

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
2024 - 2025



February 2025

Sisters & Brothers,

I hope your 2025 has started off well and that you had a restful and enjoyable holiday season. As we just had our Midwinter Conference last weekend, I wanted to take a moment to share some updates with you:

- New Department Officers
 - Chaplain- Shelly Ravak 6917
 - Conductor-Barbara Santillanes 401
 - Guard-Marsha Short 10124
- *National VFWA President Brenda Bryant's Official visit to New Mexico February 19-21, 2025
 - Schedule:
 - Wednesday, February 19
 - 1:00 pm Brenda arrives at the Albuquerque AirPort
 - 2:00 pm Meet & Greet with d'oeuvres at Post 401
 - 4:00 pm Meet & Greet at Post 5890
 - 6:00 pm Travel to Santa Fe Hotel
 - Thursday, February 20
 - 8:00 am Light Breakfast at Hotel Santa Fe
 - 9:00 am Museum Tour - suggestion: Military Museum, Museum Hill, Meow Wolf
 - 12:00 pm Lunch at Post 2951
 - 2:00 pm Santa Fe Plaza
 - 3:00 pm Ghost Walking Tour
 - 5:30 pm Dinner at Hotel Santa Fe
 - Friday, February 21
 - 5:30 am leave for Santa Fe Airport flight at 7:00 am

During her visit, she wants to meet with Auxiliary and VFW members so everyone is invited; Auxiliary members and our Comrades. Brenda enjoys anything historical, old mansions, and even haunted places. No food restrictions. As for gifts, Brenda would prefer instead of gifts to her, a donation to a charity in memory of someone who committed suicide since Commander Al Lipphardt's special project is Suicide Awareness.

Lastly, I wanted to express my gratitude for those of you who were able to attend the Midwinter Conference. It's been a privilege to be able to meet many of you and to better understand your challenges and hear your ideas firsthand. Thank you for taking the time to visit with me and offer feedback, ask questions, and share stories. These visits reaffirm the important work we are doing for our Veterans across the State. It is so important to continue to work together.

Thank you for everything you all do; the VFW Auxiliary would not be able to have the impact on Veterans and their families without each and every one of you.

Renee King

Department President for New Mexico 2024-2025