

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



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## VFW Auxiliary Arizona December Pinpoints

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### President Melody's Message

Here it is December and we are halfway through the 2020-2021 Program year.

As we ride out of 2020 and into 2021, I want all of the members to give yourselves and other members a high five for a job well done. We have jumped over

hurdles and obstacles in our path and learned new ways to meet the challenges in front of us as we grow and to continue the important work of this organization for our veterans, their families, and our communities.

Let us continue to incorporate and use what we have learned (zoom meetings for me) to keep members motivated and involved in our great organization. Members who do not feel valued will not return, let's make sure all of our members know we care.

During this holiday season, I encourage members to reach out and call on members that may be alone or someone you have not talked to in a while.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! No One Rides Alone!

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**Message from Debi Rankin**  
Past Department President 07/08  
Past National District Council Member #15

I would like to take a moment of your time to say a heartfelt THANK YOU for your care and concern for my family and myself during the loss of my best friend and companion/husband of 36 years - Bob Rankin.

Bob was dedicated VFW Legacy Member. He cared deeply about his fellow veterans, brothers and sisters! Bob was dedicated to the VFW through his involvement at VFW Post 9399; serving as an All American, District 10 Commander, and working with many past department commanders, as department chairmanship for several national programs.

He will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing this man!!!

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**As we look forward to 2021, a reminder to our members-**

If you are an annual member, we need your 2021 dues by December 31 so you remain a member in good standing.

Log into MALTA and pay online or send check to the Auxiliary Treasurer.

This might be a good time to give yourself a Christmas present – convert to a Life Member. Never have to worry about dues again!



**Mentoring for Leadership**  
**Chrissy Harlan**

**Why Reconnect, Rejuvenate, and Revitalize your Auxiliary?**

Last month's article was on Reconnecting with your Auxiliary

members. Suggestions were made on virtual meetings, committee reports, distribution of the Minutes, and the use of email and phone calls all in an effort to mentor members and offer the opportunity for members to mentor others.

Using the Department Chief of Staff's 3 R's form may provide important information about your members. Let's look at the questionnaire.

### **A COPY OF THE 3R's FOLLOWS THIS ARTICLE**

Questions 1 & 2 - Finding the best way to get information to your members and what their social media habits are is vital. Remember that mentoring takes on many forms. Email, social media, and virtual meetings are great ways to mentor many members at one time.

Questions 3 through 6 – Knowing what members like and the events they would support not only helps the Auxiliary plan events and boosts volunteering but also opens the door to in-person – one on one mentoring.

Questions 7 through 9 – A member's interests and hobbies can be incorporated into Auxiliary projects. As an example, if a member likes to crochet, she could teach others how and as a group they can make caps for the homeless. Card making, baking, leather crafts, painting, and so many other hobbies can give members the opportunity to get together socially and work on projects that help our veterans and our communities. Teaching others a skill is mentoring.

Question 10 – Obviously we need to know what programs interest our members. We need to find their passion and help it develop and grow. Once we know the passion we can mentor with ideas to complete projects.

Question 11 – Last month we discussed reasons for not attending meetings but I hadn't given much thought as to why a member would want to come to a meeting. Presidents, once you know what they like give them more of it!

Question 12 – Everyone likes options!

Get the 3R's form into the hands of your members anyway you can and get it back. Hand out copies, email them, call and ask the questions on the phone. Some auxiliaries have designed a form that can be completed and submitted all on line. Do whatever it takes to get to know your members so we can all be successful auxiliary members. NO ONE RIDES ALONE!

"Mentors are all around us. Who makes you feel confident, inspires, focused and is willing to share their experience?" ~ Anna Letitia Cook

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2020 -2021 Chief of Staff Donna Ventola

**3 R's Reconnect, Rejuvenate and Revitalize**

**Reconnect with our members ~ Rejuvenate our members ~ Revitalize our Auxiliaries**

**Please complete this section with your current information**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a separate sheet with your answers/comments to the following questions.

1. What is best way to stay in contact with you?
2. Do you follow your Auxiliary on social media like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram?
3. What do you enjoy most about being a member of the VFW Auxiliary?
4. What type of events are you more likely to participate in at your Auxiliary? (such as - military support events, Auxiliary programs, games like bingo/slingo, fundraisers for local charities, community outreach events)
5. Are you more interested in social events (such as weekly dinners)?
6. Of the events your Auxiliary is currently hosting, which is your favorite?
7. What are your current interests/hobbies?
8. How can your Auxiliary benefit from those interests/hobbies?
9. Is there some way your Auxiliary can get involved in your interests/hobbies?
10. What Auxiliary programs interest you?
11. Do you attend the Auxiliary monthly meetings? If yes, what do you like about coming participating in the meetings?  
If no, what is keeping you from participating?
12. If the Auxiliary regularly offered the option of participating in the meetings by teleconferencing (participating by phone) or teleconferencing (participating by video) would you be more likely to participate?

