

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

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

Included in the **September 2015 Issue**  
General Orders #3  
Advocates for Veterans & Their Families  
**“Becoming the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary”**  
**New Auxiliary Membership Application**  
Joys, Cares & Concerns  
Fall Council of Administration Registration  
Message from Sr. Vice President, Karen Sharp  
Program Chairmen Bulletins  
District Meeting Schedule

**Remembering Our Promise**



Ladies Auxiliary VFW  
**SOUTH DAKOTA**  
**2015-2016**

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

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

General Orders Number 3, September, 2015

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

**1. Members and Officers: National Headquarters now has provided new promotional material that reflects the name change to VFW Auxiliary and male eligibility to join our organization. Included in this mailing you will find Eligibility Information, revised Membership Application, and "What Your Auxiliary and Department Need to Do with the Name Change". A packet will be mailed from National Headquarters to every Auxiliary with 3 sheets of membership cards (please use these moving forward) and all documents included in this mailing. The new emblem will be available in the Emblem Branding Center behind login by the end of day Monday, August 24, 2015. Discard all previous Membership Applications as they will not be accepted.**

2. The National President Francisca Guilford, made her visit to South Dakota on August 16 – 18. The entire group of South Dakota members made a big impression on President Francisca. I want to thank everyone who came to meet her – members and Veterans. One of the events included in the visit was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vietnam War Commemoration; this was a wonderful ceremony to continue the healing process and make certain the same terrible treatment of military never happens again.

3. Department President, Nancy, called a number of the state Auxiliaries as National Headquarters has yet to receive President/Treasurer bonds. As of this date, there are still 13 Auxiliaries and Districts that do not have their Bonds paid and recorded. There are serious consequences involved with this requirement, so please pay attention. Auxiliaries can pay their Bond in three ways: follow the instructions in the Treasurer's CD; get a copy of the form from the CD and mail check to National Headquarters; or send a check in the amount of last year's Bond so you get it there on time (it will be balanced out later).

4. **Auxiliary Treasurers** – 1) Send dues transmittals as you receive payment for membership – at least once a week. 2) Please pay your District dues by the end of September or sooner.

5. **State Fair** is September 3 – 7<sup>th</sup>. Donations are needed; mark your checks for State Fair to Department Treasurer Carol Gross. Contact Chairman Becky Hafner with gift certificate donations. Volunteers are needed at the Veterans Building and to drive Golf Carts.

6. **National President's Homecoming** is September 17-20 in Anchorage, Alaska. Events include Alaska Night and a Gala Banquet; there are also a number of guided tours available at a discounted price. For registration information, contact President Nancy Worth at 605-490-1220.

7. **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.

8. September is Military Suicide Awareness Month. It is reported that 20-25% of returning soldiers have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, a major contributor to suicidal thoughts. Print and color the teardrops to show your support and bring awareness to the public (teardrop sheet included in this mailing). Also become familiar with the Veterans Crisis Line run by Veterans Affairs: 1-800-273-8255 and press 1; or check out the website [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net).

9. Congressional joint resolution approved December 18, 2001 (Public Law 107-89) authorized the president to designate September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day" to perpetuate the memory of those who perished in the attack on America and to pursue peace and justice in the world and security at home. Appropriate ceremonies and activities include a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 am EDT, remembrance services and candlelight vigils. Flags should be flown at half-staff on Patriot Day.

10. September 18<sup>th</sup> is National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Hospital National Ambassador, Grace Matz's message on POW/MIA Recognition is:

It's so important to honor those who were prisoners of war and never forget those who are still missing in action.

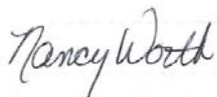
- Contact a facility and schedule a POW/MIA Ceremony. Invite ALL veterans, members, and the public. If you're unable to schedule the ceremony, consider visiting a facility and passing out POW/MIA and American flags.
- If you know of any former POWs in the hospital or nursing home, be sure to recognize them and their sacrifice.

11. Gold Star Mother's Day is September 27<sup>th</sup>. Please recognize these families all year long with a special remembrance on this day. They never forget their loss and we need to support them.

12. 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.)

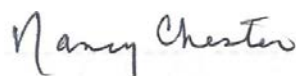
13. Registration for Fall Council of Administration meetings is in this mailing. All events will be held at Cedar Shores Resort in Oacoma by Chamberlain. Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a special VFW and Auxiliary joint roundtable meeting to discuss possible re-districting within South Dakota. Both Auxiliary and Post members have some meetings on Friday. The National Representative is Sandra Onstwedder, National Guard from Michigan. Events include: Commander Mike Mullen and President Nancy Worth's Homecomings; School of Instruction and Certified Trainer Recruiter Seminar. Send completed forms and money to Sturgis Post #2730.

By Order of:



Nancy J. Worth  
Department President

Attest:



Nancy Chester  
Department Secretary

## Remembering Our Promise



The main event in August was the National President's Visit to South Dakota's Black Hills. National President Francisca Guilford was met at the Rapid City Airport with the Avenue of Flags. It was an impressive sight with the number of Auxiliary and VFW members present. After greeting the members, President Francisca had lunch at Rapid City Post #1273 where members had the opportunity to write letters to service members. Following her check-in at the Sturgis Super 8 hotel, President Francisca returned to the airport to welcome Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander-in-Chief, John A. Biedrzycki and his wife, Betty Jean. The group then continued to Sturgis Post #2730 for social time with members and veterans followed by supper at the Knuckle Brewery. During supper, Sturgis Mayor, Mark Carstensen, presented Mayoral Proclamations to both President Guilford and Commander-in-Chief Biedrzycki.

Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup> began with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vietnam War Commemoration at Black Hills National Cemetery. The program co-sponsored by South Dakota Veterans Cemeteries Support Council and VFW, Department of South Dakota presented statistics from Vietnam with live-cut wreaths being presented for Vietnam Veterans, Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard. National President Francisca and VFW National Commander-in-Chief John presented the wreath for POW-MIAs. The local American Legion Riders group performed the "Passing of the Flag" ceremony which brought tears to the eyes of attendees.

