

COLORADO VETERAN

and Auxiliary News

“No One Does More For Veterans”



May, 2018

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

Volume 57, Issue 4 2017 - 2018



Richard L. Eubank
Commander-in-Chief 2010-2011
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

National Representative
Colorado State Convention
June 13 - 16, 2018

Richard L. Eubank was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in August 2010, at the 111th VFW National Convention held in Indianapolis, Ind.

Eubank served in the U. S. Marine Corps from 1967 to 1987 including a tour in Vietnam, Dec. 1967 to Jan. 1969, as a field radio operator with the 1st and 3rd Marine Division. His decorations include the Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Achievement Medal with Combat V device, Good Conduct Medal with five Stars, Vietnam Service Medal with five stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal, National Defense Medal, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Medal, among others.

Eubank joined the VFW in 1988 at Post 10165 in Cameron Park, Calif. He is currently a Gold Legacy Life member of Post 9448 in Veneta, Oregon. He has served in elected and appointed positions at the Post, District and State levels culminating with his election as Department Commander of California in 1999

to 2000 and Department Commander of Oregon in 2014 to 2015. He is six-time All-American Commander and recipient of the distinguished Triple Crown, awarded to those who have attained All American Commander honors at the Post, District and State levels. He has also served on numerous national committees. Eubank served as VFW Commander-in-Chief while with the State of California Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Eubank is the owner of Recon Construction in California.

He is a life member of the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Non-Commissioned Officers Association, Vietnam Veterans of America, AMVETS, 1st Marine Division Association, Marine Corps League, and the Military Order of the Cootie. He is also a member of the Elks, Eagles as well as an “Honorary Life” member of the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Association.

Richard and his wife, Celeste, now make their home in Eugene, Oregon.



Jan Passmore
National Secretary-Treasurer
2017-2018
Elected July 26, 2017
National Convention
New Orleans, LA

National Representative
Colorado State Convention
June 13 - 16, 2018

Appointed National Secretary by National President Dee Guillory, Jan is responsible for supervising the daily operations of the organization at National Headquarters in Kansas City. This includes clarifying Auxiliary policy and supervising 11 staff members. She also serves as a liaison for the National Officers, and is the 2017-2018 Big Ten Conference President.

She is a Life Member of Corunna Auxiliary 4005 located in Corunna, Mich. She has been actively involved in the organization since joining on the eligibility of her father, Orvel Walter, a World War II U.S. Navy veteran on November 21, 1978. Jan's brother, Barry Walter, is a Vietnam U.S. Army veteran, and a semi-retired Veteran's Service Officer.

She has served as Auxiliary and District President, and served as Department of Michigan Treasurer from 1998-2016. As Department Treasurer, Jan oversaw the operating funds, restricted funds, investments and contracts with hotels for services to the Department during Council of

Administration Conference meetings and Conventions. Jan was appointed by former VFW Auxiliary National Secretary-Treasurer Jan Owens to serve on the Membership and Auxiliary Leadership Technology Access (MALTA) committee in 2016.

Jan is a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children. She has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Baker College, and graduated magna cum laude. Jan's major was in computer information systems with a minor in accounting. She worked for the Department of Michigan VFW from 1996-1998 in Administrative Support processing VFW dues to National Headquarters. Jan also worked for Transitional Health Services from 1993-1996 as an administrative assistant and event planner for large group meetings.

Jan and husband, Brian, have four children and eight grandchildren.

Hope to see everyone
Colorado State Convention
June 13 - 16, 2018
Ramada Plaza Inn
Thornton, CO.

In Memory of

Past Department President
Althea Carlstrom
1962 - 1963

Passed away January 5, 2018

Althea is missed by many family members and friends

MAY DISTRICT MEETINGS

NO.	DATE	LOCATION	TIME	REPRESENTATIVE
1	5/20/18 Saturday	Post No. 5061 Denver	10:00 am 12:00 noon Meal Joint Meeting Election/Installation	Ed Aitken Kathy Carlson
2	5/12/18 Saturday	Post No. 8898 Boone	11:30 am Joint Mtg 12:00 noon Lunch Meeting to follow Election/Installation	Dave Stone Kathy Carlson
3	5/20/18 Sunday	Post No. 9565 Broomfield	12:00 noon Meal 1:00 pm Meeting Election/Installation	Bobby Kidd Caroline Gelatt
8	5/05/18 Saturday	Post No. 3820 Salida	12:00 noon Meal 1:00 pm Meeting Election/Installation	Steve Kjonaas Shelley Schlieman
10	5/06/18 Sunday	Post No. 4171 Golden	1:00 pm (Election of Officers) Lunch and Installation	Kirk Rosa Cindy Anderson
11	5/06/18 Sunday	Post No. 9333 Hotchkiss	9:30 am Registration 10:30 am Memorial Service 11:00 am Joint Mtg 12:00 noon Lunch Meeting to follow Election/Installation	Ron Lattin Caroline Gelatt

Mother's Day is May 13th

**PAST COMMANDERS CLUB
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO VFW**

Dear Fellow Past Commanders:

You may qualify to join our Past Commanders Club if you have been a commander for the previous six months as of Dec 20th, 2017. Lifetime Membership to our great club is \$30.00. Below you will find an entry form that you can fill out and return with your check. Thank you for joining and we hope to see you at State Convention..

Once again, it is time for our Annual Sweepstakes and the planning of our meeting. This year, as in the past, we are going to ask for a \$2.00 per ticket or 3 for \$5.00 donation to participate for a chance to win up to \$500.00. These donations go to the Birthday Card program for our Past Commanders and in the support of the Department Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs.

As most of you know, for the past few years our Club has made a donation to the VFW Department of Colorado Foundation to assist in the aid of worthy distressed comrades and their families. Therefore, again this year, if you

would like to include a donation for this worthwhile project, please do so when you return your tickets and dinner reservation. Remember but for the Grace of the Great Spirit, it could be one of us asking for help!

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you soon!

Melissa M. Dawson Secretary
7309 W. Hampden Ave #5201
Lakewood CO 80227

D. J. Alberts President

**Past Commanders Club
Membership Application
(print or type all information)**

Name: _____
 Birthdate: MDY _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____
 Post #: _____ District: _____
 Post Name: _____
 Years as Commander: _____
 Email: _____
 \$30 Check Payable to: VFW Department
 of Colorado Past Commanders

COLORADO VETERAN and AUXILIARY NEWS

Official periodical of
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Colorado

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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

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Caroline Gelatt, president
Cindy Anderson, treasurer
Linda Reinpold, jr. past president
Ann Mauck, auxiliary news chairman

vfwco.org

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:

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

Chapel Escort and Coffee Hour Schedule

May 6	So Denver VFW #2461	Denver
13	John S Stewart VFW #1	Denver
20	Joseph J Jacques VFW #7945	Thornton
27	Verle Huffman VFW #9644	Sheridan
June 3	Paul A. Westover VFW #3471	Morrison
10	Dean K. Phillips VFW #5061	Denver
17	Retired Enlisted (TREA#3)	Denver
24	Englewood VFW #322	Englewood
July 1	Skyline VFW #2797	Denver
8	Mile High VFW #1771	Lafayette
15	Pat Hannon VFW #4666	Littleton
22	Dean K. Phillips VFW #5061	Denver
29	Verle Huffman VFW #9644	Sheridan
Aug 5	Golden VFW #4171	Golden
12	Retired Enlisted (TREA#39)	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 patients that wish to attend.

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.

Colorado VFW Foundation

From the Board of Directors: First and foremost THANK YOU!!! VFW, VFW Auxiliary, Family and Friends. With your help and support we have been able to continue to help Colorado's Veterans and their families.

We are approaching the end of the Fiscal Year for 2017-2018: this year we have processed over 140 applications and have approved 109 applications expending over \$45,000.00. Applications are still being screened and processed by the Board of Directors. Funds are limited and approval is determined on a case by case basis.

The Grant Application is available on the Department Website. Any eligible Veteran in need of emergency assistance across the State of Colorado can apply for a one time Grant of \$500.

As always we are asking for donations. Please make your checks payable to Colorado VFW Foundation and mail to 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214.

VFW Colorado Foundation Board of Directors

VFW Salutes America's Gulf War Veterans

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – On April 11, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. honors the 27th anniversary of the official cease fire of Operation Desert Storm.

Our Gulf War veterans are remembered for not only liberating a country, but for reigniting America's pride in their military. The speedy victory over Iraq is often overshadowed by other conflicts, but the VFW remembers. We remember that America was fighting the then-fourth largest standing army in the world, one that was battle-hardened from a nine-year war with Iran, and one that was so brutal that it gassed

its own citizens. The fact the war lasted six weeks in the air and 100 hours on the ground is a testament to America's training and hardware, and of proven military leadership who had honed their teeth in Vietnam — where they learned how not to fight the next war.

The VFW honors all 700,000 American soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen who served in the Gulf, most especially our 374 fallen, 467 wounded, and two servicemen who remain missing-in-action. You accomplished your mission to "Free Kuwait," and the VFW salutes your service as brothers and sisters in arms.

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 Ed Aitken



Comrades, Sisters and Brothers, I hope you made it home from the Council of Administration Safely.

Thanks to the Pueblo West Post for an outstand-

ing weekend. I would like to thank, Quartermaster General Debra Anderson for accepting our invite to the Council of Administration.

The Legislation team traveled to Washington D.C. to attend the Voice of Democracy and support our state winner Caitlyn Olson who placed 5th and received \$5500.00 scholarship. The visit to Congress and Senator representatives from our state. We were well received and they seemed to be very receptive to the Veterans of Foreign Wars goals. In fact, I attended the United Veterans Committee meeting the week after and was approached by a gentleman from the Paralyzed Veterans of America. Who stated that they were after us and was told the VFW was already there and made a strong case, of which we agree.

