

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of South Dakota
Nancy Worth, President
PO Box 47, Piedmont, SD 57769-0047

Included in the **April 2016 Issue**

Changes
Cares & Concerns
NOTICE to All Members
General Orders #8
Advocates for Veterans & Their Families
Officer & Chairmen To Do List
Application to Install Officers
New Officer Form
Deceased Members Form
Department Convention Delegates Form
Convention Delegate Fees Form
Dept. Convention Registration, Advertising, Hospitality
Department VFW & A Convention Tentative Schedule
National Convention Delegate/Alternate Form
National Convention Housing Form
National Convention Registration Form
National Convention Tentative Schedule of Events
Department Auxiliary Awards Worksheet
Program Chairmen Bulletins
Auxiliary President's Year-End Report Form (GO #7)
Program Year-End Report Forms (GO #7)

Remembering Our Promise



**Advocates for Veterans
& Their Families**

VFW Auxiliary
SOUTH DAKOTA
2015-2016

CHANGES:

Diane Ward, District 10 President and Ft. Meade VAVS Rep. has a new address:

1060 Ballpark Road, Sturgis, SD 57785 E-Mail: drward253@gmail.com

Connie Seymour, Past Department President, has a new E-Mail address:

secjseymour@gmail.com

Thank You

Thank you so much for your cards and memorials during the time of Ron's passing. I have always said that the Auxiliary Sisters in South Dakota are the greatest, you truly are. I am looking forward to Dept. Convention, will be so good to see all of you after missing so many events.

Thank you and God Bless, Love, Jan Walker, PDP

On April 1st, **Maynard and Gelaine Dahl** will be celebrating their 60th wedding Anniversary. Maynard is a Korean War Vet and Gelaine has been a member since 1960. She held the office of District 4 President, Goodwin's President and Secretary. Cards can reach them at: Maynard & Gelaine Dahl 928 13th Ave NW Watertown, SD 57201-1068

Cares & Concerns

Helen G. Amunson, 85, of Belle Fourche died Monday, March 14, 2016 at her home. She served untold hours for the VFW Aux. including many years as the Aux. President. (December 30, 1930 - March 14, 2016)

A memorial service was held 10 am Thursday, March 17th, 2016 at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Spearfish. There will be no visitation. Interment will be held in Black Hills National Cemetery, in Sturgis. Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills is in charge of the services.

Cards can be sent to the family at: 208 Ninth Ave., Belle Fourche 57717.

Allen Merrill, Gettysburg's Post Commander, has stage 4 lung cancer and is taking treatment in Pierre. He is feeling good. Cards can be sent to him at: 501 S Broadway Ave, Gettysburg, SD 57442

NOTICE:

President, Nancy, requests that each Auxiliary allow time prior to the beginning of the next Auxiliary or District meeting to have the following read to those in attendance.

Members,

Based on the number of calls and emails I have received in the last several weeks from numerous Auxiliaries through South Dakota, I feel it necessary to remind every member of the purpose of our great organization. I ask that all members present stand and repeat the Member Obligation at the next Auxiliary and/or District meeting held.

MEMBER OBLIGATION

“In the presence of Almighty God – and the members of this organization here assembled – I (insert name) _____, do of my own free will and accord --, solemnly promise – that I will never wrong or defraud this organization -- not 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.” (Members may be seated.)

Remembering that our Member Obligation is the basis of our organization; we periodically should refresh ourselves as to our purpose as members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary:

“We, the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary have formed ourselves into a permanent organization for the relief of those who fought in defense of our country and those depending upon them, who may need our aid. Each member is expected to respond to any call for relief or assistance of any member of the Auxiliary or any member of the Post who may be in need. We also endeavor to educate in patriotism, the people of our land. You are to be received into this Auxiliary with equal rights of all other members and you are expected to assume equal responsibilities.”

In addition, I feel it necessary to repeat the fact the following excerpt from the VFW Auxiliary E-newsletter dated 12/8/15.

“The key to treating people with respect is to treat them as you would like to be treated – commonly known as the Golden Rule. When dealing with difficult members in your local

Auxiliary, seek to understand the root of their problems toward you. Then, you will be able to rise above the situation, and treat them well.”

“Treat other people’s ideas with due consideration. This means listening to another person’s ideas, opinions, and advice with an open mind. Even if you don’t necessarily agree with them, give them the benefit of thinking about what they have said.

Be mindful of your words. Words are very powerful and they can be incredibly disrespectful if used improperly. Think carefully about what you’re going to say, and to whom, otherwise you might hurt someone.

Cultivate good manners. This is as simple as saying “thank you” and “please” when you’re requesting something from another person. It shows that you respect the time and effort that it will take for them to help you, and it will allow them to feel respected.”

Please also consider the practice of the “basket exercise” prior to each Auxiliary meeting:

Members should close their eyes, take a minimum of 2 deep breaths to “cleanse” their minds and:

Imagine a basket that is placed at the entrance of the meeting room. The purpose of this basket is for each member to place/leave all bad, disrespectful, petty grievances for any others attending the meeting. These issues are to remain in the basket for the duration of the meeting – NEVER surfacing while discussing the business of the VFW Auxiliary. The member may, if they so wish, retrieve the grievance or pettiness as the end of the meeting. It is highly suggested that those thoughts and feelings remain in the basket and never resurface.

The purpose of our organization is to help others – many Auxiliaries have reached a point where the members are thinking only of themselves and not those we have vowed to assist. Each member is someone who is in need of understanding, assistance and friendship; not to be belittled, forgotten or discarded as unimportant. Let’s not destroy our organization from within – member against member for selfish purposes.

Thank you for taking this time to re-evaluate why you are a member in this wonderful organization.

Nancy Worth
VFW Auxiliary
Department President



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary
Department of South Dakota

General Orders Number 8, April, 2016

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

1. South Dakota Membership is currently at 95.60%, before the March 31st deadline for \$500 to go into the Department Treasury. Thank you all for your hard work. We still have until the middle of June to get to 100% - I know the great members of South Dakota can meet this goal, too.

2. Congratulations to the SD Veterans of Foreign Wars Youth Scholarship winners:

Voice of Democracy Winner, Austin Lentsch, a senior at Theodore F. Riggs High School received a \$2,000 scholarship (14th place) for his Voice of Democracy entry. Austin plans a career in either biotechnical engineering or international business and he was sponsored by VFW Post 2038 and Auxiliary in Pierre, South Dakota. He also indicated that he has received a nomination to West Point Academy and has been accepted to continue his education at Notre Dame University.

Rachel Rickenbach, a sixth grader from Hot Springs Middle School received \$750 scholarship for 15th place in the Patriots' Pen competition. Rachel was sponsored by VFW Post 1273 and Auxiliary in Rapid City, South Dakota.

3. ATTENTION AUXILIARY PROGRAM CHAIRMEN: Year-End Reports from your Auxiliary are due to the Department Chairmen before April 15, 2016. All report forms are included in this mailing. The Department Chairmen are required to have 100% reporting, so please send in or email your report before the deadline. If not received, expect a call from the Department Chairman to take the information over the phone. The Department Chairmen must compile their information from your reports to pass onto National Headquarters. So please be on time.
4. South Dakota VFW & Auxiliary State Convention will be held June 9-12, 2016 at The Lodge at Deadwood. Registration form, hotel information, Advertising Form, and Hospitality Night form (for those seeking Department office) are included in this mailing. The VFW Auxiliary National Representative to our Convention will be Jan Owens, current National Secretary/Treasurer and Past National President.

