

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter

[Visit our Website](#)



President Lynn Pierre's Message

While traveling the State of Arizona's VFW and Auxiliary Posts, I have met so many intriguing, thoughtful and resolute members and am so humbled. Innovative ideas for our programs flow in every day and so much is happening around our State.

Your Department Officers and I have held two MITs (Membership Involvement Trainings) so far and are incredibly happy with the size of the groups. We have reviewed and asked for ideas on Programs, gone over Building on the Auxiliary Foundation and asked for ideas and input on Member Orientation, retention, and recognition. We have also added second day training for Secretaries, Treasurers and Trustees. Kim Sloan is doing an outstanding job on that day and with the new Treasurer tools online, we are finding this to be extremely important not only to new officers but those who have been in place for a while. The training is clear, concise, and invaluable.

We had many members attending the MITs, but the vast majority were officers. As the "Membership Involvement Training" would indicate, we need our

MEMBERS to attend. To promote the invitation of ALL members, at all MITs and Conference of Administrations, (C of A's), tickets will be given out to members attending for a raffle to be won for attendance. (This will include those already held.). Tickets will be thrown into a raffle basket with the names of all attendees and a gift given to 2 to 3 of the participants, drawn at Fall and Winter Conferences and Department Convention.

We have many Trunks or Treat or other Halloween Parties coming up. Please remember to make your motions early if these are Auxiliary Outreach Projects but please remember if what you are doing qualifies for another Program **IT DOES NOT QUALIFY** as an Auxiliary Outreach Project. Feel free to contact your Chairperson, Donna Ventola, if you have questions prior to the project and always remember to file your "VFW Community Service" report to your Comrades. Many of the things you do are reported by the VFW and will help them complete their reports. That report form is also found on our Department Website, VFWAUXAZ.ORG.

As always, your feedback is especially important. If you have questions or suggestions regarding projects, forms, procedures etc., please do not hesitate to contact me or another Department Officer at any time. Thank you all for your continued AMAZING status! You are appreciated!

The following information has been put out by the National VFW. If your Auxiliary can help in any way, please do so.



"Earlier today I met with representatives from the Departments of Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee to disseminate information on the process for requesting Disaster Relief Assistance. Over the course of the day, we here at National HQ dusted off our disaster relief tactics, techniques, and procedures to restart our support mechanisms.

Similar to the disaster that occurred in Maui last year, the aftermath of Hurricane Helene is going to take a long time to overcome. Reports from the American Red Cross is that they're gearing up to provide aid in the Asheville, NC area for at least a year. Finally, I consulted with the Commander-in-Chief about our planned way ahead and he's given me the green light to execute.

Soon you will be seeing our call to action over social media and on our national website in support of the affected areas. Please help us to direct all parties interested in providing financial assistance to aid in the recovery efforts to visit our secure site at www.vfw.org/relief to make their tax-deductible donations. Feel free to broadcast the link to donate far and wide. For those who prefer to send in checks, that information is located at that link as well.

Lastly, the Department of North Carolina is working to identify Posts around the vicinity of the affected areas for food, clothing, and supplies to be sent for distribution. In these types of situations, water, toiletries, and sanitizers are always needed. Clothing and shoes run a close second. We will get that information out to you as soon as we obtain it. More to follow in that regard.

For now, you can mail/ship items to: VFW Post 4542 1241 Pine Knoll Dr.

Spring Lake, NC 28390 Let's do our best to remind our membership that to remain relevant in the veteran community, we must believe in what we do, and we do what we believe in."

"I'm not asking you to give until it hurts, I'm asking you to give until it feels good." Al Lipphardt, CinC 2024-2025

Marc Garduno
Quartermaster General
VFW National Headquarters
406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111



Department Announcements

***MIT's** have been rescheduled. They are still from 9 am - 3 pm with lunch provided for a donation.

Some weekends will have a Secretary/Treasurer/Trustee on the Sunday following the MIT on Saturday.

The flyer with the new dates is on the Department webpage - www.vfwauxaz.org under news/events

*Click [here](#) to look at the **District Corner** to find all the upcoming events around the state.

*Battalion Family Fun Day at the Florence National Guard is on December 8th

President Lynn is still selling her shirts. The form is on the Department webpage - www.vfwuxaz.org under resources/forms.

There is a new National **Cancer Grant** form available. Click [here](#) to access the new form.

Good morning to my VFW and VFW Auxiliary
Department of Arizona,

I would first like to thank everyone who said a prayer over us, visited us, called, sent a text, sent many cards, emailed, posted messages on Facebook to us, and sent food. Jeff, Monique and I truly appreciate the love and support expressed to us during this very difficult time.

