

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Welcome to 2026!

The first six months flew by so fast. Thank you for all your hard work and your passion for our Veterans and their families. We have five more months to go, let's continue to work hard and provide for our Veterans needs and work together to grow our Auxiliaries and become stronger.

We ended the 2025 year at 95.75%. I know that all Auxiliaries were processing dues until the last minute. Thank you, Presidents, Treasurer's, Secretaries and to the members who paid, made phone calls, emailed and went door to door to have dues paid. We all want to see that our members are in good standing. For those who were not able to pay by December 31st, we will work with you to help in the process.

In Other News:

1. Lois Callahan, VFWA National President will be making her official visit to New Mexico on January 11-13th. She will be coming in on Sunday. Once she arrives, we will take her to lunch and see about taking her to the Albuquerque Balloon Museum. We will have dinner after the Museum. On Monday, we will have breakfast at the Embassy Suites and then will tour the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, have lunch there and then tour the Veterans Memorial. We need to give her time to rest. Dinner at this time will be at Black Angus. If you will be attending the visit, please let me know which part of the visit you will attend, so that I know about numbers.
2. Mid-Winter Conference will be held on January 16th and 17th. District 15 Council Member, Betty Decker will be our Representative and will provide us with updates and news from National Headquarters. Registration on January 16th from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. On January 17th, registration will begin at 7:30 am. Joint Session is at 9:00 am, lunch and then our C of A and Business Session. There will be presentations by Department Chairman, Review of the new application for the Auxiliary, we will also be working with Presidents, Treasurer's and Secretaries. The banquet is for our Scholarship winners and our Teacher Awards. Hope to see you there.

In the upcoming months we will continue to work with you and our Line Officers will continue to visiting you during your District meetings. Remember that district meetings are your Schools of Instruction. We hope you have provided your Auxiliaries and Members with the information that they need to be successful and grow.

Lastly, 2025 had its challenges, we all had happiness, some may have had some sorrows, but I hope that you were able to bring in the new year, with new hope, with positive thoughts and looking forward to your future and what it will bring. I thank you for supporting one another, I appreciate how hard you have worked this year and the ideas, thoughts and new ways of doing what we have always done to your auxiliary and with the auxiliary. Let's make 2026 the best that it can be for all. We will see you in a few weeks.

Jeanette D Garcia
Department President