

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 **October 2015 Issue**

Corrections and Changes
General Orders #4
Advocates for Veterans & Their Families
Relief Fund Guide
VFW Auxiliary Q & A
Instructions for Bond Certificate
Name Change Sample News Release
Joys, Cares & Concerns
Program Chairmen Bulletins

Remembering Our Promise



Ladies Auxiliary VFW
SOUTH DAKOTA
2015-2016

CORRECTIONS and CHANGES

Correction:

- Huron Auxiliary #1776 Treasurer, Debra Meyers correct address is:
 - 21421 406th Avenue, Cavour, SD 57324

Changes:

Jackie Dale, Sturgis Aux. #2730 Treasurer, has a new email address: angler08@vastbb.net

Gloria Fortin, PDP, has a new email address: gfortin1@outlook.com

Huron Post and Auxiliary #1776 is no longer known as Forrest McMullen Post. The new name is: Tomczak-Bartels Post #1776.

John H. Larson (Goodwin) Auxiliary #6361 now meets on the 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm. The Auxiliary also has different officers as follows:

President Patti Mitchell
888 Slowacki Ave., Grenville, SD 57239
Cell: 605-280-0777
pattimitchell4@hotmail.com

Secretary: Carol Rust (formerly Sec/Treas.)

Treasurer: Doris Rose Jaeger (formerly President)

VAVS Representative for SD Human Services is now:

Judy Potts
55918 898th Road
St. Alena, NE 68774
402-667-3323
pottsv@valyousat.net



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

General Orders Number 4, October, 2015

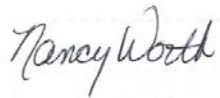
Must be read at the first meeting following receipt before being filed for reference.

1. The VFW programs of Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and South Dakota VFW's Teacher of the Year deadline is November 1, 2015. These programs should be in full swing in your Auxiliary as the school year starts. (NOTE: South Dakota set Teacher of the Year deadline the same as prior years' vs along with the National deadline to enable the winning teachers to accompany the students to the February Legislative Conference in Pierre.)
2. Each Auxiliary and District will be receiving a new Charter reflecting the change in our name and emblem. As these new documents are received, please make note of the original date of the Auxiliary or District Charter and forward that information to Department President, Nancy Worth and Department Secretary, Nancy Chester, to help with Department records.
3. VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters staff are working feverishly to make changes in all of the documents, emblems, etc. to reflect our new name – Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary. This mailing includes a VFW Auxiliary Question & Answer Guide to assist in this transition.
4. A sample News Release is included in this mailing to help spread the word of our name change. This News Release will help explain our name change and the acceptance of males in our organization to your local area.
5. The “new” VFW Auxiliary logo is available on the National website behind the member login. If you don't already have an account, it takes less than two minutes to set up an account. Instructions are included in this mailing on how to set up a “login account.” Once this is established, a variety of information is available to you, including authorization for use of the new VFW Auxiliary emblem/logo.
6. The VFW Store is in the process of updating its products to reflect the new VFW Auxiliary emblem. Most of the products on pages 78-94 of the new catalog will continue to be sold, but with the updated emblem. Check out the products at <http://www.vfwstore.org/category/auxiliary>.
7. All Districts and Auxiliaries have submitted their bonds to National Headquarters. This has helped to keep our current Auxiliaries viable. This mailing includes information from the VFW Auxiliary National Director of Accounting, George Martin, regarding the steps for Auxiliaries to obtain a Bond Certificate.

8. There has been some confusion as to the proper use of Buddy Poppy funds. A "Relief Fund Guide" is included in this mailing to help members better understand another benefit for Auxiliary members.

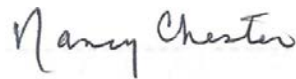
9. **Big Ten Conference** is October 16-18 in Bettendorf, Iowa. Registration is \$100.00 per person, rooms prices are \$109 Friday, \$119 Saturday and \$99 Sunday. Forms were included in the August mailing.

By Order of:



Nancy J. Worth
Department President

Attest:



Nancy Chester
Department Secretary

Remembering Our Promise



VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota has the best opportunity ever to reach 100% in Membership. The change to allow males into our ranks opens the doors to so many potential members. I realize this is still very difficult for many long-time members to understand, but is it fair for us to not allow males who were unable to serve in the military to not honor their family member for that family member's service.

National Headquarters staff continue to ask for members' patience during this transition from Ladies Auxiliary VFW to VFW Auxiliary. The new emblem is already available and is being used on Auxiliary items in the VFW Store. Please check the newly revised products on the website: www.vfwstore.org/category/auxiliary.

As we proceed through this time of huge change within our organization, National Headquarters is doing their best to release information and products to Departments and Auxiliaries as soon as they are available.

It is a good idea for each Auxiliary member to renew the oath taken when becoming a member. Regardless of these recent changes, we continue to promote loyalty, conduct patriotism education, and unite to not be self-seeking but to maintain true allegiance. Please consider re-taking the Member's Obligation and renew your personal commitment to the VFW Auxiliary.

I recently had the opportunity to attend an event that really hit home in the Advocacy for Veterans field. South Dakota VVA presented an Agent Orange Forum in Rapid City. What an eye-opener! There are so many new discoveries in the effects of this chemical. There is another opportunity for Auxiliary members to become better informed about this exposure affecting so many veterans (yes, even those who served in Korea): October 24th at the Sioux Falls DAV Chapter, 1519 W. 51st Street, Sioux Falls beginning at 9:00am.

In Sisterhood:

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

VFW Auxiliary South Dakota

2015-2016 Department President

Relief Fund Guide



The Relief Fund shall consist of the proceeds from:

1. Net proceeds from Buddy Poppy distributions.
2. Any contribution or other funds available.

Relief Fund money shall be restricted and expended by majority vote of members at a meeting solely for these purposes:

1. Aid to Auxiliary members needing financial assistance.
2. To meet **ALL** obligations or gifts to the VFW National Home for Children. See Page 53 of the Treasurer's Guide for more assistance with Home donations.
3. Hospital work for all veterans, members of the Armed Forces, Auxiliary members and their family members.
4. Veterans & Family Support work for all veterans, members of the Armed Forces, Auxiliary members and their families.
5. National Auxiliary Cancer Aid & Research Fund.
6. Special purposes authorized by National Headquarters.
7. To perpetuate the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces, and to comfort their survivors.
8. To foster true patriotism through historical and educational programs.