Please mail/email/deliver this copy with your answers to the Auxiliary President.  
President's Address  
Email

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## **Chief of Staff Donna Ventola**

Saddle Up Team Arizona. This month's topic is Mentoring for a Healthy Auxiliary. Here is a question for you to think about, can a mentoring program improve the health of your auxiliary? If you answer **YES**, then you are correct. Mentoring has proven to be an effective tool to involve and energize members, it also creates a positive image of the auxiliary in our communities. It also helps a person understand and learn about the Auxiliary.



How do you know if your Auxiliary is healthy? The tools in the Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit will help identify your strengths and areas of weakness. Your mentoring program will allow you to improve your Auxiliary to a healthy state, and having a mentoring team in place will accomplish this.

["Mentoring a VFW Auxiliary: Relationship Building for the Future"](#) by Cara Day, is an excellent guide for establishing your mentor program. The involvement of new and current members with Auxiliary activities and programs will improve by using the Mentoring Guide.

Every member has a talent or a gift that can help our Auxiliaries care for all Veterans. They are the foundation that makes us successful.

Mentors obtain:

- Commitment
- Keep an open mind
- Flexible to change
- Show respect and thankfulness for the member's input
- Share passion for our cause- OUR VETERANS

Mentoring new or current members can be as easy as inviting them to sit with you during your Auxiliary meeting( social distancing of course). This helps you become acquainted while allowing you to understand their interests and hobbies and how they want to be involved with the Auxiliary.

Remember to use the Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit and the other resources to help you reach your goals. We are all mentors in some way, right? It doesn't happen overnight, but as days turn into weeks, and weeks turn into months, and months turn into years, we watch our Auxiliary members grow and learn, and we as mentors grow and learn too.

Let's remember why we joined the VFW Auxiliary and show our members that we truly do care about them. Call members that haven't been called, send a note- not just a dues notice- and let them know they've been missed at the meetings. Remember that recruitment is only a piece of the picture. We need to retain members, too. Mentoring is a good way to reconnect with your members.

**Partner Up: Mentoring-** Maybe once a quarter have an orientation; some items that you can go over could be: auxiliary traditions, our programs, ritual, and by-laws. This can be one way to get to know your members a little better, see if members (new or current) have questions.

**SWAP: Auxiliary #1433 (District 3) - Used the Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation Guidebook into a game. To make the training a little more interesting, they developed a one-page test for their members to take during a meeting to test their knowledge. Before the testing, a short presentation was made from the guide book using selected material for Chairman duties and responsibilities. The game is the members needed to match a description of what an Auxiliary Chairman is responsible for with the right category. They enjoyed some friendly competition, a great way to turn training into a fun game.**

I wish all of you "Happy Holidays and a Happy and Healthy New Year".

Thank you for all you have done and for all you will continue to do. Remember what Team NORA says " No One Rides Alone"

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## Department Secretary/Treasurer Kim Sloan

This is certainly the month for gratitude and blessings. I wish you all the Blessings of the Season and send to you all my gratitude for all that you do for our organization. To our members who have lost someone to COVID, I send you my sincerest condolences and prayers for peace in your heart.

Let's remember this season the most important part of the season – giving. Please continue to give whatever you can to help others less fortunate. The gift of time can mean the world to someone who is lonely. I am hopeful that we will soon have a vaccine available so that we can start meeting in person. But this too will be a waiting game. Be patient as the vaccines are distributed but keep your eye on the light at the end of what has been a long, dark tunnel. Keep a positive attitude! It may still be several months before we have no more restrictions. Be patient with the leadership of our country and our organization as they make decisions that they believe are in everyone's best interest.

Treasurers and Audit Committees – make sure your audits are up to date through September 30. If not, let me know why they're not complete. I will make some suggestions for getting them done.

Secretaries – Minutes should include the names of all members that are attending via videoconferencing. This helps to confirm that a quorum was present.

Vacancy – Rhonda Follett has resigned as Department Jr. Vice President. Because of the uncertainty of our ability to meet, that office will remain vacant until the 2021 Department convention.

**Always here to help!**  
**Call 520.307.7940 or Email – auxvfwarizona@msn.com**

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## Buddy Poppy/National Home Connie Hargreaves

December IS fast approaching and what an opportunity for "Buddy" Poppies!

