### Volume 2/ August 2023

### UNWAVERING SUPPORT



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# **Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter**

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### President Bambi Johnson's Message

What a wonderful National Auxiliary Convention!

Arizona showed up in force for this event in our own back yard, with 31 auxiliaries having registered their delegates and more than 85 auxiliary members in attendance!

Convention attendees from around our great country

were continuously remarking on how awesome the Arizona volunteers were! You were all excited, smiling, energetic and so helpful in making this convention run smoothly. A **HUGH** Thank You! For such an awesome job by everyone! A special shout out to Janae Kemery and Kim Sloan for the orchestration of the volunteers and tasks that needed to be done, from registering members, staffing the VIP events and giving directions, to moving tables and signs seamlessly during the business sessions.

The Department of Arizona again earned the Circle of Excellence Award for the program year and we were thrilled to watch our 2022-2023 Department

President Johnnie DeBoard accept the award on behalf our members! She looked stunning!

Not only did we have more than 50 members attend the Western Conference Meeting, we had more than 70 participate in the Patriotic Rally Parade. Participants came decked out in their red, white and blue and included Minute men that led us into the hall!

Outgoing National President Jane Reap has led us through a highly successful year and new National President Carla Martinez has kicked off the new year with both kindness and strength!

Other achievements for our Department included: Honorable Mention for our Category 1 Buddy Poppy Display

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place in our Program Group:

Carol McElwin – Chief of Staff Jeannie Hampton – Legislative Chairman

### Special Awards:

Lori Schaeffler – Americanism Chairman for "Best Promotion of Americanism Program in conjunction with another Auxiliary National Program" JaNice Robertson – Scholarship Chairman for "Best Promotion to

increase student participation in the Scholarships Program"

Aux 5990 - The Most Outstanding Activity or Training in the Auxiliary to show members how to find and train mentees

Recruiters of 20+ new members - Aux - Kerry Schrand; Janet Snyder; Bambi Johnson; Melody Judd; Kim Harney and Becky Kent. VFW - Jason Walker.

See the winners below from our Department in the Patriotic Art Contest and Illustrating America Contest. Congratulations to those winners!



### Patriotic Art Contest 3rd Place

Department of Arizona Victory Medium: Acrylic Artist: Sara Zheng 9th Grade Gilbert Classical Academy Sponsored by VFW Auxiliary 1433 Glendale, Arizona

### **Illustrating America**

### Grade 6-8 First Place

Department of Arizona Ailis Z. Age 11, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Medium: Acrylic Paint Sponsored by VFW Auxiliary 7968 Apache Junction, Arizona





### **Department Announcements**

\*The first **MIT** is August 19th at the Elks Lodge in Show Low from 9-3 pm. There will also be an **MIT/Treasurer's and MALTA** training on November 18-19th at Post 10005 from 9-3 pm.

\*\***Fall conference** is Sept 30th- Oct 1st at the Doubletree Hotel in Tempe. (flyer below)

\*\*\***Western Conference** is Nov 2nd- 5th in Salt Lake City. Conference and Hotel Registration is now open. Deadline is Oct 16th. Cost of conference is \$175.00 and hotel is \$139.00. Click <u>here</u> to download forms.

\*\*\*\*Winter Conference is Jan 5-6th in Phoenix at the Hilton Phoenix Airport (flyer below)

\*\*\*\*\***Department Convention** is May 29th - June 2nd at Loews Ventana Canyon in Tucson. (flyer below)

Flyers for above events are also on the Department webpage <u>www.vfwauxaz.org</u> under news/events.

\*\*\*\*\*\*Both the Department President and the Department Commander's shirts are available to order. Forms are below and also on the Department webpage <u>www.vfwauxaz.org</u> under Resources/Forms.



Member Involvement Training (MIT) Saturday August 19, 2023 Show Low Elks Club 805 E Whipple, Show Low, AZ 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Lunch will be available for \$5.00 (burgers/hot dogs) Soda, Water can be purchased from the bar.

If you want to come up the night before the Days Inn (480 W. Deuce of Clubs Dr., Show Low) is giving us a special rate of \$140 plus tax which includes breakfast at their restaurant (limited menu items). 928-892-5029 - Code VFW Auxiliary



To the entire 2023 National Convention team, you did an awesome job!

When asked, you jumped in with both feet! If you saw a need, you stepped up! I hope that you heard it as many times as I did – Arizona rocked this convention!

You were the friendliest team they have ever seen and coming from members from across the country, this is the best compliment ever.

So many of you had never been to a National Convention and really did not know what to expect but you rolled with it and got the job done!

I could not be more proud of our Arizona team!

Kim Sloan, 2023 Captain of the Arizona Auxiliary Volunteers



# 2023-2024 VFW ARIZONA EVENTS

FALL CONFERENCE Hilton DoubleTree Phoenix-Tempe Sep 30 Conference & Banquet

Oct 1 Council of Administration Rooms: S119 + tax <u>Booking Deadline: September 8, 2023</u> Banquet: S50 before Aug 20, increases after

# WINTER CONFERENCE - VOD & PP AWARDS

Hilton Phoenix Airport Jan 6 Conference & Banquet Jan 7 Council of Administration Rooms: S159 + tax <u>Booking Deadline: December 13, 2023</u> Banquet: S53 before Nov 20, increases after

# DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Loews Ventana Canyon Tucson

Convention: May 29-Jun 1 Council of Administration: Jun 2 Rooms: S104 + tax <u>Booking Deadline: May 7, 2024</u> Installation Banquet: S55 until April 30, increases after

### **National News**

\*The National President's shirt is available for purchase. Flyer is below and can also be found on <u>www.vfwauxaz.org</u> under Resources/Forms.

\*\*CAFE 2023 will be held at the Golden Spike National Historical Park in Utah on Sept 18th. Registration is open on MALTA



from 6/1-8/18. Room reservations can be made now. Flyer is below and can also be found on <u>www.vfwauxaz.org</u> under news/events.

\*\*\*Mid Year 2024 is a cruise leaving from Florida. Call VTS to see if there are still spots. All are welcome! Flyer is below and can also be found on <a href="http://www.vfwauxaz.org">www.vfwauxaz.org</a> under news/events.

\*\*\*\*National President's visit will be Jan 5-7 during Winter Conference.



# National District Council Member #15 Chrissy Harlan

The 110<sup>th</sup> National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary was an exciting and educational experience. A huge **THANK YOU** to all of our volunteers. On the front line, you were happy and smiling all the time and you were complimented on being helpful and friendly. Your help behind the scenes was very much appreciated by the National Officers and staff. Well done Arizona!

Our webmaster, Kim Harney, has added a tab to our Department Website behind member login titled National Council of Administration Information. The items presented at the July 28, 2023 National Council of Administration Meeting are posted there and are numbered 0 through 5. Please take a few minutes to review the documents posted there.

As your Council Member, I was given several questions to ask at the Council Meeting and I will summarize them here as well as explanations to other questions that were asked.

**Items #0 and #1** are the Agenda for the meeting and the Minutes of the last meeting. **Items #2A & B** are the correspondence.

**Item #3** is the Budget Report for September 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023. Pages 1-3 explain the deficits and surpluses in the income and overages in expenses. The overage for Property and Liability Insurance on Page 7 was approved at a previous Council of Administration Meeting and the remaining items were approved at this meeting.

**Item #4** is the proposed Budget for the 2023 – 2024 Fiscal Year. On Page 3 of the actual Budget there is a line item for a Documentarian. This is not an official office but someone that the National President takes with them to Official events such as the Presidential Inauguration, Commander -in-Chief Homecoming, Mid-Year Conference, etc. The National President chooses who they take as their Plus 1 so to speak.

Also, on Page 3 and continuing on Pages 4 and 5 regarding travel for the

National Officers to Conference Meetings, you will see that they are each going to only 2 Conference Meetings. This is because this year 2 Conferences are meeting on one weekend and 2 on another. If the Conference Meetings were all on separate dates all officers would be attending all 4 Conference Meetings thus increasing the budget. The National Chief of Staff will also be attending 2 Conference Meetings. The only explanation I was given for why the Chief of Staff needed to be at Conference Meetings was it is what the National President wants.

There are references throughout the Budget to Employee Benefits and Taxes. Some have increased and some have decreased. Insurance is an Employee Benefit and age and place of residency affect rates. The Budget includes \$100,000 for printing of Annual Membership Cards! I was asked to suggest options such as emailing a card that could be printed, an email explaining how to print the card from Malta, and using the new app that is in production. The National Secretary/ Treasurer is to look into these and other options.

Credit Card Processing fees were discussed as the Budget includes \$23,000. The consensus at the meeting was that we do not want to pass these on to the members who use credit cards. Although we no longer print the National Magazine, we do pay to have the layout done as well as housing it on the web so the budgeted amount is \$40,000.

Lastly under Special Events it is listed as CAFÉ and President's Celebration. The President's Celebration was removed as the National Organization does not financially contribute to that. It is up to the Department the President is from to host that event. That is why we are having fundraisers now to raise funds for Kim Harney's Celebration when she becomes President.

Now on to the Standing Rules which is **Item #5**. Most of the changes were simple housekeeping issues like gender specific verbiage and grammar.

Past National President Jane Reape, moved to amend Item E-2 Past National Presidents. Starting in 2024 Past National Presidents will have their expenses paid to Mid-Year Conference for the 4 Years they are on Council plus only 4 additional years instead of for their lifetime. This does not change paying for National Convention for their lifetime. The motion was seconded by Past National President Peggy Haake and several Past National Presidents spoke on the issue. The motion carried.

Item I pertains to Council of Administration items being sent to Council Members which now appear under a new tab in the duties section of Council Members. A motion was made to allow access to Minutes, budgets, Standing Rules, etc. to ALL members in Malta. I seconded this motion and the motion carried. I do not know how long it will take for this to happen but am hopeful that it will prior to our Mid-Year Conference. Those documents are **NOW** on **OUR** Department website.

