I would like to take this moment to say Thank You to my wife Barbara & my family for their support these past year in getting me here as the State Commander for the Department of Colorado VFW. I am also reaching out to my Auxiliary members of Post 3917 and of course everyone that put their faith and trust in me to be your State Commander for the 2020-2021 term of office. Thank you for your support going forward.

As I sit here trying to get my first article out as your State Commander, I have come to this realization. This year our organization needs to think outside the box. A major challenge that we are facing, is to start the year with meetings being accomplished in any way to make sure that our membership is staying healthy and safe in their homes and communities. Finding ways that will still enable our members to stay engaged and support our programs, projects and still be that extended family of working together and enjoying the comradesy we have.

With all the restrictions in place it is difficult to set events and functions into play. I know that some Posts and District are having a hard time dealing with the use of today’s technology. I encourage you to find time to explain to your members (all of our members) the different options available and how we can utilize the technology we have, most programs out there are user friendly- just find the right person to help you understand how to use these programs. You might find that inclusiveness for the members that have not been able to attend meetings but still want to know how things are going and what they can do to help. We must embrace the changing times, because it is here to stay.

I am looking forward to working with the State Auxiliary President Dee Chappell-Haley as we plan and execute joint ventures throughout the VFW year. Over the years that I have been in the VFW I have seen that if a Post or District does not work with their Auxiliary they are destined to fail as a unit. Remember this is not an I or an Us -vs- Them organization. This great organization is a We and we are a Team. The only mission that we have as Veterans of Foreign Wars and The Auxiliary to Veterans of Foreign Wars is to support the National organization, Department, District, Post, Veterans and families and our Communities.

There is a lot of information on the Department web site to assist you in getting your VFW missions accomplished. There are not going to be many changes on the web site. If you find something that needs to be updated or a suggestion to make something more user friendly, please email your suggestions to the Department HQ. Information is a two-way street. The Staff cannot fix an issue if we are not aware of it. The HQ’s is here to support and assist all the Posts & Districts within the State.

Hello Colorado,

I’ll begin by offering my sincere thanks to everyone for their love, encouragement and support as I navigated my journey to become your Department President. I am honored and deeply humbled by your trust in me. It was a challenging ascent because of my dad’s battle with dementia and his death two years ago. My dad Dave Chappell, was a WWII and Korean veteran who served first in the Army Air Corp then the United States Air Force. Dad was my personal veteran, hero, travel buddy and the first man I ever loved. He was the one who introduced me to this wonderful organization and the one who instilled in me a sense of duty to support veterans and the freedoms they served to protect, along with a genuine spirit of volunteerism. As I watched my dad slowly fall victim to this horrible disease, my heart broke into a thousand pieces. I am forever a changed person who views my life from a completely different perspective. This journey will be much different because my dad is not along with me for the ride. In spite of the fact that my dad no longer shares this earth with me, I am determined to work diligently with a clear purpose to continue my efforts which support this organization, veterans, families and communities.

As I prepared to accept this office, I began thinking and praying about this opportunity and wondering just what God has in store for us this year and what he wants us to accomplish. What first came to my mind was the thought that after every war or conflict and after each deployment, our soldiers return home to a changed environment. Those of us who remained behind also experienced changes while our loved ones were gone. I thought about the strength and resolve of both soldiers and civilians and our unique ability to adapt and accept change each and every time we faced our new normal. Wide-ranging changes are a fact of life for each of us. Often, it is our human nature to resist change because we choose to become comfortable with the feeling of familiarity. Each of us strives to find a comfortable existence that nurtures and appeals to us. When circumstances change, regardless of the force(s) that may cause it, we start to lose control and begin to feel uncomfortable and unsettled.

Because of COVID, we are facing some of the most challenging times we’ve ever experienced. The historical context of this pandemic is creating a new normal in nearly every area of our lives. Because our human nature leans towards resistance we fall into the comfortable and familiar rut that is solidly resistant to change. Just as our soldiers have been forced to accept the changes that occur when they return home, so must each of us. As an organization and department, I have faith that we will survive this pandemic and all the challenges that it presents. I believe we can and will adapt to our new normal and continue to seek out innovative ways to support our VFW and VFW Auxiliary missions. Our veterans, families and communities need and depend on us. I absolutely believe that if we work to accept the changes we face while striving to adapt our attitudes and practices, we can succeed. We must embrace new opportunities and methods that will challenge our thoughts and actions. We must seek out new ideas and processes that revive our sense of duty and love for others. We can motivate and drive our efforts with a renewed purpose that leaves no one behind.

Everywhere we look there seems to be so much anger, fear and uncertainty. In the midst of all of this, I see opportunities. Opportunities for us to be cheerleaders and encourage support and goodness. We are a TEAM! There is no room for disension, negativity or bullying in our organization. We must be the best example of a veteran’s support organization in order to survive, recruit and succeed. We must ignite the passion of a veteran’s support organization, negativity or bullying in our organization. We must be the best example of a veteran’s support organization in order to survive, recruit and succeed. We must ignite the passion
that we are facing. Just as our veterans once fought for us, we must also fight the good fight for them. I invite each of you to join me on this journey towards our future. Additionally, I humbly ask God to continue to bless our great nation, our citizens and our precious veterans.

My slogan for this year is **Mile High Smiles for Veterans**, and focuses on oral health care for our veterans. The **Hero’s Clinic** is located at the School of Dental Medicine on the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. I look forward to introducing you all to this special place and the amazing people who work there. While I am very passionate about supporting this unique place and the amazing work they do, I also understand the depth and breadth of challenges that many of our Post’s and Auxiliarys face. I understand that many of you will need and/or choose to support your local Post and Auxiliarys. In an effort to help you, I have chosen not to have a shirt or a veteran pin this year. I ask instead that you divide your donations between the Hero’s Clinic and your local Auxiliary and Post if needed and I thank you in advance for that monetary support.

I am eager to get started and I feel I have chosen and been blessed with a fabulous TEAM that supports the changes, challenges and goals we are facing this year. They are dedicated, fun, positive and determined to work together as a TEAM for the benefit of us all! Thank you, TEAM COLORADO! I also look forward to working with VFW Commander Bobby and his TEAM! Thank you once again, I will strive to do my very best for each of you.

Let’s get busy Colorado and show everyone what leadership and teamwork can accomplish!

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**COLORADO VFW FOUNDATION**

Thank you to the VFW Posts, Auxiliaries, members and family members for your donations. Your continued support and contributions are greatly appreciated not only from us but from the Veterans and their families we are able to assist.

We are accepting and processing applications for Eligible Veterans and their Families in the State of Colorado. All complete applications are processed in the order received.

