

COLORADO VETERAN

and Auxiliary News

“No One Does More For Veterans”



February, 2017

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

Volume 56, Issue 3 2016 - 2017

My Responsibility to America (by Faith M. Spino - Salida, CO)

My alarm for 6:30 a.m. on a Monday morning is typically quite a wake up call. Groggily, I shut it off and start my morning routine. Unlike an estimated 70 million children worldwide, my country offers me a primary education free of charge. Though it's a freedom I often take for granted, and even resent at times, I know I'm blessed to be an American and have this luxury, I'm grateful to be educated and even more grateful and excited to be encouraged to continue my studies in a country that values education.

Each Sunday I'm able to attend the church of my choice, just as any American can practice whichever religion they choose, or none at all. I can pick up any newspaper, listen to any radio broadcast, or read any magazine knowing that what they reported on was entirely of their choice: I can be an informed citizen knowing that freedom of the press thrives. I can edit our school newspaper, and my peers and I can decide what we want to write, what we think students and the community need and deserve to know. We have the amazing freedom to report the facts and truth without interference from the school or government.

During the Pledge of Allegiance or National Anthem, I put my hand over my heart and look at the flag of the country that makes all of these simple, everyday freedoms possible. I think about the men and women that fought for our freedoms; whether they fought on a battlefield, in a courtroom, or a protest, their actions

have ensured the liberties I experience on a daily basis: freedom of religion, freedom of the press, a right to a free primary education, among countless others.

As former United States president John F. Kennedy once famously said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." My responsibility to America, what I can do for my country, is simple: be grateful, be engaged, and be proactive.

It's my duty to America to be grateful. Grateful for the sacrifices those before me made to ensure the protection and continuity of America's greatness and generous freedoms. It's my duty to respect our heritage and our history, to understand why things are the way they are and to appreciate the fundamental American spirit--the spirit that is patriotic, giving, and just. It's my duty to appreciate my daily freedoms, to recognize them and take a moment to be grateful for them. The things I take for granted; an education, religious freedom, democracy and political voice, freedom of speech, freedom of press, national parks - these are all things that not everyone in this world gets to exercise or enjoy. It's truly a blessing to be an American. It's my responsibility to America to recognize that fact and express gratitude to live under the stars and stripes. It's my duty to act like I live

in the greatest country in the world because I do.

It's my duty to America to be an engaged, active member of society. It's not right or fair to have these great freedoms and waste them, to neither acknowledge nor partake in them is the ultimate disservice to those who protect and defend them for all of us. It's my duty to be engaged in these freedoms; it's my duty to vote when I am of age, it's my duty to support our armed forces and veterans, and it's my duty to support leaders who represent the people and figures who seek betterment for our country. It's my duty to take the concept of "by the people, for people" to heart -- to actively engage in what it means to be an American citizen. It's my duty to take my free education seriously, to accomplish my schoolwork with pride and vigor. It's my duty as an American citizen to be involved. To sit by in ignorance is to be unappreciative of all we are given.

My obligation is to be proactive. My responsibility to America is to ensure that the rights and freedoms I experience are preserved for generations to come. My duty is to make decisions with the good and the improvement of our nation in mind. Just as when I go to a National Park, my duty is to leave no trace to ensure the environment is preserved for the enjoyment of others to come after me. My responsibility is to use my voice through voting. Volunteering, and making choices that strive to assure future generations will enjoy a beautiful country that endows them with the rights and freedoms I enjoy today, and hopefully will continue to seek equality and harmony for all people of our nation.

Above all else, perhaps my biggest duty to America is simply to love my country the way it has loved me.



1st Place
Faith M. Spino
Salida, CO

District #8
Post 3820



2nd Place
Ayden D. Adair
Ft Collins, CO

District #3
Post & Auxiliary
1781



3rd Place
Natalia D. Taylor
Colo. Springs, CO

District #5
Post & Auxiliary
3917



4th Place
Tristan Fross
Westminster, CO

District #10
Post & Auxiliary
4331



5th Place
Haley Fury
Dove Creek, CO

District #12
Post & Auxiliary
5181

1st Place Voice of Democracy

2016 - 2017 District Meeting Schedules

FEBRUARY DISTRICT MEETINGS

5	2/19/17 Sunday	Post No. 6461 Fountain	1:00 pm Lunch Meeting to follow	Robert Kidd Linda Reinpold
7	2/26/17 Sunday	Post No. 3228 Monte Vista	12:00 noon Lunch VOD / PP Memorial Service Meeting to follow	David Stone Sabrina Feagaiga
9	2/18/17 Saturday	Post No. 4265 Craig	12:00 noon Jnt Meeting Meal and Meeting to follow	
11	2/12/17 Sunday	Post No. 3571 Delta	10:00 am Registration 11:00 am Jnt Meeting Voice of Democracy & Patriot Pen/Teacher 12:00 noon Lunch Meetings to follow	Ron Lattin Kathy Carlson
12	2/11/17 Saturday	Post No. 4031 Durango	11:00 am Jtn Mtg 12 noon Lunch Meeting to follow	Steve Kjonaas Linda Reinpold

Feb 25th – Mar 1st Voice of Democracy, Washington DC
Feb 26th - Mar 2nd Legislative Conference, Washington DC

MARCH DISTRICT MEETINGS

1	3/18/17 Saturday	Post No. 2461 Denver	10:00 am Jnt Mtg 11:00 am Lunch Meeting to follow	Linda Reinpold
3	3/12/17 Sunday	Post No. 1781 Fort Collins	12:00 Meal Meeting to follow	David Stone Sabrina Feagaiga
10	3/19/17 Sunday	Post No. 9644 Sheridan	Breakfast 11:00 am Memorial Service Meeting to follow	Allan Stone Dee Chappell-Haley
13	3/19/17 Sunday	Post No. 6491 Burlington	2:00 pm Mtg. Meeting to follow Election / Installation	Robert Kidd Linda Reinpold

March 25 - 26 Workshops and COA, Hotel Elegante, Colorado Springs

Colorado VFW Foundation

From the Board of Directors: As we approach the close of the year, it is heartwarming the donations and support we received from our VFW Posts and VFW Auxiliaries, Members and family members. Thank you for your generosity, support and dedication.

So far this year we have processed (7/1/2015-1/15/2016) 197 grant applications of which we were able to approve 112 applications providing a total of \$53,566.71 in grant funds. As of November 29, 2016 we ran out of funds and are turning Veterans away that are in need of assistance. We are expecting to turn away another 150-300 (if not more) Veterans for lack of available funds.

We are asking you our members and your family and friends to donate to the Colorado VFW Foundation. Please Make your checks payable to Colorado VFW Foundation and mail to 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214.

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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Cindy Anderson, treasurer
Gloria Otwell, 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

Feb	5	John S Stewart VFW #1	Denver
	12	Broomfield VFW #9565	Broomfield
	19	Mile High VFW #1771	Lafayette
	26	Joseph J Jacques VFW #7945	Thornton
Mar	5	Johns S. Steewart VFW #1	Denver
	12	Golden VFW #4171	Golden
	19	Longs Peak VFW #2601	Longmont
	26	Aurora VFW #3631	Aurora
Apr	2	Silver Dollar PT #1	Denver
	9	Arvada VFW #4331	Arvada
	16	Mile High VFW #1771	Lafayette
	23	Francis Brown Lowry VFW #501	Denver
	30	Dean K Phillips VFW #5061	Denver

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

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.

Scout of the Year Program

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/community/youth-and-education/scout-of-the-year>

Eligibility requirements are listed on the form.

Deadline for entry to VFW Post is March 1st 2017. Posts must have their entries to the Department by April 1st 2017. 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

Thank You Colorado

Thank You for all your cards and phone calls. I really do appreciate hearing from everyone. I am back working VFW and helping veterans.

PDC Ron Lattin

Thank You Colorado

MANY THANKS for all your cards and prayers during my surgery and recovery. The hard (damn hard) collar is off and only need to wear a soft brace for night and travel. The doctor is pleased with the healing. Looking forward to an active 2017

PDC Darrell Anderson

Voice of Democracy 2017-2018 Theme

“American History: Our Hope for the Future”

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 Allan Stone



Happy New Year! Wishing you and your families a Happy and Healthy 2017. Several VFW and auxiliary members had health issues in 2016, so let's make 2017 a better year.

The ongoing work of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will not be completed in this year or any other year. It will never be completed as long as there is a veteran or a veteran's widow or orphan children in need.

You the membership elected the officers of your Post, your District and your Department to be the caretakers of this organization and to see that the important work along the above lines were carried out. It is up to us to do everything in our power to alleviate the plight of the veteran, his widow and orphaned children, to see that those in need get the proper attention.

