

# COLORADO VETERAN



and VFW Auxiliary News

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS®



February, 2020

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

Volume 59, Issue 3 2019 - 2020

## “What Makes America Great”



Freedom, Liberty, Beauty. What comes to mind when you hear these words? For me, these words represent the greatest country of all: America. One of the components that makes America great is how America was created. The founders of America had numerous principles in mind when they created America, and one of the most important was Popular Sovereignty. This principle means that the people have ultimate power, which makes America very unique from many other governments. We as the people have many ways to participate in our government such as voting, and through voting, we are ultimately in power.

Another principle that our government was founded on is the System of Checks and Balances. This principle allows one branch of the government to check another branch. For example, the executive branch can check the legislative branch by vetoing a proposed bill, and simi-

larly, the judicial branch can check the legislative branch and can declare a law unconstitutional by the process of judicial review. This prevents one branch from overpowering another, so everyone stays in check.

Federalism is also very important. Federalism is the principle that makes the powers of our government shared between the states and the federal government. This is important because it keeps the federal government from becoming too strong and creates diversity among the states.

One of the greatest aspects of America is that we have many freedoms guaranteed in the Bill of Rights- freedoms that people in many other countries don't have. For example, we take advantage of freedoms every day that others do not have, such as the freedom of speech. Another great freedom that we have in this country is the freedom of religion. I think that it is amazing that every person in this country has the choice to follow whatever religion he or she feels is right.

There are also elements of this country that are great other than just our government. Another wonderful part of this country is how beautiful it is. There is a climate for every person's preference, or if your health requires a certain climate, there are many options. If you like hot and humid weather, you can

live in Florida. If a snowy, mountainous climate is more your type, then Colorado might be your place. If you prefer dry, hot deserts, then Arizona is the perfect place for you.

In America, we also have many world-famous places to visit, both natural and man-made. Yellowstone National Park, The Grand Canyon, and Everglades National Park are all examples of beautiful natural wonders that are all very distinct, but part of this magnificent country. Some of the man-made attractions include the famous Statue of Liberty, the Golden Gate Bridge, and Disneyland Park which are all man-made landmarks that are visited by millions of people around the world.

Another great feature of this country are the opportunities that we all have. Here in America it is amazing that no matter where you came from in life, you can rise to the top. Every child has the opportunity to go to school and receive an education through public schools, and everyone can go to college because of scholarships.

This is an amazing country that is made up of incredible people and wonders. I think that America is the greatest nation on earth.

**Sofia Sinda**  
Sponsored by District #2  
Colorado City VFW #7305 and  
VFW Auxiliary

## Digital Colorado Veteran Delivery

Register at <https://vfwco.org>

## DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

- 1 \$1,000 - Joseph J. Jacques Jr.  
VFW Post #7945 and Auxiliary,  
Thornton
- 2 \$ 500 - VFW Auxiliary  
Department of Colorado
- 3 \$ 400 - Longs Peak VFW Post  
#2601 and Auxiliary, Longmont
- 4 \$ 300 - Past Commander's Club
- 5 \$ 250 - Mile High VFW Auxiliary  
#1771, Lafayette

**Thank You**

2nd Place



Athena Wright  
District 10  
Verle Huffman VFW Post 9644 and  
VFW Auxiliary

3rd Place



Cole Seger  
District 7  
Siegfried-Leyte VFW Post 8121 and  
VFW Auxiliary

4th Place



Aubrey Hirsch  
District 5  
Elizabeth VFW Post 10649

5th Place



Carisa Rhiness  
District 11  
Lee Marts VFW Post 3571 and  
VFW Auxiliary

**FEBRUARY DISTRICT MEETINGS**

4	2/23/20 Sunday	Post No. 3378 Yuma	12:00 Noon Meal Meeting to follow	Barbara Green Cindy Anderson
5	2/09/20 Sunday	Post No. 101 Colorado Springs	1:00 pm Lunch Meeting to follow	David Stone Ron Boone
7	2/02/20 Sunday	Post No. 6101 San Luis	12:00 Noon Meal 12:45 Jnt Mtg Meeting to follow	David Stone Lucille Chavez
11	2/09/20 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	David Stone Phil Reinbold
13	2/16/20 Sunday	Post No. 9700 Cheyenne Wells	2:00 pm Meeting Snack to follow	Kevin Reinhold Phil Reinbold
Feb 29 <sup>th</sup> - Mar 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar 1 <sup>st</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup>				
Voice of Democracy, Washington DC Legislative Conference, Washington DC				

**MARCH DISTRICT MEETINGS**

3	3/08/20 Sunday	Post No. 4334 Ault	12:00 Meal Meeting to follow	Geraldine Rimpley Shauana Merrill
10	3/22/20 Sunday	Post No. 9644 Sheridan	Breakfast 11:00 am Memorial Service Meeting	Robert Kidd Lucille Chavez

**Steve Kjonaas - Candidate for  
VFW Western Conference Vice Chairman 2020-2021**

I rise before you to announce my candidacy for the 2020 – 2021 Vice Chair of the VFW Western Conference.

I earned my VFW eligibility while the Fire Chief for 7<sup>th</sup> Air Force in Korea which is where I joined the VFW at Post 10216 Pyongtaek City outside Osan Air Base six months before 9/11. As well, earning eligibility during Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) – Afghanistan. I retired from the Air Force in 2007 in Colorado Springs where I have been a member of VFW Post 3917 for several years.

While in Afghanistan at a large Air Base with the U.S. Air Force, Army, Navy, and allied forces from around the world where they launched several missions every day to combat the taliban, I led the Fire Department. I created and implemented management plans which dramatically changed how the Fire

Department responds to enemy attacks on the base which saved many more lives than previous strategies.

Since retirement I have developed businesses for people who have a great passion for a segment of commerce, but lacked the leadership, organizational, and management skills needed to pull off a thriving business.

I have served in elected and appointed positions at the Post, District and Department levels. I was ultimately elected as the Colorado State Commander in 2018, and currently I am the VFW Colorado Legislative Director. I am a life member of the VFW, an All-American State Commander, a member of the Military Order of the Cootie, and a life member of the VFW National Home for Children.

It is my honor and privilege to have your faith and trust for me to lead and serve our organization. Therefore, I ask for your support in electing me the 2020 – 2021 VFW Western Conference Vice Chairman.

Steve Kjonaas  
VFW Colorado Legislative Director  
Past Department Commander

**COLORADO VETERAN and AUXILIARY NEWS**

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Shelley Schlieman, jr. past president

Ann Mauck, auxiliary news chairman

vfwco.org

**Colorado VFW Foundation**

Thank you to the VFW Posts, VFW Auxiliaries, family members and friends for your donations. We have received donations and grants from outside sources, and we are greatly appreciative of their support and dedication to helping Colorado's Veterans and their Families.

Assistance to date: July 1, 2019 through January 22, 2020, we have expended \$32,271.22 in assistance to 71 Veterans and their Families with Rent, Utilities, and Vehicle Repairs etc... We are still busy with applications and grant requests. As most of you know income has not kept pace with the cost of living in Colorado. As much as we try to stay at the \$500.00 we are finding more and more it's not enough. The requests and referrals have been lower than previous years. We still have some funds left, we

anticipate to cut off funds by mid-February, at which we will still process grant requests but will have to begin to turn veterans down. I have also received word most of the larger organizations are beginning to run out of funds. Our referral base will be slim until the FY 2020-2021 begins in July.

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

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

Colorado VFW Foundation  
Board of Directors

**An Appeal for the Colorado VFW Band**

In response to an invitation from the Department of Colorado and host Post #4061 Royal Gorge VFW Post, the VFW Band of Colorado is working on plans to attend the 2020 State Convention in Canyon City. Because of the relative proximity to Monte Vista, we would like to extend our travels to include the State home at Homelake, to perform for, and visit our veterans there. If the schedule would work, we could also include the home at Florence, but Homelake is our goal for this trip.

If you would be willing to donate

**Band Director Sought For VFW Band**

The VFW Band of Colorado is seeking a principal conductor and music director to begin in January 2020. It would be preferable for a candidate to be a veteran of any U.S. Military Band, but not required.

The VFW Band plays 8-10 performances every year, the two most notable being Memorial Day at Fort Logan National Cemetery and Founder's Day at the Brown Palace Hotel in early December.

Founded in 1888, by former Leadville mayor and later U.S. Congressman, George W. Cook, a veteran of the Grand Army of the Republic, we are the oldest organized ensemble of our kind in the state of Colorado. Known first as Cook's Drum Corps., verbal history has it, that in 1931, as the number of Civil War veterans diminished, the Veterans of Foreign Wars sought our services and the name was changed to Cooks VFW Band and Drum Corps. In 1948, when the Department of Colorado designated

ed us as their official band, our name became The VFW Band of Colorado.

While keeping with our military band heritage, the group has a two part mission of providing a place for a veteran musician to play in a band of our type, and as time permits, to represent the Veterans of Foreign Wars by providing performances at VFW functions, local and regional parades, civic ceremonies, neighborhood activities and the like. While our repertoire includes marches, standard patriotic and armed forces pieces, we also perform other types of music that fit a concert band play list.

The Band rehearses most Monday nights from 7:15 to 8:45 at VFW Post 9644 at 2680 W Hampden Ave. A stipend is available.

For more information, please contact our President, Grant Cooley, at 1984gman@gmail.com.

