

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
Department of South Dakota
General Orders and Bulletin
#6 – January 2017



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**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

General Orders Number 6 – January 2017

Must be read at the first meeting following receipt before being filed for reference

HAPPY NEW YEAR and CONGRATULATIONS! We are now half-way through our Auxiliary year. We have accomplished much, but we have much more to do, which I know we can and will do.

MEMBERSHIP: As of January 1, 2017, South Dakota's membership stands at 92.69%. Congratulations to the Auxiliaries obtaining 100% and 100% Plus, and congratulations to District 8 for attaining 100%. Everyone else is not far behind, but the last 10% always seems to be the hardest to achieve. Membership Stats are in this Bulletin, so everyone can see where they stand in their Auxiliary and District. Let's strive to reach that 100% Plus mark AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I'm asking all members, Auxiliaries and Districts, to reach out to unpaid members by mail, email, phone or personal contact to get the dues collected. It is EVERYONE'S duty and responsibility. It won't be a hard task if we all work together. Don't forget to recruit new members, which is always a constant thing to do. The new Life Member fees have been released. In this Bulletin, you will find the latest Member/Transfer Application, Membership Update Form, and Brochure Order Form. There is no charge for new Auxiliary Membership forms, so I ask that each Auxiliary order some at your earliest convenience.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN REPORT FORM: To date, Secretary Nancy Chester has received this form from the following Auxiliaries: Yankton; Beresford; Vermillion; Brookings; Brandon (but no addresses); Watertown; Redfield; Eureka; Mitchell; Pierre, Burke and Sturgis. The form is once again in this Bulletin. Please complete and either mail or email to Secretary Nancy Chester immediately. If the forms are received by March 1st, I will advise all Program and Awards Chairmen to remove your Auxiliary from the list of eligible Auxiliaries to receive awards. If this seems harsh, I'm sorry, but these forms were to have been submitted by June 1, 2016.

LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE AND AWARDS LUNCHEON: I hope to see a good turnout for the Legislative Conference and Voice of Democracy, Patriots' Pen and Teachers of the Year Awards Luncheon January 29 and 30, 2017, AmericInn, Fort Pierre, SD.

STANDING RULES: The Standing Rules proposed changes can be found in this Bulletin. Please review the same with your Auxiliary, and if you have any concerns or suggestions, contact your Council Member as these proposals will be voted on at the Council Meeting on January 29.

AGAIN CONGRATULATIONS FOR ALL YOU DO and KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK – TOGETHER WE WILL ACHIEVE.

There will be no General Orders for the month of February, but Auxiliaries will receive communications from me via email, and don't forget to check SD's Facebook page (VFW Auxiliary – Department of South Dakota).

By Order Of:
Karen Sharp
SD VFW Auxiliary President

Attest:
Nancy Chester
SD VFW Auxiliary Secretary



KAREN'S FLUTTERS

January 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas, and that you are all weathering the weather we've had since in good shape.

January 8 – District 10 Mid-winter Meeting in Rapid City

January 9 and 10 – Hospital Visits – Fort Meade and Hot Springs

January 15 – District 2 Mid-winter Meeting in Sioux Falls

January 29 and 30 – Legislative Conference and VOD/PP and Teacher of Year Awards Luncheon – Fort Pierre

February 19 – District 1 Mid-winter Meeting in Beresford

During the Legislative Conference in Fort Pierre, we will once again be having a Silent Auction. It seems to be something that many look forward to each year. Please bring your item or items with you when you come to Fort Pierre, and if you are unable to attend, please send with someone else from your Post or Auxiliary.

For Ways and Means, there will be a Super Bowl board circulated during the Legislative Conference. Yes, we know it's not Super Bowl Sunday, but it worked last year, so we're going to try again this year.

Corsages and boutonnieres will be provided to the District Voice of Democracy and Patriots' Pen students as well as for the Teachers of the Year. There is no charge for these, but we do ask that Posts, Auxiliaries and/or Districts consider making a donation to help cover the cost. Checks can be made payable to VFW Post 2038 Auxiliary – Pierre.

On Sunday, January 29, there will be a bake potato bar available for lunch for a free will donation.

Don't forget to make your donations to our Restricted Funds, i.e. Hospital; Americanism, which funds the awards for Patriots' Pen and Patriotic Art Contest; Veterans & Family Support Scholarship, which funds the SD Continuing Education Scholarship. There is also always need for donations to the State Fair, too.

In February, our District 23 Nat'l. Rep. Vickie Rosse, Sr. Vice Carrie Alm, Chief of Staff Jan Endes, Historian Linda Fox and husband, Dick, and our Commander Dennis and myself will be attending the National Auxiliary Mid-winter Conference, which is a Caribbean Cruise. Yes, it sounds really good right now considering the cold weather. If you have anything you want any of us to address at the conference, please let us know.

Immediately after the cruise, Commander Dennis and I will be attending the National Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, and after 25 years, we will finally have the privilege of escorting SD's Voice of Democracy winner in the Parade of Winners on Monday, February 27, 2017. We are excited to say the least. Keep an eye out for word of live streaming the event as they have been doing the past few years.

