

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

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### President Dominique's Message

Greetings New Mexico,  
First I would like to say congratulations to First Has Been Betty Decker on a successful year and a wonderful convention. It was wonderful to have Commander in Chief Fritz with us as well as National Sr. Vice President Jane. Thank you to Jane for being my installing secretary.

Thank you to the Department of New Mexico for electing me as your Department President. I am very excited for this year and to be working along side each and every one of you. Also, working together with State Commander Chris Archuleta and his line officers. Chris and I have taken the time to plan this year and to bring the VFW and VFW Auxiliary together and work jointly. We did a joint coin and a joint shirt.

My theme is: Veterans... Our Heroes Worth Fighting For  
Colors: Purple and Teal

Shirts are still available to order men and women sizes. S-2XL \$35 and 3XL-4XL \$40. Accept cards, cash, checks, paypal, cash app, and venmo. Checks are to be made out to Dominique C. Garcia. You can email, call, or text me your order.

We will be having our first Joint Training July 9<sup>th</sup> at VFW Post 401 in Albuquerque, at 9:00am-4:30pm. The second training will be on July 30<sup>th</sup> at Post 10124 from 9:00am-12:00pm and Post 3242 from 1:15am-4:30pm. It is important that one of the top officers from each Auxiliary and District attend one of the trainings. These trainings are open to **ALL MEMBERS**.

National Convention is coming up July 15<sup>th</sup> – July 23<sup>rd</sup>, hope to see many from New Mexico attend. Don't forget Department Secretary Jeanette Garcia is running for National Guard and the Vote will happen at this Convention. If attending National Convention, the Circle of Excellence Ceremony is on July

16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in Hall E, everyone is invited to attend!!

Joint Food Drive is back again this year, more information will be given at the trainings.

June was PTSD month, however I think it is always important to check on our veterans, do a buddy/veteran check monthly please!

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you need anything, The Department and I are here to work with you. Please feel free to contact us. I am very excited for this year and thank you to everyone who is apart of the team! Lets get to work and have another Successful Year!

## Upcoming Events

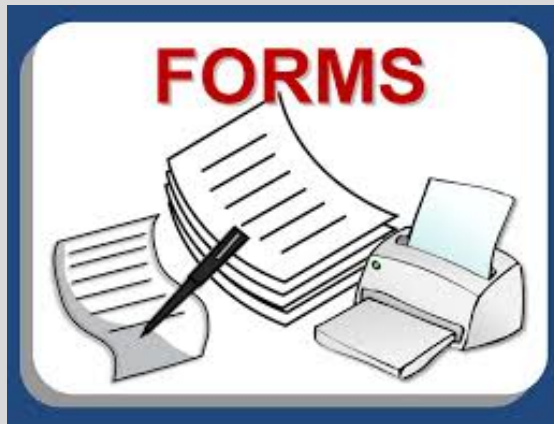
### Department Training:

July 9, 2022 at 9:00am - Post 401

July 30, 2022 at 9:00am - Post 10124

National Convention July 15-23, 2022  
Kansas City MO

All Comrades and Auxiliary members  
are welcome to attend.



### Program Reporting

AUXILIARIES please report what you are doing. Again this year there is a google form and a fillable pdf. I have also included an Excel format if you do not want to use the pdf or Google forms to report your Auxiliary activities.

[Report Forms](#)

### Americanism Jeanette D Garcia

Welcome to a new year! Congratulations to the new Officers and Chairman.

What is the definition of Americanism? In our Bylaws, it states "An unflinching love of country; loyalty to its institutions and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity".





already caught! The name change of course Auxiliary Community Outreach is now, Auxiliary Outreach Program. The Community Outreach made most think of the VFW's Community Service, therefore, unintentionally, causing some confusion. In next month's promotional, I will share with each of you the difference between the VFW's Community Service and the Auxiliary's Outreach Program. Ambassador Laurie has made it very understandable, and given some great ideas.

Until then, my first outreach, even if it isn't actually community outreach by definition, is to you, my Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers. I hope each of you know you are part of an amazing family! If you need anything please reach out to myself or another Auxiliary member! We cannot help you, if we don't know there is a need! It takes courage to ask for help, our veterans are not the only ones that might need a listening ear, a hug, or just to vent. Sometimes, we might need physical or financial help, we may not be able to help much; however, even a little is better than nothing. Just remember, we as humans, cannot read minds, and sometimes, in our own crazy, busy, stressful lives, we may not think or realize someone is in need. So, speak up!!!