**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 STREET, LAKEWOOD, CO 80214

EDITOR

## Commander's Column David Stone



Greetings comrades,

Welcome to 2020! What an exciting time we have had over the past several months. In November The Department Auxiliary

President Patsy Gilmore, and I spent a weekend, and nearly 500 miles, visiting VFW Post and Auxiliary members throughout District 6. We were able to visit Post in Springfield, 2411 in Las Animas and Post 336 in Ordway. We had lots of good conversation, great ideas, and a ton of support. I want to thank District 6 Commander, Jesus Garcia and District 6 Auxiliary President Pam Valdez for helping with the arrangements for our visit. Patsy and I may do this again before the end of our term.

Congratulations to Posts 859, 9374, 4266, 4671, 5485, 9780, 12063 for achieving 100 percent membership, and especially Post 3981 who is leading the Department at nearly 105 percent and won the National Commander's Early-Bird contest!

But the rest of us have a lot of work to do. The Department significantly behind in membership compared to this time last year. I'm working my end of it, contacting as many elapsed members as I can with what little time I have available but I really need your help! We have 48 posts

that only need 10 or fewer members to be at 100%, 22 of those only need 5 or fewer, and 5 only need 1. Most of these can be covered by contacting our unpaid members. It's time to make those calls. Let's get this done!

I want to congratulate our service office for achieving a 38.89% increase in compensation for veterans over the last quarter of FY 2019 which tied for 5<sup>th</sup> place nationally. Hat's off the Steve Drummond, JJ and Ginny.

The Department Convention will be here before you know it. Remember that proposed amendments to the Department By-Laws must be submitted in writing for distribution to the Council of Administration by Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup> which is 60 days prior to the Department Convention. You can find our current by-laws on the department website under VFW Members, VFW Forms & Documents, Department policies.

And finally, are you aware of the new the on-line community / program reporting went live at the October COA? It is now easier to report your activities, even from your phone! See our website <https://vfwco.org> for details.

See you on the trail.

David Stone  
Department Commander

## Quartermaster's Column Bruce Dolan



Greetings, I hope this finds everyone staying warm. Especially our mountain Comrades.

There seems to be some confusion over filing a claim for the Ralph Emerson Jack Gulden Memorial Blood/Cancer Fund reimbursement. These funds are to be used for out of pocket expenses for treatments of blood disorders or cancer treatments. You may apply once every 2 years with a maximum of 2 times for a grant of up to \$500. We must have receipts accompany the request. This also includes reimbursement for travel for gas for which a fuel receipt must be submitted. If you have any questions, please contact Headquarters at 303-421-1630, M-F 8am to 3pm.

Since we are beginning a new decade, it's time for Posts to clean up their rosters. Contact members you have not heard from in a while and see if they still have the same address, etc. If they are de-

ceased, we need to remove them from the rosters as soon as possible. VFW Donor Services Department sends a message of condolence to the family which always helps. The reason for doing this as soon as you can, there is nothing worse than to receive a sympathy card 6 to 12 months afterwards.

If you are member and are aware of another member moving, you need to contact a Post Officer to make the Post aware. Members have the responsibility to let the Post know their information is current. There is even a space in the Online Membership System for "snowbird" addresses. This is something new in the last 2 years, so if you know of someone who moves south for the winter, ask them to contact their Post so they can get communications and not have mail returned.

Looking forward to serving everyone in the coming year.

Bruce Dolan  
Department Adj./Quartermaster

## VA Now Processing Blue Water Navy Claims

On January 1, 2020, VA began processing claims under the VFW-championed Blue Water Navy Vietnam Act of 2019. The act restores VA benefits to thousands of Blue Water Navy Vietnam veterans who had their disability benefits taken away in 2002 after arbitrary regulatory changes. It benefits veterans exposed to Agent Orange while serving along the Korean DMZ with an earlier start date to encompass the timeframe when various defoliants were tested-to September 1, 1967, instead of April 1, 1968-and expands benefits to children born with spina bifida due to a parent's exposure in Thailand, coverage that already exists for the children of Vietnam and Korean

DMZ veterans.

The Act extends the presumption of herbicide exposure, that include toxins such as Agent Orange, to Veterans who served in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

Survivors can file claims for benefits based on the Veteran's service if the Veteran died from at least one of the 14 presumptive conditions associated with herbicides such as Agent Orange.

As a result of the new law, VA will automatically review claims that are currently in the VA review process or under appeal. Visit Blue Water Navy Veterans benefits for more information.

## Sr. Vice Column Robert Kidd, Sr.



Well Happy New Year to all.

Now that we have gotten through all the Holidays of 2019 and heading to the new year 2020, the final push is on to finish out the

VFW year as strong as we have started it.

All Posts and Auxiliaries that participated in the following programs - Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year, should have had or will be having their Awards events. It is always very humbling to listen to today's youths explain their views on the themes of the programs. Let's not forget the Teachers that support our programs within the schools and yes, the home schooled also.

I hope to see everyone in March for Council of Administration in Grand

Junction. Check out the agenda for classes and information will be put out. If you are an upcoming line officer for your post or even just a member that would like to be more knowledgeable as to the workings of this organization you should plan to attend.

I know everyone is always talking about membership and we must understand that unfortunately it is what drives the train. The larger the organization the more influence we have in the constant fight for Veterans benefits.

Please use the Department web site. The Department Staff is working hard to keep it up to date with the information that everyone sends to them.

Robert Kidd, Sr.  
Department Sr. Vice Commander

## Jr. Vice Column Barbara Green



At the March Council of Administration meeting in Grand Junction members interested in running for Department offices to include Chaplain,

Surgeon, Jr. Vice Commander, Sr. Vice Commander and Commander will declare their intentions for the 2020-2021 fraternal year. If you want a "taste" of what being a Department officer is like know that with Chaplain and Surgeon there is no obligation to ever move up to become State Commander. Chaplain – attends Department staff meetings, represents the Commander at District meetings throughout the state and leads prayers at meetings and official functions. Surgeon – attends monthly staff meetings, represents the Commander at

District meetings throughout the state and presents donation checks to eight state and VA Veteran Community Living Centers. After presenting the checks, the Surgeon may receive a very nice tour of each Community Living Center and get to talk with the veteran residents who live at the facilities. If anyone is interested in any of the elected positions contact one of the current officers with your questions. If you want to run for any of the offices but cannot attend the March Council of Administration meeting in Grand Junction send an email or letter stating the elected office you are interested in to any of the current officers or send it to the Department HQ office.

Sincerely  
Barbara Green  
Department Jr. Vice Commander

## Chaplain Column Kevin Reinhold



Brothers and Sisters,

We pray you all had a Merry Christmas and remembered what the true gift is on this holiday. May

our Lord watch over you and yours in the coming year.

I want to share something that happened in December. I was notified by Department of an 91-year-old Vietnam Veteran, an At Large member who wanted someone from the VFW to visit him at his home. I was asked to visit him and help him however I could. The only information I had was his address so the next day I went to the address and a gentleman answered the door. I introduced myself and he asked me in and to have a seat. I asked him how we could help him. He told me he was 91 years old and served in Vietnam in the early 1960's. He

told me he missed WWII by two weeks. He asked me if I saw the movie "We were Soldiers". I told him I did. He said he was there with Col. Moore and Mel Gibson was the right person to be Moore. He said he was selected to go to OCS and out of over 200 selected they only commissioned about 28 because they didn't need the officers at that time. He was one of the 28 selected. I asked him at what rank he had retired, and he answered Light Colonel. He told me a great sto-

ry of his career for about two and a half hours. He then told me he must be boring me, but I was not bored at all. He wanted to tell his story and I wanted to hear it. He also told me he lost his wife to cancer last year and has a son in Colorado Springs that takes him to his appointments. He didn't want anything special from the VFW. He wanted to tell someone his story. Someone to talk to that would listen. He didn't know that there are posts; he just thought there was a HQ for the VFW.

If there is one veteran like this out there, how many more are sitting alone with no one to talk to or tell their story to? Our organization is based on helping, supporting and listening to our veterans. One day this could be anyone of us. We should be taking steps to make sure that all veterans can be heard.

Use your At Large lists for your area and find these veterans. Keep in contact with your Post Annual members.

Pray for each other and may our Lord be your blessing. If you or someone you know needs prayer, let us know; we will pray with you. [reinholdvfw@yahoo.com](mailto:reinholdvfw@yahoo.com)

Kevin Reinhold, State Chaplain

"Doing our Lord's work for all Veteran's"

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

**GENERAL ORDERS NO. 3**

**February 1, 2020 2019-2020**

Please remind all Posts that you MUST be 100% +1 to qualify for All State. Deadline is June 30, 2020. Entry forms will be e-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, Department and National Conventions.

**5. Attention of Post Commanders** is directed to Sec. 218, Manual of Procedure, Duty of Trustees. Trustees Report of Audit must be completed by the Trustees, in detail, at the close of each quarter, one of which ends March 31<sup>st</sup>. 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 2020 Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Campaign. To qualify for Post All American, VFW Posts must increase their Post's Buddy Poppy purchase by 20% over the previous year from Department Headquarters.

**7. All-State Commanders and Quartermasters.** Entry forms for All-State Commanders and Quartermasters will be e-mailed to all qualified persons by July 1, 2020. Posts and Districts must be 100% + 1 in membership by June 30, 2020, in order for the Commanders and/or Quartermasters to be eligible for this award and must be eligible for the Centennial Team of Post and District Commanders. The entry form, must be submitted to State Headquarters by suspense date provided in notification letter. Post Quartermasters need only submit the entry form by the same suspense date. All State Teams will be presented at the August 2020 COA meeting at Joint Opening.

