

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY**  
**Department of South Dakota**  
**General Orders and Bulletin**  
**#3 – September 2016**



Included in this Issue:

General Orders

Karen's Flutters

A Day to Change Direction

So The District President Is Coming For An Inspection

Program Bulletins and Year-end Report Forms

Smart/Maher Teacher Award

Chief of Staff/Extension

Chaplain – Deceased Members List



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

**General Orders Number 3 – September 2016**

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

**Upcoming Events: September 11, 2016 – Patriot Day** – Appropriate ceremonies and activities include a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 a.m. EDT, remembrance services and candlelight vigils. Flags should be flown at half-staff on Patriot Day.

**September 16, 2016 – POW/MIA Recognition Day** honoring the commitments and the sacrifices made by our nation's prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action.

**September 17, 2016 – Celebrate America's Freedom Event** at Mt. Rushmore.

**September 17, 2016 – Constitution and Citizenship Day** commemorating the formation and signing of the U. S. Constitution on September 17, 1787.

**September 23 – 25, 2016 – Fall Council/Commander and President Homecoming**, Pierre, SD – Registration in GO #1;

**September 24, 2016 – School of Instruction** – All Auxiliaries should have at least one representative and President in attendance.

**September 25, 2016 – Gold Star Mother's/Family's Day** honoring mothers and families who have a lost a service member in combat.

**October** – District Meetings – Dates and Line Officer Assignments – GO #2

**October 8, 2016 – A DAY TO CHANGE DIRECTION** – see details in August 18, 2016, VFW Auxiliary E-Newsletter

**October 21 – 23, 2016 – BIG TEN**, Kalamazoo, MI – Registration in GO #1

**November 11, 2016 – Veterans Day** is an opportunity to publicly commemorate the contributions of living veterans.

**November 12, 2016** – Deadline to mail Christmas tree ornaments to Deb Fahey.

**School of Instruction:** Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend the School of Instruction on September 24, 2016, in Pierre, SD. Presidents, Treasurers and Secretaries are especially encouraged to attend. This is a tremendous learning experience and/or review. Please do not miss this opportunity. Things are constantly changing, and the more we keep up with the changes and keep ourselves informed and educated the better we can serve our veterans and families. For example, did you note in the September issue of the Auxiliary magazine that there are three types of meetings an Auxiliary can choose from, i.e. Roundtable, Contemporary and Traditional. See the Ritual for each type and how to do them. An Auxiliary can choose by majority vote which format to use. If you have not done this, please do so at the meeting in which you are reading these GO's. Each Auxiliary should have the latest 2016 Podium Edition of the Bylaws and Rituals, which is the edition which Auxiliaries need to follow.

**Membership:** As of August 26, 2016, SD's membership was 76.70%. That is great, but we need more. Our first membership goal is to have 50 NEW and REJOIN members by October 31, 2016, for a cash award of \$200. We are about three-fifths (3/5) of the way there. We can do this if we all work together. Think about making another dues notice. The most effective contact is person-to-person or telephone. Auxiliaries should have at least three (3) dues notices per year.

**District President Inspections:** All Auxiliaries should have received the form "So the District President Is Coming For An Inspection," from their District Presidents, which was in the book for all Auxiliaries given to the District Presidents for distribution at the State Convention. I am also including another copy with this GO's. Please prepare for the Inspection and do not hesitate to visit with the District President letting her know just how much your Auxiliary does and also your concerns. The more communication we have, the better we can help each other. If an Auxiliary is struggling, the District

and Department need to know now rather than later. **District Presidents** please remember to send a copy of each Inspection report to me as Department President.

**BONDS:** As of writing these GO's, all but one Auxiliary bond has been received at National, and I'm hopeful that will show up on Monday, you know how the snail mail moves. I want to thank everyone for your assistance with getting this done in a timely manner. It is greatly appreciated.

By Order of:

*Karen Sharp*

SD VFW Auxiliary President

Attest:

*Nancy Chester*

SD VFW Auxiliary Secretary



## **KAREN'S FLUTTERS**

**September 2016**

As I sit down to write this, I am definitely in a “flutter.” Tomorrow, August 29, National Auxiliary President Colette Bishop arrives for her “official visit.” We have a good delegation signed up for all our plans and I’m sure it will go well, but right now my head is spinning (even more than usual).

Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, Commander Dennis and I will be attending the State Fair for Veterans Day and the program that day, and then, we will also be at the State Fair on Saturday as that is our District’s day to work. Hope to see many of you at the Veterans Building. If you have not yet sent a contribution to the State Fair Fund, it is not too late to send it to Department Treasurer Carol Gross. This is a continuing expense from year-to-year.

Monday, September 5, I will be accompanying Commander Dennis to Wagner for the Labor Day parade. Everyone says it is a tremendous parade.

If you have a program or event, that you would like either me and/or Commander Dennis to attend, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will do our best, plus it gives us a first-hand opportunity to see what our Posts and Auxiliaries throughout the state do.