NOW IS THE TIME – Family: Support – Serve – Honor and Respect

Karen

Membership Statistics

South Dakota -- 01-01-2017

Auxiliary*	Life	New	Rejoin	Continuous	Total	Prior Total	Percentage
791 Yankton	196	4	1	143	344	395	87.08%
915 Elk Point	24	0	0	22	46	52	88.46%
2821 Parker (canceled)	7	0	0	0	7	29	24.13%
2975 Beresford	54	0	0	38	92	110	83.63%
3061 Vermillion	53	0	0	32	85	92	92.39%
3164 Canton	64	2	0	33	99	103	96.11%
3728 Freeman (canceled)	11	0	0	0	11	24	45.83%
6149 Alcester	27	0	0	17	44	44	100.00%
Total - DSD01	436	6	1	285	728	849	85.74%
628 Sioux Falls	263	3	0	170	436	522	83.52%
2118 Brookings	95	5	0	102	202	208	97.11%
2638 Madison	65	0	0	93	158	162	97.53%
3351 Flandreau	14	0	0	18	32	35	91.42%
4726 Brandon	36	0	1	16	53	52	101.92%
Total - DSD02	473	8	1	399	881	979	89.98%
750 Watertown	135	7	1	87	230	237	97.04%
3342 Sisseton	87	7	0	58	152	146	104.10%
3486 Milbank	54	0	0	50	104	103	100.97%
3507 Britton	7	0	0	37	44	52	84.61%
4690 Webster	35	0	0	34	69	80	86.25%
5022 Summit (Disbanded)	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.00%
6361 Goodwin	21	0	0	11	32	33	96.96%
Total - DSD04	339	14	1	277	631	656	96.18%
17 Aberdeen	161	0	0	33	194	202	96.03%
1776 Huron	88	1	0	42	131	138	94.92%
2741 Mobridge (Disbanded)	4	0	0	0	4	26	15.38%
2755 Redfield	59	0	0	90	149	161	92.54%
3179 Faulkton	38	0	0	104	142	143	99.30%
3214 Miller	36	0	0	26	62	68	91.17%
5126 Eureka	12	0	0	20	32	36	88.88%
6481 Turton	7	0	0	21	28	29	96.55%
8530 Gettysburg	66	0	0	72	138	132	104.54%
Total - DSD06	471	1	0	408	880	935	94.11%
2750 Mitchell	69	0	0	28	97	105	92.38%

2966	Scotland	62	1	0	33	96	100	96.00%
3239	Lake Andes	28	1	0	53	82	86	95.34%
3298	Pakston	27	0	0	6	33	39	84.61%
6554	Plankinton	83	0	0	14	97	96	101.04%
6895	Tyndall	28	0	0	13	41	43	95.34%
7319	Wagner	75	0	0	31	106	106	100.00%
Total - DSD07		372	2	0	178	552	575	96.00%
2038	Pierre	206	1	0	82	289	286	101.04%
4674	Winner	290	3	1	79	373	372	100.26%
9950	Burke	76	1	0	35	112	116	96.55%
Total - DSD08		572	5	1	196	774	774	100.00%
1273	Rapid City	255	1	0	74	330	387	85.27%
1640	Hot Springs (Canceled)	72	0	0	0	72	82	87.80%
2730	Sturgis	94	5	0	105	204	202	100.99%
2969	Lemmon	15	0	0	10	25	30	83.33%
3312	Belle Fourche	23	1	0	12	36	39	92.30%
3442	Custer	116	2	2	24	144	170	84.70%
5860	Spearfish	67	0	0	37	104	121	85.95%
5969	Deadwood	121	3	0	120	244	251	97.21%
9120	Quinn	15	0	0	8	23	23	100.00%
Total - DSD10		778	12	2	390	1182	1305	90.57%
SD		2	0	0	0	2	1	200.00%
Total - SD		3443	48	6	2133	5630	6074	92.69%
Grand Total		3443	48	6	2133	5630	6074	92.69%

Membership Period: 7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017
As of Month: January
Report Type: Department
Results Definition: Department, District and Auxiliary Totals
Organization(s): SD

* When text is red, the auxiliary is canceled as of the date the report is being run.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

**Brochure Order Form
Available for free:**



Auxiliary Membership

Tells about the organization and the benefits of belonging. Includes application.
#9052



Facts Leaflet

An excellent tool for publicity, recruiting and general information.
It is full of the previous year's accomplishments.
#9086



Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest Brochure

Information about the Scholarship and application
#9078

Order Number

Quantity

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Daytime Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Auxiliary Number _____

Member Number _____

Mail to:
VFW Auxiliary
406 W. 34th St., 10th Fl.
Kansas City, MO 64111

E-mail: info@vfwauxiliary.org

MEMBER/TRANSFER APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Recruited/Recommended by: _____

No. _____ City _____ State _____ Member ID (If already a member) _____

Annual Membership Life Rejoined Previous Member No. _____, Previous Auxiliary _____

Member-at-Large Life Member-at-Large in Department of _____ or in National

These fields required. Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____
Address _____ Male _____ or Female _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone (____) _____ - _____ E-mail _____

POST AFFILIATED: (*Must be a member to the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Membership ID _____

NON AFFILIATED: (*Veteran is not a member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Post _____ (If applicable)

LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER, Previous Auxiliary _____ (Note: Eligibility proof and investigating committee not needed.)

Accepting Treasurer's Signature _____ Date _____

ANNUAL TRANSFER, Previous Auxiliary _____ Paying _____ or Nonpaying _____? (check one)

ANNUAL TRANSFER CONVERTING TO LIFE, Previous Auxiliary _____ (Fill out Life Membership information below.)