All other expenditures shall come from the General Fund.

VFW Auxiliary Question & Answer Guide

Q. When do the Auxiliary amendments take effect?

A. August 21, 2015, which is 30 days after its adoption by the delegates of the 116th National Convention. The By-Law amendment allows Ladies Auxiliary units approved and chartered prior to the adoption of these provisions up to 5-years to replace the unit's seal, uniforms, emblems, badges, and insignia. The VFW Store will offer select items needed for meetings at a discounted price during the transition period.

Q. Will Men's Auxiliary members automatically become members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary?

A. No. Each Men's Auxiliary member will be required to make application in accordance with Section 102 of the Auxiliary By-laws and pay dues.

Q. Can a Men's Auxiliary member belong to both Auxiliaries?

A. Yes, provided he is accepted to membership in both (as provided for in Article XI and XIII of the National By-Laws.)

Q. Eligibility criteria?

A. Basic eligibility criteria require auxiliary members to be related to members of the parent organization within two degrees of consanguinity [kon-sang-gwin-i-tee]. This means that there must be a familial relationship within two generations. This includes parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, children, and grandchildren, but does not include nieces or nephews of the member. We believe step, half, and adopted family members meet the "two degrees of consanguinity" standard of the IRS. We do not believe it is necessary to include those terms in the eligibility criteria; those who are step, half, or adopted are members of the immediate family. The eligibility for "foster" relations has previously been removed from the eligibility criteria of the Ladies Auxiliary and does not meet the two degrees of consanguinity standard.

Q. I noticed that VFW amendment removed the age, and U.S. Citizenship or US National requirements from Auxiliary membership, does this mean spouses and family members of all ages and nationalities can join?

A. No. Auxiliary members must be at least 16 years old and U.S. Citizens or US Nationals. VFW By-Laws section 1103 allows the Auxiliary to adopt By-Laws, a Ritual and such Rules and Regulations as are deemed necessary. Each additional requirement for membership in the Auxiliary has been previously adopted by its National Convention and deemed not to be in conflict with the National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure, or Ritual in previous determinations.

Q. Is an Auxiliary member's spouse or family member automatically eligible to join the Auxiliary?

A. No. Each and every Auxiliary member must be related within 2 degrees of consanguinity of a VFW eligible veteran, which is verified through the VFW Auxiliary application process.

Q. Will VFW members (or VFW eligible veterans) be eligible for Auxiliary membership?

A. The amendment allows those who are currently members of the VFW and Auxiliary to retain membership in both; after August 20, 2015, that no longer applies. It is important to remember that the goal is to create a gender neutral Auxiliary. In doing this, we want to ensure the unique qualities of the Auxiliary are maintained. To that end, all options were considered. Some have asked for a dual membership provision which allowed for a certain segment of members (which included current dual membership holders and future auxiliary members, who in the future would gain VFW eligibility through their own service). Others have asked that we allow dual membership for all eligible members. These options were fully explored but rejected as both could and would eventually saturate the Auxiliary with VFW members. One of the most important contributions of the Auxiliary is the unique perspective it brings through the diversity of its membership. That diversity, and the unique perspective, would be lost if both organizations were filled with substantially the same membership base. To ensure that the VFW and the Auxiliary are complementary, but completely separate organizations, we need to maintain that diversity. Under the provisions of this change, future Auxiliary applicants eligible for the parent organization (VFW) will be ineligible for Auxiliary membership. Taking into consideration current VFW members who are members in good standing of the Ladies Auxiliary, members who obtain dual membership prior to August 20, 2015 and maintain their membership in good standing with the Auxiliary shall be able to hold dual membership. This is, in our view, the best way to work together for a common cause.

VFW Auxiliary Question & Answer Guide

Q. Why not allow for a dual qualified veteran to choose between the VFW and its Auxiliary?

A. Our primary goal is to establish a gender neutral Auxiliary. We have considered allowing members the option to choose between the parent organization (VFW) and its Auxiliary. However, this also would allow for future saturation of the Auxiliary, which remains a concern for the Auxiliary. We want to be responsive to those concerns while still presenting a solution that will ensure the VFW's success.

Q. Are VFW Auxiliary members eligible for a refund of their Life Membership Dues if they become VFW eligible in the future?

A. Yes. Under the provision of section 105 of the VFW Auxiliary By-Laws, Auxiliary Life Members would be due a prorated refund on his or her Life Membership.

Q. Does the adoption of the Article XI amendments automatically revoke the charter of a Post's Men's Auxiliary Unit?

A. No. Men's Auxiliary units are established by the Post and permitted to exist through Article XIII of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. An amendment to Article XIII would need to be considered to effect such a change, unless similar action is taken under the current provision of Article XIII by a Department or Post. Before any changes are made to Article XIII, we need to ensure that Posts and Departments are given an opportunity to establish a gender neutral Auxiliary.

Q. Can an Auxiliary Unit (former Ladies Auxiliary Unit) and a Men's Auxiliary Unit consolidate or merge?

A. No. There are no provisions in the National By-Laws to allow two separately chartered units to consolidate or merge.

Q. If a Men's Auxiliary Unit surrenders its charter as part of becoming VFW Auxiliary members, what happens to their property?

A. There are no specific provisions in the National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure, or Men's Auxiliary Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for a Men's Auxiliary to surrender its charter; however, it has been deemed appropriate for a Men's Auxiliary to vote to surrender using VFW guidelines outlined in section 210 of the VFW Manual of Procedure. The procedure would read:

A Men's Auxiliary may surrender its charter in accordance with the procedures herein set forth as follows:

1. A motion to consider surrendering a Men's Auxiliary charter shall be made and approved at a stated meeting of the Post. If approved, the Auxiliary President shall immediately provide to the Post Commander a list describing all assets and liabilities of the Auxiliary.
2. A Men's Auxiliary Unit may then, after at least twenty (20) days written notice to the Post Commander, Department Commander and members of the Men's Auxiliary Unit, vote to surrender the charter upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at a stated meeting.
3. The Post Commander shall be notified immediately after the meeting, in writing, of the outcome of the vote to surrender the charter of the Men's Auxiliary Unit. If approved, the Post Commander shall within thirty (30) days, notify the Department Commander and Commander-in-Chief.