I was invited by our Auxiliary President Caroline Gelatt, to be part of the National Auxiliary President **Dee Guillory** visit. **The Auxiliary has a Great Leader. I attended the meet and greet in Johnstown, a tour of the new VA**

Loveland Clinic, Veterans Plaza in Fort Collins and then arriving at the Fort Collins Post 1781 for a fantastic meal by the Posts Auxiliary. Thanks again for the invite Madam President Gelatt.

The new VA Clinic in Loveland brings a whole new way to serve Veterans. It's a Veteran friendly facility. The Staff is there to serve us The Veterans. The ribbon cutting had City, County, State and representatives, all of which had something to say. But the most talked about person was Caitlyn Olson our own State Voice of Democracy winner. She read her speech and there was not a dry eye in the crowd.

My wife and I attended a Change of Command and Retirement for Chief Master Sergeant James B. Whitlow, Jr., a member of Carbon Valley Post 9741. I congratulate him for his 29 years of service to the U.S. Air Force and to our Country. Good luck and best wishes to you James.

This being my last article as Commander I want to thank all of you for the Honor and Pleasure you allowed me as your Commander. To the Districts, Posts and members, that my wife and I have visited, you will always be in our hearts and prayers.

Ed Aitken
State Commander

Jr. Vice Column David Stone



Greetings comrades,

Being in a "department chair" gives me the opportunity to travel across Colorado to visit our VFW Posts and

Auxiliaries and attend district meetings. I always enjoy learning a few things about the history town or region of our vast state and of the good work the VFW and Auxiliary is doing. But what I am most impressed with is the simple, unassuming reports that our Posts and Auxiliaries make about their activities. Visiting a sick comrade in one town. Visiting a nursing home in another. Honoring incarcerated veterans in yet another.

And though it's clear that our VFW and Auxiliary members are rightfully proud of what they do, at the same time it's clear that they do all these activities

not for praise, not for glory, and not for acclaim, but because they believe it's the right thing to do.

It's at these meetings that I am reminded that the center of the VFW world is not at the national headquarters in Kansas City, not at our Department Headquarters in Lakewood. Instead there are over 90 "Centers of Caring" across Colorado, one at each of our Posts. It's there that true service to our veterans occurs, as our posts and auxiliaries take care of the veterans in the communities they live in.

We value those posts and auxiliaries and are grateful for what they do. You need to know that we consider the posts to be the most vital elements of our organization and I will do everything that I can to help each post be successful.

David Stone
State Jr. Vice Commander

Surgeon's Column Robert Kidd, Sr.



It is hard to believe that my time as the State Surgeon is almost over and we have just a little over two months left in this Veterans of Foreign Wars year. Time has

just flown by.

It was nice to see everyone that come to Pueblo West for the C of A on the weekend of March 24th & 25th. There was some good training on Saturday as well as good information put out about the Homeless Veterans groups throughout the State helping Veterans.

I have completed my visits to all the VA assisted living homes and commu-

nity living centers that are required of me. I will say that it has been a very enlightening time for me as I have gone throughout the state this year. I have made new friends within the Veterans of Foreign Wars as well as outside of the VFW.

As I said when I started this run, I am going the distance. I am putting my hat into the ring and running for the office of State Jr. Vice Commander for the next Veterans of Foreign Wars year 2018-2019. I hope to have your support.

Robert M. Kidd Sr.
State Surgeon

Sr. Vice Column Steve Kjonaas



Thank you for all you do! I am proud when I speak with other VFW Senior Vice Commanders around the world about Colorado's VFW Posts and members. What we

have done for Veteran Homelessness, PTSD, helping the less fortunate are remarkable, and occasionally you have helped with Service Animals for Veterans. There are of course many more projects I haven't mentioned, but you get the idea of how easy it is to speak about Colorado's VFW and its Auxiliary when given the opportunity. Your generosity and hard work are well known and appreciated, but I ask for more. I see many projects that are worthy of your time and effort and I wish you can spare a little extra energy with one or the other projects.

For your consideration, I offer these two projects, both help veterans and their families as well give you a chance to see the impact the VFW makes in our communities.

First, Brittany Davies (Northeast representative for the National Business Aviation Association) brought forth the

idea of flying gifts and food to outlying areas of Colorado for less fortunate Veterans and their families about seven years ago so the Christmas holiday season would be a little fuller. I ask you in the ensuing year that each post donate just a little from the Post Relief fund to CABA, the return on your donation will help Colorado's Veterans and their families provide a little relief; the smiles on the children are incredible!

Secondly, we have been working with HUD and the VA to permanently house homeless Veterans and their families through a program structured to end veteran homelessness. My wish if selected as State Commander is that each Post contribute a Home Starter Kit for Homes for All Veterans. A video found here shows the impact that the VFW has already made to Veteran Homelessness <http://bit.ly/2GHzJEB>

I am grateful for everything that you do for all Veterans and their families in Colorado and I can't wait to see what unfolds next year!

Steve Kjonaas
State Sr. Vice Commander

Quartermaster's Column Bruce Dolan



Greetings,

I hope this finds all well.

As we come to the end of another year, I would like to thank everyone for their help this year. The audits have

improved again. I think I can count on one hand the audits that were returned for correction. This as compared to 3 years ago when it was reaching 20 + per quarter.

I see some of you Posts are still carrying a dues reserve. This is fine, although it is no longer required for Posts according to the By-Laws. So whatever makes you comfortable, please continue, because the audits look good.

As of the 15th of April we have 1 District that has turned in NO audits, 2 Districts that have not turned in a December audit, 2 Posts that have turned in NO audits, and 8 Posts that have not turned in a December audit. I hope everyone realizes that a condition of cur-

ing a monetary loss through the bonding company is to be current on the quarterly audit. Just sayin!

For those Quartermasters who are not running for reelection, it has been fun working with you. I also hope you will give guidance to the new incoming quartermasters. If you don't know already, National has published a slick handbook for quartermasters which can be found on then National web site. If you need help finding it, please call department and we can guide to it. It has been done in a format which you can print out and pass along.

For those quartermasters that are sticking around, if you have any questions or concerns, call us. We don't have all of the answers, but know where to get them.

I am running for Department Quartermaster again, so I would like everyone's support.

Bruce R. Dolan, State QM
Department of Colorado

2018 VFW Spring Sweepstakes

Closing date - June 20, 2018

Awards will be paid within 10 days following the close of the program

Have you returned your Spring Sweepstake Tickets?

If not, please do so ASAP

If you do not return them, you cannot win!

and Thank You for your donation of \$5.00 or more

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

**General Orders No. 4
May 1, 2018 Series 2017-2018**

1. **98th DEPARTMENT CONVENTION** will be held in the Ramada Plaza Inn, Northglenn, CO., June 13th through 16th, hosted by Joseph J. Jacques Jr. VFW Post 7945 and VFW Auxiliary, Thornton, CO. The Council of Administration will meet at 7:00 pm, June 13th at Ramada Plaza Inn. 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 18, 2018.

3. **DISTRICT COMMANDERS** must attend Council of Administration meeting June 13th at State Convention in Thornton, CO. You must also be present at ALL Business Sessions to receive your full travel expense check plus per diem for you motel room.

4. **REQUESTS FOR REIMBURSEMENT** from 2017-2018 Council Members between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018, must be submitted in writing and approved by the State Commander. If NOT submitted by July 10, 2018, the request will not be paid.

5. **POST ELECTION REPORTS:** It is the responsibility of the membership to insist that the responsible officer reports the elections of officers to Department immediately after the election is completed. If not sent to Department Headquarters by June 1, 2018, your Post will not be allowed to vote at State Convention.

Section 213 – Arrearages, Deficiencies and Omissions states: Any Post

in arrears for any financial obligations to District, Department or National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

6. **POST AND DISTRICT ELECTION REPORTS:** If not sent to Department by July 1, 2018 your officers will be omitted from the Department Roster. No exceptions.

7. **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.

8. **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/ *Ronald J. Lattin*
Ronald J. Lattin
State Adjutant

BY COMMAND OF:
/s/ *Edward Aitken*
Edward Aitken
State Commander

How to Find a Unit to Adopt

The references and resources below are to help you *get started* supporting local military units and their families through VFW's **Adopt-a-Unit (AAU) program**. Before submitting AAU paperwork to VFW National HQ or sending care packages to a unit: Get permission from the unit's Commanding officer or Senior NCO. Review the information in the Adopt-a-Unit Application. VFW HQs does not have a list of names &/or addresses of units or service members.

Resources

VFW Post/Auxiliary members are the BEST resources to make contact with a local military unit. Ask if anyone has a friend/relative currently serving in the military; or even knows of someone working/serving on a local base.

VFW & Auxiliary Department Chairmen are a critically important resource, they receive training on VFW troop support programs and receive regular communications from VFW HQs. **Your own hometown community** (Churches, workplace, schools, VSOs etc.) As with your membership, ask around to see if anyone has a friend or relative currently serving in the military or working at a base or reserve center.