I know many of you are tired of Poppies if your post participated in assembling them. I know I am.

But December is such a great month for using poppies as a fundraiser. How about making Christmas wreaths! Then there is the jewelry, necklace, and earring out of poppies.





Christmas tree decorations or decorate small trees for centerpieces at your meals. Place an envelope underneath and anyone putting in a donation can take the centerpiece home.

Put three or four poppies together with colored paper in Christmas designs like a tree, star, or bell. Members or guests can then add a Veteran name and place it on the tree in the Canteen or entry way.

Don't forget, a brick a National Home or one of their puzzles (\$15.00) make a great Christmas gift as well as a life Membership, <https://www.vfnationalhome.org/membership> for life membership, non-VFW members can be an associate life member (non-voting).

As we continue to spend a lot of time at home, what better activity than putting together one of these 150 pc puzzles featuring a beautiful scene of the VFW National Home for Children!

Only \$15 and proceeds from all sales go to help the military and veteran families living at the National Home.

Find this and more new merchandise at [National Home store](#).

December 7<sup>th</sup> is Pearl Harbor day, remember to put out a table with National Home Life Membership, information on National Home, and consider having Santa walk around with "Buddy" Poppies.

### **How to Support the VFW National Home During These Trying Times**

Considering new uncertainty, National Home continues to serve the most vulnerable in our country, and your help is needed now more than ever. There are multiple ways to support the VFW National Home for Children, and we want to help you figure out the way that works best for you.

1. **Give a cash gift:** Your gift will get put to immediate use to help the military and veteran families living at the National Home.
2. **Amazon Smile:** If you're shopping from home this week, please consider adding the National Home as an Amazon Smile partner. It costs nothing to you and is an ongoing help to our organization!
3. **Join the many people who have included us in their legal will!** You can support the VFW National Home for Children forever without paying a cent today using our free will-writing tool. It's an easy way to protect the people and causes you care about the most and help the military and veteran families living here for many years to come.
4. Consider sending a donation for the Christmas store too!

Thank you for doing what you can!



Many of you have already performed several great projects for Veterans and Family Support (VFS). I am looking for those Project Reports. Remember, its on our Website, [VFWAUXAZ.ORG](http://VFWAUXAZ.ORG). Look under Resources and Forms. Its so simple to complete. Simply remove the text area and fill it with your own description of your project. Then attach 3 to 5 pictures and forward it to your Chairman. Remember, if you do this right after your event, you will not have the drudgery of completing them at the end of the year, which none of us looks forward to.

I have some great ideas from LaQuetta McCartor, our National Ambassador of VFS, regarding our Caretakers. Here's just a couple; How about putting together a relaxing basket of bath salts, massagers, books, etc. for someone you know needs to relax, Or make a meal and drop it off for them, Maybe offer to help care for their person for a bit while they enjoy some time away. These are all great ways to make that person feel better about the work they do, and a great way to network with friends.

The Holidays approach so remember, if you do something special for a troop provide them with information on the VFW and Auxiliary. Give them what they need regarding the VFW National Home and Unmet Needs, in case they need help now or in the future.

Adopting a Troop is always a great project and it allows you to utilize the Military Assistance Program (MAP). A RACK card is an extremely valuable tool for them. Take a picture of one front and back and put it in a file on your phone. That way, when you are visiting with the troops over the holidays and find you have no cards with you, you can simply share it with them from your phone.

I would like to wish each one of you and yours a warm, safe and wonderful Christmas Season. Thanks always for all you do.

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## Auxiliary Community Outreach

### Kim Harney

An Advent Calendar is a special calendar that is used to count the days in anticipation of Christmas. There are many types of this type of calendar and it usually begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December.



Instead of using a calendar in anticipation of Christmas day, how about one that allows you to give back to those in need in your community. It will also allow you to stay focused on the true meaning of the holiday season by helping others. I discovered this on Pinterest posted by Passionate Penny Pincher.

The following are suggestions of items that you can collect and put in a box each day. On Christmas eve, the box can then be taken to the local food bank.

- December 1** – box of cereal
- December 2** – jar of peanut butter
- December 3** – stuffing mix
- December 4** – boxed potatoes
- December 5** – macaroni and cheese
- December 6** – canned fruit
- December 7** – canned tomatoes
- December 8** - canned tuna
- December 9** – dessert mix
- December 10** – jar of applesauce
- December 11** – canned sweet potatoes
- December 12** – cranberry sauce
- December 13** – canned beans
- December 14** – box of crackers
- December 15** – package of rice
- December 16** – package of oatmeal
- December 17** – package pasta
- December 18** – spaghetti sauce
- December 19** – chicken noodle soup
- December 20** – tomato soup
- December 21** – can corn
- December 22** – can mixed vegetables
- December 23** – can carrots
- December 24** – can green beans

Feel free to change any of these items; these are just suggestions. I hope that each of you have wonderful Holiday Season with your family and friends but remember to stay safe!