Disposition of Property would be in accordance with section 1301(c) of the VFW Manual of Procedure, which states "In the event of a surrender, cancellation or forfeiture of a Charter of a Men's Auxiliary, all official records, money and other property shall immediately become property of the Post."

Q. If the Post votes to cancel a Men's Auxiliary Charter in accordance with section 1301 of the National Manual of Procedure, or the Men's Auxiliary votes to surrender its charter, can the Post, during the disposition of property, transfer the assets to the VFW Auxiliary?

A. Yes. Members of the Post may vote, in accordance with the By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, to transfer Men's Auxiliary assets to the VFW Auxiliary. This is encouraged as the VFW Auxiliary will incur expenses associated with the new branding of its Auxiliary.

Instructions for Acquiring Bond Certificates

The National Headquarters Information Technology Group has created a new report that is available in the Reporting Center behind login on the VFW Auxiliary website. The new report is named Bond Certificate.

At the Department level, this report is accessible to the President, Treasurer, and Secretary and it will allow these officers to obtain a copy of a bond certificate for an organization within their Department.

On the Auxiliary level, the President, Treasurer, and Secretary will have access to retrieve the bond certificate for their Auxiliary.

When you click the link of the report, the option will appear with a year of the bond you wish to view. Please note that it will default to the current year bond. There will also be a drop down menu to choose what organization in your Department you wish retrieve the bond certificate.

Once the report comes up, you can download it into a pdf document for printing.

Please see screen shots below.



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary **Member Portal**


Reporting Center	
Member Logout	
My Committees	
My Profile	
My Transactions	
Purchase Lifetime Membership	
Department Dues	
Department Directory	
Membership Center	
Installation Reports	
Name/Address Changes	
Delegate Selection	
Event Registration	
Reporting Center	
Disciplinary Action Forms	
Online Store	
Officer Tools	
Emblem Branding Center	
Online Auxiliary Academy	
MemStats	The MemStats report displays statistics for member counts for each organization. This report is available to the public and members as well. It can also be access from the VFW Auxiliary homepage by using the button/link next to the Members Login button/link.
MemStats Listing	This report gives a listing for the current year MemStats count as of a particular date. The point of the report is for auditing and reconciling an organizations MemStat count by seeing the people that comprise the total. An officer can only view organizations that they are responsible for. A Department officer will be able to see DALs along with any organization (District or Auxiliary) that falls in their department. An Auxiliary Officer will only be able to see their own Auxiliary.
Membership Roster	This report provides Member ID, Member Name, Address, Organization, and Type as of the end of the previous program year. Choose organization from the dropdown list.
Membership Roster with Phone Number and Email	This report provides a list of members contact information with Member ID, Member Name, Address, Organization, Type, Phone, and Email Address. Choose organization from the dropdown list.
Organization Query Tool	This report returns a list of members, addresses, member types, member statuses and other information based on the criteria selected. Results are limited based on officer roles. To show Department at large, enter the state abbreviation in the Organization Acronym search field.
Missing Elections	This report provides a list of missing officers in a department by auxiliary. If an office is not missing within the selected department, no information will be populated. Select a department from the dropdown list.
Bond Certificate	This report provides the Bond Certificate for selected organization within a Department. Choose organization from the dropdown list.
Unpaid Members	Report provides a list of Annual Members that do not have their Annual membership for the current membership year processed
Officer Listing Report	This report gives a listing of officers as of a particular date. The list includes address information and a phone number.
Dues History	This report shows New Member and Existing Member Dues processed by the Department Treasurer. Report can be run by a date range or order number. If contacting the national office to reconcile EFT transactions, this report also shows the accounting batch code to assist the accounting department in solving your issue.
Monthly Refunds	Returns a list of refunds for the month specified for your department.
Monthly Membership Update	This report lists all the member profile changes that occurred during a specified month in the National Headquarters database. This is one of 3 reports that were once mailed as part of the Monthly Maintenance Journals package.

Year Organization

(Red arrows point to the Year input, the Organization dropdown, and the View Report button.)

Year Organization


1 of 1 Find | Next



BOND RECEIPT

VFW Auxiliary

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS



DATE	EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF BOND		PRESIDENT'S BOND NUMBER	AMOUNT OF PRESIDENT'S BOND	AMOUNT OF TREASURER'S BOND
	FROM	TO			
9/17/2015	9/1/2015	8/31/2016	██████████	\$10,000	\$10,000

██████████ Auxiliary ██████████
Office of President & Treasurer

This acknowledges receipt of your annual Bond premium and certifies that the President and Treasurer of the Auxiliary shown above are carried on the National Headquarters Bond for the period and principal sum indicated.

(Red arrows point to the Organization dropdown, the download icon, and the 'XML file with report data' menu item.)



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY POST

For more information, contact:

Email:

Phone:

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LADIES AUXILIARY VFW WELCOMES, BECOMES VFW AUXILIARY

At its 116th annual National Convention in Pittsburgh, Pa., convention delegates of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) passed a resolution to amend their National Bylaws, allowing male family members to join the Ladies Auxiliary VFW effective August 21, 2015. As a result, the organization's name changed to VFW Auxiliary.

"It's an exciting time to be a member of the Auxiliary," said VFW Auxiliary National President Francisca Guilford. "Women comprise nearly twenty percent of our nation's military, and this change allows all spouses, fathers, grandfathers, sons, grandsons and brothers to serve others in honor of their veteran."

"It not only expands the eligibility of the organization's members, it provides us a wonderful opportunity to serve more veterans and promote patriotism in communities across our great nation."

If you are a male or female relative of someone who served in overseas combat, you may be eligible to join the VFW Auxiliary. If you are interested in serving veterans, active-duty military, their families, and your community in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform, we invite you to visit www.vfwauxiliary.org to learn more, or contact

-MORE-

Established 1914, members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary set out to serve 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. The VFW Auxiliary is one of the nation's oldest veterans' service organizations and our members are the relatives of those who have served in overseas combat. We have nearly 465,000 members nationwide who volunteer millions of hours and fundraise millions of dollars for charitable projects that benefit veterans, military service personnel, and their families.

Through our National Programs, we assist the VFW pass or block legislation that impacts veterans and their families, provide nearly a million volunteer hours in the VA medical system, conduct patriotic programs with thousands of students and offer hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships for our nation's youth. With more than 4,000 Auxiliaries, there is likely one in your area working to improve the lives of America's uncommon heroes. Learn more at www.vfwauxiliary.org.