Last week, I attended the Second-annual Retreat in Grenville. We had 16 in attendance, and like last year, it was a wonderful time to learn, share ideas, have great comradeship, great food, and lots and lots of laughs in a relaxed and quiet atmosphere. Although, it was not quiet while we were there. An article has been sent to National at their request; so hopefully, we will get some publicity of the event either on the National Facebook page, and/or the National magazine. There is already talk of a third retreat, so make plans now to attend. You won’t regret it.

Our plans for the Christmas tree at the capitol are progressing. We hope to receive definite confirmation soon. We are in need of ball chains and links for the dog tags, and we will be putting a basket of toy soldiers at the bottom of the tree for distribution with attached dog tag. If you have either or come across some inexpensive ones, please send them to Deb Fahey, or if you would like to make a cash contribution to help, that would be fine too. Ornaments need to be to Deb Fahey by November 12. The earlier the better.

Looking forward to seeing lots of Auxiliary members attending all that the SD Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary has to offer this month.

Remember to ... Laugh when you can, Apologize when you should and Let Go of what you can’t change. Life is too short to be anything but Happy!

*Karen*

## Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

WWW.VFWAUXILIARY.ORG

Established in 1914, the VFW Auxiliary serves the veterans of this country and our communities in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform.



Good morning, VFW and Auxiliary leaders:

On August 8, Brian Duffy and Colette Bishop told us all about the Mental Wellness Campaign and "A Day to Change Direction," the day of action with Give an Hour and the Campaign to Change Direction. Here are more details so you can join on with this effort and execute a quality event.

### **First, the ask for October 8 is two-fold:**

- Conduct a community service project of your choosing. If October 8 does not work for you, or if you already have something similar planned, that is fine. The goal is to have as many community events on or around October 8 as possible.
- Discuss mental wellness in the context of "Know the Five Signs" of emotional stress. This can be done by a Post Surgeon, a local mental health care provider, a Give an Hour volunteer, or a VA care provider. If you want to know how to find someone to assist, please let us know. We will provide the necessary info in the coming weeks to Post/Department leadership who sign up to participate on October 8.

### **Second, please have your Posts and Auxiliaries contact us via email to confirm plans to participate in the October 8 event or a previously scheduled Mental Health Awareness**

**event:** [LRolf@vfw.org](mailto:LRolf@vfw.org). We want to have a solid list of participants by September 9, 2016 to report to our Give an Hour partners for coordination of local resources. This list should include the following information:

- Post/Auxiliary Name/Number
- Post/Auxiliary Address
- Central Point of Contact Name and valid email for each

- Numbers of Post/Auxiliary anticipated to be participating

**Third, please familiarize yourself with the Campaign to Change Direction and their training on "Know the Five Signs."** This can be done via the website: <https://www.knowthefivesigns.org/tools/oc/Bo/KnowTheFiveSigns>.

**We also highly encourage you to consider signing a pledge to support the Campaign to Change Direction as a Post, Auxiliary, or Department,** which you can do via this link, and signing up as a "Military" supporter:

<http://www.changedirection.org/make-a-pledge/partner-pledge/>

Finally, leading up to the event, we will provide you with links to resources to help you before, during, and after your event. These resources will be provided courtesy of our partners with Give an Hour, and will be available once you have signed on to participate in "A Day to Change Direction." We will also ask for specifics about the community service project and anticipated volunteer participation.

We hope this is enough information to get you started on making "A Day to Change Direction" a success. If you have any questions about the Mental Wellness Campaign or this specific event, please contact us.

Yours in Comradeship,

Lynn Rolf  
Programs Director  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
[lrolf@vfw.org](mailto:lrolf@vfw.org)

Cara Day  
Director of Programs and Communications  
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary  
[cday@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:cday@vfwauxiliary.org)

## SO THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT IS COMING FOR AN INSPECTION...

Expectations for a VFW Auxiliary inspection depend upon your perspective. The perspectives differ between the District President traveling to an unfamiliar Post Home and the VFW Auxiliary President anxiously awaiting her representative on the Department Council of Administration to check out what goes on at a meeting.

The comparison that follows shows the basics of an inspection and how the inspection can be a learning experience for both the District and VFW Auxiliary Presidents.

