. It was such a pleasure to meet so many members and talk with each one and get to know on a more personable level.

Thank you for all of your support to my Special Project – The Crawford House. All of your donations have been tremendous and they thank you for all that you have given. We will be visiting the



**Arvada 4331 VFW
Auxiliary and Post
Endorse
Cindy Anderson
For
Department Treasurer
2016-2017**

We the members of Arvada VFW Auxiliary proudly endorse Cindy Anderson for the office of Department Treasurer.

Cindy has been a life member of the Auxiliary since 1991 joining under the eligibility of her husband Warren who is a Vietnam veteran.

She has belonged to the Arvada Auxiliary for the last 18 years and has served in many capacities including Auxiliary President for three years for which she was named an Outstanding President twice. She held the office of District 10 President in 2005-2006 and received the Outstanding Large District Award. She then went through all of the Department chairs and was Department President in 2011-2012. Cindy also served as Aux-

iliary Treasurer for 7 consecutive years and received the Outstanding Treasurer Award twice. She is currently Auxiliary Secretary and Department Treasurer.

We find Cindy always willing to answer questions, help, and teach anyone who asks for assistance and we know that she will be an asset to the Department in the position of Treasurer.

Cindy has the full support of her family and Auxiliary in this endeavor. We respectfully ask you to join us in supporting Cindy at the Department convention with your vote.

Loyally,
Sheena Whalen
Auxiliary 4331 President

Loyally,
Gloria M. Otwell, Department President
Cultivate the Care for our Veterans
and Their Families

Loyally,
Gloria M. Otwell, Department President
Cultivate the Care for our Veterans
and Their Families

**Arvada 4331 VFW
Auxiliary and Post
Endorse
Cindy Anderson
For
Department Treasurer
2016-2017**

iliary Treasurer for 7 consecutive years and received the Outstanding Treasurer Award twice. She is currently Auxiliary Secretary and Department Treasurer.

We find Cindy always willing to answer questions, help, and teach anyone who asks for assistance and we know that she will be an asset to the Department in the position of Treasurer.

Cindy has the full support of her family and Auxiliary in this endeavor. We respectfully ask you to join us in supporting Cindy at the Department convention with your vote.

Loyally,
Sheena Whalen
Auxiliary 4331 President



**Adamson-Warmuth
Auxiliary Post #6624
And District #3
Proudly Endorse
Caroline Gelatt
For
Department Sr. Vice
President 2016-2017**

We the members of Adamson-Warmuth VFW 6624 Auxiliary proudly stand in support of Caroline Gelatt on her continuous journey through the Colorado VFW Department Chairs.

Caroline became a member of our Auxiliary in 1999 when she joined under the eligibility of her husband, Dave, retired 20-year Navy Vietnam and Persian Gulf War Veteran. She has a passion for supporting our veterans past and present.

She became a Life Member in 2001. Over the last 12 years she has held numerous elected and appointed chairmanships at local, District and Department level. She served as our Auxiliary President and as District #3 President twice. At that time she received Outstanding District #3 President in 2011-2012. She is currently the VAVS Associate Representative for the Cheyenne VA Hospital and has held this position for 9 Years.



**Joseph J. Jacques Jr.
Auxiliary
Post 7945
Proudly Endorse
Shelley Schlieman
For
Department Jr. Vice
President 2016-2017**

Shelley has been a member of the Joseph J. Jacques Jr. VFW Post 7945 Auxiliary for the past 21 years. She has served as Auxiliary President six times and is currently the President. She has also served as Legislative, Youth Activities, Reporting, Veterans and Family Support Chairman and Trustee several times. She has held all the District chairs and was

District 10 President 2008-2009. Shelley was elected as Department Guard in 2014-2015 and is the current Department Chaplain.

We ask for your support as we proudly endorse Shelley for Department Jr. Vice President.