In order to proceed with the task at hand we need to work together and together we can accomplish much. There are Posts and Districts in our Department that are experiencing problems within their organization. Mainly this is due to conflicts among the members. We as members of this organization raised our hands and took an oath not to let petty jealousies or trivial personalities influence our deliberations, to always uphold the obligation of unselfish comradeship. Did YOU as a member take this oath lightly? If you did you are a poor example of our

great organization.

It is no wonder that some eligible veterans hesitate to join our ranks! They just don't need to be involved in petty hassles, to choose sides or to be bothered with this kind of conduct. As the State Commander, I am asking you to settle your differences and get on with the necessary work of your Posts and Districts.

Comrades that are causing the trouble should cease this kind of conduct or stay away from your Posts and Districts. I am weary of listening to gripes of the narrow minded people that put themselves first ahead of the good of our organization. Why not change the negative into positive!

We, as an organization, are only as strong as our weakest member. Bad drags good down to its level. WE ARE A GREAT ORGANIZATION! LET'S ACT LIKE ONE!

All Posts, Districts and Department need to move into the 21st century. Change is hard to accept but it needs to be done for the good of the organization.

Membership is the backbone of any organization and Veterans of Foreign Wars is no exception. My membership team can assist Posts that need help to achieve 100 plus 1.

I look forward to seeing you at the Council of Administration in Colorado Springs, March 25, 26. Let's all work together to help and support veterans!

Allan P. Stone
Department Commander

Jr. Vice Column Steve Kjonaas



Make a Difference for your Membership

Making a difference in your Post membership is difficult and to make it worse, there is such a wide verity of people

in your Post that making everyone happy is almost impossible. Not that it has been almost impossible, but our younger Comrades have many more choices and much more demand upon their time, they must choose how to budget their time to make themselves whole. So let's review.

For almost all millennials, frequently the internet is the central way to connect with friends, family, businesses, and nonprofits. You need to create and sustain a vigorous and strong online presence to ensure you maintain a millennial following and potentially gain their membership at your Post.

To reach our younger Veterans and offer them what is really useful from the VFW, we demonstrate what we have and what we do for the community and individual Veterans. For your Post, you need to create and promote content (a story) that reveals how it serves Veterans. Take content that highlights the importance of your Post's work and post it on your Facebook page, twitter, and even your website.

Most often, a worthy story adds the bulk that you need in making a pitch to millennials. Focus on storytelling techniques that induce emotion and al-

ways end with a statement that encourages the young Veteran to immediately take action. The bottom line toward hooking readers is first appealing to their interest and then their emotions. Any story's hook is a question, even if it is not obviously stated as such.

Marketing and promotion professionals suggest two easy ways to connect with millennials online:

1) Optimize your website for mobile capability. 76 of millennials say that navigating non-mobile friendly sites is significantly frustrating.

2) Update social media frequently. For guidance, follow this plan.

i. Facebook: Minimum Thursdays and Fridays between 1 and 3pm.

Everyday is best, so try early morning posts too. Be sure to hashtag #VFWPostPride in your posts.

Twitter: Make a schedule and stick to it, but minimally Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday three to five times a day is best. Given room, use the #VFWPostPride hashtag and mention people of influence such as @yourcity's Mayor maybe reporters @newspaperReporter even mention @experts in the field you are writing about.

Your task is to help an entire new generation understand that the VFW does take care of Veterans, to make sure they are taking advantage of the Veteran benefits they have earned, and help them feel at home.

Steve Kjonaas
Department Jr. Vice Commander

Sr. Vice Column Ed Aitken



I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and your New Years great as you want it to be.

At our Council of Administration we had the pleasure of having Rick

Butler, Deputy Director of Membership VFW National Headquarters. His presentation was outstanding. He covered recruiting, retention and how we can welcome the younger to your post. You can send Rick an email and he will be happy to send you the presentation he gave us. It would very useful for you and your post.

My wife and I had the pleasure to attend the Post #1 Founders Day Banquet, which we have attended for many years, but this banquet was a Special one for me and many other Vietnam Veterans. For they invited and hosted a Very Classy Lady Ms Ann Margret. What a Great time had by all. Thanks Commander John Harry and the members of Post #1, we had a Great time.

The next day we traveled to Monument Post 7829 for their Post Christmas Gathering. Post members and member of the community gather for an evening of fun and fellowship. We had a fantastic meal and were entertained by the

Children's Chorale. Thanks Commander Joe Carlson for outstanding evening.

The Commanders Special Project was CABA, Civil Air Business Association, with Peter Buchanan as chairman. Read his article in this issue, then contact Peter Buchanan to volunteer to help in a fantastic program.

I was invited to a very special event, one that at the end of the day you had a sense of pride in what had just happen and you played a small part in it.

Charlie and Donna Watkins and Ron and Charlotte Lattin with many volunteers provided food, toys, clothing and gift cards. This year there were 15 families with 34 kids. The food is divided equally among the families along with approximately \$3800 in gift cards, the toys and clothes divided among the kids by age. Donations were received from the following: Post 1 and Post 1 Auxiliary, Post 1771 and Post 1771 Auxiliary, Post 2797 and 2797 Auxiliary, Littleton Elk Ladies and the Redistribution Center.

I can hardly wait till next Christmas so that I may again take part in this worth while event.

Ed Aitken
Department Sr. Vice Commander

Quartermaster's Column Bruce Dolan



Greetings,

I hope this finds everyone well.

We are at the beginning of a New Year. By now we all have opened our Christmas gifts, had all the New Years

Eve cheer we can handle for a year, and maybe or maybe not still have a membership in the VFW.

Gaining new members is something all of us have done at one time or another. You wear your VFW hat, or jacket and someone asks about joining. Or maybe you go to a Yellow Ribbon ceremony and they're all right there. But this time of the year makes it even easier. It's called "closing the back door." We have so many members who are yearly members that do not, forget, or just can't afford to pay their due.

So what is the solution? Simple! Every Post Commander should have a roster of all unpaid members for the coming year. Get a few names from your Commander and call, drop them short letter, or stop by and visit. It may be a member you haven't seen in awhile who just forgot, or maybe doesn't have any spare money to pay dues even though he'd still like to belong. We have a fix for that too. Under our by-laws, Posts may use the relief fund to help pay a member's dues if they are in need.

This whole process of contacting unpaid members doesn't take a lot of time. And as I found last year, you may find an old friend whom you didn't even know was still around. I ask each of you to take a few minutes and give it a try.

So you are thinking about running for an Elected Office or taking on a chairmanship?

When you take on the position of an Officer or anything in a position of trust, you are voluntarily taking on the position of a FIDUCIARY (fi due she airy)

and with it the duties impose by law.

The word Fiduciary comes from a Latin word meaning FAITH. A fiduciary must always act in good faith in their relationship to the organization. This means all Officers and Directors have an obligation to act in the interest of the organization rather than their own personal interests.

There are three duties of a fiduciary: Care, Loyalty, and Obedience.

Your duty of Care means you must act in GOOD FAITH in a way any prudent person would act in a similar manner under similar circumstances toward the interest of the organization.

Your duty of Loyalty means you must act with undivided loyalty to the interests of the organization rather than your own self interest. It forbids conflict of interests, and stresses an absolute duty to disclose any financial benefit from a transaction.

Your duty of obedience means you must act to assure the organization is operated to fulfill its mission, (helping veterans) in accordance with the law, and compliance with its by-laws.

Remember, we can be personally held liable for wrong doing. I think Common Sense should be our general rule.

The way we have handled problems in the past is over.

If you have any questions, or would like to chat about this, please contact me.

Please keep warm this winter, and I am looking forward to seeing everyone for the Midwinter C.O.A. in Colorado Springs.

Please pray for our Veterans and warriors in harms way

Bruce R. Dolan
Department Quartermaster

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

**GENERAL ORDERS NO. 3
February 1, 2016 2016-2017**

Please remind all Posts that you MUST be 100% +1 to qualify for All State. Deadline is June 30, 2017. Entry forms 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.

(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 Quartermaster 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, De-

partment 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 Quartermaster.

6. Commanders on all levels should begin organizing their 2017 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 **will be mailed to all qualified persons.** Posts and Districts must be 100% + 1 in membership by **June 30, 2017**, 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 **Monday July 10, 2017**, to be judged. Post Quartermasters need only submit the entry form by the same deadline date.

8. Council of Administration meeting will be March 26, 2017 at Hotel Elegante, Colorado Springs, 8:30 am for Joint Meeting. **Workshops** will begin March 25.

9. State Convention is scheduled for Hotel Elegante, June 14 through June 17, 2017. See Page 8 of the Colorado Veteran for pre-registration, hotel, Convention Book ads and VFW Schedule of events.