Delegates and Alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Auxiliary held not less than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the Department Convention. One (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the VFW Auxiliary at the time of the election of Delegates.

Auxiliary Secretary shall send the names of the Delegates and Alternates to the Department Secretary prior to the Department Convention. Auxiliary Treasurer must send the Delegate Fees to Department Treasurer per included form.

5. Please review the Officer & Chairman To Do List in this mailing regarding items needing attention before the Spring District meetings and the Department Convention.
6. Ways and Means: Items are needed for the upcoming State Convention Ways and Means table. Chairman, Marion Grant, is looking for baked items along with new and gently used items for this fundraiser. Supplies for the table are running very low.
7. **Veterans & Family Support** Chairman, Patti Mitchell, is asking for entries for a Buddy Poppy Hat/Apparel parade during the Department Convention. Get your entries ready!
8. VFW & Auxiliary National Convention will be held July 23-28, 2016 in Charlotte NC. Registration, housing and tentative event schedule are available on the National website www.vfwauxiliary.org. The National Convention packets will no longer be mailed. ONLY Convention attendees will receive packets. Do not register unless you plan to attend.

Per Bylaws Section 305 – **National Convention:** Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall be elected at the last regular meeting in April. One (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each fifty (50) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the VFW Auxiliary on the date of election of Delegates. The term of office for which Delegates are elected shall be for one (1) year from date of the election, as described in this section, until the election of the new Delegates. The Auxiliary Secretary shall provide the names of the Delegates and Alternates to the National Secretary, along with their membership ID number, within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the election.

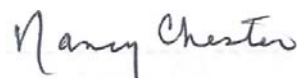
9. Resolutions to be presented at the National Convention are not yet published. After they are posted, you may view them on the VFW Auxiliary website www.vfwauxiliary.org. They will also be posted on ssdvfw.org under the Auxiliary tab.
10. This is the last General Orders mailing of the 2015-2016 VFW Auxiliary year. Thank you to the Paha Sapa (Sturgis) Auxiliary and District #10 for all of your support during my journey to this position. Thank you to all VFW and Auxiliary members for all you do for our South Dakota Veterans. It has been an honor to serve as the South Dakota VFW Auxiliary Department President. **You are the best!** Please continue “Remembering Our Promise - Advocating for Veterans and Their Families.”

By Order of:



Nancy J. Worth
Department President

Attest:



Nancy Chester
Department Secretary

Remembering Our Promise



This is the last General Orders of the 2015-2016 VFW Auxiliary year; but please keep working on all of Programs. Our membership year does not end until June 30, 2016, so we can still get more members – new, transferred and rejoined. We need to continue to support our Veterans and their families every day. Loyalty Day, May 1st, is approaching and we can arrange a celebration. There is still time to have a successful Buddy Poppy campaign and to present educational opportunities to members and youth. We can honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice at Memorial Day services. Our Veterans need our assistance all year – every day.

South Dakota VFW Auxiliaries Year-End Program Reports need to be sent to the Department Program Chairmen by April 15th or expect phone calls. The Department Chairmen are: (Membership will be taken from your membership numbers by Chairman Carrie Alm)

Veterans & Family Support – Patti Mitchell

Americanism – Nelda Jorgensen

Hospital – Leanne Payne

Legislative – Tammy Chase

Scholarships – Sandi Moss

Youth Activities – Mary Kirkvold

As you complete this Auxiliary year, if assistance is needed, please check on the websites: www.vfwauxiliary.org and www.sdvfw.org under the Auxiliary tab or contact me.

Please join us at the Department Convention in Deadwood June 9-12, 2016. There will be awards, luncheons and time to renew friendships. Our VFW Auxiliary National Representative will be Jan Owens, current National Secretary/Treasurer and Past National President; it will be great to have her in South Dakota again.

A big “Thank you” to all the South Dakota VFW Auxiliary members for your dedication to our organization and its purpose to assist “those who fought in defense of our country and those depending upon them.” It has been an honor to serve as the South Dakota VFW Auxiliary Department President.

Remembering Our Promise – Advocating for Veterans & Their Families.

Loyally:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Nancy Worth'.

VFW Auxiliary South Dakota
2015-2016 Department President

**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of South Dakota**

OFFICER & CHAIRMAN TO DO LIST

(All necessary forms are included in this mailing.)

**Date
Completed**

Auxiliary Presidents:

- Send District Delegate List to your District Secretary. _____
- Send Department Delegate & Alternate list to Department Secretary by April 22 (1 delegate & alternate for every 30 members) _____
- Remember to request an Installation Warrant for your Auxiliary. _____
- Send Department Delegate Fees to Department Treasurer by April 22. _____
- **As you have your elections**, please send the “New Officer Form” (in addition to the required Election Report supplied by National Headquarters) to both Department Secretary, Nancy Chester and President, Nancy Worth. Make sure the form is complete with names, addresses, phone numbers and E-mails of President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Also include day, time and location of meetings and dues Amount. _____
- Make certain that your Year-End Program Reports have been sent To Department Program Chairmen by April 15, 2016. _____
- Send Deceased Member List to Department Chaplain, Mary Kirkvold by May 15, 2016. _____

Auxiliary Treasurers:

- Follow Tax instructions regarding Form 990N filing (GO #7) provided by Department Treasurer, Carol Gross. _____

District Presidents:

- Send a list of your activities for the year to President Nancy Worth no later than May 1 to go into the annual report of Officers and Chairman. _____
- As District Elections are completed, complete the “New Officer Form” And send to both Department Secretary, Nancy Chester and Department President, Nancy Worth. _____

Department Program Chairmen:

- Send a list of your activities for the year to President Nancy Worth no later than May 1 to go into the annual report of Officers and Chairman. _____
- Give Department Secretary, Nancy Chester, a copy of your awards and winners prior to your presentation at Department Convention. _____

APPLICATION TO INSTALL OFFICERS

1. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary President-elect will select the Installing Officer and send the name to the Department Secretary in sufficient tie to permit issuing the necessary warrant. Auxiliary Officers shall be installed in their respective offices not more than 60 days prior to the convening of the Department Convention, but shall not assume their duties until the Department President is installed. **(Section 806A).**
2. The Application to Install Officers shall be sent to the Auxiliary Department Secretary within 3 days of the April meeting (election of officers). The “warrant” is released by the Department Secretary upon receipt of this application provided the offices of VFW Auxiliary President and Treasurer are bonded, the Auxiliary is current in its audits, and item #3 below is adhered to.
3. National and Department dues must be paid to the Department Treasurer on a least ten (10) members for the current calendar year.
4. The VFW Auxiliary Secretary will read the “warrant” at the time of installation as set out in the Ritual. If for any reason, the installation is not held on the date originally stated, the Department Secretary should be notified as soon as possible.