Immediately following the ceremony, everyone boarded the bus and headed to Mount Rushmore. First-time viewers, the National President, Commander-in-Chief and Betty Jean Biedrzycki were thrilled even through the rain showers. We continued on to stop and view Crazy Horse Monument, then onto Custer Post #3442 for a succulent lunch. Then it was onward to the South Dakota State Veterans Home via Wind Cave National Park (prairie dogs and antelope made a showing, but the buffalo decided to hide from us). State Veterans Home Administrator, Brad Richardson, gave an overview of the progress on the new construction – the project is ahead of schedule and under budget. The group visited with residents and enjoyed a snack of cream puffs.

The bus trip then continued to Deadwood, but along the way a herd of domestic buffalo was sighted! Black Hills Auxiliary #5969 provided a wonderful roast beef dinner followed by a brief program and enjoying the Deadwood atmosphere. National President Francisca's outgoing flight (to Department of Montana) left at 7:30 am on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to everyone who assisted with the Visit, it was a time to remember. Area Auxiliaries truly opened their doors and hearts to our visitors. We will all remember to support "Our Veterans - Now and Forever."

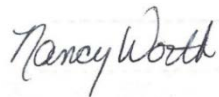
**IMPORTANT MESSAGE from Department Membership Chairman Carrie Alm:**

South Dakota is currently at 54.89% which is 7.71% less than the National average. To meet the National Quarterly Goal Award by September 30, South Dakota needs an additional 1,573 paid members. That means each South Dakota Auxiliary needs to submit 33 more members to Department Treasurer, Carol Gross by September 23<sup>rd</sup> for submission to National Headquarters. With the new eligibility of males, this is not out of reach! **New member application form is included in this mailing along with eligibility information. Discard all previous Membership Applications as they will not be accepted.**

At the Fall Council meetings, it is very important that all Auxiliary members attend the Trainer Recruiter Seminar. With the changes in our membership eligibility, recruitment ideas and methods are very important. When we use the methods revealed in this training we will not ask "How do we get/keep new members?" Please come ready to learn – Cedar Shore Resort at 8:00 am Saturday, October 3, 2015. See you there.

The Auxiliary does not keep track of Community Service. But, the VFW does track this information. Included in this mailing is the new South Dakota form for VFW Community Service money, mileage and hours. Please communicate this information to your Post Community Service Chairman for their records.

In Sisterhood:

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

LA VFW South Dakota 2015-2016 Department President

# Becoming the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary...

NEW! ~ [www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org)



Thank you for your patience as we have compiled the necessary information in order to make this transition as smooth as possible. The following documents are to help your Auxiliary, District, County Council and Department make the appropriate changes so that we can follow state and national laws and guidelines.

Included in this packet:

- 3 sheets of new membership cards; there is also a digital version available online behind login under “Officer Tools”
- “What Your Auxiliary and Department Need to Do with the Name Change”
- Copy of the VFW Bylaw change
- Sample letters to the IRS for both incorporated and non-incorporated organizations; there is also a fillable PDF online behind login under “Officer Tools”
- One copy of the new Membership Application, which may be copied; there is also a digital version available on the website

Things to know:

1. New Eligibility Chart: These individuals are eligible if they are this relation to a person who is or was eligible for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. See the VFW Eligibility Guide in the Bylaws.

Husbands/Wives	Fathers/Mothers	Sons/Daughters	Brothers/Sisters
Widowers/ Widows	Grandfathers/ Grandmothers	Grandsons/ Granddaughters	

2. Please note that though “step children” was removed from the eligibility language, they are still eligible. Per VFW ruling, step children are children [Sons/Daughters]. There is to be no distinction between them.
3. The minimum age requirement has NOT changed. Applicants must still be a minimum of 16 years of age.
4. You can print off an updated Membership Application on the Resources page of the website or behind login under “Officer Tools”. These now include check boxes for male and female. The nicer printed version is in process and will be available soon for request.
5. From now forward, please use the new emblem (shown above) which is available behind login in the Emblem Branding Center. Please delete all other versions of the emblem from your files and only use this one going forward.
6. The VFW Store will have discounts on items needed for regular business meetings, such as seals, with the new name and emblem. Please see the Store for more information.
7. Please remember that this change has nothing do with nor did it affect the formation or membership of Men’s Auxiliaries. All questions about the Men’s Auxiliary should be directed to the VFW. It must be noted that an individual who is eligible for both the Men’s Auxiliary and the VFW Auxiliary may have memberships in both.
8. An individual who is eligible for the Veterans of Foreign Wars is NOT eligible for the VFW Auxiliary.

9. All eligible men and women seeking membership in the organization must fill out an application, be investigated, voted on and accepted. All accepted members in good standing have all the same rights and privileges.
10. Same-sex marriage has been accepted for many years (based on each state's law), and is now extended to all same-sex marriages because of the Supreme Court's ruling making same-sex marriage legal nationwide.
11. All current membership cards, both Life and Annual, are valid and will remain so.
12. Those members who become Life Members from August 21, 2015, forward will receive the new plastic Life Membership card. A revised metal Life Membership card will be available through the VFW Store.

We wish you the best as we move forward with this historic change! We can't wait to help you welcome the newest members of the organization so that we can all better serve veterans, active-duty military and their families!

-National Headquarters

[info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)

Auxiliary No. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID (If already a member) \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership  Life  Rejoined Previous Member No. \_\_\_\_\_, Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member-at-Large  Life Member-at-Large in Department of \_\_\_\_\_ or in  National

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

**POST AFFILIATED:** (\*Must be a member to the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ to Eligible Veteran\* \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Membership ID \_\_\_\_\_

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

**LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER**, Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_ (Note: Eligibility proof and investigating committee not needed.)  
 Accepting Treasurer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL TRANSFER**, Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_ Paying \_\_\_\_\_ or Nonpaying \_\_\_\_\_? (check one)

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

Name of campaign ribbons or medals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Foreign Service \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Investigating Committee: 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws.  Rejected  Election Date \_\_\_\_\_ Obligated Date \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP**  Check here if this is a gift. Card will be mailed to the Auxiliary Treasurer  
 Payment:  Cash  Check  Visa  
 Mastercard  Discover  
 Life Membership Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on credit card \_\_\_\_\_  
 Billing address for card \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 C. C. # \_\_\_\_\_  
 CVV Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

ACH (Bank withdrawal)  
 Name of Bank \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bank Routing No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Attach voided check HERE. (Required)**



**LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES**  
 Attained age at 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.