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### **Buddy Poppy/National Home Barbara Santillanes**

It's a beginning of a new year and new administration. Let me Thank our incoming President Dominique Garcia for choosing me to fulfill the position of National Home and Buddy Poppy for the year 2022-2023. A good year and luck to all.



I'd like to share a story, it was Christmas season in 1963 a mother was dressing her 5yr old little girl, because Daddy was going to take her to see Santa Claus for the first time. When she was ready and loaded up in the car, she was thinking of all the wonderful things she would be asking for from Santa. As they arrived, they walked into the Hall at the George O Breece VFW 401 on Lomas Blvd. The little girl walked in and saw Santa on the stage with these ladies all dressed up in the same color of blue in line after Santa. With a bit a fear her Daddy walked her up to Santa's lap and she told Santa what she wanted. As she got off his lap the nice ladies were there handing out lunch bags filled with peanuts, walnuts an orange, apple and candy canes a memory this little girl never forgot.

The moral of the story, always remember that we as a Veterans organization will always have the opportunity to help our children our veterans and our communities in our commitment to our programs. That Veteran that took his little girl to see Santa Claus was my father who was a lifetime member of the VFW. A memory I will never forget. LET'S MAKE MEMORIES!!!!!!

I look forward to working with all of you and let's have a wonderful year helping spread the word of the Buddy Poppy it's meaning, and National Home let's make sure they have what they are missing.

**"BE A BLESSING TO SOMEONE"**  
Maya Angelou



**Chaplain  
Renee King**

I am so humbled and honored to have been elected to serve as your Department Chaplain for 2022-2023. As I move up the chairs, I have learned so much along the way and I am thankful for this opportunity. After discussing with the VFW Chaplain Christina Zamora Backus, we would like to have a picture slide of our dearly departed at the Joint Memorial Service at our

State Convention. Therefore, along with your monthly report, please send me a picture of the member.

A reminder of our Chaplain responsibility

- As your Auxiliary's Chaplain you are responsible for:
  - Perform the opening and closing prayer at all meetings and events.
  - Present the names of those who are ill, deceased, etc., at your meetings.
  - Call and make visits to the ill on behalf of the Auxiliary.
  - May send thinking of you, sympathy and get-well cards in accordance with the Auxiliary's policy.
  - Report what cards were sent and any deceased members at your Auxiliary meeting. (This may be done by the Veterans & Family Support Chairman.)
  - Prepare for the Memorial Service, if the Auxiliary is to have one. (A list of deceased members may be obtained by the Auxiliary Treasurer in MALTA.)
  - Prepare and make contact with the Auxiliary members if a Memorial Service is to be performed at a funeral home or given location.
  - Be prepared at all times with the items needed to perform the Memorial Service for deceased Auxiliary members.
  
- And a District Chaplain
  - Perform the opening and closing prayer at all meetings and events.
  - Present the names of those who are ill, deceased, etc., at your meetings.
  - May send thinking of you, sympathy and get-well cards in accordance with the District's policy.
  - Prepare for the Memorial Service, if the District is to have one. (A list of deceased members may be obtained by the District Treasurer in MALTA.)
  - Educate the Auxiliaries on the duties of the Chaplain.

This information is in the 'Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation' Guidebook.

Chaplain Form

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## Historian & Media Relations Renee King

Welcome to a new program year and congratulations to all our newly elected/ installed Auxiliary Officers.

My name is Renee King, your Department Chairman for 2022-2023 Historian & Media Relations. Thank you, Madam President Dominique Garcia, for giving me this opportunity to be a part of your team.



As your Auxiliary's Historian & Media Relations chairmen, you will be responsible for keeping a record of what your Auxiliary does whether it is writing a compiling news article, creating a newsletter or in a digital format such as email or social media. When doing so keep the 5 W's in mind: the who, what, where, when and why so that all information is collected. This recorded history of your auxiliary and district is a great recruiting tool for the future members to show they what we have done, and also great memories for the current officers and members to look back on.

As Madam President Dominique makes her official visits to the auxiliaries and districts, take pictures and send them to me. I will be compiling this information into a PowerPoint for the Department Convention. I will have more information for you at our first training on July 9<sup>th</sup> at the VFW Post 401. I hope to see you all there.

Just a reminder, the Department has a Facebook page: [New Mexico VFW Auxiliary](#) and our website is [VFWAUXNM.ORG](#) if you haven't visited either site please do so as there is a lot of information for members.

Any pictures, posts, articles, questions can be sent to [myemail](#). Thank you for everything you do.