Again, thank you for your support.

Sheila and Jeffrey

Monique, James and Joshua



Loyally,

Sheila Lee-Eiler

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department (State) of Arizona President 2019-2020
District 3 President - 2023- Present
VFW Sandy Coor Auxiliary #1433
Secretary-Treasurer



Congratulations to Dennis Parizak, VFW Utah Post #1481 on being chosen District 11 Trustee for the National Home in Eaton Rapids. I look forward to all the wonderful things to happen at National Home and look forward to visiting the National Home as they continue to support Veterans and their families.

Thank you to all that voted for me, I enjoyed meeting and talking to our members these past few months. Please continue to support National Home through Homefront Heros, memorable bricks and encourage members to become life members.

The 100th anniversary of the Home is ongoing this year. I encourage Posts and Auxiliaries to have a birthday celebration this February either formal, black ties or themed event associated with our Mission of supporting Veterans and their families.

Again, thank you for all the encouragement and support and I look forward to seeing you at our meetings, trainings and conferences as we continue to support the National Home.

Connie Hargreaves



Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

I was notified yesterday that I was elected as your VFW National Home District 11 Trustee (AZ, CO, NV, and UT). I want to personally thank every member of the VFW National Home who voted for me. I really appreciate your support! I will be installed on October 26 at the VFW National Home and look forward to this incredible position.

Dennis L. Parizek
Department of Utah
Adjutant/Quartermaster

Secretary/Treasurer
Kim Sloan

To date we've had 69 mostly VFW Auxiliary members, but a few VFW members attended the Secretary – Treasurer – Trustees training event. We discussed MALTA Resources, Applications, Proof of Eligibility documents, National ACH's and many more topics.



Recently I was asked.... If I attended one training, do I need to attend another? These training are not required for Circle of Excellence as they are not part of the Member Involvement Trainings.

Don't you just cover the same topics at every training? Yes,**HOWEVER**, because the participants are different, the topics may be the same, but the discussion and questions could be totally different.

We have a few more scheduled – November 17 at Apache Junction Post 9399; November 24 at Post 3513 Scottsdale and January 26 at Quartzsite Post 769. In the meantime, continue to reach out with questions, you'll find I use those in training.

Thank you to everyone that came to Fall Conference. And special shout out to the program chairmen who made their program presentations engaging and fun. I don't think that we've had that much fun in years.....

HOWEVER! Donna Ventola never expected it **HOWEVER** her program started the day off on the right foot.

Treasurers – please watch your email for notice from me that I'm working on dues postcard mailing list. You'll need to respond with the mailing address for the dues when members send in the payments.

At the MALTA, BYLAWS and RITUAL training we held in conjunction with Winter Conference, we discussed an Auxiliary agenda and one of the items that was questioned....if you have a guest that is there officially and other guests that are not there officially, can you just introduce them all at the same time at the beginning of the meeting. The reasoning behind introducing them later in the meeting has to do with Minutes being approved and the Treasurer's Report being presented. You may or may not want those guests to hear that information. But I discussed this with the National Secretary – Treasurer and we agreed that those unofficial guests could be introduced earlier in the meeting as long as they are invited/approved by the Auxiliary President.

Looking forward to lots of participation at our National Guard Baby Shower at Winter Conference!

Have a safe and fun Halloween!

BOND PREMIUM AMOUNTS FOR OFFICERS

Application for VFW Auxiliary Officers Bond
September 1, 20__ to August 31, 20__



**All Organizations must be bonded by September 1st.
Failure to comply will result in suspension.**

VFW Auxiliary Organization (Aux., Dist., or Co. Coun.): _____

Please complete the following bond application for your Organization. **This will bond both President and Treasurer.** The minimum coverage is \$10,000. If you need to bond for more than the minimum coverage please, use the following chart. Add \$7.00 for each \$1,000 that you wish to bond.

BOND AMOUNT

PREMIUM DUE

\$10,000 Minimum Coverage Required

\$30.00 Minimum Premium Due

_____ Add'l coverage must be in increments of \$1,000

_____ Multiply \$7.00 by each increment of \$1,000

_____ **Total bond coverage**

_____ **Total amount due (pay this amount)**

In compliance with the provision of Sections 814 of the National Bylaws, I hereby apply for a VFW Auxiliary bond. I affirm that this amount is at least double the amount of funds and value of property for which I may be accountable.

Please Print President Name

Please Print Treasurer Name

President's Signature

Date

Treasurer's Signature

Date

NOTE: Please fill out the bond application. Enclose a check or money order payable to the VFW Auxiliary. Please write "BOND" on the memo line of the check.