Through 20	\$220
21-25	\$210
26-30	\$200
31-35	\$190
36-40	\$185
41-45	\$175
46-50	\$170
51-55	\$160
56-60	\$150
61-65	\$140
66-70	\$130
71-75	\$115
76-80	\$95
81-85	\$75
86-90	\$60
91 and over	\$50

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




**VFW AUXILIARY**  
**2016 MEMBERSHIP CARD RECEIPT**  
 Please sign your card, certifying your paid membership. This is your receipt. Your membership card should always be available for presentation at Auxiliary meetings. Keep in a safe place.  
**UNWAVERING SUPPORT**  
**FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™**

The member to whom this card is issued, whose dues are paid for the calendar year, evidenced by the signature of the Auxiliary Treasurer, is in good standing and entitled to all the privileges of membership in this organization.

			<b>VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP CARD</b>		
			AUX. NO. _____		
Auxiliary			NAME _____		
Seal			ADDRESS _____		
<b>2016</b>			CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP CODE _____
<b>NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY MEMBER</b>					
DATE	CONTINUOUS	TREASURER			
	SINCE				


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The member to whom this card is issued, whose dues are paid for the calendar year, evidenced by the signature of the Auxiliary Treasurer, is in good standing and entitled to all the privileges of membership in this organization.

			<b>VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP CARD</b>		
			AUX. NO. _____		
Auxiliary			NAME _____		
Seal			ADDRESS _____		
<b>2016</b>			CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP CODE _____
<b>NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY MEMBER</b>					
DATE	CONTINUOUS	TREASURER			
	SINCE				


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**FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™**

The member to whom this card is issued, whose dues are paid for the calendar year, evidenced by the signature of the Auxiliary Treasurer, is in good standing and entitled to all the privileges of membership in this organization.

			<b>VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP CARD</b>		
			AUX. NO. _____		
Auxiliary			NAME _____		
Seal			ADDRESS _____		
<b>2016</b>			CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP CODE _____
<b>NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY MEMBER</b>					
DATE	CONTINUOUS	TREASURER			
	SINCE				


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The member to whom this card is issued, whose dues are paid for the calendar year, evidenced by the signature of the Auxiliary Treasurer, is in good standing and entitled to all the privileges of membership in this organization.

			<b>VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP CARD</b>		
			AUX. NO. _____		
Auxiliary			NAME _____		
Seal			ADDRESS _____		
<b>2016</b>			CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP CODE _____
<b>NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY MEMBER</b>					
DATE	CONTINUOUS	TREASURER			
	SINCE				

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**FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™**

The member to whom this card is issued, whose dues are paid for the calendar year, evidenced by the signature of the Auxiliary Treasurer, is in good standing and entitled to all the privileges of membership in this organization.

			<b>VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP CARD</b>		
			AUX. NO. _____		
Auxiliary			NAME _____		
Seal			ADDRESS _____		
<b>2016</b>			CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP CODE _____
<b>NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY MEMBER</b>					
DATE	CONTINUOUS	TREASURER			
	SINCE				



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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

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[www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) | [info@vfw.org](mailto:info@vfw.org)

August 3, 2015

Jan Owens, Secretary-Treasurer  
Ladies Auxiliary, VFW  
406 W 34<sup>th</sup> St.  
Kansas City, MO 64111

Dear Secretary-Treasurer Owens:

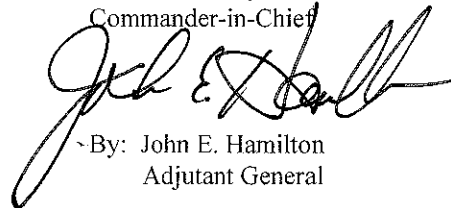
It is my esteemed pleasure to officially inform you that the delegates who attended and voted at the 116<sup>th</sup> National Convention demonstrated equality for all veterans, their spouses and family members by passing By-Law amendments that will effectively transform our national association known as the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars into the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary.

This transformation makes suitable accommodations for the male spouses and male family members of all eligible service members to join the Auxiliary. I want to thank you for your hard work in helping these amendments pass by providing your insight as we developed suitable language, but must ask for your further support in ensuring this transition's success by reviewing and making necessary changes to the Auxiliary's By-Laws, Ritual, Rules and Regulations in order to make them consistent with the revised language of the VFW By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

I have attached the revised language of the VFW's By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, but am also available should you need further help in implementing these changes. As it took the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary working in concert to successfully pass these changes, it is imperative more now than ever that we continue to work together to ensure these changes' implementation is a success. Thank you for your continued support and thank you for all that you do for our Nation's veterans and their families.

Sincerely,

John A. Biedrzycki, Jr.  
Commander-in-Chief



By: John E. Hamilton  
Adjutant General

JEH:DEP:jrd  
cc: Ladies Auxiliary National President

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

## ARTICLE XI—AUXILIARY

### **Sec. 1101—Organization, Disbandment, and Transition of Auxiliaries.**

*The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary is an incorporated national association of eligible members chartered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Such association shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Commander-in-Chief and the National Council of Administration.*

*The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary shall be governed by such By-Laws, Rules and Regulations and Ritual as may be adopted by it and by the lawful orders issued by the National Officers of the Auxiliary, provided such By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, Ritual and orders do not conflict with the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure or Ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States or the lawful orders or directives of the National Convention, the Commander-in-Chief or the National Council of Administration of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.*

*The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary may issue charters to Department, District, County Council, and Post Auxiliaries, provided that the establishment of such Auxiliary shall have been approved by the respective Department, District, County Council or Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and subject to its control. Formation, control and disbandment of auxiliaries as well as suspension or cancellation of charters shall be in the manner prescribed in the Manual of Procedure.*

*Auxiliary units approved and chartered prior to the adoption of these provisions shall be entitled to retain such unit's seal, uniforms, emblems, badges, and insignia so long as such seal, uniforms, emblems, badges, and insignia are serviceable and available, for a period of up to five-years following the adoption of this provision.*

*Auxiliary officers shall make such reports as may be required in the Manual of Procedure.*

### **Sec. 1102—Eligibility.**

*Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary shall be limited to spouses, parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, children, and grandchildren of a person who was or is eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.*

*Persons eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall not be eligible for membership in the Auxiliary; however, members in good standing of the Auxiliary and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States prior to August 20, 2015 may retain membership in both.*

# What Your Auxiliary and Department Need to Do with the Name Change:

As of Friday, August 21, 2015, the “Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States” changed its name to the “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary.”