NO VFW Auxiliary Is Permitted To Install Officers Without The Proper Warrant.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SEND DIRECTLY TO THE DEPARTMENT SECRETARY:

Auxiliary No. _____ District No. _____

Auxiliary Secretary: _____ Member ID# _____
Name

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Installation Date: _____ Location: _____

Installing Officer: _____

Highest Office Held: _____

(At least Past Auxiliary President or one who has held a higher elective office, in accordance with Sec. 806A)

Send to Department Secretary within 3 days after April 2016 meeting:

Nancy Chester, PO Box 55, Ft. Pierre, SD 57532

E-Mail: nancysdvwla@pie.midco.net

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE.....FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Date Application received: _____

Date Warrant sent to Auxiliary Secretary: _____

**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of South Dakota
NEW AUXILIARY & DISTRICT OFFICER FORM**

Auxiliary No: _____ Town: _____ District: _____

Auxiliary Meeting Day: _____ Time: _____

Meeting Location: _____

Annual Auxiliary Dues: \$ _____

President: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Treasurer: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Secretary: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail or E-mail form to both of the following:

Department President, Nancy Worth, PO Box 47, Piedmont, SD 57769 or nworth@rushmore.com

Department Secretary, Nancy Chester, PO Box 55, Ft. Pierre, SD 57532 or nancysdvwla@pie.midco.net

**Ladies Auxiliary Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of South Dakota
Deceased Members 2015-2016**

Auxiliary Number: _____ **Location:** _____

This form must be received no later than May 15, 2016 in order to publish the program for the 2016 Memorial Service. Mail completed form to: Mary Kirkvold, 2500 Bethel PI #203, Sioux Falls, SD 57105.

Please complete the following information for deceased members of your Auxiliary since May 1, 2016.

<u>Name of Deceased Member</u>	<u>Member Status (Life Member, Charter Member, Past Auxiliary President or Past Dept. President)</u>
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Mail by May 15, 2016 to: Mary Kirkvold, 2500 Bethel PI #203, Sioux Falls, SD 57105

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE REGISTRATION FORM**

For registration to the Department Convention: One (1) delegate and one (1) alternate **for each thirty (30) members** or fraction thereof. Members must be in good standing at time of election. Election held at regular Auxiliary meeting **not less** than thirty (30) days prior to the Department Convention. The Auxiliary Secretary shall forward the list to the **Department Secretary.** (Article III Section 304) Send Delegate fees to Department Treasurer, Carol Gross.

DELEGATE

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
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23. _____
24. _____
25. _____

ALTERNATE

1. _____
2. _____
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17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. _____
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____

Mail to Department Secretary before April 22, 2016.

Nancy Chester, PO Box 55, Ft. Pierre, SD 57532

Email: nancysdvfwla@pie.midco.net

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

DELEGATE FEES

To be completed by Auxiliary Treasurer and sent to Department Treasurer before convention.

Auxiliary No: _____ Town: _____

Membership: _____ as of _____
(date)

Your Auxiliary is allowed 1 delegate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof. Each Auxiliary should also remit for any member(s) from their Auxiliary who is serving as a Department Officer during the current year and also for any Past Department Presidents from their Auxiliary.

Number of delegates entitled _____ at \$1.50 \$ _____

Department Officer(s): (If any)

Name	Office Title
------	--------------

Name	Office Title
------	--------------

Name	Office Title
------	--------------

Name	Office Title
------	--------------

Total Department Officers _____ at \$1.50 \$ _____

Past Department President(s): (If any)

Name

Name

Name

Name	
------	--

Total Past Department Presidents _____ at \$1.50 \$ _____

TOTAL REMITTED \$ _____

Mail to Department Treasurer before April 22, 2016:

Carol Gross, PO Box 657, Huron, SD 57350-0657

Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary
Convention Registration for the Department of South Dakota
June 9 -12, 2016
The Lodge at Deadwood, 100 Pine Crest Ln., Deadwood, South Dakota 57732

Registration for Convention will be **\$75** per member prior to **May 12, 2016**, and **\$85** after **May 13, 2016**.

Those who have registered by **May 12, 2016**, will have their name entered into an **"Early Bird Drawing"**. Two drawings will be made at the Convention for \$50 each. So, get your registration in by **May 12, 2016** to possible be a winner. Individual banquet tickets will be sold to nonmembers only for \$40.00 each. This will include a name badge. Name badges will be required for the Hospitality Night and banquet. Cut off time for Banquet Tickets will be 4:00pm on June 10, 2016.

PRINT Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Membership: ____ Auxiliary ____ Post. Post or Auxiliary # & Location: _____

Please list the title you want on your badge if you hold an elected office at the Post, Auxiliary, District, or Department level: _____

Registration Form: **VFW Auxiliary Officers and Chairman Luncheon** June 9, 2016 at 11:00am – 1:00pm. Located at The Lodge at Deadwood. Deadline for Form and **\$16.00** is **May 19, 2016**.

PRINT Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Registration Form: **VFW Auxiliary Past Department President's Dinner** June 9, 2016 at 5:00pm – 6:00pm. Located at The Lodge at Deadwood. Deadline for Form and **\$30.00** is **May 19, 2016**.

PRINT Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Registration Form: **VFW Auxiliary Gold Star Family/Recognition Luncheon** June 10, 2016 at 10:45am – 12:15pm located at The Lodge at Deadwood. Deadline for Form and **\$20.00** is **May 19, 2016**.

PRINT Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Auxiliary City, Name & Number _____

Registration Form: **VFW Past Department Commanders and District Commanders (old & new) Luncheon** June 11, 2016 at 12:00pm – 1:30pm. Located at The Lodge at Deadwood. Deadline for Form and **\$16.00** is May 19, 2016.

PRINT Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Are you a: Gold Star Mother ____ Gold Star Family Member ____
 Past Department President ____
 45 Plus Member ____ Years ____

Make checks payable to: VFW Post #2730 Convention Fund
 VFW & A Convention 2016
 1507 Jackson St.
 Sturgis, SD 57785

Any requested refunds will be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

**** Please use one form for each individual registration****

Conv. Reg. ____ \$ _____
Aux. Off. & Chm. Lunch ____ \$ _____
Gold Star Family ____ \$ _____
PDP Dinner ____ \$ _____
VFW PDC & District Com. Lunch ____ \$ _____
Total ____ \$ _____

YOUR MUST MAKE YOUR OWN MOTEL RESERVATIONS, ask for VFW Convention rates. Rates listed do not include tax.

The Lodge at Deadwood: 100 Pine Crest Ln. Call 605-584-4800, \$149.00 until 5/8/2016.

Comfort Inn & Suites: (Gulches of Fun) 225 Cliff St. Call 605-578-7550, \$119.00.

Mineral Palace: 601 Main St. Call 605-578-2036, \$115.00 (Wed. & Thurs.) \$140.00 (Fri. & Sat.)

First Gold: 270 Main St. Call 605-578-9777, 15% discount on rooms to VFW members.

A block of 40 rooms are available at The Lodge at Deadwood. You are required to stay at this hotel to receive reimbursement.

VFW & Auxiliary Convention Ads

Department of South Dakota Convention – Deadwood, June 9-12, 2016

Order Date: _____ VFW or Aux. Representative _____
Contact: _____
Business Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Black & White Ads:	Color Ads – Inside Pages:	Color Ads – Cover Pages:
Full Page (\$125.00) _____	Full Page (\$200.00) _____	Full Page (\$250.00) _____
Half Page (\$75.00) _____	Half Page (\$125.00) _____	
Quarter Page (\$50.00) _____	Quarter Page (\$90.00) _____	
Business Card (\$35.00) _____	Business Card (\$50.00) _____	
Signature Ads.....\$5.00		

Make Payments to: VFW Post 2730 – Convention Book Ads
Color ads must be submitted electronically to littlegirlz3@msn.com
For camera-ready black & white ads only and all payments, send to:
Paha Sapa Post 2730
1507 Jackson St.
Sturgis, SD 57785-1244

All ads need to be camera-ready or submitted in digital format no later than
4:00 pm on Friday, May 13, 2016

(Customer Order Receipt below – cut along line)

