



National Program
Ambassadors
&
Program Awards

Americanism Ambassador



DEB HANES
Americanism Ambassador
2925 Ellamarie Drive
Kalamazoo, MI
49006-2126

What are you most passionate about this program and why?

I am most passionate about trying to reinvigorate true patriotism in our country. Patriotism should be an everyday thing, not something attached to national tragedies or holidays. Citizens tend to rally around terrible things, such as school shootings, terrorist attacks at home and abroad.

I would like to have people understand that at a sporting event when the National Anthem is played that it is not the time to go to concessions or to have a conversation with the person next to you. If I could make things the way I think they should be, every athlete at every level would stand with their hand over their heart when the anthem is played. They would remove hats, helmets, whatever headgear they might be wearing. Young people idolize athletes. I wish I could start a movement by having athletes exhibit patriotism by honoring the flag so their young fans would emulate them.

If you could talk to every Auxiliary member at one time, what would you tell them about your program?

We have the unique opportunity to reach literally millions of people every day. There are many avenues to communicate our mission. First and foremost these days is Facebook.

Facebook can be a powerful tool – good or bad. I would ask them all to be positive. We can do so much to share educational things about patriotism and Americanism. We can inspire and ignite enthusiasm.

However, one wrong post on Facebook can take away months of positive information. So please be careful about what you put on Facebook.

I would also remind them that at any time they post ANYTHING that mentions VFW Auxiliary they are speaking on behalf of every single one of us.

After Facebook, the next most powerful way to reach others is to go outside and meet others in person. Be positive. Consider wearing your membership pin. If we could all get in the habit of wearing our pins, you would start to see other Auxiliary members and know by seeing them that you are part of the larger whole. You will automatically feel a bond with that sister or brother you see on the sidewalk.

Remember, friendship builds membership.

What experience do you have in this program?

I was raised in the VFW. I have been taught patriotism and respect for our flag since I was a toddler. I lived Americanism. I grew up in my grandparents' VFW Post. At the time the majority of members were World War II veterans. There were SO many of them. Respect for our country and our flag were something they lived, and by doing so, we learned almost by osmosis how one shows respect to flag and country.

The depth of my patriotism is actually difficult to verbalize. It is in my bones. We have younger generations that honestly do not understand what patriotism actually means.

What are you most excited about for the 2016-2017 program year?

I think the most exciting thing about this year will be the continued addition of male members. Not only for the increase in membership, but it reminds us we need to teach new members the “why” of what we do. If we are to lead as Ambassadors we need to go right back to square one. New members do not know the first thing about our programs. It is an opportunity to “get back to basics”. If we want them to work beside us, we need to teach them the basics of what it is we do. I think it would be good for all members to start at square one and review why we do what we do.

Conference Chairmen



BIG TEN STATES

Sandra Uzell
34106 Chagrin Boulevard
#4106
Moreland Hills, OH
44022-1043



EASTERN STATES

Penelope Trottier
20 Oakdale Avenue
Pawtucket, RI
02860-2512



SOUTHERN STATES

Patricia Kemp
4700 London Circle
Orange, TX
77632-1416



WESTERN STATES

Sue Tartaglione
533 Calle Conejo
Fountain, CO
80817-1601

Americanism Awards

AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN:

1. Citation to each Department Chairman for participation in this program.
2. ***Unwavering Support Gift Certificate*** to one Department Chairman in each Program Division for the best promotion of Flag education both in the Auxiliary and in the community.
3. Outstanding Performance Award in each Program Division based on criteria listed on Page 1 and for the promotion of the Program Goals on Page 4.

AWARD FOR NATIONAL CHAIRMEN:

“Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes” Keepsake to each National Chairman for participation in this program.

Chief of Staff/Extension Ambassador



LINDA COMPTON
Chief of Staff/
Extension Ambassador
P.O. Box 160
Wayne, OH
43466-0160

What is the No. 1 way to connect with your community through the Extension Program?

Publicity about your Auxiliary activities and programs is an excellent way to show your community what we do to support our veterans. In addition, we can demonstrate our participation to help youth with scholarship opportunities and school programs to teach patriotism and flag etiquette in the classroom. Positive visibility in our communities will encourage the recruitment of new members and help us grow our Auxiliaries.

If you could talk to every Auxiliary member at one time, what would you tell them about the Extension Program?

Each of us joined the Auxiliary under the eligibility and service of a veteran who honorably served in a foreign war and was recognized with a service medal or campaign ribbon. That military service makes you eligible to become a member. We must all get involved! We can fulfill the obligation we took when we became a member by mentoring other members. Help members understand our programs, encourage them to become officers, and make them feel needed. Remember those members who can no longer attend the meetings and look for ways to involve them. Ask members to mentor our youth by visiting schools and presenting classroom programs. Encourage members to remember our veterans by visiting hospitals and nursing homes to make their lives a little brighter.

What are some unique resources that members should be aware of for the Extension Program?