## Scholarships Jeanne Hampton

Thank You! What a year! What challenges! Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Scholarships have been accomplished and it was because of **YOU!**  
Thank you!

Now, "We've only just begun, to live.... Sharing horizons that are new to us.." Now we start to dig into VFW Auxiliary Scholarships. These scholarships, all except the Young American Patriotic Arts Contest, award membership and are part of the benefits of being a member of the VFW and/or Auxiliary.

Let's take these by due dates, remembering, too, creating the art these high school students have accomplished, takes time, thought, effort, and materials.

**VFW Auxiliary Continuing Education Scholarship-** Must be 18 years or older, an Auxiliary Member (who has been a member for at least a year) or directly related to the VFW Auxiliary member (spouse, son, daughter), with

\$1,000.00 awarded to each of the 4 VFW Auxiliary Conferences. Simply fill out an application and submit a 300 word or less essay to assist continuing education and worthy for your direct family members, or yourself, to apply. There is a beautiful brochure at this link <https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/FINAL-Continuing-Education-Scholarship-PRINTABLE.pdf>  
Due by February 15, 2021.

**Young American Patriotic Arts Contest** due to the local VFW Auxiliary by March 31, 2021. This contest is open to students in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. Please remember, with this ever-changing virtual world, contact your art teachers, home school organizations, student programs, libraries, art supply stores and physically promote the brochure, which can be ordered for “FREE” at this link: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/VFW-Auxiliary-Brochure-Order-Form.pdf>. This contest is worth \$15,000.00 to the National winner with a total of \$31,500.00 being awarded for other contest entries. Entries must be received by the Auxiliaries by March 31, 2021.

Members can purchase Patriotic Art Note Cards through the VFW Store for \$5.00 for a package of 9 cards of the winning Young American Patriotic Arts entries from last year. Physically place these in the hands of persons who are interested in your Auxiliary’s contact information and the due date for art entries.

Please also consider a fundraising activity to increase the fund for the Young American Patriotic Arts contest- “Donate any amount to add to the Patriotic Art Escrow Fund. The goal is to increase the number and dollar amount of the awards.” Checks are earmarked for Patriotic Arts and sent to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters, Attn: Patriotic Art Fund, 406 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kansas City MO 64111.

**Department of Arizona VFW Auxiliary Educational Grant** due to the Department Chairman by April 1, 2021, is for current members of an Arizona VFW Auxiliary who wish to further their educational goals. One Educational Grant for \$1000.00 will be awarded to the first-place winner. An essay, of no more than 300 words, about the Auxiliary member’s educational goals, answering 5 questions accompanies the application. The application can be found on the Department Website under scholarships:  
<https://vfwauxaz.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=79271>

**Department of Arizona Merit Scholarship** due by April 1, 2021, to the Department Chairman for a graduating Senior in the Class of 2021, resident of the state of Arizona, related to a VFW Auxiliary member (additional points will be given if the applicant is an Arizona VFW Auxiliary member). This Scholarship does take a little footwork on behalf of the student- educational transcripts, documentation to support extra-curricular, church, community service, employment are part of the information included in the binder. Additionally, a biography of the applicant on who they are and what their life goals and aspirations may be.

We may be tearing away another page on the calendar that has been 2020, know that I would be proud to be associated with what you have done to represent the VFW and Auxiliary in Scholarships and in continuing the prosperity of our youth, their dreams, and education.  
Thank you.

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**Historian/Media  
Brenda Kinghorn**

**PRESERVE MEMORIES IN A PHOTO BOOK**

The first step is to upload your photos to the photo-sharing website. Many photo books are customizable and allow you to personalize the book size, cover type (hardcover, linen, leather), number of pages, layout, and backgrounds. You can even add your story of the event and change the size and shape of the photos. You can make the book as simple or as elaborate as you choose!



The following websites provide an online service to make and purchase photo books.

- [Shutterfly](#)
- [Snapfish](#)
- [Mpix](#)
- [Etsy](#)
- [Walmart](#)
- [Walgreens](#)
- [blurb](#)

The following websites provide an online service that takes your information and makes the photo book for you:

- <https://www.facebook.com/mysocialbook>

This option includes photos as well as everything that is written on your Facebook page and/or group during the time frame that you select.