**8. Council of Administration** meeting will be March 15, 2020 at VFW Post 1247, Grand Junction, 8:30 am for Joint Meeting. **Workshops** will begin March 14, 2020.

**9. State Convention** is scheduled for June 10 through June 13, 2020, hosted by Royal Gorge VFW Post 4061 Canon City. 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 2, 2020 10:00 am line-up time. Please contact Jim Crim 719-541-2650 or Rowland Hannon 719-347-2522 for further information.

ATTEST BY:  
Bruce Dolan, State Adjutant

BY COMMAND:  
David Stone, State Commander

**Check your Membership Program Book  
for Centennial Team of Post and District Commander Requirements**



**TAPS**



Post 3820: Charles G. Jay, Christian W. Kraft  
Post 7945: Gabriel Romero, Warren Anderson  
Post 8449: John Kuiee  
Post 9644: Bennett Daniel "Ben" Sisler  
Post 10649: Frederick Miller

Send Deceased members to Department of Colorado VFW, 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214. They will be in Taps and State Convention Joint Memorial Services.

**Surgeon's Column  
Geraldine Rimpley**



Cheyenne VA Hospital.

I had the distinct pleasure of touring the facility with Department President Patsy Gilmore and other Comrades from Colorado. I am very pleased to report

that I have never experienced such a well operated medical facility such as Cheyenne's. The medical side has and continues to procure state of the art equipment for diagnostics and treatment for our valued Veterans. Additionally, the residential wing is probably the most modern site I have ever seen. The comforts of home resonate throughout the living area and the programs in place for the residents are too numerous to mention.

but amazing just the same. And the hospital just didn't stop there as there is a plan in place to expand all aspects of the site within the next 5 years to keep up with the increasing demands to meet our Veterans' ever-changing needs.

With that said, I look forward to visiting other hospitals and homes with the hopes I am even more amazed such as the grand opening of facilities within the Grand Junction VA Hospital.

It just does my heart well to know that there are and will be great accommodations operating to 21<sup>st</sup> century standards to provide much needed for our Veterans today and us tomorrow!

Geraldine Rimpley  
Department Surgeon

**Have you Pre-Registered for State Convention?  
Have you made Hotel Reservations?  
Room Reservations are due by May 8, 2020  
See Page 8 of this Colorado Veteran  
Everyone is invited to attend**

**State Convention Buddy Poppy Display Contest**

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

**rules**

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

**CATEGORY 1 Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign.**

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

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

**CATEGORY 2 Memorial or Inspirational Displays**

(Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)

(a). Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy.  
(b). At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

**CATEGORY 3 Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies**

(Post Home displays, table centerpieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)

(a). Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.  
(b). At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

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

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

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

**judging**

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

**prizes**

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

**First Place Winners in each Category**

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

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

## VFW Post Membership by District as of January 28, 2020

Number/ City	2019	2020	%	Number/City	2019	2020	%
<b>DISTRICT #1</b>				<b>DISTRICT #8</b>			
1 Denver	897	828	92	859 Leadville	31	33	106*
501 Denver	320	261	82	1166 Buena Vista	131	125	95
2461 Denver	142	107	75	3820 Salida	81	71	88
2797 Denver	70	35	50	8661 Bailey	123	114	93
5061 Denver	270	247	91	10721 Minturn	128	108	84
TOTAL	1699	1478	87%	11411 Lake George	44	44	100*
				12009 Conifer	135	124	92
				TOTAL	673	619	92%
<b>DISTRICT #2</b>				<b>DISTRICT #9</b>			
2788 Penrose	89	83	93	4264 Steamboat Spgs	94	92	98
3641 Pueblo	121	101	83	4265 Craig	113	109	96
4061 Canon City	256	251	98	5261 Rangely	27	20	74
5812 Pueblo West	188	189	100*	5843 Meeker	49	42	86
7305 Colo. City	49	45	92	9374 Kremmling	31	32	103*
8898 Boone	36	32	89	TOTAL	314	295	94%
12063 Westcliffe	47	47	100*				
TOTAL	786	748	95%				
<b>DISTRICT #3</b>				<b>DISTRICT #10</b>			
41 Loveland	289	268	93	322 Englewood	107	96	90
807 Boulder	43	37	86	3471 Morrison	67	64	96
1771 Lafayette	252	249	99	3631 Aurora	302	286	95
1781 Ft. Collins	338	280	83	4171 Golden	421	387	92
2121 Greeley	181	157	87	4266 Parker	74	74	100*
2585 Johnstown	182	166	91	4331 Arvada	270	241	89
2601 Longmont	343	298	87	4444 Cmmrc Cty	194	171	88
4334 Ault	62	55	89	4666 Littleton	129	120	93
6624 Evans	240	219	91	7563 Black Hawk	25	18	72
9565 Broomfield	102	92	90	7945 Thornton	334	310	93
9741 Dacono	59	46	78	8449 Bennett	68	50	74
12174 Brighton	35	33	94	9644 Fort Logan	440	391	89
12189 Berthoud	46	18	39	TOTAL	2431	2208	91%
TOTAL	2172	1918	88%				
<b>DISTRICT #4</b>				<b>DISTRICT #11</b>			
2551 Ft. Morgan	189	174	92	784 Montrose	131	118	90
3378 Yuma	60	58	97	1247 Grnd Jnctn	250	238	95
3541 Sterling	92	81	88	3571 Delta	54	51	94
3551 Brush	37	35	95	3981 Grnd Jnctn	129	140	109*
3951 Ovid	19	17	89	4663 Clifton	64	61	95
3961 Otis	18	15	83	5485 Parachute	39	39	100*
4671 Wray	51	51	100*	9221 Cedaredge	102	96	94
6482 Holyoke	50	44	88	9304 Rifle	30	27	90
7153 Fleming	25	23	92	9333 Hotchkiss	27	19	70
8064 Akron	46	42	91	TOTAL	826	789	96%
TOTAL	587	540	92%				
<b>DISTRICT #5</b>				<b>DISTRICT #12</b>			
101 Colo. Spgs.	475	447	94	4031 Durango	217	206	95
3917 Security	591	545	92	4181 Dove Creek	53	47	89
4051 Colo. Spgs	571	554	97	5231 Mancos	135	126	93
5221 Calhan	102	97	95	9058 Nucla	34	30	88
6051 Wldn Park	50	49	98	TOTAL	439	409	93%
6461 Fountain	313	292	93	<b>DISTRICT #13</b>			
7829 Monument	156	135	87	3411 Kit Carson	21	19	90
10649 Elizabeth	49	44	90	6491 Burlington	63	60	95
TOTAL	2307	2163	94%	6612 Hugo	32	32	100*
				9491 Deer Trail	19	18	95
<b>DISTRICT #6</b>				9700 Chynn Wlls	24	24	100*
336 Ordway	89	82	92	TOTAL	159	153	96%
2411 Las Animas	84	78	93				
4001 Springfield	39	33	85	<b>2020 dues are now DUE</b>			
4281 Holly	24	23	96	<b>Be 100% +1 in 2019-2020</b>			
TOTAL	236	216	92%				
<b>DISTRICT #7</b>							
899 Alamosa	95	86	91				
4849 La Jara	52	45	87				
6101 San Luis	62	54	87				
8121 Del Norte	43	41	95				
TOTAL	252	226	90%				

## Check your Membership Program Book for All-State Commander and Quartermaster Requirements

Your legislative action helped steer a ship off-course and I'm grateful

Just a couple years ago we came extremely close to turning over VA Healthcare to corporations who would have received our healthcare dollars in the form of profit for corporate directors, board members, and stockholders.

We fought extremely hard to stop that ship from ramming straight into what we earned, our Healthcare.

You helped stop this by participating in calling, writing letters, and emailing your federal legislatures. Plus, the VFW State Leadership visited with key legislative leadership and their staff members and then appeared at events that was organized by the very same who were driving the effort to privatize VA Healthcare. You stopped the insanity, thank you again!

You found out about this effort through your email and other messaging and I'm

encouraging you to make sure you are connected with our legislative efforts on the state and federal levels.

### Here's what to do

1st, sign up for Action Corp at [votervoice.net/VFW/register](http://votervoice.net/VFW/register)

2nd, catchup on Action Corp articles [VFW.org > advocacy > legislative priorities > grassroot efforts](http://VFW.org > advocacy > legislative priorities > grassroot efforts)

3rd, look over our latest legislative campaigns that we need you to respond [votervoice.net/VFW/Campaigns](http://votervoice.net/VFW/Campaigns)

Lastly, view current legislation and see which we support at [votervoice.net/VFW/bills](http://votervoice.net/VFW/bills)

Write me an email for any questions, [steve@vfwo.org](mailto:steve@vfwo.org)

Steve Kjonaas  
PDC / State Legislative Director

## Membership 2019 - 2020

Comrades,

We are more than halfway through our fiscal year and membership is looking good; however, we still have a long way to go. We need to ensure that our Districts, Posts, and members continue to work hard towards membership. We are above 90% in membership, but still need almost 1,500 renewals, reinstates, and recruits to reach 100%+1. We did it last year, and I know we can do it again.