10. The Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars Loyalty Day Parade will be in Calhan, CO., Saturday May 6, 2017 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 2018 can be obtained by contacting State 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:
Ronald Lattin, State Adjutant
BY COMMAND:
Allan Stone, State Commander

**Surgeon's Column
David Stone**



Greetings comrades,
Did you know that in addition to the three VA Community Living Centers, Colorado is blessed with a state Veterans home

system that provides over 550 beds and 48 domiciliary cottages? While much of the VA centers focus is on short term rehabilitation and hospice care, our state homes provide long term options and secure memory care for individuals with Alzheimer's and dementia.

The Veterans Community Living Center at Homelake is an excellent example. This unique facility 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

**Chaplain's Column
Robert Kidd Sr.**



Now that the Holidays are over and the start of a New Year is upon us.

Remember that all the children are going back to school, so look out for them. As they are waiting at bus stops and running across the streets heading for their schools.

Please let us remember that not everyone has come forth into the New Year. Please put in your prayers, the ones still in need.

Let's help a little more within your Posts, Districts, and Communities. Let's also remember that it is time to look forward to new adventures that will change our lives. Remember that by helping someone else you are also helping yourself to be a better person.

Psalm 46: 1-3:(1) God is our refuge

and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

(2) Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

(3) though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Most of all please be true to yourself. If you are needing any assistance, please let me know and I will do whatever I can. That is also true for any of the Officers or Staff members within the Department of Colorado. We are here to help.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the next Council of Administration in Colorado Springs March 25th and 26th.

God Bless you all
Robert M Kidd Sr
Department Chaplain

**Council of Administration March 26, 2017
8:30 AM Joint Meeting
VFW Meeting to follow**

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATION
Rooms are blocked make reservations ASAP**

**Hotel Elegante, 2886 S. Circle Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
719-302-9844**

Make your Reservations SOON

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION WORKSHOPS

**Saturday March 25th Workshops for VFW
Hotel Elegante, Colorado Springs, CO**

10:00 - 11:00 AM - Membership - Ron Lattin

11:00 - 12:00 Noon - All State / All American - Bruce Dolan

12:00 noon - 1:30 PM Lunch - On Your Own

**1:30 - 2:30 PM - Community Activities / Hospital Reporting
Barbara Green / Kevin Reinhold**

**2:30 - 3:30 PM - Open Forum - Questions and Answers
VFW Line Officers**

3:30 - 4:30 PM - VFW Council Information Meeting

Dinner - On Your Own

TAPS

- Post 1771: Donald L. Batchelor, Robert R. Borrego, Wilbut T. Billington, Jack S. Strong, Victor Slavec Jr., Paul E. Brookler Jr., Lawrence Abeyta
- Post 3631: Carl D Eriksen, Anthony Wallis, Sam Schlotthauer
- Post 3820: James L. Berringer
- Post 3917: Henry Reed
- Post 4051: Harry Hoth, Donald Joiner, Thomas Hendrix, Joseph Wooten, Richard Bush, Frank Hollier, David Garrison, Elwood Ziegenfuss, Gerald Kirshoff, Lawrence Hall, Jessie V. Rivera Sr., Cloran Powers, James Gilbert
- Post 4061: Samuel Hash
- Post 4191: William Savolt
- Post 5485: John S. Daily

VFW Post Membership by District as of January 27, 2017

Number/ City	2016	2017	%	Number/City	2016	2017	%
DISTRICT #1				DISTRICT #8			
1 Denver	940	884	94	859 Leadville	38	35	92
501 Denver	335	297	89	1166 Buena Vista	139	130	94
2461 Denver	158	138	87	3820 Salida	93	88	95
2797 Denver	67	37	55	8661 Bailey	143	129	90
3971 Denver	93	82	88	10721 Minturn	96	91	95
5061 Denver	325	288	89	11411 Lake George	45	44	98
TOTAL	1918	1726	90%	12009 Conifer	129	122	95
DISTRICT #2				DISTRICT #9			
61 Pueblo	82	75	91	2371 Walden	28	24	86
2788 Penrose	97	83	86	4264 Steamt Spgs	97	88	91
3641 Pueblo	87	78	90	4265 Craig	140	128	91
4061 Canon City	322	304	94	5261 Rangely	23	28	122*
5812 Pueblo West	193	176	91	5843 Meeker	54	40	74
7305 Colo. City	44	42	95	9374 Kremmling	36	35	97
8898 Boone	48	40	83	9471 Hayden	11	8	73
12063 Westcliffe	52	50	96	TOTAL	389	351	90%
TOTAL	925	848	92%	DISTRICT #10			
DISTRICT #3				DISTRICT #11			
41 Loveland	284	285	100*	322 Englewood	122	113	93
807 Boulder	48	45	94	3471 Morrison	74	65	88
1771 Lafayette	313	289	92	3631 Aurora	349	331	95
1781 Ft. Collins	328	305	93	4121 Idaho Spgs.	55	48	87
2121 Greeley	181	163	90	4171 Golden	479	434	91
2585 Johnstown	215	187	87	4266 Parker	67	74	110*
2601 Longmont	397	342	86	4331 Arvada	289	264	91
4334 Ault	73	65	89	4444 Cmmrc Cty	242	208	86
6624 Evans	303	269	89	4666 Littleton	137	137	100*
9565 Broomfield	138	111	80	7563 Black Hawk	23	23	100*
9741 Dacono	50	56	112*	7945 Thornton	426	372	87
TOTAL	2330	2117	91%	8449 Bennett	45	53	118*
DISTRICT #4				DISTRICT #12			
2551 Ft. Morgan	235	216	92	9644 Fort Logan	676	405	60
3378 Yuma	66	62	94	TOTAL	2984	2527	85%
3541 Sterling	97	87	90	DISTRICT #13			
3551 Brush	37	35	95	784 Montrose	149	137	92
3951 Ovid	26	24	92	1247 Grnd Jctn	301	273	91
3961 Otis	23	20	87	3571 Delta	61	56	92
4191 Crook	20	17	85	3981 Grnd Jctn	124	130	105*
4671 Wray	58	54	93	4663 Clifton	87	79	91
6482 Holyoke	58	55	95	5485 Parachute	44	42	95
7153 Fleming	33	27	81	9221 Cedaredge	113	97	86
8064 Akron	45	39	87	9304 Rifle	33	30	91
TOTAL	698	636	91%	9333 Hotchkiss	28	30	107*
DISTRICT #5				DISTRICT #14			
101 Colo. Spgs.	540	459	85	15006 MAL	2590	2317	89%
3917 Security	681	624	92	TOTAL DEPT	17378	15548	89%
4051 Colo. Spgs	708	626	88	DISTRICT #15			
5221 Calhan	112	97	87	4031 Durango	235	214	91
6051 Wdln Park	47	44	94	5181 Dove Creek	50	47	94
6461 Fountain	327	277	85	5231 Mancos	159	133	84
7829 Monument	122	116	95	9058 Nucla	36	29	81
10649 Elizabeth	50	48	96	TOTAL	480	423	88%
TOTAL	2587	2291	89%	DISTRICT #16			
DISTRICT #6				DISTRICT #17			
336 Ordway	100	91	91	3411 Kit Carson	23	27	117*
2411 LasAnimas	98	96	98	6491 Burlington	74	69	93
4001 Springfield	46	45	98	6612 Hugo	43	36	84
4091 Rocky Ford	55	52	95	9491 Deer Trail	19	20	105*
4281 Holly	27	27	100*	9700 Chynn Wlls	28	28	100*
TOTAL	326	311	95%	TOTAL	187	180	96%
DISTRICT #7				DISTRICT #18			
899 Alamosa	119	105	88	15006 MAL	2590	2317	89%
3228 Monte Vista	41	37	90	TOTAL DEPT	17378	15548	89%
4849 La Jara	57	54	95	DISTRICT #19			
6101 San Luis	68	57	84	899 Alamosa	119	105	88
8121 Del Norte	56	55	98	3228 Monte Vista	41	37	90
TOTAL	341	308	90%	4849 La Jara	57	54	95

2017 dues are now DUE.
Be 100% +1 in 2016-2017

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



Membership 2016-2017

Congratulations to our 13 posts in Colorado who have exhibited a sincere desire to move their posts forward this year by attaining their goal of 100 or better membership.

There are 4 more posts who need only 1 more member/renewal to reach 100, and 41 posts that need 10 or less to reach 100. All posts have an equal opportunity to reach their goal as set forth by the National organization.

The dedication you put forth in taking care of your members is an example of the willingness in our state to lead the way for others to follow. I anticipate a banner year as we move forward together to make OUR state commander, Allan Stone, an All American Department Commander.