Respectfully,

Extension

I would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to everyone who took the time to fill out the Questionnaire. I will pass this information on to my National Ambassador. Also, a thank you to the Deputy Chiefs of Staff for getting me the names of the members in your district who you felt deserved the Good Job Award. There are a few more that will be presented at the State Convention. Also, I want to acknowledge those auxiliaries that returned the RU Healthy Auxiliary forms.

We have several Auxiliaries that are struggling. Please let me know if I can help in any way. Remember, an auxiliary must have 10 members in order to function as an auxiliary. Contact those members who haven't paid and let them know you miss them. We are gaining many new members, but aren't retaining the ones we have, so please reach out to them.

Loyally
Rosie Mitchell
Department Chief of Staff / Extension

DENVER STAND DOWN REQUEST

Hello, I need your help. This will be my last year to serve as the VFW Auxiliary Coordinator for the November Denver Homeless Veterans Stand down. I am here today to request one of you volunteer to take over the position.

The Veterans Administration is responsible for the Stand down, but without volunteers from the Auxiliary, Am. Legion, Lions and other service organizations, the 600 attending veterans would not receive their needed and deserved services.

My responsibilities are for the Cake Room - a small room adjacent to the food service room. The VA supplies the cake room with bottled water, sometimes fresh fruit (oranges, apples, and bananas), packaged mixtures of dried fruit & nuts, peanut butter/cream cheese wafer cookies, etc. All items the veterans can place in their back packs or carrying sacks to have after the event. I am to arrange the handouts so the veterans can walk around the room and take the available items – e.g. crowd control to speak. I have 3-4 helpers there to also help coordinate traffic and be sure there are items on the tables. Helpers from the VA bring the items to the room, so we do not have to carry any large supplies.

The Stand down is generally on the

Thursday before Veterans Day. The VA likes the volunteers to report in by 8:00 a.m. and to stay until all items have been distributed. The VA is responsible for the set-up and take-down of the tables in the room, so again, no heavy lifting for the volunteers.

The veterans are transported to the Armory by arranged transportation and are picked up at designated locations throughout the city on an interval schedule, so again crowd control not to have large numbers waiting for services. The Cake room is to be available until the last bus load has been served.

The Stand down closes at 3:00 p.m. so this gives you an idea of the time on task. The VA does hold planning meetings prior to the stand down and I try to attend to be sure the needs of the cake room get attention. I also write donation letters to auxiliaries to help support the cake room. Many thanks to those auxiliaries who have been very generous in the past. Please keep up your support.

Do contact me 303-798-9915 for additional information and PLEASE volunteer to assume the coordinator position!

Dorothy Bush



VFW Auxiliary & Post 7829 Proudly Endorse Kathy Carlson for Dept. Conductress 2016-2017

We, the members of VFW Auxiliary & Post 7829, are proud to endorse Kathy! A charter member of 7829, Kathy joined under the eligibility of her husband, Joe, who served in the U.S. Army, Vietnam.

In our Auxiliary she has served as Jr. Vice, 2 years as Secretary/Treasurer, and is serving her second term as our President, receiving All State President, 2014-15, and leading us to Outstanding Achievement, 1st Place, 2014-15. She has worked extensively on every Program. In addition to being Department Guard, she currently serves as District 5 Conductress.

Kathy and Joe have three children at home, Lily 9, Andy 11, and Michael 12. She teaches 5th & 6th grade Sunday school, volunteers at Prairie Winds Elementary School, and is a member of the King's Deer HOA Board of Directors.

Kathy not only coordinates and leads, but she is the first one to be immersed in

all our projects as we serve veterans and promote patriotism. Many of our members were personally recruited by Kathy. Her love of country and community are apparent in everything she does. She is always ready to promote the VFW and the Auxiliary, and energetically recruits; 10 members this year alone!

Kathy leads our group with purpose, grace and excellence. She has a welcoming spirit that makes everyone she meets feel important. She has a deep love for family, and encourages our children to get involved in serving Veterans. She understands the importance of passing on respect for God and country to our next generation.