Military/Internet Resources

Active Duty Military Bases/Installations: *Military.com* Assists 30 million Americans with military affinity stay connected and informed, including an online guide to military bases. <http://www.military.com/base-guide/>

The Military Zone is a website whose mission is to provide military news, information and resources of interest to active, retired, and future military personnel. Their information seems a little older, but it does have telephone numbers for many bases: http://themilitaryzone.com/military_bases.html

My Base Guide primarily geared towards military and their families. Click on the link below to check the U.S. map and see if there is a base in your area. When you find a base, then click on the name. From the bases' webpage, look for the "Directory" and look for the "Public Affairs" office to make contact. <http://mybaseguide.com/>

Chaplain's Column George Snyder



Greetings Colorado:

Comrades, Auxiliary Members, Family, and Friends; This will be my last official address to you as the State Chaplain. As most of you know I have accepted a federal

job offer in Yokota AFB, Japan. Nida and I are both excited for the opportunities that lie ahead, and the challenges, and rewards that the job will offer. Our greatest regret is the many friends and family that we leave behind, and the many relationships that we have developed throughout our 15 years in this great State, and with the members in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Colorado and its Auxiliary.

I am so honored and appreciative that I was blessed with the opportunity to serve in such a wonderful and prestigious organization. An organization that cares so much about the benefits and welfare of its members, and the Veteran's who graciously gave and continue to give so much in service to this great country. I can truly say that the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliary are some of the finest people that I have ever met. Each of you is not like any other. You are at your very best when things are worst.

I want to say thank you to the many mentors throughout the years who have

encouraged me to learn and grow. I want to also thank each of you for advocating for Veteran's rights and always choosing the "hard right over the easy wrong". Thank you for continuing to reach out to those who are in need of services, and your desire to end Veteran homelessness. Your work continues...

My friends, we are living in uncertain and often perilous times. I ask this of you; will you continue to serve him even if he doesn't grant you the desires of your heart? The Lord knows his children and he also knows how ungrateful we can be. Many times we'll praise him when we're on the mountain top (our high's), but cease to praise him in the valley (our low's). Before the Lord releases a blessing there must be testing!! It's during these times where he's able to show us just what's inside of us that needs removed before moving onward to the next mountain top. Refuse to allow pain, hurt, confusion, petty jealousies, and trivial pursuits to dictate your path when you know that you serve an awesome God!! Praise him always!! Not just when you're on top of the mountain, but also in the valley low.

May God bestow his richest blessings on each of you while you continue to serve. I look forward to seeing all of you again.

George Snyder
State Chaplain

Center for Women Veterans (CWV) Nationwide Baby Shower

Women make up approximately 10 of the Veteran population in the United States, and nearly half of our nation's 2 million women Veterans are of reproductive age. The Department of Veterans Affairs offers comprehensive primary care, prenatal and preconception (pre-pregnancy) care, infertility services, maternity care services, and the first 7 days of newborn care. However, many women Veterans are unaware of these VA services - we need them to know that this is not their grandfathers' VA! In order to foster a connected community as Veterans become parents, the VA is proud to host a baby shower with dedicated partners to provide useful baby items and information on VA programs and services.

To honor and support Veterans welcoming new babies into their families in 2018, VA is hosting the first ever Nationwide Baby Shower for Veterans in May, 2018! This week-long event will take place at 60 VA Medical across the country from May 7-11, 2018, the week leading up to Mother's Day on May 13. So far, over 2,400 new Veteran parents and new Veteran parents-to-be have signed up to participate! Here's where we need your help. In order to provide a uniform experience to our new Veteran parents, we developed a sweet and sensible new baby package containing a variety of useful baby products: a diaper bag, new baby toiletries, hair brush and comb set, bib, layette, blanket, and hat. Just \$50 will purchase a new baby kit full of terrific items to be delivered to the Veteran at their local Baby Shower. There are three ways you can help!

1. **Spread the word** - please help us share information about this exciting event with your networks through email and on social media. You may purchase kits screened for compliance with American Medical Association and American Pediatric Association recommendations at <https://www.promoplace.com/205353/stores/Babyshower> (<https://www.promoplace.com/205353/stores/Babyshower>). Note: By accessing this link you will leave the Department of Veterans Affairs web site. VA does not endorse and is not responsible for the content of the linked web site. Reference VA disclaimers (<https://www.va.gov/web/standards/disclaimer.cfm>).

2. **Donate items** - if your organization is interested in contributing items for new Veteran parents, we are happy to work with you!

Contact Danielle Corazza (<mailto:Danielle.Corazza@va.gov&subject=Nationwide%20Baby%20Shower%20Item%20Donation>) to learn more. We would be thrilled to get vouchers for at least 60 "big ticket" items (such as car seats or cribs) so at least one Veteran per site can be surprised with a special gift.

3. **Purchase multiple kits**- if your organization would like to purchase 100 kits or more, we would love to recognize your generosity online and at the events. Contact Danielle Corazza (<mailto:Danielle.Corazza@va.gov&subject=Nationwide%20Baby%20Shower%20Multiple%20Kit%20Purchase>) learn more, particularly if engaging with a non-profit partner would make this option more feasible.

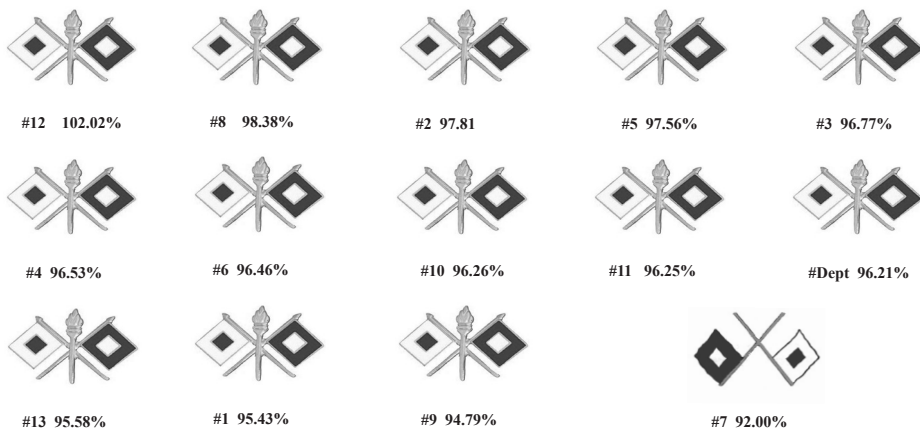
Event Location in Colorado:
• May 8, 2018
Denver, CO (<https://www.denver.va.gov>)

VFW Post Membership by District as of April 27, 2018

Number/ City	2017	2018	%	Number/City	2017	2018	%
DISTRICT #1				DISTRICT #8			
1 Denver	930	942	101*	859 Leadville	37	34	92
501 Denver	334	311	93	1166 Buena Vista	130	128	98
2461 Denver	157	132	84	3820 Salida	90	84	93
2797 Denver	66	40	61	8661 Bailey	138	130	94
5061 Denver	308	288	94	10721 Minturn	102	107	105*
TOTAL	1795	1713	95%	11411 Lake George	47	48	102*
DISTRICT #2				DISTRICT #9			
2788 Penrose	88	87	99	12009 Conifer	137	139	101*
3641 Pueblo	152	155	102*	TOTAL	681	670	98%
4061 Canon City	303	281	93	DISTRICT #10			
5812 Pueblo West	184	191	104*	322 Englewood	107	104	97
7305 Colo. City	45	42	93	3471 Morrison	68	73	107*
8898 Boone	43	44	102*	3631 Aurora	335	328	98
12063 Westcliffe	54	50	93	4121 Idaho Spgs.	53	51	96
TOTAL	869	850	98%	4171 Golden	446	433	97
DISTRICT #3				DISTRICT #11			
41 Loveland	294	289	98	4266 Parker	76	70	92
807 Boulder	45	43	96	4331 Arvada	325	289	89
1771 Lafayette	309	272	88	4444 Cmmrc Cty	212	208	98
1781 Ft. Collins	324	331	102*	4666 Littleton	139	137	99
2121 Greeley	168	176	105*	7563 Black Hawk	24	19	79
2585 Johnstown	214	192	90	7945 Thornton	384	362	94
2601 Longmont	359	368	103*	8449 Bennett	59	64	108*
4334 Ault	66	61	92	9644 Fort Logan	446	436	98
6624 Evans	270	253	94	TOTAL	2674	2574	96%
9565 Broomfield	116	113	97	DISTRICT #12			
9741 Dacono	66	61	92	4031 Durango	223	228	102*
TOTAL	2231	2159	97%	5181 Dove Creek	50	51	102*
DISTRICT #4				DISTRICT #13			
2551 Ft. Morgan	205	208	101*	3411 Kit Carson	27	22	81
3378 Yuma	63	63	100*	6491 Burlington	68	67	99
3541 Sterling	109	99	91	6612 Hugo	38	37	97
3551 Brush	37	30	81	9491 Deer Trail	20	18	90
3951 Ovid	24	21	88	9700 Chynn Wlls	28	29	104*
3961 Otis	19	19	100*	TOTAL	181	173	96%
4671 Wray	54	54	100*	15006 MAL	2651	2481	94%
6482 Holyoke	56	52	93	TOTAL DEPT	16496	15872	96%
7153 Fleming	28	26	93	DISTRICT #14			
8064 Akron	40	41	103*	DISTRICT #15			
TOTAL	635	613	97%	DISTRICT #16			
DISTRICT #5				DISTRICT #17			
101 Colo. Spgs.	490	479	98	DISTRICT #18			
3917 Security	636	627	99	DISTRICT #19			
4051 Colo. Spgs	647	601	93	DISTRICT #20			
5221 Calhan	111	102	92	DISTRICT #21			
6051 Wldnd Park	49	50	102*	DISTRICT #22			
6461 Fountain	307	310	101*	DISTRICT #23			
7829 Monument	136	145	107*	DISTRICT #24			
10649 Elizabeth	50	53	106*	DISTRICT #25			
TOTAL	2426	2367	98%	DISTRICT #26			
DISTRICT #6				DISTRICT #27			
336 Ordway	94	93	99	DISTRICT #28			
2411 LasAnimas	98	91	93	DISTRICT #29			
4001 Springfield	44	43	98	DISTRICT #30			
4091 Rocky Ford	48	45	94	DISTRICT #31			
4281 Holly	27	28	104*	DISTRICT #32			
TOTAL	311	300	96%	DISTRICT #33			
DISTRICT #7				DISTRICT #34			
899 Alamosa	110	102	93	DISTRICT #35			
3228 Monte Vista	38	34	89	DISTRICT #36			
4849 La Jara	56	50	89	DISTRICT #37			
6101 San Luis	66	59	89	DISTRICT #38			
8121 Del Norte	55	54	98	DISTRICT #39			
TOTAL	325	299	92%	DISTRICT #40			

**2018 dues are now DUE.
Be 100% +1 in 2017-2018**

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



Buddy Poppy Display & Hat Parade

State Convention – We have two fantastic Buddy Poppy events:

1. **Buddy Poppy Hat Parade**, remember how much fun that was last year, we are going to have even more fun this year. Hat Parade will be judged in 3 categories, Saturday June 16th, VFW Auxiliary Business Session.