Date of order: _____

Order received from: _____
Contact: _____
Business Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Black & White Ads:	Color Ads – Inside Pages:	Color Ads – Cover Pages:
Full Page (\$125.00) _____	Full Page (\$200.00) _____	Full Page (\$250.00) _____
Half Page (\$75.00) _____	Half Page (\$125.00) _____	
Quarter Page (\$50.00) _____	Quarter Page (\$90.00) _____	
Business Card (\$35.00) _____	Business Card (\$50.00) _____	
Signature Ads.....\$5.00		

VFW or Aux. Representative: _____
Payment Amount Received: _____

Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota

Hospitality Night

Annual Convention – 2016

Friday, June 10

6:30pm – 8:30pm Food and Open Bar

VFW Post #5969

10 Pine Street

Deadwood, South Dakota

Convention Badges Required

Cost \$75.00 per candidate

Make checks payable to: VFW Post #2730 Convention Fund

Send to: VFW & A Convention 2016
1507 Jackson St.
Sturgis, SD 57785

PRINT Candidate Name: _____

For the Office of: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Please circle what you need:

Electricity: YES NO Paper plate size preference: SMALL LARGE

Plastic ware needed: KNIVES SPOONS FORKS

Anything else you need for your table?

If you have questions or concerns about Hospitality Night, please contact:

Rollin Sieveke Phone Number: 605-722-9914

Veterans of Foreign Wars Schedule
 Department of South Dakota Convention
 Thursday, June 9 thru Sunday, June 12, 2016
 The Lodge at Deadwood, 10 Pine Crest Lane, Deadwood, SD

Thursday, June 9, 2016

11:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration	Convention Hallway
10:30 am – 11:30 am	Post/District Quartermaster Meeting	Roosevelt Room
11:30 am – 1:00pm	Lunch general membership	On your own
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Council of Administration Meeting	Pine Crest A
2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Committee Meetings	Pine Crest A
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Dinner	On your own
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Award Presenters meet with VFW & Aux Chair	Pine Crest A
7:00 pm	Joint VFW & Aux. Awards Presentations	Pine Crest A & B

Friday, June 10, 2016

8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration	Convention Hallway
9:15 am	Joint Memorial Service	Pine Crest D
11:00 am – 12:15 pm	Lunch general membership	On your own
12:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Joint Opening Session	Pine Crest A
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Opening VFW Business Meeting	Pine Crest A
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Hospitality Night	VFW Post #5969, 10 Pine St.

Saturday, June 11, 2016

9:00 am – 11:00 am	Registration	Convention Hallway
8:00 am – 12:00 pm	VFW Business Meeting	Pine Crest A
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Past Department Commander Luncheon	
	District Cmdrs. Luncheon (old & new)	Bullock Room
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch general membership	On your own
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm	VFW Business Meeting	Pine Crest A
5:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Social (cash bar)	Pine Crest C & D
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Convention Banquet	Pine Crest C & D

Sunday, June 12, 2016

	Church Services at your choice & location	
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Pictures of Incoming Officers	Pine Crest C & D
10:00 am – 10:45 am	VFW & Auxiliary Joint Installation	Pine Crest C & D
10:45 am	Close Convention	Pine Crest A
11:00 am	Council of Administration Meeting (new)	Pine Crest A
12:00 am	Mandatory District Commanders Meeting	Pine Crest A

VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota
 2016 Convention Schedule
 Thursday, June 9 thru Sunday, June 12, 2016
 The Lodge at Deadwood, 10 Pine Crest Lane, Deadwood, SD

Thursday, June 9, 2016

11:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration	Convention Hallway
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Recruiter Trainer Seminars	Pine Crest B
11:00 am – 1:00 pm	Officers & Chairmen Luncheon	Pine Crest C
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Council of Administration Meeting	Pine Crest B
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Officer March Practice	Pine Crest B
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Ritual Practice	Pine Crest B
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Past Department President's Dinner	Bullock Room
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Dinner	On your own
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Award Presenters meet with VFW & Aux Chair	Pine Crest A
7:00 pm	Joint VFW & Aux. Awards Presentations	Pine Crest A & B

Friday, June 10, 2016

8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration	Convention Hallway
8:00 am – 8:30 am	Flag and Banner Practice	Pine Crest B
9:15 am	Joint Memorial Service	Pine Crest D
10:45 am – 12:15 pm	Gold Star Family/Recognition Luncheon	Pine Crest C
11:00 am – 12:15 pm	Lunch general membership	On your own
12:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Joint Opening Session	Pine Crest A
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Opening Auxiliary Business Session	Pine Crest B
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Hospitality Night	VFW Post #5969, 10 Pine St.

Saturday, June 11, 2016

9:00 am – 11:00 am	Registration	Convention Hallway
8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Auxiliary Business Session	Pine Crest B
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch	On your own
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Auxiliary Business Session	Pine Crest B
5:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Social (cash bar)	Pine Crest C
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Convention Banquet	Pine Crest C & D

Sunday, June 12, 2016

	Church Services at your choice & location	
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Pictures of Incoming Officers	Pine Crest C & D
10:00 am – 10:45 am	VFW & Auxiliary Joint Installation	Pine Crest C & D
11:00 am	Council of Administration (new)	Pine Crest B

NOT ACCEPTED BEFORE APRIL 1, 2016
NOR AFTER MAY 31, 2016

103rd NATIONAL CONVENTION
OFFICIAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

TO: National Secretary
VFW Auxiliary
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

FROM: AUXILIARY NO. _____ DEPARTMENT OF _____
AUXILIARY NAME _____
CITY AND STATE _____

This is to certify that the Delegates and Alternates listed below were duly elected on _____ with the total VFW Auxiliary membership of _____ to represent our Auxiliary at the 103rd National Convention.

[One Delegate and Alternate for each 50 members or portion thereof **on date of election.**]

It is recommended that a list of the Delegates entered online and printed out or a copy of the list sent to National Headquarters by May 31, 2016 be carried to the Convention.

PRINT NEATLY or TYPE each Delegate or Alternate's ID NUMBER and NAME.
Name and ID Number ARE REQUIRED to complete this form:

DELEGATES		ALTERNATES	
ID NUMBER	MEMBER'S NAME	ID NUMBER	MEMBER'S NAME
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Signed _____
(Auxiliary President)

(Address)

(City, State & Zip Code)

(Auxiliary Secretary)

(Address)

(City, State & Zip Code)

VFW AUXILIARY SEAL

Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall be elected at the last regular meeting in **April**; one for each fifty (50) members or fraction thereof in good standing on the date of the election of Delegates.

The VFW Auxiliary Secretary shall input the names of the Delegates and Alternates including their membership ID numbers, within five (5) days of the date of the election and **NO LATER THAN MAY 31, 2016** through her member login on the Auxiliary VFW website-www.vfwauxiliary.org OR email, fax, or mail this form to National Headquarters to be received **NO LATER THAN MAY 31, 2016.**

NOTE: This is a listing only. (NO CHECKS ARE TO BE INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM.)



117th VFW National Convention 2016
July 23-27, 2016 · Charlotte, NC
Official Auxiliary (LeMeridien) Reservation Form

INSTRUCTIONS

Reservations can be made in one of the following ways:

INTERNET: Visit the VFW web site at www.vfw.org.

TELEPHONE:

Toll-free in US: 877-464-6840
 International: 980-337-3372
 8:30AM to 9:00PM EST, M-F

FAX: 704-347-1158

MAIL:

Visit Charlotte Housing
 500 S. College St., Suite 300
 Charlotte, NC 28202-1873

CHANGES/CANCELLATIONS, INQUIRIES

EMAIL : vfw@visitcharlotte.com
 Changes, cancellations, inquiries only. Do not send housing forms/credit card info by email.