Remember comrades, VFW "No One Does More For Veterans". This also includes our veterans in our own posts. We are losing many members, including our officers, because we are failing to renew those comrades who may not be at our meetings on a regular basis, or as some have told me, "I'm not in the click at the post. Do you recall when YOU joined, and the first meeting

YOU attended?" Remember how YOU felt? What made YOU feel welcome then, is most likely the same thing that will make your new members feel a part of your post today.

While we all realize that not every member is going to make it to all meetings, whether post, district, COA, etc., it is an important fact that All members MUST be retained if we are to continue the main reason for our existence, which is to lend a helping hand to our comrades, their widows and orphans who are in need, so I ask you, "What Have YOU Done For A Veteran Today?"

How long do you expect your post to survive if you haven't any members? Given some of the interest I've witnessed, there are some posts who should be able to answer this question in the near future. We can't sit by and expect others to do our work, and then complain about poor results. Everyone Must step up to the plate and take an active role in their post if we hope to continue our mission.

Duane Johnson
Department Membership Director

Roster Changes

Page 39 - CW5 David R. Carter Post 3631
Cmdr: Gary Anguilm, 18850 Kelly Place, Denver 80249 303-808-2168
Ser. Off: vacant

Page 46 - Conejos County Mailing Address: P O Box 671, Antonito 81120
Qm: Orlando Gallardo, 973 Conejos Trail, Antonito 81120 719-379-5716

Dean K. Phillips Memorial Post 5061
Cmdr: Armando Valdez, 5220 W. Warren Ave., Denver 80227

Page 52 - Tri-Valley Post 8449
Ser. Off: James House, 2152 Asoka St., Strasburg 80136 540-272-6382

Please send all Roster Changes to Department Headquarters
vfw@vfwcolodept.org

Hey Veterans!
Auto
refinancing
A SMART WAY TO SAVE
2% Off Your Auto Loan Rate
+
2 Months No Auto Payment
+
\$200 Cash
You Do The Math!

credit union OF DENVER
SMART. LIKE YOU.

for details 303.963.1333

Our gift to you; Credit Union of Denver (C•U•D) will put in the first \$5 needed to create an account | membership with C•U•D.



Commander's Special Project 2016

Colorado Aviation Business Association and Veterans of Foreign Wars Annual Holiday Veteran Food and Toy Airlift

What is the airlift? Donations from the Re-Distribution Center, Marine Corps League, 20 VFW Posts and Auxiliaries and huge discounts from King Soopers. This is a VFWjCABA with the MSU pilot's volunteer project to help veterans. We all intend to make the holiday season a little less stressful for our fellow veterans by giving them donated food and toys and a little cheer during the holiday season. We flew planes into Burlington, Pueblo, Las Animas, Alamosa, Walsenburg, and Montrose airports. Over the past 5 years this program has delivered nearly 18,000 pounds of donated material to Colorado's veterans and their families. This year the project had generous donations from VFW Posts and Auxiliaries and kind hearted friends with a total \$4,407.38. This money was used to purchase more food and toys to supplement all the donated food and toys. This material was given to 353 Adults and 65 kids as well as 15 families with children from Fort Carson (3 pictures below).

How can I help with this program? You can help with donated money from your Post relief fund. Your Check is made out to Department of Colorado VFW with "CABA" in the memo section. You can gather food and toys at your Post or local business places. Gather these donated items and deliver them to Department Headquarters by December 1st.

My Post would like to participate, what do we do? If you have veterans in your local area that could use food and toys at Christmas is the only requirement. You would need to identify these veterans or families that are needing some extra help and make arrangements to either have them come to your post on a special day or preferably show up at your airport on the airlift day, usually the second Sunday in December depending on the weather. Contact the Department CABA Chair to make the arrangements for your Post to be involved.

2017 will be the ph Annual Airlift and it is this year's Commander's Special Project. More information will be coming at the Council of Administration meetings and your District meetings going forward throughout the year. Questions should be directed to PDC Peter Buchanan, peterbuchanan@comcast.net 303-981-1606.

If you missed your local TV station coverage this year, here is a link where you can view our Las Animas airlift: <https://vo,ep/cp/195849186> This report was put together by MSU Denver videographer John Arnold who did a wonderful job covering our operation.





Department Sr. Vice Commander Ed Aitken (r) and Diane (l) joined VFW Post 7829 Monumnet Sr Vice Commander John DuMond and Kris and 75 other attendees to enjoy the Post's 5th annual Christmas gathering December 5th.



Supreme Military Order of Cooties (MOC) Ron Johnson attended the dedication of the MOC/MOCA home for Children December 3, 2016 during "Cooties Christmas".



VFW Post 7829 Monument members and volunteers helped Rob Marshall (2nd left) (VA Recreation Therapist Pueblo VA Community Living Center) decorate the facility for the Christmas Holidays, December 6th. Post 7829 has supported the Pueblo VA Community Living Center Christmas Activities for the past 4 years by decorating the facility for the Christmas season and funding a Christmas gift giving event; filling a "wish list"; for the residents. VFW 7829 Auxiliary members purchase each resident's "wish list" gifts and wrap gifts.



L-R: Department President Linda Reinpold, VAVS Representative Jean Lennie presenting a game table for a Christmas present to the Florence Nursing Home Administrator Kathy.



L-R: VFW Auxiliary Hospital Chairman Phil Reinpold, VFW Auxiliary #7305 Toni, Penney and Sylvia, Co-Chair Ellie Ford (center) and Department President Linda Reinpold giving Christmas gifts at the Walsenburg Nursing Home.



VFW Post 7829 Monument Commander and El Paso County Homeless Veterans Coalition Chairman Joe Carlson (l) and Auxiliary President Kathy Carlson (r) and Colorado Springs Mayor John Suthers (c) at the October 18th Stand Down in Colorado Springs. The "Stand Down" provided numerous goods (boots, jackets, backpacks, etc.) and services (flu shots, HEP-C testing, dental checks, etc.) including breakfast burritos and a noon meal to over 195 needy and homeless Veterans and kicked off a 30 day Transitional Housing Initiative (THI) that provided housing, meals, transportation and services such as mentorship and assistance navigating the maze of Veterans Service Organizations and related entities to 14 Homeless Veteran Families including 14 children. Over 400 volunteers helped with the "Stand Down" including 22 VFW and 10 Auxiliary members (including District 5 VFW Warriors) doing such tasks as Homeless Veterans contact, meal service, registration, security, and goods distribution.

"The America I Believe In"

1st Place Patriot's Pen - Carmel V. Thompson
Sponsored by District 5 and Pikes Peak VFW #4051 and Auxiliary



Nelson Mandela once said, "For to be free is to not merely cast off ones chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others." This quote describes the simplistic way of life in the America I believe in. People in the America I believe in respect the freedom and rights of others. In the America I believe in, I can speak my mind and celebrate my culture. I am also free to be a part of any religion I desire. In addition, I have the opportunity to better myself through education, hard work, and dedication to prepare myself for the future.

America is filled with millions of people. Within these groups of people, many are heroes. My America is filled with brave and committed men and women not afraid to fight for what is right. In my America, we defeat any evil forces that stand in the way of freedom. Being proud of our returning veterans and supporting them in a more profound way is a hallmark in the America I believe in. The America I believe in it sounds like the National Anthem echoing off the bleachers with everyone standing, hat in hand, and children with their hands over their hearts. In my America, we stand together working towards a common good. The America I believe in looks like the American Flag waving back and forth, representing both unity and diversity.

Patriot's Pen Essay (continued)

Freedom to express one's culture, religion, and beliefs are paramount in my America. "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness," is a good quote from the Declaration of Independence describing the freedom my America would have. The America I envision for the future feels like the wind hitting my face as I walk down the street in a free country.