1. Creativity
2. Patriotic
3. President's Theme

Buddy Poppy Display: start working on your entries, Let's blow the doors off last year's displays which were outstanding.

Displays will be judged in 3 categories:

1. **Public promotion of Poppy Campaign**

Examples (Window, Booth, Parade, Poster Display, Campaign promotions and etc.) display 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 Displays**

Examples (Wreaths, Memorial tables, Plaques, Patriotic or Devotional Themes) 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.

3. **Artistic or Decorative use of the Poppies.**

Examples (Post Home Displays, Table Center pieces, Corsages, Pictures, Plaques, scenes, Models, Hats, Novelty piece) and any Display not meeting Category 1 or 2 Qualifications.

All Entries must have at least one Poppy used in its original form, color, and Label attached.

A 4" x 6" Display Card may or may

not accompany the entry, use Black ink, use neat readable lettering, use the Card for explanation of the Theme, number of Poppies used. Do Not include Post Number/ Name or Location – Cannot be visible on Display /Card or entry will be disqualified.

Judging will be based on:

1. Effectiveness
2. Purpose
3. Clarity of Theme
4. Beauty
5. Number of Poppies used

First, Second and Third Place Winners will be announced at the Military Banquet, Friday night June 15th.

First Place Winners in each Category will be eligible to be taken to the National Convention and entered in their respective Category. National Entry form must be signed by a VFW and/or Auxiliary Department Officer and the Department Adjutant will notify the National Program Director, in writing, by June 30 of the Posts that will represent Department in each category.

At State Convention starting Thursday from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM and on Friday from 8:00 AM thru Noon, you will need to find the Buddy Poppy Chairperson(s) to enter and set up your display, and you will need to fill out an Entry form with the following information needed:

1. Category of entry.
2. Purpose of display.
3. What you have used, or what you are going to use display for.
4. How many Poppies used.
5. Aux Number/ Location.
6. Name and Cell phone of person who will take down and remove the display.

Please remember - Buddy Poppy committee shall not have any responsibility in setting up, taking down or returning your entry.

VFW Roster Changes

Page 13

Past Cmdrs. Club President and Grand Cmdr. MOC: Melissa Dawson
7309 W Hampden Ave. Apt 5201, Lakewood 80227

Page 16

PDC Harland Smith, 601 N. East Street #27, Paola, KS 66071
PDC Bill Esch, 4653 w 23rd St., Greeley 80634

Page 44

Montezuma County Post 5231, 25 N Market St., Cortez 81321
Mail address P O Box 194, Mancos 81328

Page 46

Post 6101 Qm: Carlos De Leon, 12159 Co Rd 21, San Luis 81152 719-206-0279
Ser Off: Charles Orona, 10565 Co Rd 21, San Pablo 81152

Page 53

Post 11411 Service Officer: vacant



Post 1: Ray Starkey

Post 1771: Glyde Davis, William R. Leslie, Harold R. Conway, Carl V. Willmann, Eugene P. Eisenbarth

Post 2121: Wayne Ball, Francis Loustalet, Lloyd Seekamp, Emmett Parr, William Roth, Edwin Phillipsen, Carl Benson

Post 2461: Clifford James McPeck

Post 3631: Joe Salaz

Post 3820: Dan M. Johnson, Clarence Dale Little

Post 3981: John Kendall Jr., Roy C. McRay Sr.

Post 4051: Eugene Christians, Edward Symbouras, John Button, Jerry Heckman, Jack Morimitsu

Post 4171: Warren Wellensiek

Post 5485: Walter E. Bachus


Post 5221: Richard D. Young

Post 8449: Quentin C. "Bud" Morse, Marcus "Lee" Rees

(Correction Not Deceased)

Post 4265: Winfield G. Pankey

Post 5221: Leslie Bullock




Steve Kjonaas

Asks for your support to become the 2018-2019 VFW Colo. Dept. Commander

The Current Sr. Vice Commander
Deep engagement with:
Our Colorado United States Legislative Leaders
Homeless Veterans ~ Student Veterans
VFW Leader Mentorship and Training

“Let’s do things right AND do the right things”

ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT



ROBERT M. KIDD SR.
For
State Jr. Vice Commander
2018 - 2019

I have been a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Post 3917 for over 22 years.


As I finish out my year as the State Surgeon, I am looking for your support to be elected to the position of the State Jr. Vice Commander.

**For Department of Colorado
Sr. Vice Commander**



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


Kevin Reinhold
Candidate for
Department of Colorado Chaplain
2018-2019



I am the current Department of Colorado District 5 Commander. Retired U.S. Army, where I earned my VFW eligibility with three combat tours in Iraq. I joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars as a Life Member in 2004.

I believe that a strong leader must listen-
I believe that a strong leader must have knowledge-
I believe that a strong leader must be truthful-
I believe that a strong leader must be trustworthy
I believe that I have proven myself to be a strong leader

District 5, Commander 2017-2018
Department of Colorado Membership 2017-2018
Department of Colorado Hospital 2016-2018
Post Commander 2013-2016 –
(All State Post Commander three years)




**Re-Elect
Bruce Dolan**

Joseph J Jacques Jr. VFW Post 7945

State Quartermaster 2018-2019

Bruce has served as
Department Quartermaster 2013-2018
Department Commander 2012-2013
Department Sr Vice Commander 2011-2012
Department Jr Vice Commander 2010-2011
National Council Member 2016-2020

“Always working for Colorado Veterans”



Barbara Green
Candidate for
STATE SURGEON
2018-2019

District 5 Commander 2016-2017
VFW Post 4051 Commander 2016-2017
M O C Colorado Grand Commander 2015-2016
Past Post Quartermaster, Adjutant and Chaplain
Department Community Service Chairman
Past Department Patriots Pen Chairman
1st Gulf War Veteran, USAFR



L-R: State VFW Auxiliary Officers: Jr. Vice Sabrina Feagaiga, Jr Past President Linda Reinpold, President Caroline Gelatt, National President Dee Guillory, Sr. Vice Shelley Schlieman, Secretary Ginny Rosa, Chief of Staff Colleen Rylant.



L-R: Past National President Helene Lenehan and National VFW Auxiliary President Dee Guillory during her official visit to Colorado, March 26 - 28, 2018.



State Commander Ed Aitken and State President Caroline Gelatt get ready to present Salute to Service Plaques to VFW Post and Auxiliary members who have been nominated for their voluntarism.



State President Caroline Gelatt pins a 50 year membership pin on Elaine Ciccone, VFW Auxiliary #1 and present her with a Salute to Service Award Plaque. State Commander Ed Aitken holds the plaque for Elaine..



VFW State Chaplain George Snyder shakes hand with State Commander Ed Aitken at the Salute to Service dinner. George and his wife Nida will be leaving for Japan after State Convention where George has accepted a new job. They will be missed.



VFW Post #3981 Recipients of Quilts of Valor: Service Officer Dan Mina, Jr. Vice Will Anderson, OOD David Haake, Chaplain Linda Bishop Adjutant Gino Mazza. In the past 7 other members have also received Quilts.



VA Pueblo CLC veterans received quilts from Quiltmakers. Post and Auxiliary #5812 Pueblo members helped out giving cake and ice cream to the veterans.

ONE VOICE UNITED FOR VETERANS



AND THEIR FAMILIES

VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT RAFFLE 2018

Just a reminder

If you still have ticket stubs & money to send in
Deadline For mailing is **June 4, 2018.**

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

So if you have unsold tickets, Glenna needs them also.
please send them to me or bring them to convention.

You may send your stubs with the money collected
OR unsold tickets

TO Glenna Medina; P.O. Box 874, Platteville, CO 80651

Please make checks payable to: VFWA DEPT. OF CO

Remember these are funds to provide awards to winners in; Youth
Scholarship Programs; Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen,
Creative Patriotic Art

Booklets of tickets have been distributed to all
Auxiliary Presidents, District Presidents, Department Officers and
Department Chairmen to sell.

ALL Auxiliary members are encouraged to sell tickets.

I have had a tremendous response from our members.

Thank you ALL for the work that you do.

If you are coming to Convention I look forward to seeing you there.
I will be at the registration desk during convention to take your
ticket stubs and money.

So go to work VFW Auxiliary Members, sell those tickets!
Time is running out!

Contact me for more information; Glenna E. Medina;

VFWA Department Games and Raffle Chairman

PO Box 874; Platteville, CO 80651

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



VFW Post #3378 Yuma members L-R: Jimmie White, Gaylord Mekelburg, John Barker and Eagle Scout Nolan White. Veterans Park sign was Nolan's Scout project.