Kathy brings a level of enthusiasm and respect to the VFW Auxiliary that is contagious. We know she would be a blessing to the VFW Auxiliary membership if elected Department Conductress. Please join us in supporting Kathy for Department Conductress.



Lt. Marion L. Willis VFW Post 101 and Auxiliary Proudly Support Sabrina Feagaiga for Department Guard 2016 - 2017

We, the members of VFW Post 101 and Auxiliary, are honored to endorse Sabrina Feagaiga for Department Guard.

Sabrina is a Life Member of Auxiliary to VFW Post 101 since 2013 when she joined under the eligibility of her father Setaiai Feagaiga.

She has been actively involved in the auxiliary at post, district, and department levels serving as Auxiliary Jr. Vice President 2014-2016, Auxiliary Scholarship Chairmen, Auxiliary Membership Co-chairman; District Scholarship Chairman; District Flag Bearer; Department Scholarship Co-Chairman; Department Color Bearer 2014-2016.

Sabrina is dedicated to serving our veterans and their families. She has provided

a much needed energy to our auxiliary. Additionally she has devoted time and effort to learning about the traditions and bylaws that govern our organization. Sabrina's great respect for our traditions combined with her enthusiasm for helping our organization grow are the ticket for ensuring that the Department of Colorado Auxiliary continues as a vibrant entity.

The members of VFW Post 101 and Auxiliary ask for your support for Sabrina Feagaiga for Department Guard in the upcoming election.

Respectfully,
Anthony Archer, Post Commander
Beverly Archer, Auxiliary President

State Convention Buddy Poppy Display Contest

A Buddy Poppy Display Contest will again be held at 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.

Hospital

Thank You to all the Auxiliaries for your support for our Veterans and the Hospital program.

The auxiliaries have volunteered hundreds of hours having special parties, Bingo and countless other activities for our veterans. If anyone needs hospital pins please let me know you can count the hours at community nursing homes, Ft Carson hospital, outpatient clinics & making items at home! I also will be presenting certificates of appreciation at the Department Convention for volunteer hours to the hospital program. Please send me names of ladies in your auxiliary that have supported the hospital program so I can let them know we appreciated their efforts.

Do not forget the Women and Homeless Veterans, there are many special programs in the VA system to volunteer or send donations. The Suicide Awareness program (wear your Teardrop pin) we want everyone to be aware of the unique stresses that face our military personal. Call me for more information on whom

to contact the suicide prevention #1-800-273-8255 at the VA.

Be sure to send in the form for any new volunteers you recruited this year to receive an award at the convention. They can be at home working on projects for the hospital program as well as volunteering in the VA hospitals and the Living Care Centers or in communities nursing homes.

We still have many opportunities to visit our veterans on special days like Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and Flag Day & Father's Day. Plan a picnic or bring special treats to let our hero's know they are not forgotten.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Department Convention. Thank You for a wonderful year. This year we "Cultivated the Caring for our Veterans and their Families" in the VA hospitals and State Living Care Centers and have a beautiful garden of volunteers.

Charlotte Lattin
Department Hospital Chairman

Youth Activities

Greetings to all Auxiliary members!

A huge thank you for the support you all have given to our program goals for this year. Whether it was filling out the Youth Group Citations, working with our youth, handing out Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.) cards and coins or the task of submitting monthly reports.

I appreciate all the hard work and hours

of volunteering you have given this year. Although all the reporting is done for this year, please continue to work with our youth and to hand out R.A.P. cards and coins. You do make a difference to our youth! Thanks again.