Please address your envelope to;

VFW Auxiliary, Bond Department, 10th Floor, 406 W. 34th St, Kansas City, MO 64111

The Auxiliary purchased the Bond but the amount does not meet the Bylaws requirements.

Therefore we are requesting you to increase the Bond to \$_____ and

enclose Check # _____ for the additional Bond Premium.

Revised Jul-21

VFW AUXILIARY RATES FOR OFFICERS BOND

Principal	Premium
\$ 10,000.00	\$ 30.00
\$ 11,000.00	\$ 37.00
\$ 12,000.00	\$ 44.00
\$ 13,000.00	\$ 51.00
\$ 14,000.00	\$ 58.00
\$ 15,000.00	\$ 65.00
\$ 16,000.00	\$ 72.00
\$ 17,000.00	\$ 79.00
\$ 18,000.00	\$ 86.00
\$ 19,000.00	\$ 93.00
\$ 20,000.00	\$ 100.00
\$ 21,000.00	\$ 107.00
\$ 22,000.00	\$ 114.00
\$ 23,000.00	\$ 121.00
\$ 24,000.00	\$ 128.00
\$ 25,000.00	\$ 135.00
\$ 26,000.00	\$ 142.00
\$ 27,000.00	\$ 149.00
\$ 28,000.00	\$ 156.00
\$ 29,000.00	\$ 163.00
\$ 30,000.00	\$ 170.00
\$ 31,000.00	\$ 177.00
\$ 32,000.00	\$ 184.00
\$ 33,000.00	\$ 191.00
\$ 34,000.00	\$ 198.00
\$ 35,000.00	\$ 205.00
\$ 36,000.00	\$ 212.00
\$ 37,000.00	\$ 219.00
\$ 38,000.00	\$ 226.00
\$ 39,000.00	\$ 233.00
\$ 40,000.00	\$ 240.00
\$ 41,000.00	\$ 247.00
\$ 42,000.00	\$ 254.00
\$ 43,000.00	\$ 261.00
\$ 44,000.00	\$ 268.00
\$ 45,000.00	\$ 275.00
\$ 46,000.00	\$ 282.00
\$ 47,000.00	\$ 289.00
\$ 48,000.00	\$ 296.00
\$ 49,000.00	\$ 303.00
\$ 50,000.00	\$ 310.00
\$ 51,000.00	\$ 317.00
\$ 52,000.00	\$ 324.00
\$ 53,000.00	\$ 331.00
\$ 54,000.00	\$ 338.00
\$ 55,000.00	\$ 345.00
\$ 56,000.00	\$ 352.00
\$ 57,000.00	\$ 359.00
\$ 58,000.00	\$ 366.00
\$ 59,000.00	\$ 373.00
\$ 60,000.00	\$ 380.00
\$ 61,000.00	\$ 387.00
\$ 62,000.00	\$ 394.00
\$ 63,000.00	\$ 401.00
\$ 64,000.00	\$ 408.00
\$ 65,000.00	\$ 415.00
\$ 66,000.00	\$ 422.00

Principal	Premium
\$ 67,000.00	\$ 429.00
\$ 68,000.00	\$ 436.00
\$ 69,000.00	\$ 443.00
\$ 70,000.00	\$ 450.00
\$ 71,000.00	\$ 457.00
\$ 72,000.00	\$ 464.00
\$ 73,000.00	\$ 471.00
\$ 74,000.00	\$ 478.00
\$ 75,000.00	\$ 485.00
\$ 76,000.00	\$ 492.00
\$ 77,000.00	\$ 499.00
\$ 78,000.00	\$ 506.00
\$ 79,000.00	\$ 513.00
\$ 80,000.00	\$ 520.00
\$ 81,000.00	\$ 527.00
\$ 82,000.00	\$ 534.00
\$ 83,000.00	\$ 541.00
\$ 84,000.00	\$ 548.00
\$ 85,000.00	\$ 555.00
\$ 86,000.00	\$ 562.00
\$ 87,000.00	\$ 569.00
\$ 88,000.00	\$ 576.00
\$ 89,000.00	\$ 583.00
\$ 90,000.00	\$ 590.00
\$ 91,000.00	\$ 597.00
\$ 92,000.00	\$ 604.00
\$ 93,000.00	\$ 611.00
\$ 94,000.00	\$ 618.00
\$ 95,000.00	\$ 625.00
\$ 96,000.00	\$ 632.00
\$ 97,000.00	\$ 639.00
\$ 98,000.00	\$ 646.00
\$ 99,000.00	\$ 653.00
\$ 100,000.00	\$ 660.00
\$ 105,000.00	\$ 695.00
\$ 110,000.00	\$ 730.00
\$ 115,000.00	\$ 765.00
\$ 120,000.00	\$ 800.00
\$ 125,000.00	\$ 835.00
\$ 130,000.00	\$ 870.00
\$ 135,000.00	\$ 905.00
\$ 140,000.00	\$ 940.00
\$ 145,000.00	\$ 975.00
\$ 150,000.00	\$ 1,010.00
\$ 155,000.00	\$ 1,045.00
\$ 160,000.00	\$ 1,080.00
\$ 165,000.00	\$ 1,115.00
\$ 170,000.00	\$ 1,150.00
\$ 175,000.00	\$ 1,185.00
\$ 180,000.00	\$ 1,220.00
\$ 185,000.00	\$ 1,255.00
\$ 190,000.00	\$ 1,290.00
\$ 195,000.00	\$ 1,325.00
\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,360.00
\$ 205,000.00	\$ 1,395.00
\$ 210,000.00	\$ 1,430.00
\$ 215,000.00	\$ 1,465.00