- The Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit:
 - R U Healthy Checklist
 - Healthy Auxiliary Member Questionnaire
 - Auxiliary Meeting Clinic
 - Healthy Communication Phone/Text Tree
 - Good Job Certificates
 - Health Certificates
- Current Podium Edition – Bylaws, *Booklet of Instructions and Ritual*
- Auxiliary Traditions video and handout
- 5 Essentials of an Auxiliary Cards
- Starting a New Auxiliary Cards
- Mentoring Guide
- PowerPoint presentation for Bachelor Posts considering an Auxiliary
- Ambassador bulletins and Conference Chairmen bulletins
- Ambassador blog posts at vfwauxiliaryprograms.blogspot.com
- VFW Auxiliary website

How can members best support their VFW Post through the Extension Program?

Recruiting new members is a great way to support our VFW Posts. With the newly expanded eligibility requirements for the VFW Auxiliary, there are now at least 12 people who may join on the eligibility of a veteran. We must engage and get involved. Our veterans and their families need us. Our VFW Posts will come alive with our help as we reach out to not only our veterans but the youth and senior citizens in our communities. An increase in the Auxiliary membership provides tremendous support for our national programs and delivers “Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes”™.

Extension Awards

AWARDS FOR MEMBERS:

1. ***Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes*** Keepsake to one member in each Department who assists in revitalizing his/her Auxiliary and who uses the Healthy Auxiliary materials. One nomination from each Department Chief of Staff is due by March 31, 2017, to National Headquarters.

AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES:

1. ***Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes*** Citation to one Auxiliary in each Department that best used publicity, i.e. radio/TV/social media, in forming their Auxiliary or revitalizing their Auxiliary. One nomination from each Department Chief of Staff is due by March 31, 2017, to National Headquarters.

AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS:

1. \$50 to the Department for each new Auxiliary instituted between July 1, 2016, and February 28, 2017, provided transmittal and proper paperwork is received at National Headquarters by March 31, 2017.
2. ***Unwavering Support Gift Certificate*** to one Department Chief of Staff in each Program Division based on the promotion of Mentoring in the Auxiliary.
3. Outstanding Performance Award in each Program Division based on criteria listed on Page 1 and the promotion of the Program Goals as listed on page 6.

Hospital Ambassador



JANICE HOLM
Hospital Ambassador
349 Rainbow Lake Drive
Brevard, NC
28712-7721

What are you most passionate about this program and why?

This program touches people in the most profound and significant way with an instant sense of self-worth through an act of kindness for another. Mere minutes of our time and attention have an enormous positive effect on the attitude of someone, a stranger to us, who may not be feeling well or possibly feeling forgotten. The spiritual uplifting of another brings brightness to their day that ultimately can affect their healing. That's powerful!

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

The No. 1 way to connect with the community is through networking. Networking with churches, civic organizations, schools, local businesses, and other veteran advocates in your area will accomplish much more, not only in sponsorship of events and activities, but more importantly, in the availability of manpower. A byproduct of partnering on a regular basis with other groups in your community is the opportunity to promote in a wider scope the awareness of the need for more hospital, clinic and nursing home volunteerism.

If you could talk to every Auxiliary member at one time, what would you tell them about your program?

I would tell them this program has an effect on both the volunteer and the recipient of their efforts like no other and it's instantaneous. Participating is only as demanding as they want it to be. It's the time they can afford to give to it and the efforts they choose to expend

doing it. From the very simple visiting patients in their rooms to becoming a friend to a nursing home resident, from helping a hospital with directing patients to the various departments within it to making reminder calls for upcoming appointments, from assisting with conducting an event to helping a resident or patient with a craft, from using their God-given talents to utilizing their professional skill sets, and from volunteering at a local hospital, clinic or nursing home to a VA Medical Center. Volunteer opportunities are as diverse as every individual volunteer.

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

Aside from the resources provided in the Hospital Program Guide, website and blogs, the best resource for the Auxiliaries is through their local medical facilities. Every facility has its own unique needs for volunteers and activities that are geared to their patient, resident or client services.

How can you involve families through this program?

The most heartwarming feeling that comes over a patient in a hospital is when an entire family comes to visit them, without any personal family ties to them, and it radiates throughout the entire room. Many families look for opportunities to teach their children what it means to be a good neighbor. You can reach these families through churches, the county board of education and libraries. You can also try to involve families through the Parent Teacher Association. There are many volunteer opportunities that can interest families in volunteering at nursing homes such as holding a picnic in the garden of a nursing home, assisting the residents in maintaining a raised vegetable garden, or if the family is musically inclined have a sing-a-long to engage the residents. There is also the Veterans Voices Writing Project that provides a perfect opportunity for a family to learn about the experiences of a veteran and how it has impacted his/her life bringing an awareness they would not have otherwise learned.

What experience do you have in this program?

Since I was a teenager, volunteering at a medical facility has been a passion of mine. I volunteered at a local hospital in my neighborhood as a middle schooler for two years and currently at a VA Medical Center in my area for the last 15 years. To give you a quick idea of what I have done, I've visited patients bringing them reading material and/or personal care items; held regular weekly positions calling patients to remind them of an upcoming appointment, doing a variety of office work, and working on special projects; I've assisted with special events at several local nursing homes; and helped with fundraisers for various patient needs in local medical facilities.

What are you most excited about for the 2016-2017 program year?

I'm most excited this year about having the opportunity to encourage and impassion VFW Auxiliary

members in participating in this most self-satisfying program through volunteerism. It literally takes only a little bit of our time and compassion for others to fulfill. The focus is on what an individual can do and when he or she is available to do so.