I believe this sums up the 1<sup>st</sup> National Council of Administration Meeting of the 2023-2024 year. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 520-906-7363 or email vfwkidsrus@gmail.com.

# VFW Auxiliary VAVS Bulletin July 2023

Greetings VAVS Reps and Deps.

We at National Headquarters have decided to reimagine the VAVS E-Newsletter into the new VAVS Bulletin!

First, I would like to introduce myself. I am Skye Melcher. I recently joined the VFW Auxiliary as Programs & Communications Specialist. I will be working on building and writing the Bulletin.

We'd also like to welcome our new National Representative, Karlene Beams, a longtime VAVS volunteer from the Department of Arkansas. Join us in congratulating Karlene!

Additionally, we thank Sandi Kreibel for serving as National Representative for the last four years and appreciate her continued support of VAVS.

-Skye Melcher Programs & Communications Specialist

### Sandi Kriebel Outgoing National VAVS Representative

### VAVS Representatives, Deputies and Hospital

**Volunteers** hold the key to the care and well-being of our veterans. You are the eyes and ears that make sure our veterans are receiving the best care they can receive. Your visits and smiles alone bring sunshine, hope, and peace. You are so very special, and we can't thank you enough for all that you do. **YOU ARE APPRECIATED.** 

# **IMPORTANT**

### **REPORTING VAVS VOLUNTEER HOURS/SERVICE HOUR PINS**

The VAVS volunteer system has its own tracking system for hours. The local VFW Auxiliary Hospital Chairman should obtain information concerning the number of members who volunteer at the VA Medical Center and the total number of hours volunteered from the VAVS Representative. This information is forwarded to the Department Hospital Chairman, who reports **TOTAL** volunteer hours (both VA and non-VA) to the Department President for year-end reporting. The local Hospital Chairman also orders VFW Auxiliary hospital pins for both VA and non-VA volunteers.

A member who does both VA and non-VA volunteering may combine his/her hours toward VFW Auxiliary hospital pins. See pages 19-20 for more details about pins and awards from the VAVS Guide in MALTA under Member Resources. Credit for members who volunteer at a VA Medical Center located in another state will be given to the Auxiliary and Department in which the volunteer holds membership. **MEMBERS ARE COUNTED AS ONE VOLUNTEER FOR REPORTING PURPOSES REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THEY VOLUNTEER AT BOTH VA AND NON-VA FACILITIES.** 

### Beams becomes VAVS National Representative

Karlene Beams, Hot Spring National Park, Arkansas, steps into her new role as 2023-2024 VAVS National Representative this Program Year.

Beams joined the VFW Auxiliary under the eligibility of her husband, Wade, who served in the Army from 1965 to 1969 during the Vietnam War. She is a Life Member of the Thaddeus H. Caraway Auxiliary 2278.

She comes from a military family. Her father was in the Navy, her grandmother was an Army nurse during World War I, her son served in the Army and her daughter was a police officer who trained Afghanistan civilians to become better police officers. She has two grandsons who are currently serving in the Air Force. Over the years Beams has served in multiple positions including Auxiliary, District and Department President. On the National level, she was Southern Conference Chairman for the Publicity and Youth Activities Programs and National Color Bearer.

"I first served as a VAVS Rep. for the Department of Arkansas, under the flag of the MOCA (Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary), 27 years ago," Beams said. To get ready for the role as National Representative, Beams went to the 77th Annual VAVS National Advisory Committee (NAC) Meeting and Conference. "I was very grateful to be allowed to go to NAC, actually before I took over the role," She added. "I went with Sandi Kriebel and she was very gracious in providing information and background and introducing me to the leadership of NAC."

At this conference, Beams learned that there is not enough training for VAVS members and NAC leadership. This is due to the differences between each VA facility and how each is operated.

The responsibility of the National Representative is to review each facility's Annual Joint Reviews to see where strengths and weaknesses are. This is so the National Rep. can possibly add additional training to those facilities that need it. This information is meant to provide help to each facility.

"So basically, what we learned at NAC is that we need to strengthen our training both on the NAC side and on the Auxiliary side," Beams said. "I don't believe we give enough kudos and importance to our Reps. and Deps because they are vital to the program. I think they are underappreciated and that's one of my goals in this position is to let them know how important and appreciated they are." Beam's second goal is to increase the training and awareness of the Reps. and

Deps. responsibilities.

Beams is looking forward to becoming a vital part of the VAVS program and helping everyone realize that VAVS is a founding organization and always has a seat on the executive committee.

"This is vital to the health and care of our veterans," Beams said. "I'm looking forward to serving in this position and hoping that my previous experience and knowledge, having worked with four different Chiefs of Voluntary Service over the past 30 years, will lend some knowledge that may have been missing in the past."

### Davis awarded VAVS Volunteer of the Year

National District Council Member (Area 3) Cynthia Davis was recognized as the number one 2023 VAVS Volunteer of the Year during the 2023 National Advisory Committee Meeting and Conference.

She has also been selected as the NAC Volunteer of the Year and the Baltimore VA Medical Center Volunteer of the Year.

Davis is a Life Member of John and Samuel Tyson-Wilbert Walker Memorial Auxiliary 8509 in Baltimore, Maryland. She joined on the eligibility of her brother Jerome Fleming, who served in the Army from 1965 to 1969 In Vietnam.

Davis was nominated as the VAVS Volunteer of the Year after serving for more than nine years. She volunteers as a dispatcher in the escort service at Loch Raven VA Medical Center three to five days a week and as a phone buddy to veterans at the center.

"I started volunteering, I think because I had brothers who served in the service," Davis said. "I have one brother that when he came back from Vietnam, he was in not such great conditions."

She had witnessed all the great things that Warrensburg's VA had done for her brother which inspired her to become a part of that.

"The veterans do so much for us and a lot of them now are suffering from illnesses because of coming from the service, so that just got me right into it," Davis said.

Volunteering makes Davis feel good and on the days she doesn't go to volunteer, her day just doesn't feel the same.

"When I go, it's like whatever problems I may have I put on hold for the next five hours because I'm doing something for somebody else," she said. "It's a rewarding thing."

Davis tells others that volunteering is a rewarding thing that anyone of any age can do.

Each year the VAVS members are nominated as Volunteers of the Year by their Auxiliary and whoever receives the first place out of the Auxiliaries nominations can then be nominated for the NAC Volunteer of the Year.

Davis was awarded the NAC Volunteer of the Year during the conference in Denver, Colorado.

"For Volunteer of the Year, I thought that was awesome alone but when I found out that I was the female volunteer for NAC was just an awesome feeling," Davis said. "It was just unbelievable."

Davis was overjoyed when she was honored as the recipient of both awards. She said it's now sinking in that this was a once-in-a-lifetime thing.

"I was just amazed and so honored," she continued. "I just can't believe it happened.

### A Farewell "Thank You" ...

One of the greatest and most fulfilling jobs of this organization of ours was to represent you as your National VAVS Representative for the past four (4) years. It breaks my heart, but due to another commitment in our organization as VFW National Home Board of Trustee #4 and Co-Chair of the 100th Birthday Celebration for the VFW National Home, I must resign my position as National VAVS Representative for the National Advisory Committee (NAC). I have been attending and a part of the NAC for more than 27 years. It doesn't mean I still won't continue to work hard as a Department of Maryland Deputy, along with continuing to attend the NAC Conferences every year. The National VFW Auxiliary has appointed Karlene Beams from the Department of Arkansas. She will be an outstanding National Representative. She truly understands and is ready to represent each of you as Representatives and Deputies. She will do a superb job! I will miss each one of you. You are the rock that holds the VFW Auxiliary Hospital Program together. Thank you for all that you do and continue to do.

### - Sandi Kriebel, PNP

### 2019-2023 National VAVS Representative

### Happenings at the Districts

(Any events listed without times, please contact the Auxiliary President for more information)

### **District 1**

### District Meetings - start at 11 am:

- 8/20 Post 6790 in Wellton
- 10/22 Post 769 in Quartzite
- 1/21 Post 1763 in Yuma
- 4/14 Post 8242 in Yuma (convention)

### **District 2**

District Meetings - start at 11 am

- 10/14 Post 541 in Prescott
- 12/16 Post 7400 in Cottonwood
- 4/13 Post 6739 in Camp Verde (convention)

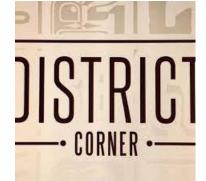
### **Other District Happenings-**

9/15 & 16 - Yavapai Co Stand Down starting at 8 am in Prescott (flyer below)

### **District 3**

**District Meetings -** School of Instruction at 9 am , Joint meeting at 10 am and Auxiliary meeting at 10:30 am

• 10/7 - Post 12098 in Buckeye



- 1/7 Post 12098 in Buckeye
- 4/27 Post 1433 in Glendale (convention)

### Aux 1433 - (Glendale)

• Steak Fry the 3rd Saturday of each month from 5-7 pm

### **District 4**

### District Meetings- start at 10 am

- 8/6 Post 9400 in Sunnyslope
- 12/3 Post 1760 in Mesa
- 1/28 Post 720 in Phoenix
- 4/21 Post 1796 in Black Canyon City (convention)

### Aux 1796 (Black Canyon City)

• 9/23 - Car Show starting at 10 am (flyer below)

### Aux 3632 (Tempe):

- Ongoing, we have boxes set out at both Tempe American Legion Posts collecting quarters to fund raise for the Arizona Veterans Home
- Sundays at American Legion Post 138 Music by Trevor, Meat Raffle, and Lunch Specials for \$5 made by Chef Stolie. Boxes for the Troops fundraiser
- 9/23 USO show at AL Post 2 at 5 pm
- 11/18 Packing boxes for Troops at AL Post 2 from 1-4 pm (flyer below)

### Aux 9400 (Sunny Slope):

- Every Saturday- Queen of Hearts at 4:30 pm
- 8/12 Casino night at 6 pm (flyer below)

### **District 5**

**District Meetings-** Joint meetings on 1st and 3rd meeting at 9:30. Auxiliary meeting starts at 10 am

- 8/12 Post 4903 in Tucson
- 10/28 Post 5990 in Marana
- 1/27 Post 10254 in Three Points
- 4/27 Post 549 in Tucson (convention)

### Other District Happenings-

• 9/9 - Gold Star Family Picnic at Reid Park from 11-?