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Joys, Cares & Concerns
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of South Dakota
2015-2016 October, 2015

FABULOUS RECIPE FOR A VEGGIE SALAD

Provided by Betty Bender, Black Hills Auxiliary #5969

Dressing:	2 cups sugar	½ cup salad oil
	2 cups vinegar	Salt & pepper to taste
	Celery seeds	Whole mustard seeds

Bring all ingredients to a boil and boil until the sugar is dissolved. Allow the mixture to cool. Meanwhile, cut desired vegetables (celery, carrots, sweet onion, cucumber, peppers – red, green & yellow, broccoli, tomatoes) into small pieces; cover with brine. May be served immediately or next day. (Brine tends to “shrink” vegetables as it sits.)

Neta Peterka, PDP, had her right hip replaced on Monday 9/7 and is HOME!! It has been reported that she is feeling good. Cards can be sent to Neta at: PO Box 64, Scotland, SD 57079.

Joyce Stahlecker, Yankton Aux. Past Pres. had a heart attack two weeks ago. She is doing well. Then her husband Earl, had surgery for kidney stones. Her daughter writes that her Mom is stubborn, so she went back to work. She says she is doing better. You know her. Joyce has had tough inner ear infection. Can't turn her head quick, etc.

Earl is doing better. They were to find out Friday when/if he needs another operation. Daughter, Cheryl, writes, “One good thing, Dad and I were in France/Germany when he had the first attack, but luckily it waited until he got home.” Cards for Joyce & Earl may be sent to: 708 Summit St., Yankton, SD 57078.

Ralph Schat writes: “Thanks for keeping us up to date on people across the state. **Joyce Schat, PDP**, has had another chapter in her health recently. Last week she got home after 5 days in the Regional Hospital. She had two gall stones removed from the bile duct between the gall bladder and the liver. Her white blood count indicated multiple high infections, so they could not proceed. She should have the gall bladder removed in a week or two. We will keep you updated, Ralph. Cards may be sent to Joyce at: 244 Promise Court #2319, Rapid City, SD 57701.

Patti Mitchell & her daughter-in-law Tasha have had a rough week. A lady from Goodwin sent me the information that Patti's bar and grill in Roslyn was destroyed by fire, it was the only restaurant in Roslyn S.D. They served the community's meals on wheels program from there. I'm sure Patti would appreciate your prayers through this trying time. If you wish to send a card, her address is: Patti Mitchell, 888 Slowacki Ave. Grenville, SD 57230.

I took the news item below from Facebook.

Day County Sheriff's Office

PRESS RELEASE:

The Day County Sheriff's Office is now investigating the Monday fire in Roslyn as a burglary. Entry was gained into T-RAY'S Bar and Grille by prying open the front door. The video lottery machines were then forced open and cash taken. While the cause of the fire is still being investigated and forensic analysis is being done on debris and other evidence, the cause is very suspicious and likely related to the burglary. This is the second bar burglary in a week and a small fire also occurred at the site of the first burglary in Grenville, SD before it self-extinguished. The two incidents are likely related. Anyone with information that may be related to either of these incidents are encouraged to contact the Day County Sheriff's Office at 605-345-3222.

Leanne Payne, Dept. Hospital Chairman & Past Dist. #7 President, had an accident happen in her family this week. Her husband, Paul, was driving his big truck when a driver pulled out in front of him. Paul was not critically injured, however he did receive many bruises and is home recovering. The other drivers' family are having a difficult time dealing with accident. Your thoughts and prayers for both families will be appreciate.

Paul is the first male member of the Plankinton VFW Auxiliary, and we should show him that the spirit of the auxiliary is a caring one for our members. His address is: PO Box 126, Plankinton, SD 57368.

Nancy Fickbohm, PDP, is scheduled for surgery on Friday in Sioux Falls. I do not have any details, but believe the surgery has to do with her kidney stone problem. Cards may be sent to Nancy at: 47965 301st St., Alcester, SD 57001-6133.

JeraldDean "Jerry" Estes, Custer Auxiliary #3442 member, passed away September 20, 2015 following a courageous battle with cancer Many of you will remember Jerry's assistance with the Ways and Means table at many of our functions. Jerry served in the U.S. Air Force. Services will be held at the Custer VFW Post on October 24th at 11:00am. Sympathy cards can be sent to her daughter at: Susan Swindal, 12462 US Highway 16A, Custer, SD 57730.

Misc. items:

Betty Boxa is now living in the Silver Threads assisted living in Gregory..... I will pass her address along to you when son Mike sends it to me.

Update on **PDP Arlene Propst**, she was taken from Garretson nursing home about a week ago in a "deep sleep" and placed in SF hospital. Now is being transferred back to Garretson, however Rick and Marva went to see her last evening and for the 2nd time, she didn't know them but talked about items from the past. It was suggested that calls, visits, cards, etc. not be conducted until her mental state improves.

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 #4

Oct, 2015

Please don't forget **OUR VETERANS Nov 11, 2015** as it is VETERANS' DAY. SUPPORT THOSE VETERANS 100% and every day of the year.

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

A chain is only as strong as its' weakest link. That is why it takes each one of us to make our VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT Program OUTSTANDING!

Our troops and their families need support now more than ever. It's never been easier for VFW Posts and Auxiliaries to adopt a unit. **Remember**, to keep your Adopt-A-Unit active, must receive an annual Adopt-A-Unit activity report. 155 Unit is need of help if you need a unit to help.

Involve the whole family in this program by sending 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

Promote the National Military Services program (NMS) through your support of the following programs: Operation Uplink, Unmet Needs, Military Assistance Program, Sports Clips Help a Hero Scholarship.

Veterans, service members and their families face many challenges and a big one can be unexpected financial difficulties because of deployment or other military-related activity. **The program provides financial aid of up to \$5,000 to assist with basic life needs in the form of a grant - not a loan - so no repayment is required.** To further ease the burden, the creditor is paid directly.

Many of you have questions about the Unmet Needs Program. Read the Q&A below and don't hesitate to contact (Laurie Dale) if you have any further questions.

Q.: What does the Unmet Needs Program do?

A.: Unmet Needs provides grants and referrals to other organizations to active duty or recently discharged service members and their immediate families to assist with basic life needs.

Q.: Who is eligible to receive assistance?

A.: To receive a grant, the service member has to be on active duty or discharged from active duty within 72 months prior to applying, and negatively affected by their military service. Everyone is eligible to receive referrals and resource information.