Patsy Gilmore
Department Youth Activities Chairman



- Aux 101: Denise Forsyth
- Aux 322: Wanda L. Painter PDP
- Aux 501: Dolores Conde, Lorraine Welbourn
- Aux 1771: Nestor Abeyta, Adeline Casillas, Lois Debacker-Childs, Vicki Starkey, Anna Tobias, Alvirda Williams, Margarite J. Spendlow, Pauline Robles, Dorothy Greb
- Aux 2601: Lois Rodriguez, Inga Dean-Richardson, Shirlee Sudduth
- Aux 2797: Mary Conklin
- Aux 3411: Doris Price
- Aux 4061: Sharron Buffam, Marilyn Schermerhorn, Carol Stumph
- Aux 5812: Carol Martin

Membership 2015-2016

Why Does Membership Matter

Membership states in a formal way “I am part of something bigger than myself. I am not just one voice but the voice of thousands.” When we recruit new members to the VFW Auxiliary, we are telling others, “We are here to stay, we want to help grow our organization, we want to advocate for all active duty men and women, veterans and their families, with one voice.” By extending our membership to all eligible males, we have seen our numbers increase exponentially, not only in our state but across our organization nationwide. Our mission has not changed but our commitment has been strengthened with these new members. When we reach out to possible new members who may be interested in joining our organization we should promote a sense of community through volunteerism. As members our actions speak louder than words. If we don’t ask someone new to participate in our events or attend our meetings then that is our loss. Membership does matter, so remember, **“No Excuse Just Recruit!”**

National Certified Recruiter Program

Thank you to all Auxiliary members who have worked so diligently to keep growing our membership by reaching out and getting new members and to retain the members we already have. Congratulations for meeting the 95% membership goal by March 31. Everyone worked very hard to reach this goal. Your efforts are really showing!

One of the best ways to recruit new members is to give them information about all of the benefits that they can receive through their membership. Some of these include many types of insurance such as long term and term life, travel benefits, cancer grants, and prescription benefits. There are also scholarship programs available for family members such as Continuing Education, Voice of Democracy, Patriot’s Pen and the Creative Patriotic Art Awards.

Also let them know about the many opportunities there are to do volunteer work in the community, VA Medical Centers,

As of **March 31st** we are at 95+% and will receive a \$500.00 award for our department from VFW Auxiliary National. Your line officers thank you, as this is needed money in our general fund. **Thank you to all of our auxiliaries who have reached 100% in the 2016-2017 reporting year, your hard work has not gone unnoticed.**

Things to remember:

- 1) **ALL continuous members** who have not paid their dues by June 30, 2016 will no longer be a member of the VFW Auxiliary. They will need to reapply and start all over. Please connect with your member and collect their dues and/or see if they need financial assistance.
- 2) If Colorado’s membership reaches **100+% by May 31st we will receive \$1,000.00**
- 3) If Colorado’s membership reaches **101+% by June 30th we could receive an additional bonus award of \$500.00.**

Loyally yours
Caroline Gelatt
Department Membership Chairman

assisting veterans and their families and promoting Americanism in the schools. Inform them that by joining the Auxiliary they can play an important part in the legislative process by promoting the Priority Goals that the VFW works to improve the lives of veterans and their families.

For those members that have recruited five or more members, please remember to fill out the National Award form to receive your “No Excuse...I Recruit!” pin from National. You can send a copy to Caroline Gelatt, Department Membership Chair or myself. Please feel free to contact me or Caroline with any recruiting questions you might have.

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

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

VFW Auxiliary 2551 VFW Post 2551 and District 4 VFW Auxiliaries are honored to endorse Davina (Dee) Chappell-Haley for Department Chaplain 2016-2017



Dee is a VFW Auxiliary life member and is eligible through the service of her dad Dave Chappell, a WWII and Korean veteran.

Dee has a long history of volunteer service in veteran related organizations and currently serves as the secretary for District 4 and her local 2551 Auxiliary. She also manages Post 2551’s events and club and offers her knowledge and experience to veteran related non-profit, tax and compliance issues.