Grants processed FY 7/2019-6/2020

Total Grant funds expended $67,640.72

helping 119 Veterans and their families. 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. Thank you Foundation Board of Directors

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**COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION WEEKEND**

August 15 & 16, 2020

Hosted by: VFW Post 4171 & VFW Auxiliary

VFW Post 4171  •  Phone: 303-279-2119
15625 W 10th Avenue  •  Golden, CO 80219

COVID-19 STATE MANDATE FACE MASK/COVERING REQUIRED IF YOU ARE SICK, HAVE BEEN EXPOSED PLEASE STAY HOME VFW POST 4171 WILL HAVE PRECAUTIONS IN PLACE & BUILDING ENTRY SIGN IN WILL BE REQUIRED

FRIDAY August 14, 2020

VFW Post 4171 5:00 PM-9:00 PM Patriot Cafe: Bar Meal Menu Burgers, Sandwiches and sides (Canteen Opens 2:00 PM)

SATURDAY August 15, 2020

Breakfast Burritos $4.00

VFW Workshops @ VFW Post 4171
VFW Members Confirm Attendance with Dept HQ 303-421-1630
VFW Auxiliary Trainings/Parade of Programs Location Change TBA

12:00 PM -1:00 PM: Lunch at Post 4171 (Meal & Price TBA)
5:30 PM Post 4171 Dinner (Meal & Price TBA)

Homecoming Celebration– Will be Postponed New Date TBA

SUNDAY August 16, 2020

Complimentary Continental Style Breakfast Snacks (will have donation jar)

NO JOINT OPENING

8:30 AM VFW Council Meeting VFW Post 4171

Auxiliary Council Meeting Location TBA

Times and Locations Subject to Change

updated 7/17/2020
what the Corona Virus has done financially to Posts when they have to close down – even for a short time. Hopefully Department can provide some help if needed. Congratulations to Districts 2, 4 and 5 in achieving 100% and to all the Posts who also met that goal. I hope to see you at the Golden Post for the Council of Administration meeting in August. Let’s have a great year.

Sincerely
Barbara Green
Department Sr. Vice Commander

Sr. Vice Column
Barbara Green

First I want to thank David Stone for his leadership this year and wish him the best for years to come. Next congratulations to Robert Kidd Sr. our new Commander. Finally thank you to all Comrades for your support of myself as I begin my year as your Senior Vice Commander. I realize how turbulent this year has been (and still is). Please let Bob or Department HQ know if your Post is in financial trouble. We know

Chaplain Column
Kevin Reinhold

Good Day Comrades,

We pray everyone is doing well through these hard times that have been placed before us. We all know that being confined is not a good place to be, we are humans and are not built to be confined for long.

There is something that weighs heavy on my heart and I know weighs heavy on all your hearts. The increase in suicides in the United States, Whether they are Soldiers, Veterans, Family members or Civilians. The number of suicides is way too high and keeps rising.

We often look for signs and for what ever reason miss them a lot of the time. I would like to go over some of the signs. Some of the symptoms or signs of suicide could be: withdrawal and wanting to be left alone, mood swings, feeling trapped or hopeless, increased use of alcohol or drugs, selling or giving away their belongings, saying goodbye to people as if they won’t be seen again, there are many more, please take the time to look them up. Warning signs are not always obvious. Some people make their intentions clear, while others keep suicidal thoughts and feelings secret.

Most often, suicidal thoughts are the results of feeling like the person cannot cope when they are faced with what seems to be an overwhelming life situation. If the person does not have hope for the future, they may mistakenly think suicide is a solution. They may experience a sort of tunnel vision, where in the middle of a crisis they believe suicide is the only way out.

If you know someone struggling in life, reach out to them and listen to what they have to say. Do not talk over them (LISTEN), then help them. If you cannot help, reach out to someone that can. Do not just walk away.

Every Post and District has a Chaplain. I am also available if needed. Chaplains need to remember they are not trained counsellors with a degree, so try to get the professional help needed. If you are a Chaplain with a counseling degree, you will know what to do.

Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat, or text to 838255 24/7/365, local Hospital, or local Pastor’s. Let us all keep an eye on each other, especially in these trying times of being confined.

May our Lord Bless each of you everyday.
I pray, I will be able to continue this topic in future articles.

God Bless,
Chaplain Kevin

Scout of the Year 2019-2020

David M. Ross
Edwards, CO

David Ross is a Senior at Battle Mountain High School in Edwards, CO. He is now a student at Baylor University in Waco, TX.

David’s real passion is the sciences and medicine. He has participated extensively with the Steadman Phillipson Research Institute and the Steadman Clinic by interning, observing, shadowing, and sitting in on lectures and surgeries. His goal is to become an orthopedic surgeon or Department of one of two students chosen from the junior class to intern for the entire junior school year. These internships involved reporting and presenting to many in the medical field. David would come by the classroom with pure excitement after attending days with the surgeons. He found his passion.

Outside of class, David is a dedicated athlete, volunteer and Boy Scout leader. He has been a member of the BMHS cross country team for three years and the Nordic team for four years. He qualified for state his sophomore and junior years in Nordic skiing. He has contributed many hours to volunteering for his church, for Eagle County, for Boy Scouts and various Eagle projects, and tutoring students in the school.

Sponsored by Mt Holy Cross
VFW Post #10721

Scholarship donated by Pioneer VFW Post 2121, Greeley CO

In section 206 of the National By-Laws states Departments may set an admission fee for new members. The Department of Colorado has set an admission fee of $1 for each new member recruited by a Post. Last year we had 529 new members and only $49 in admission fees send to Department. This year Posts will be notified if they have not turned in admission fees.

When filling out your Audits, Line 5, Dues Reserve is no longer required. It was removed by the National Convention 3 years ago. And for those of you wondering why you weren’t notified, it’s in the National By-Laws booklet which is updated after each National Convention. Finally, when turning in an Election report, please ensure we have correct addresses, emails, and phone numbers for the Commander, Adjutant, and Quartermaster. Last year there were close to 30 incorrect contact on file. Please try to give us correct contact information.

And I would like to give a Special shout out to my daughters, Brittige and Brandi, for achieving recognition from the National Auxiliary for placing 2nd and 1st respectively for their Department Chairmanship work in Legislative and Youth Activities. They are members of VFW Post 7945 Auxiliary in Thornton. Everyone enjoy the rest of the summer and hope to see you in Golden shortly.

Sincerely
Chuck Ackerman and family

Quartermaster’s Column
Bruce Dolan

Greetings.

I hope this finds everyone staying safe and wearing a mask.

I would like to congratulate all the recently elected and appointed Officers and Chairman. I think this is going to be a very fun and interesting year.

We have a new reporting tool that has been in place for a couple of years and will be pushed this year a little more. The All American Dash Board is a tool that allows Posts, Districts, and the Department to track what they have accomplished for their quest to achieve All American. As soon as an election report is received by National, the Adjutant at each level will have automatic access to the Dash Board. You can log into National and navigate to the Dash Board to input your accomplishment such as VOD, Buddy Poppies, Teacher, Service Officer, and other requirements for All American. When you log in, there is a tab that will lead you to training on how to use the Dash Board. As the year goes by, it will become easier. You will not be notified you have access, it will be automatic once the election report is received by National.

In section 206 of the National By-Laws states Departments may set an admission fee for new members. The

Jr. Vice Column
Geraldine Rimpley

You never know when someone may catch a dream from you.
You never know when a little word or something you may do.
May open up the windows
Of a mind that seeks the light.
The way you live may not matter at all
But you never know.....it might.

And just in case it could be
That another’s life, through you.
Might possibly be for the better
With a broader and brighter view.
It seems it might be worth a try.
At pointing the way to the right.
Of course, it may not matter at all
But then again...it might.