## Hospital Danielle Garcia

First off, I want to say Thank You, to our Department President for letting me be your Hospital Chairman. This will be my 4th year as Hospital Chairman, and I have been brainstorming ideas for this year.

Please remember that we have training on July 9<sup>th</sup> and July 30<sup>th</sup>. During both of these trainings I will have packets to give out to each Auxiliary and each District. The packets will have all the information that you will need for this year. So please try to be at the one of the trainings.

Here are the program goals for this year.

- Volunteer Recruitment
- Recognition and Support
- Valentines for Veterans
- Women Veterans Health Care

- Honors Escort

I will go more in-depth in future promotionals. I am talking about much of the same stuff as last year, but I will be changing a few things up. I will be adding the VAVS Corner back into the newsletter once we have meetings. I will also be adding Fisher House information as well.

I hope to see everyone at the trainings now in July and have a great 4th of July.

Danielle Garcia [dgarciavfwa@gmail.com](mailto:dgarciavfwa@gmail.com)  
505-917-6660

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## **Legislative Marsha Short**

Welcome to our NM Department Auxiliary Legislative Program for the 2022-2023 Year. I am excited and honored to have been chosen as your Department Chairman for this important program. This month I will share information about the program's goals and purposes, and each month I will endeavor to find and share lots of ways we can stay informed and involved in the legislative process that has helped our service members and their families obtain the help and benefits they deserve.



*Following is a section of the draft written by our National Ambassador Bobbie Goldman, to be included in this year's National Program Book, which describes the goals and purposes of the Legislative Program:*

### **Be An Advocate • Be Informed • Be Engaged**

The main objectives of the Legislative Program is to improve the lives of our veterans, service members and their families through advocacy. Your efforts, combined with nearly 1.5 million other VFW and Auxiliary members, can influence lawmakers whose decisions affect veterans and their families every day. Join the chorus of voices that will ring out in legislators' offices this year.

Study the issues laid out clearly in the VFW Priority Goals. A copy can be found on the National website at [vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org) by selecting "What We Do" then clicking on "Legislative."

The Priority Goals reflect the resolutions passed by the VFW to strengthen and ensure an adequate VA system for millions of current and future veterans.

They call for much-needed attention to crises such as veteran homelessness and suicide. They request fully funding research on traumatic brain injuries, reducing the claims backlog, fighting veteran unemployment and improving timely transition assistance for veterans after leaving military service. The goals are grouped under six areas of concern:

- Budget
- Health Care

- Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs
- Education, Employment and Transition Assistance
- Military Quality of Life
- National Security, Foreign Affairs and POW/MIA

### **VFW Action Corps Weekly**

It's free and it's full of news about what's happening on Capitol Hill, with veteran and service member issues and with our national security. Subscribe at the National website at [vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org) by selecting "What We Do" then clicking on "Legislative."

Contact your legislators: find out who's who. To identify your congressional representatives, visit the VFW website at [vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-efforts](http://vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-efforts).

### **Step by Step-A Bill**

To follow the progress of a bill through the stages of the legislative process, visit [congress.gov](http://congress.gov), where you may find a specific bill by its number or by a key word or phrase.

### **VFW in D.C.**

One of the most crucial responsibilities of the VFW Washington, D.C. office is to actively lobby Congress and the administration on behalf of veterans. The office monitors all legislation affecting veterans and alerts VFW and Auxiliary members about key legislation under consideration.

By testifying at committee hearings and interacting with congressional members, the VFW played an instrumental role in nearly every piece of veterans' legislation passed in the 20th Century, as well as bills developed in the 21st Century.



**Membership**  
**Shirlee Frias**

**Mission: POSSIBLE**

TARGET: DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO  
TARGET GOAL: 101% MEMBERSHIP  
TARGET DATE: NO LATER THAN JUNE 2023

**MISSION STEP ONE: 95% by November 30, 2022-All Auxiliaries**

Greetings Auxiliary Agents,

Our mission this year-to find, obtain, reinstate new members to reach the goal of 101% by June 30, 2023. Our Department Agent earns points towards an important award for reaching milestones in our mission. It is important we all help her to reach this mission. Our Western Conference is Annie Thompson Duncan from Los Angeles and our Top Dog Agent is Jason Estell.

I want to start this mission with the rewards we will obtain upon completion of our MISSION POSSIBLE!