Mile High VFW Auxiliary, Lafayette, Auxiliary President Barb Debruyne and VFW Auxiliary members honoring the family of fallen officer Heath Gumm during the funeral procession on Friday February 2, 2018. Officer Gumm was killed while chasing a suspect wanted for a dispute outside of a liquor store in Thornton, CO. Procession was down South Boulder road to Flatirons Community Church, Lafayette, CO.

VFW Convention Pre-Registration - June 13th thru 16th, 2018
Ramada Plaza- 10 E 120th Avenue, Northglenn, CO 80233

Name _____ Post # _____

Address _____

2017-2018 Officer Title _____

Pre- Registration is \$15.00 and will include a ditty bag and convention book
(registration at convention will be \$20.00)

Make Checks payable to: **VFW Post 7945.**
Mail to: VFW Post 7945, Attn: Convention Registration
10217 Quivas Street, Thornton, CO 80260

Registration \$ _____

If you wish to pre-purchase your Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$25.00 each
Tickets: _____

HOTEL RESERVATIONS	
Ramada Plaza: Phone 303-452-4100	Beef _____ x 25.00 = \$ _____
VFW Room Rate \$109 +Tax	Chicken _____ x 25.00 = \$ _____
Cutoff Date May 28, 2018	Total Amount: \$ _____

VFW Auxiliary Convention Pre-Registration - June 13th thru 16th, 2018
Ramada Plaza- 10 E 120th Avenue, Northglenn, CO 80233

Name _____ Post # _____

Address _____

2017-2018 Officer Title _____

Pre- Registration is \$15.00 and will include a ditty bag and convention book
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Make Checks payable to: **VFW Post 7945.**
Mail to: VFW Post 7945, Attn: Convention Registration
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Registration \$ _____

If you wish to pre-purchase your Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$25.00 each
Tickets: _____

HOTEL RESERVATIONS	
Ramada Plaza: Phone 303-452-4100	Beef _____ x 25.00 = \$ _____
VFW Room Rate \$109 +Tax	Chicken _____ x 25.00 = \$ _____
Cutoff Date May 28, 2018	Total Amount: \$ _____

Revised 12/06/2017

Eagle Trace Golf Club
1200 Clubhouse Drive
Broomfield, CO 80020
Phone: 303-466-3322

8:00 AM Shotgun

**Department of Colorado
VFW State Convention**

June 13, 2018

REGISTRATION FORM

\$60.00 per person. This will include one round of golf with cart, prizes and lunch at VFW Post 7945.

Team Point of Contact: Name: _____
Phone: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____
Name: _____ Name: _____

Make all checks payable to: **VFW Post 7945**
Memo Line: Golf Registration
DO NOT COMBINE PAYMENT WITH OTHER CONVENTION FEES

Registration and payment must be received by June 6, 2018

Mail Checks & Registration form to:
VFW Post 7945
Attn: Convention Golf Registration
10217 Quivas Street
Thornton, CO 80260

Questions Contact: Ron Schlieman Email: sshellbell@aol.com
Phone: 303-349-5615

2018 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 : Copy this form along with your Ad (JPEG FILE OR PDF FILE) to:
chevez5426@comcast.net by 11 May 2018.
Payment must be received by May 11, 2018
(Ad will not be printed if payment is not received)

Make Checks Payable to: VFW Post 7945
Mail Form & Payment to: Convention Book Chairman
10217 Quivas Street
Thornton, CO 80260

State Convention - VFW
Hosted by Joseph J. Jacques Jr. VFW Post 7945

Wednesday June 13

8:00 am	Golf Tournament	Eagle Trace Golf Club
12:00 noon – 1:30 pm	Lunch for Golfers	VFW Post 7945
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Registration	VFW Post 7945
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Lunch	VFW Post 7945
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Service Officer Claims	VFW Post 7945
5:00 pm	Memorial Service Practice	Olinger Highland Mortuary
7:00 pm	Council of Administration	Ramada Plaza Inn

Thursday June 14

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration	Ramada Plaza Inn
8:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Ramada Plaza Inn
12:30 pm	Dept Commanders Luncheon	VFW Post 7945

(by invitation only)

1:00 pm	General Resolutions	Ramada Plaza Inn
1:00 pm	Service/Rehab Resolutions	Ramada Plaza Inn
1:00 pm	Time & Place Committee	Ramada Plaza Inn
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Registration	Ramada Plaza Inn
5:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	Olinger Highland Mortuary
7:00 pm	Past Post Commanders Banquet	VFW Post 7945
8:30 pm	Theme Party	VFW Post 7945

Friday June 15

7:00 am	All American Cap & VFW Line Officers & Staff Breakfast	Ramada Plaza Inn
8:00 am - 10:00 am	Registration	Ramada Plaza Inn
8:30 am	Business Session	Ramada Plaza Inn
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Open Houses - Caucuses	VFW Post 7945
2:00 pm	Flag Retirement Ceremony	VFW Post 7945
4:00 pm	Installation Practice	Ramada Plaza Inn
7:00 pm	Military Banquet	VFW Post 7945

Saturday June 16

7:00 am	Past State Commanders Breakfast	Ramada Plaza Inn
7:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration	Ramada Plaza Inn
8:00 am	Business Session /Election	Ramada Plaza Inn
11:00 am	VFW Warriors Meeting	TBA
2:00 pm	Installation Practice	Ramada Plaza Inn
5:00 pm	Joint Installation of Officers	Ramada Plaza Inn
	State Commander/President Reception	VFW Post 7945

Sunday June 17

10:30 am	VFW Warriors Ride	TBA
	Buddy Poppy Displays and Program Report Scrap Books Room - Ramada Inn	SUBJECT TO CHANGE

State Convention – Department Auxiliary
Hosted by Joseph J. Jacques Jr. #7945

Wednesday June 13

8:00 am	Golf Tournament	Eagle Trace Golf Club
12:00 noon to 1:30 pm	Lunch for Golfers	VFW Post 7945
9:00 am	Staff Meeting	Ramada Plaza Inn
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Registration	VFW Post 7945
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm	Lunch	VFW Post 7945
2:00 pm	Floor Work Practice	Ramada Plaza Inn
5:00 pm	Memorial Service Practice	Olinger Highland Mortuary
7:00 pm	Council of Administration	Ramada Plaza Inn

Thursday June 14

7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration	Ramada Plaza Inn
8:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Ramada Plaza Inn
12:30 pm	Dept Presidents Luncheon	VFW Post 7945

(By invitation only)

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Registration	Ramada Plaza Inn
5:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	Olinger Highland Mortuary
7:00 pm	Past Dept. Presidents Banquet	TBA
8:30 pm	Theme Party	VFW Post 7945

Friday June 15

7:00 am	Past District President's Breakfast	TBA
8:00 am - 10:00 am	Registration	Ramada Plaza Inn
8:30 am	Business Session	Ramada Plaza Inn
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Open Houses - Caucuses	VFW Post 7945
2:00 pm	Flag Retirement Ceremony	VFW Post 7945
4:00 pm	Installation Practice	Ramada Plaza Inn
7:00 pm	Military Banquet	VFW Post 7945

Saturday June 16

7:00 am	Past Auxiliary President's Breakfast	TBA
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Registration	Ramada Plaza Inn
8:00 am	Business Session / Election	Ramada Plaza Inn
2:00 pm	Installation Practice	Ramada Plaza Inn
5:00 pm	Joint Installation of Officers	Ramada Plaza Inn
	State Commander/President Reception	VFW Post 7945

Sunday June 17

9:00 am	Department Officers Breakfast	TBA
10:30 am	VFW Warriors Ride	TBA = = =

Buddy Poppy Displays and Program Report Scrap Books Room - Ramada Inn
SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Auxiliary News

Published by Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of Colorado

Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman



President's Column Caroline Gelatt



It is hard to believe that my year is almost over. I want to thank you, the members, for allowing me to serve this great organization for the past five years. It has been the most

amazing opportunity one individual could have ever hoped for and received.

As I received year end reports, I was amazed at the number of volunteer hours our members continue to do within their own auxiliaries and their communities. This is one of many reasons we must continue recruiting new members. If we want to sustain and strengthen our organization for generations to come, we must get out of our comfort zone and ask for help. Eligible members are not lining up at our door and when they do decide to join we are sometimes less than respectful of their individual desires. Don't tell new members what to do but rather ask them what they would like to do, so they will get involved. We cannot continue to expect only a handful of members to promote our programs, educate our youth and serve our veterans. Remember this, no single member can maintain a successful auxiliary on their own, it requires a team effort.

As my term of office comes to an end, I can look back and say this was and always will be a cherished experience. From Grand Junction to Burlington, Fort Collins to Durango and everywhere in between in the State of Colorado, I have been welcomed by our membership. I have seen "One Voice for Veterans and their Families" everywhere I have visited. My travels recently took me to our National Mid-Winter Conference in Nashville, TN where I enjoyed a wonderful "Night on the Town" with our National President, Dee Guillory. It was a wonderful time and one I will never forget. Then off to Washington D.C. for the VFW Spring Legislative Conference and the Voice of Democracy Parade of Winners. What an honor to escort our winner, Caitlyn Olson, down the aisle with our Department Commander Ed Aitken. Talk about exciting, I think I was more nervous than Caitlyn, as we waited and waited for the announcement! Fifth place, that's a \$5,500 scholarship, not bad for a young lady from Greeley, Colorado. This was only the beginning, the next two days were spent with other VFW and auxiliary members advocating veteran's issues on Capitol Hill and a tour of the White House. Be still my heart, a dream come true and one more item marked off my bucket list. Pueblo West Post and Auxiliary hosted our COA and Parade of Programs in March, what an outstanding job they did. Two days later our National President Dee visited Northern Colorado, even though the cold weather

rolled in it didn't stop us from having a great visit. Thank you to Post 41 in Loveland for hosting a meet and greet and to Post 1781 in Fort Collins for a wonderful banquet in Dee Guillory's honor.