### Aux 4903 (Tucson)

• Every Saturday - BBQs from 11-3 (flyer below)

### **District 6**

District Meetings- start at 11 am

- 10/14 Post 8987 in Eagar
- 1/13 Post 8807 in Tonto Basin
- 4/13 Post 1704 in Globe (convention)

### **Other District Happenings -**

- 8/12 White Mt Stand Down at Show Low Gym starting at 10 am (flyer below)
- 8/19 Rim Co. Stand Down at Moose Lodge in Star Valley starting at 10

am (flyer below)

• 8/19 - MIT Show Low Elks from 10-3 pm.

### Aux 8807 (Tonto Basin):

• Free hair cuts for Veterans the first Monday of each month at the Post starting at 9 am (flyer below)

### **District 7**

### District Meetings- start at 10 am

- 10/15 Post 2066 in Nogales
- 1/21 Post 9977 in Pearce
- 4/21 Post 6272 in Benson (convention)

### **Other District Happenings -**

- 8/18 Cochise Serving Veterans Stand Down at Ethel Berger Center in Sierra Vista starting at 9 am (flyer below)
- 8/26 Golf Tournament at San Pedro Golf Course starting at 8 am (flyer below)
- 9/9 Participating with District 5 for the Gold Star Family Picnic
- 9/30 Hispanic Heritage International Festival at SV Park staring at 10 am (flyer below)
- 11/10 Graham/Greenlee Co. Stand Down
- 12/9 VOD/PP dinner at Post 9972 starting at 5 pm

### Aux 9977 - (Pearce):

• 8/20 - Open House from 10 am - 2 pm (flyer below)

### **District 8**

District Meetings- School of Instruction at 10 am with meetings at 11 am

- 10/29 Post 10386 in Kingman
- 1/28 Post 10726 in Parker Dam
- 4/28 Post 10005 in BullHead City

### **Other District Happenings -**

- 9/16 7th Annual Havasu Suicide Awarness Walk starting at 7:30 am at the Rotary Park in LHC (flyer below)
- 9/23 5th Annual BHC Suicide Awareness and Prevention Walk starting at 8 am at the Rotary Park in BHC (flyer below)
- 10/21 Veteran Resource Fair in Lake Havasu City starting at 10 am
- 11/18 & 19th MIT/Treasurer's and MALTA Training at Post 10005 from 10-3 pm

### **District 10**

District Meetings- start at 10 am

- 10/15 Post 7401 in Chandler
- 1/28 Post 1677 in Casa Grande
- 4/14 Post 3713 in Coolidge

### **Other District Happenings -**

• 10/14 - Pinal Co. Stand down in Coolidge starting at 9 am

### **Program Activity Reports**

The PAR form can be found at <u>www.vfwauxaz.org</u>under Resources/Program Activity Reports as well as behind log in.

Auxiliaries have an option of what form they would like to fill out, PDF or Excel that is emailed to Lynn Pierre at Tlp722021@outlook.com or



<u>Cherrieslp@gmail.com</u> or use the google doc that Lynn gets once you have answered the question and hit the finish button.

Each month, the updated Monthly PAR recording sheet will be behind the login on the Department webpage at <u>www.vfwauxaz.org</u>. Go to Login/Members Only, sign in and then click on Program Activity Report.

A black x means that the PAR was done using this year's form, and a red x means that the auxiliary used an old form from a previous year. For an auxiliary to receive the "Arizona Outstanding Auxiliary Award" they must use the current 2023-2024 PAR FORM.



### Secretary/Treasurer Kim Sloan

2023 National Convention Bylaws, Ritual, Booklet of Instructions and Resolutions

Changes were suggested once resolutions were brought forward for discussion. The final

approved Bylaws, Ritual and Booklet of Instructions will be available for purchase soon. You can go ahead and pre-order from the VFW Store, but make sure that you make it clear that you are ordering the 2024 edition.

Not included in the Bylaws, etc was a motion to discontinue use of the term "Conductress" and refer to that office as Conductor. The title of Conductor is non gender specific and matches the other offices. The person holding the office of Conductor would to be addressed as Madam Conductor or Mr. Conductor, the same as we now do for all the other offices.

### Resolution #1 Passed as Amended

The **Department** incoming Secretary and Treasurer shall enter upon the duties of their respective Officers at the conclusion of the current fiscal year.

### Resolution #2A Passed as Amended

National dues shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) per annum on each member, effective July 1, 2024, paid by ACH transaction to National Headquarters.

Note that this is for annual members only starting with 2025 members. On July 1, 2023 we started paying for annual members for the 2024 year. New Annual Members are processed as 2024 members. So, when this takes effect, it will be for 2025 memberships and Auxiliaries will have to send me \$15 for new annual members.

If the Auxiliary feels that they cannot absorb this \$5 increase, the membership can vote to increase their annual dues for the entire or a portion of the increase. This gives you some time to make this decision. If you decide to change your dues and make it effective for the 2025 dues year, do **NOT** update your dues amount in MALTA until then.

We will be discussing at upcoming Department meetings, whether we want to consider raising Department dues at the 2024 Department Convention.

### Resolution #3 Passed as Amended

The Department Treasurer shall transmit to the National Treasurer fifteen dollars (\$15.00) of the dues collected for each Member At Large.

We will be discussing an increase in the dues amount for Department Members At Large at the 2024 Department Convention.

### Resolution #4 Passed

Auxiliaries including Districts do not need approval of their respective VFW's to file to incorporate.

The most exciting thing to happen is a new proposed accounting system for Auxiliaries, Districts and Departments! Super easy! The program is not ready yet, but I hope to have an update by Fall Conference.

### ARIZONA OUTSTANDING AUXILIARY AWARD

### **Progress Sheet**

### The Auxiliary must complete all of the following by March 31, 2024

The Auxiliary must complete the following:

- Veterans and Family Support Complete at least 1 project, activity or donation that benefits veterans.
- Program Activity Reports (PAR) Auxiliary must submit Program Activity Reports at least quarterly for all quarters (Apr May Jun 2023) (July Aug Sept 2023) (Oct Nov Dec 2023) (Jan Feb Mar 2024) USING THE 2023-2024 FORM.
- o Auxiliary must have representation at all your District Meetings (July thru January).
- Auxiliary must have representation at Fall Conference AND Winter Conference AND Department MIT Training (Department Officers and Chairmen will not be included in the attendance).

\* Programs –Submit a minimum of 1 Project Report to the Department Program Chairmen in at least 8 of the following National Programs:

Americanism

- Auxiliary Community Outreach
- Buddy Poppy / VFW National Home for Children
- Hospital

- Legislative
- Media Relations
- Mentoring for Leadership
- Membership
   Scholarships

Youth Activities

Use this form as a checklist to track your progress towards Outstanding Auxiliary Award. <u>No report</u> is to be submitted as Department is tracking the information for awards. Any member may view the Department tracking sheet on <u>www.vfwauxaz.org</u> behind log in.

### Americanism Lori Schaeffler

Thank you for allowing me to be your Americanism chairman for another year. I am so excited about this year. Most of you know who I am but for those do not know me here is a little insight.

My husband Bill Schaeffler, Sr. is serving as our VFW State Commander. He is a Desert Storm



Veteran with the 82nd Airborne. As many of you know, it wasn't supposed to be for another year. We have both jumped in with both feet and the VFW and VFW Auxiliary will have an amazing year. I am the mom of two great sons, and

a beautiful daughter in law and two granddaughters and two grandsons.

Our National Americanism Ambassador, Linda Roloff has set up a great program and I'm so excited to share what she has for this year. Are you ready to be part of a great Tribe?

T-thoughtful R- reflective I- inspiring B-beneficial E- Elevate

The definition of a tribe is a social group made up of many families or generations that share the same language, customs and belief. A group of people with a common character and interests. Now consider if you will, the challenges we face as patriots and Americans. It is our charter, and is our passion and yes, we can draw attention sometimes in the negative way which leads me to some thoughts on how to navigate around this

We all know the price of freedom. It has been paid with the blood of our soldiers for many generations. That's why we are here to teach our next generation freedom is not free.

Linda is asking each one of us to be bold in your patriotism, and show your American spirit!

Most of you have a cyber presence which gives you an opportunity to celebrate and take pride in our great nation and on that platform. If you see something you don't like, take a "Patriotic pause" and #takeabreath. It is in our nature to just fire back when something upsets us. I can tell you I'm very guilty of doing this myself. But the way we change on how our great organization is perceived is to take that pause and be very thoughtful on how we respond.

Please join us in bringing awareness to the issue of veteran suicide as we all know 22 a day is very important. We all know what happened and the reason my husband is Commander a year early. Our Commander and Our President Bambi will be pushing Mental Health Awareness very hard. Like my husband said when we see the five signs, most of our veterans have three of those signs at most times. We need to ask questions, we need to do those buddy checks, we need to be in peoples faces and find out if they need help. If someone is to quiet or withdrawn ask them out for a cup of coffee. It's very important that we check on each other. If you need to talk call me I will listen.