Currently, there are almost 10 Posts who have reached 100% and 10 Districts who are above 90%, with many of the others trailing close behind. We have also gained over 300 new members and 30 reinstates; this shows we have been doing good, but we need to work harder. Of the over 330 new and reinstated members, there are only 119 recruiters which is only 0.77% of our membership. We can do much better than this as Colorado has a very large Military and Veteran population. We must reach out to the Military and Veterans in our communities and let them know what we do; we need to let them know they have a family in the VFW.

One of the biggest difficulties with membership in the VFW is retention; we are currently close to 1,500 members behind what we were at the end of the last fiscal year. We have been losing members for many reasons including issues

with the Post or canteen, lack of money or time, and they lack a purpose and don't see the point, or we lose track of them because their contact information is outdated. Whatever their reason to leave us is, give them a reason to stay; mentor these members and give them a sense of purpose, treat Post & Auxiliary members with dignity and respect, and help them pay their dues if they need help. If they don't have the time, let them know they do not need to be an active member to make a difference.

There are a lot of components to the success of the VFW, but membership is crucial. Without our members, our organization cannot advance or continue to care for Veterans, our Military, and their orphans and widows. It is because of our membership that the slogan "No One Does More for Veterans" continues to ring true. There have been a multitude of other Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) that were created over the years, but the Veterans of Foreign Wars is the oldest, largest, and strongest. Please renew your dues, recruit, update your contact information, and help take care of our members so that the VFW can continue to thrive as our nation's strongest VSO. Let's "Dare to Care" and make this another successful year!

Alexandria Faulkner  
Membership Director

## VFW Roster Changes

### February 2020 Roster Changes

#### Page 14

Douglas Raymond, 9565 2612 S Oleander St., Sioux City IA 51106 303-929-2288

#### Page 10

VAVS Rep, Denver: Ron Lattin, [ronlt@dkrranch.com](mailto:ronlt@dkrranch.com)

#### Page 44

Post 6461 Qm: Ser. Off: Stephen Urbany, 515 Corte Hermosa, Fountain 80817 719-651-2435

#### Page 46

Post 7305 Ser. Off: Thomas Howard, P O Box 19727, Colorado City 81019 719-676-2375

#### Page 50

Post 9644 Qm: Lynn Peterson, 6821 S Kendall Blvd., Littleton 80128

#### Page 71

Post 10721 Qm: Heather Parker, 1552 Matterhorn Cir #9, Vail 81657 713-298-7342

## Military retirees under the age of 55 to pay reduced income taxes

Military retirees younger than 55 and living in Colorado will enjoy their first military retirement pay exemption when they file their 2019 tax year income taxes.

Colorado House Bill (HB18-1060) created a phased-in, partial tax exemption for military retirement benefits for those under the age of 55. The 2019 Tax Year specifies a state income tax exemption of \$4,500 in military retirement pay. With the existing Colorado income tax rate of 4.36%, most of our youngest military retirees will enjoy up to \$203 in lower state income taxes for 2019.

Assuming the tax rate stays stable, the phase-in exemption gradually increases as follows:

- Tax Year 2020: \$7,000 (up to \$324 tax reduction per military retiree)
- Tax Year 2021: \$10K (up to \$463 tax reduction per military retiree)
- Tax Year 2022: \$15K (up to \$695 tax reduction per military retiree).

This income tax exemption sunsets after five years, so there is a need to renew or make permanent before Tax Year 2024.

To file for the exemption, military retirees will use lines 5 and 6 on Form DR 0104AD, the schedule for handling subtractions for income for individuals. Instructions in the individual in-

come tax booklet will explain how to take the subtraction, according to Josh Pens, Director of Colorado's Office of Tax Policy Analysis. Additional guidance on how to file for the exemption is available at <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/tax/fyi-publications-income-tax>. Look specifically for: FYI Income 21: Military Service Members; FYI Income 25: Pension/Annuity Subtraction

Why is the military retirement pay tax exemption only available for under 55? Colorado has an existing retirement pay (including social security) income tax exemption for all persons - civilian or military - aged 55 and over. An analysis of Colorado's military retirees showed declining numbers in younger than 55 military retirees, increasing numbers in military retirees over 55. To minimize the fiscal impact on the State's General Fund, the United Veterans Coalition of Colorado advocated for a bill that targeted under age 55 retirees and showed where this age group - second careers, working spouses, etc. - brings an almost 500% return-on-investment in state and local taxes and fees. Shelley Kalkowski CO-Chair, State Legislative Coalition United Veterans Committee of Colorado



### CABA DECEMBER 2019 AIRLIFT

The Colorado Aviation Business Association, Metro State University Aviation and Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars sponsored the ninth (9th) annual Christmas Food/Toy airlift to VFW Posts in Colorado, December 15, 2019.

VFW Posts and Auxiliary donated \$17,230 to help purchase food and toys, and 5 VFW members and 3 Auxiliary members helped with loading a flatbed truck with cases of food purchased from King Soopers, to distribute to 29 VFW Posts in Colorado and their members unloaded the planes and helped needy veteran families in their area.

PDC Peter Buchanan supervised loading the planes at Centennial Airport and contacting VFW Posts that needed food and toys for the Holiday season. VFW Posts and VFW Auxiliaries added to the boxes that the Planes were carrying.

Pilots donated their time, their planes, and fuel to fly to help with this distribution. Colorado weather was a big factor this December as it took 3 different days that the planes could fly in Colorado and over the Rockies to reach the Western Slope. Some of the distribution was accomplished by truck due to the weather.



### Christmas for Soldiers

December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019, a group of several volunteers, led by Ron and Charlotte Lattin, delivered Christmas presents, gift cards and food to 6 Wounded Warrior families and 11 Gold Star families; one household had lost a love one just 3 months ago.

This year with generous donations of several VFW Posts & Auxiliaries, King Soopers, Littleton Elks Ladies, and donations from numerous individuals, 34 children had a magnificent Christmas. The families may not have had a Christmas, or a very limited one, if not for the kindness of this group. They all helped wrap the gifts and put together stockings with special treats for each child. The group provided about 45 pounds of food for each family including a ham, a turkey and other food items.

These volunteers were assisted in this holiday endeavor by Fort Carson's own special Santa that came in to greet families and children to make it an extraordinary party. The families were completely overcome by the kindness of VFW and Auxiliaries, and Elks Ladies, plus all the others that helped to make this a wonderful holiday season.

Seeing the children realize that Santa was real in their lives brought the true meaning of this season to everyone involved in this program. The project involved about 590 hours of volunteer time and \$7,800 spent or given in gift cards.

VFW Posts and Auxiliaries in addition to the Elks Ladies should be very proud of what these groups of volunteers have done, to give the families a Christmas to remember.



Englewood VFW Post #322 and VFW Auxiliary, Flag Retirement Ceremony, November 19, 2019. Civil Air Patrol from Jefco and Boy Scouts with Leaders. Commander Mark Wakefield and President Carla Wakefield.

### Service to Veterans!



Monument VFW Auxiliary 7829 members wrap over 70 Christmas gifts for veterans who reside at the Pueblo VA Community Living Center, Laurel Manor Care Center in Colorado Springs, and Bethesda Gardens in Monument. For each of the past six years, VFW Post 7829 purchase the gifts, the Auxiliary wrap the gifts and a Christmas Party is held at each facility.



Cuerno Verde VFW Post 7305 Colorado City replaced worn out flags in schools. The local VFW chapter replaced the flag in the auditorium, the flags in 21 classrooms, and the large outdoor flag at Rye Elementary on November 21, 2019.



Security VFW Post 3917 Auxiliary's Special Needs Christmas Party for District 3 schools. McKenzie Buchwalter has been their Elf since 7th grade and is now a Junior at CSU Pueblo. Santa Claus (Jeff Buchwalter); Mrs. Claus (Gloria Otwell).



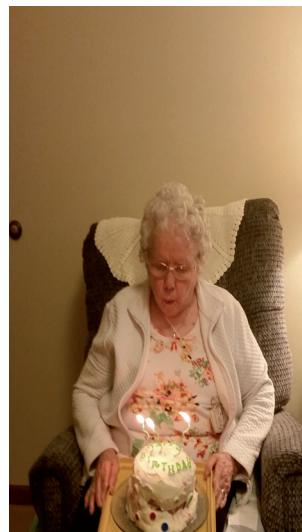
VFW Colorado attendees at Anchorage Alaska Western Conference banquet with the traveling Membership Trophy. L-R: S. Kjonaas, D. Stone, R. Kidd, L. Reinbold, J. Holland, J. Kjonaas, P. Gilmore, M. Harrison, L. Dolan, G. Rosa.



VFW Department Surgeon Geraldine Rimpley presented a check from Colorado VFW Foundation to Cheyenne VA Medical Facility for Resident Needs. Northern Colorado VFW and VFW Auxiliary members travel to Cheyenne every month.



Elizabeth VFW Post 10649 Building has a new look. Thanks to all that have supported this project over the past year. It took some time to complete but you got it done! Thank You Home Depot for their grant for this project.



Dorothy Smith, VFW Auxiliary 1771 Lafayette, celebrated her birthday with her daughter Rena Smith, in her room in Paola, Kansas.



Department Commander David Stone was the Speaker at Pikes Peak National Cemetery Wreaths Across America Ceremony December 14, 2019. Pikes Peak National Cemetery, south of Colorado Springs is now home to over 200 deceased veterans.