	<b>VFW Auxiliary President Duties</b>	<b>District President Duties</b>
<b>Before the Inspection</b>	Coordinate with District President to schedule a date and time for inspection. Confirm with him/her any meals and if he/she is bringing any guests.	Initiate scheduling process with the Ladies Auxiliary to attend a regular business meeting. Inform the VFW Auxiliary of any guests or special needs.
<b>Meeting Room</b>	If Conductress is not present, arrange the U.S. Flag, banner, and Patriotic Flag, altar cloth, Bible and chairs for a meeting.	Sits to the right of the VFW Auxiliary President
<b>Agenda &amp; Gavel</b>	Having an agenda/order of business is a sign of a well-organized President, and it should be made according to the current Bylaws. Have the gavel present as an emblem of authority, but use it according to the Bylaws and with discretion.	Follow along with the agenda to ensure that the meeting is conducted according to the Ritual. Makes notes on programs covered, etc. Has comments/talking points when called upon for his/her comments.
<b>Books of Secretary &amp; Treasurer</b>	It is the President's duty to see that the Secretary's and Treasurer's Books are available for inspection. Copy of President's and Treasurer's bonds and copies of audits are to be incorporated into the Secretary's minute book, 3-ring binder or clip folder.	Sign and date each set of books after reviewing for these things: signatures of Trustees for audited books, incorporation of Treasurer's report(s) and audit(s) into minutes by the Secretary. Proof of a bond for the President and Treasurer in the Secretary's minutes record book. Sign all pages if in a clip folder or 3-ring notebook.
<b>Chairmen's Reports</b>	If a Chairman is absent, have a report given on that program and describe the VFW Auxiliary participation.	Listen to each report, noting strengths and weaknesses. When called upon to comment, offer suggestions and encouragement. Offering a solution will lead to progress.
<b>After the Meeting</b>	Make sure the District President has what he/she needs in order to complete his/her inspection report.	Complete inspection report and give a copy to both the VFW Auxiliary and Department Presidents.
<b>In Your Briefcase...</b>	Current <i>National Bylaws</i> and <i>Booklet of Instructions</i> , <i>Demeter's Manual of Parliamentary Law</i> , and current <i>National Program Book</i> along with Department Program Book (if applicable), current year's General Orders to date if any, President's & Treasurer's bond, roster of VFW Auxiliary Chairmen, meeting agenda, and pen & paper for notes.	Current <i>National Bylaws</i> and <i>Booklet of Instructions</i> , <i>Demeter's Manual of Parliamentary Law</i> , current <i>National Program Book</i> along with Department Program Book (if applicable), current year's General Orders to date, if any, roster of Dept. and District Chairmen, meeting agenda, and pen and paper for notes.

Auxiliary VFW, Department of South Dakota

National President's Theme: Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes

Department President's Theme: Now is the time: Family-Support-Service-Honor and Respect

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2016- 2017 Patti Mitchell

General Orders Bulletin #3

September 2016

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.

Veterans & Family Support is at the center of our programs. Our programs are a continuous circle with our veterans and their families being at its heart and soul.

How can you involve families through this program? Our Veterans & Family Support Program should begin at home and involve the entire family. Here are just a few examples of how you can involve families in our Veterans & Family Support projects:

- Soldiers still need care packages, cards and coupons. As a family you can work to collect and/or donate some of these items, as well as write cards and letters to be sent to our troops overseas.
- Collect Campbell's Labels for Education for the VFW National Home for Children.

Plan on each volunteer distributing 200 Poppies. It sounds like a lot, but with the right placement in the community, 200 will go fast. Multiply the number of volunteers by 200 and that's approximately how many you should order. Choose distribution dates. Memorial Day and Veterans Day are always a popular time, but any time is a good time to distribute this memorial flower. Request from your Department Headquarters an order form to purchase your Poppies at least 8 to 12 weeks in advance of your distribution dates. Stake out key distribution venues in advance. Remind your volunteers that they are not "selling" Buddy Poppies, but distributing them with the hope of getting donations. Set up a booth at county fairs, public forums, school events, church suppers or other civic organization meetings. Let your imagination and that of your volunteers guide you in distributing these beautiful red flowers.

PROJECT EXAMPLES: Marching in patriotic holiday parades, Organizing assembly, collection and delivery of care packages for troops, Volunteering to help veterans and active-duty military and their families.

"What have you done for a veteran or his/her family today?"

Another unit is being deployed in South Dakota 153<sup>rd</sup> More than 160 Soldiers from the South Dakota Army National Guard units based out of Huron and Parkston have received an official mobilization order to Kuwait beginning in November 11, 2016. Yellow Ribbon day is October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**GOD BLESS OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2014-2015

Patti Mitchell

888 Slowacki Avenue, Grenville. SD 57239

cell phone # 605-280-0777

e-mail pattimitchell4@hotmail.com

---

**VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT – YEAR-END REPORT FORM**

District \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary Veterans and Family Support Chairman 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 aide to veterans, active-duty military and/or their families? (i.e , meals , transportation, cards, packages, donations, etc.)? Briefly describe \_\_\_\_\_

Total Donations: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Veterans and Military personnel assisted: \_\_\_\_\_

Did your Auxiliary promote and/or made donations to the VFW National home for children?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Did your Auxiliary promote or use the Buddy Poppy 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: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

Did your Auxiliary participate in or donate to South Dakota Day County Coyote Hunt?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

( Please use additional paper as needed)

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2015-2016

Patti Mitchell, Chairman

888 Slowacki Avenue

Grenville. SD 57239

Cell phone # 605-280-0777

E-mail: pattimitchell4@hotmail.com



### *General Orders September 2016*

Hard to believe it is time for the September General Orders! With school going in full force it is now time to contact the teachers about an Americanism Program. Let's not forget about participating in the Homecoming Parades for your schools. Whether it is riding in a vehicle or putting a float of some kind together promoting Americanism and Patriotism. The month of September brings Patriot Day on September 11<sup>th</sup> and the American Flag is to be at half-staff until sunset. September 16<sup>th</sup> is POW/MIA Recognition Day—take this opportunity to demonstrate the White Table Presentation in your school. Contact your school and see if you can do the presentation for any of the classes and ask them to participate.