Our National Ambassador would like us to bring the issue of Veterans' suicide and observe #22a day. Every 22nd day of the month, wear blue and take a picture and #AuxTribe and #22aday. Post that picture to me on FB page (AZ VFW Americanism 23-24) Instagram or email me at <u>stickwoman90@gmail.com</u>

Then of course always fly our flag. Replace a tattered one when you see it. Show your patriotism - wear that red white and blue. It is never out of style. Let's pass our Patriotism on to our next generation.

# THE AMERICAN'S CREED

I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

### **Auxiliary Outreach**

# VOLUNTEER

### **Melissa Martin**

Hi everyone, my name is Melissa Martin and I'm so excited to be your Community Outreach chairman this year. This is my 4th year as a Department chairman. My first 2 years I was the Hospital chairman and last year along with my cochair Connie Hargreaves, we were your

Veterans and Family support chairmen. I am currently the Department Chaplain.

I have been an Auxiliary member since 2012 and joined under my father who was a Marine where he served in Korea and Vietnam. My husband is also a Marine that served in Iraq. I'm a member of post 7968 in Apache Junction.

Auxiliary Outreach is a **PARTNERSHIP** where one or more of your auxiliary members help another organization or group make their project/event successful. Like us, many organizations are short on volunteers. Form a bond with the other organization and help whenever possible.

I look forward to seeing all the great things you all volunteer to help with for your Community Outreach projects this year. It's always fun to get out in your community to help others and make new friends and possibly sign up new members to your Auxiliary when they see the great things our organization does for Veterans and their community.

I can't wait for this exciting year.

### Buddy Poppy Connie Hargreaves

Welcome to the new year 2023-2024 and what an exciting year it is going to be!

There are changes to Buddy Poppy coming this year. To start, there is an additional Buddy Poppy that we will be able to hand out. It will be available when the Department Convention ends.

The "Buddy" Poppy in 1924 was trademarked by the VFW as it's official Poppy, so this coming year we can celebrate this 100-year anniversary as we remember those who have fallen or shed blood in battle protecting our United States and other allies. What a fun year for Buddy Poppy drives! The first Poppy distribution was conducted on Memorial Day in 1922.

Please start using #poppiescount when posting to Facebook or Instagram about your activities or when posting information about "Buddy" Poppies. To help you get used to posting #poppiescount on Facebook, anyone who posts the hashtag on their FB page, Instagram or Social Media can get a change to win one of three poppy pins at Fall Conference. Email you posted. You can print screen and paste into email or word document, drop a link to your FB page and I will enter your name each time you let me know. Contest ends September 25th. Names/Auxiliaries will be pulled at training presentation at Fall Conference.

Also, this year, the "Buddy" Poppy must be utilized in all other programs to receive a National Citation. This is a great way to work with the other programs and to showcase how our programs are all connected. To advocate and help Veterans, working together for our Veterans, their families, and our communities.

Auxiliaries will be able to purchase "Buddy" Poppies by requesting an order form from Department Headquarters and it should be noted to allow 8-12 weeks for delivery. Brochures, "Buddy" Poppy supplies including the new Poppy pin can be purchased from the VFW Store at <u>www.vfwstore.org</u> or by calling 1-833-VFW-VETS.

In the following months, I will be sharing SWAP ideas and novelties that other Auxiliaries have done as well as provide updates on the Poppy Display contest since the new Poppy can also be used in the displays. As always at least one of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form.

VFW National Home, formerly the VFW National Home for Children, is committed to honoring our Nation's veterans and service members by providing help for families whether it is at the National Home or through the crisis line and referrals to local providers. All families can receive help from National Home whether living at the home in Eaton Rapids or by utilizing the National Home Helpline.

A National Citation will be given to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community or another Veteran Service Organization about the VFW National Home. Also a National Citation will be sent to each Auxiliary that contributes a gift of a quarter or more per member to the Health & Happiness Fund based on the June 30, 2023 membership status.

Share information and support the VFW National Home. Share the Crisis line and utilize the resources on MALTA and the Department webpage - <u>www.vfwauxaz.org</u>.

I look forward to being your chairperson this year and hopefully you will have a better understanding of how we can support National Home, share information, and remind ourselves and others of the meaning of the "Buddy" Poppy.

### Chief of Staff Johnnie DeBoard



I know everyone is off to a great start for the 2023-2024 program year. Being your Chief of Staff this yearis an honor. Remember I am here to assist any member or Auxiliary wanting or needing assistance or any guidance. There is nothing wrong with asking for help or assistance in any area.

At the Department convention, I spoke about the RED FLAG, just to reiterate

the red flag is not a negative. It is more of a call for guidance. What are some **RED FLAGS**? Having the same officers for years, or not having participation at meetings or events. The entire line officers' team and I will be looking for red flags. Once we see one, we will step in to help.

Every member should access their MALTA account as soon as they become a member and get their card. If you are already a member and have not accessed your account, please do so. Go to <u>www.vfwauxiliary.org</u> and click on MALTA. Once in MALTA, go to the Member Resources Tab at the top of the page. Click member resources then go to Building on the Auxiliary Foundation. This is where a new or seasoned member will get some valuable information. One way the President can utilize this is to have a mentoring moment at a meeting and show the members how easy it is to access. Have a question and answer session. Look the answers up together.



### Historian/Media Nancy Schatz

Welcome to the 2023-2024 year for the Department of Arizona VFW Auxiliary Newsletter! This is going to be an amazing year filled with lots of fun, interesting happenings,

and many exciting events that will help to carry on our extremely important work—helping our Veterans, their families, and our communities.

I am Nancy Schatz, the 2023-2024 Historian and Media Relations Chair. I have a Bachelor of Science Degree with a concentration in Marketing. I realize when you hear marketing the first thought is selling something, but we are all selling every day to our members and those we meet about the importance of taking care of our Veterans!

As you and your members plan and prepare for this year and participate in events, capture the moment through photos, videos, and/or newspaper clippings that may be published. This is a great way to memorialize events and to preserve the history of our great organization—as they say, "a picture is worth a thousand words"!

Does your Auxiliary (alone or in conjunction with your Post) have a Facebook page or use Instagram, or send out a newsletter to your members regularly? If yes, congratulations on taking a great first step to sharing our great story and communicating with your members; if not, please ask me how to start any of them and I'll be happy to help you...more on that topic next month!!

### Hosptial Denise Williams

Let me introduced myself - my name is Denise Williams. I'm a member from Aux 3713in Coolidge AZ. I joined under my grandfather, who was a Charter Member of our Post. I started going to the VFW in Coolidge since 1972. You can say I grew up in the post.

I'm married to a Vietnam Veteran who is a Past Department Commander of Arizona 21-22. My family is very active in the VFW. I'm also a member of the MOCA and I received Cootie of the Year 2023. I take a lot of Veterans to their appointments, or I will go visit them at home or where ever they might be.



I retired after 19 years working with Special Education for the School District.I have also worked with the disable and elderly either in group home setting or their homes.

I'm your new Hospital Chairman, Our Department Bambi Johnson has enough faith in me to do a good job. Our National Ambassador, Della Steege, wants you to be creative and have some fun with our veterans while your are spending your time volunteering. Let's show our veterans some love on those unexpected days by using <u>www.nationaltoday.com</u> for ideas for special, any day acts of kindness and love.

I'm here for you if you have questions or need me to meet you to help you. I will do my best to help or be there for you. You can email me atdeveldwilliams@msn.com or called or text me 520-251-6247. If I do not answer my phone please leave a message I will get back to you as soon as possible.



### Legislative JaNice Robertson

Welcome to the 2023-2024 Legislative Program

I am JaNice Robertson Life member of VFW Auxiliary 2357 in Bouse AZ. Secretary to our auxiliary, District 1 Auxiliary President, and Department of Arizona Legislative chairman. You can contact me anytime if you have questions or

concerns about the Legislative Program at 928-580-8872 or email at <u>bells\_whistles@hotmail.com</u> (please note: there is an underscore between the "s" and "w".)

This year I hope to help each and every one of you understand and receive the knowledge of what legislation is. I know first thing we all say is "Get everyone to sign up for VFW Action Corps Weekly". Yes, that is a good start but there is so much more.

Let's start with the 2023 Priority Goals. Every January the VFW makes a list of what their priorities are for our veterans and families. This year's goals are in <u>Malta</u> under resources then go to legislative. Everything the VFW is working on

in Congress to the betterment of our Veterans and their families is on this brochure. Familiarize yourselves with these issues so when you are in front of a candidate you can ask them what their positions are on these issues.

While in the Legislative area look at the Fact sheets. The numbers here are gathered from our PAR reports. That is why it is so very important that we diligently fill out and send in those reports. This is how we have the influence with lawmakers. We are nearly 1.5 million strong with the VFW and the Auxiliary and **WE** can make our voices ring out in the legislators' offices.

The Program award for National this year is hosting an activity or event educating their community on Veteran Legislative issues.

As our Auxiliaries become involved in political activities keep in mind:

- Do attend candidate Town Hall meetings.
- Ask the candidate where they stand on veterans' issues.
- Do set up voter registration drives.
- Do provide carpool service.
- Do wear clothing/pins with the VFW Auxiliary emblem at public events.
- Don't endorse candidates on behalf of the VFW Auxiliary in any way.
- Don't wear your VFW Auxiliary cap when actively campaigning for a candidate.

It does not matter whom you support as long as they know you are a VFW Auxiliary member and are concerned about veterans, our military personnel, and their families.

### REMEMBER TO STAY INFORMED!

### Membership Becky Baldwin

Welcome to the 2023-2024 Membership Year!

I am excited to have the honor to serve my 2<sup>nd</sup> Chairman Year as our Department Membership Chairman.

### LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!



This year it is all about making membership fun; just like attending a movie premiere! Just like a good movie, there are many roles within our organization that are vital to our success, and the most important one is the role of "Member". During this year we want to focus on Invite, Include and Invest in our Auxiliary Membership.