How can members best support their VFW Post through this program?

Probably the best support is to be willing to provide transportation for veterans in the community to their medical appointments. There are a host of reasons why the veteran is unable to drive him/herself and having a pool of willing drivers is a great asset and benefit the Post can offer their comrades. The Post may have a routine event they perform at a veterans' home or hospital such as on Veterans Day or at Christmas time when the Auxiliary can provide assistance. It is easily possible for the Post and Auxiliary to brainstorm and come up with many ways to work together in this program.

Conference Chairmen



BIG TEN STATES
Diana Rudeen
4835 Arlington Street
Loves Park, IL
61111-5814



EASTERN STATES
Paula Pinto
436 Locust Avenue
Burlington, NJ
08016-4510



SOUTHERN STATES
Virginia Smiley
4785 Battletown Road
Brandenburg, KY
40108-9751



WESTERN STATES
Jeanie Lowe
2801 Northwing Drive
Manhattan, KS
66502-8623

Hospital Awards

AWARDS FOR VOLUNTEERS:

1. Charm to each member recruiting one or more volunteers between July 1, 2016, and March 31, 2017.
2. Beginning with 150 hours, a pin or pin/bar to each Auxiliary member reaching hours as stated in the “Hospital Program Guide.”
3. A pin to each sponsored non-member volunteer, including youth volunteers, who serves a minimum of 100 hours under Auxiliary sponsorship at any hospital.
4. **“Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes” Keepsake** and signed picture of the National President to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in each Program Division. To be presented at the Department Convention.

AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN:

1. Citation to each Department Chairman for participation in this program.
2. ***Unwavering Support Gift Certificate*** to one Department Chairman in each Program Division for the best promotion of **“The Many Faces of the Hospital Volunteer.”**
3. Outstanding Performance Award in each Program Division based on criteria listed on Page 1 and for the promotion of the Program Goals on Page 8.

AWARD FOR NATIONAL CHAIRMEN:

“Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes” Keepsake to each National Chairman for participation in this program.

Legislative Ambassador



BETTE JEAN BIEDRZYCKI

Legislative Ambassador
625 Magnus Lane
Coraopolis, PA
15108-3421

What are you most passionate about this program and why?

Every benefit that a veteran receives starts with legislation. And remember, these benefits weren't provided out of the goodness of Congress' heart. They were fought for by our predecessors and will erode if we don't continue the fight for them.

If you could talk to every Auxiliary member at one time, what would you tell them about your program?

Legislative activism is everyone's responsibility. We must become familiar with the issues and the VFW's solutions. We must make sure our elected officials not only understand the issues – most of them do – but they must be provided the solution as well. That is our job in this program.

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

The VFW has several resources for legislative activism. First is the Action Corps Weekly. This is a weekly e-newsletter produced by our Washington, D.C., legislative staff. It lets us know what is happening on Capitol Hill each week. It includes congressional hearings, testimony

by VFW staff, and other meetings they have attended. Other resources can be found on the VFW website at <http://www.vfw.org/VFW-in-DC/Action-Corps/>. The VFW also conducted a series of surveys to gauge how veterans like to receive their health care and how the VA health care system is working for them. These are great resources to give to candidates so they can see what veterans really think and we provide recommendations to make the system better. You can find those resources here <http://www.vfw.org/VAWatch/>.

How can you involve families through this program?

Educate them on the issues and get them to participate. They can bring a unique face to an issue. Their life experiences as a spouse or dependent of a service member or veteran can deeply impact elected officials and establish or change how they feel on an issue.

What are you most excited about for the 2016-2017 program year?

It is an election year. Every member of the House, 1/3 of all Senate seats and the President will be elected in November of 2016. We have the ability to affect these elections in two ways: first, we can influence the position candidates hold on issues that affect veterans, military personnel and their families; second, we can vote for the candidate that truly promotes our legislative priorities.

How can members best support their VFW Post through this program?

Educate, Educate, Educate. Then participate. Learn the issues, know where to find the solutions, then tell others what is important to veterans and their families. Attend town hall meetings with the VFW, talk to your elected officials and VOTE!

Conference Chairmen



BIG TEN STATES
Theresa Calabrese
5100 S Long Avenue
Chicago, IL
60638-1626



EASTERN STATES
Frances Turner
386 Graham Branch Road
Seaford, DE
19973-6239



SOUTHERN STATES
Audrey Smith
523 S Highland Forest Drive
Columbia, SC
29203-1934



WESTERN STATES
Carmelita Jones
1295 S 5th W
Rexburg, ID
83440-5091

Legislative Awards

AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN:

1. Citation to each Department Chairman for participation in this program.
2. ***Unwavering Support Gift Certificate*** to one Department Chairman in each Program Division for the best promotion of serving veterans and their families through effective legislative advocacy.
3. Outstanding Performance Award in each Program Division based on criteria listed on Page 1 and for the promotion of the Program Goals on Page 10.

AWARD FOR NATIONAL CHAIRMEN:

“Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes” Keepsake to each National Chairman for participation in this program.

Membership & Leadership Ambassador



LEONA MCDERMOTT
Membership & Leadership
Ambassador
4444 Royal Fern Way
Palm Beach Gardens, FL
33410

What are you most passionate about this program and why?