I will be attending the Auxiliary Retreat from August 18<sup>th</sup> thru the 21<sup>st</sup> and look forward to meeting everyone and exchanging ideas.

Celebrating America's Freedom is going to be at Mt Rushmore on September 17<sup>th</sup>. What an awesome experience this is going to be with the VFW Auxiliary National President Colette Bishop attending and Mt Rushmore in the background. What a way to showcase this fine monument and our great state.

The Fall Council and Homecoming is September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> in Pierre! Everyone should make plans to attend. I look forward to the Auxiliary Workshops and School of Instruction to be held on Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 1:00 P.M. I am hoping that some of the Americanism and Patriotic Instructors will be able to attend. I will have some different ideas to share with everyone and also look forward to meeting you and sharing ideas.

*Please send me the name, address, e-mail and phone number of your Auxiliary Americanism Chairman or give it to me at Fall Council.*

I am also enclosing the information on the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. I am sure we all have some teachers in our school systems that deserve this award.

I cannot express enough how useful the internet is. Do a search on "Why the American Flag is Folded 13 Times" "White Table Presentation" "Flag Etiquette and FAQ" "The Changing of the Guard at Arlington Cemetery". When attending the Gold Star Mother Luncheon and listening to the speakers they commented that a lot of people do not know what the Gold Star, Blue Star and Silver Star Banners mean? Any of these topics could be addressed at the schools or at any program in the school. These are a few things I have researched and what a great tool for everyone to use for promoting Americanism in our school systems.

I look forward to seeing you at Fall Conference the end of September and please remember to get me your Americanism instructor's information as soon as possible. If you have the opportunity to attend Fall Conference it is a very worthwhile and informational meeting to attend.

*Pam Vissia, Americanism Chairman*  
*Box 371, Plankinton SD 57368*  
605-942-7145, cell 605-770-5089 [Email—pvissia@siouxvalley.net](mailto:pvissia@siouxvalley.net)



*Now is the Time*  
*Family-Support, Serve, Honor and Respect*

### VFW Teacher Nomination Form

Please photocopy or cut out and attach to nomination essay.

#### Nominated Teacher

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Subject and grade taught: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current school: \_\_\_\_\_  
School address: \_\_\_\_\_  
School phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate piece of paper, please describe (type or print) in 350 words or less why you feel your nominee should be selected for the Smart/ Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award, then sign the nomination statement.

Submit nomination materials to your local VFW Post. Visit [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) for locations. **DO NOT** send to VFW National Headquarters.

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of words in essay (not to exceed 350). Please provide this information.

#### Person Nominating Teacher

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline: Submit to local VFW Post by February 15.**

## VFW Honors America's Teachers

**I** identify and recognize America's best educators. Wouldn't you like to see them get the honor they deserve?

*Now you can.*



For more information, contact your local VFW Post or its Auxiliary or visit our website at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org).

**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States**  
406 W. 34th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
(816) 756-3390 ext. 287  
E-Mail: [tbeauchamp@vfw.org](mailto:tbeauchamp@vfw.org)  
[www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

#### Local VFW Post Information

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Smart/Maher  
VFW National  
Citizenship Education  
Teacher Award**

Grades K-12





## Recognize teachers who care about America

### VFW Cares About Education

Founded in 1899, the VFW highly supports the education of America's youth. VFW and its Auxiliary have developed a slate of programs dedicated to helping America's educators. VFW Citizenship Education programs stimulate interest in America's history, traditions, Americanism, civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism.

VFW wants to identify and recognize America's best educators who instill a sense of national pride in students. It offers cash awards, commemorative plaques and all-expenses-paid trips to the VFW National Convention for these worthy teachers. The trip provides an opportunity for winners to network with like-minded individuals.

Teachers care deeply about America and its children. They're concerned about the perpetuation of America's noblest traditions and highest ideals. Wouldn't you like to see them get the honor they deserve? Now you can...

VFW annually recognizes the nation's top classroom elementary, junior high and high school teachers who teach citizenship education topics regularly and promote America's history and traditions effectively.

Teachers who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism are prime candidates for this award. For example, do you know a teacher who plans field trips to city hall or organizes community volunteer projects? Maybe you know an instructor who invites veterans into the classroom to discuss their military experiences. Perhaps you are familiar with a teacher who fosters the development of democratic values and beliefs through special projects. If you know of such a teacher, honor him or her today with the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.

### How are teachers nominated?

Fill out the nomination form contained in this brochure. In 350 words or less, describe why you feel your nominee should be selected.

Describe the teacher's innovative teaching and resource development methods, as well as his or her dedication to education. Please submit your completed nomination form and signed essay to your local VFW Post. Visit [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) for Post locations or call VFW Programs Department at (816) 756-3390 ext. 287 to find the Post nearest to you.