I do not know who will remember, whom the longest, PFC Chad Nixon who wrote this for me in the early 90’s or may be I influenced him enough to remain in the military and achieve success as I have. Either way, I know I learned much from him and his thoughtful
and tried to remember
this poem as I made my way by the ranks in hopes it influenced others to be as successful.

I now plan to continue using this theme as I make my way up the chairs within the Department of Colorado ranks. I wish to extend heartfelt thanks to those who supported me to be elected Junior Vice Commander and let you know your inspirations, mentorship and professionalism will never be forgotten. My goals now are to emulate those commendable traits in hopes of inspiring other Veterans to be as successful as I have been.

Many thanks,
Geri Rimpley

2020 - 2021 VFW OFFICERS ARE IN PLACE

Please direct all request through proper channels.
Rosters have gone to the printer, if there are any changes.
Please send to Department Headquarters, 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood CO 80214  vfw@vfwco.org

Everyone Stay Safe
Robert Kidd Sr, State Commander

Thank You Colorado

Thank You for the emails, phone calls and cards that I have received on the passing of my son Randi. Your show of concern and friendship helped the Ackerman family through a very difficult time. We will see you soon. Everyone one stay safe and remember to tell your family that you Love them.

Chuck Ackerman and family
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 1
June 15, 2020  SERIES: 2020-2021
1. Having been duly elected and in-
stalled into the office of Commander, Department of Colorado, according to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I hereby assume command of the Department of Colorado. All previously appointed officers and committeesmen of term of office is hereby declared expired and are ineffective.

The following officers have been duly elected and installed at the 100th Annual Convention held June 12-15, 2019, Sheridan, CO., and will have full authority to act and shall be obeyed accordingly.

COMMANDER: Robert Kidd, Sr., #3917
4114 Morley Cr.
Colo Spgs. 80916
719-648-6818
SR. VICE COMMANDER: Barbara Green, #4051
9025 Tuscan Way
Colorado Springs 80921
2422 E Pipline Rd.
Penrose 81240
719-970-5455
JR. VICE COMMANDER: Geraldine Kimpilew, #2788
120 Q Street
Colorado Springs 80904
719-231-5094
DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER: Jolene Vincent, #478
14017 Pikes Peak Ave.
Colorado Springs 80921
719-631-1041
DISTRICT 2 COMMANDER: Raul Montano, #8898
140 127th Lane
Pueblo 81004
253-241-1036
DISTRICT 3 COMMANDER: Fredric Scheck, #6624
110 Juneberry
Milliken 80535
970-580-5117
DISTRICT 4 COMMANDER: Carl Thomas, #2551
32 Lake St.
Hillrose 80733
970-768-9257
DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER: Christopher Linski, #4051
6999 Fauna Glenn
Colorado Spgs 80923
719-231-5094
DISTRICT 6 COMMANDER: Jesus Garcia, #2411
P O Box 423
Las Animas 81054
719-456-2435
DISTRICT 7 COMMANDER: Michael Strawn, #8121
24115 Hwy 149
Meeker 81641
970-426-6084
DISTRICT 8 COMMANDER: Kirk Rosa, #12009
416 S Pine Dr.
Parker 80134
720-476-1902
DISTRICT 9 COMMANDER: Ken Culler, #95843
P O Box 2495
Meeker 81641
970-426-6084
DISTRICT 10 COMMANDER: David Eyre, #4666
8636 E Lakeview Dr.
Parker 80134
303-840-2100
DISTRICT 11 COMMANDER: Leonard Ladue, #3981
648 Grand View Dr.
Grand Jct 81506
970-778-8242
DISTRICT 12 COMMANDER: Jerry Sallee, #5181
HC 1 Box 14
Monticello, UT 84535
435-459-3074
DISTRICT 13 COMMANDER: Robert Kidd, Sr., #3411
P O Box 11
Kit Carson 80825
970-580-5510

1. COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:
The next VFW Council of Administration meeting will be Sunday, August 16, 2020. VFW will be at Golden VFW Post #1471, no Joint meeting with the VFW Auxiliary.
Training Sessions will be on Saturday August 15, 2020 at VFW Post #1471 Golden, Colorado.

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS OR THEIR PROPER REPRESENTATIVE MUST BE PRESENT.

Any and all District and Post Officers and members are invited to attend. Uniform of the day will be black and white. All att-
tending Officers must sign the roster the Department Adjutant to record your presence at Council of Administration meeting and workshops. Agenda is post-

2. PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY:
All Department Officers are instructed to comply with Sec. 515, Paragraph (c) “Proof of Eligibility.” Such proof must be on file at Department Headquarters prior to August 10, 2020. Failure to comply will disqualify Council Members from attendance at the Council of Administration and District Commanders for reimbursement of expenses.

3. 2020 SPRING SWEEPS TAKES:
Sweeet winners of the Spring Sweepstakes are listed in this Colorado Veteran.

4. SUBSCRIPTION DUES notices will be mailed to the membership by National Headquarters. Call Department Headquarters with any questions.

5. NATIONAL CONVENTION:
The 121st National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. was canceled due to COVID-19.

6. 2020-2021 POST OFFICERS:
Posts that have not submitted Report of Election forms will do so immediately. Posts that have not submitted their Election Report to Department will not be listed in the Department roster.

7. QUARTERMASTER BONDS - AUDITS:
It is the duty of Commander to see that the office of the Quartermaster is bonded and that Trustees Reports of the officers will be submitted to Department for audit.

8. DEPARTMENT COLO GUARD:
All requests for the State Color Guard Units or Ritual Teams will be directed by the State Commander to Chuck Cooper and will be handled in order of priority established by the Commander and recommendations from the District being considered. All requests will be submit-
ted in writing to the State Commander, and it is requested that a copy be sent to Captain Chuck Cooper.

9. COMMUNITY SERVICE and OTHER REPORTS: Post Commanders are advised to send an ORIGINAL re-
port for the Community Service, Youth Activity, Americanism, Loyalty Day, Hospital and other pertain-
ing to the Department Program report - DIRECTLY to Department Headquarters, 1400 Carr Street, Colorado Springs, CO, 80214, by Email; vwv@vfwco.org or submit individual reports through the program reporting tool available on the Department website vfwco.org. Department HQ will prepare the reports for the various VFW State Chairmen. Do not report programs completed prior to that date for the reporting year 2020-2021. Please make a copy of these forms for your own record.

10. VFW CAPS, OFFICIAL:
All personnel are advised that there is only one official cap of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, namely, a cap of the overseas type, lettered with VFW initials, Post numerals, State, rank of office (when applicable), and bearing the Cross of Malta emblem. The color shall be regulation Army Shade #41, no Joint meeting with the VFW Auxiliary.

All other types of headgear, i.e., baseball caps, western types, sporting types, etc., are not official headgear and will not be worn at meetings of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

11. 2019-2020 AWARDS:
Posts or individuals who have not received the appropriate awards they earned from the Department of Colorado in the 2019-

VFW Auxiliary will be meeting at a place to be determined.