Principal	Premium
\$ 220,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
\$ 225,000.00	\$ 1,535.00
\$ 230,000.00	\$ 1,570.00
\$ 235,000.00	\$ 1,605.00
\$ 240,000.00	\$ 1,640.00
\$ 245,000.00	\$ 1,675.00
\$ 250,000.00	\$ 1,710.00
\$ 255,000.00	\$ 1,745.00
\$ 260,000.00	\$ 1,780.00
\$ 265,000.00	\$ 1,815.00
\$ 270,000.00	\$ 1,850.00
\$ 275,000.00	\$ 1,885.00
\$ 280,000.00	\$ 1,920.00
\$ 285,000.00	\$ 1,955.00
\$ 290,000.00	\$ 1,990.00
\$ 295,000.00	\$ 2,025.00
\$ 300,000.00	\$ 2,060.00
\$ 305,000.00	\$ 2,095.00
\$ 310,000.00	\$ 2,130.00
\$ 315,000.00	\$ 2,165.00
\$ 320,000.00	\$ 2,200.00
\$ 325,000.00	\$ 2,235.00
\$ 330,000.00	\$ 2,270.00
\$ 335,000.00	\$ 2,305.00
\$ 340,000.00	\$ 2,340.00
\$ 345,000.00	\$ 2,375.00
\$ 350,000.00	\$ 2,410.00
\$ 355,000.00	\$ 2,445.00
\$ 360,000.00	\$ 2,480.00
\$ 365,000.00	\$ 2,515.00
\$ 370,000.00	\$ 2,550.00
\$ 375,000.00	\$ 2,585.00
\$ 380,000.00	\$ 2,620.00
\$ 385,000.00	\$ 2,655.00
\$ 390,000.00	\$ 2,690.00
\$ 395,000.00	\$ 2,725.00
\$ 400,000.00	\$ 2,760.00
\$ 405,000.00	\$ 2,795.00
\$ 410,000.00	\$ 2,830.00
\$ 415,000.00	\$ 2,865.00
\$ 420,000.00	\$ 2,900.00
\$ 425,000.00	\$ 2,935.00
\$ 430,000.00	\$ 2,970.00
\$ 435,000.00	\$ 3,005.00
\$ 440,000.00	\$ 3,040.00
\$ 445,000.00	\$ 3,075.00
\$ 450,000.00	\$ 3,110.00
\$ 455,000.00	\$ 3,145.00
\$ 460,000.00	\$ 3,180.00
\$ 465,000.00	\$ 3,215.00
\$ 470,000.00	\$ 3,250.00
\$ 475,000.00	\$ 3,285.00
\$ 480,000.00	\$ 3,320.00
\$ 485,000.00	\$ 3,355.00
\$ 490,000.00	\$ 3,390.00
\$ 495,000.00	\$ 3,425.00
\$ 500,000.00	\$ 3,460.00



Chaplain Jeanne Hampton

Recently in planning an activity for a local school a huge challenge came up: How will this work with so few volunteers? The answer that came was "Gideon". Judges Chapter 6. No matter how monumental the task, with God all things are possible.

A Prayer to share comes from a daily inspiration calendar. It reads, "Lord, make me keenly aware of Your desire to bless those around me today. Give

Auxiliary Outreach Donna Ventola

Hello Team Az! Let's talk about photo collages.
Not sure how to make a collage on your phone.



Here are some easy steps that will help you accomplish that by using this **FREE** App- Pic Collage whether you have an Android or iPhone.