- <https://www.pastbook.com/>

This option includes only photos for the time frame you select. This option does not include descriptions.

Once you have taken pictures, be sure to post them to your Auxiliary's Facebook page. If your Auxiliary doesn't have a Facebook page, start one! It's free and a great way to share photos of your Auxiliary in action in your community. Make sure to put your Auxiliary's events and everything your Auxiliary is involved in within the community on the page. Share these pictures on your personal Facebook page and encourage other members to do the same. Everyone needs to know what your Auxiliary is about!

## 2020-2021 NATIONAL HISTORIAN & MEDIA RELATIONS AMBASSADOR BLOG

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### Youth Co-Chairs – Carolyn Quinton & Stephanie Quinton

Some of the questions asked of the Auxiliaries, for their program projects are how many youth groups did you work with during the year and how many youth were

involved, which is just an estimation. Also, the number of "Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans" citations you gave out.

What media did your Auxiliary use to promote programs/projects in your community; TV, Radio, Newspaper, Facebook/Social Media, flyers, etc.?

This year is challenging our Auxiliaries to go beyond the norm, which I think everyone is doing very well. I hesitate to say "outside the box" because as VFW Auxiliary members we are always doing this.

So, this year we are being asked to come up with new ways of getting the word out to our Youth about our scholarship, contests, awards, etc. Hopefully, these new ways will actually become the norm.

Please share any ideas you may have of getting the word out so every Auxiliary can benefit from it. And from that, even more ideas will come up, and so on and so on. That is also known as brainstorming!

Every idea you have and share, the next member will also share, etc. Just like our schools have had to come up with innovative ideas to get kids back in school, so must the VFW Auxiliary come up with innovative ideas to promote our programs.

Share your ideas you have to promote the new singing contest, "Get Excited for the Red, White & Blue".

This list should help you get more ideas of youth groups to get in touch with for any of the requirements under Youth Activities:

Youth sports teams – contact a coach, etc.

Church youth groups – contact a church member, etc.

After school programs – contact the school administration

Youth focused organizations

Schools clubs and Youth community service groups

Home-schooled organization

Non-profit organization youth advisory councils

[VFWAuxiliary.org/resources](http://VFWAuxiliary.org/resources) is a wealth of information! Check it out.

We are:  
**"HONORING THE PAST WHILE EDUCATING THE FUTURE"**

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**Legislative  
Bambi Johnson**

**Are you a Veteran Advocate?**



November 13, 2020

**In This Issue:**

1. Congress Passes Mental Health Care and Services Bill
2. New National Native American Veterans Memorial Opened
3. Volunteer for COVID-19 Research Studies
4. Free Entrance to National Parks for Veterans and Survivors
5. TRICARE Select Enrollment Fee to Start Jan. 1
6. MIA Update

Dedication to safeguarding and enriching the lives of our active military, our veterans and their families, starts with being informed about legislation that impacts veterans and their families. One of the best ways to keep abreast of

current issues is to subscribe to Action Corps Weekly. Their timely information and alerts enable citizens the opportunity to take the voice of veterans to local, state and national lawmakers.

If you are planning any event, either in your Post home or in your community on December 7<sup>th</sup> to recognize Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, tap into the large number of citizens who are NOT veterans or their family members. The VFW Action Corps is free and open to all patriotic Americans who care about the military and veterans' communities.

Have several Action Corps signup sheets on hand as well as cards with the website for those who wish to sign up directly. You can find the signup sheet on our Dept. website at: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Action-Corps-Weekly-Sign-Up-Sheet.pdf>.

To signup directly online use: <https://www.votervoice.net/VFW/home> and click on the Register for Action Corps on the right.

Also, since Christmas is almost upon us, consider these family gift ideas for the family to share: 3-D puzzles of our nation's national government buildings, such as the Capital, White House and the Supreme Court. Perhaps a jigsaw puzzle of Mt. Rushmore, the U.S. Flag or other patriotic theme.

[Liberty Imports 3D Puzzle DIY Model Set - Worlds Greatest Architecture Jigsaw Puzzles Building Kit \(US Capitol Hill\)](#) \$11.93

[CubicFun 3D Puzzles Small US Architecture Building Paper Craft Model Kits Toys Gifts for Adults and Teens, White House](#) \$14.99

*Have fun and keep safe this Holiday Season!*



Hospital  
**Melissa Martin**

Hello, I hope everyone is healthy and happy during this holiday season.

### **Most Important 72 Hours**

Seventy-two hours can save a Veteran from financial ruin. Our Veterans have earned their health care benefits and if they do not know the 72-hour rule the VA has, it can cost them and their families everything they have.