## AWARDS FOR MEMBERS

1. Heart-shaped Hands Pin to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new members to the Auxiliary from July 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023. Due to the Department Treasurer by June 10, 2023.
2. National Membership Achievement Award to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits twenty (20) new members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023. Due to the Department Treasurer by June 10, 2023.
3. Hands that serve, Hearts that Care Award to one VFW Auxiliary member in the nation who recruits the most new members from July 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023. The award will feature the member's name on it alongside the name of an honored veteran. Department Treasurer and VFW members are not eligible.

## AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. \$25 to each auxiliary that reaches 95% plus in membership by November 30, 2022.
2. \$25 to each auxiliary that reaches 98% plus in membership by March 31, 2023
3. \$50 to each auxiliary that reaches 100% plus in membership by June 30, 2023.

## AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS

1. \$200 to Department for 95%
2. \$250 to Department for 98%
3. \$300 to Department for 100%

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## Mentoring for Leadership Dale Mann

HELLO! HOWDY! OLA!

I am privileged to be Madam President Dominique Garcia's Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman for 2022-2023. I am always open to new challenges, and as usual, I am being challenged. Therefore, I will be challenging our Officers and ALL members to become a mentor for members

(new and experienced). Experienced members (those who have been in the organization for at least a year) are or should be learning new things...as things change. Normally, we dislike change. Some of us are slower to embrace change, especially the one writing this promotional. Get ready to be challenged!!



This promotional is supposed to be an introduction to not only this year's promotional but also its Department Chairman. Well, the promotional will be revealed in the promotionals with information and resources. However, I am not new to most of you, excluding the National Ambassador, so no detailed information is needed. Those of you that do not know me or have recently met me, I want to extend a congratulations for becoming or continuing to be a member of this great organization! I want to get to know you! Please do not be bashful to come up to me or any other member, introduce yourself, and ask for a mentor to teach the ins and outs of VFW Auxiliary traditions. I want you to

know that the teacher is often the one who learns and suggestions and questions are ALWAYS welcomed!

*"Of all the areas of our organization that are important to our success and our future, I can think of none that will have more of an impact on the Auxiliary than this one. Mentoring for Leadership is as simple or as complicated as we choose to make it. But the bottom line is this: We should devise a succession plan.*

*Leaders are not born, they're made. They may have gifts that make them better able to lead than others, but the truth is leaders are only as good as the ones who taught them, encouraged them and brought out their true potential..."* (From: National Program Book 2022-2023)

With that behind us, let me introduce our National Ambassador Stephanie Krueger or at least as much as I know at the moment. She is from Michigan and has shared a great deal of information on the program, *Mentoring for Leadership*. While all she has shared is important, the following is the most important point she made:

We will be working with two acronyms: C.A.R.E. and T.E.A.M. Allow me to introduce you to what they mean:

**C** = Catch the members when they first join  
**A** = Ask them to participate  
**R** = Remember what it felt like to be new  
**E** = Engage them in a program that fits them

**T** = Teach someone what you know and share your passion  
**E** = Everyone deserves to find his/her joy in our organization  
**A** = Always be on the lookout for the next leader  
**M** = Mentor all of the time since success is best when it is shared

Last thing for this promotional, PLEASE go to [www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources) and download the "Mentoring at VFW Auxiliary – Relationship Building for the Future" information and the other mentoring resources to get a head-start on the program. Keep it close at hand and share it with other members, especially those who do not have access to the National webpage.

I am looking forward to receiving reports with high numbers of mentors and mentees counted to continue our involvement and grow our membership while teaching our future leaders! Reports can be emailed or mailed to me any time. You do not need to wait until Mid-Winter. We, **correction – this Chairman**, need(s) your reports as you mentor, PLEASE! When you do report, remember to detail the ways you used to be successful! The more we share, the better our programs are! THANK YOU! Best Wishes for continuing success for 2022-2023!

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### **Scholarship Angelia Velarde-Logsdon**

Hello! My name is Angelia Velarde-Logsdon, and I am your 2022-2023 Department Scholarship Chairman. Thank you to Department President Domonique Garcia for this opportunity.



Summer is here, and what a great time it is to start promoting scholarships.

**Continuing Education** Open to VFWA members, spouses, and children. Due by 2/15.

**Patriot's Pen** "My Pledge to Our Veterans" Grades 6-8 Essay Contest Due by 10/31.

**Voice of Democracy** "Why is the Veteran Important?" Grades 9-12 Audio Essay Due by 10/31.

**New This Year Two Separate Contests:**

**Young American Patriotic Art Contest** Grades 9-12 Due by 3/31.

**Young American Patriotic Art 3-Dimensional** 9-12 Due by 3/31.

The official rules are posted on the Department website.