DEADLINE

Reservations must be made by phone, fax, mail or internet by **Monday, June 13, 2016**. Reservations received after this date will be subject to space and rate availability.

CONFIRMATIONS

Visit Charlotte will send an e-mail confirmation of your reservation. Please review all information for accuracy. If you do not receive a confirmation or have questions, contact Visit Charlotte Housing by email or phone. **Your hotel will also send an official confirmation by July 4, 2016.**

TAX RATE and REQUESTS

All rates are per room and are subject to a combined hotel occupancy and sales tax of 15.25%. While special requests cannot be guaranteed; hotels will do their best to honor requests. Hotels will assign specific rooms upon check-in, based on availability.

ROOM DEPOSIT REQUIRED:

Reservations will not be accepted without a deposit. Room Deposits will be accepted in the form of a valid credit card (preferred) with signature authorizing the credit card guarantee to be charged for the deposit. If the charge to the credit card is denied, we reserve the right to release your reservation. Room Deposits will be accepted by check made payable to "Visit Charlotte" in the amount of \$184.00 until June 13, 2016.

CANCELLATION POLICY

One night's room and tax will be forfeited entirely if cancellation occurs within seventy-two (72) hours prior to the attendee arrival date and will be charged by your hotel.

GUEST INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT)

FOR BEST AVAILABILITY AND IMMEDIATE CONFIRMATION, MAKE YOUR RESERVATION VIA THE WEB (www.vfw.org) OR BY PHONE AT 877-464-6840; International: 980-337-3372

Arrival Date _____ **Departure Date** _____

First Name _____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____

E-mail Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Fax _____

Company _____

Address _____

Address 2 _____

City/State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code, Country _____

HOTEL SELECTION

Reservation Access Code: _____ (You must enter this code in order to process your reservation request. You should receive this code from the National Office.)

Room Type Requested: One Bed Two Beds

(Submit only one room request per form. Should additional forms be needed, please make copies.)

List all room occupants:

Check here if you have special needs and specify below.

Special requests: _____

Note: All VFW Hotels are non-smoking properties. All have designated out-door smoking areas.

DEPOSIT INFORMATION

All reservations requests must be accompanied by a credit card guarantee or check for one night's deposit. Credit card is the preferred method. Housing Forms received without a valid guarantee/deposit will not be processed. Check deposits must be mailed with a completed housing form.

Visa American Express Discover MasterCard

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name on Credit Card _____

Address, City, State, Zip _____

Cardholder's Signature* _____

* I hereby authorize the participating hotel to charge a deposit of \$184.00 to my credit card on or after June 13, 2016 and authorize the participating hotel keep one nights room and tax charge if I fail to cancel my reservation 72 hours prior to my arrival date.

Check deposit of \$184.00 enclosed and made payable to Visit Charlotte Housing. Mail check with completed housing form to: Visit Charlotte Housing, 500 S. College St., Suite 300, Charlotte, NC 28202-1873. Must be received no later than June 13, 2016.

103RD NATIONAL CONVENTION

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, JULY 23-28, 2016

Read
carefully
for updated
information!

SAVE \$10! Advance registration is \$25. On-site registration is \$35.
Register online at vfwauxiliary.org, pay with credit card (form below) or mail a check to:

VFW Auxiliary 406 W. 34th St., 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111

Attn: National Convention Registration

Registration must be received by May 31st. Registrations received after May 31st will be rejected.

Note: Only members attending National Convention will receive packet materials.

Packets will NOT be mailed after Convention. Do NOT register if you do not plan to attend.

Member must be present at time of registration to receive packet.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S DINNER

Sunday, July 24, 2016 at the Convention Center Crown Ballroom

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., dinner is served at 7 p.m. Cash bar. After-five/cocktail attire.

Register online, pay by credit card or mail a check to the VFW Auxiliary (form below).

Registration must be received by May 31st. You must present your ticket at the door.

The following VIPs will receive a separate invitation: National Line officers, Past National Presidents, 2015-2016 Department Presidents, 2016-2017 Department Presidents, National Ambassadors, National Appointed Officers, National District Council Members.

45-YEARS PLUS CLUB LUNCHEON

Have you been a member for 45 years or more?

Come join the 45-Years Plus Club at National Convention.

The luncheon will be at noon Saturday, July 23rd at the Convention Center.

Register online or fill out form (below) and mail to National Headquarters. Registration is required to attend.

- National Convention:** Advance Registration \$25
- National President's Dinner:** No. of tickets at \$50 _____ Total \$ _____
- 45-Plus Luncheon** (Complimentary)
- Grand Total \$ _____**

Name _____ Membership No. _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Department _____ Phone _____ Email _____

[] Check enclosed [] Money order enclosed [] Credit card

VFW Auxiliary does NOT accept American Express. DO NOT SEND CASH.

Credit Card No. _____ [] Visa [] MasterCard [] Discover

Name on card _____

Billing address for card _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Expiration date _____ 3-digit CWV code on back of card _____

This form and all payments must be received at National Headquarters by May 31st.

DO NOT ENCLOSE DELEGATE LISTS WITH THIS FORM.

103rd National Convention
Charlotte, North Carolina
July 23-27, 2016

(Please be aware that there could be significant changes to the schedule.)

Check the website for the most up-to-date schedule.

All events will take place at the Charlotte Convention Center unless otherwise noted.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, JULY 22

Early registration and packet pickup will be available at the Le Meridien and Weston hotels.

SATURDAY, JULY 23

8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Conference Meetings
Noon – 1:00 pm	45-Plus Club Luncheon (Reservations Required)
4:30 – 5:30 pm	Auxiliary Opening Session

SUNDAY, JULY 24

8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration
8:30 – 9:30 am	VFW Joint Memorial Service
10:00 am – Noon	2015 -2016 Council Meeting
12:30 – 1:30 pm	Past Councilors' Club Luncheon
1:00 – 4:00 pm	Programs Seminars (There will be segments on every Program in one location!)
4:00 – 5:00 pm	First-Time Attendees Welcome with Officers
6:30 – 9:00 pm	National President's Dinner (Ticketed Event)

MONDAY, JULY 25

8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration
8:00 am – 1:00 pm	VFW Joint Opening Session
2:30 – 5:00 pm	Memorial Service and Special Guest

TUESDAY, JULY 26

8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration
8:00 am – 1:00 pm	Auxiliary Business Session: Voting on Resolutions, Update Session on M.A.L.T.A. Membership System
TBD	VFW Patriotic Event

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

7:00 am	Practice for Presentation of Flags
8:00 am	Presentation of Flags and Banners
8:30 am	Auxiliary Business Session
	Election & Installation of Officers
4:00 – 6:00 pm	VFW Commander-in-Chief and National President's Reception (Ticketed Event)

Post-Convention Events: Thursday, July 28:

You are invited to stay an extra day or two in Charlotte following the conclusion of the 103rd National Convention for several post-Convention events.

9:00 am	2016-2017 Council Meeting, followed by Q & A with 2016-2017 National Ambassadors
5:00 pm	Celebration for National President-elect, Colette Bishop, Le Meridien Hotel (Ticketed Event put on by the Department of Illinois)

2016 National Convention Hotel Assignments

South Dakota has been chosen to stay at the

CHARLOTTE MARRIOTT CITY CENTER, 100 West Trade Street, Charlotte, NC 28202

Other states at this hotel are: Wisconsin, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pacific Areas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Remaining states will be staying at the Westin (VFW Headquarters), Le Meridien (Auxiliary Headquarters), Hilton Center City, Omni Charlotte, Hampton Inn Uptown, and Holiday Inn.