Veterans have 72 hours to notify the VA of an emergency room visit at a non-VA medical center or urgent care. If they fail to contact the VA, services received may not be covered. With much of Arizona being rural and VA Clinics closed on weekends, the 72-hour rule is important for Veterans who live in these areas to know. Talk to the veterans you know about the 72-hour rule, make flyers to inform veterans about the 72 hour rule to hang in your Post and VA Clinics.

Anyone can notify the VA on the behalf of the Veteran. Family, Friends  
Anyone!

- Email Notification: [VHAEmergencyNotification@va.gov](mailto:VHAEmergencyNotification@va.gov)

- Phone Notification: 844-72HRVHA (844-724-7842)
- Printable Information for Veterans: [VA Community Emergency Care Fact Sheet](#)
- [Non-VA Hospital Emergency Notification Form](#) (fillable PDF)

### Things we can do to help our veterans from our homes

I realize it's a little difficult since we are not able to visit patients, so here are some ideas to help connect with our Veterans who are in the hospital.

- Making and sending Christmas cards to our Veterans in Veteran State Nursing Homes and VA Hospitals (remember no glitter on the cards)
- Making lap blankets and quilts
- Writing them cards and letters
- Sewing and knitting walker bags
- Electronically connecting with in-patient Veterans
- Making thank you cards for the awesome staff that care for our Veterans

Team up with the Youth, Americanism, and Buddy Poppy Programs. Get the youth involved in helping to make cards, write notes and add a American Flag sticker to the cards and attach a Buddy Poppy.

Contact your local VA Medical Center to see where these things can be delivered.

I want to remind all the Auxiliary Hospital chairmen to send me their hospital project reports, you can do more than one report.

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### BABY DIAPER DRIVE FOR WOMEN VETERANS

Please collect all the diapers you can at your Posts between now and Winter Conference.



The Department is conducting a diaper drive to benefit all Veteran Women who have or will have a baby.

All sizes and brands are acceptable and please bring what you collect to Winter Conference on January 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Phoenix Crescent, 2620 W. Dunlap, Phoenix, AZ.

Our babies and Mommies, (Women Veterans) need our support. Please collect what you can and contribute. Thanks to all of you for always being there!



Americanism  
Vickie Rippel

### December 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day:

On this day we remember the 2,403 lives lost in the Japanese surprise attack

on Pearl Harbor and the island of Oahu, Hawaii on December 7, 1941. This event led to the United States declaring war on Japan the next day and thus entering World War II.

The USS Arizona Memorial on the island of Oahu honors the lives lost on the day of the attack. Visitors to the memorial reach it via boats from the naval base at Pearl Harbor.

This year's remembrance event will be live-streamed on Pearl Harbor National Memorial's [Facebook page](#) and at [www.pearlharborevents.com](http://www.pearlharborevents.com) in partnership with Defense Media Activity. In support of the county and state public health restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's festivities will not be open to the general public. Once the ceremony is complete, the park will open to the public.

**Wreaths Across America:** December 19<sup>th</sup> is National Wreaths Across America Day. Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, the mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. You can find a location to participate in wreath-laying or to attend a Wreaths Across America Ceremony  
at: <https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages/150000/locations/?relatedIds=0&back=true>

Remember to send me your project report with pictures if your Post and Auxiliary conduct or participate in a Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony or Wreaths Across America Ceremony.

During this season of giving! When you are sending out your gifts and your holiday cards use American Flag stamps! Don't forget to send a card to our service members overseas. You can also add an American Flag sticker to your gift boxes or bags for a patriotic touch.

As you see all the holiday displays around town, keep an extra eye out for those who use the American Flag in their display. It would be nice to give them a "Patriotic Appreciation" citation which can be found on the Department website at: <https://vfwauxaz.org/uploads/Documents/chairmen/Patriotic-Appreciation-Citation-FillableOption1.pdf>

The seasons are changing but one thing that is not changing is all the hard work we do "*Honoring Our Mission to Serve Our Veterans!*"

May God Bless Us All and America

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**Membership  
Ray Williams**

**Membership Roundup**

Members, it's time we saddle up our horses for a Membership Roundup!

One of this year's membership goals is to Invest in the future of the VFW Auxiliary. The word invest implies that we are speaking about money but investing means so much more than just spending money. It means working cooperatively with your members to achieve your goals.



www.shutterstock.com : 136097168

- Send out another dues notice by the end of this month reminding members that their membership expires on December 31.
- Start pushing to reach 100% By January 31, 2021
- Offer incentives if dues are paid by a certain date.
- Mentor your new members.
- Have a membership recruiting event.
- Contact your members for more than just dues. Don't be a bill collector who only reaches out to members when it's time to collect dues. Treat them like family! Contact them during the year. Set up a phone tree today!