My Husband and I will go into greater detail regarding scholarships at the July training. I hope that there is good attendance, as there will be a wealth of information regarding all programs.

In the meantime, reach out to local summer youth programs, and ask if you can schedule a day to speak with the students about our scholarships. The following are just a few ideas:

- ROTC programs usually work through the summer. Reach out to the commander to set up a time to visit their school or for them to come to your post.
- Visit local boys' and girls' clubs.
- Visit summer sport teams.
- Do a google search for summer youth art classes in your area.
- Contact any teachers that are members at your post or auxiliary.
- If they were not seniors, contact your applicants from last year to reapply.
- Host a youth arts and crafts day at your post.
- Advertise on radio, Facebook, and at public events in your community.
- Make an information board summarizing scholarship information if you are advertising at a public event.
- Follow up frequently with teachers and students to make sure they do not have any questions, and to remind them of upcoming deadlines.

It's always a good idea to have copies of scholarship applications on-hand. Pass a few out to each member at your next meeting. Many of us have a relative who is eligible to apply for one of these scholarships.

Lastly, it's not too early to start fundraising. Monetary awards are appreciated and a great way to show our communities that we support local youth. It is also a great motivator to apply for our scholarships.

I hope this information is useful to you, and I look forward to meeting you at the July trainings. Please feel free to contact me for support, ideas, and questions.

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**Treasurer**  
**Penney Howard**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Department 2022  
Membership, we have 3637  
Members (102.83%) as of today

(6/20/22) that is way better than last year's 3537 that we had at the end of June. **WE ACTUALLY MADE OUR 100% ON 2/28/22.** Our goal is always to be 100%+ so that is what we work toward throughout the year. **We actually have 18 Auxiliaries and All 8 Districts that have reached 100% (and several others that are only 1 or 2 away) Congratulations!!** You can no longer accept 2022 dues: after June 30<sup>th</sup> and you have to get them processed into MALTA before Midnight Central Time 6/30/22. Now we will start collecting 2023 Dues. As of July 1<sup>st</sup> anyone that paid 2022 dues can now pay their 2023 dues and you as an Auxiliary Treasurer can transmit them directly into MALTA. **MALTA will be closed from July 1<sup>st</sup> until about July 5<sup>th</sup>.** When it opens back up only your Life Members will show until you start doing transmittals. Our goal is always to be 100%+ so that is what we work toward throughout the year.



**AS OF 6/20/22 PAST DUE AUDITS: District Audits:** I **STILL** have nothing from Dist. 5 from 20-22 years, **June Audits:** all are in YEA!! **Sept. Audits:** all are in YEA!! **December Audits:** all are in YEA!! **March 2022: missing #2182, #401, #1389, #1131, #3271, #9515, Dist. #5 & Dist. #7.** It is now almost time to do your year end June 30<sup>th</sup> Audits, invite both 21-22 and 22-23 Trustees to the Audit.

**GROUP EXEMPTIONS:** After July 1<sup>st</sup> you can start doing your E-Postcards for 2021 (July 21 thru June 22).

**ACROSS THE BOARDS:** After July 1<sup>st</sup> you can start sending your new year 2022-2023 donations.

**Remember to come to Department Training July 9<sup>th</sup> in Albuquerque and July 30<sup>th</sup> in Las Cruces.**

I have the same contact information as always: **VFW Auxiliary Dept. of New Mexico, Treasurer Penney Howard – PO Box 34 – Flora Vista, NM 87415 my home phone/fax 505-334-8605, my cell 505-330-1023 and of course Email [nm-vfwa-treas@comcast.net](mailto:nm-vfwa-treas@comcast.net).**

If you need help or have any questions, please call my cell (**best**) 505-330-1023, call or fax me (Penney) at 505-334-8605, or e-mail me at [nm-vfwa-treas@comcast.net](mailto:nm-vfwa-treas@comcast.net)

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**Veterans & Family Support  
Vicky Westbrook**

Honoring Our Mission to serve Veterans is the perfect complement to the Veterans & Family support program. Focusing on the needs of veterans, active military VFW and



Auxiliary members and their families set the parameters for a program design to care, communicate and support these individuals. This program has been written to work in conjunction with core programs of the VFW and has four key areas: National Military Services, VFW and National Home for Children, Buddy Poppy, and our VFW Auxiliary Continuing Education

Program, which benefits and defines our Veteran & Family Support Programs.