The complete list can be seen on the website vfw.org

Use the Official Hotel Registration Form

**VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota
2015-2016 Year-End Awards Worksheet**

All Membership Categories: 10 – 50; 51 – 110; 111 – 225; 226+

Veterans and Family Support Program – Patti Mitchell

Past Department Presidents Awards:

Evelyn Haynes - \$15 Cash Award for Best Overall Promotion of Program

Janice Vreim – Cash Award for Best Promotion of Unmet Needs

Patricia Cerny and Mildred Ratigan – Cash award to the Auxiliary Chairman for best overall promotion of program in each membership category.

Buddy Poppy

Past Department Presidents Awards:

Emma King, family of Marcella Allbee and Jan Cauley – Cash awards for Poppy Displays in three categories: Inspirational and Memorial
 Artistic and Decorative
 Public Promotion

Emma King – Cash Award to the Auxiliary collecting the most money from Poppy Distribution

Americanism – Nelda Jorgensen

Past Department Presidents Awards:

Sharon Mitchell, Evelyn Boortz and Carol Gross – Cash Award to the Auxiliary and Chairman with the Best Promotion of Patriotism.

Jan Endes, Nancy Fickbohm - Cash Awards to the Auxiliary and Auxiliary Chairman for Best Overall Americanism Program in each membership category – this does not include Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen or Patriotic Art.

Hospital – Leanne Payne

\$10 to the Auxiliary with the best event sponsored for Hospitalized Veterans.

\$10 for the best activity for Veterans in a nursing home.

\$10 to the Auxiliary with the best promotion of Military Suicide Awareness.

Past Department Presidents Awards:

Marva Barg, Clara Wiedemer, Arlene Propst and Nancy Fickbohm– Cash Award to the Auxiliary with Best Overall Hospital Program in each Membership Category.

Legislative – Tammy Chase

\$5 to Auxiliary with most members communicating with legislators on Veterans Issues.

\$5 to Auxiliary with most members subscribing to Checkpoint Newsletter and promotion of same.

\$10 & \$5 to 1st (PDP Imogene Ellis award) & 2nd place Auxiliaries with best promotion of VFW Priority Goals.

\$10 & \$5 to 1st (PDP Patricia Cerny award) & 2nd place Auxiliaries with best promotion for contacting elected officials and meeting with candidates.

Membership – Carrie Alm

Past Department Presidents Awards:

Imogene Ellis - \$20 cash award for the greatest percentage gain over quota

Evelyn Haynes – Cash Award for greatest numerical gain in Membership

Scholarships – Sandi Moss

#1 An award will be given to each chairman in the three 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 sends in her report to me.

Past Department 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.

Youth Activities – Mary Kirkvold

Past Department President Awards:

Diane Hickenbotham, Nancy Chester, Gloria Fortin, and Neta Peterka- \$10 to the Auxiliary and \$10 to the Chairman for Best Youth Activities Program in each Membership Category.

Outstanding Auxiliary Presidents – Jan Endes

Department gives monetary gift to the Outstanding President and runner-up in each membership category. Must submit a year-end report to qualify.

Membership Category 10 – 50: Outstanding President
Runner-up

Membership Category 51 – 110: Outstanding President
Runner-up

Membership Category 111 – 225: Outstanding President
Runner-up

Membership Category 226 + Outstanding President
Runner-up

Captain and Co-Captain – Joyce Schat, Connie Seymour and Mary Hammond present a cash award to Captain (\$50) and Co-Captain (\$25) of the Outstanding Auxiliary Presidents.

Outstanding District President – Neta Peterka

Department presents the Susie Radigan Award Plaque to the Outstanding District President. Must submit a year-end report to qualify.

Pat Howey, Gloria Fortin, Jan Cauley and Jan Endes – Cash Award to the Outstanding District President.

Ladies Auxiliary VFW, Department of South Dakota
Department President's Theme: **Remembering Our Promise**
National President's Theme: **"Our Veterans – Now and Forever"**
VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2015- 2016 by Patti Mitchell
General Orders Bulletin #8 April, 2016

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

Another unit deployed in South Dakota 196th Enhancement Brigade. Harrisburg, S.D., Feb. 27, 2016. The Soldiers will deploy for up to a year to Kuwait in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

Involve the whole family in this program by ending care packages, cards and coupons to our troops overseas collecting Campbell's Labels for Education for the VFW National Home for Children or participating in your Post or Auxiliary's Buddy Poppy drive

Turn in your volunteer hours so your auxiliary gets the credit for VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

How do you find a military unit to adopt? Contact your local National Guard, Reserve and Active Duty units - Access the "Find a Unit Flyer" - Speak with other VFW Posts & Veterans Service Organizations who may have information. - Contact a local Family Readiness Group.

What kind of events can MAP Grant funds be used for? Common events include, but are not limited to: Family Days - Picnics – Festivals - Welcome Home and Deployment Ceremonies - Holidays Events.

Who can apply for a MAP grant? VFW Departments, Post and Auxiliaries that desire to support their local military.

Where do I get a MAP Grant Application? MAP Grant applications can be found behind member login on the VFW Auxiliary website here:

<http://www.vfwauxiliary.org/wpcontent/uploads/2016/01/MAP-Grant-Application.pdf>

Rack Card. This is a great item for handing out at Stand Downs, fairs, Welcome Home events, Deployment ceremonies or any event where veterans and their families may be gathered. This card offers a "one-stop shop" of information that can be useful to our veterans, active-duty military and their families. It includes contact information for our great organization, as well as places to get help with employment, military kid information, abuse and suicide prevention, TRICARE, DAV, Military OneSource, the Dept. of Veterans Affairs and so much more. Make sure you take the time to check them out, print them and utilize this great new item! Check it out at www.vfwauxiliary.org under Programs go to Veterans & Family Support and click on the link to download!

Don't forget the Buddy Poppy Kids just love getting the Buddy Poppy and they are curious. It's a great opportunity to educate them about the meaning and symbolism behind this powerful little flower.

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



AMERICANISM DEPARTMENT OF SD April 2016 Bulletin 8

**National President Francisca Guilford's Theme
"OUR VETERANS-- NOW & FOREVER"
Department President Nancy Worth's Theme
"REMEMBERING OUR PROMISE; ADVOCATES FOR VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES"**

Loyalty Day on May 1st, Hope you have your plans made for celebrating this important day. One thing you can do is have coloring sheets about the flag, freedom, anything patriotic and present them to the youth at schools. Give them awards for their efforts and explain what the pictures represent. It would be a good time to honor your firefighter and police officers. Be early in securing a proclamation from your Mayor and read it at your program or better yet invite the Mayor to come to your program. This is a day to celebrate with our Veterans but also all Americans.

There are many Stand Downs this time of year which is another great day to help our veterans. Be sure you find out ahead of time the many items that are needed by them. Good time to find out who the Homeless Veterans are so you can help with the many needs they may have during the year.

One thing I would like to see done by all VFW and Auxiliaries is to promote more residences To fly the flag more. Work with other organizations and promote this through the media. Patriotism really rallied after 9-11 and I for one would love to see that flourish again as it did at that time. Hopefully we do not need a tragedy to awaken us to be good Americans and to show our PATRIOTISM EVERYDAY! Don't forget to involve the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and 4-H groups, this is the time to get those youth involved. Provide a flag as often as you can.