I am passionate about the ability for us to now bring this program into the 21st century. With the broadening of the eligibility, we truly stand at the “crossroads” to take not only this program but our organization to a place it has never been before. The VFW Auxiliary now provides for eligible relatives of veterans to work together for a common cause regardless of gender. I can think of no better way to honor our veterans than to join an organization whose sole mission is to assist veterans and their families.

I believe we are making great strides in creating and improving the resources available for moving our membership forward and look forward to continuing to develop and implement additional resources, tools and activities to meet the needs of our organization and its members. Membership is the “heartbeat” of our organization. The work that we do ensures that our legacy will live on and that veterans will always be taken care of.

I am passionate about this program because of the possibilities it now brings. I believe that Membership and Leadership go hand in hand. As leaders, we work to grow our organization and strive for excellence in everything that we do. This program will now give every Department an opportunity to achieve excellence and be recognized for their efforts. It is my hope that blending membership and leadership will provide the tools and resources necessary for better program participation by

our Auxiliaries and better means of communications and training of our Auxiliary members by our Departments; while providing every Department President the opportunity to truly be the best that they can be.

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

It is my belief that the No. 1 way to connect with your community is through our actions and through letting communities know what we do. Spread the word about our programs. Involve the community in our programs. Many of us are either involved in or know others who are involved with outside organizations. This is a great way for others to hear about who we are and what we do. In speaking to others, let your passion for what we do and your excitement about what we have accomplished shine through. It is a wonderful way to motivate others to become a part of this great organization.

What are you most excited about for the 2016-17 year?

I am most excited about the enhancement we have made to the Membership Program. I am so proud and humbled to be the “pioneer” Ambassador for a program that not only has vision but one which I know will truly appeal to all of our members regardless of gender. Moving to the Membership & Leadership Program now gives every Department the opportunity to be recognized for their accomplishments. Membership goals tailored to every individual Department and achievable goals will allow every Department to be become a part of the Circle of Excellence. What’s even better, once you become a member of the Circle of Excellence, you will always be a member and will continue to be recognized for years to come for what you and your Department have accomplished.

I am excited that our National Certified Recruiter Trainer program will now become more of an integral part of this program and that I will be working hand-in-hand with Headquarters staff, who will not only be working with the National Certified Recruiter Trainers but will be keeping a pulse on the daily membership numbers and

assisting me through interaction with our Membership Conference Coaches. I know this will be a win-win for everyone! Through collaboration and teamwork, I know this program will be successful and my vision is to see every Department in the Circle of Excellence.

If you could talk to every Auxiliary member at one time, what would you tell them about your program?

Just one more member matters.....every member has the opportunity to make a difference to our organization. Never before has there been such an opportunity for new members. Now husbands/wives; widowers/widows; fathers/mothers; grandfathers/grandmothers; sons/daughters; brothers/sisters; and grandsons/granddaughters can join under an eligible veteran. Stepchildren of an eligible veteran may join the VFW

Auxiliary as well. While we know we have members who recruit many more than one member, recruiting just one member does matter. In simple terms, if only half of our membership recruited just one member, the organization would have more than 230,000 new members. The possibilities are endless. All it takes is for you to have some knowledge of what the VFW Auxiliary does. The Facts Leaflet, available free from National Headquarters, is a great resource, and then you just need to ask someone to join. If they say “no” don’t be discouraged. There will be other opportunities with other potential members. Be sure to tell your story....it is an honor to have a veteran in your family who makes you eligible for this great organization. Not everyone can join and your membership is an opportunity to honor your veteran’s service and sacrifice. Stay positive and keep trying. You will succeed and in doing so, you will make a difference!

Conference Coaches



BIG TEN STATES
Deborah Tweet
5325 Kings Circle N
Brooklyn Park, MN
55443-1606



EASTERN STATES
Elizabeth “Libby”
DallaTezza
1751 Keysville Road S
Keymar, MD
21757-9427



SOUTHERN STATES
Georgette Dausey
1415 Elder Avenue
Chesapeake, VA
23325-3913



WESTERN STATES
Kim (Mrs. Jim) Harney
2562 San Ysidro Drive
Sierra Vista, AZ
85635-5542

Membership & Leadership Awards

MEMBER AWARD

National Membership Achievement Award –

Each VFW Auxiliary or VFW post member who secures 20 new members (not rejoined) from July 1, 2016, to April 30, 2017, with the official form received at National Headquarters by May 31, 2017, will be honored with a National Membership Achievement Award; which will be presented at the National Convention in 2017. Department Treasurers are not eligible.

AUXILIARY AWARD:

\$50 to each Auxiliary when they reach 100% Plus by June 30, 2017, based on June 30, 2016, total membership numbers.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

Goals will be individualized for each Department and be given at the start of the 2016-2017 year.

Quarter 1 by Oct. 31

New/Rejoin-Department Goal = \$200

Quarter 2 by Jan. 31

New/Rejoin-Department Goal = \$350

Quarter 3 by April 30

New/Rejoin-Department Goal = \$400

Quarter 4 by June 30

New/Rejoin-Department Goal = \$500

CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE DEPARTMENT MONETARY AWARD:

\$1,000 to the Department if they achieve all the criteria for the Circle of Excellence.

AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN

1. Citation to each Department Chairman for participation in this program.
2. *Unwavering Support Certificate* to the Department Membership Chairman in each Program Division with the best promotion of “Just One More Member Matters.”
3. Outstanding Performance Award in each Program Division based on the criteria on Page 1 and for the promotion of the Program Goals on Page 12.

AWARDS FOR NATIONAL CHAIRMEN

1. “*Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes*” *Keepsake* to each Conference Chairman for participation in this program.

VFW Auxiliary Member Award

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Each Auxiliary or VFW Post member who secures 20 new members from July 1, 2016, to April 30, 2017, with the official form received at National Headquarters **no later than May 31, 2017**, will be honored with a National Membership Achievement Award, which will be presented at the National Convention in 2017. Department Treasurers are not eligible.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Recruiter's Name _____ Member ID# _____ Aux. No. _____

Recruiter's Address _____
Street Address City State Zip Code

Recruiter's Email Address _____

NUMBER	AUXILIARY NUMBER	MEMBER NAME	DATE ACCEPTED
1			
2			
3			
4			
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7			
8			
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Completed form must be received by National Headquarters by May 31, 2017.

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

Scholarships Ambassador



JOYCE BILYEU
Scholarships Ambassador
3301 U Street
Antelope, CA
95843-2519

What are you most passionate about in this program and why?

I am most passionate about this program because it will allow me the opportunity to provide information and tools needed for youth to be creative and innovative when seeking funding for continuing education.

One hundred years from now it will not matter what kind of car you drove, how big your house was or how much money you made. What WILL matter is if you made a difference in the life of a child. This program will allow all of us to make a difference not only in a child's life but the lives of their families (in particular for those struggling financially to support their children's educations).

What are you most excited about for the 2016-2017 program year?

One of the things that I am really excited about this year is the opportunity to get the community involved, especially schools. There are so many schools in our country who have very limited resources, and this program is a great opportunity for teachers to incorporate into their yearly curricula. In addition, I'm excited to

promote the Continuing Education Scholarship. This scholarship is a great opportunity for members and their immediate family to apply for additional funding for tuition and/or books for college or training at a vocational/technical school.

If you could talk to every Auxiliary member at one time, what would you tell them about our program?

I would tell members in addition to receiving scholarships for their child, this program is a great way to be actively engaged with your child. By encouraging their child to participate in the Voice of Democracy Program, Patriot's Pen Scholarship or the Young American Creative Patriotic Art contest, they will build confidence in their child. When doing this, it will help their child to be more innovative, creative and diverse. Whenever parents participate in their child's education and projects in a positive manner, they are building healthy relationships. They would be creating bonds and fond memories with their child, who in turn will more than likely do the same to their children and so forth.

How can members best support their VFW Post through this program?

One of the best ways that members can support their VFW Post through this program is to be informed on each project and deadlines. Once members are informed, then they need to actively participate with the VFW and assist in any way, especially in getting the information out to others in the organization and throughout their communities. The VFW needs support with this program, and history has shown that the Auxiliary has been very instrumental in making each of the scholarship programs a success.

Conference Chairmen



BIG TEN STATES
Jean Barton
8100 Regent Drive
Lincoln, NE
68507-3366



EASTERN STATES
Carol Preston
18 A Old Rte 12
Thompson, CT
06277-2708



SOUTHERN STATES
Patricia Leitner
489 Mountain Ranch Drive
Fairfield Bay, AR
72088-3618



WESTERN STATES
Flo Parmelee
115 Valley Drive
Helena, MT
559601-0164

Scholarships Awards

AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN:

1. Citation to each Department Chairman for participation in this program.
2. ***Unwavering Support Gift Certificate*** to one Department Chairman in each Program Division for the best promotion of the Continuing Education Scholarship.
3. Outstanding Performance Award in each Program Division based on criteria listed on Page 1 and for the promotion of the Program Goals on Page 14.

AWARD FOR NATIONAL CHAIRMEN:

“Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes” Keepsake to each National Chairman for participation in this program.

Veterans & Family Support Ambassador



JEANETTE D. GARCIA
Veterans & Family Support
Ambassador
8308 Waverly Drive NW
Albuquerque, NM
87120-3820

What experience do you have in this program?

I served as the Veterans & Family Support Department Chairman for the Department of New Mexico in 2011-2012. I received Outstanding Chairman of the year in Group 2. Through our Auxiliary we have sent care packages overseas for our military and we adopted a Unit. I, as well as my family, and our Auxiliary members, hand our “Buddy”® Poppies during Memorial and Veterans Day. We also place a “Buddy”® Poppy on our POW/MIA ribbons and hand those out during our POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony. I have also participated in fundraising for National Veterans Services during our National President’s visit and within my Auxiliary.

What are you most passionate about the program and why?

I am most passionate about Veterans & Family Support because it promotes the entire family and their hero. Some of us do not realize that the veteran is not the only one affected by the war and the challenges of living day to day. As we think about the whole family, we need to see life through their eyes. What are they dealing with every day, how they cope with PTSD and just getting through an afternoon? I want to be able to help and provide resources that veterans and their families can reach and take advantage of. We have websites and many telephone numbers to organizations that can provide those resources. I want to educate and help families become aware of what is out there for them. Our veterans and their families need our help. This is how we can help them, through Veterans & Family Support.