Q.: How can I contact the Unmet Needs Program?

A.: The Unmet Needs Program is located in the VFW National Headquarter in Kansas City, Mo.

Q.: How many times can I apply for the Unmet Needs Grant?

A.: Applicants can apply once every 18 months, and only twice total. Second requests for assistance must be caused by a new situation or new deployment.

Day County Coyote Hunt Donated over \$ 5000.00 to the 155th Engineering unit out of Wagner – Rapid City South Dakota units. Thank you for helping with your donations for this.

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2015-2016

Patti Mitchell

888 Slowacki Avenue, Grenville. SD 57239

cell phone # 605-280-0777

e-mail pattimitchell4@hotmail.com



AMERICANISM DEPARTMENT OF SD October 2015 Bulletin 4

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

How many of you attended the State Fair and helped out in the Veterans Building? Weren't you surprised at how many people do not know about the VFW Auxiliary and all the great programs we have? What an opportunity to visit and maybe gain some new members.

Take the opportunity to present a flag to a class room, even a small one can be given to the teacher to put on her desk. I hope each auxiliary has the VFW supply catalog as there are so many wonderful brochures, coloring books, rulers etc. that are great tools for Americanism.

I hope many of you will get the information out to teachers on the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizen Education Teacher Award. It takes time for someone who is promoting a teacher, so it is very important that you get those brochures with the requirements out NOW. I see by my last bulletin that I was going to add that information so I will have copies at my table at Fall Council. Maybe you know a teacher or an assistant teacher who would be willing to nominate one of their teachers. Never know if you don't ask!

My I can't believe when you read this that it is October and hopefully you have most of your plans made for Veterans Day. What a time to really have a dynamic program to show how much we appreciate all the Veterans who have served our Country and the many who are still putting their life on the line. They do that so we have the many freedoms we so enjoy. Also a good time to have your Buddy Poppy's available, many have their drive at this time.

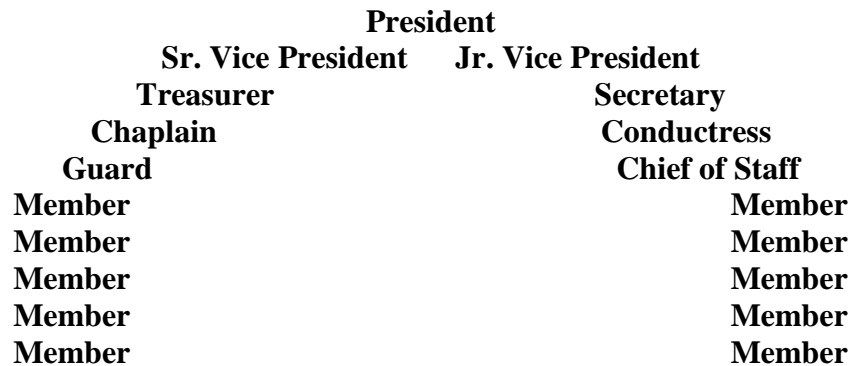
Many schools have a joint program with our organizations and they provide special Patriotic music from the Elementary classes to the High School bands, some have parades. You can participate with them by doing the POW/MIA REMEMBRANCE TABLE. Have you seen the book AMERICA'S WHITE TABLE, available through the supply catalog? This is another great tool you can use in the schools and one you can have them help participate in. It was made specifically for students so they know about the POW/MIA remembrance program we do for adults and is so impressive.

I hope to see many of you at the Fall Council of Administration and please remember to pick up all the material that is available for you at the work shop and the booths that each Department Chairman has filled with exciting material to help all of the auxiliaries carry out their programs.

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

VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota
CHIEF OF STAFF & EXTENSION
“Our Veterans—Now and Forever”
“Remembering Our Promise—Advocates for Veterans and Their Families”
Bulletin #4, October, 2015

Are you having difficulties getting members to attend your meetings? Is it a challenge getting members to take part in your programs and activities? May I suggest you try the Phone/Text Tree. Whenever your members need to be contacted or reminded of a meeting or event, the President first calls or texts the Senior Vice President and Junior Vice President. Then each of them would call/text the next person down the tree. Each member would only have one other person to contact! Below is a diagram of the system.



Try this and see if it is effective for you. And don't forget to use other ways of contacting your members. If your local radio station offers a free public announcement section, use that format. If your TV cable provider has a local channel for announcements, please take advantage of that. Don't forget your community bulletin board or the public bulletin board at your county courthouse. Check with your local post office for displaying your Post and Auxiliary events.

We also offer another resource for your use to aid you in determining the specific needs of your members. It is the “Member Questionnaire” and the cover letter explaining the questionnaire. I have included these with this bulletin. The questionnaire gives your absentee members the opportunity to voice their opinions and suggestions on your Auxiliary in a **confidential** and **anonymous** way. Have the completed questionnaire returned to your Auxiliary President or selected Committee Chairman. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Having a strong and healthy Auxiliary makes for a strong and healthy Post. That strength and vitality is reflected onto your community. It also provides the incentive to support and aid **“Our Veterans—Now and Forever.”** We must never stop **“Remembering Our Promise—“** We are the **“Advocates for Veterans and Their Families.”**

Loyally,
 Jan Endes
 26422 278th Ave.
 White River, SD 57579

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



A Health Check Up for Your Ladies Auxiliary

A Member Questionnaire

Your thoughts count! The Ladies Auxiliary VFW is a member-based organization and your input is important. The following questionnaire has been written to give you, the member, an opportunity to provide us with your comments.

Please complete this *anonymous* questionnaire and return to your Ladies Auxiliary President or selected Committee Chairman. The information collected will then be compiled and your suggestions and/or comments can be used to help your Ladies Auxiliary attain and maintain good health. The definition of Ladies Auxiliary “Good Health” is the state of wellbeing which includes member attitude, activity and attendance. This good health starts with you!

The Ladies Auxiliary VFW recognizes the future of this organization is based on our members. The valuable information gathered from members may help form the future success of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW. Please take a few minutes to complete this questionnaire. Your input is appreciated!

Complete and return to your Ladies Auxiliary President.



Health Checkup for Your Ladies Auxiliary Member Questionnaire

Why did you first join the Ladies Auxiliary VFW? _____

What programs and/or events do you really enjoy being a part of?