Golden Saturday Training and Sunday COA is for VFW members only
See Agenda on Page 2 of this Veteran Times and locations subject to change
VFW Post Membership by District as of June 30, 2020

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number/City</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>%</th>
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| **DISTRICT #8**
| 8121 Del Norte | 897 | 921 | 103* |
| 501 Denver | 320 | 328 | 103* |
| 461 Denver | 142 | 114 | 80  |
| 2797 Denver | 70 | 40 | 57  |
| 5061 Denver | 270 | 263 | 97  |
| **TOTAL** | 1699 | 1666 | 98% |

| **DISTRICT #2**
| 7888 Penrose | 89 | 90 | 101* |
| 3641 Pueblo | 121 | 106 | 88  |
| 6091 Canon City | 256 | 260 | 102* |
| 5812 Pueblo West | 188 | 208 | 111* |
| 7305 Colo. City | 343 | 317 | 92  |
| 7888 Boone | 36 | 37 | 103* |
| 1211 Littleton | 786 | 799 | 102% |
| **TOTAL** | 289 | 290 | 100* |

| **DISTRICT #11**
| 31 Loveland | 43 | 38 | 88  |
| 1771 Lafayette | 252 | 253 | 100* |
| 1781 Ft. Collins | 338 | 314 | 93  |
| 2121 Greeley | 181 | 183 | 101* |
| 2558 Johnstown | 182 | 182 | 100* |
| 2601 Longmont | 343 | 317 | 92  |
| 4334 Ault | 62 | 58 | 94  |
| 6624 Evans | 63 | 61 | 97  |
| 9565 Broomfield | 102 | 100 | 98  |
| 12147 Brighton | 35 | 35 | 100* |
| 12189 Berthoud | 46 | 45 | 95  |
| **TOTAL** | 2113 | 2034 | 96% |

| **DISTRICT #6**
| 2571 Ft. Morgan | 189 | 231 | 123* |
| 3361 Sterling | 60 | 50 | 82  |
| 3544 Sterling | 92 | 94 | 102* |
| 3551 Brush | 37 | 37 | 100% |
| 3961 Otis | 18 | 18 | 100% |
| 4671 Wray | 51 | 53 | 104% |
| 6482 Holyoke | 50 | 50 | 100% |
| 7153 Fleming | 25 | 25 | 100% |
| 8064 Akron | 46 | 46 | 100% |
| **TOTAL** | 568 | 618 | 105% |

| **DISTRICT #5**
| 101 Colo. Sngs. | 475 | 469 | 99  |
| 305 Security | 591 | 577 | 101* |
| 4051 Colo. Sngs | 577 | 517 | 101* |
| 5231 Canon City | 102 | 103 | 101% |
| 6051 Wld Park | 50 | 50 | 100% |
| 6481 Fountain | 313 | 317 | 101* |
| 7829 Alamosa | 156 | 158 | 101% |
| 10649 Elizabeth | 49 | 45 | 91  |
| **TOTAL** | 2307 | 2324 | 101%* |

| **DISTRICT #7**
| 556 Ovid | 89 | 84 | 94  |
| 2411 LasAnimas | 84 | 78 | 93  |
| 4001 Springfield | 83 | 85 | 100% |
| 2421 Holly | 24 | 24 | 100% |
| **TOTAL** | 236 | 219 | 93% |

| **DISTRICT #7**
| 8484 Pueblo | 95 | 88 | 93  |
| 4849 La Jara | 52 | 45 | 87  |
| 5661 Alamosa | 59 | 56 | 90  |
| 8121 Del Norte | 43 | 43 | 100% |
| **TOTAL** | 252 | 252 | 99% |

Happy VFW New Year Comrades!

While COVID-19 caused a variety of unforeseen circumstances, impacting our finances and membership, the Department of Colorado VFW stood strong. National HQ reduced the needed membership percentage for Departments to 98%; we finished with 94.49%, making Past Commander David Stone an All-American Commander. We have now been an All-American Department for two consecutive years, a standard we need to ensure we retain as we move into the future.

Despite the inability to hold membership drives from mid-March on and the difficulty of recruiting during the pandemic, we met and exceeded the required quota for membership. That is thanks to our members who worked hard, sharing their stories as well as the goals and purpose of the VFW. Unfortunately, retention greatly dropped this year; we need to take care of our members. We need to help those who are unable to pay their dues, those that don’t have a sense of purpose, and those that struggle with medical issues, as well as reward those who work hard to keep our Posts functional.

Anticipating a new year, we had 529 new members and 112 reinstated members, but the percentage of recruiters is minute compared to the number of members in our Department, leaving room for improvement. We had 56 Posts and 10 Districts finish above 95%+1 (the adjusted quota), of which 42 Posts and 3 Districts were above 100%+1. I know this year we will exceed it because I believe in our membership. Please help ensure our Posts, Districts, and Department have a successful year by aiding in recruiting and retention; we cannot do this without our membership.

Lexi Faulkner
Membership Director

Western Slope VFW Post 3981 conducted a food drive in Grand Junction on Army Forces Day, May 15th. Over 4,000 lbs of personal hygiene products were collected and will be distributed to Veterans on the Western Slope. The event was held at Western Region One Success. COVID-19 does not prevent the VFW from providing support to our fellow Veterans.

submitted by Len Laduce, VFW Post 3981 Post Commander

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<th>Spring Sweepstake 2020 Winners</th>
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Congratulations to everyone and

Thank You to all that participated

Closing date was June 22, 2020

Page 5 – Colorado Veteran, August 2020
Greetings Auxiliary Members,

I would like to thank Department President Dee for appointing me as the Scholarship Chairman. I am so excited to see what this year brings in the Scholarship Program. Some of the information I will be tracking for the year-end report is promoting, supporting and participating by submitting applications for the Continuing Education Scholarship and the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contests. I will also be tracking the Auxiliaries that are assisting their Posts in the Patriot’s Pen & Voice of Democracy contests, hosting/co-hosting awards ceremonies and using social media to promote the contests. The following programs are the ones I will be encouraging you all to participate in. Thanks for all your work in these programs.

Continuing Education Scholarship
Open to any Auxiliary member (who has been a member for at least a year), their spouse, son or daughter with a financial need. Entrant must be at least 18 years old, complete the application and submit an essay of 300 words or less.

Deadline: 11/22/2021

Department Winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

Scholarships
This contest is open to all students, including home-school students, in grades 6-12. Student must be a resident of the state where entered. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

Deadline: Entries to VFW Post – 10/31/2021

District Judging Complete – 11/15/2020

District Judging Complete – 12/15/2020

Department Judging Complete – 1/10/2021

Department Winner to VFW National Headquarters – 1/15/2021

2020-2021 Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay
Theme: Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?

This contest is open to all students, including home-school students, in grades 9-12. Student must be a resident of the state where entered. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

Deadline: Entries to VFW Post – 10/31/2020

Midnight Post Judging Complete – 11/15/2020

District Judging Complete – 12/15/2020

Department Judging Complete – 1/10/2021

Department Winner to VFW National Headquarters – 1/15/2021

2020-2021 Patriot’s Pen Essay
Theme: What is Patriotism to Me?

Applications and brochures with more information/requirements for each contest are available at: vfvauxiliary.org/scholarships. For more information or questions about each contest’s rules/regulations, please feel free to contact me.

So, please join me in promoting our Scholarship programs and supporting our youth as they compete in the different contests. Remember…today’s youth are tomorrow’s leaders. I would like to encourage all Auxiliaries to share what they are doing by sending in program reports. So come on Colorado, let’s show everyone those “Mile High Smiles for Veterans” as we continue “Honoring Our Mission to Serve Veterans”.