Thomas Jefferson once said, "We hold these truths to be

self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." This quote describes the admirable way of life for people in the America I believe in. Though we are varied like the colors in a quilt, we are sewn together with the same thread ... individually beautiful but stronger together.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION
HOTEL ELEGANTE – Colorado Springs, CO. JUNE 14th thru 17th, 2017
 NAME: _____
 Post #: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 2016-2017 OFFICE/POSTION/TITLE: _____
 Pre-Registration is **\$15.00**, and will include a ditty bag, convention book.
 Make checks to: **DEPARTMENT OF COLORAO VFW**
 Mail to: 1400 CARR STREET, LAKEWOOD CO 80214
 REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS WILL BE READY UPON ARRIVAL AT
 THE HOTEL
 Registration at the Convention will be \$20.00
 If you wish to pre-purchase your Military Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$25.00
 each.
 London Broil: Number of tickets: _____
 Chicken Piccata: Number of tickets _____

VFW AUXILIARY CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION
HOTEL ELEGANTE – Colorado Springs, CO. JUNE 14th thru 17th, 2017
 NAME: _____
 Auxiliary #: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 2016-2017 OFFICE/POSTION/TITLE: _____
 Pre-Registration is **\$15.00**, and will include a ditty bag, convention book.
 Make checks to **DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO VFW**
 Mail to: 1400 CARR STREET, LAKEWOOD CO 80214
 REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS WILL BE READY UPON ARRIVAL AT
 THE HOTEL
 Registration at the Convention will be \$20.00
 If you wish to pre-purchase your Military Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$25.00
 each.
 London Broil: Number of tickets: _____
 Chicken Piccata: Number of tickets _____

2017 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"

Full Page Ad
8 1/4" X 10 3/4"

HALF PAGE
8 1/4" X 5 1/4"

ONE QUARTER PAGE
8 1/4" X 2 3/4"

Business Card
3 1/2" X 2"

Business name: _____
 Phone number: _____
 Webpage URL: _____
 POC: _____ Phone: _____
 Select Ad size: Full Half Quarter Business Card
 Total Enclosed \$ _____

Submit this form along with your **copy ready** ad, artwork and payment to the address below before 12 May 2017.
 Make Checks Payable to: VFW Department of Colorado, Memo: State Convention Ad-2017
 Mail all Ads and Payment to:
 Convention Book Chairman
 Robert M. Kidd Sr.
 4114 Morley Circle
 Colorado Springs, CO 80916-2831

State Convention - VFW
Hosted by Department of Colorado VFW

Wednesday June 14

7:30 am	Golf Tournament	TBA
	Lunch for Golfers	TBA
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Registration	Hotel Elegante
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Lunch	Hotel Elegante
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Service Officer Claims	Hotel Elegante
3:00 pm	Installation Practice	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
6:00 pm	Council of Administration	Hotel Elegante "C"

Thursday June 15

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration	Hotel Elegante
8:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
12:00 noon	Dept Commanders Luncheon	Hotel Elegante
	(by invitation only)	
1:00 pm	General Resolutions	Hotel Elegante
1:00 pm	Service/Rehab Resolutions	Hotel Elegante
1:00 pm	Time & Place Committee	Hotel Elegante
1:00 pm	Warrior's meeting	Hotel Elegante
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Registration	Hotel Elegante
4:30 pm	Memorial Service Practice	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
5:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
7:00 pm	Past Post Commanders Banquet	VFW Post #101

Friday June 16

7:00 am	All American Cap Breakfast	Hotel Elegante
8:00 am - 10:00 am	Registration	Hotel Elegante
8:30 am	Business Session	Hotel Elegante "C"
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Open Houses - Caucuses	VFW Post #3917 Security
7:00 pm	Military Banquet	Hotel Elegante

Saturday June 17

7:00 am	Past State Commanders Breakfast	Hotel Elegante
7:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration	Hotel Elegante
8:30 am	Business Session / Election	Hotel Elegante "C"
6:00 pm	Joint Installation of Officers	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
	State Commander/President Reception	Hotel Elegante

Sunday June 18

9:00 am	District Commander Elect & District Sr. Vice Elect Breakfast & Mini COA Meeting	Hotel Elegante
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State Convention – Department Auxiliary
Hosted by Department of Colorado VFW

Wednesday June 14

8:00 am	Golf Tournament	TBA
	Lunch for Golfers	TBA
9:00 am	Staff Meeting	TBA
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Registration	Hotel Elegante
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Lunch	Hotel Elegante
2:00 pm	Floor Work Practice	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
3:00 pm	Installation Practice	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
6:00 pm	Council of Administration	Hotel Elegante "A&B"

Thursday June 15

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration	Hotel Elegante
8:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
12:00 noon	Dept Presidents Luncheon	TBA
	(By invitation only)	
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Registration	Hotel Elegante
4:30 pm	Memorial Service Practice	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
5:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
7:00 pm	Past Dept. Presidents Banquet	TBA

Friday June 16

7:00 am	Past District President's Breakfast	TBA
8:00 am - 10:00 am	Registration	Hotel Elegante
8:30 am	Auxiliary Opening Session	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Open Houses - Caucuses	VFW Post #3917 Security
7:00 pm	Military Banquet	Hotel Elegante

Saturday June 17

7:00 am	Past Auxiliary President's Breakfast	TBA
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration	Hotel Elegante
8:30 am	Business Session / Election	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
6:00 pm	Joint Installation of Officers	Hotel Elegante "A&B"
	State Commander/President Reception	Hotel Elegante

Sunday June 18

9:00 am	Breakfast	TBA
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Buddy Poppy Displays and Community Activities Record Books Room
 Hotel Elegante

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

VFW STATE CONVENTION
and
VFW AUXILIARY STATE CONVENTION
JUNE 14 - 17, 2017

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION
Rooms are blocked make reservations ASAP

Hotel Elegante, 2886 S. Circle Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
719-302-9844



Auxiliary News

Published by Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of Colorado

Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman



Presidents's Column Linda Reinpold



Hello Sisters and Brothers!

Time has gone quickly since the November Parade of Programs and COA. The meetings were well attended. I have

heard so many positive comments from our members. The Program Chairs did a great job in their presentations and I hope the members who attended took this information to their Auxiliaries. Please read the Chairmen articles and the deadlines for their specific award programs to ensure our volunteers and Auxiliaries receive the recognition they deserve. Thank you for all your work!

Although it seems early to think about yearend deadline reporting, March 31, 2017 is now just around the corner and the cutoff date for final year reports to the Department Chairmen is due April 15, 2017. The year is certainly going quickly and our next Parade of Programs is March 25, 2017. Please be sure to attend and find out any final information or ask questions to the Chairs for your yearend reports.

Our membership is coming along very well. As of December 31, 2016 our membership was at 93.69%. This year National has set Department quarterly goals for new and rejoined members. As of December 31, 2016, we exceeded the January 31, 2017 goal. The Department will be awarded \$350 for attaining this goal. Thank you to everyone for working so hard.

The past few months have been busy. I have had the opportunity along with Department Hospital Chairman Phil Reinpold and Co-Chair Ellie Ford to tour three State VA Nursing Homes – Walsenburg with Toni Liebnow, Florence with Jean Lennie and Home Lake with Peggy Haley. Thank you for the work that each of you do as the VAVS Representatives. We also participated in handing out Christmas gifts or candy and visited with the veterans. It is such an honor to visit with the veterans and hear their stories.

I attended the MOCA Council meeting held by President Colleen Rylant in December. The next day we visited the veterans at the Denver VA Hospital and handed out Christmas treats to the vari-

ous floors. The veterans enjoyed seeing the clowns and it was wonderful to see their smiles. The MOCA does great hospital work. Thank you.

I visited District 4 in Akron, District 9 in Craig and District 11 in Grand Junction. I enjoy visiting each District to meet the Auxiliary members. Thank you for making me feel welcome at your meetings. When your Committee Chairs read their reports, it always amazes me all the events, activities and commitment that each of you give. Thank you for all that you doing for our veterans!

Thank you to all the Posts and Auxiliaries who worked to make our Patriot's Pen and VOD programs successful. We get such heartfelt and moving essays from our young people that show how they feel about our country, its future and their commitment to keeping America's patriotism alive. The Department Banquet was January 21 at Post #3917 in Colorado Springs. If you were unable to make it, please be sure to read about the winning essays in the Colorado Veteran.

The next Council of Administration is March 25-26 in Colorado Springs and the Department Convention June 14-17 are both at the Hotel Elegante. There are special rates and all the meetings are at the hotel. Information is posted for both on the website under the Events/Info tab on the Home Page.

Please look at www.vfwcolodept.org website on the Home Page. There is a Facebook link at the top of the page that is a great source of information of what is happening in our Auxiliary. Also, post your events and activities to it. If you have any questions about posting, please contact Caroline Gelatt.

The 2017 New Year is here and I would like to thank you for everything you did during the past year and will continue to do for our veterans. My thoughts and prayers are with you and our veterans during this upcoming year. Please pray for our veterans and the active service men and women as they continue to protect us and our country.

"Keeping Veterans Close to our Hearts"

Linda K. Reinpold
Department President



VFW Auxiliary Post #6624
proudly endorses
Caroline Gelatt
for
Department President
2017-2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters of all Colorado Auxiliaries:

It is my pleasure and honor to be the one to say that the Adamson-Warmuth VFW Auxiliary Post 6624 proudly endorses Ms. Caroline Gelatt for Department President 2017-2018.

Caroline has been a member of the VFW Auxiliary for 16 years. She joined the Auxiliary under her loving, caring and supportive husband, David Gelatt, who served in the US Navy from 1972 – 1993, earning his eligibility as a Desert Storm Veteran. Caroline jumped right into serving the Auxiliary and veterans. In 2007 held the office of Auxiliary President. Caroline has held the office of District 3 President twice and was named Outstanding District President for 2011-2012.