Step 1: Download the App

Step 2: Open the App

Step 3: Select photo & Video (on top of screen)

Step 4: Choose photos: Select up to 6 photos you want to use

Step 5: Import photos: Tap the Check-mark icon in the top right corner that has the number of pictures that you selected to import the photos

Step 6: Suggested layouts—Pic Collage will automatically create a collage using the auto setting.

You can also explore different collage options (sizes/suggested/grids at the top if you would like)

Step 7: Select your option

Step 8: Click the gray area around the collage

You can also play with the backgrounds (change the color/design of the border)

Step 9: Click done button (top right corner)

Step 10: Click save to library/gallery (middle of screen)

The pictures will go to your photos on the phone, and you are done. It's that simple.

Please don't forget, to log in the Department website(vfwauxaz.org) and fill out the project report. Please remember that Auxiliary Outreach **cannot** be combined with any of our other programs.

Describe the event as much detailed as you can, like you are telling us a brief story. Use up all of the lines that they provided for you, the number of words is unlimited.

I am always available to help, answer questions of course and lend a helping hand or two. Please stay tuned for next month's edition.....

NOTE* If you would like to bring your photo collage for the National award to Winter Conference, so you don't have to mail it to me, I will take them.**

**Buppy Poppy/National Home
Jeanne Hampton**



the National Home, September 7, 2024, delivered by National VFW Auxiliary Chaplain, Kim Harney: “Lord, we thank you for allowing us to assemble here today for the twelfth Celebrating America’s Freedom Event. The National Home is a place near and dear to our hearts, as it was our first-ever continuing

Program and one we strive to see succeed for many years to come. For nearly a century Auxiliary members have regularly bowed their heads in prayer for the children and families of the National Home, asking God to bestow upon them the safety, stability and serenity that all of His children deserve, and we ask that those in attendance do so again as we celebrate being gathered together here today.”

Serenity is the perfect word to describe what visiting the National Home was like. 300 strangers touring the campus, moving from building to building on a planned scavenger hunt, in the midst, 2 little girls sit side by side on a playground with not a care in the world.

The biggest take-away; the people. We see Mr. Wilson, Sue Alverson, Megan, Brian on the cover of a magazine or during a Zoom meeting or visiting National Convention. Meeting them at the National Home setting was so very moving. Real people, much larger than their magazine photo, so dedicated- so giving. If ever the opportunity arises, put it on a bucket list. The National Home is so very inspirational. The artifacts are amazing. The very grainy video of the Children’s Fire Department from the 1983 “That’s Incredible” taping. Every wall in the museum is worth gleaning. All made possible by donations from **YOU**.

The 100 Challenge: The VFW National Home has evolved from being so much more than an orphanage or home for widows and disabled Veterans. From the idea of Amy Ross, who passed before ever seeing her vision a reality- 100 years later is still serving Veteran Families. To honor this 100 Year Celebration- before January 1st, every Auxiliary that reports something to recognize the National Home’s 100 Years will be put in a drawing for a Centennial Life Membership (to be drawn at Winter conference). Ways to recognize 100 Years could include:

- Centennial Life Membership- use it as an incentive or Early Bird raffle
- 2- Life Memberships to the VFW National Home = \$100
- A memorial brick to commemorate a member or a job well done
- A Birthday Card to the National Home – include a check for \$100
- Tell 100 persons about the VFW National Home’s Helpline 800.313.4200
- Vote to have the Auxiliary become a Home Front Hero for a one-time donation of \$100 or a continuing \$100 annual donation
- Look to the VFW National Home Amazon Wish List to contribute \$100 in items requested by families residing at the National Home [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

This just in- at a recent local Elementary School event- the students traced their hands as part of the VFW National Home 100th Birthday Celebration- a “card” from Children to Children- and it hit- “Why aren’t we taking this to Veteran families who could **REALLY** use the information about the National Home resources?”

Last May Governor Hobbs signed into existence the Purple Star School

Program recognizing schools, with Military family students, that support a student mentor program to help *new* students acclimate to their *new* school. It is realized many Military families move every 2 to 3 years. This makes learning difficult. Arizona hosts 20,000 Active Duty Military and 15,000 Military family children. All 4 schools that have been recognized with the Purple Star Program initiative are in the Glendale/Goodyear area associated with Luke Air Force Base. Arizona has 7 Military Installations- many more Purple Star Schools could be realized. [AZPSS Program | Arizona Department of Education \(azed.gov\)](#)

Another opportunity: December 8th, Derek Hulsebus has announced a “Battalion Family Fun Day event for the Florence National Guard”-600 National Guard families gathered at one event. Who better to share the resources the VFW National Home has to offer than active-duty Veteran families. Resources are free! Contact the VFW National Home: [Promotional Material Order Form - VFW National Home](#)

Buddy Poppy- Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Pearl Harbor Day, Wreaths Across America, Christmas are all great opportunities to weave Buddy Poppies and their symbolism into the season. Take ornament wreaths decorated with Buddy Poppies to Veteran patients. They love to decorate their rooms and doors and visitors are always welcomed and appreciated. Share joy while passively supporting the VFW National Home and Veteran Service Programs by purchasing Buddy Poppies.