Do you have an idea for a new project or event? _____

Do you feel like our Auxiliary is helping our local veterans, their families and our own members?

If not, what would you like to see different? _____

Do you feel like your Auxiliary is supporting your Post in the best way possible? _____

If not, what can you do better? _____

Is the monthly business meeting conducted at a time that is suitable for you? _____

If not, what time would you like to see the meeting scheduled? _____

Is the monthly meeting length appropriate for the business conducted? _____

Do you have ideas on how to increase meeting attendance? _____

If child care was available during the meeting, do you think members would use it? _____

What do you feel would bring new members into our organization? _____

Where do you see the Ladies Auxiliary ten years from now? Will you still be a part of it? _____

Do you feel needed by your Ladies Auxiliary and do other members reach out to you to get involved? _____

**LADIES AUXILIARY VFW, DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA HOSPITAL
& VAVS**

“Our Veterans – Now and Forever”

“Remembering Our Promise; Advocates for Veterans & Their Families”

Bulletin #4, October, 2015

Hello on a fall day with cooler temps and the hint of frost around the corner! That should be a reminder that Fall Conference is just around the corner. Please stop by and introduce yourself as I have met many people the last few months and do not have all the faces and names put together quite yet.

After reading what Hospital Ambassador, Grace Matz, writes, we can connect with so many people in our community by inviting other organizations and groups to participate in our activities. First, think of the youth in your area. There are the schools, athletic teams, dance groups, Girl and Boy Scouts, 4-H and church groups that could be contacted. High school students are often required to perform hours of community service projects – volunteering at the medical facility allows them to meet that requirement.

After visiting with Diane Ward, the VA Medical Center in Ft. Meade is in good shape for the time being and does not need supplies.

The State Veterans Home in Hot Springs have a needs list as follows;

Large and X-Large Men's PJ's with buttons

Men's 3XL and 4XL white t-shirts

Men's 4XL sweatshirts

Men's 3XL and 4XL Sleeping pants

Women's panties of all sizes

Personal items – mouthwash in smaller bottles, talcum powder, medicated powder, and electric razors

Diabetic Socks

Denture cleaner tables

Denture adhesive

At this time, they do NOT need afghans, comforters, blankets, socks, toothbrushes and toothpaste, or Kleenex.

Also enclosed are the lists from the VA in Sioux Falls and the State Veterans Home.

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

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

Phone: 605-942-7568

E-mail: oldcripp@siouxvalley.net

Sioux Falls VA Health Care System Needs List, July 2015

Recreation Therapy

1. *Sponsor entertainment
2. *Generic gift cards to sponsor an outing or special event for the final wish of a Veteran in hospice care.
3. *Tickets to sports games, entertainment events, contact Recreation Therapy for details
4. *Sponsor Sunday evening pizza for CLC units, contact Recreation Therapy
5. *Gift cards to specific restaurants in Sioux Falls, or generic VISA cards in denominations of \$50, \$100 for CLC patient outings

Items for patient use

1. "Forever" postage stamps
2. Personal care items, trial size, new in package (deodorant, denture adhesive, denture cleaning tablets, toothbrushes, toothpaste)
3. 30-minute regular phone cards
4. Funds to purchase bus tickets for city bus transportation for Veterans for VA clinic appointments in Sioux Falls and Sioux City

Miscellaneous

1. Funds to sponsored meals for POW/MIA and minority Veterans programs and meetings with the facility Director
2. Funds for sponsorship of upcoming Women Veterans Conference
3. Sponsor for dash plaques for our annual Show & Shine (VA car show), approx. \$200, contact Shirley in Public Affairs

Sioux Falls Stand Down Needs

1. *Bottles of Water
2. New socks and under clothing
3. *Bed sheets in full and queen size
4. *Gas cards, \$20 denomination
5. *Phone cards, 120 minutes or more
6. Monthly bus passes

Ongoing Needs for Veterans in the HUD/VASH program For Veterans living in HUD housing, the Barakah House and Transition in Place housing

1. Family size bottles of shampoo and body wash
2. Laundry soap
3. Single ride bus tickets (\$1.00 per ticket)
4. *Gift cards, \$20 value to Shopko and Payless Shoes
5. See attached for a full listing

Many of these items appear regularly on the VAVS needs listing. That is because they are used on a regular basis and there is a high need for the item. Due to restrictions placed on government purchase cards, some of the items listed cannot be purchased by Recreation Therapy or Voluntary Service as the source is not registered in the government approved vendor list or are on the prohibited purchase list.

Items we do not have a source to purchase from are identified with an *. It would be very helpful if these items can be purchased and delivered to Voluntary Service.

List of items needed for Veterans (previously homeless) living in HUD-VASH housing, the Barakah house and those in the Transition in Place program.

**Items distributed as needed through the VA Homeless Veterans Program staff
There are between 250 and 300 individuals in this program**

Please provide new items if possible. Slightly used and in very good condition is acceptable.

Communication Needs:

Minute cards with 120 or more minutes for trac fones
Monthly bus passes to get to medical and employment appointments (from Sioux Falls & Sioux City transit systems)

Bedding:

Zippered mattress covers to fit regular size bed
Linens such as regular size bed sheets, pillow cases and pillows

Bathroom Items:

Shaving cream, hand sanitizer, hand soap, bar soap, shampoo, combs, toothpaste, soft toothbrushes, denture cleaner tablets, denture adhesive, 2 blade razors, all in family size packages or containers
Shower curtains, rods and rings
Toilet bowl cleaner and brushes
Toilet paper, hand soap
Towels: bath, hand and wash cloths

Kitchen Items:

Cooking utensils such as spoons, spatulas
Frying pans, cookie sheets, kettles, coffee makers, pizza pans, toaster and other small appliances
Medium size oven casserole dishes with covers
Dish towels, dish soap, dish cloths, pot holder, and oven mitts
Disposables such as paper towels, table napkins, paper plates
Cans of coffee and condiments
Food storage containers

Miscellaneous:

Luggage, suitcases, duffle bags
Laundry detergent, baskets, hangers
Alarm clocks, wall clocks
Cleaning supplies, dust mops, brooms, dust pans, buckets
Bicycles in very good condition, chain padlocks with key openers