Get Ready to attend your first award show held at Fall Conference! At Fall Conference awards will be given to the Best Picture in the "Joint Membership Drive" Category! Get with your Post, set up membership drives, take pictures and send in a Membership Project Report by 9/27 to be eligible for this award! Who will the red carpet be rolled out for this fall?

There are exciting new adventures as we move through this year, keep a

lookout in our Monthly Newsletters, Fall and Winter Conference as we Invite, Include, and Invest in our future!



### Mentoring for Leadership Doug Kinghorn

Welcome to the 2023-24 Mentoring for Leadership program! Thank you to President Bambi for asking me to be this year's chairman.

As we retain and add to our membership, we want to be the best mentors in our organization. Use our experiences from families, careers, and other pursuits, which we have been inspired by others.

I have been President of our small auxiliary, 2364 Pinetop/Lakeside, since 2018. This will be my third year as District 6 President in the beautiful White Mountains. My first Chairmanship was Co-Chairman for Membership. Patriotic instructor and color bearer for Department of Arizona.

During the Christmas holidays, my wife, Brenda, and I volunteer as Santa and Mrs. Claus.

I have been an auxiliary member since 2015, when the auxiliary had accepted males in the organization. Our other two sons, Douglas, Daniel and his wife, Mae, are also auxiliary members. This year, Brenda is the Jr. Vice President for the Department of Arizona, Program Coordinator, and Treasurer of Auxiliary 2364.

Eligibility is under our son, Master Sergeant Richard Cowen, Army Medic, retired. He was in Operation Iraqi Freedom, for two tours with Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry.

Ensure a Positive Members Experience Engage in Learning and Training Opportunities Develop and Empower Members for Leadership Roles

C -- Catch the member when they first join.
 A -- Ask them to participate.
 R -- Remember what it felt like to be new.
 E -- Engage them in a Program that fits them.

I look forward to this year's chairmanship and helping our auxiliaries' mentor their members.

Scholarships Keith Doris



Hello everyone! I am looking forward to meeting everyone and working with you.

This year let's focus on not only going to our schools to get the word out about our Scholarships but also let's try thinking outside of the box. We need to think about other places our youth may be or places their parents may be who may see the information on our scholarships.

Our National Scholarship Ambassador, Tina Hicks has the following information on Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen.

\*Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay – The 2023-2024 theme for this scholarship is "WHAT ARE THE GREATEST ATTRIBUTES OF OUR DEMOCRACY?" This scholarship is open to all students that are in grades 9-12 by October 31, 2023, this includes public, private or parochial high school or home study programs in the United States, its territories and possessions, or dependents of the U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas school. Although being a U.S. citizen is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Entries must be into your VFW Post no later than midnight October 31, 2023.

**Patriot's Pen Essay Contest** – The 2023-2024 these for this scholarship is "**HOW ARE YOU INSPIRED BY AMERICA?**" This scholarship is open to all students that are in the grades 6-8 by October 31, 2023, this includes public, private or parochial high school or home study programs in the United States, its territories and possessions, or dependents of the U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas school. Although being a U.S. citizen is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Entries must be into your VFW Post no later than October 31, 2023.

See Everyone at the MIT.



### Veterans and Family Support Jeannie Hampton

"Close ranks and move forward"never made more sense than at that

moment as National VFW Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Al Lipphardt addressed the stunned audience at Department Convention. In a moment of "how could this happen" his words resonated to move forward in the mission.

Let's address the focus of this year's Veteran and Family Support- Suicide Prevention. The VA offers **S.A.V.E.** training- to help "armor up" and support a Veteran through a crisis. **S**- know the signs. **A**-Ask- suicide isn't an easy subject, get down to the hard truth- ARE you thinking of hurting yourself. **V**-Validate- listen, be compassionate, try to learn what they are experiencing and any factors that may be driving their focus to remove the pain. **E**- Encourage treatment, Expedite getting help. For more information,

### click here.

Years ago when the VA announced they would treat thoughts of suicide as if someone had severed a limb- that was great; in theory. What about the front line "volunteer" whom the person in crisis confides? **S.A.V.E.** isn't a cure all. It will help to prepare the volunteer for the emotional roller coaster when they need to remain calm at that moment. On the flyer it reads, "Be honest. There are no quick solutions but help is available." 988 press 1- save a life.

Now let's focus on the aftermath- those left asking "why?", "what could I have done differently?", "why didn't I see the signs?"- You did nothing wrong. This is **NOT** your fault. Coping with a suicide loss is very personal and difficult. You are not alone. The **"Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (T.A.P.S)** offers compassionate care to all those grieving the loss of a military loved one." You can call TAPS 24/7 1.800.959.8277 or visit <u>taps.org/suicide</u>

How do we get the word out- simple wooden clothes pins- on one side write "Prevention S.A.V.E" on the other side "Support T.A.P.S"- hook them on your car dash mat, use as a chip clip, hold your grocery list, to-do list and coupons together- Simple- easy to have on hand, readily made, share with everyone you meet. Painted rocks.

Veteran and Family Support links will be updated and available on the Department website at <u>www.vfwauxaz.org</u>- support links as shared by Kim Harney, Reba Dermody, Jacque Sanchez, Connie Hargreaves and any you may find that helped you in time of crisis are welcome. We are a community- a community that suffered a tragic loss. Love one another.

Unmet Needs- Did you know Burger King franchise owners have participated in the VFW Unmet Needs program since 2007? At National Convention, a Burger King franchise owner in the Phoenix area was recognized for having supported the VFW Unmet Needs program for almost 20 years. Do you have a Burger King in your area? Learn if they support the VFW Unmet Needs. Recognize them if they do, take the opportunity for a Veteran Support awareness discussion if they do not. To learn more: <u>VFW Kicks Off Annual ThankBK Appreciation Week - VFW</u>

Look at what is asked for on the P.A.R. Report:

- Veteran and Family Resources in MALTA the Auxiliary used
- Hosted/Co-hosted with VFW MAP, National Veteran Service, Unmet Needs, Suicide Prevention/Awareness, Disaster Relief
- Direct Aid to Veterans, service members (Keep track!!! VFW Service Report)
- Number of Veterans served
- Value of donation/goods/services provided to veterans/military/their families

Take the credit for the work already being accomplished by your Auxiliary members.

Veteran Resource Fairs will begin soon. These are a **GREAT** way to network and learn what is available in your community to assist Veterans and their families. Attend- take pictures- send in a report. As a Veteran Service Organization, the Auxiliary has an opportunity to be resource central while celebrating the service of our military, Veterans, and their families throughout the upcoming recognized Patriotic days.

### Banding together for our Veterans

### Youth Irene Nowacki

It is time to start thinking about our Youth and how we can connect with them.



With all of the electronic devices available now and not many youths actually working with a curriculum book in schools or reading a printed book, the need to show them the love of cracking the spine of a good book has become harder and harder.

This year, our Youth Ambassador is wanting to push their reading buttons. Not on just any books but mostly American History books and books about our Service members and Veterans.

Since History is slowly being erased from schools learning plans, what better way to connect with our Youth than to plan a reading event. It does not have to be a huge one, but something that might just spark that fire inside of a young person's mind to read about our country's history. This can tie into so many other programs that we work with including but not limited to Americanism, Auxiliary Outreach, Buddy Poppy & National Home and of course Youth. Let's see what ideas your Auxiliaries come up with to get our youth excited about reading.

Let us not forget about the RAP cards or coins as well. Look for that Random Act of Patriotism that a youth is doing and make sure that you recognize them. Make a big deal out of them showing their American Pride.

Let's create book worms!



### VAVS Region 3 in Tucson Brenda Price

Quarterly CDCE meeting for Southern Arizona VA Health Care System was held July 26, 2023. Here are the highlights from that meeting!

**I CARE** – What motivates you to treat all those you serve and with whom you work with dignity, respect, and kindness? What's your why?

Anna Bourguet, Deputy Associate Director of Patient Care Services Pro-tem for Jennifer Gutowski, reported the July hiring fair yielded 250 new employees and SAVAHCS has spent the better part of the past few months implementing provisions of the PACT Act. As of May 23, 2023, The SAVAHCS has completed over 30,649 Toxic Exposure Screenings and has followed up with over 14,644 Veterans.

### Guest Speaker:

We had Travis Duran the Branch Manager of Washington Federal Bank talk about Senior Fraud. He pointed out the increased number of scams targeting the elderly population. Some scams include:

- Big Scam sophisticated texting scams: Mirrors fraud alert from financial institution.
- Codename Romantic scams: unprompted usually from call, text, or social media looking to build relationship then ask for funds, may send you money then ask for part of it back (thus giving the scammer access to your account), or they request you make deposits for them.

Protect yourself with good practice tips: If it does not come from main source, Do NOT respond and Report it to your financial institution – never click a link to verify phone number, email, or other Private information. You bank has this information and will NEVER ask you for it; Develop and sustain a relationship with your banker, reach out.

Check your free credit report consistently. You can even request a Credit Freeze from each credit bureau.

Contact Travis Duran, WaFd Bank Officer, 520-293-7912

travis.duran@wafd.com and invite him or a staff member to speak at a District Meeting.

**Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center** – Shelley Marsh, Recreation Therapist

- Drivers are needed for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays 3:30pm-7:00pm to transport Veterans to dinners at American Legion Post 66 ad Oracle Elks Lodge 385
- A regular driver's license is required; no special license is needed. One would get their volunteer badge and then do the drivers training with CDCE. Shelly will train the driver on working with visually impaired folks and how best to guide them when walking and getting on and off the bus.