Name of campaign ribbons or medals: _____

Dates of Service ____/____/____ to ____/____/____ Location: _____

I attest that I am a citizen of the United States or a U.S. National, and am at least 16 years of age. I further state that I believe in God. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further state that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Investigating Committee: 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws. Rejected Election Date _____ Obligated Date _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP Check here if this is a gift.

Card will be mailed to the Auxiliary Treasurer.

Payment: Cash Check Visa

Mastercard Discover

Life Membership Fee \$ _____

Name on credit card _____

Billing address for card _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

C. C. # _____

CVV Code _____ Exp. ____/____/____

Signature _____ Date _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ACH (Bank withdrawal)

Name of Bank _____

Bank Routing No. _____

Account No. _____

Attach voided check HERE. (Required)



LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES

Effective 1/1/2017
Attained age at 12/31
of year applying for
Life Membership.
Through 20
21-25 \$253
26-30 \$242
31-35 \$230
36-40 \$219
41-45 \$213
46-50 \$201
51-55 \$196
56-60 \$184
61-65 \$173
66-70 \$161
71-75 \$150
76-80 \$132
81-85 \$109
86-90 \$86
86-90 \$69
91 and over \$58

OBLIGATION

In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never wrong or defraud this organization nor a member thereof nor permit either to be wronged if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible, according to our Bylaws. I further state that I believe in God. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise. Signature _____ (Must be signed by all members.)

VFW Auxiliary Membership Update Form

Rev. 12-16

REQUIRED FIELDS:

Member's Current Name _____ **Membership ID No.** _____

Current Address _____

E-mail Address _____ **Phone Number ()** _____

Current Auxiliary # _____ **Department of** _____ **Date of Birth** _____

NAME CHANGE Former Name _____
First Last

ADDRESS CHANGE

CONTINUOUS ANNUAL DUES (no pre-printed card)

CONVERT TO LIFE MEMBER

Life Membership Fee \$ _____

Check here if this is a gift. It will be mailed to the Auxiliary Treasurer.

Payment Methods:

Check: Make check payable to: **VFW Auxiliary**

Credit Card ___ VISA ___ MasterCard ___ Discover

Name as it appears on the card: _____

Address associated with the card holder: _____

Credit Card Number _____

CVV Code ___ ___ ___ (3 digit code shown on back of credit card) Expiration ____ / ____
Month / Year

Card Holder's Signature _____ Date _____

ACH (Bank withdrawal) Name of Bank _____ Routing Number _____

Attached voided check HERE (required) Account Number _____

REPLACE MY LIFE MEMBER CARD

NAME CHANGES OR LOST CARD REQUESTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CHECK made payable to VFW Auxiliary for \$5.00 or complete the payment information above if using a credit card or ACH. Please send directly to National Headquarters at 406 W. 34th St., Kansas City, MO 64111.

DEATH REPORT Date of Death _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES	
Effective 1/1/2017	
Attained age at 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.	
Through 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota
 2016 - 2017 Appointed Program Chairman

Please print clearly (use back if needed) and return to: Nancy Chester, PO Box 55, Fort Pierre, SD 57532; by June 10, 2016
 or email to: nancysdvfwla@pie.midco.net

Auxiliary Number and City _____ District# _____

President : _____ Secretary: _____ Treasurer: _____

Program	Name	Address	City, State, Zip	Home Phone#	Cell Phone#	Email
Veterans & Family Support						
Americanism						
Patriotic Instructor						
Hospital						
Legislative						
Membership						
Schorships						
Youth						

STANDING RULES REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, October 19, 2016
At the Cerny Home, Yankton, SD

(Committee Named by President Sharp at Fall Council, September 2016)

Present: Chairman Pat Cerny, Sharon Mitchell, Karen Sharp and Carrie Alm. Present via speaker phone was Wanda Mix.

II Mileage and Expenses of Department Officers.

- a. Move language to State Fair and reletter a through f to a through e.
In new c. change wording to read **Fall and Legislative/Midwinter Council of Administration.**

Page 2 B. Mileage All Others (General Fund)

1. Change Chairman to **Chairmen**

Page 3

II Mileage and Expenses of Department Officer

- C. Hotel Allowances (General Fund) Add a new 4

4. Receipts for all hotel rooms must be submitted. Reimbursement is not to exceed \$70 per night.

III Travel (General Fund) In first sentence add **and/** Sentence would read When mileage **and/or** airfare is utilized, the least amount will be paid.

VI Funds and Expenditures (General Fund) Add new language (General Fund) **All expenses incurred, not covered by the budget, shall be submitted to the Budget Committee for approval and voted on by the Council of Administration.**

Then Delete D

Page 5

E Authorized Awards

2. Delete Twenty Five (\$25) and four (4) – new 2 will read
2 **Fifty Dollars (\$50) each – Voice of Democracy – remaining two (2) District winners.**
3. A. After Americanism delete , **taken from the Americanism Fund.**

VI Funds and Expenditures (General Fund)

Page 5

F. State Fair After yearly delete , if **VFW does not pay.**

Add two paragraphs

Department will pay one (1) round-trip mileage for an Assistant Chairman, and week gate pass, with funds coming from the State Fair Fund.

Department will pay round-trip mileage for Department President for one (1) day.

I 2. b Change Hailing to **Halling**

2. d Change Seventh (7th) to **Fifth (5th)**

Change J to K add a new J

J Program Chairmen (General Fund)

Each Program Chairman shall be allowed up to \$70 for supplies for their program.