She earned her membership in the Colorado Association of Parliamentarian (CAP) and National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) in 2004 and continues

to advocate and promote Parliamentary procedure. She has lobbied successfully in Washington on behalf of veterans, particularly women veterans, and serves as Auxiliary’s 2551 Legislative Chairman.

She is a former Colorado Department President for the American Legion Auxiliary (07-08) and is proud to be a life member of that organization as well. Dee is a Colorado native and resides in Fort Morgan with her husband Jerry of 28 years, their 5 beloved dogs and her elderly father.

JoAnn DeSamber
Auxiliary 2551 President

Auxiliary Membership by District as of April 21, 2016

Number	City	2015	2016	%	Number	City	2015	2016	%
DISTRICT #1					DISTRICT #7				
1	Denver	171	175	102*	899	Alamosa	82	82	100*
501	Denver	150	138	92	3228	Monte Vista	42	49	117*
2461	Denver	119	118	99	4849	La Jara	49	49	100*
2797	Denver	36	37	103*	6101	San Luis	46	29	63
3971	Denver	41	36	88	8121	So Fork	95	95	100*
5061	Denver	113	105	93	TOTAL		314	304	97%
TOTAL 630 609 97%					DISTRICT #8				
DISTRICT #2					DISTRICT #9				
2788	Penrose	46	33	72	4264	Stmbt Spgs	34	32	94
3641	Pueblo	79	78	99	4265	Craig	51	52	102*
4061	Canon City	162	148	91	5843	Meeker	32	31	97
5812	Pueblo West	50	53	106	9374	Kremmling	18	19	106*
7305	Colo. City	30	27	90	TOTAL		135	134	99%
TOTAL 367 339 92%					DISTRICT #10				
DISTRICT #3					DISTRICT #11				
41	Loveland	127	121	95	784	Montrose	53	50	94
1771	Lafayette	324	312	96	1247	Grnd Jcnctn	96	93	97
1781	Ft. Collins	82	94	115*	3571	Delta	74	59	80
2121	Greeley	95	97	102*	3981	Grnd Jcnctn	20	6	30
2585	Johnstown	44	45	102*	4663	Clifton	57	51	89
2601	Longmont	244	234	96	9221	Cedaredge	67	58	87
2841	Brighton	36	0	0	9304	Silt	23	13	57
4334	Ault	36	34	94	9333	Hotchkiss	24	21	88
6011	Platteville	33	31	94	TOTAL		414	351	85%
6624	Evans	201	205	102*	DISTRICT #12				
9565	Broomfield	39	49	126*	4031	Durango	73	75	103*
TOTAL 1261 1222 97%					5181	Dove Creek	41	38	93
DISTRICT #4					5231	Mancos	61	61	100*
2551	Ft. Morgan	141	125	89	9058	Nucla	19	21	111*
3541	Sterling	86	81	94	TOTAL		194	195	101%*
4671	Wray	31	29	94	DISTRICT #13				
8064	Akron	32	11	34	3411	Kit Carson	29	27	93
TOTAL 290 246 85%					6491	Burlington	17	17	100*
DISTRICT #5					6612	Hugo	54	51	94
101	Colo. Spgs.	68	75	110*	TOTAL		100	95	95%
3917	Security	244	186	76	DISTRICT #14				
4051	Colo. Spgs	320	309	97	15006	At Large	258	316	122%*
5221	Calhan	27	27	100*	TOTAL DEPT. 6,751 6,441 95%				
6461	Fountain	119	113	95	Legislative Program				
7829	Monument	22	30	136*	We have had some great successes this year helping our Military our Veterans and their families, but now is not the time to forget to continue the race.				
TOTAL 800 740 93%					Legislative action is needed now on some very important issues for Veterans and our Military families. There are a few bills that have been waiting for the legislative action on them for a long time and now there some changes that they have recently passed that will effect Veterans and their families for years if we don’t take action now and get our legislative officials to listen and take action on them.				
DISTRICT #6					The year is almost over and I hope you all have done a lot in Legislative this year even though I have not heard from a lot of you throughout the year. Remember to Cultivate the Caring for our Veterans and Families.				
336	Ordway	87	79	91	Loyally Yours, Linda L. Stahly Legislative Chairman				
2411	LasAnimas	108	109	101*					
3621	Lamar	16	17	106*					
4001	Springfield	29	26	90					
4281	Holly	10	8	80					
TOTAL 250 239 96%									