A Huge shout out! To the Dept AZ VFW Buddy Poppy Chairman, Russell Hill, for his contribution to the Fall Conference presentation! And to **ALL** of the Auxiliaries and individuals who contributed toward the Reverse Buddy Poppy drive and brought items to share! Such a wealth of history to prove the Buddy Poppy is “More than a flower in a grocery store parking lot!” More in the November issue. Thank you!

Thank you for your continued service and support to Veteran Families.

Chief of Staff Johnnie DeBoard

First thing I'd like to say is, it was wonderful having so many members attending Fall Conference for the first time. If there was anything you would like more information on, please ask. We are all here to help one another.



I am going to reiterate what I said at Fall Conference, because it is that important. I hope all members read this and share it. I know I talked about communication last month, but I want to break it down a little clearer. Who should we communicate with? Member to member, if someone said or did something to offend you... talk to them. Don't go around talking to everyone else. Be Adults. Auxiliary to Post, have joint planning meetings. Work together. Auxiliary to District share ideas. Do projects together. Auxiliary to Department, if you don't communicate with us... we can't help. We all are guilty of forgetting, not everyone has been around for years. Make sure you are

explaining things clearly, so all members know what you are talking about.

Things that shouldn't be done. Rolling of the eyes, pointing fingers and raising our voices at another person. Most people will shut down and not hear anything that is being said when any one of those things are being done.

IDEA: have members at your meeting write down one or two things they would like changed or done a different way. This could help your Auxiliary on any level stride to improve.

Respect, you don't have to like everyone, but you should respect the position they hold. They were appointed or elected in that position by the members. As it states in the Ritual of Installation of Officers, "aid them in the performance of their duties and with the Officers you have chosen, this term of office will be highly successful". Maybe read that line at every meeting. We all are responsible for helping each other. Read Building on the Auxiliary Foundation, have groups get together and read it and discuss it as a group. New officers could come out of that.



Hospital Amy Timbes

Seems I am always playing catch up. I have received a few reports and reading them is always enlightening. You, brothers and sisters, do good work. However, though I have a vivid

imagination, a bit more detail would be good. Date? How many went? How many patients did you interact with? Was it merely a delivery or a visit. And each entity you visit should be reported separately. Each date you go should be separate. The more work we do and the better we report equals more power for our voice. I even noted on a report that two members volunteered at a facility. There should be a report and who? Where? How many miles did you rack up round trip? Total visit time? Just a couple more minutes can add up to valuable data. If you do the report the same day or asap so much the better. And of course, the awards would come from the details.

Meanwhile down at the hospital Mr. Smith is wondering if anyone remembers him. Hoping a kind soul would say a kind word. We need many volunteers to fill this need. Perhaps some youth from the local community or college. I also would really like to know who is already volunteering. I know there's some out there, just not wanting to take credit for their unselfish acts. We need those people. Help me find them.

By the way a very good friend which you know gave me an idea for a project. It's a tray card. Thanks Bambi. This one has my picture on it but it could be anyone or everyone. Just a quick note of hello and good wishes. If you would like to see it email me thetimbesfamily@gmail.com and I will send you the program you need to make your own. You might plant a seed for the creative idea contest.

On a serious note, the Honors Escort program should not be forgotten. How many people are not even aware of the proper etiquette when we lose a veteran?

Legislative Connie Hargreaves

VOTE WITH A VETERAN/YOUR VETERAN IN MIND



The month of October is your last chance! Your last chance to listen to candidates, your last chance to find out what veteran bills were not passed, which ones our representatives did or did not vote for and your last chance to find out why. Are the candidates concerned about veterans or how they intend to help our veterans, our homeless, are they coming up with programs that help the veteran and family to transition to civilian life, help with mental and suicide thoughts?

Call their offices, write them letters, visit their websites, and attend town hall meetings and campaign stops. It's not too late to have a "Coffee with a Candidates" at your Post and invite the candidates and community? How about holding a legislative luncheon at your Post and inviting the candidates? Please check with candidates to see who may be in the area, make sure you have one or two candidates at the event.