New K 3. Delete remembrance, not to exceed (NTE) Fifteen Dollars (\$15). The sentence will now read: The Department Chaplain is responsible to send **a card** in case of hospitalization of the VFW Department

4. Delete and renumber remaining items.

5. Change seven to five and add the following so the last line will read **five (5) District Presidents, to be distributed as conveniently as possible.**

9. National Representative – The Department will pay registration fee for Fall Council of Administration and Legislative/Midwinter Conference.

L. Miscellaneous Allowances (Department Convention Fund)

New 4

4. Stipend – Assistant Treasurer – Ten (\$10) for services rendered at Department Convention.

L. Miscellaneous Allowances

Re-number old 4 through 8 to 5 through 9

9. Delete and reword to read – **Department Convention Committee to provide corsages and boutonnieres for Department President, Department Commander and National Representatives for banquet.**

VII Mailing

B. Delete Beginning with the 2015-16 year, and state sentence with Capitol T – The
Then at end of paragraph add **(2015-16)**

VIII Miscellaneous

B. Line 3 Change Chairman to Chairmen

C. Line 1 change cemetery to cemetery

X Hospital Fund expenditures (\$1.25 per member **donation**) change from obligation

A. 1. Delete Redfield

B. 1. Delete Redfield

D 4. F deleted Redfield

E 5. Change Ninety three and 75/100 to 130.00 so line now reads – Yankton Human Services Center – **One Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$130.00).**

E 6 Delete

G 3 line 2 delete s to read voucher

XI Miscellaneous – convention

C line two change Seven to Five Auxiliary memorial Service – One white carnation shall be placed for deceased members in each District – **Five (5)** Districts.

National Recruiter Trainer Update

January, 2017

I hope this finds all South Dakota VFW Auxiliary members in good health and hope the holiday season went well.

The annual Legislative Conference scheduled for January 29-20, 2017 at the Fort Pierre AmericInn will include several training sessions beginning at 9:00 am on Monday, January 30. There will be a Recruiter Training session, focusing on different aspects than in the past sessions. There will also be an opportunity for anyone who has not logged into the National website to do so. So, please plan on attending.

When recruiting new members, rejoins or converting annual members to Life members, remember that the Life membership fees have changed as of January 1, 2017. Included in this General Orders is the new one-page application, and the new brochures will be available at the Legislative Conference.

Let's not forget to contact those Life and annual members from the four Auxiliaries whose charters were turned in this last calendar year (Freeman, Hot Springs, Mobridge and Parker). Please keep in touch with your District Presidents regarding the possibility of these former members transferring to your Auxiliary.

As always, I would like to have members share recruiting/retention ideas and experiences. These ideas and experiences often help other Auxiliaries in achieving their goals – these may not be something they considered trying. Membership drives and information booths are a great start to reaching the 100% membership goal.

Nancy Worth

SD National Certified Recruiter Trainer



Date: November 14, 2016

To: VFW Department Commanders and Auxiliary Department Presidents in NH District 9
VFW Department Adjutants and Auxiliary Department Secretaries in NH District 9
VFW Department National Home Chairmen and Auxiliary VFS Chairmen in NH District 9

Subject: VFW National Home for Children Trustee Election 2017 – District 9

Dear Department Leadership:

The VFW National Home for Children Life Members from National Home District 9 (comprised of Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota) will elect a trustee to fill the 6 year trustee term which begins in October of 2017.

National Home Trustees hold a vital and prestigious position with a mandate to oversee, guide, promote and support the VFW National Home for Children. The newly elected District 9 Trustee will serve with eleven (11) other elected National Home District Trustees and five (5) ex-officio Trustees that include the VFW Commander-in-Chief, the Adjutant General, the Quartermaster General, the National President and the National Secretary/Treasurer.

VFW and VFW Auxiliary members seeking candidacy must meet the following requirements:

- Be a Life Member of the VFW National Home for Children for at least one year prior to nomination **and**
- Be a member in good standing of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or its Auxiliary **and**
- Must be a current member of a Department or Auxiliary that is within National Home District 9 and obtain the **written endorsement*** of his or her respective Department or Department Auxiliary **and**
- Must be a resident of the National Home District which he/she represents or must reside within a 50-mile commuting distance of the District (District 9).

**We encourage the Department Commander and Adjutant or President and Secretary to personally sign the endorsement letter or include a Cc line notifying each other of the written endorsement.*



Nominations for candidates to run for District 9 Trustee of the VFW National Home for Children Board of Trustees shall be submitted **in writing** on or before **June 1, 2017** to the Executive Director of the VFW National Home for Children. The written nomination must include the following requirements:

- Aforementioned written endorsement.
- A candidate biography - the biography must include the candidate's qualifications and may be no more than **two hundred (200)** words in length.
- All nomination materials **must include** the candidate's **address, phone number(s), email address and Post or Auxiliary affiliation.**

The Executive Director of the Home shall be responsible for forwarding copies of the candidate's materials to the President of the Board of Trustees of the National Home and the Adjutant General of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the National Secretary/Treasurer of its Auxiliary.

The candidate elected as the Home's District 9 Trustee will serve a six-year term and will travel to the National Home to attend the October 2017 board meetings beginning with a New Trustee Orientation on Thursday, October 26th, Board Committee Meetings and Board Meeting on Friday, October 27th and the Annual Meeting of the Life Members, Saturday, October 28th. Wednesday, October 25th and Saturday, October 29th are travel days. The VFW National Home for Children Board of Trustees meets up to four times annually.