- **Departments** will officially be known as “Department of \_\_\_\_\_ Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary”. An abbreviated version maybe “Department of \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Auxiliary.”
- **Districts** will officially be known as “District No. \_\_ (name of State) Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary”. An abbreviated version maybe “District No. \_\_ (name of State) VFW Auxiliary.”
- **County Councils** will officially be known as “County Council \_\_ (name of State) Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary”. An abbreviated version maybe “County Council \_\_ (name of State) VFW Auxiliary.”
- **Auxiliaries** will officially be known as “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary to Post No. \_\_\_\_”. An abbreviated version maybe “VFW Auxiliary to Post No. \_\_\_\_\_.”

## **1. IS YOUR ORGANIZATION INCORPORATED?**

- If your organization is incorporated, then you will need to file Amended Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State’s Office. Check with your state’s office to get the appropriate procedure. There is typically a filing fee for this, for which your organization is responsible.
- There is possibly a question asking if a vote was needed by the body/board of directors/shareholders to make this change. The answer to a question of that type is “No”. This change was a directive by our parent organization.
- A copy of your Amended Articles of Incorporation and proof of filing with the appropriate state authority should be sent to the IRS along with letters referenced under No. 5 below for changing your organization’s name with the IRS.

## **2. DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION HAVE EMPLOYEES?**

- If your organization has employees, then you will need to notify any local taxing authorities about the name change. This includes, but is not limited to, Unemployment Commissions and State Revenue Departments. You will need to check with each authority the best way to communicate the name change with them.

## **3. IS YOUR ORGANIZATION BONDED THROUGH NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS?**

- If your organization is bonded through National Headquarters, then you do not have to do anything with your bond.
- If you are bonded or insured outside of National Headquarters, then you will need to contact your bonding or insurance company about the name change.

[OVER]

#### **4. DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION HAVE GAMING?**

- If your organization has a gaming license, you will need to contact your local gaming commission on what documents need to be filed concerning the name change.

#### **5. REPORTING THE NAME CHANGE TO INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS)**

To report the name change to the IRS, send a letter as detailed below to either the address or the fax number given.

The address to report the change is:

Internal Revenue Service  
Exempt Organizations Determinations  
Room 4024  
P.O. Box 2508  
Cincinnati, OH 45201

The fax number is: 1 (855) 2074-6184

The letter or fax needs to contain:

- Full name (both the prior name and the new name)
- Employer Identification Number (EIN, also known as Federal Identification Number or FIN)
- Authorized signature of officer (the Treasurer is the principal officer and should sign the letter)
- Attach a copy of the letter from the VFW with the Bylaw that indicates the name change. Have both the President and Treasurer signs the VFW letter also. This will serve as a copy of the amendment to the Articles of Association.
- It is recommended that this letter be sent Certified, Return Receipt, via the United States Postal Service.
- For your convenience, a sample letter has been completed.

NOTE: If your organization files form **990 or 990-EZ**, report the name change to the IRS next time the annual tax return is filed.

#### **6. REPORTING THE NAME CHANGE TO YOUR LOCAL AND TO STATE DEPARTMENTS OF REVENUE**

- Each state is different so you will need to check with your local and state tax authorities of the appropriate steps to take to inform them of the name change.

#### **7. REPORTING THE NAME CHANGE TO YOUR BANK AND INVESTMENT HOLDERS**

- Typically a copy of the paperwork sent to the IRS, Secretary of State Office, and your local and state taxing authorities should be the necessary proof to have the banking and investment information changed.



# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

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

Internal Revenue Service  
Exempt Organizations Determinations  
Room 4024  
P.O. Box 2508  
Cincinnati, OH 45201

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to update the information for my organization's Employer Identification Number. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, Treasurer and principal officer of the formerly named \_\_\_\_\_.

The Employer Identification Number for this organization is \_\_\_\_\_.

The new name of the organization associated with EIN \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation that have been filed with the state of \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary of State's Office.

Regards,

\_\_\_\_\_, Principal Officer

\_\_\_\_\_



# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

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

Internal Revenue Service  
Exempt Organizations Determinations  
Room 4024  
P.O. Box 2508  
Cincinnati, OH 45201

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to update the information for my organization's Employer Identification Number. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, Treasurer and principal officer of the formerly named \_\_\_\_\_.

The Employer Identification Number for this organization is \_\_\_\_\_.

The new name of the organization associated with EIN \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the letter from our parent organization, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, stating the change of name of the organization.

Regards,

\_\_\_\_\_, Principal Officer

\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Edward 'Red' Nelson**, father of Linda Nelson Fox of Yankton. Linda, a Navy veteran has held many offices in the VFW & Auxiliary. Red was a member of the VFW for over 50 years.

Edward "Red" Nelson, age 85, of Yankton, South Dakota, died Thursday, August 20, 2015, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 25 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church 509 Capitol St. in Yankton with Reverend Larry Regynski officiating.

Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery in Yankton with military honors provided by the Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post No. 791 and the Patriot Guard Riders. Lunch will be served at the Yankton VFW Post Home at 209 Cedar St. following the services at the cemetery.

Visitation is from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24 at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with a rosary at 7:00 p.m. and a vigil service at 7:30 p.m.

Cards may be sent to Linda at:

1110 Dakota St.  
Yankton, SD 57078

\*\*\*\*\*

**Loren Gibson**, from Box Elder passed away suddenly at home. At this time I only have the following info. Memorial services for Loren will be held at the Kirk Funeral Home in Rapid City, 1051 E. Minnesota St. on Thursday, Aug. 27, 2015 at 1pm with burial at the National Cemetery at 3pm. A lunch is planned following burial at the Sturgis VFW.