VFW Convention Pre-Registration – June 10<sup>th</sup> thru 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
 Quality Inn & Suites- 3075 E. US 50, Canon City, CO 81212



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 2019-2020 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: **Royal Gorge VFW Post 4061**.  
 Mail to: VFW Post 4061, Attn: Convention Registration, 215 N Cottonwood, Canon City, CO 81212

Entertainment \$5.00 Pre-paid or Friday \$5.00 at door & Saturday \$5.00 at door	<b>Registration</b> \$ _____  <b>Entertainment</b> \$ _____
---	---

**Must Purchase before 5/8/2020 Banquet tickets: Cost will be \$30.00 each**

<b>Convention: HOTEL RESERVATIONS</b>			
Choice Hotel: Phone 719-275-8676			
VFW Room Rate \$104 and up +Tax			
Cutoff Date May 8, 2020			
Beef	# Tickets:	x 30.00 =	\$ _____
Chicken	# Tickets:	x 30.00 =	\$ _____
<b>Total Amount: \$ _____</b>			

  
**VFW Convention Pre-Registration – June 10<sup>th</sup> thru 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
 Quality Inn & Suites- 3075 E. US 50, Canon City, CO 81212

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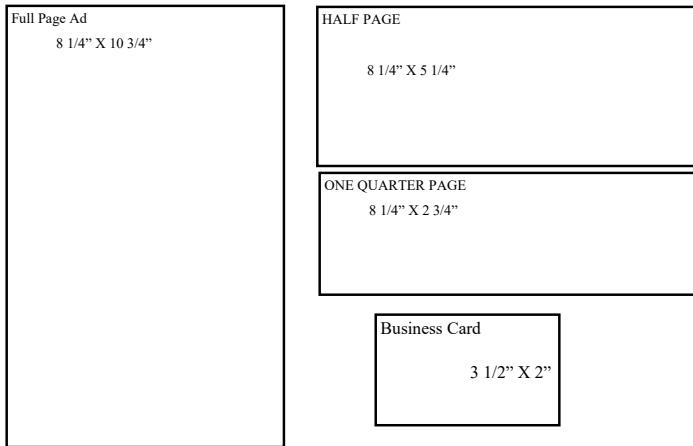
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Choice Hotel: Phone 719-275-8676			
VFW Room Rate \$104 and up +Tax			
Cutoff Date May 8, 2020			
Beef	# Tickets:	x 30.00 =	\$ _____
Chicken	# Tickets:	x 30.00 =	\$ _____
<b>Total Amount: \$ _____</b>			

9/18/2019

#### 2020 VFW State Convention Ad Sheet

<b>FULL PAGE \$100.00</b>	<b>8 ¼ X 10 ¾</b>
<b>HALF PAGE \$75.00</b>	<b>8 ¼ X 5 ¼</b>
<b>FOURTH PAGE \$50.00</b>	<b>8 ¼ X 2 ¾</b>
<b>BUSINESS CARD AD \$25.00</b>	<b>3 ½ X 2</b>



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:  
[vfw4061@gmail.com](mailto:vfw4061@gmail.com) by 8 May 2020.

Payment must be received by May 1, 2020

(Ad will not be printed if payment is not received)

Make Checks Payable to:  
 Mail Form & Payment to:  
 Royal Gorge VFW Post 4061  
 Convention Book Chairman  
 215 N Cottonwood  
 Canon City, CO 81212

#### CANON CITY HOTELS / MOTELS / CAMPGROUNDS

Quality Inn & Suites (Headquarters)	3075 E Royal Gorge Blvd	719-275-8676	VFW Rate
Best Western	110 Latigo Lane	719-275-2400	
Budget Host Inn	217 Raynolds	719-268-1100	
Econo Lodge	311 Royal Gorge Blvd	866-925-7881	<i>Call for</i>
Hampton Inn	102 McCormick Pkwy	719-269-1112	<i>Hotel and</i>
Parkview Inn	231 Royal Gorge Blvd	719-275-0624	<i>campground</i>
Super 8	209 N 19th	719-275-8676	<i>rates</i>
Royal View Campground	43590 US Hwy 50 West	719-275-1900	
Royal Gorge KOA	559 Co Rd 3A	800-562-5689	
Mountain View Campground	45606 US Hwy 50 West	719-275-0900	

#### State Convention - VFW Hosted by Canon City VFW Post #4061

##### Wednesday June 10

8:00 am  
 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm  
 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm  
 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
 4:00 pm  
 7:00 pm

##### Thursday June 11

7:00 am - 8:00 am  
 8:00 am  
 12:30 pm  
 1:00 pm  
 1:00 pm  
 1:00 pm  
 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm  
 3:00 pm  
 6:00 pm  
 8:00 pm

##### Friday June 12

7:00 – 8:00 am  
 8:00 am - 10:00 am  
 8:30 am – 12:00 pm  
 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm  
 3:00 pm  
 6:00 pm  
 8:00 pm

##### Saturday June 13

7:00 am  
 8:00 am - 9:00 am  
 8:30 am – 11:00 am  
 11:00 am  
 2:00 pm  
 5:00 pm  
 6:00 pm  
 8:00 pm

##### Sunday June 14

8:00 – 10:30 am  
 10:00 am  
 10:30 am

Golf Tournament  
 Lunch (RSVP)

Registration  
 Service Officer Claims  
 Memorial Service Practice  
 Council of Administration

4 Mile Golf Course  
 VFW Post 4061  
 VFW Post 4061  
 VFW Post 4061  
 Grandview Church  
 VFW Post 4061

Quality Inn Lobby  
 Quality Inn Ball Room  
 Quality Inn Hotel

VFW Post 4061  
 VFW Post 4061

All American Cap & VFW  
 Line Officers & Staff Breakfast  
 Registration  
 Business Session  
 Caucuses  
 Patriotic Rally  
 Military Banquet  
 Rock & Roll Dance

VFW Post 4061  
 VFW Post 4061

Past State Cmdrs Breakfast  
 Registration  
 Business Session /Election  
 VFW Warriors Meeting  
 Installation Practice  
 Joint Installation of Officers  
 State Cmdr/President Reception  
 Country & Western Dance

VFW Post 4061  
 VFW Post 4061

#### AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE

#### State Convention – Department Auxiliary Hosted by Canon City #4061

Wednesday June 10  
 8:00 am  
 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm  
 9:00 am  
 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm  
 2:00 pm  
 4:00 pm  
 7:00 pm

##### Thursday June 11

7:00 am - 8:00 am  
 8:00 am  
 12:30 pm  
 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm  
 3:00 pm  
 6:00 pm  
 8:00 pm

##### Friday June 12

7:00 am  
 8:00 am - 10:00 am  
 8:30 am – 12:00 noon  
 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm  
 3:00 pm  
 6:00 pm  
 8:00 pm

##### Saturday June 13

7:00 am  
 8:00 am - 9:00 am  
 8:30 am – 11:00 am  
 2:00 pm  
 5:00 pm  
 6:00 pm  
 8:00 pm

##### Sunday June 14

8:00 – 10:30 am  
 10:00 am

Golf Tournament  
 Lunch (RSVP)  
 Staff Meeting  
 Registration  
 Floor Work Practice  
 Memorial Service Practice  
 Council of Administration

4 Mile Golf Course  
 VFW Post 4061  
 TBA  
 VFW Post 4061  
 TBA  
 Grandview Church  
 Quality Inn Hotel

Quality Inn Lobby  
 Quality Inn Ball Room  
 Quality Inn Hotel  
 (By invitation only)  
 Registration  
 Joint Opening Session  
 Dept Presidents Luncheon

Quality Inn Lobby  
 Grandview Church  
 TBA  
 VFW Post 4061

Registration  
 Joint Memorial Service  
 Past Dept. Presidents Banquet  
 Karaoke  
 Past District President's Breakfast  
 Registration  
 Business Session  
 Caucuses  
 Patriotic Rally  
 Military Banquet  
 Rock & Roll Dance

TBA  
 Quality Inn Lobby  
 Quality Inn Hotel  
 VFW Post 4061  
 VFW Post 4061

Past Auxiliary President's Breakfast  
 Registration  
 Business Session / Election  
 Installation Practice  
 Joint Installation of Officers  
 State Cmdr/President Reception  
 Country & Western Dance

TBA  
 Quality Inn Lobby  
 Quality Inn Hotel  
 Quality Inn Ball Room  
 Quality Inn Ball Room  
 Quality Inn Ball Room  
 VFW Post 4061  
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 VFW Post 4061

#### BUDDY POPPY / SCRAPBOOK ROOM AT QUALITY INN

#### AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE



# Auxiliary News

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

**Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman**



## President's Column Patsy Gilmore



Greetings Auxiliary Members,

Happy New Year! I hope Christmas and New Year's celebrations were enjoyed by all. Seeing friends and family that you haven't

seen in a while is usually always pleasant and welcomed during the holiday season. As we say goodbye to 2019 and hello to 2020, not only a new year but a new decade as well, may we continue to mentor those who would like to learn more about our great organization and our programs. It is always nice to share information and have new ideas that are more outside the box than traditional. Try something new or even try something that has been done in the past but didn't work at that time. It might just work this time. You will never know unless you try it again with a positive attitude.

Thank you to all who visited or gave presents to our Veterans who were in VA Hospitals, Nursing Homes or Community Living Centers. You might think it is a small gesture, but it certainly means a lot to our Veterans. Especially to those who have no family or their family lives far away. Thank you for giving your time to do hospital volunteering. Also, a very warm and fuzzy heart felt thank you to all those who participated in Colorado Aviation Business Association (CABA). Without your generosity many Veterans and their families wouldn't have been able to celebrate Christmas as well as they did. No matter if you donated time, food, toys or money, your donations made a difference to the Veterans and their families that CABA was able to assist. Thank you PDC Peter Buchanan for the CABA presentation at the Fort Morgan Council of Administration Parade of Programs.