Memorial Day: I am sure all our auxiliaries go to the cemeteries and put out the Auxiliary Banner for a remembrance of all our departed sisters. Hope you will join with the VFW in taking part in all the programs at those cemeteries. Many auxiliaries present wreaths at those programs along with other organizations. This is a good time to also honor all veterans and their families. Memorial Day was first designated in 1868 and is devoted to honoring the memory of Veterans who paid the ultimate price. If it weren't for these loved ones we would not enjoy the freedoms we have.

Great news I have already received one yearend report and I am really looking forward to all of them coming in even before April 15th. I KNOW EVERY AUXILIARY HAS DONE SOMETHING FOR AMERICANISM and TO PROMOTE PATRIOTISM.

**Nelda Jorgenson, Americanism Chairman
1626 Cedar Dr. Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-225-7060, cell 380-6734 Email- nktikijorg@nvc.net**

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Now is the time to review your position as Patriotic Instructor and be well prepared for any upcoming meetings. It has been a great year and I have enjoyed being in contact with all of the other Patriotic Instructors. I have one last item about our Flag.

Old Ragged Flag

I walked through a county courthouse square, and on a park bench an old man was sittin' there.

I said, "Your old courthouse is kind of run down." He said, "It'll do for our little town."

"Your flagpole kinda leans a little bit" I said, "and that's a ragged old flag you got hangin' on it."

"Have a seat" he said and I sat down.

"is this the first time you've come to our town?" I said "I think it is."

"Well, I don't like to brag, but we're kinda proud of that ragged old flag!"

"You see, we got a little hole there in that flag, when Washington took it across the Delaware.

"It got powder burns the night Francis Scott Key stood up watching it. writin'- a sinkin" at sea.

"It got into a little rift in New Orleans with "Packin' Hams' and Jackson, tugin" its seams."

"It almost fell at the Alamo, beside the Texas flag – but she waved on, though.

"It got cut with a sword at Chancellorsville - got cut again at Shiloh Hill.

"There was Beauregard and Bragg, and the south wind blew hard on that old flag.

"On Flanders Field in World War I, she took a bad hit from a Bertha gun.

"She turned blood red in World War II; she hung limp and low by the time that one was through.

"She was in Korea- Vietman; she went where she was sent by her Uncle Sam.

"The Native Americans, the blacks, yellows and whit4es – all shed red blood for the Stars and Stripe"

"In her own good native land she's been abused – she's been burned, dishonored, denied.

"And the very government for which she stands has been scandalized throughout the land.

"She's getting' threadbare and she's wearin' kinda thin, but she's in pretty good shape for the shape she's in.

"Cause she's been through the fire before and she can take a whole lot more.

"So we raise her up ever' morning" and bring her down ever' night

"We don't let her touch the ground and we fold her up right.

"On second thought, I guess I do like to brag "cause I'm mighty proud of that "RAGGED OLD FLAG."

Written by Johnny Cash

Hospital & VAVS Program
VFW Auxiliary, Dept. of South Dakota
“Our Veterans – Now and Forever”
“Remembering Our Promise; Advocates for Veterans & Their Families”
Bulletin #8, April, 2016

Oh, how the year has flown by! This last bulletin has snuck right up as the year is coming to an end. It just doesn't seem possible that the convention is right around the corner. There really isn't a lot to say as everyone is winding down for the year. Just don't forget to send in your end of the year report. The form was in the last General Orders. I have already received several reports, thank you to those that are on the ball and getting things done in a timely fashion. If you do not get your report in – you will be receiving a call from me as I will be putting things together for my final report.

Just a reminder, that my awards for this year are as follows:

- #1 is to the Auxiliary with the best event that they sponsored for our Hospitalized Veterans.
- #2 is for the best activity in a nursing home for Veterans.
- #3 will go to the Auxiliary that best promoted Military Suicide Awareness.

Don't forget to get those reports in by April 15!!

Don't forget to encourage your Auxiliaries to send cards, visits, or a call to the VA facilities, hospital, or nursing home. 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.

Events coming up are Loyalty Day (May 1), Armed Forces Day (May 21), Memorial Day (May 30), and Flag Day (June 14).

Just because this is my last report, don't forget that the Veteran's Facilities still have their needs list that never stops.

**Don't forget that volunteering is number one!! Visit veterans, most importantly –
SMILE!!!**

Leanne Payne
Department of South Dakota Hospital/VAVS Chairman
PO Box 126 Phone: 605-942-7568
Plankinton, SD 57368 Email: oldcripp@siouxvalley.net

VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota
LEGISLATIVE

“Remembering our Promise: Advocating for Veterans & Their Families”

Bulletin #8

April 2016



It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of the VFW Auxiliary year. This will be my last bulletin to you as your chairman. Thank you for all your hard work in promoting this program and for participating in it. **Please make sure to get in your year-end reports to me by April 15th by mail or email.**

It is always important to be in touch with your congressional delegation regarding the Veterans and Military member's issues. Please keep the contacts via phone, email and mail going. We need to keep the correspondence active to make our Legislative program stronger. This program is a direct link to a strong membership. With strong membership comes the ability to make our voices (young and old) heard on all levels of government from city to state to national

Please check out the VFW Auxiliary website: www.vfwauxiliary.org. After you click on the Programs tab, choose Legislative and you will find various tools to increase your Legislative Involvement including:

- How to sign up for the VFW Action Corp Weekly
- How to access the Veterans Vote Brochure
- VFW Fact Sheet
- VFW Checkpoint Newsletter

Thank you for your great dedication to our Veterans and their Families. Remember that knowledge is power, and the more you learn about the legislative process, the more effective you will be in influencing your Legislators. You can make a positive difference in the lives of our Veterans.

It has been a privilege working with each of you.

←-----→
Contact your Congressional delegation and advocate on behalf of our Veterans. You can use the 2015-16 Priority goals as a basis for your conversations. You can also contact them at their local offices.

Rep. Kristi Noem

2422 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2801
<http://noem.house.gov/index.cfm/email-kristi>

Sen. John Thune

511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4105
Phone: (202) 224-2321
<http://www.thune.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact>

2015-16 Priority Goals

VA Health Care
Military Quality of Life
Defense & Homeland Security
Veterans Educations & Employment
Suicide and Homelessness
VA Compensation & Benefits
POW/MIA
Seamless Transition

Sen. Mike Rounds

502 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4104
Phone: (202) 224-5842
<http://www.rounds.senate.gov/content/contact-mike>

←-----→
Loyally,

Tammy Chase, Legislative Chairman
45980 SD Hwy 10
Sisseton, SD 57262

Phone: (605) 698-7438
Email: cbchase@venturecomm.net

Membership

Team Means Together Everyone Achieves More! – Author Unknown

General Orders #8

April 2016

Way to go again! Our Department made our March goal of 95% with room to spare. Now we must all step up on more time to hit our final goal of 100% by May 31, 2016. There is no doubt in my mind that the VFW Auxiliaries of South Dakota are ready and willing to show the entire organization what our veterans mean to us! There is no better way to show this than to continue to build our membership in this ever caring organization.