**All Post-level nominees, if they win, should provide a one-page resume, up to five pages of documentation of their teaching experience (references, news articles, etc.) and a head-and-shoulder photo of themselves. These items will be forwarded on to the District with the nomination form and essay.**

### When is the deadline?

Nominations must be submitted to your local Post by February 15. Judging occurs February 16-28.

### What are the National awards?

Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Awards include the items below:

- A national \$1,000 Past Commander-in-Chief John Smart award for each of the top K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 teachers for professional development expenses.
- \$1,000 award for each winning teacher's school.
- Plaques for both the winning teacher and school.
- An all-expenses-paid trip to attend the VFW National Convention.

NOTE: (Winners will receive a 1099-MISC as a result of their award and all-expense paid trip.)

### Nominate Someone Deserving

Have a teacher in mind? Complete the nomination form and required essay, then submit it to your local VFW Post. The investment that a teacher makes in today's youth will be the dividends we will all reap from future leaders.

### How Does the Contest Work?

Based on the nominees submitted, VFW local chapters, called Posts, will recognize one outstanding teacher in grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Posts then submit these winners' names to their District-level judging, who will forward their winners to the Department (or state) level. After judging, each Department then forwards the names of its winners to VFW National Headquarters for consideration in the national awards contest.

### Who is eligible?

All current classroom teachers (teaching at least half of the school day in a classroom environment) in grades K-12 are eligible. Previous national VFW winners and homeschool teachers are ineligible. Nominations can be submitted by fellow teachers, supervisors or other interested individuals (not relatives). Self-nominees are not eligible.

**VFW AUXILIARY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA HOSPITAL AND VAVS**

**Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes**  
**Now is the Time: Family-Support-Serve-Honor and Respect**  
**Bulletin #3, September 2016**

Where did the summer go? The leaves will soon be turning and the snow will be falling. Just remember every gesture of kindness, no matter how big or small, is appreciated by those who are hospitalized or sometimes feel forgotten. Imagine what it would be like to be isolated and have no visitors – wouldn't it be nice to have someone stop by and just say 'hello'?

The Hospital Program has always been very focused on the Veteran!

Our goals for the year have changed as we have added a new one!!

- Volunteer Service in Medical Facilities
- Volunteer Recruitment & Recognition
- Veterans Voices Writing Project
- Military Suicide Awareness
- Colette and Brian's Special Project – Mental Health Awareness

Colette and Brian's Special Project: • This special project is not about raising money. It's about understanding and recognizing the various types of internal emotional turmoil our veterans experience due to their military service through EDUCATION.

• Bring Mental Health professionals who specialize in the mental well-being of our Nation's heroes to your Post (or wherever it is you meet), to educate members and non-members in your community on the invisible scars related to military service that plague our veterans. • An education that is greatly needed to help to identify and most importantly understand the signs, symptoms, and cause and affect of a veteran's military experience. • Marriages can be saved. Jobs can be saved. Lives can be saved. • Through teaching ourselves and others to be observant, to recognize behavioral traits of post-traumatic stress or military sexual trauma, we can help our veterans feel more understood and maybe, just maybe be instrumental in improving their quality of life in their relationships with their family, friends, employers, and community. (Janice Holm, National Ambassador for Hospital)

Next month I will have more on the Writing Project as we need to promote and work on this one.

**Don't forget that volunteering is number one!!**

Leanne Payne - Dept. of South Dakota Hospital/VAVS chairman

Phone: 605-942-7568

E-mail: oldcripp@siouxvalley.net

PO Box 126, Plankinton, SD 57368

**Hospital**  
**2016-2017 Department of South Dakota Year-End Report**

1. Number of VFW Auxiliary members volunteering in **ALL** medical VA facilities and non-medical facilities      Number of Volunteers \_\_\_\_\_ Total hours \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of NEW volunteers recruited. \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Youth \_\_\_\_\_
3. Did you sponsor or conduct an event or activity in both VA and non-VA? \_\_\_\_\_  
What did you do?
4. Total amount spent on ALL Hospital projects? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How you promoted Veteran and Military Suicide Awareness?
6. Did you recognize volunteers throughout the year? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How did you use publicity and /or media to recruit volunteers and involve the community?
8. How do you participate in “The Many Faces of Hospital Volunteers”?
9. Were Hospital Volunteer Pins presented to members?  
How many?
10. Explain how you conducted/participate in volunteer recognition events?
11. How did you participate in the Veterans Voices Writing Project?
12. How many burrito pillowcases did you make? \_\_\_\_\_  
Who did you give them to?

Cash prizes will be given for #3, #5, and #11.

Auxiliary # \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Auxiliary City \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman's Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Leanne Payne  
Dept. of South Dakota Hospital/VAVS Chairman  
PO Box 126      Plankinton, SD 57368

Phone; 605-942-7568  
E-mail: oldcripp@siouxvalley.net

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY**  
Department of South Dakota

General Orders #3

**UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES**

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

**‘VOTE FOR THE PARTY of the VETERAN’**, that is our job this year and the goal we need to reach. This years National Legislative Ambassador is Bette Jean Biedrzycki and that is what she has charged the Auxiliary to be. We need to focus on our Veterans and our military and their families and be a part of something that is much bigger than us. We can do it. We have to become informed and pay attention to what is being said about each and every person running for office and each and every bill that is being presented to the voters, from our own city or town to Washington, D. C.