Don't know what bills the VFW is advocating for, check out Action Corps Weekly and while your there is you have not signed up for this publication that comes to your email every Monday, please do so while you are there. Download the VFW Priority goals, in fact have your quartermaster order them to give to your candidates and our current elected officials. They are free with \$5 shipping.

Please go to the following sites and learn more about the candidates and the election process, google for more but I found these to be more nonpartisan.

<https://www.azcleelections.gov/>

<https://azpbs.org/az-votes-2024-arizona-politics-election/>

Check for candidates in your area and listen to debates on either of the two above sites. Please google for debates or videos of convention, campaign stops, interviews.

Go to www.azvoterguide.com2024 [Arizona Voter Guide](#)

This you receive in the mail, if you haven't contacted your county election department or your local library.

If you're not registered to vote, you need to register by October 7th. You can register at County offices, Recorder Office, ADOT, many libraries and other nonprofits will have voter registration forms.

Stop by local politician offices and speak to the office staff or you can check your area for upcoming town halls or forums. Early ballots get mailed out October 7th.

Our veterans' programs and benefits depend on who wins elections and not just our representatives in Congress but in Arizona also. Be pro-active, be informed, vote with a veteran in mind. It is up to our elected officials to listen to us the voter, the veteran, the family member or the active-duty service men and women to vote in the best VETERAN representative we can. The person

who will listen, read, research and get the bill written in a correct and accurate form so it can move forward to the floors of the House or Senate, then to the committees involved in the needs of the bill and return it to the floors of the Legislature. We need to hire the person to stand up for our Veterans, their benefits and their programs who will help them and their family now and in the future.

For those who will be voting in person, how about organizing a transportation pool on election day? We must assist our veterans with their right to vote all we can, whether through our Post, or individually. There is still time to check with <https://vetthe.vote/> to see if your county needs people to work the elections. Every county has different needs and different positions that need filling. You can also call your County Elections department. This can be in the elections department or at polling location.



Membership Irene Nowacki

Our tree is planted. The roots are strong, and the branches are reaching out. If you were not able to attend Fall Conference, our membership tree was there, and the leaves are filling in nicely. We are well on our way to 100% as a department. You have all done a great job so far. I am so proud of you all.

By now most auxiliaries have held one or more membership drives. Programs like Scholarships and Youth Activities are in full swing with their contests and applications. What better than a membership table that is focused on these contests?

Your next challenge is to think outside of the pencil box. Reach out to students in home schools, youth groups, your local multigenerational center or the library in your area. Along with the scholarship applications, attach a membership application that the students can take home to see if their family members might qualify for membership. If you have not noticed by now, all these challenges are showcasing not only Membership but one or more of the other programs also. Just another way to show that we can couple them together for a bigger win.

As we continue to work on contacting our annual members to renew and hopefully convert to life memberships, let us not forget that our new members want to be included in what we do. Invite them to volunteer at your membership tables. This way they get a better understanding of what we do and what is required to qualify to be a member. Also explain what they can receive if they help to recruit new or rejoin members. The awards from National are posted on the department website - www.vfwauxaz.org under programs/membership.

This year any auxiliary that reaches **100% by November 30th**, will receive a gift basket full of auxiliary goodies. Will your auxiliary be one of the first ones? We will find out at Winter conference. It is just around the corner. Keep up the

Scholarships JaNice Robertson



Remember the deadline for the **Voice of Democracy** and **Patriots Pen** is the end of this month. Must be to the VFW by October 31st. Then as an Auxiliary you can concentrate on our Auxiliary scholarships.

The National award for scholarships is the most outstanding activity or event educating your community about all the scholarship opportunities the VFW and the VFW Auxiliary has to offer. Think of fun ways to get the word out.

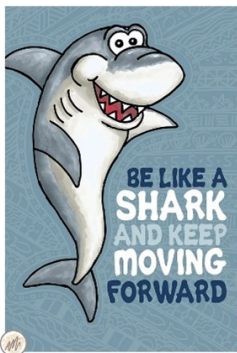
Go out amongst your community to schools, faith-based youth groups, youth organizations, home schools, parent teacher associations, youth sports teams, financial aid offices, student veteran centers, scouts, young marines, anywhere the youth are found. Always have applications with you. You never know when you will encounter a person who would like to enter.

There are 2 Different **Creative American Patriotic Arts** contests. One is on canvas, and it is **2-D** art the other is **3-D** art as in Paper Mache, pottery, something in wood or a sewing project that is Patriotic.