In 2008 she accepted the appointment as the Department of Colorado VAVS Associate Representative for the Cheyenne VA and continued to hold that position until recently. In 2010-2011 Caroline unknowingly started off her journey at the department level by accepting a color bearer position. After years of convincing, in 2013 Caroline agreed to move through the line officer chairs at the Colorado Department. She

served proudly as Department Guard from 2013-2014. With no questions or reservations, she agreed to skip the conductress chair and moved to Department Chaplain for the 2014-2015 year. She continued on to Department Jr. Vice for the 2015-2016, where she started her travels in preparation for Department Presidency. She visited the National Home and learned more than she ever expected from a one weekend visit. Currently, Caroline is our Department Sr. Vice President. Oh! I have failed to mention that during her time as a line officer she held multiple chairmanships on all levels.

Caroline has the full support of her family which includes her father, mother, husband, three brothers, two daughters, two sons and 12 grandchildren. She is a dedicated and outspoken advocate for our Veteran's and their family's needs, which will continue to benefit the entire state of Colorado.

We respectfully ask each of you to join us in supporting Caroline at this year's State Convention in June while in Colorado Springs.

In solidarity and loyalty
Stephane Trujillo

Scholarship Program

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Thank you to all of you for your hard work with the Voice of Democracy 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 receive applications by February 15, 2017. Applications can be found at this link: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/continuing-education/>

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, 2017. Auxiliary and District judging must be complete by April 10, 2017 and winners submitted to Department by April 15, 2017. Make sure to REPORT REPORT REPORT all of your hard work. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Beverly Archer and
Sabrina Feagaiga
Department Scholarship Chairmen

Important Dates to Remember

Program Report Deadline: April 15, 2017

**Department Chairman Reports due to
Department President: May 1, 2017**

**Chairman Year End Reports and Awards to
Department Secretary: May 15, 2017**

**National President's Official Visit to Colorado:
May 23 - 25, 2017**

Thank You Colorado

Thank You to everyone for all the Cards and Prayers. Your Cards and kind thoughts helped me through a very difficult time.

Thank you
Alice Smith
District 10 Sr. Vice President
VFW Auxiliary Golden 4171

Hospital

One of the best things about the holidays is the chance that we have to get together with our loved ones—to catch up on what is happening in their lives, to exchange gifts, to share festive dinners and celebrations.

In our Veteran's Hospitals, many of these same events also take place—gifts are exchanged with family and friends, festive meals are shared, Christmas parties and sweets are enjoyed. I had the privilege to visit 3 Veterans Nursing Homes / Community Living Centers during this holiday season—Homelake, Walsenburg and Florence.

I was so impressed by the efforts of our volunteers and the workers and staff at these facilities. Christmas parties with gift exchanges were organized, meals and treats were given to all that could attend, decorations were hung and lights were sparkling in all of the facilities that I visited. Children from middle and grade schools came to visit with our vets and to help decorate—they also wrote letters to thank our vets for their service to our country and for protecting the children and their families. Sometimes it was almost too much to take with dry eyes. It was certainly a well-deserved and welcome change from the time when our troops were disrespected on their return from campaigns overseas. On at least two or three occasions during this holiday season vets in these facilities told me that this was a very difficult time of year for them.

Several other things impressed me during my tour of these care centers. The facilities were clean and well organized. On-going improvements to rooms and community areas were underway in all, many activities and choices were available to enrich the lives of residents, transportation choices were made known to outside activities, volunteers

were often present that knew the residents by name and knew their history, knew their wants and needs. The enthusiasm that the administrators, staff and volunteers have for their facility is also encouraging—most know where their center has come from in its history, and where they hope that it will go.

I can't say enough to thank our volunteers for the time and heart that they give to the hospital department. Countless hours and tireless commitment—that is how I would characterize your efforts. During this season, I have seen how much our veterans truly appreciate you. Please remember to honor our veterans again as you do every day, starting February 12 for Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week.

Please remember to *accurately and completely* document the time and resources that you use when you work in the Hospital Program. Hospital volunteers give so generously of themselves. Many volunteers are not recognized for their valuable efforts because of this. Another important part of our program emphasis this year is Military Suicide Awareness. Pass on information on the Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1 to connect to a specially trained and experienced person, text 838255 to connect to a VA responder or go on-line to www.veteranscrisisline.net.

I look forward to continuing my hospital visits. With your support and assistance, we can all make this a year to remember! More important than that, however, we can make this a time where we expand our service to those that need us by "Keeping Veterans Close to Our Hearts".

Phil Reinbold
Department Hospital Chairman

Youth Activities

Greetings to all Auxiliary members!

As we welcome in 2017, continue the great work volunteering you all have been doing. Thank you to everyone for reporting. Hopefully, your Auxiliary took advantage of the youth being on break from school and was able to spend more time working with them on different volunteer activities. By spending the time getting to know more youth in your community, might even increase the chance of gaining a future Auxiliary member. Also, mentoring our youth today will create quality leadership skills for them to use tomorrow. Rewarding youth for doing the "right thing" might also encourage them to continue doing positive actions. One of our National Program goals is giving out Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.) cards and coins. If you happen to see a youth performing a Patriotic Act, please reward them with a R.A.P. coin or card. Coins can be purchased at www.vfwstore.org. The card template is available at www.vfwauxiliary.org under the Youth Activities Program.

As all of you know, these awards are also available for youth and youth groups. These application forms can be found at: www.vfwcolodept.org by clicking on the "FORMS" tab

**The Outstanding Young Volunteer of the Year Award- due to Auxiliary Feb-*

ruary 1, 2017; due to Department Youth Activities Chairman February 15, 2017 by Auxiliary

**The Outstanding Youth Group of the Year Award- due to Auxiliary 15 May 2017; due to Department Youth Activities Chairman 31 May 2017 by Auxiliary*

**The Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citation- due to Department Youth Activities Chairman 7 April 2017*

In June, I will be having two different drawings during State Convention 2017 for a \$50.00 gift card from the VFW Store.

**One drawing will have all Auxiliaries that have reported at least once a quarter for the 2016-2017 reporting year.*

**One drawing will have all Auxiliaries that have submitted a Youth Groups Supporting Veterans Citation during the 2016-2017 reporting year.*

Please continue to let me know all that your Auxiliaries are doing in your communities and all the different youth groups you work with through your program reporting. May 2017 be filled with many BLESSINGS for you all! And remember.....

REPORT! REPORT! REPORT!

Patsy Gilmore
Department Youth Activities Chairman

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO

GENERAL ORDERS #3

January 1, 2017

All General Orders from the Department President are official and must be read at the first meeting following receipt before being filed for reference.

1. The Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary will hold its Parade of Programs/Workshops and Council of Administration meeting on March 25 and 26, 2017 at the Hotel Elegante, 2886 S Circle Drive, Colorado Springs CO 80906. A schedule of programs and workshops is on the Department website. Workshops will begin at 8:00 am with Parade of Programs at 1:30 pm. Joint Council of Administration will be held on Sunday, March 26 at 8:30 and the Auxiliary Council meeting following.

2. Department President, Linda Reinbold's Special Project is Project Sanctuary in Colorado. Please forward your donations to Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson. The proceeds from the sale of the special Veterans pin will go to Operation TBI at the Craig Hospital of Colorado.

3. District Presidents and Auxiliary Presidents: Please be sure that all Districts and Auxiliaries have filed their 990-N reports and a copy sent to Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson.

4. Auxiliary and District Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers: In order to be considered a member in good standing and to retain your elected position, your 2017 dues had to be paid by December 31, 2016.

5. Membership: Keeping your membership current is the easiest way to keep our organization membership whole and healthy. Please pay your 2017 dues now. Your dues help to keep our congressional voice strong for active duty, veterans and their families. Having your dues current also entitles you to receive a cancer grant provided the eligibility requirements are met. Recruit new members by always carrying an application form with you. Use it to sign up your friends and family. The VFW Auxiliary shall fix an admission fee of not less than \$5.00 per member. This entitles each new member to a membership pin and copy of the current Bylaws and Booklet of Instruction. (See Section 103 of the Bylaws).

6. Fourth Quarter Audits for the months of October, November and December

are due January 31, 2017. A copy of the audit should be mailed to Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson.

7. A reminder to District Presidents – Annual Inspections are very important and must be conducted in a timely manner. The Inspecting Official should sign the Secretary and Treasurer books only if they are kept according to procedures outlined in the Booklet of Instructions. Every question on the Inspection form should be answered. Copies of the Auxiliary W-9 and acknowledgement of filing the 990 should be on file for the Inspection Official to review.

