

October 15, 2025

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



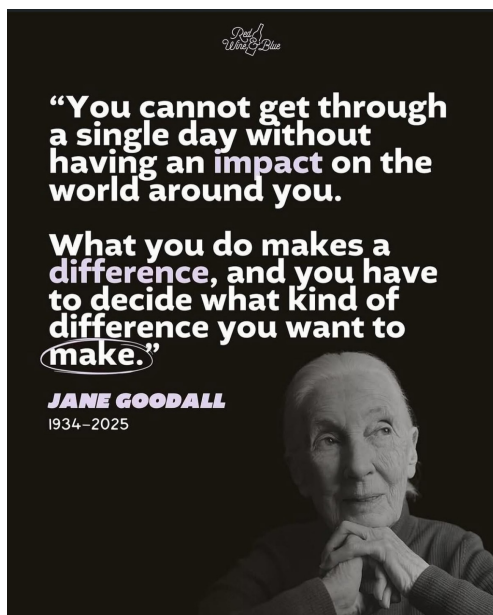
FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter

Visit our Website



A Survey went out in the Oct 7th newsletter concerning Fall Conference. If you have not participated in the survey, click [here](#) to do so. The survey will close on Oct 21st. Let your thoughts be known.



"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you."

What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

JANE GOODALL
1934-2025

Some of you have asked to be able to read all the articles in their entirety in one place. On our webpage - www.vfwauxaz.org under the Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter you can now find each month's articles all together. Click [here](#) to go directly there.

Americanism



Heather Lyn

Hello Arizona,

Now that our winter members are coming back, we have more members to help spread the word on our programs. Here are some upcoming holidays and events that are great opportunities to show patriotism in your Auxiliaries and community:

- *Veterans Day – November 11
- *Pearl Harbor Day – December 7
- *Wreaths Across America- December 13

To read the rest of this article click [here](#).

Auxiliary Outreach Amy Bennett

[#AuxiliaryOutreach](#)
[#az2526outreach](#) or [#az2526AuxiliaryOutreach](#)



Hello Department of Arizona Volunteers!

October is off to a great start! Thanks to all of the Auxiliaries who have posted on Facebook and utilized the hashtags! I was so sad to miss Fall Conference, but I know that Doug “Woody” reminded you all to be sure to use the **National hashtag #AuxiliaryOutreach to be included for consideration for the National award!**

Another tidbit I’d like to remind you all is to please make sure you **mention your Auxiliary Number in those posts!** Many of you are able to post from your Auxiliary’s page, but some post from their personal accounts, so we want to make sure credit goes where it deserves to be recognized!

I found another link if you are looking to **PARTNER** with another organization to support and enhance, who needs assistance throughout Phoenix and other opportunities in the state. This one is HandsOn Phoenix: [Volunteer Opportunity Calendar](#)

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)



Buddy Poppy/National Home Peggy Welch

We Are now coming into the Fall months with plenty of opportunities to promote “Buddy” Poppy and the National Home. Some upcoming “days” and holidays that could be a theme for distribution and education are:

- October 19: National Chocolate Cupcake Day
- October 26: Day of the Deployed
- October 26: National Pumpkin Day
- October 28: Statue of Liberty Birthday
- October 28: National First Responder Day
- October 31: Halloween and National Carmel Apple Day
- November 5: National Donut Day
- November 10: United States Marine Corps Birthday
- November 11: Veterans Day
- November 27: Thanksgiving

Using a theme for your event can help draw participation from the community and make it fun for your volunteers. Another thing to consider is location, location, location! An area that people feel comfortable stopping to chat and learn about “Buddy” Poppy and the National Home.

Auxiliary 1433 held a Buddy Poppy/Membership Drive outside a local restaurant in the evening. Auxiliary members were joined by their Jr. Vice Commander, John DuTemple. It was a very successful event, and the time of the event fit the location.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

Chief of Staff Bambi Johnson

The National Chief of Staff has established the following Awards for the 2025-2026 Program Year. Please keep these in mind as the year progresses and I am sure we will have some wonderful entries that we can choose from to bring home a win for Arizona!