The future of the VFW Auxiliary depends on you and your fellow members to work together. Thank you for all you are doing to invite, include and invest in our VFW Auxiliary by working on the Membership Program.

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## VFW Auxiliary Eligibility Wheel



*\*Step- and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran.*

# Auxiliary MemStats as of 11.30.2020

Remember to check your Auxiliary's membership through MALTA to see how your Auxiliary is doing!

Auxiliary	Life New	Life Rejoin	Life Continuous	Annual New	Annual Rejoin	Annual Continuous	Total	Prior Total	Percentage
40	0	0	35	0	0	6	41	41	100.00%
285	0	0	13	0	0	3	16	20	80.00%
404	10	0	117	9	0	18	154	187	82.35%
541	0	0	132	0	3	0	135	149	90.60%
549	7	0	312	13	0	22	354	391	90.54%
720	0	0	58	0	0	0	58	84	69.05%
769	0	1	274	0	0	3	278	303	91.75%
1433	0	0	152	1	0	40	193	229	84.28%
1677	0	0	113	1	1	4	119	153	77.78%
1704	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	0.00%
1760	0	0	87	11	7	26	131	117	111.97%
1763	4	0	136	1	0	6	147	152	96.71%
1796	0	0	41	0	1	2	44	65	67.69%
2190	0	0	32	0	0	10	42	49	85.71%
2357	0	0	105	0	0	5	110	120	91.67%
2364	0	0	8	0	0	3	11	29	37.93%
2555	1	0	101	2	0	0	104	136	76.47%
3513	4	0	111	0	1	7	123	130	94.62%
3578	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	0.00%
3584	0	0	40	0	0	17	57	85	67.06%
3632	1	0	115	0	0	15	131	140	93.57%
3713	4	0	90	3	0	17	114	125	91.20%
3715	0	0	32	0	0	6	38	51	74.51%
4903	4	0	92	5	1	13	115	141	81.56%
5990	4	2	119	4	1	13	143	146	97.95%
6271	1	0	73	3	0	13	90	108	83.33%
6306	2	1	108	5	1	21	138	160	86.25%
6739	0	0	139	0	0	8	147	173	84.97%
6790	2	0	231	1	0	7	241	266	90.60%
7061	0	0	90	0	0	21	111	113	98.23%
7400	1	0	100	2	1	35	139	165	84.24%
7968	14	0	710	17	3	29	773	904	85.51%
8053	0	0	72	0	0	0	72	108	66.67%

Auxiliary	Life New	Life Rejoin	Life Continuous	Annual New	Annual Rejoin	Annual Continuous	Total	Prior Total	Percentage
8242	1	0	288	4	0	33	326	339	96.17%
8987	0	0	54	1	1	12	68	85	80.00%
9399	7	0	727	11	1	134	880	1017	86.53%
9400	1	0	164	2	0	8	175	208	84.13%
9401	8	0	417	9	0	71	505	559	90.34%
9833	0	0	126	0	0	8	134	144	93.06%
9907	4	0	198	2	1	52	257	278	92.45%
9972	17	4	740	8	1	26	796	796	100.00%
9977	3	0	73	0	0	15	91	104	87.50%
10005	3	1	285	11	1	75	376	393	95.67%
10227	3	1	58	1	0	10	73	72	101.39%
10254	0	0	64	4	0	12	80	88	90.91%
10385	0	0	30	0	0	8	38	53	71.70%
10386	0	0	142	3	0	15	160	200	80.00%
10726	5	0	108	1	0	5	119	126	94.44%
11014	3	0	124	4	0	29	160	206	77.67%
12043	0	0	14	0	0	0	14	31	45.16%
12098	0	0	11	1	0	5	17	20	85.00%
12128	0	0	17	0	0	11	28	31	90.32%
Total - AZ	116	10	8012	140	25	926	9229	10428	88.50%
Grand Total	116	10	8012	140	25	926	9229	10428	88.50%



## Program Activity Reports Received From Auxiliaries As of Dec 31st

The form can be found on the Department website -[vfwauxaz.org](http://vfwauxaz.org) under resources/forms.

Remember that to make the Circle of Excellence, your Auxiliary needs to turn in completed PAR's.

If you need help or have questions, please email Kim Harney at [emma32680@hotmail.com](mailto:emma32680@hotmail.com) or call at 520-226-6363.