My special project, the Colorado VFW Foundation, has been doing well, but, we can always use more donations. Eligible Veterans in need of emergency financial assistance across the State of Colorado can apply for a one-time grant of \$500. The need will always be there, so let's make sure the money is available for them. Your continued support for this program is much appreciated.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our Department Convention which will be held in Thornton come June. The members of Joseph J. Jacques Jr VFW Post and Auxiliary #7945 have been working hard to organize a memorable convention which will include many fun activities for everyone to participate in.

Your Department of Colorado Line Officers who were elected to serve beside me have performed their duties effectively with dedication and patience. Yes, we have had some setbacks, our Guard, June Burton moved to Florida, our Conductress, Patsy Gilmore fell ill (so glad she is on the mend after a long hospital stay) and we, your officers have had our own issues, but we have prevailed. You may ask yourself, what issues? Just like some of our auxiliaries and or districts we have differences of opinion on how things should be run at the department level. Does this surprise you? It shouldn't, we too also must rise above individual feelings and work towards the advancement of our organization. We have many members that are quite capable of fulfilling leadership roles within their auxiliaries, district and department and I hope you were one of them that stepped up and made that commitment during your most recent elections.

It has been an honor and a privilege to have worked with so many wonderful members over the last 18 years. We have all been called to serve in some capacity and your commitment has been unwavering to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary. To our incoming officers, I will continue my commitment to work with each of you as you each continue to work for our Veterans and their families. Thank you to my family and friends for all your support because without each of you I would not have been able to accomplish anything this year. It has been an honor and privilege to represent each of our members from the State of Colorado during the 2017-2018 year and you will always hold a special place in my heart.

Loyally,
Caroline A. Gelatt
Department President



A Message from

Sabrina Feagaiga

My Dear Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers,

What a journey and truly a privilege it has been to serve Veterans and their families with you. I have enjoyed every minute of getting to know so many of you throughout the state during my time as a Department Officer. Unfortunately, I have some news to share. I have been offered a General Manager position with my company and I have to relocate to Ohio at the end of the summer. As excited as I am about the job opportunity, I am extremely sad to be leaving and I feel I am letting you down. I will miss every single one of you. Thank you to each of you who were so open to me, gracious to me and kind to me. My heart was touched.

I want to encourage you—if you are sit-



We the members of Arvada VFW Auxiliary proudly endorse Cindy Anderson for the office of Department Treasurer. This is an office she has held for the last three years.

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 20 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

ting out there and you've been thinking about running for a department office—NOW is your time. Remember ANY member in good standing can run for ANY position. Don't let anyone try to make you believe any different. A very wise National Officer once told me, "What better time than the present." So GO for it!

Friends, deep in my heart, I do believe I WILL be back. So, this is not good bye but see you soon. I will be watching you, cheering for you, and applauding you from afar. Continue to serve. Continue to be kind. Continue to SHINE!

See you at State Convention!

Hugs,
Sabrina

**Arvada 4331
VFW Auxiliary and Post
Endorse
Cindy Anderson for
Department Treasurer
2018-2019**

2011-2012. Cindy also served as Auxiliary Treasurer for 7 consecutive years and received the Outstanding Treasurer Award twice. She is currently serving as Department Treasurer.

We know that she is dedicated in her service to the Department Auxiliary and to all the Auxiliaries in Colorado and that she will continue to 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,
Laura Root
Auxiliary 4331 President

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. I was very honored to be your Youth Activities Chairman. 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! Please remember that our youth of today are our leaders of tomorrow and taking the time to mentor them could make a huge difference. Thanks again and I look forward to seeing all of you at State Convention in June, where the Young Volunteer of the Year and the Youth Group of the Year Awards will be giving out.

Patsy Gilmore
Department Youth Activities Chairman

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

May 1, 2018

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

1. Department President, Caroline Gelatt's Special Project is the Colorado VFW Foundation, where eligible Veterans can receive a one-time grant up to \$500.00, please forward your donations to Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson. In addition, \$2.00 from every Veterans Pin sold will benefit the Colorado VFW Foundation.

2. **Department Convention** will be held in Thornton, Colorado at the Joseph J. Jacques VFW Post 7945, 10217 Quivas Street, Thornton CO on June 13 through June 16, 2018. Caroline's red shirt with, blue, black or white slacks will be the dress for the Council of Administration meeting on Wednesday, June 13. The Official Blue blouse/shirt with black slacks, black jacket and black shoes will be the dress for all business sessions of the Auxiliary.

3. **Department Convention Credentials** will be mailed directly to all Department Officers, District Presidents and Past Department Presidents. **Credentials** for Auxiliary Presidents and Delegates will be mailed to the Auxiliary President by the Department Secretary. Note: *There are no credentials for Alternates.* It will be necessary for the Auxiliary President and Secretary to sign the credentials and affix the Auxiliary Seal before the credentials is given to the Delegates.

4. **Any Auxiliary in arrears** for submission of audits shall be deprived of their vote at the Department Convention. All rights shall be promptly restored upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

5. **Membership:** Keeping your membership current is the easiest way to keep our organization membership whole and healthy. Please pay your 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



Patsy is a Life Member of VFW Post 3917 Auxiliary. She joined under the eligibility of her husband of almost thirty-two years, Page. She has been very active since becoming a member in 2012 and converting to a life Member in 2013. Patsy has been involved at the Post, District and Department levels. She has served as Post Jr. Vice President, Conductress, Secretary and Guard. She has also been chairman of Hospital, Scholarship and Program Reporting. Currently she is serving as Sr. Vice, Scholarship and Program Reporting for her Auxiliary. Patsy is serving as Sr. Vice President and Scholarship Chairman for District 5 and for the Department of Colorado Auxiliary she is serving as Conductress and her 3rd year as Youth Activities Chairman.

Patsy is very committed to helping

members by always carrying an application form with you. Use it to sign up your friends and family. The VFW Auxiliary may 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 Podium Edition Bylaws and Ritual. (See Section 102 of the Bylaws).

6. **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 acknowledgment of filing the 990 should be on file for the Inspection Official to review.

7. **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, 2017 thru March 31, 2018. All reports are due to Department Headquarters by April 15, 2018.

8. **Department Officers and Program Chairmen** need to have their typewritten convention book reports to the Department Secretary, Ginny Rosa no later than June 1.

9. A special thank you to all those who attended the Parade of Programs in Pueblo West. I hope everyone was able to learn something new to take back to your Auxiliaries from the training sessions. 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/ Caroline Gelatt
Caroline Gelatt, President

ATTEST:
/s/ Ginny Rosa
Ginny Rosa, Secretary

**Cheyenne Mountain
VFW Post 3917 Auxiliary
Proudly Support
Patsy Gilmore
for
Jr. Vice President
2018-2019**

out our Veterans and their families. She doesn't hesitate to volunteer for our VFW and Auxiliary functions. Patsy is eager to ask questions or do the research on a subject if she doesn't know the answer to a question. She is also thankful for all those that have given of their time to mentor her. Patsy has a respect for the traditions and bylaws of the VFW Organization.

She is always willing to share and pass on the knowledge that she has gained with anyone who might have questions. She is willing to think outside the box and invite other people to share their ideas and opinions.

The members of VFW Post 3917 Auxiliary are asking for your support of Patsy as the Department Jr Vice President for the upcoming year.

Lynette Fox, President Auxiliary #3917



**VFW Post 7829 & Auxiliary
Proudly Endorse
Kathy Carlson
for
Dept. Sr. Vice President
2018-2019**

We, the members of VFW Post 7829 & Auxiliary, 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. Kathy currently serves as our secretary after completing 3 years as President where she received All State President in 2015 and 2016, and Runner-up in 2017. She led our Auxiliary to win Outstanding Achievement, 1st Place, in 2015 and 2016, and Runner-up in 2017.

In addition to her auxiliary experience, Kathy has extensive management experience:

- County Clerk, Oklahoma, serving as Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners, handling expenditures and payroll of all county departments, filing of land records, etc.
- Owner of a business, contracted with the State of OK, employing 8, issuing motor vehicle plates and titles, as well as drivers licenses. Agency was 13th largest in the State.
- General Manager of a turnkey computer program, part of a publicly owned national company, responsible for all aspects of the program, sales, marketing, installation and budget. Traveled nationwide as well as internationally.

Kathy leads our group with purpose, grace, and integrity. She brings a level of enthusiasm and respect to the VFW Auxiliary that is contagious. Many Auxiliary members were recruited by Kathy



**Golden VFW Auxiliary
and
VFW Post 4171
Proudly Endorse
Lucille Chavez
for
Department Conductress**

Lucille has been a life member of the Auxiliary since 2004, joining under the eligibility of her father Patrick A Chavez who served in Korea and Vietnam. She has been a member of the Golden Auxiliary for the past 18 years, and has held many offices and chairmanships including Auxiliary President 6 times, and named All State President 2000-2001 and 2006-2007. She has also held Offices with District 10 including President for 2 years and being name Outstanding President 2012-2013. Lucille is currently serving as Auxiliary President.

We feel Lucille is an asset to our Auxiliary and members. She is always will-

Buddy Poppies

Stock up your Poppy supplies, Remember we have State Convention June 13th - 16th, that will be here before you know it; Memorial Day, 4th of July and all the events we use the Poppy to spread the word.