We ask that you include this information in your announcements to allow ample time for candidates to prepare endorsements to meet the **June 1st, 2017** deadline. Please encourage qualified members in your Department with leadership skills and dedication to the National Home to seek nomination for the office of District 9 Trustee.

Email or phone Michelle Jones, Executive Secretary, at mjones@vfnationalhome.org or 517-663-7023 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Tweet".

Tom Tweet, President
VFW National Home for Children Board of Trustees

Cc: Tom Tweet, District #9 Trustee, VFW National Home for Children Board of Trustees
Bob Wallace, Adjutant General, VFW National Headquarters
Jan Owens, National Secretary/Treasurer, VFW Auxiliary
Jeanette Garcia, Veterans & Family Support Ambassador, VFW Auxiliary
Patrice Green, Executive Director, VFW National Home for Children

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota
VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2016- 2017

General Orders Bulletin # 6

January ,2017

As we enter January, there are a great many things we can do to make life a little brighter for those who need us. For those who have served, there will be the mandatory briefings on one major item, this is the time of the year when "life" can really hit home for Veterans and their families. Separations from family and the great unknown of the New Year. With so many Veterans returning to civilian life, the issues they deal with are many and compounded by those they associate with. Reintegration can be very challenging for the whole family, not just the Veteran. Some will struggle with this topic alone for years and we need to be there to help them through this process.

It is always important to remember that not everyone has the luxury of being home for the holidays and that our troops and their families sacrifice so much, so that we can enjoy the holidays with our families and friends. Please say a PRAYER or our veterans and soldiers and their families.

Our troops and their families need support now more than ever remember, to keep your Adopt-A-Unit active, must receive an annual Adopt-A-Unit activity report. Units in need of your help -- I have names of unit's that need your help or to adopt a unit.

Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship: Scholarship Details: Scholarships of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to qualified applicants. - Awarded scholarships are limited to one per family per semester. - Applications for the fall semester will be accepted January 1 through April 30. - Applications for the spring semester will be accepted August 1 through November 15. - Fall semester scholarships will be awarded in August, and spring semester scholarships will be awarded in January. - Scholarships must be used by the end of the school semester for which the veteran is applying or they will become null and void. - Scholarships are restricted for tuition and fees only and will be paid directly to accredited schools. Eligible Applicants Must: Be a citizen of the United States. - Be retired, honorably discharged, active duty, or a member of the National Guard or Reserve. - Have completed Basic Training and follow-on training (Advanced Individual Training, technical school, etc.). - Separated with or currently hold a military rank of E-5 or below. - Demonstrate a need for financial assistance. - Participate in, be accepted to or currently enrolled in a VA-approved program or school at an accredited post-secondary institution.

Involve the whole family in this program by sending care packages, cards and participating in your Post or Auxiliary's Buddy Poppy drive.

Buddy Poppy: Money received from the donations goes directly into the Relief Fund to assist veterans and their families. Write an article for your local newspaper to highlight this program. Think about using poppies for every season of the year in your decorations, contests, and promotions.

We are no longer collecting Campbell's Labels for Education for the VFW National Home for Children. This program ended last summer.

Please read and give the Year-end report to your Auxiliary Family & Support Person.

Thank you for the get well cards and phone calls the last few weeks.

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2016-2017

Patti Mitchell, Chairman

888 Slowacki Avenue, Grenville. SD 57239

cell phone # 605-280-0777

e-mail pattimitchell4@hotmail.com

**Veterans & Family Support
2016 -2017 YEAR - END REPORT**

(Please Use Additional Paper As Needed – preferably 8-1/2 x 11)

District _____ **Auxiliary** _____

Chairman's Name, Address and Phone Number:

Did your Auxiliary host /co-host with VFW fundraising activities for National Veterans Service?

Yes / No

Briefly described the best fundraising event hosted/co-hosted by your Auxiliary. _____

Did your Auxiliary make donations to SD President's Project of SD National Veterans Services? Yes _____ No _____ Total \$ _____

Did your Auxiliary make donations to VFW National Military Services?

Yes _____ No _____ Total \$ _____

Did your Auxiliary provide aid to veterans, active-duty military and/or their families? (i.e. meals, transportation, cards, packages, donations, etc.) _____

Total value of Donations and goods/service provided: \$ _____

No. of veterans/military personnel assisted: _____

Number of Veterans and Military personnel assisted: _____

Did your Auxiliary promote and/or make donations to the VFW National home for children?

Yes _____ No _____ Total \$ _____

Did your Auxiliary promote or use the Buddy Poppies throughout the year? Yes _____ No _____

How many Buddy Poppy's drives were held by your Auxiliary? _____

Briefly describe the best way your Auxiliary promoted the Buddy Poppy Program: _____

Did your Auxiliary participate in and/or sponsor events or projects for homeless veterans?