Our influence counts, we need to learn how to use it to further our cause – that of the veteran. Our veterans and their spouses need to make sure they are heard. Many of us know exactly what military families are facing and what our veterans return to face. They may think their battle was over when they left the military but we, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary know what they now face. That is why we volunteer and put them first, it is more important now than ever before. Your perspective as the spouse of a veteran or son, daughter, mother or father of a veteran is very important and far reaching, we need to be heard but first we must be informed.

Start locally and become informed about local bills and the people who are running so they can run your city or town. Learn about County issues – new taxes, why. The most important thing is to be informed. Do the same at State level. The Priority Goals reflect the resolutions passed by the VFW to strengthen and ensure an adequate VA system for millions of current and future veterans. South Dakota is facing a crucial VA issue this year, we are fighting to keep the Hot Springs VA open for the hundreds of Veterans that use the facility. Contact your Legislators (a list was in my first GO's), we know they are backing Hot Springs but give them your opinion and let them know you are behind them, numbers make a difference.

Priority Goals this year are grouped under eight areas of concern:  
VA Health Care      Suicides and Homelessness      VA Compensation and Benefits  
Seamless Transition      Education and Employment      Defense and Homeland Security  
Military Quality of Life      POW/MIA

These are released early each year by the VFW. You can read up on them and how they pertain to our State by going on-line at the Auxiliary website under Programs, then hit the Legislative tab. If you don't have a computer, please don't be shy about going to your local library and getting informed.

Loyally,

*Sandi Moss*

Sandi Moss

Legislative Chairman - 10577 Dogwood Lane, Rapid City, SD 57702-8625

[sandimoss46@gmail.com](mailto:sandimoss46@gmail.com) Home: 605-341-0442 Cell: 605-431-6897

**LEGISLATIVE  
2016-2017 YEAR-END REPORT**

Submit to the Legislative Chairman **no later** that 15 April 2017  
Use back of sheet or extra paper if needed.

1. How did your Auxiliary promote the VFW Priority Goals? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
2. How did your Auxiliary encourage members to communicate with legislators on veterans' issues?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
3. How many members subscribed to Checkpoint Newsletter? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many members signed up for the VFW Action Corps? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How did your Auxiliary communicate pending legislation and special legislative alerts?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
6. Number of contacts made by members personally to legislators on veterans' issues:  
Personal Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mails: \_\_\_\_\_ Faxes: \_\_\_\_\_  
Letters: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Calls: \_\_\_\_\_
  
7. Did your Auxiliary work to serve veterans and their families through effective legislative Advocacy? \_\_\_\_\_
  
8. Number of members who attended events where they could interact with legislators. \_\_\_\_\_
  
9. Number of members who promoted Get Out the Vote to their members and community. \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this to me before 15 April 2017. You can attach any newspaper clippings or other information to your hard copy when your mail it. E-mails will also be accepted. My E-mail is [sandimoss46@gmail.com](mailto:sandimoss46@gmail.com).

Loyally,



Sandi Moss

Legislative Chairman 10577 Dogwood Lane, Rapid City, SD 57702-825

[sandimoss46@gmail.com](mailto:sandimoss46@gmail.com) Home: 605-341-0442

Cell: 605-431-6897

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES  
NOW IS THE TIME: FAMILY-SUPPORT-SERVE-HONOR AND RESPECT  
MEMBERSHIP

Bulletin # 3 September 2016

To continue with last month's message:

ASK THEM TO PARTICIPATE

The key to keeping new members is getting them involved. Call or e-mail a new member within a week with the next meeting date and time, or the next possible event or project. Offer to pick him/her up, or invite him/her to get coffee before or after.

Put a team of members in charge of contacting new members or members who haven't been to a meeting recently. These members should be friendly and knowledgeable.

WAYS TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION

- \* Monthly signup sheet for regular events
- \* Emails and phone calls for special events
- \* Public recognition of current volunteers (Consider posters at your VFW Post Home, if permitted, that spotlight member involvement)
- \* Be specific about what they will be doing, including the time commitment
- \* Find out how that person best communicates, whether by phone, email, Facebook or texting
- \* If they say "no" to the first invitation, be sure to ask again!

THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY EVENTS

An adult who still has children in the home will want opportunities to do things with his or her family. If he or she can't bring his or her children and spouse to at least some of the events, he or she will be most likely to join or to continue his or her membership. Be sure that you plan at least one family-friendly event every three months, or once per quarter.