To all those Districts that I have already visited, thank you for making me feel so welcome and a part of your District. To those I still need to visit, I'm excited and looking forward to visiting you all. I am so amazed at all the hard work you do for our Veterans, their families and our programs. Keep up the great job you all do! You do make a difference!

The 2019-2020 Program Reporting Year deadline is quickly approaching. Please submit all program reports soon, not only to be judged for awards but also to give credit to all your Auxiliary members that work hard to plan and volunteer at your Auxiliary events. If you have any questions, please contact our Department Program Reporting Advisor, Jackie Newlander.

Another deadline that will be here before you know it, is Membership. Let's continue to get our ASK in gear! I would like to challenge all Auxiliary members

to recruit at least one new member and make phone calls to your Annual members to encourage them to pay their 2020 dues ASAP. If you have Annual members going through a financial hardship or they are in a hospital/nursing home, please discuss some different ways to help them out at your monthly meeting.

Our Department Chaplain, Ron Boone keeps us up to date with those members who might need an extra thought or prayer sent their way. If you would like to be put on that email list or would like to request cards/prayers for someone, please contact Ron. A shower of cards and prayers usually lifts the spirits of those dealing with medical issues or loss of a loved one.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our next Council of Administration weekend that is scheduled for March 14 – 15, 2020 in Grand Junction. Although the end of the reporting year will be soon upon us, our program chairmen will be giving updates and information at the Parade of Programs on Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup>. If you have a question for any of the chairmen, please don't hesitate to ask them. The Grand Junction Veteran Center has moved to their new location. They will be holding a Grand Opening on Friday March 13<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with our Council of Administration Weekend. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Dick Ball at the Veteran Center (970) 245-4156. It would be great to show our support for all they do.

I would like to encourage each Auxiliary to participate in the Salute to Service program by nominating a deserving Auxiliary member and submitting the nomination form before the deadline of March 31, 2020. This year's banquet will be held April 25, 2020 at VFW Post 7945 in Thornton. Please RSVP to Department (303) 421-1630.

The 2020 State Convention will be June 10 – 13, 2020 in Canon City and sponsored by VFW Post & Auxiliary 4061. Please order Buddy Poppies if your Auxiliary hasn't done so yet. Your Auxiliary will need them to start working on your Buddy Poppy display, hat or your memory books so you can share your wonderful creations with other Auxiliary members from across the state. Your Auxiliary might want to schedule a "get together" to work on these projects, a chance to spend time getting to know and involving newer members. Make them feel welcome and a part of the Auxiliary. A great time for mentoring, also.

A huge thank you for all your support you have given to my special project, the VFW Colorado Foundation. If your Auxiliary needs to order/reorder my Veteran pin, please get in touch with Special Project Chairman, Charlotte Lattin. Through your support of purchasing my Veteran pin, the Army boot print,



**Fort Morgan VFW Auxiliary #2551,  
VFW Post #2551 and  
District #4 Auxiliaries  
proudly endorse  
Davina (Dee) Chappell-Haley  
Department President  
2020-2021**

non-profit, tax and compliance issues. She earned her membership in the Colorado Association of Parliamentarians (CAP) and National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) in 2004 and continues to advocate and promote the value of Parliamentary procedures. Dee has lobbied successfully in Washington on behalf of veterans, particularly women veterans. She currently serves as VFW Auxiliary 2551's Legislative Chairman where she is a very active and strong advocate for Veterans. Dee is a Colorado native and resides in Fort Morgan with her husband Jerry of 31 years and their 6 beloved dogs.

JoAnn DeSamber  
VFW Auxiliary 2551 President

## VFW Buddy Poppy - National Home for Children

I am writing this article near the beginning of January. I have planned out a Poppy display for State convention and have appropriated the funds from my Auxiliary for it. Production will begin in late January and I hope to be finished by May 1st.

Why am I telling you all this? Because great Poppy displays are not created overnight. With busy work schedules and personal family obligations, scheduling time for the VFW volunteer activities can be hectic.

Review the poppy display rules I handed out at COA. If you didn't get one you can find it on the Department website. Also your President should have this information in her packet.

1 - find creative members willing to take on the task

2. Ask your auxiliary for funds, pick a category and make a plan  
3 - create your display

At the 2019 convention we had a great turnout, Better than I've seen in the past. Let's make 2020 even better!

At the next COA in March at Grand Junction we will be having a rematch on the mini National Home displays. Be sure to incorporate poppies with your little house in whatever theme you want and be sure to collect donations for National Home to present.

In the meantime keep creating and thinking about ways to promote Poppies and National Home.

Shelly Hall  
Department Buddy Poppy and  
National Home Chairman

## March Parade of Programs and Council of Administration Meeting

**March 14-15, 2020 Grand Junction, CO**

## Historian/Media Relations

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** I hope the New Year 2020 is bringing everyone renewed energy to do good things for our Veterans!

Start a scrapbook for your President if you haven't already. There are still many events that will happen during the second half of their term. You have the opportunity to put together a beautiful memory book for them. You can put together a digital or traditional scrapbook,

a bigger donation will be made to the Foundation and more Veterans will be able to apply for a grant.

I appreciate the hard work all Auxiliary members are doing to support our Veterans. Please keep "Climbing

photo album or binder.  
Consider adding enhancements such as:

**Picture of a Flag  
Pressed flowers  
Pamphlets, menus, programs, etc.**

Have fun and don't forget to send pictures to me of your special events.

Lennie Dolan  
Department Historian/Media Relations

**State President, Continued**

"Mountains for Veterans" and "Serving our Veterans with Aloha".

**HUGS**  
Patsy Gilmore  
Department President



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

### GENERAL ORDERS #3

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 14 and 15, 2020 at Beye-Lotz VFW Post 1247, 1404 Ute Avenue, Grand Junction Colorado 81501. A complete schedule of programs and workshops will be available on the Department website. Joint Council of Administration meeting will be held on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 8:30 am and the Auxiliary Council meeting will follow.

**2. Department President Patsy Gilmore's special project** is the Colorado VFW Foundation. All Colorado VFW and Auxiliary members are eligible to apply for a grant from this fund. Please forward all donations to Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson. The proceeds from the sale of the Veterans Pins will also benefit this fund.

**3. Members in Good Standing** are those who are life members or those who hold a 2020 annual membership card as of January 1, 2020. A member who is not in good standing is not eligible to attend meetings, vote, or hold an office. They are also not eligible for a cancer grant from National. All rights and benefits are restored immediately upon payment of the current year dues. Proof of payment may include a paper or digital copy from MALTA.

**4. Membership:** Members who have not yet paid their dues for 2020 are requested to send dues to your Auxiliary Treasurer or pay them directly through the MALTA system. Membership card will be sent to paid annual members from National Headquarters. Members should always carry an application in order to recruit new members. The VFW Auxiliary may fix an admission fee. This entitles each new member to a copy of the National Bylaws and Book of Instructions and a membership pin (See Section 102 of the Bylaws.)

**5. Audits** for the months of October, November and December 2019 were due by January 31, 2020. Audits must be read on the Auxiliary floor and voted to be approved before sending them to the Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson. If an extension is required, please contact the Department Treasurer as soon as possible.

**6. District Presidents:** Annual of-

### Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

#### Eligibility

Students in grades 9-12 who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States.

Maximum student age of 18 at time of local entry.

Student must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. National.

Student does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to participate, but must attend school in the same state as the sponsoring VFW Auxiliary.

Entry must be completed during the current school year.

Complete contest application and attach to back of entry. Also attach a typed explanation of the entry (250 words or less).

If the American Flag is used, it must con-

ficial visits to the Auxiliaries should have been completed by December 31, 2019. A copy of the inspection report to be sent to the Department Chief of Staff, Department Secretary and District President Councilor. District Officer making the visit should sign the Secretary and Treasurer books to verify that they are being kept in accordance with procedures. Copies of bonds, audits and verification of 990 filings should be available for review. All questions on the visit form should be completed.

**7. Voice of Democracy Banquet** was held at VFW Post 3917, Security Colorado on January 25, 2020. The Department VFW Auxiliary would like to extend congratulations to all the winners throughout the state and to thank all Auxiliaries for their hard work to promote this program.

**8. Hospitalized Veterans** will receive special recognition during the week of February 10 through 14, 2020. Consider planning a special event or activity to honor our hospitalized veterans during this time.

**9. Salute to Service nominations** are due to VFW Department Headquarters by March 31, 2020. The Department Award Banquet will be held on April 25, 2020 at Thornton VFW Post 7945, 10217 Quivas St., Thornton CO 80260. RSVP's must be made with Department Headquarters. Please visit the Department website at [vfwco.org](http://vfwco.org) for further details.

**10. Program Report Forms** should be filed with the VFW Department Headquarters in a timely manner so that Auxiliaries will receive credit for their hard work. The reporting year is April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020. All paper reports are due to Department Headquarters by April 15, 2020. Be sure to use the Auxiliary reporting for your activities.

**11. A special thank you** to all of those that attended the Parade of Programs in Fort Morgan. The Program Chairmen did an outstanding job of promoting their programs and I am sure that each of you were able to take some good information back to your Auxiliaries.