Yes _____ No _____ If yes, please describe (i.e., Stand Downs, Clothing Drives):

Did your Auxiliary host/co-host with the VFW fundraising activities for the VFW Veterans and Military Support programs: (i.e., Unmet Needs, Operation Uplink, etc.) Yes / No

How did your Auxiliary publicize these programs? _____

Number of veterans and military personnel served and/or assisted by **ALL ACTIVITIES** under this program: _____

Did your Auxiliary participate in or promote the Sports Clip Help a Hero Scholarship: Yes / No

Did your Auxiliary participate in the Military & Veterans Family Helpline from the VFW National Home: Yes / No

Did your Auxiliary participate in or promote sharing the impact of veterans, the military and their families? Yes/No

Did your Auxiliary participate in or donate to South Dakota Day County Coyote Hunt? Yes/ No
If yes, Total \$ _____

How did your Auxiliary publicize these programs? Enclose examples of your newspaper articles, posters, etc. _____

Thank You

Patti Mitchell
Veterans & Family Support
888 Slowacki Ave
Grenville, South Dakota 57239
Email : pattimitchell4@hotmail.com
Phone : 605-280-0777 cell
605-486-0016 Office

(Updated January 2017)

*VFW Auxiliary Department of South Dakota
Americanism General Orders
January 2017
Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes
Now is the time: Family-Support-Serve-Honor and Respect*



Happy New Year!

Wow! Where has the time gone! With the New Year upon us it is time to get out and promote Americanism and Patriotism in our schools, communities and also refresh our Auxiliary members on understanding Auxiliary Traditions. How easy it is for us to get a little rusty on protocol for meetings and so forth. If you want to find out the do's and don'ts go to the National Auxiliary web page and they are listed and I am enclosing it in the newsletter. Please take time to review. I especially enjoy watching the floor work at state convention. If you are looking for a training session for your local meeting or district meeting what a great refresher tool.

I was attending my nephew's football game this fall and as the National Anthem was being played I was standing next to a lady that I had no idea who she was. As we are standing for the National Anthem out of the corner of my eye I saw a young man maybe 10 or 12 years old standing with his friends and he was twirling his coat around and not paying any attention whatsoever. My blood was boiling and it was all I could do to walk over to this young man and inform him that he needed to pay his proper respect. The lady and I struck up a conversation and I mentioned how this upset me and she said her as well and the same thoughts were running through her mind. We talked a bit more and I told her I belonged to the VFW Auxiliary and was the patriotism instructor for the state and she belongs to the American Legion. She told me of some of the things she did and so forth and we exchanged emails and she sent me an idea for a program that they do in schools. They do the Military Child's setting in the schools. My mind was going and I am thinking how appropriate this would be to present in our schools for the

students that have someone deployed. I am enclosing the information on this in the newsletter. By striking up a conversation with someone I was able to get some new and exciting ideas to promote Americanism and Patriotism.

We have several holidays coming up that you can fly the American flag in the next couple of months- New Year's Day, Inauguration Day and Martin Luther King Day. Remember the flag should be displayed from sunrise to sunset when weather permits.

I am also enclosing information that we received from the National Patriotism Instructor Deb Hanes regarding Understanding Auxiliary Traditions. This is a most interesting and I hope everyone takes time to review.

I hope that everyone is keeping track of all the activities they are doing. Work on your reports monthly or keep a log of all the things you do. It makes the year end reporting a lot easier.

Don't forget Legislative Conference on January 29th and 30th in Pierre. I hope to be able to meet as many of you as possible at this time. If you have any questions or need help with anything please let me know.

If all the Americanism Instructors could send me contact information so I can contact you this spring for your information for the reports.

Stay warm everyone and think warmer weather.

Pam Vissia
Patriotic and Americanism Instructor
pvissia@siouxvalley.net





Understanding Auxiliary Traditions

Welcome! We want you to have this guide to help you learn about our Ritual and some of the special things we do at our meetings. Be sure to ask a fellow member if you have any questions!

Entering a Meeting

- On entering the meeting room, members will show their membership card to the Guard and proceed to a seat.

Raps of the Gavel

- One rap = Attention
- Two raps = Rise
- Three raps = Be seated



Attention & Parade Rest

- “Attention” in the Ladies Auxiliary VFW means hands at side, head up with eyes looking straight forward.
- “Parade rest” means the left foot is moved slightly to the side while bringing the arms to the small of the back. Clasp the left thumb in the right hand. The head is bowed slightly during prayer.

Showing Proper Respect to the Flag

- During our Ritualistic meeting, the President will say “Salute” when the flags enter and leave the room, as well as when we say the Pledge of Allegiance and sing the national anthem. Salute the Flag by placing the palm of the right hand flat over the heart.
- During Auxiliary meetings, the heart salute shall be used at all times where the salute is used.
- A member who is also a veteran may use the military salute.
- When the Flag is displayed AND the national anthem is played and/or sung, all present should face the Flag and salute.
- When the Flag is NOT displayed and the national anthem is played and/or sung, all present should face the music and salute.
- Members should stand when the flags are moving.



Showing Proper Respect for the Altar & Bible

- Members will remain seated while the Chaplain opens and closes the Bible, provided the Colors are not at the Altar.
- Whenever the Chaplain is opening and closing the Bible, everyone should stop all movement and talking.
- Members will not cross between the President's station and the altar, as this is considered sacred ground symbolizing where our comrades who have answered the final roll call are at rest. However, when the Bible is closed, members may pass through this area.



Addressing the President & Making a Motion

- All remarks must be addressed to the President and not by one member to another. A member wishing to address the President will rise and say, "Madam President," but shall not speak further until she has been recognized by the President
- Making motions is your right as a member. To make a motion, you should stand and be recognized by the President and then proceed.



VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA HOSPITAL

Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes

Now is the Time: Family-Support-Serve-Honor and Respect

Bulletin #6, JANUARY, 2017

Happy New Year! What are your plans for the 2017 year? Hopefully you are able to find yourselves volunteering more. Here are some things you can do to make a veteran's day just a little bit better.

- Shop at a veteran-owned business!
- Shovel snow, do housework or yard work for disabled or wounded veterans and/or families of deployed service members.
- Deliver meals and/or baked goods to those in need (homeless veterans, hospitalized veterans, home-bound veterans, and families of deployed service members.)
- Host a drive for sample-size toiletries to give to homeless veterans. Encourage local businesses, churches, schools and other community organizations to join the Auxiliary in its efforts!
- Package toiletries and other necessities in "Blessing Bags" and provide them to homeless shelters.
- Adopt an active-duty military or veteran family (or families) and provide them with gifts and a special meal.
- Create holiday-themed care packages to send to deployed service members. Include seasonal candies and goodies, holiday-related DVDs, stockings and more!
- Host a party for children of veterans and/or deployed service members.
- Facilitate a "creation station." Invite local businesses, churches, schools and other community organizations to your Auxiliary to make crafts that will be given to hospitalized veterans, home-bound veterans and/or families of deployed service members.

[VFW Auxiliary Enewsletter](#)

Janice Holm 2016-2017 Hospital Program Ambassador says she is receiving some very creative promotions for the Hospital Program. Fresh ideas always seem to inspire members to participate. So, keep up the great work! In this bulletin, we will look at meeting the Veterans Voices Writing Project goal.

What is the Veterans Voices Writing Project (VVWP)?

- Mission: To enable military veterans to experience solace and satisfaction through our writing program.
- Vision: A world where people appreciate that writing can both heal and entertain. The Project encourages veterans to send their stories, essays and poems to the VVWP headquarters for potential publication in Veterans' Voices magazine which has been publishing veterans writings for over 70 years, made possible by ongoing contributions to VVWP.
- Donate: Every contributor whose story, poem, or drawing is published receives \$10.00. Contributors of published photographs receive \$5.00. You can make a donation from your Relief Fund to sponsor these publishing awards to the veterans submitting their stories, poems, and photographs as well as special prizes for entries under various categories.
- Volunteer: Some of the suggested ways to volunteer are: Be a writing aide - Start a writing group with other veterans in your area - Share their mission and information with other veterans, their families and community - to Volunteer within the VA System: Email volunteer@veteransvoices.org for more information. Encourage veterans and active service military members to write or submit artwork (which includes photos) for publication. The online submission address is: info@veteransvoices.org.

*Did you know? Volunteering is a perfect avenue for youth to experience the workplace as to how each department and member of the staff has a bearing on the overall operation of a business. It will also expose them to a possible career in medicine. There are a host of career opportunities the youth can learn about and possibly pursue as they consider their future.

Time to start planning your Valentine's Day parties. Encourage your Auxiliaries to send Valentines to the VA facilities. Talk to the activities director at your local facility and see if they have any ideas for you or maybe you can help them with a party that they already have planned. If your area is like ours, there are several shut-in Veteran's that would love a visit. Remember that a simple card for a birthday or seasonal event is always appreciated. Everyone loves to receive mail!

Leanne Payne - Dept. of South Dakota Hospital chairman

Berakhah House

Household items:

Alarm clocks

Bathroom rug

Coffee maker

Laundry soap

Pots, pans, etc.

Kitchen utensils, mixing spoons,
serving spoons, spatulas, peelers,
graters,

mixing bowls, measure cups, baking
sheet pans, etc

Kitchen knives

Cutting boards

Toasters

Microwave

Dishes-plates, bowls, cups, tumblers

Food Storage containers

Dish drainers

Colanders

Waste cans (Kitchen and bath)

Paper Towels

Paper Napkins

Gift Cards- HyVee, Walmart

Postage Stamps

We do not accept these items at this time:

Large furniture

Older TV's

Clothing

Bedding/Sheets

Luggage

Books/Magazines

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
Department of South Dakota

General Orders #6

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

Tomorrow is Today – Now is the Time – Family-Support, Serve, Honor & Respect

It is hard to believe that 2017 is already here. I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday and that you are ready to hit the last half of the 2016-2017 year running. The election is over and we have cast our votes. Whether your party won or did not win is no longer that important, what is important is that we work together to make our nation prosper. Our job as a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary is to continue to fight for our Veterans and Active Duty Service Members, to make sure they are getting a 'square deal'. We need to be involved in the Legislative Program and make it work.

On the National Level, our Senators and Congresswoman remain the same. We are very lucky to have three individuals in office for South Dakota who feel strongly about Veterans issues, but, they still need to hear your voice and my voice, they need to know how we feel and what we want them to do to make life better for our Veterans!

We have many new South Dakota Legislators and they are also working for us and need to hear what we have to say. There are over 400 lobbyists in South Dakota, what they want is not always good for our State. They come from all over the United States and represent many different companies, individuals, political groups and pressure groups. We must get informed and stay informed as citizens of this State.

In our State we can meet with our State Legislators when they are home on weekends from Pierre. Cracker Barrels are held all over the State and we can attend these sessions, usually Saturday mornings (check your local newspapers for time and place). They start up in January. It is important to be knowledgeable about Bills coming before the Legislators in Pierre, they affect everything from our environment to immunizations for our children and grandchildren and they concern our Veterans. You can get copies of these Bills and read up on them, stay informed, the life of you and your family may depend on it.