PROGRAM GOALS FOR THIS YEAR  
RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS  
RETAIN CURRENT MEMBERS  
GROW THE ORGANIZATION

Department Membership Chairman 2016-2017  
Mary Kirkvold 605-351-0839  
2500 W. Bethel Pl. #203  
Sioux Falls, S.D. 57105  
marykirkvold@yahoo.com

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### “UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES”

#### “NOW IS THE TIME” Family: Support, Serve, and Honor & Respect

##### General Orders #3

Last GO I talked about VOD and PP, Patriotic Art and Continuing Education. I hope my information was helpful and you have had a chance to get that information out into the public. Getting the word out is important. Here are a few suggestions to pass out fliers to: Schools, Church or youth groups, Home schooled associations, and parent-teacher associations. By putting an article in your local newspaper, you may be able to reach some of these organizations also.

The Awards for these programs are as follows:

- #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 will be given to each of the chairman in the four membership categories with the best promotion of the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Program.
- #3. An award will be given to each chairman that has an entry in the Young American Creative Art Program.
- #4. An award to the District Chairman that sends in a report to me.

Past Dept. Presidents Awards: Neva Jean Corlett—Cash Award for the best promotion of the Voice of Democracy contest and the Patriot’s Pen contest. Nelda Jorgenson—Cash Award for the best promotion of the Continuing Education Scholarship and the Young American Creative Patriotic Art contest.

The National Awards are attached.

I’m including the yearend report now so you will have a chance to look it over. Read it periodically to make sure you have done all you need to do to receive an award.

The VFW Auxiliary Retreat was August 18-21 in Grenville and I hope you picked up the information I had for you there. If you have any questions you can email me at [do\\_mullinix@yahoo.com](mailto:do_mullinix@yahoo.com) or call me at 605-763-5595. Remember to **“GET THE WORD OUT”** for the best results for scholarships. Each of our scholarships encourages patriotism.

Loyally

Donita Mullinix, Dept. Scholarship Chairman

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## 2016-2017 YEAR – END REPORT

### SUBMIT REPORT TO DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN BY APRIL 15, 2017

AUXILIARY NAME, NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

CHAIRMAN'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

#### YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTESTS:

1. Did your Auxiliary participate in promoting this contest? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Did your Auxiliary submit an entry? \_\_\_\_\_ Number of students submitting an entry \_\_\_\_\_
3. Number of members involved \_\_\_\_\_ Dollar amount awarded by your Auxiliary to the participant's \_\_\_\_\_

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP:

1. Did your Auxiliary participate in the Continuing Education Scholarship? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What did you do to promote this program? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### VOICE OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST:

1. Did your Auxiliary assist your Post in conducting this contest? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Did your Auxiliary have an entry? \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of members involved \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of hours volunteered \_\_\_\_\_ Explanation of publicity and promotion \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### PATRIOT'S PEN CONTEST:

1. Did your Auxiliary assist your Post in conducting this contest? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Did your Auxiliary have an entry? \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of members involved \_\_\_\_\_
- Number of hours volunteered \_\_\_\_\_ Explanation of publicity and promotion \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please let me know how you promoted all of these programs. Include articles, pictures, copies of anything that shows how hard you worked promoting the Scholarship Programs within your Community. You may use the back of this sheet if extra room is needed to fill out any of the above questions.

Did you co-host or host an awards ceremony to recognize awardees and participants in these contests?

Please send your report to **Donita Mullinix, Scholarship Chairman, 104 W. Lincoln, Beresford, SD 57004**, before **April 15, 2017**. If you have any questions call me at 605-763-5595.

## **YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

2016-2017

**Bulletin 3**

-Tammy Chase, Department Chairman

**September 2016**

While fall is in the air and the kiddo's are back at school and getting back into a routine, it is time to get to your youth groups and schools and talk to the youth and engage them. Many youth do not realize what it truly means to be patriotic and the VFW Auxiliary can be there to teach them and lead by example. Remember to keep the youth you work with in mind for the **Random Acts of Patriotism** (RAP) cards.

Don't forget about the scholarship programs and putting them out there for the youth and the National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.

### **MAKE YOUR AUXILIARY ACCESSIBLE TO TODAY'S YOUTH**

It has never been so easy to communicate your cause and events to the world. Social media as teaching and information tools have natural collaborative elements allowing our youth to view and comment on each other's activities. They are tweeting on Twitter, posting on Facebook, instantly sending pictures on Instagram and "liking" the videos on YouTube. If you don't know what any of this is - **LEARN**

#### **POPULAR SOCIAL MEDIA NETWORKS**

Facebook / Twitter / LinkedIn / YouTube / Pinterest / Instagram

Get online, and see what's new!

For helpful tips on maximizing your reach through social media, check out the Publicity Guide at [www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org)

Below are 10 tips for working with youth:

When working with youth, it is important to consider their safety and needs. We would like to offer these tips and resources so that you can make sure that all youth you encounter have the best experience possible.

- ❖ 1. Consider taking Youth Protection training. Many organizations working with youth provide and require training. One of the best known is done by Boy Scouts. You do not need to be a member or even involved with the program in order to take their free online training. Find it here:  
<http://www.scouting.org/Training/youthprotection.aspx>
- ❖ 2. Always respect the time commitments of youth. They are very busy. Be clear about when an event or project starts and how long it will go for. Parents also very much appreciate it when their child is finished at the stated time.
- ❖ 3. Parents should always be welcome to stay and take part in the activity.