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

We need to educate our community and promote our programs. In order for them to be able to connect with us as an organization and as individuals, our community needs to understand what we are about and why we are the VFW and VFW Auxiliary. The community may have heard about us, but they may not know in detail all that we can offer to veterans and families and how they can also help. As members of the Auxiliary, there are websites that we can tap into and print information such as brochures fliers, applications, phone numbers that help educate many on our programs. We need to educate through radio spots and newspaper articles that can highlight what we are doing and helping our military. Educate and help our communities become aware of the programs, they in turn will start to get the word out to others.

What are some of the unique resources that members should be aware of for your program?

We care about the well being of our veteran. They have seen so much from the war and they need resources to get them through their days and nights. There is the Veterans Crisis Line, veteranscrisisline.net, which veterans and their families can call if they feel that their veteran could be contemplating suicide. There are the VFW’s Veteran & Military Support Programs, such as: Operation Uplink, Unmet Needs, Military Assistance Program with links to the VFW website. There is also the VFW National Home that members can visit to see what the National Home can offer, housing, guidance, and the Helpline, just to name a few. Also find the “Veterans Behind the Poppies” video on our YouTube channel, which tells the story of the poppy. There is so much available to families and so much available that our members can read and information to pass out at fundraisers, Post home dinners, county fairs, “Buddy”® Poppy drives. We just need to take advantage of it.

If you could talk to every Auxiliary member at one time, what would you tell them about your program?

The VFW's Veteran and Military Support Programs are ready to provide immediate assistance to service personnel and families whose lives have been directly affected by America's war on terror.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the nation's active-duty military has been on high alert, and National Guard and reserve units have been mobilized in record numbers. As a result, the families of these men and women often find themselves unable to meet normal monthly expenses, and assistance is required for a variety of everyday needs.

The VFW Veteran and Military Support Programs works when VFW and Auxiliaries at the Post level respond to the increasing needs of comrades and their families. As one of the nation's largest veterans' organization, our commitment to the men and women of our armed forces and their families never wavers. Together, we must act to ensure that no family endures hardships caused by military service. By doing so, we ensure that the VFW and VFW Auxiliary are there to help.

Our veterans put everything on the line to protect our freedom. We may never be able to repay them for their sacrifice, but we can show them just how much

we appreciate all that they've done. Everyone can do something to show veterans know how much we appreciate their service. What will you do?

How can you involve families through this program?

Most of the programs for Veterans & Family Support are for the family. It may not be directly, but it affects them in some way. By providing information on each program, families can see how they can participate and take advantage of those programs that they really need at this time. Invite families to have lunch or dinner at your Post Home. Have presentations on your programs and tell them about the resources that are available to them. Talk about the National Home and the housing that is available, at least they will have this information. If they are having a hard time paying for their utilities or house payment, talk about Unmet Needs. Maybe our veterans would like to go back to school to learn new skills and get a degree so they can better support their family. Direct them to the VFW Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship Program. Set up a table at your local VA facility, and ask if you can be at welcome home and send-off events. You can be there to help the family as they cope with their loved one being gone. There are many ways to help families, we just need to get out there and work with them.

Conference Chairmen



BIG TEN STATES
Millie Lauer
23412 163rd Street NW
Big Lake, MN
55309-4752



EASTERN STATES
Bonnie Eichelberger
7820 Loop Road
Alexandria, PA
16611-2408



SOUTHERN STATES
Gailya (Mrs. Charlie)
Stephenson
2721 Burtz Drive
Marietta, GA
30068-3606



WESTERN STATES
Chrissy Harlan
2151 W Felicia Place
Tucson, AZ
85741-3101

Veterans & Family Support Awards

AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN:

1. Citation to each Department Chairman for participation in this program.
2. ***Unwavering Support Gift Certificate*** to one Department Chairman in each Program Division for the best promotion the sharing the impact of our programs on veterans, the military and their families.
3. Outstanding Performance Award in each Program Division based on criteria listed on Page 1 and for the promotion of the Program Goals on Page 16.

AWARD FOR NATIONAL CHAIRMEN:

“Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes” Keepsake to each National Chairman for participation in this program.

Youth Activities Ambassador



MARTINE ARNDT

Youth Activities
Ambassador
445 Palm Springs Way
Colorado Springs, CO
80921-2658

What are you most passionate about this program and why?

Our youth are our future. They are a great resource to assist their communities. It is our responsibility to “Involve, Include and Educate” our youth to insure that they become responsible adults and citizens. Our organization has an opportunity to make a real difference in our communities.

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

Participate in local community festivals, fairs, parades and events. Have a booth showing what programs are available for youth in the community. Work with your Post and Auxiliary Chairmen to promote our organization in your community.

How can you involve families through this program?

Always talk to the parents regarding our program. If you would like to give a R.A.P. coin or card, ask the parent if you may talk to their child and explain what you are doing. If you are holding a youth event at your Post home, make sure that the parents and siblings are welcomed and encouraged to participate.

What are you most excited about for the 2016-2017 program year?

With all of the new changes to our organization with expanding our membership to male family members, we are dealing with a fresh slate for our programs and it is extremely exciting to be a part of this change!

How can members best support their VFW Post through this program?