### SBRC Needs:

- ZEB Co Reels for visually impaired; New or used fishing equipment: Working rods & reels (for city lake catch & release fishing); tackle box; weights; bobbers; hooks; lures; needle nose pliers, etc
- International Wildlife Museum tour (\$5.00 person for 20 Veterans). This allows the visually impaired to become acclimated with environment and sight-seeing aides.
- Small, Vinyl weights (1-5 lbs)

**CLC's: Jessica Velez:** Reported that CLC is beginning to open up for all activities & Outings.

Dinner trips in Fall: & community reintegration include – Reid Park zoo, movies, and Pima Air & Space museum

### CLC Needs:

CLC has current needs of Walmart Gift cards, hats, T-shirts, book bags, and blankets.

PATRIOT PANTRY- Kristen Ellis, Clinical Dietician

The Patriot Panty is Fully Stocked!!! What a great problem to have! Some future dates for you to put in your calendars are ourVolunteer Thanksgiving Meal Appreciation Event on November 16th, in PERSON!!!!! RSVP Email coming soon

On **October 27<sup>th</sup>** SAVAHCS will be **celebrating 95 years**!!!! There will be an evening event with entertainment. I hope you all will be able to attend! You know, SAVAHCS started because of a donation of the property! It will be a good time for staff and volunteers to reminisce it will be a **1928 theme** so, start planning what to wear!

### Holiday Decorating - Cathi Starr

- Need groups/organizations to decorate lobby, and various units; 30' wreaths need decorated
- CDCE is working on a wish list. Sabrina from AL Aux to follow up on stocking donations first. More information on bagging event/ stuff the stockings forthcoming.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions -<u>Brenprice86@gmail.com</u> or 520-907-6753



Post 4903



# Saturday Barbeque

**Every Saturday** from 11:00 am to 3:00pm

# Menu

Hamburgers Hot Dogs

Cheeseburgers **Brats** 

Potato Salad Baked Beans

Chips



# \$5.00 Per plate Happy Hour All Day!

# **FREE Hair Cuts for Veterans**



## Are you a Veteran in need of a hair cut?

The VFW Auxiliary Fort Reno Post 8807 is proud to offer FREE hair cuts for our local Veterans. Suzi Harness will be donating her time & skills to serving our honored Veterans!

When: the FIRST Monday of Each Month starting at 9am Where: The Fort Reno VFW Post located at 198 E. Stephens Way Tonto Basin – Next to Desert Community Church Cost: FREE!! While donations are graciously accepted, they are not required nor expected.

Please check Facebook for any scheduling changes/updates and feel free to contact Erin Reed 480-917-7071 with any questions!

VFW Post 5990 Calen	dar 🖈 August 2023 🛛 🔯			
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.	WELCOME FRIENDSI Veterans & Active Duty Personnel welcome with ID. Other non-members must be accompanied by a member and signed in to our guest register.			
VFW 5990 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE Planning Meeting ★ Thursday 8/3, 6 PM Cooties Meeting ★ Saturday, 8/5, 1 PM Comrades' Meeting ★ Thursday 8/10, 6 PM Auxiliary Meeting ★ Thursday 8/17, 6:30 PM House Committee ★ Thursday 8/24, 6 PM	Friday, August 4 Coast Guard Birthday * Toast 6 PM Saturday, August 5 MOC Dinner TBD * 5 PM * \$ Includes TBD Sunday, August 6			
Join your friends down at the Canteen! OPEN 3-8 PM DAILY * HAPPY HOUR 3-7 PM * AUGUST CANTEEN SPECIALS * Miller Lite \$2 * Piña Colada \$2.50	Post opens at 9:30 AM today Auxiliary Breakfast * 10 AM \$5 Adults * \$2 Kids * Free for 3 & Under Choose Pancakes & Sausages or Biscuits & Gravy Monday, August 7 Purple Heart Day * Toast 6 PM			
EVERY WEEK IN THE CANTEEN           SUNDAY         3 PM-Close: Free Pool           3-6 PM: 10 inch Pizza * \$7         6 PM: Queen of Hearts           MONDAY         4-8 PM: Texas Holdem' Poker           TUESDAY         6 PM: Bingo Kitchen \$5           6:30 PM: Hall Bingo         6:30 PM: Hall Bingo           WEDNESDAY         5 PM: Angus Beef Burger & Fries \$8           THURSDAY         4-8 PM: Texas Holdem' Poker           FRIDAY         5-6:30 PM: Dogs \$2 * Brats \$3 * Wings \$3           5:30 PM: Bar Bingo         5:30 PM: Karaoke	Saturday, August 12 District 5 Meeting * Post 4903 Tucson * 9:30 AM Saturday, August 19 Comrades' Meal TBD * 5 PM Includes TBD Thursday, July 27 Korean War Armistice Day 1953 * Toast 6 PM Saturday, August 26 Comrades Steak Dinner * 5 PM \$15 Presale/\$20 Door Includes potato, salad, dessert Sunday, August 27			
BULLETIN BOARD	Flag Retirement ★ 4 PM Thursday, August 31			
JOIN US FOR KARAOKE SATURDAYS 6-10 PM         NOW SERVINGI         10" Pizza, Cheese or Pepperoni * \$7 Every Sunday 3-6 PM in your Canteen.         HELP WANTED!         Help us prepare flags for retirement!	End of Operation Iraqi Freedom 2010 * Toast 6 PM COMING SOON September 3 Auxiliary Breakfast September 4 Labor Day September 9 District 5 Gold Star Family Picnic September 10 9/11 Ceremony September 16 POW/MIA Ceremony September 23 Steak Dinner			
See Commander Skip for details. We Rent Our Hall Open to the public. 520-682-6134 See Commander Skip for details. AUXILIARY RAFFLE BASKET! Tickets \$1 each - 6 for \$5 - Arms Length for \$20 - Drawing August 31.	9/30 – 10/1 VFW Fall Conference – Tempe, AZ CALENDAR EDITORIAL COMMITTEE Post Commander * Auxiliary President Canteen Manager * Missy Hall, Editor			
Veterans of Foreign Wars Pos 15850 W. El Tiro Rd. Marana, facebook.com/VFWPost5990AvraValleyMaran	AZ 85653 * 520-682-6134			

August 2023 VFW POST 10005 MUNICAL AND ACTIVITIES AND CONTRACT OF							
ALL MEALS AND ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE Sun Mon Tue Wed				Thu Fri Sat			
		1	2 ACTIVITY MEETING 10 AM OPEN FACED SANDWICH KJ JOHNNIE 5 PM	3 TRUSTEE MEETING 900 HRS HOUSE COMMITTEE 1000 HRS	4 SCG BIRTHDAY USCG BIRTHDAY KARAKOE RAFFLE STARTS KJ RIC & DEBRA SPM	5 <u>POST MEETING:</u> <u>10 AM</u> STEAK OR RIBS W/ FIXINGS KJ RIC & DEBRA 5PM	
6	7 PURPLE HEART DAY KJ JOHNNIE S PM	8	9 MEATLOAF KJ JOHNNIE 5 PM	10 ANTIQUE APPRAISAL DAY APPRAISALS BY DEBRA MARTIN BOSCH 10 AM-2 PM	11 AUX MEETING 1 PM KJ RIC & DEBRA SPM	12 STEAK OR RIBS W/ FIXINGS KJ RIC & DEBRA SPM	
13 COMBAT VETERANS MEETING	14 NAVAJO CODE TALKERS DAY KJ JOHNNIE 5 PM	15	16 STIR FRY KJ JOHNNIE 5 PM	17	18 KJ RIC & DEBRA SPM	19 STEAK OR RIBS W/ FIXINGS KJ RIC & DEBRA SPM	
20 MEAT RAFFLE 3 PM	21 KJ JOHNNIE 5 PM	22	23 SOUP & SANDWICH KJ JOHNNIE 5 PM	24	25 KJ RIC & DEBRA SPM	26 STEAK OR RIBS W/ FIXINGS KJ RIC & DEBRA SPM	
27	28 KJ JOHNNIE 5 PM	29 MARINE CORPS RESERVE BIRTHDAY	30 Mostaaccoli Bake Ki Johnnie 5 PM	31	SEPT. 1 KARAOKE RAFFLE KAIYAOKE		



This event is open to all Veterans in the Arizona White Mountains area who are in need of the following resources:

~ Free Hot Meal ~ Health Services ~ Job Services

~ Veterans Benefits

~ Social Security

~ Vocational Rehabilitation

~ Pet Supplies ~ Hair Cuts

~ Other Services

For more information, please contact: (928)369.8455 fishersforveterans@gmail.com



10AM to 3PM

Show Low City Gym

620 E McNeil

Show Low, AZ 85902

\* Proof of Military Service Required \*



Innovative Workforce Solutions



### Aux 9400 is having a Casino Night





# Cochise County Stand Down

www.facebook.com/CSVeterans www.cochisevets.org csvchair@gmail.com/csvvicechair@gmail.com

#### **EVENT DETAILS**

August 18, 2023 0900 – 1400 Opening Ceremony 9am Location: Ethel Berger Center 2950 E Tacoma St. Sierra Vista

Lunch provided

## SERVICES/ASSISTANCE

A PROGRAM OF THE ARIZONA HOUSING COALITION

Veterans Benefits Mental Health Employment Health Care Housing Legal

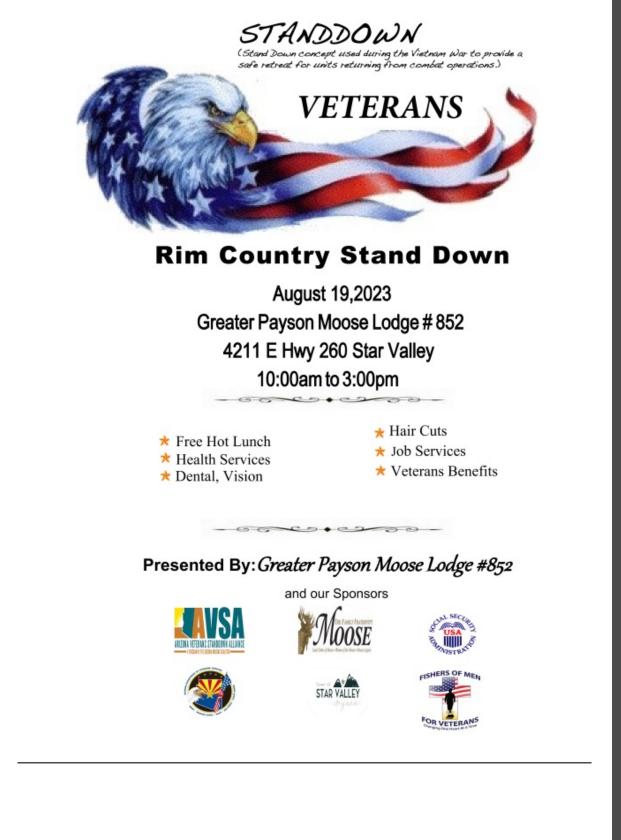
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arizona coalition for military

families

Personal Care Supplies Picture ID Services Pet Services Eye/Dental Clothing Haircuts

be**connected** 



# Veterans Organization Open House and Membership Drive





Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 10:00am- 2:00pm

VFW Post 9977 114 N Ford St. Pearce, AZ

Come join us for an Open House and learn about the Veterans Organizations in your area. Explore the events and activities these groups participate in and how they assist Veterans and their local community.