“100 Years of Serving Veterans” VFW Auxiliary Department of Colorado

We have had some great successes this year helping our Military our Veterans and their families, but now is not the time to forget to continue the race.

Legislative action is needed now on some very important issues for Veterans and our Military families. There are a few bills that have been waiting for the legislative action on them for a long time and now there some changes that they have recently passed that will effect Veterans and their families for years if we don’t take action now and get our legislative officials to listen and take action on them.

The VFW is asking legislative action on all Priority Goals. Expedite VA benefits and compensation claims, Seamless transition for veterans transferring from DOD to VA when deployment ends, Address the high unemployment rate among veterans and homeless Veterans under Veterans Employment, Providing the highest quality VA health care and Also on rural Veterans to know the benefits that they have will still be there and with adequate care.

Contact your legislators by e-mail or through their legislative aide via a telephone call. Stress the fact that Priority Goals are the issues we be fighting for always. Also invite them to come and discuss issues with your veterans and families at a meeting. Remember there is strength in numbers and together we can make a difference. We all know there is a budget problem but the Veterans are always the first it seems to be cut if we don’t act now When! I have tried to express the importance of getting on Action Corp as it has all the Legislative action that the VFW is trying to get done and with the Bills and action taken.

The year is almost over and I hope you all have done a lot in Legislative this year even though I have not heard from a lot of you throughout the year. Remember to **Cultivate the Caring for our Veterans and Families.**

Loyally Yours,
Linda L. Stahly
Legislative Chairman

Americanism

Happy Spring!

It is so unbelievable to me that this is my last article for the Colorado Veteran. It has been a great year and many projects have been completed for the Americanism program. At this time, you should have everything logged and have sent in your final reports. I look forward to presenting awards for your excellent and hard work!

You should now be working on Americanism projects for the upcoming year. Americanism and patriotism do not stop just because one reporting year ends. Keep reporting your Americanism activities on the Program report forms.

Don't forget the following upcoming patriotic holidays:

VE Day (Sunday, May 8)
Also Mother's Day.
National Peace Officers
Memorial Day (Sunday, May 15)
Flags at Half Staff
Armed Forces Day
(Saturday, May 21)

Memorial Day
(Monday, May 30)
D Day Anniversary
(Monday, June 6)
Flag Day
(Tuesday, June 14)
Independence Day
(Monday, July 4)

I am very proud to have served as Americanism chairman for President Gloria. Thank you Gloria for asking me to serve! Best wishes to next year's chairman!

By showing our patriotism we have "Cultivated the Caring for Our Veterans and their Families" and proved 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

A big thank you to everyone for working so hard to make the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Creative Patriotic Art programs so successful. The Patriotic Art entries will be on display at Convention.

Even though the 2015-16 Scholarship program has come to an end, I hope you will continue to get the word out about these wonderful scholarship opportunities.

The 2016-17 themes are:
Voice of Democracy – "My Responsibility to America"
Patriot's Pen – "The America I Believe In"

Thank you for all that you do!

Beverly Archer
Department Scholarship Chairman

Cultivate The Caring For Our Veterans and Their Families



Department raffle 2016

This Raffle will raise the funds needed for the awards we provide to winners in;
Youth Scholarship Programs;

Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Creative Patriotic Art

Booklets of tickets WILL BE distributed to all

Auxiliary and District Presidents, Department Officers and Department Chairmen
At COA Parade of programs March 12 & 13 2016

EVERY Auxiliary member should be encouraged to sell tickets.