Veterans, service members and their families often face unexpected challenges and the VFW Auxiliary is here to assist them in their time of need. Since its founding in 1914, the VFW Auxiliary has worked tirelessly to offer financial and moral support to those who need it most

### Educate, Promote and Publicize

The primary ways to connect the community to our Veterans & Family Support Program are through education, promotion and publicity. As Auxiliary members, we need to make contact with local civic, faith-based and school organizations to offer united solutions that enrich the community. By educating the public about our Programs, we will increase their understanding of what the VFW and VFW Auxiliary do, and how we help veterans and their families.

- Promote the VFW National Veterans Service (NVS) and support our veterans, service members and their families obtain the benefits they deserve at no cost to them..
- Promote the VFW Veterans & Military Support Programs that support current and recently discharged military service member:
  - Military Assistance Program (MAP)
  - Unmet Needs
  - VFW's "Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship"

Educate yourself on the warning signs of suicide and mental health of our veterans. Get involved in your community by educating citizens about mental health issues, resources and treatment options,

This program is my passion. It's about giving back to those who gave for us, both of the veteran and the family of the veteran.

I know it's hard for us right now with this virus, but let us always remember to thank a Veteran and to remember their families. We can all work together and make this work.

Be active, be present, Be there for our veterans. It is time to **SUPPORT** our heroes!

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### Youth

**Mary "Girl" Sanchez**

Your Department President for

2022-23 Dominique has giving me the honor of heading this program. Talking to our National Ambassador Ramona Henson, I found an interesting new twist in the program. The twist is Grave Beautification project, or should I say adopt-a-cemetery program.



Yes - we will have the other youth programs like “Get excited for the Red, White, and Blue” contest; Illustrating America

contest; Patriotic Youth awards; Patriotism through Literacy awards to name a few but I will have articles on those programs later on in the year. For those who know about these programs rules have not change so please start to implement them in your auxiliary.

Now back to the grave beautification project – National would like the auxiliaries to work with youth not only to put flags on the graves sites during special days like Memorial Day but to teach and remember why these soldiers have these special headstone. Why we have the freedom and rights that we continue to enjoy. Most cemeteries have a care taker in general who does the general maintenance, but often they do not clean around the grave sites or the headstone of the veterans. This is left up to the families of the veterans if they have any.

For this project to work need A) some kind of permission from the cemetery owners usually the church council. B) Refer to Youtube for videos demonstrating how to clean headstones and what to clean them with so that you don't damage the stone (kids are great for this part). C) before and after pictures. D) Keep a log of gravesites beautified (record name of veteran, site number, which cemetery, and town). Remember to leave them a flag.

If you need guidance give me a call or text me at (915) 526-1645 or email me at [beefweak7@hotmail.com](mailto:beefweak7@hotmail.com). National will soon have it on their website once convention is over.



**BUILDING  
STRONG  
FAMILIES**

**VFWA National Home  
Trustee, District 10  
Shirlee Frias**

We have had a wonderful start to summer. I was extremely excited to visit every Department in our district for your State Conventions.

Thank you for your hospitality,

fun, and for allowing me to speak at your meeting. The home has a lot of wonderful things that are happening. Internet access for the entire campus, work on the 100th celebration is in full gear.

**D10 Trustee Elections**-The VFW National Home Board of Trustees has approved the use of electronic voting beginning with the 2022 Trustee District

election. All National Home Life members should update their email addresses with the home. There will be no paper ballots-all voting will be done via balloting software that is tied to an email and a Life Member # of the National Home. ~Lynn B (National Home Chief of Staff).

I will be sending a form to each Department Chairman via email to update email addresses. They will then forward them to me and the National Home to be updated. We will also have someone on hand at the National Convention to help those attending to update their addresses.

**FACEBOOK Group**-All National Home Life Members are invited to join the District 10 Group. It is under District 10-VFW National Home. See you there.

Here are the updates of the board meeting from the VFW National Home

### **Finance**

The Home is continuing to come out of COVID-19 restrictions and activities and the hiring of staff has picked back up. Total Public Support is higher than it was at the same time last year. Expenses are still lower than revenue and donations are starting to flow in. Please note one of the many responsibilities of the Board is to monitor the home's investments. We are excited to have Marc Garduno join us.

### **Board Projects**

- Working on the new online elections for Districts 6 and 10.
- Working on the 100th Celebration

### **Home Statistics**

- Number of children: 66
- Number of parents: 41
- Total on campus: 107
- CEA Youth: 6
- Houses occupied: 30 (starting to show a rise)

### **Programs-** I SERVE ON THIS COMMITTEE

This is the largest Department and the primary focus of the National Home. This Department oversees the helpline, family admissions and departures, Case Managers who work with the families on achieving their goals, the Early Education Center (formally known as the Nursery), and Community Center/Education Activities and Life Skills.