Awards for Members

Citation and a \$25 VFW Store gift certificate to one member in each of the 10

Program Divisions for the best assistance to the Chief of Staff in establishing a new VFW Auxiliary with the approval of the Department President.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)



Historian/Media Paulette Marshall

National President Lois Calahan has “From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans” as her slogan for this year, so it’s time to understand

how to make a reel. Reel them in with actual “reels” in your social media. Reels are short videos that highlight your Auxiliaries in action for the Veterans. They may contain photos, videos of those things that really showcase the programs

or activities that bring out the best of what you do!

To read the rest of the article click [here](#)

Hospital Amy Timbes



From the National VFW Auxiliary Hospital Program Ambassador's most recent promotion:

As the holiday season approaches, now is a suitable time to ask, "What we can do to help put a smile on our veterans' faces?"

As we always want to put a smile on our veterans' faces, the holidays are an opportune time we can help do that. In some cases, this may be the only way the veterans get to celebrate the holidays.

Remember, there are other places where veterans are outside the VA. So, make sure to check with your Auxiliary to see if there is another place where you may be able to volunteer.

To read the rest of the article click [here](#)



Legislative Becky Baldwin

How to Complete a Call to Action in Action Corps Weekly

You signed up for Action Corp weekly and now every week, the **VFW Action Corps Weekly** lands in your inbox Here's how you can make your voice heard in just a few clicks:

Step 1: Open the Action Corps Weekly Email

- Look for the weekly email (see example #1). It's packed with news and updates, but what you're looking for is the Action Alert button or link.

Step 2: Click on the Action Alert

- When urgent action is needed, you'll see a red **VFW Action Alert** (#2). This is your sign that Congress needs to hear from you today.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

Membership Crystal McCarthy

□ **Two Doors, One House –**

And a Spooky Twist ☐

At Fall Conference, VFW Membership Representatives and I joined forces to present “Two Doors, One House.” Think of it like the perfect Halloween haunt—two front doors, but one strong house standing together!



Through a side-by-side presentation, we showed how our organizations share the same mission: caring for veterans, their families, and our communities. Each “door” may have its own style—one decorated with Buddy Poppies, the other with Auxiliary programs—but inside, the foundation is the same: service, support, and belonging.

And just like trick-or-treating, it’s always better when everyone participates! When we walk side by side, Comrades and Auxiliary members together, we’re not putting on costumes or disguises—we’re simply showing our true colors. *No tricks, just treats for our veterans, their families and our communities.*

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)



Scholarship Irene Nowacki

Let's help!

The deadline for Patriot’s Pen and the Voice of Democracy is coming up October 31st, 2025. How have you helped the VFW to promote these contests? We may not sponsor these contests, but we surely help to promote them. The more youth we reach that submit to these, the more money we can give away and a great way for us to support them and show off their talents.

Important information ahead!!

We also have our National President's special project the Continuing Education Scholarship. This is near and dear to Lois’s heart as she has been a recipient of this scholarship. Her main goal is to raise the escrow fund to be able to give larger amounts of money to the winners. How is your auxiliary helping to raise funds for this? I would love to hear what you have done or are planning to do.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

Veterans and Family Support Ray Williams

ALERT! YOU CAN HELP!!!

As was recently reported at the District 10 Meeting by National Guard Specialist Derek Hulsebus: The pantry shelves are empty AND



INVITE the National Guard Families to YOUR Halloween Activity!

What a way for the VFW and VFW Auxiliary to visit with Active-Duty families in their time of need. **PLEASE REACH OUT** to the National Guard Specialist Coordinator for Arizona, James Puglia : james.v.puglia.civ@army.mil with grocery gift cards, food contributions for the pantries, baby items, upcoming meals events, and with all the VFW Halloween Children's Activities that are family friendly. This is an opportunity, in the immediate, to reach out to our families that may need a little extra assistance with the current shutdown.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)



Youth JaNice Robertson

Hello October! The days are getting shorter and cooler and the time for us all to work with our Youth.

As the National Ambassador has said, "Our Youth Activities Program is one of our Programs that can be tied into almost every other Program in this organization." As we work with our Youth, they will remember the VFW as they get older and may be eligible for membership.

They can make sure we always remember the Patriotic holidays in the future. They are our future and if we show them respect and kindness they will remember.

To read the rest of this article click [here](#)

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