8. The Department Voice of Democracy Banquet was held at Cheyenne Mountain VFW Post, 4715 Clearview Drive, Security CO on Saturday, January 21, 2017. The Department VFW Auxiliary would like to extend Congratulations to all winners and thank everyone for the excellent job.

9. February 12, 2017 is a special day to honor our hospitalized veterans. Consider planning a special event or activity that day or that week for them.

10. Nominations for the Salute to Service are due to Department Headquarters by April 15, 2017. The Department Award Banquet will be held on April 22, 2017. Please watch the Department website at www.vfwcolodept.org for more information.

11. Please file your Program Reporting forms with the VFW Department of Colorado. Your Program Chairman needs your help in receiving these forms in a timely manner so they can report your hard work. Remember the reporting year is April 1, 2016 thru March 31, 2017. All reports are due to Department Headquarters by April 15, 2017.

12. A special thank you to all those who attended the Parade of Programs in Colorado Springs. The Program Chairmen did an outstanding job of promoting their programs and I am sure that you were able to take something back to your Auxiliaries.

BY ORDER OF:
/s/ Linda Reinbold
Linda Reinbold, President

ATTEST:
/s/ Ginny Rosa
Ginny Rosa, Secretary

Council of Administration Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Department of Colorado

Hotel Elegante, 2886 S Circle Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Friday March 24th
Audit & Staff Meeting - Department Line Officers

Saturday March 25th
8:00 AM Workshops will begin

12:00 PM (Noon) Lunch on your own

1:30 PM Parade of Programs/Workshop Open to Everyone
Dinner on your own

Sunday March 26th
Council of Administration
8:30 AM Joint Opening - VFW & Auxiliary Members
9:00 AM VFW Auxiliary Council Meeting - Auxiliary Members

"Keeping Veterans at the Center of Our Hearts"

Patriot's Pen 2017-2018 Theme
"America's Gift to my Generation"

Membership 2016-2017

I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season and celebrated with your friends and family. I also hope that our Veterans and Communities benefited from your membership in our great VFW Auxiliary as you reached out with support for their needs.

You all have been doing a superb job at recruiting new annual, life and re-joined members. If you did not attend the last COA or have not heard the good news, our National Membership Chairman, Leona McDermott, sent all Departments a letter stating that after hearing feedback, the National goals have been changed and now we can carry forward overages in our numbers to our next quarterly goal. You all worked so hard that we reached our October 31st goal of 95 new, life, rejoined, in early October and received a check for \$200. You continued your hard work and I am so proud to say that we have already reached our January goal of 63 new, life, rejoined, and will receive \$350. As you continue to get those new, life, and rejoined, those numbers are now being

Chief of Staff / Extension

I would like to thank all the auxiliaries that sent me the Healthy To-Do and Deadlines Form. If you haven't sent them to me, please do so, as I will be handing out certificates at the Parade of Programs in March for those auxiliaries that are deemed healthy. I would also like to congratulate Auxiliaries 6461 in Fountain and 3228 in Monte Vista for receiving the \$25.00 Walmart gift cards in our drawing.

The Healthy Questionnaire is now on the VFW Department of Colorado website under Forms. Thanks to Kathy

National Certified Recruiter Training Program

Thank you to all of you for making our Colorado Auxiliary an exceptional one. Each one of you has provided so much through your volunteerism in supporting our veterans and their families. THANK YOU!!

National has established specific membership goals for Colorado throughout the year. You, Shelley, and her membership team have worked very hard this year. We have already exceeded the quarterly National goal of new/rejoined members that is required by January 31, 2017. Thank you for helping our Department achieve this. As of December 31, we are at 93.69% toward reaching 100% +1 membership.

When talking with prospective members, let them know about the benefits that are a part of belonging to the Auxiliary. There are insurance benefits including discounted policies for life, health, accident, long-term care, dental and a cancer grant benefit after one year

applied to our April goal of 95. In the Western Conference of 15 Departments, Alaska, Arizona, California and Colorado have all reached their second quarter goals. We keep good company! We had 160 names entered for our three \$25 membership prizes at our November COA. We have several Auxiliaries that have reached 100% and many of you are very close your 100% plaques. As you recruit those new, life, and rejoined, remember the core of your Auxiliaries, your continuous members, and reach out with a letter, a phone call, an invite to your meetings or special events. Make sure they know how valuable they are to your Auxiliary and that December 31st is the deadline to remain a member in good standing. Our rallying cry is "Colorado, 100% and our Department in the Circle of Excellence".

Thank you, thank you, thank you, for your commitment, your outreach, and for keeping "Veterans Close to Our Hearts".

Shelley Schlieman, Jr. Vice
Department Membership Chairman

Carlson and Rita Fama, it is in a fillable format. Please take the time to fill one out and send it to me, as we would like feedback from all our members.

Thank you for all you do and if I can help in any way, please call me. We need to be "Keeping Our Veterans Close to Our Hearts" so we can continue to have "Unwavering Support For Uncommon Heroes".

Loyally,
Rosie Mitchell
Department Chief of Staff / Extension

as a member. This is a good time to let prospects know about the Young American Creative Patriotic Art for grades 9-12. The more information we share with the public about our programs, benefits and how we help to care for and honor our veterans will provide a positive awareness in our communities.

Please call me with any questions you might have or about scheduling a training session for the Auxiliary or District. Also, be sure to order your new application brochures to carry with you at all times.

Thank you to everyone working together to "Keeping Veterans Close to Our Hearts" and in helping our membership grow so we can continue to help our veterans. I wish each of you and your families a very happy and healthy New Year!

Linda Reinpold
National Certified Recruiter Trainer

Auxiliary Membership by District as of January 27, 2017

Number	City	2016	2017	%	Number	City	2016	2017	%
DISTRICT #1					DISTRICT #7				
1	Denver	175	175	100*	899	Alamosa	82	84	102*
501	Denver	140	129	92	3228	Monte Vista	49	47	96
2461	Denver	126	102	81	4849	La Jara	49	45	92
2797	Denver	37	39	105*	6101	San Luis	32	28	88
3971	Denver	36	32	89	8121	So Fork	96	103	107*
5061	Denver	106	105	99		TOTAL	308	307	99.7%
	TOTAL	620	582	94%	DISTRICT #8				
DISTRICT #2					DISTRICT #9				
2788	Penrose	38	25	66	859	Leadville	27	26	96
3641	Pueblo	81	75	93	1166	Buena Vista	91	75	82
4061	Canon City	153	138	90	11411	Lake George	52	50	96
5812	Pueblo West	53	49	92	12009	Conifer	31	31	100*
7305	Colo. City	27	21	78		TOTAL	201	182	91%
	TOTAL	352	308	88%	DISTRICT #10				
DISTRICT #3					DISTRICT #11				
41	Loveland	121	113	93	322	Englewood	119	99	83
1771	Lafayette	316	311	98	3471	Morrison	49	49	100*
1781	Ft. Collins	97	98	101*	3631	Aurora	109	98	90
2121	Greeley	98	95	97	4171	Golden	325	312	96
2585	Johnstown	80	71	89	4331	Arvada	132	136	103*
2601	Longmont	234	206	88	4444	Cmmrc City	184	187	102*
4334	Ault	34	35	103*	7945	Thornton	255	250	98
6624	Evans	218	205	94	9644	Fort Logan	330	327	99
9565	Broomfield	49	42	86		TOTAL	1503	1458	97%
	TOTAL	1247	1176	94%	DISTRICT #12				
DISTRICT #4					DISTRICT #13				
2551	Ft. Morgan	129	127	98	3411	Kit Carson	27	27	100*
3541	Sterling	81	71	88	6491	Burlington	18	18	100*
4671	Wray	30	29	97	6612	Hugo	51	47	92
8064	Akron	30	9	30		TOTAL	96	92	96%
	TOTAL	270	236	87%	DISTRICT #14				
DISTRICT #5					DISTRICT #15				
101	Colo. Spgs.	80	73	91	15006	At Large	318	324	102%*
3917	Security	214	200	93		TOTAL DEPT.	6,633	6,293	95%
4051	Colo. Spgs	309	280	91	"100 Years of Serving Veterans"				
5221	Calhan	27	28	104*	VFW Auxiliary				
6461	Fountain	120	131	109*	Department of Colorado				
7829	Monument	31	31	100*					
	TOTAL	781	743	95%					
DISTRICT #6									
336	Ordway	79	82	104*					
2411	LasAnimas	110	111	101*					
3621	Lamar	17	0	0					
4001	Springfield	28	29	93					
4281	Holly	8	9	113*					
	TOTAL	242	228	94%					

Roster Changes

District 10 President Jackie Newlander: 3218 So Andes St., Aurora 80013

VFW National Home for Children Chair: Raymond Moelder, 1518 39th St., Evans 80620

Longs Peak Auxiliary 2601: 3rd Wed 6:00 PM American Legion, 315 S Bowen
President Jennifer Bowar, 731 Atwood St., Longmont 80501 303-776-7468

Conejos County Auxiliary President: Vickie Chavez, 2256 Co Rd 12.5, Antonito 81120
719-580-6770

Treasurer: Linda Ortega, 420 7th St., Alamosa 81101 719-937-2041
Dues \$28.00

Pueblo West Auxiliary Treasurer: Jeanette Robley, 591 S El Charro Dr., Pueblo 81007
719-671-2935

Patriot's Pen Winners

1st Place Carmel Thompson (see page 7)

2nd Place: Mia Yost, Sponsored by District 11 and VFW Post 3571 and Auxiliary

3rd Place: Ainsllie Ross, Sponsored by District 3 & VFW Post 1771 Lafayette & Auxiliary

4th Place: Stephanie Framel, Sponsored by District 13 & Post 3411 Kit Carson & Auxiliary

5th Place: Ariel Legner, Sponsored by District 10 and Post 7975 and Auxiliary

Congratulations!