Tickets can sold at Bingo events, any time you have any event, sell a ticket.

Put single tickets into a basket at your meeting, then each Member is asked to invest \$1.00 to fill out a ticket. Buy at least 1 book for your Auxiliary.

Anyone may buy a Raffle ticket. Encourage the VFW & Men's Aux. to buy our tickets.

It would be wonderful if all members participated.

The tickets sell in a booklet of 6 for \$5.00 OR \$1.00 each

The prizes to be awarded are:

First prize- \$500.00*Second prize- \$300.00***Third prize- \$200.00**

Winner need NOT be resent to win!

All prizes will be awarded at the final session of the VFW Auxiliary Department Convention

You may send your STUBS with the money collected to me;

My address is on the envelope you received the tickets in.

Please make sure proper postage is affixed to packet.

Deadline For mailing is June 6, 2016.

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

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

With the cooperation of all of our members, this raffle will be a great success and we will have all of the funds we need to support our Scholarship Programs.

So go to work members, sell those tickets!

You never know, three of you may hold the winning ticket.

Contact me for more information or help

I will be glad to get you more tickets to sell.

Glenna E. Medina; Games and Raffle Chairman

PO Box 874; Platteville, CO 80651

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

Please make checks payable to: VFWA DEPT. OF CO

Veterans And Family Support

Wow, where did the year go? This article will, no doubt, cross with the timing of the State Convention – the time for recognition and thank you for a job well done! The auxiliaries have been busy this year.

Auxiliary Presidents will be recognized for their auxiliary participation in all 5 of the Veterans & Family Support Program initiatives which are:

- . National Veterans Services (NVS)
- . VFW Veterans & Military Support
- . VFW National Home for Children
- . Buddy Poppy
- . Homeless Veterans

Certificates will be presented, by Award Groups, based on the numbers: the 'how

many' and 'how much' plus participation in two projects National wanted special attention given:

- .Promotion of Help-A-Hero Scholarship
- .Promotion of the VFW National Home Military and Family Helpline.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support. It has been a privilege to serve as your Veterans & Family Support Program Chair.

Loyally,
Carol Anderson
Department Veterans and Family Support Chairman

Buddy Poppy Program

The State Convention is almost here and that means it's time for all of you to be wrapping up your Buddy Poppy displays. Remember there are three categories this year.

#1 - Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign (must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy.)

#2 - Memorial or Inspirational Display (must be designed to honor the dead to inspire devotion to God and Country or dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy.)

#3 - Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies (Post Home Displays, centerpieces, cor-

sages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, etc)

Remember all displays have to have one poppy in it's original form and color. Make sure you keep count of poppies used as ties will be determined by the number of poppies used.

Buddy Poppy Hat parade categories - Patriotic, Presidents Theme, - Funny, and most used, so keep count of all the Buddy Poppies you use.

Wishing you a great State Convention.

Barbara Buchanan
Department
Buddy Poppy Chairman



Cancer Fund

I hope that everyone is staying warm and looking forward to Spring.

Please don't forget to send in your \$2.00 per member ear-marked for "Cancer" to Department Treasurer Cindy Anderson. There are 16 Auxiliaries that haven't sent in their \$2.00 per member, if these Auxiliaries don't have the \$2.00 per member paid by June 30, 2016, they will be ineligible for the National Cancer Grant. 14 Colorado members have received Cancer grants this year so far. Please contact me if you need assistance with your Auxiliary \$2.00 per member.

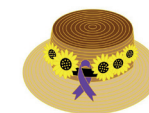
I still have Cancer pins on hand so please don't be shy continue to order them and SELL! SELL! SELL! Remember you don't have to sell them just to Auxiliary sisters and brothers. Family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers – anyone can purchase one or more to help Cancer.

May is Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness & Brain Cancer Awareness.

"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: _____

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