Patsy Gilmore, Scholarship Chairman

Lois Callahan of Little Rock, Arkansas, was elected to the office of National Guard of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) Auxiliary for the 2020-2021 Program Year.

She is now in the first of five offices leading to the National Presidency, which is expected to hold in 2025-2026.

A Life Member of Thaddeus H. Caraway Auxiliary 2278 in Hot Springs, Arkansas, she has served the organization in many capacities including Auxiliary, District and Department President, National Youth Activities Ambassador and National Legislative Ambassador.

She joined on the eligibility of her father, Ruben Tamariz, who served in the U.S. Army in Korea and Vietnam. Lois has been a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary since 1990.

Lois retired after a 26-year career as a Pediatric Occupational Therapist. In her spare time she enjoys gardening, cooking and baking, and DIY home improvement projects. She is a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children, and is also a member of University of Central Arkansas Alumni Association and Gateway Church.

Lois and husband Terry’s family includes two adult children and four grandchildren.

Lois Callahan
National Guard

Staying Social in a Social Distancing World

Hello Everyone!

I want to share with everyone that we are working towards bringing volunteers back in phases so please bear with us as we work with our leadership on guidance.

In the meantime, as you all know we usually have our “All Patients Activity Day” for our CLC residents in Pueblo. Unfortunately, we are not able to conduct this activity this year due to COVID-19. We are striving hard to keep them all safe and healthy with that said, since we cannot have the All Patient’s Activity day, we would like to have a drive by parade for our CLC residents in Pueblo. We want to see those familiar faces that you’ve supported throughout the years please go to YouTube and type “#HomelakeStrong” to see our wonderful and supportive friends again.

Our staff and residents did make a fun video letting our families and supporters know that we are #HomelakeStrong and that we will get through this. If you would like to see some of the familiar faces that you’ve supported throughout the years please go to YouTube and type “#HomelakeStrong” in the search bar.

If you would like to send cards or notes to our residents, I know that they would truly enjoy receiving them. Just send them to my attention and we will be sure to get them handed out.

Please take care and know that we look forward to seeing you again.

Pam Self, Admissions and Marketing Director

News from Pueblo Community Living Center

Hello Everyone!

I want to share with everyone that we are working towards bringing volunteers back in phases so please bear with us as we work with our leadership on guidance.

In the meantime, as you all know we usually have our “All Patients Activity Day” for our CLC residents in Pueblo. Unfortunately, we are not able to conduct this activity this year due to COVID-19. We are striving hard to keep them all safe and healthy with that said, since we can’t have the All Patient’s Activity day, we would like to have a drive by parade for our CLC residents. We want to see those familiar faces that you’ve supported throughout the years please go to YouTube and type “#HomelakeStrong” in the search bar.

If you would like to send cards or notes to our residents, I know that they would truly enjoy receiving them. Just send them to my attention and we will be sure to get them handed out.

Please take care and know that we look forward to seeing you again.

Tammy Wood, Voluntary Services Specialist
Greeting Auxiliary Members,

First and foremost, thank you all for the unbelievable support you have given to me and my Special Project, the Colorado VFW Foundation, during my year as President. I am humbled by your generosity and hospitality as we all started “Climbing Mountains for Veterans”. If it were not for you all, I would not have had a memorable and successful year as I did. I have truly been blessed. No words can ever express this. I feel so down for all the good food, the great conversations and of course the times we have laughed so hard our bellies hurt. You all thank you for all me and work together with the Auxiliary.

To the VFW Members, I cannot say the support you for always telling me “good grief, you have been invaluable. It has taught me not any other bones. Having your support has been invaluable. It has taught me not to take anything for granted. I love you all to the moon. My husband, Page, Gil, thank you for keeping the “home fires” burning while I was out doing my duties and a little bit of relaxing. My daughter, Ashley, Ash, thank you for letting me “rant”. Not interrupting me, but advising me “ok, Momma, so move forward with it”. My son, Joshua. Josh thank you for reminding me to always stay with it” because Iavan said so, and sometimes it is ok to take a “fishing break”. My little sister, Tammy. Tj thank you for listening to my feelings and putting a different spin on things. My big brother, Roger, thanks for always telling me “good grief, you can only do what you can do”. Auntie Laura and Uncle Glen, thanks for being there whenever I needed a “pep talk”. Without all of you, I would not be the person I am.

To the Auxiliary Members, thanks for letting me be your President. I really wanted to visit all Districts to see old friends and meet new friends, obviously COVID-19 had a different plan in mind. Although it has been a little challenging at times, we can adjust and adapt to this change. Keep up the hard work you all do to support our organization’s programs and taking care of our Veterans and their families.

To the VFW Members, I cannot say thank you enough. I really appreciate the support you have given me this year. To have so many of you be willing to help me and work together with the Auxiliary. That is so awesome. Thanks for everything.

To my counterpart and partner, State Commander David, it has been one crazy and unimaginable year, hasn’t it? Thank you for always being there and accepting me as your President from the very beginning. For also including me in the planning of our joint trainings, presentations and events representing Colorado, in our respective leadership positions. I appreciate you listening to my opinions and ideas. The Roundup was interesting and a lot of fun. Thank you for agreeing to do the “pie in the face” fundraiser with me and being gentle as you “pieced” me. I was so honored and emotionally moved as we shared the experience of placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I am very blessed to have had the opportunity to serve not only with you, but beside you.

To my mentors, thanks for an great advice and being only a phone call away. Please continue mentoring me, so that I may also pass on your information and knowledge to people I mentor in the future.

To the Line Officers, I am so grateful for your support you have given me this year. If you ever have questions, please know that I am also just a phone call away. My advice to you, enjoy the experience for it passes way too quickly.

To everyone who agreed to be a Program Chairman or hold other appointed positions, thank you. I appreciate all the work you all did on my behalf.

To my Secretary, Ginny and my Chief of Staff, Linda, it seems so long ago, that Sunday when we had our first 5-hour meeting, that had me thinking, what have I agreed to and can I really do this? You have been there for me the entire year and I could not have done it without your experience, suggestions, guidance and knowledge.

And finally, as I bid you all adieu as Past Department President, and become a Program Chairman, I must point out the positions, thank you. I appreciate all the work you all did on my behalf.

To my Daughter, Auntie and Uncle, thank you for always standing by my side no matter what. I love you all.

You all are amazing memories that will last a lifetime.

To my family, you have made many concessions in scheduling family events around my schedule. I assume we will be able to go on more family fishing trips, making sure Daddy PAGE has adult supervision, at all times, so as not to break any other bones. Having your support has been invaluable. It has taught me not to take anything for granted. I love you all to the moon. My husband, Page, Gil, thank you for keeping the “home fires” burning while I was out doing my duties and a little bit of relaxing. My daughter, Ashley, Ash, thank you for letting me “rant”. Not interrupting me, but advising me “oh, Momma, so move forward with it”. My son, Joshua. Josh thank you for reminding me to always stay with it” because I appear said so, and sometimes it is ok to take a “fishing break”. My little sister, Tammy. Tj thank you for listening to my feelings and putting a different spin on things. My big brother, Roger, thanks for always telling me “good grief, you can only do what you can do”. Auntie Laura and Uncle Glen, thanks for being there whenever I needed a “pep talk”. Without all of you, I would not be the person I am.