Aux 1247: Loretta L. Tarr
Aux 1771: Jeannie Harder, Margaret Slavec, Patricia Elliott, Norma Rowland, Alaine Mealey, Judy Strand
Aux 2601: Georgia Hart
Aux 3631: Lorraine Lane, Cora Wiegard, Marie Troxler, Velma Rice, Eleanor A. Perkier
Aux 4061: Beverly A. Chicoine
Aux 4663: Annette Baker
Aux 6461: Julie Skawinski, Melbadean Canape, Alice N. Knapp, Marjorie R. Massman

Americanism

HAPPY 2017 to all of you!!!

Yes I know I'm a month late—but as my faithful stand-in pointed out at the last Council of Administration, I'm always a little late (haha). For those of you who didn't attend the C.O.A. in November you missed Mr. Raymond Moelder who channeled his inner "Stephane" and delivered my presentation for me. I heard it was a hoot to see in person but I did enjoy the video just the same. Once, again, THANK YOU Raymond for being a great sport!

We are in crunch time people in regards to meeting all of our goals. Our #1 goal this year, which would also give you extra points at the end of the year, is to recruit and get at the very least, one nomination for the Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. I know that all of you have been working diligently with schools within your community so please be

sure to be talking to students, Principles and/or fellow teachers in the area and have one of them nominate a teacher they fell meets all the criteria. I know and understand that we continue to run into issues getting into our schools for scholarships but I'm asking you to think outside the box. Use social media to promote the scholarship, use Google to get the schools information and email the principal. Please do not hesitate to contact me via text, phone calls, or email if you have any questions.

Last but not least thank you for all the reports and for doing your absolute best to promote Americanism. You are all doing a phenomenal job and are doing fabulous with making Colorado stand out.

I can't wait to see you all in Colorado Springs next month. We are going to have so much F-U-N!!

Stephane Trujillo
Department Americanism Chairman

Scholarship Program

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Thank you to all of you for your hard work with the Voice of Democracy 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 receive applications by February 15, 2017. Applications can be found at this link: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships/continuing-education/>

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, 2017. Auxiliary and District judging must be complete by April 10, 2017 and winners submitted to Department by April 15, 2017. Make sure to REPORT REPORT REPORT all of your hard work. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Beverly Archer and Sabrina Feagaiga
Department Scholarship Chairmen

VFW National Home for Children Program

HOW WE HELP

Families are welcomed to our small-town community where they may live for up to 4 years. They work to identify what they need and want to accomplish, during which time they are provided:

Housing

A single family home in our community for up to four years with no cost.

Education

Tutoring, classes, secondary financial assistance and more to help accomplish goals.

Daycare

Licensed childcare while at work, school or for respite.

Basic Needs

Food, health care & clothing, if needed.

Recreation

Opportunities to help with becoming

whole and healthy.

Case Management

A caring professional dedicated to providing the expertise, compassion, support and guidance needed for the family to succeed.

Military and Veteran Family Helpline

A free service that offers information, creates connections and gives hope to struggling military and veteran families. Call 800-313-4200 to speak with one of our experienced problem-solvers who care deeply about veterans and their families.

In accepting families to our program, we ask only one thing of them: They must be committed to making changes in their lives. To remain at the National Home, they are expected to demonstrate consistent progress toward family goals.

Buddy Poppy Program

We only have three more months left for this "Reporting Year". Don't forget to include; how many of the Buddy Poppy materials you handed out and describe how you used them, including any displays. As always, how many did you give out and how many "drives" did you hold.

It might be time to not only "think out of the box" but to "think out of town". We have Post/Auxiliaries that are in smaller towns and that can make it more difficult to distribute very many Poppies. Is there a neighboring town or School District that you can visit? Are they doing something special for Memorial Day or Veterans Day? If not, can you help them set something up? Some

Post/Auxiliaries go together and set up at rest areas! Check with the Department of Transportation if you can do this as well as set up signs informing everyone that you are there.

Do you have enough Poppies to do your display and hats for Department Convention?

Please, do not wait till the last minute to order your Poppies as it could take longer to receive them, especially if others are doing the same thing. Normal delivery is within 6-8 weeks so don't procrastinate.

Rena Cales
Department Buddy Poppy
Chairman



Veterans And Family Support

Happiness to all of you!!! 2017---A year to make a difference, a true impact on our veterans' lives!! I know...we all worked like crazy providing meals, food baskets, toys for children, parties, etc. during the months of November and December. But...It's a New Year, a Year of renewal, a Year to start over and do it even better!!! I love that...I like OVERS and doing it even BETTER!!

What I want all of us to think about is: WHAT KIND OF IMPACT HAVE YOU MADE? HOW HAVE YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A VETERAN? I want to know what a difference you have made. I need to know. Report it...write it down--send it to me on your reports.

Two things I want all of you incredible Auxiliary members to think about: 1. If you write down the impact made on your projects, I do believe it will make a bigger impact on you....The

process of writing it down will bring it to the fore front and I do believe you will realize the importance of what you do—it matters!!! 2. Please realize that the project that you do does not have to be big...SMALL STEPS GO A LONG WAY. Sometimes we think writing a big check, or giving really big is the only way. Small can be huge...give what you can. If it's a hug, a card, a loaf of home-made bread, a phone call---You have made a difference in that veteran's life.

Thank you for ALL you do each and every day for our veterans. And please report what you do...BRAG about it...write it down...Remember...RELATE THE IMPACT YOU MADE ON A VETERANS LIFE!!! Happy 2017!

Rose Naughton,
Department Veterans and
Family Support Chairman

Dee Guillory National Senior Vice-President 2016-2017

National Representative for March Conference



Dee Guillory of Gloucester, Va., was elected National Senior Vice-President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States Auxiliary at its 103rd National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., on July 27, 2016. She is now in the last office leading to the National Presidency, which she is expected to hold in 2017-2018.

A Life Member of Denbigh Auxiliary 6002, she joined on the eligibility of her grandfather, who served in the U.S. Army in World War II and Korea. On her 16th birthday, she joined VFW Auxiliary 176. Before leaving for college, Dee served as District Color Bearer and District Conduress, and remained a member while attending Virginia Tech. Dee transferred to VFW Auxiliary 6002 when she returned home.

Dee has served the organization in many capacities, including Auxiliary, District and State President, for which she was named Outstanding President of the Year for her membership group. She served several terms as both Treasurer and Secretary for her Auxiliary. On the National level, she was

director for the Legislative, Rehabilitation and Extension programs; she served on the Council of Administration and as National Chief of Staff in 2010-11.

Dee has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Virginia Tech, a master's in Public Administration from Troy University and a second master's in Strategic Planning from the Naval War College.

After serving 34 years as a civil servant in the Department of Defense, Dee retired in July 2013 from the Pentagon where she worked for the Chief of Naval Operations in the Office of Operations, Strategy and Policy. In her spare time, she loves boating, gardening and beekeeping. She is a Lector at the Church of St. Therese, belongs to the American Society of Military Comptrollers, American Legion Auxiliary 25 and Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary 1, and is a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children.

Dee's husband Mark and oldest son Mark Jr. are both Life Members of the VFW. Dee and Mark have another son who is a nurse at the VA Tripler Clinic in Hawaii, and three grandchildren.

2016 - 2017 Veteran's Pins Order Form		
Auxiliary No. _____ Ship to: _____		
Address: _____		
City _____		Zip: _____
Quantity: _____ Pins x \$3.00 each=\$ _____ enclosed		
Ordered by: _____		Phone: _____
Make check payable to <u>Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary</u>		
Mail Veteran's Pin order to:		Lennie Dolan 1170 Fulton St Aurora CO 80010 (303) 341-7488