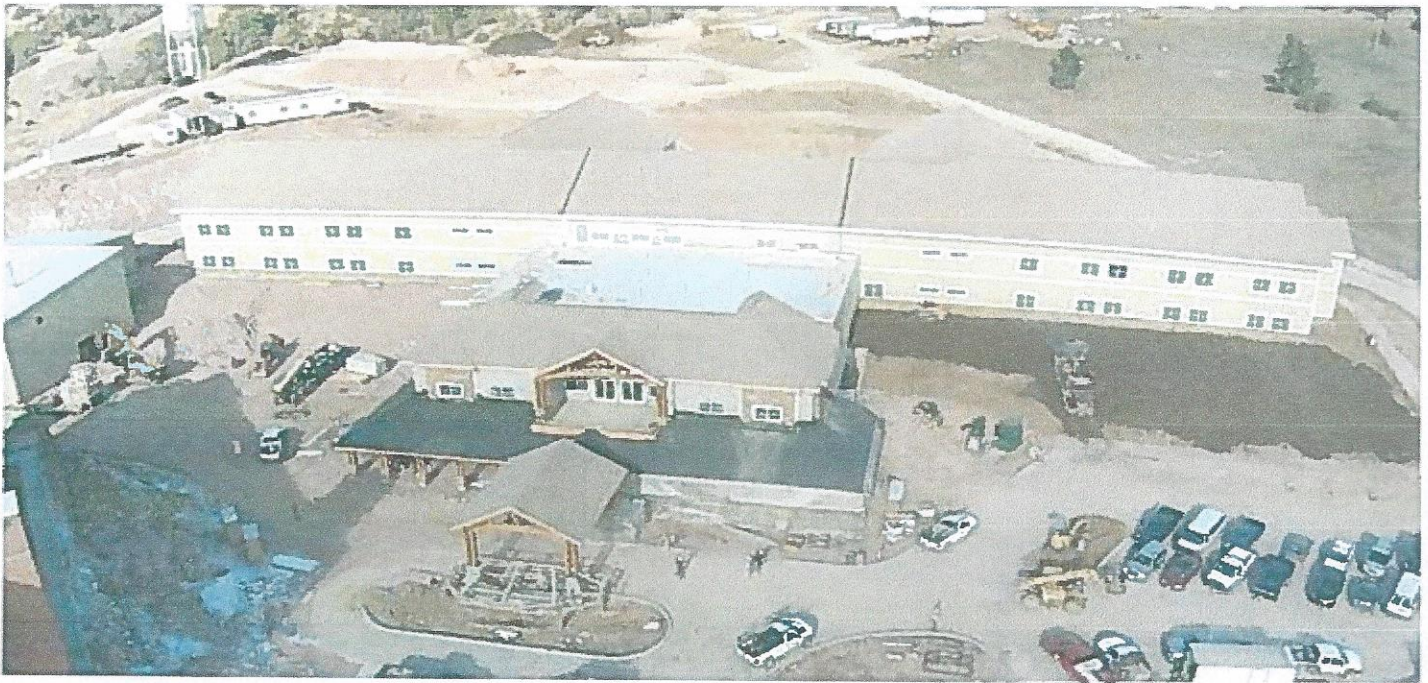
We cannot accept furniture, used clothing, wall decorations, knick-knacks or any items not on this list.

All donations can be sent to the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System, 2501 West 22nd Street, Sioux Falls SD 57105 to the attention of Voluntary Service or delivered to room 032, lower level of building one.

For more information or if you have questions, contact Brenda Stevens at 605-333-6851.

(July 2015)

MICHAEL J FITZMAURICE SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS HOME



"Needs List"

***Due to infection control standards,
we can not accept used clothing or cloth furniture!***

Clothing Articles Needed: (men's)

- Large & X-Large Men's PJ's w/ buttons
- 3XL & 4XL White T-Shirts
- 4X Men's sweats
- 3X-4X Sleeping pants

Personal Items

- Mouthwash in smaller bottles
- Talcum Powder
- Medicated Powder
- Electric razors

Indigent Fund

These funds are used to purchase items and meet the needs of our residents who have very limited means.

Clothing Articles Needed: (women's)

- Panties ALL sizes

-Diabetic Socks

-Denture cleaner tablets

-Denture adhesive

Carabineer key chain clips

NOTE: UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE WE HAVE AN AMPLE SUPPLY OF AFGAHNS, COMFORTERS, BLANKETS, SOCKS, TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTHPASTE AND KLEENEX. PLEASE HOLD ANY SUCH DONATIONS AT THIS TIME. WE WOULD REQUEST THAT MAGAZINES PLEASE BE CURRENT.

VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota
LEGISLATIVE

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

Bulletin #4

October 2015



I am including in this issue the Year-end report form and the Legislative worksheet form for you to start tracking your activities. The following are the awards that I will be presenting at the 2016 State Convention.

1. Auxiliary with the best promotion of the 2015 VFW Priority Goals
2. Auxiliary with the best form(s) of communication with our legislators on Veteran's issues
3. Auxiliary with the most members subscribing to the *Checkpoint Newsletter*
4. Auxiliary with the most members signed up for the *Action Corps Weekly*
5. Auxiliary with the best communication on pending legislation and special legislative alters
6. Auxiliary with the most contacts made by members to legislators on Veteran's issues via personal contacts, phone calls, faxes, letters and emails
7. Auxiliary with the best promotion of VFW Priority Goals, contacting elected officials and meeting with candidates. (This can include assistance with the *Get Out the Vote*).

To help you achieve awards 3 and 4 you can go to the VFW website to subscribe to the Checkpoint Newsletter and Action Corps weekly.

Please remember that the easiest way we have is to ALL make as many contacts to our legislators as possible. We can make personal contacts with them. Stress to your fellow members, it is not just your job to do this. It takes a village and you can pass the information out to all your members to make these contacts. Don't forget, that not only do you need to inform the members of the Auxiliary but your Auxiliary members can also educate the community on the issues we are facing.

Contact your Congressional delegation and advocate on behalf of our Veterans. You can use the 2015 Priority goals as a basis for your conversations.

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>

Loyally,

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

2015 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>

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

Membership

Team Means Together Everyone Achieves More! – Author Unknown

General Orders #4

October 2015

Who's Recruiting? There are very few boundaries now with men and women both allowed in our auxiliary. I am super excited and hope that you all have the enthusiasm I do about recruiting. If each member in your auxiliary just recruits one new member, we will have doubled your auxiliary in size by the end of this year.