## **YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

2016-2017

**Bulletin 3**

-Tammy Chase, Department Chairman

**September 2016**

- ❖ 4. No matter the project or event, make sure that proper safety measures are taken for everyone involved. Also, be sure that activities or projects are age appropriate.
- ❖ 5. Be extremely conscious of the location where you bring or meet the youths.
- ❖ 6. Do not smoke, drink or use drugs around them.
- ❖ 7. If you are taking youth somewhere other than the Post home or a school, consider getting permission slips from every parent, and make sure the parents understand that the children may be riding in personal vehicles.
- ❖ 8. Receive training from your local Child Abuse Prevention Council or Child Protective Center on the Mandated Suspected Child Abuse Reporting Laws in your State for those working with children.
- ❖ 9. Find out if you need to have individuals working with youth/children fingerprinted before working with youth. There may be laws in your state.
- ❖ 10. Maintain and model healthy boundaries with children - be a role model. Remember it is never appropriate to displays acts of violence or abuse around or towards children.

Remember that it only takes a minute to make a difference in the life of a child. There are lots of small, positive things we can all do to help protect and nurture our children that only take a minute. A few words of praise and encouragement to a child, listening carefully to what a child has to say, showing a child you care, all are simple actions that added together have been shown to have a profound impact on a child's life. In these very real ways, we can all support children and strengthen families.



### **PROGRAM GOALS**

Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans  
National Citations  
Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups  
Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.)



Loyally,  
Tammy Chase, 2016-2017 Youth Activities Chairman  
45980 SD Hwy 10 - Sisseton, SD 57262  
(605) 698-7122  
[cbchase@venturecomm.net](mailto:cbchase@venturecomm.net)

# Youth Activities

## 2016-2017 Year-End Report

Submit to Tammy Chase before April 15, 2017

Auxiliary #: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary City: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman's Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Participation in and/or publicized Youth Groups Supporting our Veterans Citations: Number of activities: \_\_\_\_\_

Descriptions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Number of youth groups that you worked with during the year: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated number of youth involved: \_\_\_\_\_

Descriptions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Did you use the R.A.P (Random Acts of Patriotism) program: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of R.A.P cards distributed: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of R.A.P coins distributed: \_\_\_\_\_

Descriptions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Number of youth recognized in communities for their academic, athletic, scouting or other accomplishments: \_\_\_\_\_(number)

Descriptions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Tammy Chase, 45980 SD Hwy 10, Sisseton, SD 57262

605-698-7438 – cbchase@venturecomm.net

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

**VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota**  
**CHIEF OF STAFF/EXTENSION**  
**“Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes”**  
**“Now Is the Time—Family—Support, Serve, Honor & Respect”**  
**Bulletin #3 -- September 2016**

Greetings Auxiliary Members and welcome to a new and exciting Auxiliary year! I am very excited and honored to be your Department Chief of Staff/Extension Chairman. Thank you, President Karen for placing your trust in me.

What does the Chief of Staff do? She is the main point of contact for the Extension program. This includes establishing new Auxiliaries and maintaining our current Auxiliaries in the Department. She serves as Auxiliary advocate and assistant.

In this bulletin, let us address maintaining our current Auxiliaries. Do you think your Auxiliary is healthy? Here are just a few questions you can ask about your Auxiliary:

1. Does your Auxiliary hold at least 10 business meetings a year? Remember: you must have no less than 5 Auxiliary members in good standing at each meeting to constitute a quorum.
2. Have at the least 10 members have their dues paid before February 1 of the current year?
3. Do your Auxiliary Trustees submit to the Department Treasurer quarterly audit reports?
4. Are your Auxiliary officers elected and installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>?
5. Are the offices of your Auxiliary President and Treasurer bonded by August 31<sup>st</sup>?

These questions are just a part of the *RU Healthy Auxiliary Checklist*. Over the year we will be offering other tools we can use to become an active and healthy Auxiliary in our community.

There is the anonymous survey of *Healthy Auxiliary Member Questionnaire* that can help us determine our Auxiliary's challenges.

Also available is the *Auxiliary Meeting Clinic*. This can help us solve issues at our meetings.

*Healthy Communication* with your Auxiliary members will also be addressed. We will discuss the use of tradition and non-traditional forms of communication to our members for meetings, events and programs.

Offering a *Good Job Certificate* to say “thank you” will be presented. Having the Auxiliary show their appreciation to a member (or non-member) for their help, participation or support in events and programs is a key ingredient to the health of our Auxiliary.

I am certain that when we take advantage of these wonderful resources our Auxiliary will become stronger. This can help us in thinking “**Now Is the Time—Family—Support, Serve, Honor & Respect.**” We will always keep “**Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes**” in our hearts. Thank you for your great dedication to our Veterans and their families.

Loyally,  
Jan Endes  
26422 278<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
White River, SD 57579

Phone: 605-452-3270  
E-mail: tendes@goldenwest.net