The State Convention Hats and Displays are fun things we do with Poppies, but let all of us remember the long

and joined because of her obvious genuine love for our organization. She is the first one to immerse herself in all our Auxiliary projects and programs. Kathy's warm, welcoming spirit makes everyone she meets feel important. Countless times Kathy has dropped everything to help a fellow member and/or Veteran in time of need, demonstrating a genuine concern for others.

Kathy has a deep love for her family, and is a wonderful example to her children of the importance in serving Veterans and passing on her respect for God and country to our next generation.

Kathy brings a level of enthusiasm and respect to the VFW Auxiliary that is contagious. If elected Dept. Sr. Vice President, Kathy will be a blessing and true asset to the Department. Please join us in supporting Kathy for office of Dept. Sr. Vice.

A personal note from Kathy:
After much thought and prayer, consulting with my family, our Dept. President, our National Chaplain and other mentors, I have changed my mind from what was previously announced at the March COA, and I will run for Dept. Sr. Vice President.

I feel the nature of our work, helping Veterans and promoting patriotism, is one of the greatest things we can do for our Nation. Unfortunately, conflicts and issues may, at times, cloud our vision; however, we must not lose sight of our goals. What I recently experienced at the March COA did just that, it clouded my judgment. This experience has made me stronger, and made clear to me what is really important – the effort and love all of you give our Veterans. This organization, and each one of you, is so very important to me. This will be my focus, and I thank you for your consideration to allow me to walk side by side with you as we accomplish great things for our Veterans and our Nation.

ing to help with fundraising, encouraging and mentoring members to fill positions and chairmanships within the Auxiliary and District.

Lucille has the full support of her family and Auxiliary members as she sets out on this journey of moving up in the chairs of the Department of Colorado Auxiliary VFW. We ask you to join us in supporting Lucille with your Vote at the Department Convention.

Respectfully
Rita Fama, Auxiliary Secretary
George Grose, VFW Post Commander
Members of Golden VFW and Auxiliary

history of the Poppy so we can spread the word.

It's been great serving as your Buddy Poppy chairperson, let's all hope for another great year in 2018-2019.

Ron Boone
Department Buddy Poppy Chair

Membership 2017-2018

Thank you to the 20 Auxiliaries the HIT THAT HOME RUN by reaching 100% in membership. Of those 20 Auxiliaries, 14 attained over 100% and received \$40 from National.

As of this article, we need 408 members to reach the GRAND SLAM for Colorado to be 100% and join the "Circle of Excellence". We Can Do This. You have all done an outstanding job in recruiting (234 members) this year, but we must grow our organization so we can continue to serve our Veterans and their Families. Several Auxiliaries are so close to their 100%. PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CONTINUOUS MEMBERS. Plan a personal visit or call them. Perhaps they just forgot to pay their dues or need some assistance. You can use the Relief Fund for this.

Chief of Staff / Extension / Mentoring

Please let me take this opportunity to thank Department President, Caroline Gelatt for allowing me to serve the VFW Auxiliary, Department of Colorado this past year as Chief of Staff.

Brothers and Sisters, Thank you for all of your hard work in using the tools that were given to you in the mentoring and RU Healthy areas. Remember that the program continues year round. Also, by using the member questionnaire, you might well be able to move forward in getting more members in attendance at your meetings. By reading and thinking outside of the box perhaps you can use some of the membership ideas and different activities so that members would be willing to participate.

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 voluntarism to our veterans and their families. You have worked tirelessly to increase our membership so that we can continue to support our veterans in the future.

As of the end March we are at 93.93% toward our 100%+ membership. We still have until June 30, 2018 to attain this goal. We are so close, it is attainable and we can have President Caroline represent Colorado in the Circle of Excellence in 2018 at National Convention. This is a good time to look at the members who have lapsed, contact them, and encourage them to rejoin

Scholarships

Thank you for all of your HARD work throughout the year. So many students lives were positively impacted because of the time you spent to contact teachers, schools, parents, and students. I so appreciate all that you do and continue to do to make the scholarship program a success! Thinking ahead--Next years themes are out. 2018-2019 Patriot

Congratulations to the three recruiters that received \$25 at our Parade of Programs in March. They were Arlene Boone from Auxiliary 2121, Sharon Ruppel from Auxiliary 6461 and Kathy Carlson from Auxiliary 7829. Keep recruiting.

Remember, each District that attains 100% by May 31st will receive \$25.00 and a special award to the District with the highest percentage (must be 100%) will receive \$50.00.

We will "Catch the Dream For Our Veterans" by being "One Voice UNITED for Veterans and their Families"

Loyally,
Rosie Mitchell
Department Membership Chairman

Another useful tool would be an interest questionnaire, based on the activities of your auxiliary or even those that you would like to begin doing or even reinvent. Many times just a small change can bring people out to see what is happening.

As always, we should extend a welcoming hand and an open mind to our new members.

Times are a changing, may we all join together and face the future of this Great organization with faith and commitment. Let us be forever looking forward with enthusiasm.

Loyally,
Colleen Rylant,
Department Chief of Staff

by letting them know how important they are to the Auxiliary and veterans.

Thank you to everyone for your efforts toward membership growth and all that you are doing for our veterans and their families. We can work together to "Catch the Dream for Our Veterans" and have "One Voice UNITED for Veterans and Their Families" through increased membership to continue helping our veterans into the future. I hope to see you at Department Convention in Thornton!

Linda Reinpold
National Certified Recruiter Trainer

Auxiliary Membership by District as of April 27, 2018

Number	City	2017	2018	%	Number	City	2017	2018	%					
DISTRICT #1														
1	Denver	184	185	101*	4849	La Jara	46	40	87					
501	Denver	142	135	95	6101	San Luis	28	0	0					
2461	Denver	120	104	87	8121	So Fork	109	104	95					
2797	Denver	42	44	105*	TOTAL		318	272	86%					
3971	Denver	32	0	0	DISTRICT #8									
5061	Denver	132	129	98	859	Leadville	26	26	100*					
TOTAL		652	597	92%	1166	Buena Vista	88	61	69					
DISTRICT #2														
2788	Penrose	35	35	100*	11411	Lake George	51	46	90					
3641	Pueblo	79	81	103*	12009	Conifer	36	33	92					
4061	Canon City	144	137	95	TOTAL		201	166	83%					
5812	Pueblo West	51	45	88	DISTRICT #9									
7305	Colo. City	24	27	113*	4264	Stmbt Spgs	33	32	97					
TOTAL		333	325	98%	4265	Craig	47	48	102*					
DISTRICT #3														
41	Loveland	124	119	96	5843	Meeker	31	33	106*					
1771	Lafayette	319	293	92	9374	Kremmling	22	19	86					
1781	Ft. Collins	107	115	107*	TOTAL		133	132	99%					
2121	Greeley	102	92	90	DISTRICT #10									
2585	Johnstown	75	75	100*	322	Englewood	106	87	82					
2601	Longmont	228	217	95	3471	Morrison	49	46	94					
4334	Ault	35	37	106*	3631	Aurora	113	96	85					
6624	Evans	217	211	97	4171	Golden	326	312	96					
9565	Broomfield	44	40	91	4331	Arvada	142	140	99					
9741	Dacono	22	23	105*	4444	Cmmrc City	192	183	95					
TOTAL		1273	1222	96%	7945	Thornton	258	255	99					
DISTRICT #4														
2551	Ft. Morgan	127	124	98	9644	Fort Logan	343	334	97					
3541	Sterling	72	67	93	TOTAL		1529	1453	95%					
4671	Wray	30	27	90	DISTRICT #11									
8064	Akron	9	0	0	784	Montrose	47	0	0					
TOTAL		238	218	92%	1247	Grnd Jcnctn	88	78	88					
DISTRICT #5														
101	Colo. Spgs.	84	76	90	3571	Delta	60	64	107*					
3917	Security	215	185	86	3981	Grnd Jcnctn	18	24	133*					
4051	Colo. Spgs	286	266	93	4663	Clifton	54	51	94					
5221	Calhan	28	26	93	9221	Cedaredge	59	59	100*					
6461	Fountain	133	139	105*	9304	Silt	13	0	0					
7829	Monument	35	41	117*	9333	Hotchkiss	20	23	115*					
TOTAL		781	733	94%	TOTAL		359	299	83%					
DISTRICT #6														
336	Ordway	82	78	95	DISTRICT #12									
2411	LasAnimas	114	99	87	4031	Durango	98	97	89					
4001	Springfield	26	0	0	5181	Dove Creek	40	38	95					
4281	Holly	9	0	0	5231	Mancos	64	61	95					
TOTAL		231	177	77%	9058	Nucla	20	0	0					
DISTRICT #7														
899	Alamosa	85	77	91	TOTAL		222	196	88%					
3228	Monte Vista	50	51	102*	DISTRICT #13									
TOTAL DEPT.														
							6,697	6,330	95%					



Fort Morgan VFW Post 2551 and VFW Auxiliary proudly support Davina (Dee) Chappel-Haley

Department Chaplain 2018 - 2019

VFW Post and Auxiliary 2551 proudly support Davina (Dee) Chappel-Haley for Department of Colorado Auxiliary Chaplain for 2018/19. Dee is a life member and is eligible through her father David Chappel's service in WWII and Korea. Dee currently serves as District 4 Auxiliary President, Auxiliary 2551 Secretary, Post 2551 manager and event coordinator.

