We Are Thankful



November brings us to many important dates as VFW Auxiliary members. On the first day of November, we celebrate the students who have worked hard to submit essays for the VFW's Patriot's Pen contest and their Voice of Democracy oral essay contest. It was an honor to witness entrants from our next generation of patriots. This year, the Department of Arizona is utilizing the online system that our National VFW organization has been using for several years. There was a slight learning curve and adjustment for members across the Copper State, but we got it done!

I feel confident that next year, it will be a smoother and more seamless process. Many students around the country are familiar with the website, and they can be an inspiration to us to become more familiar with this amazing platform. Over the next month, the winners at the post level will be forwarded to the District level and then onto the Department of Arizona for final judging before moving to the National level. It is an exciting time for the participating students, and I wish them the best of luck!

November also brings us Veterans Day on the 11th and we honor all who have served in our US Armed Services. It takes a special dedication to sign your name on a contract to serve in one of our many branches of service, and we appreciate all who have done so.

This month brings us to the middle of the football season at all levels, and we appreciate players, coaches, support staff and family members who are there to cheer on their athlete. Football is a huge part of American culture, and we look forward to brisk discussions between family members at the Thanksgiving table. Food, family, friends and football, all make for a memorable Thanksgiving season.

Keep working hard to focus on our next scholarship deadlines of March 31, 2027 for our VFW Auxiliary Patriotic Art contests (both 2-D and 3-D).

Alison McHose
Department of Arizona VFW Auxiliary Scholarship Chair (2026-27)