#### September 15, 2025

Unwavering Support



### **Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter**

Visit our Website

Due to Fall Conference, the first newsletter for October will not be sent out until October 7th.

My life
is a gift.
I will use this
gift with
confidence,
joy and
exuberance.



# Americanism Heather Lyn

Hello All,

It was great seeing everyone this past weekend at MIT. I was so grateful for the

participation of all of you. I enjoyed hearing feedback on the questions; I even learned a few things. Moving forward I would love to see what kind of game ideas you all come up with. At the end of this month, we have Star Family Day.

Is your Auxiliary holding an event to honor those who have lost loved ones?

To read the rest of this article click here.

## Auxiliary Outreach Amy Bennett

#AuxiliaryOutreach #az2526outreach or #az2526AuxliaryOutreach



Hello Department of Arizona Volunteers!

August was amazing with so much great information shared at the Member Involvement Training held in Tempe. Thank you to everyone who came to my table and helped brainstorm and think outside the box with great ideas for Auxiliary Outreach activities for September and beyond!!

Here's a quick link to look for organizations who are looking for assistance throughout the state: VolunteerMatch - Where Volunteering Begins

To read the rest of this article click here

#### VFW National Home Eligibility Helpline 1-800-313-4200



# Buddy Poppy/National Home Peggy Welch

WOW! Just WOW! I want to thank all who attended the Member Involvement Training (MIT), August 22-24, for all the love and dedication you showed for the Buddy Poppy/National Home Program!

I am truly excited for this year. I learned some creative ways you are getting the word out about Buddy Poppy and the National Home to the public. One Auxiliary made keychains with the National Home Eligibility QR code on them. A great idea for easy access to the information. Members are making Buddy Poppy keychains, bracelets, and leis. Crocheting poppies into blankets. Many are using them for fundraisers and education purposes. They are great eye catchers for Poppy Drive tables, as well.

To read the rest of this article click here

## Chief of Staff Bambi Johnson

At the August Membership Involvement Training (MIT), information was shared by all the chairmen for our programs. As Chief of Staff, my presentation was designed to help us to spot Healthy Auxiliary traits and Unhealthy Auxiliary traits. Read through the following



information and evaluate your own Auxiliary. Do you feel you are healthy, or do

you have some issues to work on? We can be a bit of both. So, after evaluating where your Auxiliary is today, think about how you can utilize the items of improvement to be on a path of continuous improvement.

To read the rest of this article clickhere



## Historian/Media Paulette Marshall

Let's SWAP!

As a member of the Media Relations team, you are one of the most important individuals in your Auxiliary to make the idea of SWAP (Sharing

Wonderful Auxiliary Program/progress) work.

What has been posted online, whether it is on Facebook, Instagram, or your own Auxiliary Website, of activities that have been spectacularly wonderful? How are you getting this information across to not only your members to excite them but also other Auxiliaries? If they see the fun and cohesive collaboration of members, it can stimulate interest for the future. Each group has unique ideas or interpretations of ideas, what makes yours special?

To read the rest of the article clickhere

### Hospital Amy Timbes

First this is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, and you can access many articles on this topic. One program you should visit is the "BE THE



ONE" class thru the American Legion. We should go over this short but informative program now and again to remind ourselves how to recognize the symptoms. Then have in hand some positive card, coin or other affirmation with our Lifeline number. Call, chat or text 988.

To read the rest of the article clickhere



## Legislative Becky Baldwin

☐ Why Action Corps Weekly is Your Advocacy Lifeguard: If you want to make an impact for veterans, service members, and their families,

Action Corps Weekly is a must.

□ **But Here's the Catch:** If you stop opening the emails for a while... you'll get removed from the list. That's right — If they are not opened it shows you are not interested and automatically clears inactive subscribers, so if you *think* 

you're signed up but haven't seen anything lately, you might have already been taken off.

☐ How to Sign Up (or Re-Sign Up)

To read the rest of this article clickhere

## Membership Crystal McCarthy

"What do shark fins, surfboards, and \$50 checks have in common?"

They're all part of how we can make membership fun, creative, and rewarding!



The MIT weekend was absolutely amazing—thank you to everyone who brought their energy, ideas, and passion for our mission! As we keep the momentum going, let's not forget the **12 eligibility categories**. Every eligible family member we connect with strengthens our Auxiliary and expands the impact we can have for our veterans, military families, and communities. Don't leave out the half, step and adopted family members but remember they have to have a direct line, in their *immediate* family, to the veteran.

To read the rest of this article click here



#### Scholarship Irene Nowacki

Thank you to all that attended the MIT (Membership involvement training). We hope that you were all able to take away information and ideas to share with your auxiliary. It was wonderful to see so many new members in attendance.

Speaking of information, did you know that the Continuing Education Scholarship is National President Lois Callahan special project? This scholarship has not had much time in the spotlight. It is time to change that.

This year our goal is to help raise funds to increase the amount that the winners receive. There is one winner from each of the four conferences, and we would love for it to be someone from Arizona. If you are looking to further your education in a college or vocational/technical school, you are a VFW Auxiliary member in good standing for at least 1 year, a minimum of 21 years of age, the spouse, son or daughter of a VFW Auxiliary member then you are eligible for this scholarship.

To read the rest of this article clickhere

## Veterans and Family Support Ray Williams

Thank you all for attending Department's

Member Involvement Training event last month. To all that didn't attend please plan on attending next year.

For more than a century, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Auxiliary have stood as unwavering pillars of support for America's

The Starfish Story

An old man was walking on the beach one morning, after a storm. In the distance, he could see someone moving like a dancer; as he came closer, he saw that is was a young woman picking up starfish and gently throwing them into the ocean. "Young ladg, why are you throwing starfish into the ocean." The sun is up, and the tide is going out, and if I do not throw them in, they will die." But young lady, do you not realize that there are many miles of beach and thousands of starfish! You cannot possibly make a difference." The young woman listened politiely, then bent down picked sy drowing the starfier of that one," she smiled.

I made a difference for that one," she smiled.

Adapted from the original by Loren Eiseley.

veterans, service members, and their families. Through its Veterans and Family Support Programs, the VFW transforms compassion into action, offering tangible assistance, emotional support, and a sense of community to those who have sacrificed so much for our nation.

To read the rest of this article click here



### Youth JaNice Robertson

Hello everyone, Happy September! Kids are all back in School.

Just got back from the VFW National Convention in Columbus, Ohio and boy it was exciting. Hearing directly from the Ambassadors is always great to make sure we are all on the same page with our programs. This newsletter I will share some Auxiliary SWAP ideas on how to work your program.

At our Department Convention, one of our youth helpers asked why we do not walk in the area by the bible (our sacred ground) and it was a very good question. How many of us know the answer? Shelley Pool from Auxiliary 769 thought this was a great way to honor youth who exemplify patriotism with a T-shirt. The shirt reads, "Dear Veteran Thank you for our freedom". Show our youth how important our Veterans are. It was presented to her Grandmother Angela Cummins-Hubbard from 3632 at our MIT this past weekend.

To read the rest of this article click here

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