Legislative will be held in Pierre in January, we honor our Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and teachers at the same time. We will meet with the VFW and hear about the Bills which concern our Veterans and our opinions will be heard by the Legislators. We will have the opportunity to talk with them on Monday evening at the Mixer, attend and talk to your representatives and let them know that we want them to be Veteran Strong.

I hope to see many of you in Pierre. Lets make sure our voices are heard and that they pay attention to what is needed for those who have fought to keep us free!!!

Loyally,

Sandi Moss

Sandi Moss

Legislative Chairman - 10577 Dogwood Lane, Rapid City, SD 57702-8625
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Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes

Now is the Family: Support – Honor – Serve – Honor and Respect

General Orders Bulletin #6 January

MEMBERSHIP – LEADERSHIP

One of the most important skills any successful membership recruiter has is the ability to identify prospective members “Hot Button” . Each potential member has a “need” that has to be filled and the VFW Auxiliary can fill that need.

Members sign up for a variety of different reasons. Membership recruiter must identify which reason will resonate with the potential member standing in front of her or him. This where find the “Hot Button” can help you “Sell” VFW Auxiliary Membership.

Which membership benefit will entice the person to join? Interested in volunteering on behalf of the veterans?

Tell them about the Hospital Program. Looking for affordable insurance? We offer discounted policies for Life, Health, Accident, Long-Term Care and Dental. Searching for Leadership opportunities? There are multiple ways for members to acquire new skills including volunteer, management, fundraising, and community outreach.

So, How can we identify each individual “Hot Button”

- The first step is simple: ASK! Open ended questions can provide a wealth of information. When someone tells you they’re not a member, try asking “Why Not”?
- Step two is even easier : Find out what benefits he or she is interested in.
- Once that is established, you can move onto step three: FILL THE VOID! Offer one of the many benefits you feel is most important to them and they will likely join

By tailoring your recruiting message to the individual of each potential member you Auxiliaries Membership totals should increase. You will never get 100% of the people you ask to join, but as you get better at identifying the “Hot Button” you will get much closer.

We received \$200.00 for the first quarter membership award. We have a chance at \$350.00 for the second quarter membership award.

Department Membership Chairman 2016-2017

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UNWAVERING SUPPORT for UNCOMMON HEROS

NOW IS THE TIME Family, Support, Serve, Honor & Respect

SCHOLARSHIPS GENERAL ORDERS #6

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. 2016 sure went by fast; I can't believe we are starting 2017 already. Two of our scholarships have been completed at the local level and the District level. It will be exciting to hear who the winners are for the VOD and PP at the Dept. level in Pierre in Jan. I wish every District good luck and hope your student is the winner.

Our next scholarship is Continuing Education. The application must be received to National Headquarters by Feb. 15. This scholarship is open to any Auxiliary member (who has belonged for at least a year), their spouse, son or daughter with a financial need. The entrant must be at least 18 years old, complete the application and submit an essay of 300 words or less. An application can be found on the website at, www.vfwauxiliary.org. Send one copy to National and one copy to me, Donita Mullinix, 104 W. Lincoln, Beresford, SD 57004. The Dept. award is \$300 and the National awards are; 1st place is \$10,000, 2nd place is \$5,000, 3rd place is \$2,500 and 4th place is \$1,500.

The last scholarship is Young American Creative Patriotic Art. The deadlines are, March 31 to the local Auxiliary, April 15 to the Department, and May 5 to National. This is open to all students in grades 9-12. For more information and specifics go to www.vfwauxiliary.org.

Here is a list of the awards I will be handing out:

1. An award will be given to each chairman in the four membership categories for the best promotion of the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen program.
2. An award to each chairman in the above categories with the best promotion of the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Program.
3. An award to each chairman that has an entry in the Young American Creative Art Program.
4. An award to the District Chairman that send in her report to me on time.

Thank you for all the hard work you have put into working with the students to get these scholarships completed. Make sure you show your appreciation to the teachers as well as the students. If possible, publish the winners in your local paper. The VOD , PP, and Teacher of the Year Dept. winners will be announced at the Legislative conference in Pierre on Jan 29-30.

Loyally,

Donita Mullinix

Donita Mullinix, Dept. Scholarship Chairman

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

2016-2017

Bulletin 6

-Tammy Chase, Department Chairman

December 2016

PROGRAM GOALS

Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans National Citations

Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups

Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.)

As Chair for the Youth Activities – we are the “key” to this program. We can start the engine to move forward towards our goals, we can lock out negative thoughts and attitudes, and we can unlock and open doors to new and unlimited possibilities. It is our goal ensure the Youth of South Dakota learn about the many programs we have for our Youth and have the opportunity themselves to take advantage of these opportunities.



to

As the KEYS, we need to get busy and open doors in the towns and communities in South Dakota, and get the youth interested I our projects. We can teach our your and help them learn what the Veterans have done for them/us.

We can get into the schools, daycares, organizations (4-H, boy scouts, girl scouts, church youth groups) an many other places where youth are involved, to talk about Patriotism, Americanism and what being a good citizen is and can be.

In a nutshell – we need to try to include the youth (especially member’s families) in activities at VFW & Auxiliary, as a whole. We need to go back to the family – oriented activities and events. Remember, the key can start the engine, lock out negative thought and attitudes, and unlock and open doors to great new possibilities.

Loyally,
Tammy Chase, 2016-2017 Youth Activities Chairman
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