Program Activity Reports Received	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q	1st Q
	Apr, May, June	July, Aug, Sept	Oct, Nov, Dec	Jan, Feb, Mar
<b>District 1</b>				
769	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
1763	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
2357	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
6790				
7061	A,M,J	J,A,S		
8242	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
<b>District 2</b>				
541	J	J,A,S		
6739				
7400	J	J,A,S		
10227	A,M,J	J,S		
12128	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
<b>District 3</b>				
40	A,M,J	J,A,S		
285	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
1433	A,M,J	J,A,S	O, N	
3715				
12098	A,M,J	J,A,S		
<b>District 4</b>				
720				
1760				
1796	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
3513	A,M,J	J,A,S	O,N	
3632	A,M,J	J,A		
9400	A,M,J	J,A,S		
<b>District 5</b>				
549	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
4903		J,A		
5990	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
10254	A,M,J	J,A,S		
<b>District 6</b>				
2364	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
8987	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
9907	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
<b>District 7</b>				
6271	A,M,J	J,A,S		
9972	A,M,J	J,A,S		
9977				
10385	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	

Program Activity Reports Received	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q	1st Q
	Apr, May, June	July, Aug, Sept	Oct, Nov, Dec	Jan, Feb, Mar
<b>District 8</b>				
404	A,M,J	J,A,S	O,	
2190	A,M,J	J,AS	O	
2555				
6306	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
9401	A			
9833	A,M,J			
10005	A,M,J	J,A,S		
10386				
10726				
11014	A,M,J			
<b>District 10</b>				
1677	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
3584	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
3713	A,M,J			
7968	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
9399	A,M,J	J,A,S	O	
12043	M,J	J,A,S	O	

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**DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS of the  
UNITED STATES  
and  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WAR AUXILIARY**

**2021 WINTER CONFERENCE  
JANUARY 9-10, 2021**

VFW  
VOICE OF DEMOCRACY- PATRIOT'S PEN

**Sheraton Phoenix Crescent  
2620 W. Dunlap  
Phoenix, AZ 85021  
602-943-8200**

Special Rate - Veterans of Foreign Wars Jan 9, 2021  
\$109 + taxes per night

Deadline for Hotel Reservations – December 18, 2020

## **Tentative Agenda**

### **Saturday**

10:00am – noon (Return time is approx.) Students/Parent Bus to Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza  
9:00am – noon VFW and VFW Auxiliary Conference  
4:00pm Photos (Students, Department Officers, District Commanders and Presidents only)  
5:00pm No Host Reception  
6:00pm Banquet and Awards (Dinner – Beef or Chicken)

### **SUNDAY**

9:00am VFW Department Council of Administration Meeting  
0:00am VFW Auxiliary Department Council of Administration Meeting

### **Banquet Tickets \$35.00 After December 31, 2020 - \$40.00**

Make check payable to: VFW – Dept of AZ  
ATTN: Department Quartermaster 6423 S. Ash Ave., Tempe, AZ 85283  
Memo: *Winter Conference Banquet PLEASE INDICATE MEAL PREFERENCE ON CHECK – Beef or Chicken.*

Banquet Tickets may be purchased in bulk by Posts or Auxiliaries but there is no guarantee that groups will be able to sit together due to spacing requirement of the hotel. Reserved tables cannot be accommodated.

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**Veterans of Foreign  
Wars Department of  
Arizona**

Requests your presence for

**Commanders  
Hoedown**





February 13, 2021  
At the Post 1433 Corral  
7618 N. 63rd Ave. Glendale AZ, 85301

Social hour 4pm  
Catered Western Dinner 5pm  
(Brisket and Fixins)  
Good Times After

\$25.00 per person (checks payable to Jeffrey Eiler)  
Limited to first 75  
Please RSVP with Sheila Lee-Eiler @ [Sheila.Eiler1@gmail.com](mailto:Sheila.Eiler1@gmail.com)  
PO Box 6562 Glendale AZ, 85312

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**Shirt Fundraiser for Kim Harney's  
Campaign for National Guard**

**Ladies Size**

Small to XL	\$30
2X – 4X	\$35

Quantity

Size

Price

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**Men's Size**

Small to XL	\$30
XXL – 4X	\$35

Quantity

Size

Price

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Totals \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (if you would like the shirt mailed, please add \$5.00)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Post / Auxiliary # \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Paid Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Send the completed form with payment to:

Kim Harney

2562 San Ysidro Dr.

Sierra Vista, Az 85635

Questions - please email or call me at emma32680@hotmail.com or 520-226-6363