Work together and communicate. Partner with your Post and local police and fire departments to co-sponsor youth safety fairs. The VFW Store has many items that can be used, including Child ID Kits, pamphlets and coloring books on the subjects of home/Internet safety. Have a car seat professional available to check car seat installation, have professionals available to check bicycle and scooter safety, and teach the importance of helmets. Perhaps hold a “helmet drive” at your Post/Auxiliary to give to those youth that need them.

Conference Chairmen



BIG TEN STATES

Kathy Harding
207 N 9th Street
Eddyville, IA
52553-9664



EASTERN STATES

Jane Reape
108 Bridge Street
Carthage, NY
13619-9593



SOUTHERN STATES

Dorothy Bennett
517 N Grant Avenue
Odessa, TX
79761-5120



WESTERN STATES

Jane Loucks
924 Siesta Circle
Billings, MT
59105-5451

Youth Activities Awards

AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN:

1. Citation to each Department Chairman for participation in this program.
2. ***Unwavering Support Gift Certificate*** to one Department Chairman in each Program Division for the best promotion of recognizing youth accomplishments in the community.
3. Outstanding Performance Award in each Program Division based on criteria listed on Page 1 and for the promotion of the Program Goals on Page 18.

AWARD FOR NATIONAL CHAIRMEN:

“Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes” Keepsake to each National Chairman for participation in this program.

Americanism

2016-2017 YEAR-END REPORT

SUBMIT TO YOUR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BY MAY 1, 2017

Department _____ Number of Auxiliaries Participating _____

1. Number of Auxiliaries conducting special programs on patriotic holidays?
(For example, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, POW/MIA Remembrance Day, etc.) _____
2. Number of Auxiliaries participating in POW/MIA programs: _____
3. Number of POW/MIA flags presented (at least 2" x 3" or larger): _____
4. Number of American Flags presented (at least 2" x 3" or larger): _____
5. Number of Auxiliaries participating in the Smart/Maher National Citizenship
Education Teacher Award: _____
(For example, assisting the Post, taking the contest into schools or making a donation.)
6. Number of certificates presented to businesses or citizens in recognition of
their displaying the U.S., POW/MIA flags or other displays of American pride: _____
7. How many Auxiliaries in your Department promoted Americanism through
any media? _____
8. Number of Auxiliaries that conducted patriotic education in their Auxiliary
and/or community: _____
9. Number of education programs conducted: _____

Signed _____ Conference _____
Department Chairman
Address _____ E-Mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone Number (_____) _____

Chief of Staff

2016-2017 YEAR-END REPORT

SUBMIT TO YOUR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BY MAY 1, 2017

Department _____

1. Number of Auxiliaries that you used the Healthy Auxiliary Toolkit with: _____
2. Number of Auxiliaries that received a Certificate of Good Health: _____
3. How did you make Auxiliaries aware of the Healthy Auxiliary Toolkit?

4. How many times was publicity used for revitalizing or forming a VFW Auxiliary? _____
5. Number of Auxiliaries that used the Mentoring resources available to start/continue mentoring in their Auxiliary: _____
6. Number of presentations to bachelor Posts about starting an Auxiliary: _____

Signed _____ Department Chairman	Conference _____
Address _____	E-Mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Phone Number (____) _____

Hospital

2016-2017 YEAR-END REPORT

SUBMIT TO YOUR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BY MAY 1, 2017

Department _____	Number of Auxiliaries Participating _____
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1. Number of VFW Auxiliary members volunteering in **ALL** medical VA facilities and non-VA medical facilities:
 Number of Volunteers _____ Total Hours _____

2. Number of **NEW** volunteers recruited. Adults _____ Youth _____

3. Number of Auxiliaries sponsoring/conducting an event or activity in **ALL** facilities, both VA and non-VA: _____

4. Total amount spent on all Hospital projects: \$ _____

5. Number of applicants submitted to the Department for the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year Award: _____

6. Number of Auxiliaries that promoted Veteran and Military Suicide Awareness: _____

7. Number of Auxiliaries that recognized volunteers throughout the year: _____

8. How did your Department use publicity and/or media to recruit volunteers and involve the community?

9. Number of Auxiliaries that participated in "The Many Faces of Hospital Volunteers": _____

10. Number of Auxiliaries that presented Hospital Volunteer Pins to members: _____

11. Number of Auxiliaries that conducted/participated in volunteer recognition events: _____

12. Number of Auxiliaries that participated in the Veterans Voices Writing Project: _____
 (For example, subscribing to the magazine, making a donation or volunteering with the program.)

Signed _____ <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Department Chairman</div>	Conference _____
Address _____	E-Mail _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____	Phone Number (____) _____

Legislative

2016-2017 YEAR-END REPORT

SUBMIT TO YOUR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BY MAY 1, 2017

Department _____ Number of Auxiliaries Participating _____

1. How did your Department promote the VFW Priority Goals?

2. How did your Department encourage members to communicate with legislators on veterans' issues?

3. How many members subscribed to *Checkpoint* Newsletter? _____
4. How many members signed up for *VFW Action Corps*? _____
5. How did your Department communicate pending legislation and special legislative alerts?