Loren and his wife Carolyn have been very active members of the VFW and Auxiliary for many years. Cards may be sent to the family at: 716 Old Cavalry Rd., Box Elder, SD 57719.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Arlene Propst, PDP & Past LAVFW Dept. Treasurer**, remains in the Select hospital at Sanford in Sioux Falls. She has been on dialysis and had a set-back this past week. Word received on August 21st from her son is that she is better. She is eating and they have discontinued her antibiotics. Her leg that was the worst is somewhat better and all of these signs are good. She is responsive and knows who people are most of the time.

Cards may be sent to Arlene at:

Arlene Propst  
% Select Hospital  
1305 W. 18<sup>th</sup> St.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5039



**Marva Barg, PDP** fell while getting on the bus on the Nat. President's visit to SD. She cut & bruised her leg(s) and Rick reported August 21st AM that she is doing better and the bruises are healing. Marva has some nasty health issues and she struggles all the time to stay healthy. Cards to uplift can be sent to Marva at:  
5309 W. 52<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57106

\*\*\*\*\*

**Shirley Bachmann**, Summit's Past President, fell and broke her hip. She is in rehab in MN. To those who did not know, Summit auxiliary recently folded. Shirley worked tirelessly over many years to keep the auxiliary going and she loved her calling, "to support the veterans". Cards can be sent to her at:  
Shirley Bachmann  
16392 640th Ave.  
Alden, MN 56009

\*\*\*\*\*

A Memo from Nat. Aux. Headquarters:  
Please be advised that **PNP, Pattie Jankowski** of Michigan has recently had surgery and is home doing well. She will have follow-up radiation treatment twice a day for five days. Your cards of encouragement and cheer may be sent to her home address:  
13675 NE 238<sup>th</sup> Ct.  
Salt Springs, FL 32134

\*\*\*\*\*

Please keep our members and their families in your thoughts and prayers. We extend our best wishes to all for a speedy recovery.



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
& LADIES AUXILIARY**  
**BIG 10 CONFERENCE – OCT. 16, 17, & 18, 2015**  
**ISLE OF CAPRI CASINO HOTEL, BETTENDORF, IOWA**  
**REGISTRATION FORM**

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION: \$100.00 PER PERSON**

INCLUDES: 2 DRINK TICKETS FOR FRIDAY NIGHT MIXER OR SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET

1 – TICKET FOR LUNCHEON (SATURDAY)

1 – TICKET FOR BANQUET (SATURDAY)

2 BREAKFAST TICKETS (SATURDAY & SUNDAY MORNING)

**Late and on-site registration is \$110 per person after cutoff date OCT 5, 2015**

***Luncheon and Banquet tickets will not be available after this date***

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

POST/AUX. #: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: VFW IOWA**

**(NO CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED)**

**MAIL REGISTRATION FORMS & CHECKS TO:**

**DEPARTMENT OF IOWA VFW**

**3601 BEAVER AVENUE**

**DES MOINES, IA 50310**

**VFW IOWA Phone: (515) 255-2139 – Email: [vfwiowa@qwestoffice.net](mailto:vfwiowa@qwestoffice.net)**

**Website: [www.vfwiowa.org](http://www.vfwiowa.org)**



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
& LADIES AUXILIARY

BIG 10 CONFERENCE- OCTOBER 16, 17, & 18, 2015  
HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

ISLE OF CAPRI CASINO HOTEL BETTENDORF  
1800 ISLE PARKWAY , SUITE A  
BETTENDORF, IA 52722  
PHONE: 1-800-843-4753

REGISTER ONLINE AT: [bettendorf.isleofcapricasinos.com/RVFWB10.html](http://bettendorf.isleofcapricasinos.com/RVFWB10.html)

Room	Friday Rate	Saturday Rate	Sunday Rate
Deluxe Non-Smoking King	\$99	\$109	\$89
Deluxe Non-Smoking Double Queen	\$109	\$119	\$99
Deluxe Non-Smoking King Tub Suite	\$149	\$159	\$139

Plus 12% tax & \$6 a day facilities fee.

Triple and Quad occupancy are an additional \$10 per person, per day.

A breakfast buffet ticket for *Calypso's Buffet* located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the Isle's South Tower is included in your registration packet.

Hotel Reservations open **Jan. 5, 2015.**

Please mention 2015 VFW Big 10 Conference when making reservations

**CUTOFF DATE FOR THESE RATES IS SEPTEMBER 13, 2015**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NAMES OF ADDITIONAL OCCUPANTS IN ROOM \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Rooms & Room Type Preference: \_\_\_\_\_ Deluxe Non-Smoking King

\_\_\_\_\_ Deluxe Non- Smoking Double Queen \_\_\_\_\_ Deluxe Non-Smoking King Tub Suite

Reservation **MUST** include one night's deposit. Cut-off date for these rates is **September 13, 2015.**  
**72 HOUR CANCELLATION NOTICE prior to your arrival date is required to avoid a charge of 1 night room and tax.** Debit Cards may have a pending authorization hold for up to 30 days. A credit card authorization is required upon check-in.

Credit card type: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Card Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

Check or Money Order Amount \_\_\_\_\_

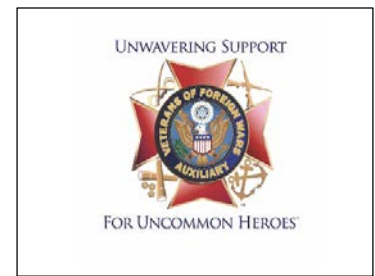
HOTEL SHUTTLE available at the airport. Call Hotel for information.





**Ladies Auxiliary VFW  
Department of South Dakota  
Karen Sharp, Sr. Vice**

**Bulletin #3 – September 2015**



It was a wonderful time had by all – the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vietnam War Commemoration and the National President’s Visit to South Dakota. A huge round of applause and thank you to our Department President Nancy Worth, Commander Mike Mullen, and all the auxiliary members and veterans who made the events so Tremendous. It really was great.