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HUGS
Patsy Gilmore

What an honor to serve as the Americanism Chairman for this incredible organization. Thank you, President Dee Chappell-Haley, for this opportunity, challenge and your confidence in me! Americanism and Patriotism are both very dear to my heart. 

Along with the end of this year, this new year is going to bring HUGE challenges to our Posts, Auxiliaries and our Nation. Americanism and Patriotism need to play big parts in each of our homes, our towns and cities, our schools, our Posts and Auxiliaries and our lives. We are all Americans and we need to show our pride in our Flag and our Country.

“Americanism is an unflagging love of country; loyalty to its institutions and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the Flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity.”

What does Americanism mean to you?

Have you ever put it into words? I encourage each of you to do so.

Colorado Posts and Auxiliaries have always been Patriotic. So let’s continue this organization and achieve the goals National has set for us:

1. Flag Education – A large part of showing Americanism and Patriotism is respecting and properly caring for the US Flag. Now is the time to contact the schools and set up times to go into the classrooms to help educate our youth in the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem and the proper salute, the meaning of each fold and crease that makes our US Flag, a living symbol of nation and how to properly retire the Flag. Seeing the flag burning while I was out doing my duties and emotionally moved as we shared the experience of placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I am very blessed to have had the opportunity to serve not only with you, but beside you.

To my mentors, thanks for an great advice and being only a phone call away. Please continue mentoring me, so that I may also pass on your information and knowledge to people I mentor in the future.

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And finally, as I bid you all adieu as Department President, and become a Past Department President, please know you all have a special place in my heart that I will always cherish. You have shown me by all your support, encouragement and kind words that I did have what it took to be a president. Even though I made mistakes and questioned my leadership, I can tell you all, I did my best at being your Department President.

HUGS
Patsy Gilmore

Thank you Colorado
For Helping Out Your Members During COVID-19
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO

June 13, 2020

President Special Project: Penny Monte (2551) 1025 Linda St Apt 38, Fort Morgan CO 80701

Scholarships: Patsy Gilmore (3917) 1719 Ascot Road, Colorado Springs CO 80906

Social Media: Debbie McBride (2551) 1219 S Yosemite Way Unit 64, Denver CO 80229

Veterans & Military Support; Shelly Hall (9644) 3647 W Union Ave, Denver CO 80236

Yarn: Nadia Flores (899) 20024 County Rd 6, La Jara CO 81140

4. Department Officers, Department Chairmen, District Presidents and Auxiliaries: Please list the names of the Department Chairmen, Department Presidents and Auxiliary Presidents on your mailing list so all activities will be reported to this office.

5. All Auxiliary Presidents, District Presidents and Treasurers: In accordance with the Bylaws, all Treasurers and Presidents must be bonded no later than August 31, 2020.

6. Auxiliary Secretaries and District Secretaries: Please send a complete schedule of your District meetings including dates, time, and location to Department Secretary, Cindy Anderson, Department Secretary on your mailing list so all activities will be reported to this office.

7. Auxiliary Secretary and District Secretaries: Please send the names and addresses of the Auxiliary and District Chairmen to the corresponding Department Chairman and Department Secretary using the form provided on the VFW Department website.

8. District Presidents: Please send a complete schedule of your District meetings including dates, time, and location to Department Secretary, Cindy Anderson 8281 Clay St. Unit A Westminster CO 80031 or email to Cindy Anderson DEPARTMENTSECRETARYGMAIL.COM Please do not schedule any District Meetings during Western Conference unless it is held November 5-8 in Cheyenne, WY.

9. District Presidents: Annual Official Visits are very important and must be conducted. The Visiting Official should sign the Secretary’s and Treasurer’s books only if they are kept according to procedures outlined in the Booklet of Instructions. Every question on the Official Visit Report should be answered. A copy of the W-9 sent to National Headquarters and a copy of the filed 990 or 990E should be provided to the Visiting Official. Inspections should be completed by December 31, 2020 if possible.

10. Auxiliary Treasurers: Membership dues should be processed promptly through Malta or sent to the Department Treasurer for processing. Do not hold dues due on application for new, rejoin, and transferred members must be sent to the Department Treasurer for processing.

11. Auxiliary and District Trustees: Audits for the quarter ends of June, September, December, and March must be sent to the Department Treasurer. Audits must be accepted by vote of the Auxiliary before being placed on file with the Department Treasurer within 60 days after the end of the quarter.

12. Auxiliary Presidents: District Presidents: A copy of the audit for the period ending June 30 must be provided to your corresponding Commander along with your yearend membership totals as soon as it has been accepted by the membership.

13. Hospital Reporting: When filing out the Hospital Section of the Program Report forms, you must indicate if volunteer hours are provided by a VFW or Auxiliary member.

14. Minutes: When detailing the meetings held during the quarter, please provide a copy of the meeting minutes.

15. Fall Council of Administration and Mini Parade of Programs: are scheduled for August 15 at Verle Huffman Post 9644. The full schedule and hotel information will be posted on the Colorado Department website. Please note that this schedule has been shortened to one day to limit the large group contacts and keep everyone healthy. Lunch will NOT be served at the Post on Saturday. The Council of Administration meeting will begin at 2:00 pm on Saturday August 15. All events on Saturday will be available via Zoom. The invitations will be posted on the Department Website. All Auxiliary Members are encouraged to attend all functions.

16. Council of Administration members please try to attend the COA meeting either in person or by Zoom. We must have a majority of the Council present to have a quorum and be able to conduct business.

17. The Commander and President’s Homecoming has been postponed to a later day when restrictions have been relaxed. An announcement will be made when the event is rescheduled.

18. To Department Commander Bobby Kidd, Department Officers and VFW Members, I hereby pledge the continued support of all members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary, Department of Colorado.

BY ORDER OF: Dee Chappell-Haley, President

ATTENTION: Cindy Anderson, Secretary

National Home for Children

The VFW National Home for Children was founded in 1925 in Eaton Rapids, Michigan as a place for families left behind by wars so families can remain together. They offer case management services for Families establish plans for the future and set goals, education, recreation, and enrichment opportunities for parents and children, as well as free housing and daycare. Familiarize yourself with more info about these programs at vfwnationalhome.org and at vfwveterans.org.

Lifetime membership cost $50.00 visit vfwveterans.org/membershipform for more info.

I would like to continue at the COA's the small parades of homes that was started last year, using the theme of National Home and poppies.

Stay well and safe till we all can meet again.

Ron Boone
Department Buddy Poppy National Home Chairperson

2020 - 2021 Voice of Democracy Theme

"Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?"

Continued - General Orders

be posted on the Department Website. ALL AUXILIARY MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND ALL FUNCTIONS.

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ATTENTION: Cindy Anderson, Secretary

VFW Buddy Poppy - National Home for Children

This is the first of the new year 2020-2021 Colorado Veteran-Auxiliary News Briefs for Auxiliary-National home, this year will be full of challenges on how we spread the word and promote both programs, hopefully by years end we can congratulate our self's for a job well done.