The Program Department hired a local artist to paint a mural in the Health and Education lobby. The painting is of a Buddy Poppy child blowing a dandelion. The dandelion is the official flower of the military child because the plant puts down roots almost anywhere, and it's almost impossible to destroy. Please see a picture of the mural above.

### **Support Services**

- Support Services continued to maintain in-person programming including open gym, computer lab, homework help, and other recreational and educational activities.
- Hogs – youth are continuing chores at the farm
- The piano Recital was held on May 26th . 9 youth performed in front of their parents, friends, and VFWNH staff. Mrs. Rhonda did an amazing job and will begin lessons again in the fall.
- The community service project was held on May 10th . Families and staff

went to the Charlotte cemetery to put flags down to honor our fallen heroes for Memorial Day.

- Lego Club offered
- Fieldtrip to the local library to rebuild a computer event
- Painting and crafting classes held

### **Early Education Center**

- 10 full-time children
- 1 part-time child
- The children learned all about bugs and started work on their garden
- The first birthday party gathering outside the National Home was a huge success. The children had so much fun
- 2 new lead teachers (orientation and training completed week of May 23rd ) • EEC staff training completed: blood-borne pathogens, center emergencies procedures (required 2 times a year)
- EEC is fully staffed for the current enrollment
- The food Program started on May 23rd
- Tornado drill was conducted at the EEC and CC

STATES SERVED THIS REPORTING PERIOD(23) AZ, CA, FL, GA, IA, IL, LA, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NV, OH, PA, SD, TN, TX, WA ○

**Total Callers on the Helpline:** 121

**Total individuals assisted on the Helpline:** 376

### **MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

• MOC and MOCA 2022-23 Projects MOC and MOCA leadership, Dwight Hora, Sr. Vice Supreme Commander, and Cathy Seippel, Sr. Vice Supreme President have both committed to fundraising projects for their year as Supreme Commander and President (2022-2023). Cathy will designate a 50/50 split between the MOC/MOCA house fund and music lessons (which would go under the Activity Fund).

Please let me know if you have any questions/comments/concerns. If I do not have the answers, I will get them for you or point you in the right direction. Again, let me know if you would like me to attend any of your functions (it does not necessarily have to be a council meeting or convention) to talk to your members about the VFW National Home for Children.

### **TOPICS COMING SOON**

- Electronic voting
- 100th Celebration of the National Home

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### **DISTRICT MEETING DATES**

#### **District 1**

- Sept 17, 2022 Post 3221 Grants Lunch at Noon meeting to follow
- Jan 14, 2023 Post 2182 Farmington Lunch at Noon meeting to follow
- Apr 15, 2023 Post 614 Aztec Lunch at Noon meeting to follow

#### **District 2**

- Aug 27, 2022 Post 2387 Belen Lunch at Noon meeting at 1
- Nov 19, 2022 Post 6216 Albuquerque Lunch at Noon meeting at 1
- Feb 25, 2023 Post 5890 Rio Rancho Lunch at Noon meeting at 1
- Apr 29, 2023 Post 401 Albuquerque Lunch at Noon meeting at 1



### **District 3**

- July 31, 2022 Post 10124 Las Cruces Meeting at 9 AM
- Oct 23, 2022 Post 7686 Alamogordo Meeting at 9 AM
- Jan 15, 2023 Post 4384 Anthony Meeting at 9 AM
- Apr 23, 2023 Post 6917 Las Cruces Meeting at 9 AM

### **District 4**

- Aug 6, 2022 Post 1389 Elephant Butte Meeting at 11
- Nov 5, 2022 Post 3317 Williamsburg Meeting at 11
- Feb 4, 2023 Post 12212 Silver City Meeting at 11
- May 6, 2023 Post 1389 Elephant Butte Meeting at 11

### **District 5**

- Aug 13, 2022 Post 1547 Las Vegas Meeting at noon
- Nov 19, 2022 Post 1331 Mora Meeting at noon
- Feb 11, 2023 Post 9516 Cerro Meeting at noon
- Last Meeting to be determined

### **District 6**

- Aug 6, 2022 Post 3259 Taos Meeting at noon Lunch to follow
- Nov 12, 2022 Post 8874 Los Alamos Meeting at noon Lunch to follow
- Apr 15, 2023 Post 2951 Santa Fe Meeting at noon Lunch to follow