# 50/50 Raffle & Auction Items

Brunch provided by the American Legion Riders for \$10.00 10:00am-1:00pm Ice Cream provided by VFW Auxiliary 9977 Mimosa and Bloody Mary specials at the bar!



Representatives from each group available to answer questions and accept applications

Join any of the Veterans Groups and receive your brunch meal FREE!!!



It is the Veteran, not the reporter who gives us freedom of the press. It is the Veteran, not the poet who gives us freedom of speech. It is the Veteran, not the politician that ensures our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It is the Veteran, who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag and whose coffin is draped by the flag.

# Veterans of Foreign Wars post 6271 18th Annual Golf Tournament

#### Saturday, August 26th, 2023 8:00 A.M. Shotgun Start

San Pedro Golf Course 926 N. Madison Benson, AZ 85602

\$250.00 for a Tee-Box Sign AND entry fees for a team of 4 players! Or \$60.00 per person, 4 person scramble Fee includes: Golf Cart and Meal

\$10,000 hole-in-One and other prizes!

Hole Sponsorship (11" x 17" Tee-Box sign with Person, Company Name and Logo) for \$100.00 Donation

\*Sponsor fees must be received no later than August 16th, 2023. For credible tax exemption, reference TAX ID #: 86-6054135, a 501(c) organization, for your donation or fees.

> For more information, please call 520-586-2197. Please send Sponsor/Entry fees and make all checks payable to :\*

> > VFW Post 6271 233 East 5th Street Benson, AZ 85602

Pick your own team or we can put you on a team.

Player 1\_\_\_\_\_

Player 3

Player 2\_\_\_\_

12 -

Player 4

\*Please register by calling San Pedro Golf Course at 520-586-7888 or the VFW 520-586-2197

Special thanks to our new corporate sponsors for 2023!



Salphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. A Touchstone Energy Cooperative OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE







#### YAVAPAI COUNTY STAND DOWN

Friday, September 15 (8:00am-5:00pm) Saturday, September 16 (8:00am- 12:00pm) LOCATION: 1040 Whipple St., Prescott, AZ 86305

#### **BRING A COPY OF YOUR DD-214 TO EXPEDITE REGISTRATION**

The following services will be available to veterans:

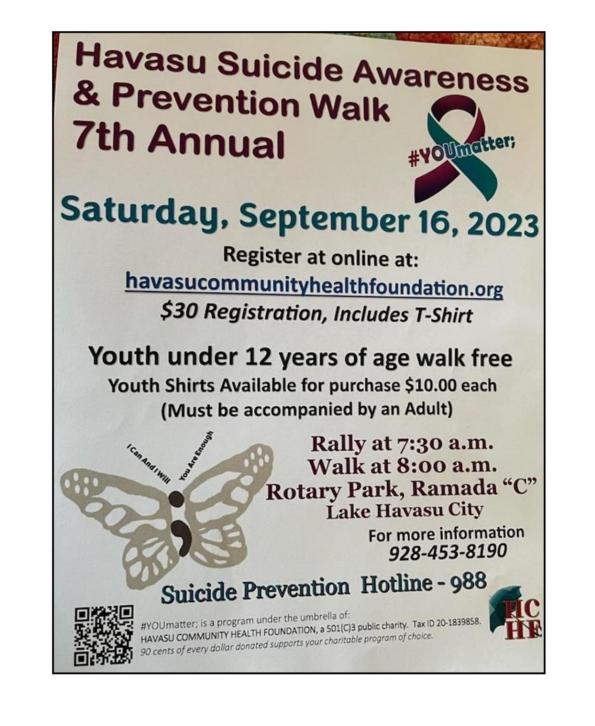
- Service Providers
- Food Service
- Yavapai County Health Services
- · Job Fair (Friday only)
- · Veterans Court (Friday only. Pre-Registration required)
- · Clothing & Gear Distribution (Saturday only)
- Haircuts



Event information / Veteran Pre-registration Justin Price @928.379.1763 or jprice@usvets.org Volunteer Inquiries / Service Providers: Michelle Brien @928.356.2771 or mbrien@usvets.org

Like our Facebook page for updates and to share information: Yavapai County Stand Down





## FIFTH ANNUAL BHC SUICIDE AWARENESS &

#### **PREVENTION WALK**

Saturday, September 23,2023 Rotary Park River View Legacy Ramada Bullhead City, AZ 86442 ; our story's not over yet



#### Schedule of Events:

Brought to you by:





Live Music by RGB Band 11/2pm For more information on Donations, Volunteering or Support call: Robert B. 949-275-6638

> GUEAST VENDORS, DA TACO JOINT HUNNEY PAWS BBQ HOOKED ON POKE

Sit and rest at our newly donated Park bench located at the drinking Fountain @ the Heritage walk.

# **VFW POST 1796**

# **3rd ANNUAL**

# CLASSIC CAR, TRUCK & MOTORCYCLE SHOW

MUSCLE CARS \* HOT RODS \* CLASSICS \* CUSTOMS \* CARS \* TRUCKS \* BIKES



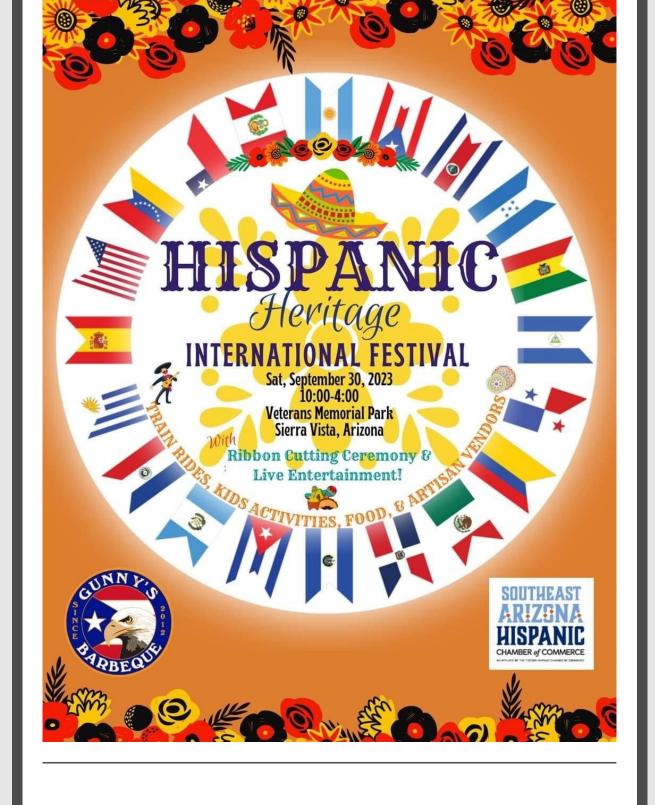
# SATURDAY, SEPT 23RD

10:00 AM STAGING 1:00 PM JUDGING 3:00 PM AWARDS TROPHIES RAFFLES MUSIC FOOD

VFW POST 1796 AMERICAN LEGION POST 90 34801 VELDA ROSE RD BLACK CANYON CITY, AZ

NO ENTRY FEE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- 1985 & EARLIER CAR & TRUCK MODELS; ANY YEAR MOTORCYCLE
- PRE-REGISTER BY EMAILING <u>RBISCHKE@OUTLOOK.COM</u>, OR STOP BY THE VFW POST AND COMPLETE AN ENTRY FORM
- ENTRANTS MUST SIGN A LIABILITY RELEASE UPON ARRIVAL QUESTIONS: CALL OR TEXT 608-220-8204; OR EMAIL <u>RBISCHKE@OUTLOOK.COM</u>



# SEP 30 - OCT 1 2023

DoubleTree Phoenix-Tempe 2100 S. Priest Drive

# **Schedule**

Sat: 9 AM Programs Start Sat: 5 PM Cocktail Hour Sat: 6 PM Dinner

Sun: 9 AM Council of Administration

SCAN QR CODE, OR VISIT VFWAZ.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION, BOOKING LINK AND BANQUET ORDER FORM