Buddy Poppy

The Buddy Poppy got it’s association with the great loss of life in the great war (WWI) 1914-1918, in the battle fields of Belgium, France and Gallipoli, by it’s brilliant red color in battle fields of torn up brown dirt. This red flower caught the attention of Canadian soldier named John McCrae. It is reported that he wrote his famous poem “In Flanders fields”, which some of the most famous lines read “In Flanders fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarcely heard amid the guns below”.

November 9th 1918 “The poppy lady” Moina Michael, in a few months to read a magazine article which caught her attention by the vivid illustration with a poem named “We shall not Sleep” which was another name for “In Flanders Fields.”

At this moment Moina Pledge to keep the faith, she wrote her own poem at that time titled “We Shall Keep the Faith” which reads “Oh! You who sleep in Flanders Fields, sleep sweet to rise anew! We caught the torch you threw And holding high, we keep the faith With all who died.” She also vowed to always wear a red poppy in remembrance.

In 1922 after the French-red poppies were introduced, the VFW formally agreed in 1923 that American veterans of WWI could also benefit from selling the Buddy Poppy.

Now that’s a brief history of the Buddy poppy in America, so much more took place in counties all over the world. Poppies are assembled by disabled and needy Veterans. Did you know that from sales to posts 1.5 cents goes to the Department’s Veterans Service Fund, .5 cent goes to VFW National Headquarters Veterans Service Fund.

Other money raised from donations goes to support veterans’ programs across the nation.

For more information on the valuable programs please see the VFW and VFW Auxiliary web sites.

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Lifetime membership cost $50.00 visit vfwveterans.org/membershipform for more info.

I would like to continue at the COA’s the small parades of homes that was started last year, using the theme of National Home and poppies.

Stay well and safe till we all can meet again.

Ron Boone
Department Buddy Poppy National Home Chairperson

2020 - 2021 Voice of Democracy Theme

"Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?"
Memorialship 2020-2021

Membership is important to all of us. Without the members, we could not help our Veterans, Seniors and our Youth in our Community. We are starting a new year so let's get going. Lots of fun this year with the programs. It is going to be with fun participation. Let's all lead with a Mile High smile for Veterans, Talk to your neighbors and family about eligibility to be members of the greatest organization in the country.

Pat Garcia
Department Membership Chairperson

Mentoring For Leadership

A new year beginning. Oh my where do I start with our mentoring? The best place to start is at the beginning. Look to your auxiliary and count how many members are acting as mentors already. You will probably be surprised to find that everyone is mentoring our new members. Some with experience and sage advice, others helping with your auxiliary's unique personality and those who silently show how to do things. Whatever your style may be, YOU, are helping our new members.

This year we are going to encourage all auxiliary to mentor and help the members. Training everyone makes our organization run much smoother. We need to help members learn how to utilize our By-laws book and the Ritual. Who can tell, it may spark some great ideas. Start small with baby steps and make sure that it is a fun and challenging experience.

One idea that comes to mind is a question and answer session to last approximately 10 minutes before your meeting. The President could ask one member to bring a question to that meeting and rotate this among seasoned and newer members. Showing our members how to find information is crucial so that everyone feels comfortable with the book of rules and rituals. Let's make this a fun year and our meetings fun so that all members feel welcome and enthusiastic. I look forward to working with all auxiliaries and all members. Together we can put “Mile High Smiles” on our VFW Auxiliary by “Honoring our Mission to Help Veterans”.

Any questions, please call, text, e-mail or flag me down.

Colleen Rylan
Mentoring for Leadership
corylant@comcast.net
970-669-1832 landline
970-214-8951 cell

Chief of Staff and Extension

I would like to thank our Department President for the honor of serving as Chief of Staff/Extension for the 2020-2021 year. As Chief of Staff, it will be my privilege to work with the District Presidents and Auxiliaries, to carry out our mission of service to our Veterans. We can accomplish this by making sure that we to keep our Auxiliaries in good working order. There are many tools available to accomplish this. Our Podium book is a wealth of information and very much needed for the answers to nearly every question that may arise. The National website has online tutorials, resources, blogs, and the National program book, as well as the “Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation” for guidance. I look forward to working with bachelor Posts and “Extending” our Auxiliary family, and, on that note, I want to “Extend” a warm welcome to Berthoud 12189 Auxiliary, which was instituted May 30, 2020. Any day, any time, with any question, any request, any problem, you’re my person. I am so excited to be able to reconnect with all of you and I know that, working together, we can make this a year of sharing, caring, and good works!

Shelley Schlieman
Department Chief of Staff/Extension

Hospital Program

We are already 1/3rd of the way through Colorado’s Auxiliary reporting year since it runs April 1 - March 31st. Plus, COVID-19 has not been kind to us on what we can do. But, we will have a Great Year!!

The electronic reporting sheets have been updated for what National wants us to report on this year. If you do not see the sector you want/need to put it under, please use “Other” and explain it, but if you need more space, please email the info to me in the explanation box, write e-mail so I will know to be looking for it. Just do not duplicate info in both places. This is the same for if you are doing the current year’s report sheet and sending it in. Each year the Ambassadors have different things that are important to them and that is what they want to see reported. Please report all Hospital things you do and put into “Other” if you need to. Everything we do is very important as, You can and do make a difference in so many lives!! Two big items that have been included this year are “National Salute to Veterans Patients Week” and the “VA’s Women Veterans Health Program”. I will have more information at the upcoming COA at Golden Post 4171.

The program is designed to give your Hospital Chairman’s information (Aux or District #, Name, Phone, email, Address) so I can pass any updates or information as I receive it.

Rena Cales
Department Hospital Chairman
RLCALES88@yahoo.com
719-709-0164

Auxiliary Membership by District as of June 30, 2020

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Veteran Outreach ***New/Updated Program***

Thank you Department President Dee for giving me the opportunity to be Community Outreach Program Chairman this year. I am looking forward to actively working with our Auxiliaries and members.

The Auxiliary has always been active in community activities and events throughout our history. We have known the program in Colorado as Community Activities for our reporting. Although National has not had a formal community program for several years, they are bringing this program back and updating it as Community “Outreach”. This will allow the Auxiliary members to report more of their volunteer time in local community activity and events.

At our reviewing our Colorado Community Activities program report from 2019-2020, it is clear that many members are active in their communities. This new outreach program can also be done as an Auxiliary or a group of members to benefit the community. Some examples would be cancer walks, community soup kitchens, Meals on Wheels, Alzheimer’s events, animal rescue groups and working with the elderly just to mention a few.

At our August Parade of Programs and COA, I will be giving other ideas on how we can become more involved in the Colorado community. As we increase public awareness on what the VFW and VFW Auxiliary does in the community in addition to helping veterans and their families, we can generate interest in our organization and promote Auxiliary membership.

I am looking forward to the upcoming year to promote community outreach and VFW Auxiliary awareness as we continue into the future to help our communities while providing members awareness how the VFW Auxiliary provides support to our veterans and their families.

Linda Reinpold
lindareinpold@q.com
719-320-1394

Reach Out to your Community
I thank you President Dee for intrusting me with this chairmanship. Veterans and Family support is at the heart of everything our organization stands for.

This is going to be a tough year what with the pandemic so be prepared to " Zoom " in on what is expected of our Auxiliaries this year.

Think about all the trials our veterans and their families have gone through. It makes looking at a map and social distancing seem like child’s play.