6. Number of contacts made by members personally to legislators on veterans' issues:
Personal Contacts: _____ E-mails: _____ Faxes: _____
Letters: _____ Phone Calls: _____
7. Number of Auxiliaries that worked to serve veterans and their families through effective legislative advocacy: _____
8. Number of members who attended events where they could interact with legislators: _____
9. Number of Auxiliaries who promoted Get Out the Vote to their members and community: _____

Signed _____ Conference _____
Department Chairman
Address _____ E-Mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone Number (_____) _____

Membership & Leadership

2016-2017 YEAR-END REPORT

SUBMIT TO YOUR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BY MAY 1, 2017

Department _____ Number of Auxiliaries Participating _____

1. How many Auxiliaries planned recruiting events? _____
2. Total number of recruiting events for all Auxiliaries: _____
3. How many Auxiliaries used the following methods to collect annual dues?
Phone Calls: _____ E-mails: _____ Letters/postcards: _____
Face-to-face conversations: _____
4. How many Auxiliaries offered incentives to their members for renewing early? _____
5. How many Auxiliaries sent dues reminders/notices? _____
6. If your Department has a National Certified Recruiter Trainer (NCRT), how many training sessions did he/she give at Department events? _____
7. How many times did your Department send dues notices/reminders during the year? _____
8. Did your Department offer any incentives to Auxiliaries for collecting dues early? _____
If so, please describe:

9. Does your Department offer a program for Auxiliaries similar to the Circle of Excellence, such as Outstanding Auxiliary or All American? _____
If so, please describe:

Signed _____ Conference _____
Department Chairman
Address _____ E-Mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone Number (_____) _____

Scholarships

2016-2017 YEAR-END REPORT

SUBMIT TO YOUR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BY MAY 1, 2017

Department _____ Number of Auxiliaries Participating _____

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST

1. Number of Auxiliaries that promoted the Patriotic Art Contest: _____
2. Number of Auxiliaries that submitted an entry: _____
3. Number of students who submitted an entry to the Auxiliaries: _____
4. Number of entries judged on the Department level: _____
5. Total dollar amount awarded by
Auxiliary level awards: \$ _____
Department level awards: \$ _____

CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

1. Number of Auxiliaries that participated in the Continuing Education Scholarship: _____
(For example, distributed applications, publicized/promoted program, etc.)
2. How did your Department publicize/promote the Continuing Education Scholarship?

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST

1. Number of Auxiliaries that assisted their Posts in conducting the contest: _____
2. Number of Auxiliaries that participated without having an entry: _____
Number of members involved _____ Numbers of hours volunteered _____

PATRIOT'S PEN CONTEST

1. Number of Auxiliaries that assisted their Posts in conducting the contest: _____
2. Number of Auxiliaries that participated without having an entry: _____
Number of members involved _____ Numbers of hours volunteered _____

Number of Auxiliaries that publicized all these contests within their communities: _____

Number of Auxiliaries that hosted/co-hosted an awards ceremony to recognize awardees and participants in all these contests: _____

Signed _____ Conference _____
Department Chairman
Address _____ E-Mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone Number (_____) _____

Veterans & Family Support

2016-2017 YEAR-END REPORT

SUBMIT TO YOUR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BY MAY 1, 2017

Department _____ Number of Auxiliaries Participating _____

1. Number of Auxiliaries that hosted/co-hosted with VFW fundraising activities for National Veterans Service: _____
2. Number of Auxiliaries that hosted/co-hosted with the VFW fundraising activities for VFW Veterans and Military Support Programs: _____
(For example, Unmet Needs, Operation Uplink, etc.)
3. How many Auxiliaries provided aid to veterans, active-duty military and/or their families? (For example, meals, transportation, cards, packages, donations, etc.) _____
Total value of donations and goods/services provided: \$ _____
No. of veterans/military personnel assisted: _____
4. Number of veterans and military personnel served and/or assisted by **ALL ACTIVITIES** under this program: _____
5. Number of Auxiliaries that promoted and/or made donations to the VFW National Home: _____
Amount Donated: \$ _____
6. Number of Auxiliaries that promoted/used the "Buddy"® Poppy throughout the year: _____
7. How many "Buddy"® Poppy drives were held by Auxiliaries with or without the Post? _____
8. Number of Auxiliaries that participated in and/or sponsored events or projects for homeless veterans: _____
(For example, Stand Downs, clothing drives, etc.)
9. Number of Auxiliaries that promoted the Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship: _____
10. Number of Auxiliaries that promoted the Military & Veteran Family Helpline from the VFW National Home: _____
11. Number of Auxiliaries that promoted sharing the impact of our programs on veterans, the military and their families: _____

Signed _____ Conference _____
Department Chairman
Address _____ E-Mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone Number (_____) _____

Youth Activities

2016-2017 YEAR-END REPORT

SUBMIT TO YOUR DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BY MAY 1, 2017

Department _____	Number of Auxiliaries Participating _____
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1. Number of Auxiliaries that participated in and/or publicized Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citations: _____
2. Number of youth groups that Auxiliaries worked with work with during the year: _____
Estimated number of youth involved: _____
3. Number of Auxiliaries that promoted and/or used the Random Acts of Patriotism program? _____
Number of R.A.P. cards distributed: _____
Number of R.A.P. coins distributed: _____
4. Number of youth recognized in communities for their academic, athletic, scouting or other accomplishments: _____

Signed _____ Department Chairman	Conference _____
Address _____	E-Mail _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Phone Number (____) _____