BY ORDER OF:  
/s/ Patsy Gilmore  
Department President

ATTEST:  
/s/ Ginny Rosa  
Department Secretary

February 1, 2020



**Jane Reape**  
**National VFW Auxiliary Chaplain**  
**National Representative**  
**for**  
**Grand Junction COA Weekend**  
**March 14 - 15, 2020**

National District Council Member representing New York.

She joined on the eligibility of her late husband, James, who served in the U.S. Air Force from 1961-1983. Jane's family includes three children and three grandchildren. The military service continues in her family. Jane's oldest son, Raymond, is a Navy veteran of the Iraqi War and a Life Member of the VFW. Her youngest son, Robert, served in the Air Force for 22 years. Jane's granddaughter, Sarah, is currently serving in the Air Force and her brother, Daniel, is serving in the Army.

Jane is equally active in her community. She serves on the Finance Council of her church and she is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Ava Maria Circle, Carthage Area Hospital Auxiliary and the Honor Flight Committee.

### Legislative

Greetings to everyone,

I hope the holidays were warm, joyful and merry for all. As we start a new year remember we have three (3) months until the end of the reporting year. Make sure during your Auxiliary meetings, you discuss and report any Legislative items your Auxiliaries have done this year. How many people has your Auxiliary signed up for the VFW ActionCorps Weekly? How many Legislators has your Auxiliary contacted? By email, phone

### Chief of Staff and Extension

Happy New Year 2020! Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and a chance to relax and reflect on the accomplishments completed in 2019. It is hard to believe the year will soon be over.

Thank you District Presidents and Deputy Chiefs of Staff for working on completing District Inspections. Thank you Auxiliary Presidents and District Presidents for completing your R U Healthy reports. Thank you to all our members who continually support veterans and their families and are working to increase our membership.

As we continue through our year going forward, it might be a good time to review our "Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation" and all the resources available on [www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org) such as the Healthy Auxiliary Toolkit. It includes a VFW Auxiliary Meeting & Solutions form and a Member Questionnaire. The beginning of the year can be an opportunity for the members to fill out the Questionnaire and provide ideas going forward. A good resource is the "VFW Auxiliary Mentoring

Guide: Relationship Building for the Future" to engage new and existing members to volunteer.

If you have not yet had a chance, look at the Publicity Guide and the Community Outreach Guide to promote your Auxiliary or to encourage a Bachelor Post to consider an Auxiliary. These tools are good to promote community awareness of what the VFW Auxiliary does.

Be sure to nominate someone for the Extension Award for Members No. 1 and Award for Members No. 2 for a Bachelor Post. Both are due to Department Chairman by March 31, 2020.

Working together as a Team keeps our Auxiliaries healthy and we can further help our veterans by "Climbing Mountains for Our Veterans" and "Serving Our Veterans with Aloha". I look forward to seeing you at the Council meeting in Grand Junction March 14-15, 2020.

Linda Reinbold  
Department Chief of Staff/Extension

Send Deceased members to  
Department of Colorado VFW,  
1400 Carr Street,  
Lakewood CO 80214.

They will be in Taps and State Convention Joint Memorial Services.

TAPS

Aux 1771: Florence Richmond, Elizabeth Horne, Naydene Jenkins, Betty Jo Rogers, Guadalupe Martinez  
Aux 4265: Mary Jo Brown  
Aux 7945: Debbie Jean Semmen  
Aux 11411: Patricia Burnham

## Membership 2019-2020

### Membership Matters

**Big Ten 93.36%, Eastern 92.70%, Southern 94.50, Western 94.51%** we are only 1% from Southern (Percentages as of Dec 30<sup>th</sup>) Are we going to let them beat us???

### "GET YOUR ASK IN GEAR" Make phone calls, Send out cards. INVITE

- Adopt-A Member
- Purchase a Life Membership to recognize a special member
- Pay a member's annual dues if they can not
- Celebrate a 50-year member with a Life Membership
- Birthday gift, a touching way to say "You Matter"
- A token of appreciation

**Coming together is a Beginning,  
Keeping together is Progress,  
Working together is SUCCESS**

Let's work together as a TEAM to make this organization even greater and stronger by Inviting and including members. You are Investing in your Auxiliary's success and future when this is done. **Remember**, Membership is ever-

### Mentoring For Leadership \*New Program\*

Welcome to 2020! Hope everyone had a great Christmas and will have a very Happy New Year! It is hard to believe we are half-way through our year. Now is a good time to look at the many accomplishments we achieved in 2019. We can continue forward by reviewing the resources available for our mentoring program in a fresh new way.

"Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation" guide involves every level of our organization and helps us understand that what we do as an Auxiliary is based on Teamwork. The guide provides us with the basics of each level – Department, Districts, and Auxiliaries. National has many resources on [www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org) to provide education and training including video training for membership and leadership, members, social media and training on using MALTA.

"Mentoring at VFW Auxiliary – Relationship Building for the Future" helps us think through what is involved in a mentoring program and discusses the principle of "CARE": C = catch member when first joining; A = ask them to participate; R = remember what it felt like to be new; E = engage them in a pro-

gram that fits them.

Another way to update and refresh our knowledge - at your next Auxiliary meeting have copies of Acronyms & Common Terminology, Understanding Auxiliary Traditions, and a copy of the 2020 Podium Bylaws and Ritual available. It also may be a good time to have members fill out the Health Checkup Questionnaire.

Be sure to nominate someone for the Mentor Award for Members No. 1 and Mentor Award for Auxiliaries No. 1. Both are due to Department Chairman by March 31, 2020.

"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision, and to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results" - Andrew Carnegie. Together we can make a difference by "Climbing Mountains for Our Veterans" and "Serving Our Veterans with Aloha". We look forward to seeing you at the Council meeting in Grand Junction March 14-15, 2020.

Linda Reinpold, Department Chairman  
Ginny Rosa, Department Co-Chair

## VFW Auxiliary Family Freedom Festival

Program in one event.

### What are we supposed to do?

The goal of the Family Freedom Festival is to increase Auxiliary program participation and community awareness of, and involvement with, our National Programs. It is an event Auxiliaries of all sizes can implement in their communities.

Auxiliaries are encouraged to host a Family Freedom Festival sometime during the Program year. You may select the event time, day and place.

Involve every National Program for easy reporting and participation fulfillment.

If you don't have a Post home, consider hosting your Auxiliary's Family Freedom Festival at a local park, community Center or other gathering place. Contact [mzinn-sanchez@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:mzinn-sanchez@vfwauxiliary.org) with questions.

## Auxiliary Membership by District as of January 28, 2020

Number	City	2019	2020	%	Number	City	2019	2020	%
<b>DISTRICT #1</b>									
1	Denver	186	188	101*	859	Leadville	26	26	100*
501	Denver	141	135	96	11411	Lake George	48	47	98
2461	Denver	109	103	95	12009	Conifer	32	33	103*
2797	Denver	44	39	89	TOTAL		106	106	100%*
5061	Denver	141	132	94					
		621	597	96%					
<b>DISTRICT #2</b>									
2788	Penrose	45	33	73	4264	Stmbt Spgs	30	29	97
3641	Pueblo	80	65	81	4265	Craig	47	45	96
4061	Canon City	127	128	101*	5843	Meeker	33	33	100*
5812	Pueblo West	46	48	104*	9374	Kremmling	22	19	86
7305	Colo. City	25	23	92	TOTAL		132	126	95%
		323	297	92%					
<b>DISTRICT #3</b>									
41	Loveland	112	116	104*	322	Englewood	81	74	91
1771	Lafayette	296	289	98	3471	Morrison	47	46	98
1781	Ft. Collins	122	115	94	3631	Aurora	101	98	97
2121	Greeley	96	98	102*	4171	Golden	321	301	94
2585	Johnstown	74	69	93	4331	Arvada	142	126	89
2601	Longmont	206	206	100*	4444	Cmmrc City	185	171	92
4334	Ault	38	39	103*	7945	Thornton	269	269	100*
6624	Evans	209	200	96	9644	Fort Logan	331	330	99.7
9565	Broomfield	33	19	58	TOTAL		1477	1415	96%
9741	Dacono	23	23	100*					
		1209	1174	97%					
<b>DISTRICT #4</b>									
2551	Ft. Morgan	122	117	96	1247	Grnd Jnctn	82	72	88
3541	Sterling	64	51	80	3571	Delta	61	53	87
4671	Wray	26	24	92	3981	Grnd Jnctn	32	33	103*
		212	192	91%	4663	Clifton	50	44	88
<b>DISTRICT #5</b>									
101	Colo. Spgs.	80	81	101*	9221	Cedaredge	56	58	104*
3917	Security	172	179	104*	9333	Hotchkiss	24	18	75
4051	Colo. Spgs	251	242	96	TOTAL		305	278	91%
5221	Calhan	26	26	100*					
6461	Fountain	151	136	90					
7829	Monument	60	58	97					
		740	722	98%					
<b>DISTRICT #6</b>									
336	Ordway	74	72	97	3411	Kit Carson	24	20	83
2411	LasAnimas	103	108	105*	6491	Burlington	16	16	100*
		177	180	102%*	6612	Hugo	39	40	103*
<b>DISTRICT #7</b>									
899	Alamosa	56	42	75	TOTAL		79	76	96%
4849	La Jara	42	40	95					
8121	So Fork	115	106	92					
		213	188	88%					
<b>DISTRICT #11</b>									
4031	Durango	106	88	83					
5181	Dove Creek	38	34	89					
5231	Mancos	61	55	90					
		205	177	86%					
<b>DISTRICT #12</b>									
4031	Durango	106	88	83					
5181	Dove Creek	38	34	89					
5231	Mancos	61	55	90					
		205	177	86%					
<b>DISTRICT #13</b>									
3411	Kit Carson	24	20	83					
6491	Burlington	16	16	100*					
6612	Hugo	39	40	103*					
		79	76	96%					
<b>TOTAL DEPT.</b>									
6,325		6,036							
<b>Please send in your 2020 Dues!</b>									
<b>Be 100% in 2019 - 2020</b>									
<b>"We Can Do It"</b>									