### **District 7**

- Aug 21, 2022 Post 3284 Hobbs Snacks at 10 Meeting at 11 Lunch to follow
- Feb 5, 2023 Post 8703 Carlsbad Snacks at 10 Meeting at 11 Lunch to follow
- May 7, 2023 Post 3284 Hobbs Snacks at 10 Meeting at 11 Lunch to follow

### **District 8**

- Sept 18, 2022 Post 2528 Tucumcari Lunch at 1 Meeting at 2
- Jan 15, 2023 Post 3015 Clovis Lunch at 1 Meeting at 2
- Apr 16, 2023 Post 9515 Portales Lunch at 1 Meeting at 2

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## **National Ambassadors' Promotions**

This is the first National Promotion of the 2022-2023 Program Year. Read the 2022-2023 National Program Ambassadors' Promotions for the tools you need to serve our veterans, service members and their families with Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care.

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### **Veterans & Family Support**

Ambassador Renee Fulk is passionate about helping our heroes as well as their families and caregivers receive the support, care and respect they need.

[Introduction and July 2022 Veterans & Family Support Promotion](#)

### **Americanism**

Hear from Ambassador Stephen Doherty about this fun and favorite Program. Join him in celebrating our great country! #AuxiliaryPatriotism

[Introduction and July 2022 Americanism Promotion](#)

### **Auxiliary Outreach**

This Program is all about service and the donation of time. Ambassador Laurie Lukas will guide members to partner with other organizations in our

communities.

[Introduction and July 2022 Auxiliary Outreach Promotion](#)

### **"Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children**

Ambassador Cathey Farley shares the benefits of working these two Programs to increase awareness about veterans and support the VFW National Home for Children.

[Introduction and July 2022 "Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home Promotion](#)

### **Extension & Revitalization**

Chief of Staff Sharon Connolly's Program is two-fold. She will lead efforts to create new Auxiliaries while strengthening existing Auxiliaries.

[Introduction and July 2022 Extension & Revitalization Promotion](#)

### **Historian & Media Relations**

Record and share the story of your Auxiliary and Department, and then tell the world about it. Nicole Koutz is here to help!

[Introduction and July 2022 Historian/Media Relations Promotion](#)

### **Hospital**

The Hospital Program is one of the oldest in our organization. Mary Spindler will encourage new ideas & projects to benefit our veterans at the VA, state-run veterans facilities and hospitals in our communities.

[Introduction and July 2022 Hospital Promotion](#)

### **Legislative**

To serve as an advocate for veterans, service members and their families, Ambassador Bobbie Goldman reminds us to contact our legislators and make our voices heard on Capitol Hill.

[Introduction and July 2022 Legislative Promotion](#)

### **Membership**

Get excited to grow the organization with Jason Estell! More resources than ever await you and your team.

[Introduction and July 2022 Membership Promotion](#)

### **Mentoring for Leadership**

Ambassador Stephanie Krueger urges us to learn ways to develop future leaders in this Program, ensuring we have strong, healthy Auxiliaries with knowledgeable members who can take over leadership roles and guide our organization into the future.

[Introduction and July 2022 Mentoring for Leadership Promotion](#)

### **Scholarships**

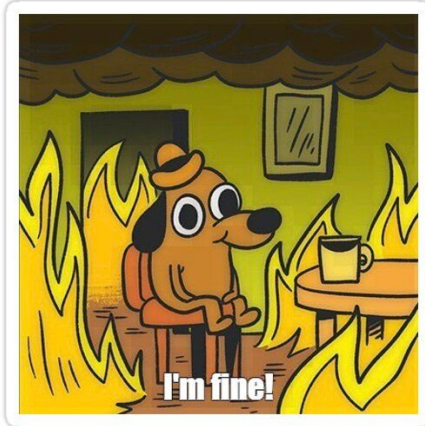
Ambassador Melody Judd stresses the importance of supporting and promoting scholarships to encourage participation and grow new opportunities to for the future.

## Youth Activities

Ambassador Ramona Henson knows that working with kids today helps shape who they will be tomorrow. Hear ways to educate, empower and encourage empathy through this Program.

[Introduction and July 2022 Youth Activities Promotion](#)

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## Under Construction

As the new year changes, so to does the website. Except it doesn't change when we want it to. The Department website will be updated as National updates the National website. Please be kind and patient with me.

From National - "While MALTA is down through July 5, HQ will also be updating our National Website, so some pages will be "under construction" during this time."