As you know, we are now the **Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary** or **VFW Auxiliary**. What a wonderful opportunity we have before us. Being able to recruit male family members to the Auxiliary will definitely help membership -- NO EXCUSE – JUST RECRUIT -- while also acknowledging many whom have helped silently for so long in the background. Now, they too can be given the proper recognition that they so greatly deserve. New members, mean new ideas, new choices and a chance to try new things. If it doesn’t work, it can always be tweaked. We won’t know unless but we try. We need to be open, accommodate, embrace and listen to new members to retain new members.

At the Fall Council in October, I will have more information regarding the bylaw changes, etc., that were passed at the National Convention. I hope that there will be at least one member from each Auxiliary in attendance at the School of Instruction. There will be a lot of information to help each Auxiliary be more informed with tools to be successful in all programs, plus the opportunity to network with other members to share ideas and success stories. I look forward to hearing what your Auxiliary did in September for Military Suicide Awareness Month, National POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 18, and God Star Mother’s Day on September 27.

Hopefully, everyone is working on updating their membership list. It is a never-ending process, but a most important one, especially now that we can no longer “reinstate” members. If you need assistance, I am available to help in whatever way I can.

As the change process comes down from National, the Department will keep you advised in as timely a fashion as we can. What we have now is the new membership application, which is the only one that we can use, and the new emblem. Check the SD website and the National website often. As we go through this process we need to make the changes in a timely fashion while also being patient. This didn’t come about overnight, and it won’t be changed overnight, but it is going to be GREAT and EXCITING!

Karen Sharp  
Sr. Vice 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 #3

Sept., 2015

**National Military Services** contains four programs initiated by the VFW: Sports Clips Help a Hero Scholarship, Unmet Needs, Operation Uplink TM and the Military Assistance Program (MAP). These programs serve active-duty military and recently discharged military.

**Unmet Needs** Can help in a crisis a soldier is serving on foreign soil, but the rent is due back home. A soldier is driving a tank on alert for IEDs, and the family car needs a new radiator at a cost the family cannot afford. These are the situations. Unmet Needs can address. Grants of up to \$2,500 payable to a creditor can bridge the gap to make a mortgage or rent payment or to fund home and auto repairs, insurance, utility costs, food and clothing.

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

**How can you involve families through this program?** Our Veterans & Family Support Program should begin at home and involve the entire family. Here are just a few examples of how you can involve families in our Veterans & Family Support projects: 1) Soldiers still need care packages, cards and coupons. As a family you can work to collect and/or donate some of these items, as well as write cards and letters to be sent to our troops overseas. 2) Collect Campbell's Labels for Education for the VFW National Home for Children.

**How can members best support the VFW Post with this program?** Remember that our communities' can be involved in almost every aspect of our VFW and Ladies Auxiliary Program. • Promote Buddy Poppies • Assist with National Veterans Service and National Military Services • Participate in Hospital volunteerism • Participate in and receive VFW. Ask your local groups to help: ROTC and Sea Cadet groups can post colors, Scouting groups can conduct flag awareness programs, young people can assist veterans with Buddy Poppy drives and promotions, they can assist with patriotic holiday activities such as placing flags on gravesites or singing to or reading to veterans in nursing homes or hospitals. The possibilities for today's youth are endless. We have available to us an endless resource of energy and activity. We have only to ask the youth of our community to get involved and we will reap the benefits.

Filing a claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs can be a frustrating and confusing process. But, that is why the VFW National Veterans Service was established. National Veterans Service (NVS) trains VFW Service Officers to become experts and veterans and their families in filing for disability compensation, rehabilitation and education programs, pension and death benefits and employment & training programs. If you need help finding a VFW Service Officer in your area to assist someone, go to [www.vfw.org/NVS/](http://www.vfw.org/NVS/), enter South Dakota and hit GO. Names, addresses,

phone numbers and email information for the Service Officers in your area will pop up on the screen. This is just one more way we can be better “Advocates for Veterans and Their Families.”

VFW Veterans & Military Support Programs include four core programs which are: Operation Uplink, Military Assistance Program (MAP), Unmet Needs and the “Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship.” The “Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship” is provided by one of the VFW’s major supporters, Sport Clips Haircuts, and helps service members and veterans with financial assistance needed to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. This is just another way to say “thank you” to those who deserve it the most! Applications for the spring 2016 Semester are being accepted August 1, 2015 through November 15, 2015 and scholarships will be awarded in January, 2016.

**Patti Mitchell**

**888 Slowacki Avenue, Grenville. SD 57239**

**cell phone # 605-280-0777**

**e-mail [pattimitchell4@hotmail.com](mailto:pattimitchell4@hotmail.com)**

**Veterans & Family Support**



**AMERICANISM DEPARTMENT OF SD September 2015**

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

*The School Doors are open! Did you contact the Teachers about an Americanism program? I am sure it is not too late in some schools to provide teachers with an outline for your visit. Have the children be part of your program, such as proper way to carry the flag, salute the flag, when to salute the flag during a parade, proper placement of your hand over your heart and even folding of the flag. Be sure you are also reaching the Christian schools, home schooled, Senior Centers and Nursing Homes as they would all enjoy your visit and information.*

*Americanism (Citizen Education) is a special feeling you get when you say the Pledge of Allegiance or when the National Anthem is played. Did you know the National Anthem was adopted by Congress on March 3, 1931 after the VFW had a nationwide campaign.*

*POW/MI A: Recognition of this day is September 19, plan a remembrance program for that day and invite the parents of the MIA/POW' if any are living in your community, we need them to know "They are not forgotten".*

*CELEBRATING AMERICA'S FREEDOM at Fort Snelling, St. Paul, Minnesota August 29<sup>th</sup> will be history when you receive the September General Orders. I know everyone who attended had a great experience. It does not happen very often that such a historical and educational event is this close to South Dakota. Thank you to the National VFW Ladies Auxiliary .*

*Here are other dates that are special: August 29<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Reserve Birthday, September 11, Patriots Day, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> US Air Force Birthday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> Gold Star Mothers Day.*

*Please, Please send me the name address, e-mail and phone No. of your Auxiliary Americanism Chairman or have it ready and give it to me at Fall Council.*