Dee is a certified Parliamentarian and a member of both the Colorado and National Association of Parliamentarians. Accomplishments include, VFW Auxiliary 2016/17 Department of Colorado Chaplain and 2015/16 Department of Colorado Conductress, District 4 Auxiliary President and Secretary, Salute to Service recipient and Auxiliary 2551's Legislative Chairman. Dee's experience and passion includes extensive

and varied veteran's support activities veteran's legislative activist and lobbyist, Past Colorado Department President and Department Parliamentarian for the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), past ALA National Public Relations Chairman and ALA's Colorado's past National Executive Committeewoman (NEC). Dee offers community service activities, leadership, Americanism, scholarship and youth leadership, Constitution, By-law and Resolution chairmanships and 10 years with the Colorado Columbine Girls State program as a board member and counselor. Dee has a long and successful history as a Professional Manager and Certified Master Instructor.

Dee and her husband of 31 years Jerry, reside in Fort Morgan with their great-niece Kelly and their 6 beloved dogs.



- Aux 1771: Rita Trueblood, Nancy Seybold, Mary Lou Hansen, Stella Schweitzer, Christine Blankenfeld, Gladys Schmid
- Aux 2371: Althea Carlstrom PDP
- Aux 2411: Sharon Abdulla, Barbara Kuhns
- Aux 3411: Gloria Blooding
- Aux 3471: Barbara Brown, Doris Pool, Kathy Christie Shuker
- Aux 4061: Dorothy Hannah
- Aux 9333: Donna Williams
- Aux 9644: Marge Stewart, Marilyn Vigil

Americanism

May 1st is Loyalty Day! This holiday was first observed in 1921 and was originally called “Americanization Day”. It is a special day for reaffirming our loyalty to the United States and to recognize the heritage of American Freedom. The VFW Department of CO has our official Parade on the first Saturday of May in Calhan. VFW Post 5221 located at 560 Colorado Ave, Calhan has been hosting this event for many years. If your Post has not signed up to be in the parade, you may come out to watch and observe it.

Thank you for all of the reports that you have been turning in! It sure has been difficult to judge them. Keep sending in your reports, keeping ahead for next year.

Veterans And Military Support

Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers:

Thank you for ALL you do and please do not under estimate your IMPACT on others!!! I feel that I am on the receiving end of so much Hope and Kindness....The reports that I have received fill my heart to over flowing of what some of you are doing for our Veterans, our Community, and our Homeless Veterans. For example: How about the Auxiliary member who bakes 12 loaves of bread each week and takes it to her elderly neighbors, the church, and the VFW? How about the Auxiliary members who drive those in need to the Dr. or grocery store? How about those who continue to be an incredible ambassador of the Auxiliary...always working to improve the lives of others!! Thank you for that...Thank you for your positive leadership in the community. You have made “Catching the Dream for our Vet-

Special Days to fly ‘Old Glory’; May 8 VE Day, May 13 Mother’s Day, May 15 Peace Officers Memorial Day (half-staff), May 19 Armed Forces Day, May 28 Memorial Day (half-staff noon), June 14 Flag Day, June 17 Father’s Day, July 4 Independence Day, July 27 Korean War Veteran’s Day

“The flag of the United States has not been created by rhetorical sentences in declarations of independence and in bills of rights. It has been created by the experience of a great people, and nothing is written upon it that has not been written by their life. It is the embodiment, not of a sentiment, but of a history.” ~ Woodrow Wilson

Rena Cales
Department Americanism Chairman=

erans” a reality.

It has been my honor to work with Raymond Moelder, National Home for Children Chairman. What a job he has done!! Unbelievable!! To Ray it’s not a chairmanship, it’s a mission!! His educating our Auxiliaries throughout our state has been incredible!! A big Thank you to Ron Boone, our state Buddy Poppy chair. Ron has learned so much this year...Hooray...That’s what it’s all about!!

What a terrific group of line officers we have!! Thank you for serving our Veterans as ONE VOICE UNITED FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES!

Rosie Naughton
Department Veterans and
Military Support Chairperson

Hospital Program

To begin this month, a brief update on the new Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center. The clinic portion is open and in operation at this time as was noted previously. The new facility Grand Opening date is now set at August 11, 2018. This facility is still accepting applications for positions and volunteers for over 150 openings. We will continue to keep you informed as additional information becomes available.

Military Suicide Awareness and Prevention continues to be a high priority for the Hospital Department and for the VFW and Auxiliary. We gave an updated training, “Making Suicide Prevention Everyone’s Business,” at both the Post and Auxiliary meetings in March at the COA in Pueblo. If any Post or Auxiliary needs additional training or an updated copy of the presentation that I gave at the COA, please contact me—I will get you whatever you need to train the staff, bartenders and members of your Post. We must become informed about how we can help on the personal level, at the Post and at the Department levels. This is especially important in our state since the rate of suicide for Colorado veterans is significantly higher than the national average—47 (CO) vs. 25.5 (National) deaths due to suicide per 100,000 people. You can also pass on information directly to 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. Remember, it might be you that makes the important difference in reducing suicide events among our Vets!

Two more important Hospital and CLC visits are planned for this year—Grand Junction and Rifle, CO. We are really looking forward to these visits and have truly enjoyed visiting all of the other facilities and CLCs in our area. Thank you to everyone that made these visits and events so memorable for everyone.

Thank you as well for all the Auxiliaries that are taking the time and effort to make sure that their volunteers are receiving the pins and awards that they are due for their tireless and dedicated service to our veterans. I have seen a marked increase in this activity this year, and I would like to commend you for your efforts to make this happen. You are making such a difference in helping to improve the lives of our veterans and their families!

Thank you again for your incredible support and assistance over this past year! If I or any member of my team can assist you in any way to make the Hospital Department the best that it can be, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Phil Reinpold
Department Hospital Chairman

Thank You for all that you do for our Veterans

Legislative

First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone for their continued hard work and dedication. Without it, we could not achieve the things that we want for our Veterans. You have made the difference. In fact, it has been your efforts that have led to several legislative victories including the Forever GI Bill, The VA Appeals Reform, Accountability and Whistleblower Protection, and Choice Extension and VA Workforce Improvements.

Recently the VFW released their new 2018 Priority Goals. These goals detail the important work that needs to be done to help ensure that our Veterans are treated with the proper respect they deserve and get the benefits they earned and are entitled to.

During the VFW’s March Legislative Conference, the VFW released their Legislative Priorities. In it they detailed several important issues that the VFW will be fighting for. These issues include sequestration and continuing resolutions, community care, toxic exposures, veterans health care, concurrent receipt and other important pending legislation. Not only does the Legislative Priorities

brochure detail each issue, it also identifies possible solutions from the VFW that the federal government could implement to bring a resolution to these concerns. For more information about these priorities and what else was discussed during that conference, please visit the VFW’s Legislative page.

“Familiarizing yourself with the issues will prepare you to discuss them with the Congressional members in your District. When you visit your Congressional representatives, please stress these are the issues we will be fighting for in the 115th Congress. These goals reflect the resolutions passed and supported by the men and women of the VFW and its Auxiliary.

Working together as the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary, great things are possible. We can achieve these great things for our Veterans. Let us work together to advance our legislative agenda. Let us work together to be heard by our Congress men and women. Let us work together to be “One Voice for Veterans.”

Sara Robley
Department Legislative Chair

State Convention Buddy Poppy Display & Hat Parade Information - Page 5

Department Fundraising

Greetings Everyone!

Whelp, if you didn’t make it to C.O.A. in Pueblo West you missed the drawing for the king size Patriotic Quilt. Congratulations to Ms. Diane Aitken; who informed me that her husband, Colorado Department Commander Ed Aitken, is the true owner of the quilt. I want to say thank you to the District Presidents and Auxiliary Line Officers who helped me out by getting word out to their Auxiliaries and selling tickets. THANK YOU to everyone in the VFW’s, Auxiliaries, and communities who purchased a ticket. No final numbers yet, but without all of you this fundraiser would not have been successful!

District Presidents—At the beginning of the year it was approved for us to have our annual District Gift Basket drawing at the 2018 Convention. If

your district is interested in providing a basket please have it to me at Convention by Thursday, June 14, 2018. In the past the gift baskets have consisted of themes for movie night, BBQ, picnics, pets, gardening—the possibilities are endless. I hope to see a basket from each district and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Auxiliary Presidents and/or Treasurers—We are sold out of the Veteran Pins. If you can find another Auxiliary that has any, you will have to work with them and Cindy Anderson, State Treasurer, to get credit for these pins. Thank You everyone that has purchased this r 2017-2018 year.

Stephane Trujillo
Department Fundraiser Chairman

VFW National Home for Children

It has been my distinct pleasure serving as your VFW National Home chairman again this year. I enjoyed meeting many new people and introducing this wonderful program to members and non-members across the state. Cheerleading for this worthy cause has been a blessing. I will always be a vigorous advocate and remain emotionally committed to the VFW National Home regardless of any future position I hold in our VFW Auxiliary.

Our VFW Auxiliary’s commitment to veterans and their families is evident by an increase in National Home Life Memberships. Since November 2017 there are 42 new memberships as of March 20th. A big shout out goes to VFW Auxiliary #3981 Western Slope in Grand Junction

with 23 new life memberships. Outstanding! If you are planning on becoming a life member please remember the fees will be increasing in 2019. Please join soon and avoid paying the increase.

I look forward to acknowledging some outstanding & creative accomplishments by our brothers and sisters from around the state at our convention in June.

More Information can be obtained at: vfnationalhome.org

Any questions, ideas or comments for your Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary National Home for Children Chairmen can be e-mailed to raymond.moelder@gmail.com

Raymond Moelder
Department VFW National Home for
Children Chairman

**Hope to see everyone at State Convention
June 13 - 16, 2018**