National President Sandra Oustweldier’s Special project is “Stars and Stripes” to support Combatting food insecurity among our nations military personnel and their families.

Department President Dee’s special project is “Mile High Smiles for our Veterans” promoting free dental care for our Vets.

National Veterans Service(NVS)
Military Assistance Program(MAP)
Unmet Needs
VA Caregivers Support Line

All of these programs and projects need our support. More information is available on the national website and I will have handouts and ideas at the 1st COA August.

Start planning events to support all of the above and think creatively. National will be giving awards to the most outstanding events on food insecurity awareness and supporting Veteran and Military caregivers.

Our Veterans and their families went through many trials for our freedom: separation, combat and death.

We won’t let a little inconvenience stop us. Get your knitters, crocheters, and bakers, from our Auxiliaries and Districts involved in making our All State Report simpler.

This project is PDP Charlotte Lattin, Department President Dee Chappell-Haley for the honor of being your Youth Activities Chairman. I am beyond excited to see all the wonderful activities that the auxiliaries will have planned for us this year.

There are so many ways to get our youth involved and engaged with the veterans in our communities and within the communities themselves, and the programs that National has outlined for our auxiliaries gives us endless opportunities to be creative and think outside the box, especially during a time where our traditional ways of involving youth can be hindered by social distancing restrictions. Let’s take a quick peek at what excitement awaits us this year, and don’t forget to be on the lookout for more information as our year progresses.

Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti Do......how many of you remember warming up your voices with this scale while in music class? National has an exciting new contest for your youth this year called “Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue”! And if the musical scale or music class hint didn’t give it away, this is a musical contest for our youth to showcase their musical talents while performing our beloved national anthem, “The Star-Spangled Banner,” in the musical genre of their choice. More information on deadlines, contest rules, judging, awards, and ways to get the information out to our youth will follow in the coming weeks.

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll see Seuss. Oh, how this is such an important time to introduce our youth to the love of reading, while also beginning to expand their knowledge of American history, and Patriotism through Literacy is the perfect opportunity to do that. This program was introduced to the auxiliaries last year and loved seeing how everyone was able to reach out to our youth, with this program, but I am even more excited to see this program grow and expand this year. Fun fact: I was once grounded from my books during my early years for not putting a bookmark in a book, and I hope to see our youth grow a love for reading as great as mine.

How a young and budding artist? Or know a family that could use an activity for kids that are bored at home? Illustrating America is such a fantastic way to get your other students involved, and even become a version of a patriotic “Sip & Paint” for the family for a family night. Deadlines, eligibility, and criteria will be forthcoming, so keep on the lookout for that information.

With many of our veterans now staying at home, or not being allowed visitors, have you or any of your auxiliaries noticed your local youth groups getting creative in how they support our veterans or active military members? If you answered yes or your auxiliary has the ability to assist these youth groups, keep the Youth Groups Supporting Veterans National Citation in mind. The forms can be accessed online, and I will make them available to the auxiliaries at our COAs. It is absolutely AMAZING, with just how many ways, we, as auxiliary members and individuals, can engage our youth to become patriotic citizens, creative individuals, and how we can begin to help mold and shape our future leaders, just within the programs and contests within our organization. So, get out there and have fun with it! Remember to also report all the fun and creative things that your auxiliary is doing, so you don’t miss out on the chance to showcase all that fun.

I look forward to an exciting and creative year and working alongside all of you. If you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas, please don’t ever hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Nadia Flores
Department Youth Activities Chairman

Legislative


In the coming months, I will also be discussing the VFW Priority Goals, and how you can sign up for the VFW Action Corps so you may keep yourself informed about serious issues facing veterans in Washington, D.C.

I will be communicating with you regarding important legislation so that you can contact our Congresspeople to tell them your opinions on these options. One that President Dee and I are going to work on is a bill to provide dental care to veterans that are less than 100% disabled.

Another focus is on education and training. On how the legislative process works from start to finish.

Feel free to contact me through the following channels if you have questions or need anything.

Mile High Smiles for Veterans!
Martine Arndt
Martine.Arndt@yahoo.com

The All State Achievement Program is being revised. Under the new requirements, all Auxiliaries and District Auxiliaries will have the opportunity to qualify for the award. Please join us at the Council of Administration host ed by Cindy Amundson Aux 1771 and Paul Gilmore, Auxiliary President on August 15 - 16, 2020. We will unveil the requirements for the Auxiliary and District Auxiliary to earn this award right at the beginning of Programs on Saturday. A lot of time and thought is going into the changes of this program.

The All State Achievement Committee members that have been hard at work with this project are PDP Charlotte Lattin, PDP Cindy Anderson and PDP Linda Reinpol. The goals the Committee has for revising the rules are:
1) All Auxiliaries need Districts to earn All State Achievement.
2) Improving Auxiliaries and Districts by completing the required tasks.
3) Making the All State Report simpler.
4) Having the President, Secretary and Treasurer fill out All State Returns (optional).

The changes that are being made are meant to reward all Auxiliaries and Districts that are completing tasks that are required in the VFW Auxiliary Bylaws. Examples are completing these tasks on time, Installation reports, audits, purchasing bonds, filling the IRS 990 form and Officer dues paid. Other tasks that are on the report that we feel will help improve the Auxiliary or District is attending the Council of Administration weekend to share program information/ updates and other Department information. This report form is very simple. This report will replace the former All State President’s Report, the All State Treasurer Report, the Auxiliary Action Report, the Installation and the Program’s Resume. All these will be replaced by a one-page report that gives Auxiliaries and Districts points earned for completing these tasks.

The new forms will be available on the Department website, vfwco.org and in the Colorado Program Book.

Paty Gilmore
All State Achievement Chairman

Salutations Auxiliary Members!

First, WOW, thank you to Dept. President Dee Chappell-Haley for the honor of being your Youth Activities Chairman. I am beyond excited to see all the wonderful activities that the auxiliaries will have planned for us this year.

There are so many ways to get our youth involved and engaged with the veterans in our communities and within the communities themselves, and the programs that National has outlined for our auxiliaries gives us endless opportunities to be creative and think outside the box, especially during a time where our traditional ways of involving youth can be hindered by social distancing restrictions. Let’s take a quick peek at what excitement awaits us this year, and don’t forget to be on the lookout for more information as our year progresses.

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I look forward to an exciting and creative year and working alongside all of you. If you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas, please don’t ever hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Nadia Flores
Department Youth Activities Chairman

Historian and Media Relations

Hello my name is Cindy Heater. It is my privilege to be the Historian and Media Relations Program Chairman this year. My Auxiliary is #2551 in Ft. Morgan Colorado and we proudly look at the history of our Auxiliary and I want to show it to our community with every event we have.

That’s what we want each of you Auxiliaries to do too. Each of you have an appointed historian and they need to take pictures and cut out newspaper articles and write articles to put them in their local Auxiliary Publicity Guide? Do you give out Communication Awards? Did you submit a Historian/Media Relations Report?

If you have any questions or need help or want to share some special event you have held you can send pictures, newspaper articles to me at heatercindy@yahoo.com. Let’s show our community how proud we are of our Auxiliary and how much fun we have. Who knows you might get a few new members! Also please send Deb McBride our Social Media Chairman the items too at dashissler@att.net.

Cindy Heater
Historian and Media Relations