*Please find attached information on the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. Watch deadline dates as some have changed. Feb. 15 to Post, Feb. 28 ,Completion of Post Judging, March 15, Completion for District Judging, March 30 Completion of Department Judging, April 1 District reports to Dept. Chairman, April 5, Dept. winners to National.*

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

## **PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR**

*How many of you remember Red Skeleton? Well I watched all of his shows and this came as an e-mail some time ago but I think is the best explanation of what the Pledge of Allegiance means, from one of his 1968 programs. What a teaching tool! He started out with when he was a boy in school they always started with the Pledge. His Teacher Mr. Lasswell noticed that it seemed to be monotonous while saying it so he said he would like to give the Pledge and explain each word.*

*I - (me) an individual, a committee of one.*

*PLEDGE – dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self pity.*

*ALLEGIANCE – my love and my devotion*

*TO THE FLAG – our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom, wherever she waves there is respect, because your Loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is every body's job.*

*UNITED – that means we have all come together*

*STATES – individual communities that have united into 48 great states, 48 individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose, all divided with imaginary boundaries yet united with a common purpose and that's love of Country.*

*REPUBLIC – a State in which sovereign power is invested in representative by the people to govern, and government is chosen by the people to the leaders not the leaders to the people.*

*For which it stands ONE NATION – meaning so blessed by God*

*INDIVISIBLE – incapable of being divided*

*With LIBERTY – which is freedom. The right of power to live one's own life without threats, fear or some sort of retaliation.*

*And JUSTICE – principle or qualities of dealing fairly with others*

*FOR ALL – boys and girls it is as much your country as it is mine.*

*He said at the end that when he was a small boy 2 states were added and two words. UNDER GOD. Wouldn't it be a pity if someone thought that would be a prayer that should be eliminated from our schools. What a profound statement to have been made in 1968. Who would have had the foresight to know that this would become a problem in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?*

*Nelda Jorgenson, Department Patriotic Instructor.*



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

**“Our Veterans – Now and Forever”**

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

**Bulletin #3, September 2015**

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

The Hospital program has always been very focused on the Veteran! We did enjoy our short visit at the State Veterans Home while National President Francisca Guilford and John Biedrzycki, Commander in Chief, were there. The Residents are more than ready for the move in November. They will be needing volunteers for the move, so if interested, please let me know.

The SD Human Services Center has sent a list of items that they can use:

- sweatpants and sweatshirts in Large, X large, and 2XL
- socks
- underwear
- deodorant
- toothbrushes and toothpaste
- body wash

Their teachers could also use:

- #2 pencils
- loose leaf notebook paper
- 2 pocket folders

Please keep thinking about your end of the year report and please keep track of your volunteers, new volunteers, and number of hours.

Leanne Payne

Phone: 605-942-7568

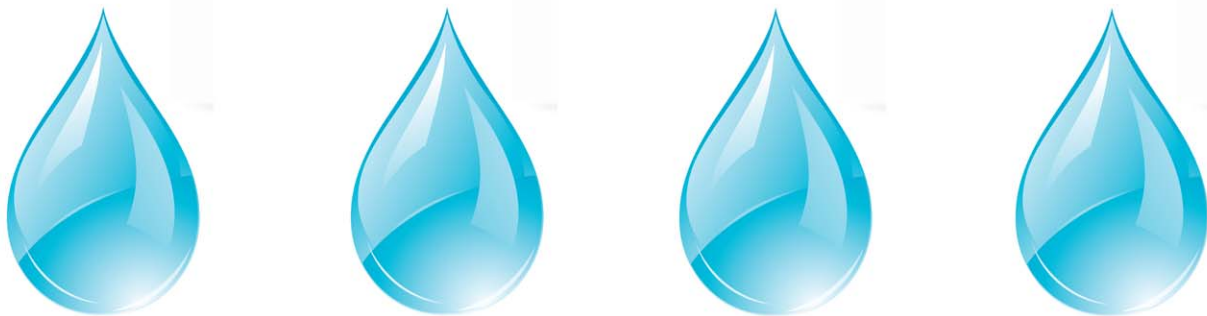
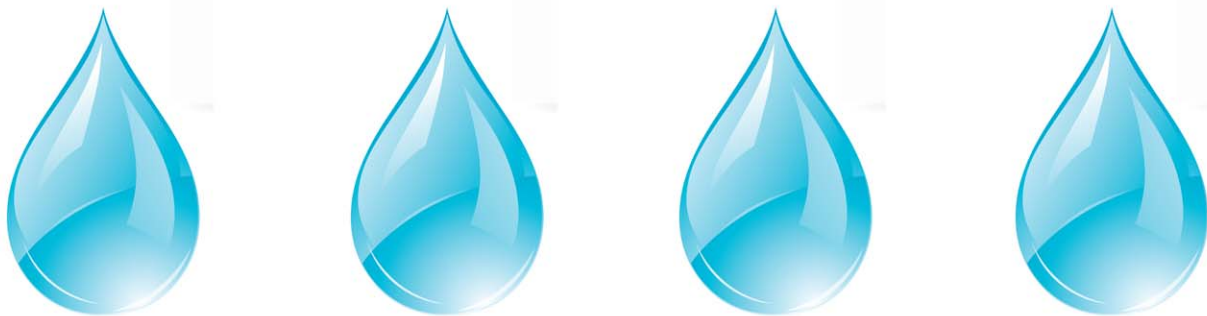
Dept. of South Dakota Hospital/VAVS chairman

PO Box 126

E-mail: oldcripp@siouxvalley.net

Plankinton, SD 57368

# Military Suicide Awareness Teardrop Sticker



What to do: Print this document on 8.5 x 11 sticker paper and cut out the teardrops to use them as stickers. (Try Avery 8165 for inkjet printers.) When someone asks you about your sticker, tell them that the Ladies Auxiliary VFW is very concerned about the rate of suicides among military personnel. We want everyone to be aware of the unique stresses that face our military personnel. Share with them the Veterans Crisis Line:  
1-800-273-8255, press 1 or go to [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)

**VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota**  
**LEGISLATIVE**

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

Bulletin #3

September 2015



As we are slowing down for the fall – with school going, fall sports in full swing and the NFL playing, we can start to work together to make many contacts to advocate for our Veterans. With everyone working together we will have a successful year.