Know the differences between the **National Continuing Education Scholarship**, due to National by February 15th and the **Arizona Continuing Education Grant** due to Department of Arizona Auxiliary by March 31st. Also, we have the **Arizona Merit Scholarship** for 12 grade seniors. Know what has to be in the binder so you can make sure it is correct with all the information that is needed.

Familiarize yourself with all the opportunities we can give to our youth.

The main thing is to Get the Word Out in a fun and unique way.



Veterans and Family Support Becky Baldwin

What a great Fall Conference! Amazing by all! And Happy BER months! I maybe in need of a Pumpkin Spice Latte or 2 or 3! So, let's jump into Veterans and Family Support for this month.

Did you know that sharks are unable to swim backwards? There only option to get where they are going is to "keep moving forward" and this is the Theme for Veterans and Family Support this program year as we "Keep Moving Forward" at doing what we as an organization, a team, a family does best Supporting our Veterans and Families! Veterans and Family Support is a bigger program then what we give it credit for! It is like an Ocean filled with areas to explore and we do not know how

deep that support is until we take a dive into the deepest parts and explore. "Support" is the key! How are you and your Auxiliary supporting Veterans, Military and their families? Support is a physical thing; it's giving of yourself.

Our National Ambassador wants us all to focus on what we can do for these families, and one of the focuses is Child Care Support, I would like to take a second "wave" and add Family Care Support. Check out the National Ambassadors Blog behind MALTA under Member Resources for more information.

Many times, as childcare is hard to find, adult family care is as well. We have many family members that are caretakers. Some are Veterans care taking for their spouses, adult child or raising their grandchildren OR a family member that is taking care of their Veteran. Having a helping hand when they are needing to go to work, grocery shop or just need some time to sit on the beach and breath.

Even if you cannot actually help in the care of another, assisting in connecting these members with local resources that can assist can be just as valuable. Offering support or an encourage email or card can make a difference and allow those to "keep moving forward". Even when the waves of life are overwhelming, we can be that lifeboat to assist even with a small task.

Youth Stephanie Quinton

Hope to find you all doing well. One of our Youths favorite Holidays is up on us - "Halloween". So that is a great opportunity to get involved in any community events for our youth.



Oct. 31st is the deadline for Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy submissions so get out there in the schools and promote them. One update on our Illustrating America scholarships is they all need the students' NAME and Grade on the back of the Art. As always, we need to do Flag Education and READ with a VET.

I have received all your Project reports, and you are doing GREAT. Keep up the GREAT work.



PARs (Program Activity Report)

Our Website, VFWAUXAZ.ORG, contains the Google form to be used for your regular reporting. This is the only form being used this year! You can find the form behind log

in/program activity report. This is also where you can find the tracking sheet each month. Please take the time to look at the tracking sheet to make sure you Auxiliary's PARs are being recorded.

Please remember that in order to be considered for the Outstanding Auxiliary Award, your Auxiliary must turn in 12 PAR reports.

We have made your reporting so very simple; it can be done in a matter of minutes! It is a new year and Program Activity Reports (PARs) are so very important!

This is the monthly or quarterly report every Auxiliary sends to provide numbers to the Department of Arizona, then, National, starting every year in April. Why are these numbers so important?

All these numbers are important because they demonstrate our Mission to support our Veterans and their families through our Programs. Every Donation, act of charity, Fund Raiser, Patriotic Festivity, etc., is what we need so desperately to hear about. When we compile all these numbers, they affect our ability to represent our Veterans and their families in the legislature to get and keep what is owed to them in Benefits, Support and Understanding.

Here are some examples that should be reported on your regular PAR:

- Providing Flag Education, Patriotism, POW/MIA and Star Family Recognition
- Supporting local Community Groups (hours and number of members)
- Poppy Distribution and Displays and National Home Education and Fund Raising
- Regular Newsletters or Emails to your Members as well as Mentoring Projects
- Members who regularly assist Veterans and/or their families with rides to the doctor, grocery shopping, well care visits, etc.
- Hospital work or donations, including Honors Escort Education
- Membership recruitment, retention, and appreciation
- Special Recognition Events
- Assisting the VFW with Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen Scholarships
- Donations and Fund Raisers for Scholarships (all)
- Any assistance or donations for Veterans and their families
- Books donated for Youth and support provided for "Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue" and Illustrating American Contests for Youth

This is not a complete listing of things to report, just a short listing to keep us from forgetting to report EVERYTHING!

If you should have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Brenda Kinghorn who is charge of PAR's this year. Her email is brendakkinghorn@gmail.com



Try email marketing for free today!