#### VFW AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GOLF TOURNAMENT

**OCTOBER 7, 2023** 

7:30 AM CHECK-IN ~ 9 AM Shot Gun Start - 4 Man Scramble

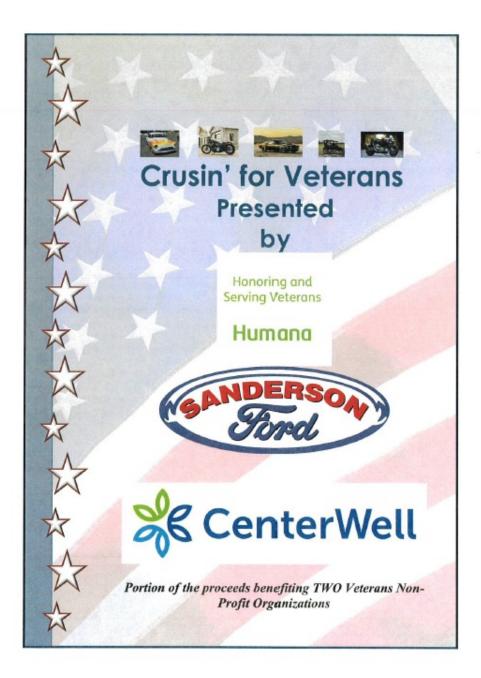
#### BIRDIE RANCH GOLF CLUB 2051 SILVER LAKE BLVD SHOW LOW, ARIZONA

Name:	
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Email:	
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Phone:	
Email:	
Name:	
Phone:	
Email:	

Name:	
Phone:	
Email:	

#### SIGN-UP DEADLINE: OCTOBER 2, 2023

For More Information, Contact TONI JOHNSON Cell: (520) 471-3172 Or Email: babyscooby76@gmail.cm



Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 10:00 am – 2:00 pm American Legion Post 29 6822 N 57<sup>th</sup> Dr. Glendale, AZ 85301

**FREE for all attendees** 

Military Branch and Veteran Organizations Chili Cook-off's with Cash Prizes, Veteran Owned Resources and Shopping Businesses, Food Trucks, Kids Area, Car Show and more!

\*All Make and Models

Car Show Entry: \$20 Pre-Reg Single by 9/23; \$25 by 10/1 \$35 Pre-Reg Double Space by 9/23; \$40 until 10/1

Motorcycle Entry: \$15 Pre-Reg by 09/23; \$20 until 10/1

1st, 2nd, 3rd place trophies \*Special Guest Judges\*

\*All Entries receive a Swag Bag with Dash Plaque and Event T-Shirt first 50 Entries\*

To register your car or motorcycle please go to:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/arizona-veteranscommunity-fair-tickets-418922758247



Optum









Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. Tucson Chapter 106 PO Box 40903 • Tucson, Arizona 85717-0903 www.NamJamTucson.org • www.VVA106.org • wva106@live.com

#### **2023 VOLUNTEER INFORMATION**

Dear NAMJAM® Volunteers,

We want to invite and welcome you to our 35th Annual NAMJAM<sup>®</sup> Concert and Celebration. This years' event is being held on October 28, 2023 from 10 am to 6 pm at Rillito Downs Horse Track located at First Avenue & River. The set-up of all equipment, displays and products can commence Friday, October 27. It is important that all set-up's be completed by 9 am October 28.

Volunteers are needed on October 27 for setup and on October 28 for day of the event. 2 hour shifts, duties include but are not limited to: assisting vendors unloading and loading; stocking beverage booths with ice and product; trash detail; greeters and Chapter booth operations.

Interested in volunteering? Please contact Jim Barnhart at 404-2040 or Terry Byron at 982-0023.

See you at NAM to SAND JAM 2023 and thank you for your support in making this a great event in the city of Tucson!

The Vietnam Veterans of America is a non-profit organization, Chapter 106 FID # 52-1389485, Group Exemption # 3202 for tax-deductible contributions.

Jim Barnhart NAMJAM® Director 520-404-2040 Terry Byron NAMJAM® Volunteer 520-982-0023

#### VFW AUXILIARY 3632 TEMPE AZ



# 2023 BOXES FOR THE TROOPS EVENT

# November 18, 2023 Packing Party

Nov 18, 2023 1-4pm @ AL Post 2

#### 2125 S Industrial Park Ave, Tempe AZ 85282

Goal : Send 100 Boxes to our troops overseas.

### Donate funds @ paypal.me/3632vfwaux

Shipping cost will be around \$2120 Donate needed items from Our Amazon wish list @ https://a.co/byQfOpB



Your donated items will be sent directly to the VFW Auxiliary.

Items can also be dropped off at AL Post 2 in collection bins.

Please send us Names and Address of Service Members deployed over seas so we can bless them with a box from home.

# Awards Voice of Democracy Patriot's Pen

enc

Hilton Phoenix Airport Jan 6 Conference & Banquet Jan 7 Council of Administration Rooms: \$159 + tax Room Reservation Deadline: December 13, 2023 Banquet: \$53 before Nov 20, increases after





## RAFFLE

2 Person Hanging Egg Chair with Stand for Outdoor, Patio Hand Made Rattan Wicker Double Egg Swing Chairs Hammock Chair with UV Resistant Cushion and Metal Frame, Porch Swing Loveseat for Backyard



Brand New – Still in the Box Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 Drawing will be held at Winter Conference in January of 2024 See one of the Department Officers for Tickets



Loews Ventana Canyon Tucson May 29 - June 2

Standard Room \$104 per night Reservations Close on May 7

#### PROPERTY FEATURES

- Group Rate available May 25-June 3
- Nightly Resort Fee is waived. (may appear on booking confirmation)
- Ten Percent (10%) off onsite food and beverage outlets via coupon supplied at check in (excludes alcohol)
- Fifteen Percent (15%) off spa treatments (does not include promotions, packages and retail)
- Special Green Fees



Scan QR code, or visit vfwaz.com for more information, booking link and banquet order form

AZ	Department President's Shirt 2023-2024 The shirt is Navy Blue Polo with red shoulders shirt with 3 buttons				-
Ladies Size		Quantity	Size	Price	
Small to XL	\$25				
2XL – 4XL	\$30		<u></u>		
Men's Size		Quantity	Size	Price	
Small to XL	\$25				
2XL – 4XL	\$30				
Totals				\$	
Name:			P0	ost / Auxiliary #	
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Mailing Address:					
Paid Check #: _					
Send the comple	ted form wit	h payment to:			
Bambi Joh 2319 N. C Apache Ju		85119			
		vzzrd2@hotmail.co	m or call me at	480-318-2131	
Questions - pleas	se email at <u>v</u>				

COMMANDER'S SHRT.
Bill Schaeffler
2023-2024
\$30 ALL SIZES
Name: Phone: Email:
Size: Post # (for info only)
Send check payable to VFW Dept of AZ
to Department Headquarters
Shirts run LARGE

Shirt Fundraiser for Kim Harney to help with cost of Incoming National President's Celebration at 2027 National Convention in Wisconsin				
	c	Got freedom? Thank a vet		
All shirts are 4XL.	men's sizes.	Cost is \$20 regardless of size plus \$5 for mailing. Sizes ar	e Small	
Quantity	Size	Price		
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VFWSTORI Item No. Size	<b>ELORG</b> Order online: vfwstore.org Qty Price	Order by phone: 1.833.VFW.VETS (1.833.839.8387)	Order by fax: 1.816.968.1115	Order by mail: VFW Member Service Center 406 W. 34th Street Kansas City, MO 64111
		Address City	State	Zip
Shipping & Handling           Up to \$10.00.         \$4.00           \$10.01 to \$25.00.         \$7.00           \$25.01 to \$50.00.         \$9.00           \$50.01 to \$75.00.         \$12.00           \$75.01 to \$100.00.         \$15.00           \$20.01 to \$200.00.         \$17.00           \$20.01 to \$300.00.         \$17.00           \$200.01 to \$300.00.         \$19.00           \$300.01 & Over.         \$24.00           \$8H rates valid thru \$/31/23         \$1/23	Product Total MO Residents only add 9.85% sales tax Shipping & Handling Total	Email CREDIT CARE Card # Exp. Date (MM Signature	) MC Visa	Discover AmEx

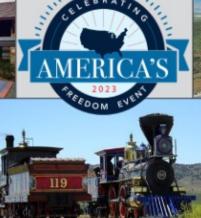
## VFW AUXILIARY 11th CELEBRATING AMERICA'S FREEDOM EVENT GOLDEN SPIKE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK SEPTEMBER 18, 2023



WHEN: 9/18/23 9/17: Arrivals 9/18: Golden Spike National Historical Park 9/19: Departures

WHERE:

Golden Spike National Historical Park Promontory, Utah



CAFE Registration is \$30 per person and includes transportation to the park. Register in MALTA from 6/1/23 to 8/18/23. Bring spending money for food trucks & souvenirs.



Find more information about the location, visit the Golden Spike National Historical Park website: <u>www.nps.gov/gosp/</u> <u>index.htm</u>



#### HYATT REGENCY SALT LAKE CITY 170 South West Temple Salt Lake City, Utah 84101



Accomodations: 1 King Bed - \$169 2 Queen Beds - \$169

Reserve by 8/18/23 Group Code: G-VFFW Hyatt Regency Hotel Booking Online: www.hyatt.com/en-US/ group-booking/SLCRS/G-VFFW Or call: 1-801-596-1234

Questions? Email: SLCRS-RFP@ hyatt.com VFW Auxiliary Mid-Year 2024 February 12-17, 2024 5-night cruise round trip from Port Canaveral:

**Royal Caribbean's Mariner of the Seas** 



#### Reserve your spot today for \$150.00 per person

Feb 12-17, 2024

Arrangements by: Veterans Travel Service, Inc. 406 W 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 106 Kansas City MO 64111 (800)325-9377 <u>Val@vtstvl.com</u>



#### Prices are per person.

#### What's included:

- Deluxe Beverage package/ per person
- Taxes and port fees
- Gratuities
- · Cocktail party for the group/may have to be split into two conferences.
- 530p dining for the entire group.
- Airport transfers if airline tickets are purchased through VTS.

Arrangements by: Veterans Travel Service, Inc. 406 W 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 106 Kansas City MO 64111 (800)325-9377 <u>Val@vtstvl.com</u>

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary in Arizona | 326 E. Burrows St., Tucson, AZ 85704

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