Jan Endes said it best last year: “One of our team goals is to make the Legislative Program **PERSONAL** – not an obligation. And one current veterans issue has made this program very personal – the VA Hospital debacle! I know everyone reading this bulletin has had or will have at least one Veteran take advantage of the VA healthcare system. We must always work with our Legislators in making this system more competent, more viable and much more effective for Veterans! Quoting from the VFW’s National Legislative services: “The VFW’s legislative initiatives center on quality of life and health initiatives for all the nation’s veterans, past and present.” As you know this is still an issue today

Keep the **Get Out the Vote** project active. We have some exciting elections coming up. With school starting you can also promote “Get Out the Vote” to the youth and they will talk to their parents/guardians about voting. We each need to do our part and with everyone doing it we have many...

I have included with this bulletin a copy of the monthly worksheet and the year-end report. If you keep up with the monthly statistics the year-end report will be easier. Please review them often as this reflects the goals of our program. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email. Thanks you for all you do for our Veterans, Military Members and Families!

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](mailto:cbchase@venturecomm.net)

## **Membership**

Team Means Together Everyone Achieves More! – Author Unknown

### **General Orders #3**

**September 2015**

Hello again! I am sure you are all working hard on your goals towards hitting 100% in membership. Hopefully your auxiliary has come up with a game plan and are ready to really push for this goal.

We definitely got a little push from National, as they voted to allow men into our organization at this national convention starting on August 21, 2015. This is going to be a great way to help us improve our membership this year and guarantee that everyone will make 100% in the time allotted. This opens the membership to lots of family and friends and will make it easy to ask.

As of August 21, 2015, membership to the auxiliary is anyone who fits the following criteria:

- Must be citizens of the United States or a United States National, and at least 16 years old.
- Those eligible are:
  - Husband/Wife
  - Widower/Widow
  - Father/Mother
  - Grandfathers/Grandmothers
  - Sons/Daughters
  - Grandsons/Granddaughters
  - Brothers/Sisters
  - Step-siblings/Step-parents/Step-children

“Of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.”

I hope that this great news makes you as happy as it does me and encourages your auxiliary to make strides in not only hitting 100% but also making a higher goal to reach for this year within your auxiliary. 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

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](mailto:littlegirlz3@msn.com).

Respectfully Submitted,

*Carrie Alm*

Department Membership Chairman 2015-16

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## General Orders #3

### “Our Veterans – Now and Forever”

#### “Remembering Our Promise – Advocating for Veterans & Their Families”

It's hard to believe that school has started, summer flew past. The National Convention was great and I learned a lot. I am sure that you Chairman have gotten the information out for Patriot's Pen – “What Freedom Means to Me” and Voice of Democracy – “My Vision for America”. I have received a couple of calls from Auxiliary Chairman, thank you for your questions. Please feel free to call me anytime with questions.

I want to remind you Chairman that you can work for a couple of Awards that our Past Department Presidents give out each year. Neva Jean Corlett give a cash award for the best promotion of the Voice of Democracy contest and the Patriot's Pen Contest. Nelda Jorgenson gives a cash award for the best promotion of the Continuing Education Scholarship and the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. These two scholarships will be due in 2016. We need to concentrate on the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy at this time as they will be due to each Post on 1 November, we only have less than two months to get our youth to enter these contests.

If you haven't approached your schools, it is not too late. Go on line to VFW.org for ideas that you can use to advertise these contests. Do not forget your area Home School kids. I have learned that they hunt for extracurricular projects for their kids. Also, our state has many church schools that welcome outside projects. There is a letter that can be used for these groups, also Scouts and boys and girls clubs. You can adapt the letter to fit your area.

I hope to see many of you at the Fall Council. I will have packet to hand out that will assist you as work each of these programs. I cannot stress enough that using the information you can find online will make your job much easier. Remember Ladies, these students are our future, the more we help them the more prepared they will be to help our nation when they become young adults. I am looking forward to Fall Council. If you cannot make the Council, but have questions, please call or e-mail me. I will get you the information. I will give the packets to your local President or the District President if she is not there.

Loyally,

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**Youth Activities  
2015-2016 Chairman Mary Kirkvold**

**National Theme: "Our Veterans – Now and Forever"**

**SD Department Theme: "Remembering Our Promise, Advocating for Veterans & Their Families"**

**Bulletin #3**

**September, 2015**

**What are some of the resources that members should be aware of for the Youth Activities 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 these have in common? YOUTH!

Young people eager to partner with the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary and the VFW for the betterment of our communities and the expansion of Youth Programs.

**How can we 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 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, recordings of past scholarship winners, games for the kids, etc. Show the community that we are more than bingo, karaoke, or pull tabs.

Loyally,

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## VFW Auxiliary, Department of South Dakota 2015-2016 District Meeting Dates

### FALL

Saturday, October 10, 2015 – District 2  
Department Conductress attends

Sunday, October 11, 2015- Districts 1 & 4  
Department Jr. VP attends District 1  
Department President attends District 4

Sunday, October 25, 2015 – Districts 6, 7, 8, & 10  
Department Sr. VP attends District 6  
Department Chaplain attends District 7  
Department President attends District 8  
Department Guard attends District 10

### WINTER

Sunday, January 10, 2016 – District 10  
Department President attends

Sunday, January 24, 2016 – District 2  
Department President attends

### SPRING

Sunday, April 10, 2016 – Districts 4 & 6  
Department Conductress Attends District 4  
Department President attends District 6

Sunday, April 17, 2016 – Districts 2, 7 & 10  
Department Guard attends District 2  
Department President attends District 7  
Department Chaplain attends District 10

Sunday, April 24, 2016 – Districts 1 & 8  
Department President attends District 1  
Department Sr. VP attends District 8

NOTE: It has been brought to the attention of VFW Department of South Dakota that the VFW Districts are required to have a total of 3 District meetings per year (fall, mid-winter and spring). This requirement affects only the VFW and does not include any of the established Department-level meetings (Fall Conference, Legislative Conference and State Convention).