Our goals for this year can be described with the three (3) R's:

- RETAIN current members
- REINSTATE former members
- RECRUIT new members

Our 2015 National Membership Week is coming up October 18-24 and the last day of National Membership Week is also Make a Difference Day. What a better way to "Make a Difference" in your community by promoting our organization and membership. Especially promoting those newly eligible men to our organization. We do good things for our veterans and these newly eligible men will be a great addition to our efforts.

Take your auxiliary one step further and put together a committee to have a successful recruitment campaign. An idea for an easy, four step campaign of success is:

- Step 1: Select and Organize a Membership Committee within your Auxiliary (organized members and people that have the proper time to devote to recruitment)
- Step 2: Develop a Recruiting Plan (Goal Setting, Action Plan, Result Tracking)
- Step 3: Set Realistic Goals (1 new recruit per member is attainable, 10 new recruits per member is harder)
- Step 4: Plan your Activities (Personal Contact, Mail, Door Hangers, Telephone Contact, etc.)
There are lots of resources available such as door hangers and handouts on the national website www.vfwauxiliary.org

Remember that a reward offered is that any membership chairman who's auxiliary is at 100% by December 31, 2015 or ANY member who recruits 5 or more members by May 1st will have their names put into a drawing for a diamond and blue topaz bracelet to be drawn at the 2016 Department Convention in Deadwood. There also other citations and awards for those that add as little as one member to as many as 100 new members, so just go with it, "No excuse....just recruit!"

As, always, I am happy to assist any of you or your auxiliaries in reaching your goals this year and hope 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

“Our Veterans – Now and Forever” – National President’s Theme

Remembering Our Promise;

Advocating for Veterans & Their Families”

State President Nancy’s Theme

Scholarships

General Orders #4

Thank you for all your hard work. Ladies, you are the greatest. I have heard from several of you – thanks for the calls and messages. As local Chairmen your time is nearly up for working on these two programs. We are not ignoring the rest of the Scholarship Program. Time is of the essence for these two Scholarships, we have a little longer to do our other Scholarships.

November 1st is fast approaching, I am excited for you – you get to read and hear all of those great entries. As local Chairman that was always my favorite part – I never wanted to be a judge – that is too much like ‘work’. I firmly believe they should all win.

I am sure you are all working closely with your VFW counter part. A close partnership insures a very successful program for our Youth. The deadline for receipt of your entries is 1 November, the entries are to be in your hands by midnight. The deadline for your Post judging is 15 November, for both Patriot’s Pen and Voice of Democracy – you must be done and your winning entrants should be on their way to District for judging. Please make sure that the paperwork for Patriot’s Pen and the flash drive/CD for the Voice of Democracy Winner is clear.

Local Chairman, you have the option to have the winners re-do their entry if it is messed up in any way. Neatness counts for Patriot’s Pen. The oral presentation of the Voice of Democracy entry is critical, as is the length of the entry, it is to be 3-5 minutes, plus or minus 5 seconds - max. Our State Voice of Democracy winner for 2014-15 redid her entry because the time was short (we have a tendency to rush when making a recording). Use this as an example if your entrant questions a redo. Remember, in no way may the contestants identify themselves and where they are from for either Patriot’s Pen or Voice of Democracy.

You should have your judge’s line up already, with an alternate or two as we all know ‘stuff’ happens. Set your time, date and place of judging, the Post can be used but I urge you to make it a quiet time, when there is not a lot of stuff going on at the Post. Give yourself extra time, your judging can be anytime after 1 November. I recommend that you check all of the entries – both Patriot’s Pen and Voice of Democracy for any errors – your diligence will payoff. Remember you can forward one entry to District for every fifteen you receive. You should include a picture of each entry to District. Make sure that Post Commander/Chairman and Auxiliary President/Chairman sign each entry. Fill out the entire “To Be Completed By The VFW Post” section.

Our Scholarship contestants have the opportunity to win money to further their education. Department Awards for Patriot's Pen are: 1st Place - \$250.00, 2nd Place – (awarded by PDC Daryl Halling and his wife Loretta), 3rd Place - \$50.00, and 4th through 7th Place - \$25.00. Awards for Voice of Democracy are: 1st Place – VFW Dept. (all expense paid trip to Washington, DC, 2nd Place – VFW Dept. 3rd Place - \$250.00 and 4th through 7th Place - \$25.00. Your hard work as Chairman pays off for our Youth!!

Many Auxiliaries and Posts plan a dinner or luncheon where they introduce their judges and their top three winners. This recognition is very important for the kids – we all like a pat on the back. It is also a good time to meet the contestant's siblings – more candidates for our future programs.

Get your publicity out to the local newspapers, TV Stations and Radio Stations announcing the winners of these Scholarship contests. These young people work hard preparing their entries. We need to give them the recognition they deserve. This recognition in turn gives our organization a start on next year's publicity. It is never too early to start! The public needs to know that our organization is not just a group of 'old people', we also work with the youth and the community.

I am looking forward to the judging in December for our State Winners. We will have the District Voice of Democracy winners in Pierre during Legislative in February along with the top Patriot's Pen winners. It is the culmination of a lot of work on the Post and Auxiliary's part. That is the work you did, try to attend, it is very rewarding.

Loyally,



Sandi Moss

10577 Dogwood Lane

Rapid City, SD 57702-8625

Phone: 605-341-0442

Cell: 431-6897

E-mail: kslmoss@outlook.com

2015-2016 Chairman Mary Kirkvold

National Theme: "Our Veterans - Now and Forever"

SD Department Theme: "Remembering Our Promise, Advocates for the Veterans & Their Families"

Bulletin 4

October 2015

What are you most passionate about in this program?

Today's youth are the future of our nation. 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.

Why are you proud to be a VFW Auxiliary member?

I believe we should honor our veterans for the freedom they have fought and died for and continue to do.

Involve youth in all VFW Auxiliary programs.

Youth are our future. Involvement from an early age encourages our youth to help serve our communities and veterans.

Teach youth about VFW Auxiliary effort to:

- Respect and hold pride in our country
- Serve hospitalized veterans
- Elect leaders who appreciate our military
- Pass legislation that secures benefits for our veterans
- And many other worthy efforts!

Loyally

Mary Kirkvold
2015-2016 Youth Activities Chairman
2500 W Bethel Place #203, Sioux Falls, SD 57105
Cell phone: 605-351-0839
E-mail: marykirkvold@yahoo.com