Congratulations to the following auxiliaries who are at or are about 100% - Elk Point, Canton, Freeman, Brookings, Madison, Brandon, Milbank, Goodwin, Scotland, Plankinton, Winner, Burke, Belle Fourche, Custer, Sturgis, and Quinn. Thirteen (13) Auxiliaries have 5 or less members to reach 100% for their auxiliary. A few auxiliaries have a bit higher goal to reach, so please, please, please, do not stop recruiting just because your auxiliary has hit 100%.

Speaking of recruiting.....did you or a member of your auxiliary recruit five (5) or more members this year? Please don't forget to send in the paperwork required for the "No Excuse, I Recruit" recognition for all eligible members to National by May 31, 2016. (Copies of the form needed are included with this general orders)

I have received many questions from auxiliaries as to why they are not at 100% when they have collected and sent dues for all of their continuous members. (Those membership read-outs are confusing to most of us.) The most common place we miss counting our total numbers is found in our deceased members. For every deceased member in our auxiliary, we must recruit a new member to reach the goal of 100%. If you have any questions regarding this or other membership issues, please give me a call.

I am sure all of you have your plans in action for April 10th – 16th Membership Week. One wonderful idea was given to me and I want to share it is to ask your Post Commander if you can have a couple minutes of time at their next meeting. Go with your president, treasurer, membership chairman and any other members that would be interested and excitedly and thoroughly explain the membership eligibility for male members to the Auxiliary. Make sure you are conveying how important it is for male family members of veterans to honor those that have served as it is for female family members. Also, the Department and other auxiliaries within our department would love to hear how this went and what your results were, along with any other membership ideas.

As, always, I am happy to assist any of you or your auxiliaries in reaching your goals this year and I know that we can get Department to 100% with a full team effort. Please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns, ideas or just to chat at 605-517-0287 or

littlegirlz3@msn.com

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Alm

Department Membership Chairman 2015-16

VFW Auxiliary Membership

Member Awards

“No excuse...I Recruit Pin”: Each VFW Auxiliary or VFW Post member who secures 5 or more new members will receive this special pin. The official form should be sent to National Headquarters for verification. The forms will be accepted all year long with a **due date of May 31, 2016**. Those members who wear their No Excuse...I Recruit Pin to national events during 2015-2016 may be eligible for special awards and prizes. **Only one pin per member or VFW member.** Department treasurers are not eligible for this award.

Please type or print all information

Recruiter's Name _____ member ID# _____ aux. No. _____

Recruiter's address _____
Street address City State Zip Code

Number	Auxiliary Number	Member Name	Date Accepted
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Completed form must be received by National Headquarters by May 31, 2016.

Mail form to:
VFW Auxiliary
Attn: Membership Awards
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor
Kansas City MO 64111

SCHOLARSHIPS

General Orders #7 – March 2016

“Our Veterans – Now and Forever” – National President Francisca

“Remembering Our Promise – Advocating for Veterans for Veterans & Their Families”
Department President Nancy

I can't believe this will be my last General Orders as Scholarship Chairman, the year has one fast!! We had a great Legislative Conference in Pierre with a wonderful luncheon for our Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners.

Austin Lynch, from Pierre, was the Voice of Democracy Winner representing District #8. Austin will be traveling to our Nation's capitol representing South Dakota, we wish him well. His speech was outstanding.

Rachel Richenbach entered the contest representing Rapid City and placed first in District 10 as Patriot's Pen Winner. Rachel read her entry and it was wonderful – I think we have a future Voice of Democracy entrant. All of the entries in these two programs were really good and typified youth who have a good vision for America and know what freedom means to them.

We still have one Scholarship Program to complete. The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest does not close until March 31st. Participants, in grades 9, 10, 11, or 12, must present their entries to a local Auxiliary by that date. I must receive the entries by April 15th in order to have them judged and get the winning entry to National by May 5th! The First Place at National level will earn \$10,000 a plaque and airfare plus two nights lodging to attend the Auxiliary National Convention. The first-place art will be featured on the cover of the Auxiliary VFW Magazine and on the Auxiliary website. Second Place is \$5,000, and Third Place is \$2,500 and will be featured in the Auxiliary VFW Magazine and on the website. Fourth Place is awarded \$1,500 and Fifth Place is awarded \$500! I know we have many talented kids in South Dakota. I sent out many Flag Etiquette books this year, please make sure your judges are aware of the proper use of the flag, we have had to disqualify entries when they failed to adhere to the guidelines. I am excited about this program and have my judges already lined up!!

There is a copy of the Year End Report in this General Orders. Please fill the form out and mail it to me prior to **15 April**. Remember our work isn't finished until the paperwork is done! Paperwork is a very important part of all of our programs and help President Nancy on her journey to becoming an Outstanding President!

We have two Awards being given by two of our Past Department Presidents. Neva Jean Corlett is giving a Cash Award for the best promotion of the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen contests. Nelda Jorgenson is giving a Cash Award for the best promotion of the Continuing Education Scholarship and the Young American Creative Patriotic Art contest.

I also have four personal awards. An Award to each Chairman in the three membership categories for the best promotion of the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen program. An Award to each Chairman in the above categories with the best promotion of the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Program. An Award to each chairman that has an entry in the Young American Creative Art Program. And an Award to the District Chairman that sends in her report to me.

Thank You for all your hard work this year, it has been a pleasure working this Program with you. When your reports are in to me your year will be over, however, I know that many of you love this program and will chair Scholarships again next year. It is never too early to get the subjects out for these programs. The subject for the Voice of Democracy Scholarship for 2016-2017 will be "My Responsibility to America" and the Patriot's Pen subject is "The America I Believe In'.

Loyally,



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National Theme: "Our Veterans - Now and Forever"
SD Department Theme: "Remembering Our Promise, Advocating
for the Veterans & Their Families"

Bulletin #8, April

What are some resources that members should be aware of for your Program?

AmeriCorps, Job Corps, FFA, 4-H, American Heritage Girls, ROTC, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, place of worship youth groups, school mentor programs. What do all of these have in common? YOUTH! Young People eager to partner with the VFW Auxiliary and VFW for betterment of our communities and the expansion of Youth Program.

How can you involve families through this program?

Involvement of the ENTIRE family is the future of our organization. Let's focus on all youth and the community as a whole. Many families welcome the opportunity to volunteer not only to improve their community but also to teach their kids the importance of giving back. All we have to do is ask!

What is the No. 1 way to connect with your community through this program?

Community Activities Fairs: Invite veterans who are residents, residents at nursing homes. National Guard members, Family Readiness Group (FRG), Veterans Service Officers (VSO), elected officials, anyone and everyone. Not only does a Community Activities Fair connect us to the community but gives an invaluable opportunity to show who we are and what we offer. Have representatives from each program, Veterans & Family Support, Americanism, Hospital, Legislative, Membership, Scholarships and Youth Activities.

What better time to tie in a drive for care packages, letters to veterans, show proper respect to the U.S. Flag by demonstrating a flag retirement ceremony, membership drive, recording of the past scholarship winners, games for kids, etc. Show the community that we are more than bingo, karaoke or pull tabs.

What are you most passionate about this program?

Today's youth are the future of our nation. I can't say those words enough! I embrace the idea we could have a direct impact on the life of a young person by demonstrating good citizenship and encouraging our youth to become responsible adults through serving our country, communities and veterans.

Reminder PLEASE SEND ME THE CITATIONS SOON, SO I CAN SIGN THEM AND SEND THEM IN, THEY NEED TO BE SENT TO KANSAS BY APRIL 10th. Also YOUR YEAR END REPORTS. THANK YOU.

Loyally, Mary Kirkvold
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cell phone: 605-351-0839 email: marykirkvold@yahoo.com