**2020 Podium Edition: Bylaws and Ritual  
can now be ordered from the VFW Store**

**\$7.25 - 1-24 books**

**\$6.75 - 25-99 books**

**Have you pre-registered for State Convention?  
Have you secured your Hotel Room?**

### Americanism

Hello everyone. Hoping this finds everyone had a great Christmas and is looking forward to the New Year. It is time to get reorganized again and get out and support our Veterans. To show our Patriotism and backing of our Troops. Who I know is very close to our hearts. It's time for us to get back out there in our communities. Keep handing out those citation certificates to business and homes that are displaying the American Flag. I know a lot of you have been out in the schools on Flag Education. That's great. But, let's don't stop. There's a lot of people in the community that don't understand Flag Etiquette or the meaning of the 13 folds of a Flag. Still get out there. If your doing a membership drive,

also hand out flags promoting that patriotism. Let's get the community excited!!!

If anyone has any photo's from parades or whatever your Post or Auxiliary has done this year showing Americanism, Please send them to me. Also remember, if your doing a video, need to send that in along with the entry form, which is

## Veterans And Military Support

Welcome to 2020! I have been going over reports and all of you are doing an amazing job. Some Auxiliaries are doing a phenomenal job at climbing the mountains I challenged you to climb this year. I can't wait to see how everything turns out come convention time. That's right, I'm already starting to think about our convention. Why? Because I can't wait to see how many of our Auxiliaries have successfully climbed **ALL** of the Veterans and Military Support Mountains. The more Auxiliaries that complete my mountain challenge, the closer our Department Auxiliary President Patsy Gilmore gets to the Circle of Excellence. So, if you have not been working on completing my mountain challenge then please start to work on them. If you don't know what the Veterans and Military support mountain challenge is then please call me at 970-396-4197 or email me [stephanee.trujillo@gmail.com](mailto:stephanee.trujillo@gmail.com).

I know and understand that Auxiliaries now have a couple ways to report their information to Department Chairman. On January 1, 2020, I started to receive emails from the Department of Colorado website for those started to use the website to submit their reporting information. However, I am learning that some of the

online reporting is *not* getting to me. So, I am **highly** suggesting that Auxiliaries still use the hard copy reporting. Yes, I am saying that Auxiliaries should use paper and pen to report (shocking I know). Please send these hard copies to the Department office. This way the hard copy can be scanned and posted to the website for all chairmen to review. Why? Because this ensures that I and all the other chairman have a copy of your reports **JUST IN CASE** your Auxiliary is one that we are not receiving online notifications on. And yes, I suggest that you do this for anything you have reported, **just in case** some items were not received properly. Personally, I do not want to miss **any** information that Auxiliaries are reporting...I want to ensure I have captured everything for the Veterans and Family Support program because then I will know we then did everything we possibly could to help our Department Auxiliary President Patsy Gilmore receive Circle of Excellence.

Again, I am **YOUR** chairman, I am always here for you. If you need anything please do not hesitate to contact me. I can't wait to see you all in March. Keep climbing, we are almost there!

Hugs!  
Stephanee Trujillo

## Denver VA Christmas Cookie Party

At the Denver VA on December 11<sup>th</sup> the VFW Auxiliaries hosted a wonderful cookie Christmas party from 8:00am-3:00pm with the help of Department Auxiliary President Patsy Gilmore, Auxiliary Hospital Chairman Rena Cales plus 31 volunteers from 7 Auxiliaries and 4 VFW members in the Denver area. We had a membership table with lots of information from auxiliary chairman Jackie Newlander and VFW membership chairman Alexandria Faulkner, with great responses about our organization with some new members signing. We provided delicious cookies, fruit, punch and Christmas cards for about 700-800 veterans, family members and VA staff. All were very appreciative that the VFW Auxiliaries would take the time to remember them.

At lunch time Patsy, Rena & I served Domino's Pizza, fruit, cookies and drinks to the inpatient lockup ward for a special thank you. This was really a treat



for the veterans to have pizza; many veterans are in the ward for 2-3 months.

Then on December 17<sup>th</sup> I set up a cookie table from 8:00am-3:00pm at the Golden VA clinic with the help of 9 volunteers from 4 Auxiliaries. We served about 250-300 veterans and families, cookies, fruit and punch, also gave all Christmas cards from the auxiliaries. We received countless thank yous; all were delighted we took time to make Christmas special for them.

Thank you to the many auxiliaries that send donations to Department Treasurer for the Denver VA, to help make this event and other activities a success, as well as assisting our veterans.

Big thank you to all the Auxiliary volunteers that gave your time and the wonderful cookies so our veterans could have a special Christmas and let them now we care.

Wishing all a wonderful New Year  
Charlotte Lattin, Denver VAVS



## Hospital Program

Feb 9-15, 2020 is National Salute to Veteran Patients Week aka National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week. This is observed during the week of Valentines Day. What will you be doing for this? Our Veterans love anything you do to show they are remembered, even the Valentines cards for the kids exchanges. March 17<sup>th</sup> is St. Patrick's Day, April 12<sup>th</sup> is Easter, May 1<sup>st</sup> is May Day then Memorial Day and June 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July following. Just remember, Every Day Is A Day To Remember Our Veterans!!!

I guess everyone wants to keep their ideas to themselves or no one is doing anything. I have received no 'SWAP or SHARE' ideas. Not everyone is creative about things. It can be the little things that can do the most. My Aux. does give to the CLC's in my area the small Valentines Cards and a goodie as well as at Christmas. Please SWAP/SERVE

those ideas to [RLCALES88@YAHOO.COM](mailto:RLCALES88@YAHOO.COM)

March 14-15<sup>th</sup> at the COA, as well as at the Convention, we are hosting a toiletries drive. The two main no-nos; anything with any alcohol in them! And small trial size items as they can be hard to hold. Ideas to donate are, shampoo, Body wash or bars of soap, tooth brush, tooth paste, denture sealant, denture tabs, combs and brushes, body or foot powder. These will be used as gifts or prizes at the different facilities as I visit them.

Don't forget to turn in the forms to receive the Hospital Hours as well as for Outstanding Hospital Volunteer.

The Aux. still has through the end of March to be reporting what you are doing and on the Post side, they go through the end of April, so keep reporting and "Climbing Mountains For Veterans"

Rena Cales  
Dept. of CO Hospital Chairman

## Youth Program

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had wonderful holidays with lots of rest and relaxation, time with loved ones, and of course great food. It is now time to take on 2020 and finish the reporting year strong. Just a reminder, we have until March 31<sup>st</sup> to complete all of our activities for this reporting year. Please make sure you are reporting everything that you do!

There are two upcoming Youth Activities deadlines that I would like to remind you about. The first one is March 31<sup>st</sup> which is the deadline for the art contest Illustrating America. This is a new goal under Youth Activities this year and is a contest for the kids in grades K-8. You can find more information as well as entry forms on the national website –

[https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Illustrating-America\\_Fillable.pdf](https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Illustrating-America_Fillable.pdf). Please provide this information to your local schools, daycares, and anywhere else you can think of that have groups of kids who may be interested.

The next deadline which is also March 31<sup>st</sup> is for auxiliaries and it is the Youth Activities Award for Auxiliaries. This is for auxiliaries who have promoted Patriotism through Literacy. Let me know what you did and provide documents to support that to have a chance to win this award. As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Loyally,  
Brandi Dolan  
Department Youth Activities Chair

Digital Colorado Veteran Delivery  
Register at <https://vfwco.org>

## President Special Project Pins

As we start a new year let's remember our veterans by supporting our Department Auxiliary President Patsy Gilmore special project the "Colorado VFW Foundation". The Colorado Foundation aide's veterans and their families with grants of \$500 to assist with utilities, vehicle repairs and etc.

Auxiliaries, let's consider countless fun ways we can collect donations for this special program. You can have a joint fundraiser with the post. As well as purchase pins to have at your post activities and give a pin to members that go above and beyond. For the Post or Auxiliary, have a special awards pro-

gram for veterans and give them pins. Have a jar at the canteen to collect penalties for swearing or other fines. For the Auxiliary have a fine for the members that say Ladies when referring to the Auxiliary. A donation for a deceased member would be a special tribute.

Use your imagination to support our President's Special Project. Let's get creative and have lots of exciting moneymakers with our boots Climbing Mountains to New Heights for Veterans. Donations can be sent to Department Treasurer Cindy Anderson, 8182 Clay St. Unit A, Westminster CO 80031 marked for President Special Project.

CLIMBING MOUNTAINS FOR VETERANS  
PRESIDENT SPECIAL PROJECT PIN

\$3.00 EACH

Auxiliary Name \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Pins \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks to Dept. CO. VFW Auxiliary

Send order form to: Charlotte Lattin

8912 W Radcliffe Pl.

Littleton, CO 80123-1130

questions to: e-mail: [charlotte@dkrranch.com](mailto:charlotte@dkrranch.com)