



VFW National Home District 10 Trustee Trustee Report-March 2025

Please share this communication with your respective Chairmen and/or members by sending in monthly mailing!

Join the FACEBOOK Group at District 10-VFW National Home

Greeting All Life Members of the National Home,

We are well into our BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION YEAR! The Gala in February was a spectacular event. I am excited for the BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION at the National Home on June 28, 2025...hope you all can attend.

I am starting to work on Department Convention Visits in June. Department Leaders look for he email about scheduling.

- I will attend the New Mexico Department Convention on May 30-June 1, 2025
- I will attend the Texas Department Convention June 6-8, 2025



I had a wonderful time attending the Luau at Post/Aux. 7835 in Granbury, TX on March 1, 2025 for their annual National Home Fundraiser. When I left, they had raised a little over \$3000 with more still coming in.

ACTION ITEM:

- **Please have your Department Quartermaster/Treasurer send in an updated “deceased list” to Sue Alverson at the National Home. We would like to remove those who have passed on, so they are not receiving email/mail.**

DISTRICT 10 NEWS

- **Please have your department consider purchasing a Centennial Brick in honor of the National Homes 100th Birthday. They are \$500 each and will be placed in the Centennial Garden. It is limited to 1000 bricks. You can also purchase these bricks individually, through your districts, etc. This is available to VFW/VFWA/MOC/MOCA.**
- **DID YOU KNOW-You can look up a brick you purchased or was purchased in your name? Go to the NH website and to the tab that has the bricks. Hit Control F and you can search by name. You will then know where that brick is placed on campus.**

Executive Director-Mike Wilson

- All families have been transitioned into the Red, White, and Blue program.
- Guest Lodge Renovation-rooms are nearly complete and work is beginning in the common areas.
- The Birthday Party Celebration on January 7, 2025 went very well, with about 65 to 75 people in attendance.
- The Gala was OUTSTANDING! Everyone seemed to enjoy it.
- Should be over 90% house occupation by summer.

Programs-Angie Harkins

- 35 houses occupied.
- 82 Children
- 51 Parents
- Transitioned to the Red, White, Blue Program for those who move on campus.
 - Each family works with a case manager who connects them with services and helps them achieve their goals. Hives or Heroes is kicking off its second year-much excitement for this program
 - Children live in a small town, rural setting with access to recreational programs, learning opportunities, and holiday celebrations and field trips.
 - The support families receive from the National Home enables them to build a solid foundation for growth, stability, and a better future.
- Guitars For Heroes-started a new class this fall.
- The following resources/partners working with our families: VSO, Veteran Navigator, Volunteers of America Case Manager, tax professional, and employment specialist.
- The 2025-2026 Buddy Poppy Child has been selected.
- 19 kids are signed up for 4H. The program starts in March (rabbits and hogs arrive)
- 2025 class of Heroes to Hives began, 3rd cohort on campus, 22 people enrolled, 5 are from our campus.
- Community service completed (after school kids) – valentines were made and mailed to the veterans in the Battle Creek VA.
- Lego/Robotics nights have included 16 youth this month, and 26 people from when the supplies arrived from the STEM grant.

- Month of the Military Child (April). Hosting a carnival with the Michigan National Guard Child and Youth Programs
- Spring Treat for families (dinner, egg hunt and Easter bunny)
- Piano Recital (May)

Marketing & Development-Sue Alverson

- 27 Centennial bricks were ordered between December 1, 2024, and February 28, 2025.
- 141 Centennial Life Memberships were purchased between December 1, 2024, and February 28, 2025.
- 56 Recurring Gift donors (Home Front Hero) were added between December 1, 2024, and February 28, 2025.
- Planning the 2025 Bus Tours from VFW Convention: Work in progress.
- Jr. Vice Orientation planning
- VFW Convention planning

Welcome Center-Lisa Mahan

- The VFW Store has many 100th Birthday Items in stock.
- Working on getting the mail room stocked and is now fully functional.
- Working on new store ready to open.
- She has many items in the store/online for purchase.

Facilities Report- Rick Stiver

- **Welcome Center:** The construction of the Welcome Center is **almost complete**.
- **Mail Room:** Construction of the mail room has been completed.
- **Street Light Project:** Street light installation has officially begun.
- **HVAC in H&E:** Work has started on the HVAC installation in the H&E area
- **Guest Lodge:** The Guest Lodge project is **almost complete**, and on track to finish by the end of April.
- **Summer Celebration Preparation:** We are actively preparing for the June summer celebration, with all teams working toward making the event a success.
- **Sports Court Project:** Looking to begin the sports court project soon.

Social Media/Historian-Katie

- Trustees all have new email address and have been updated on their business cards.
- Facebook changes coming-each will be centralized through the National Home-Coming soon.
- Set up an event with Lansing Lugnuts Baseball for their Military Appreciation Night May 30th. We will have the first pitch, have someone from here sing the National Anthem, have a 1-minute video on the jumbotron, have a table at the event, and will be involved with the games/trivia at the game.
- The Lansing State Journal has been attending a couple Guitars for Vets sessions to do an in-depth article that will be released in March.

IT-Jesse Foster

- Fiber optics upgrade complete
- The IT department has continued with getting the new cable ran throughout the admin building.
- Working on upgrading the cable through the admin and other staff buildings.

Finance Department-Lynn Hagerman

- March will start the budget process for the upcoming 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Warm Regards,

Shirlee Frias

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