



“Steadfastly Serving Our Veterans” & “Honoring Our Mission to Serve Veterans!”

Treasurer, Linda Evans

President, Martha Cothren

Secretary, Karlene Beams

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Issue 7 2020-2021

January 2021

Arkansas Auxiliary View



PRESIDENT SCOREBOARD

TO BE READ AT MEETING AND FILED!!!

Happy New Year!!!

I know that we are all hoping that 2021 will be a good year!!! I am so proud of the auxiliaries who made the 95% membership goal!!! I know that 2020 was a hard year to get this done, but we had 25 auxiliaries succeed!! Let's all make a New Year's resolution to all work even harder to get Arkansas to 100%!!! Membership is the lifeblood of our organization. Several auxiliaries have already reached the 100% goal, and that is fantastic!

I hope everyone had a safe and Merry Christmas. This virus seems to be spreading faster and faster. I hope that the vaccine is ready for everyone who wants to take it soon!!! I know many of us have suffered personal losses to Covid, and I extend my sympathies to all. I lost a cousin to it, so I know there are many grieving people across Arkansas. I am so sorry that we have had to cancel Mid-Winter but keeping our members safe is our priority. I know that better days are ahead.

Even though we have had to miss many of our group activities, we must still work hard to find ways to support our veterans. As we start off a new year and hopefully are able to overcome this pandemic quickly, we will be able to reach out more and more to help more veterans. We are a strong group of people, and I know we will find ways to help our heroes.

I want to say a special thank you to our program chairmen. They have worked very hard to give you ideas for each program and have spent hours contacting auxiliaries who did not send in reports to help them put information together for a report. Please take the time to read every article in the View and share it with all your members. If you come up with new ideas, share them with your Department Chairmen. Every member has something to offer to make our Department even better!!

Let's get 2021 off to a great start by adding new members, by finding new ways to serve our veterans, and working hard to stay safe until we overcome this virus!! We can do anything if we set our minds to it, and I know Arkansas is determined to lead the way!!!

Much love, Martha

Membership

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It is important for you to remain in good standing because failure to pay your dues by December 31st means that you:

- Cannot attend VFW Auxiliary meetings.
- Cannot hold a VFW Auxiliary elective or appointive office or a Program chairmanship on any level.
- Are not eligible for a Cancer Grant, if otherwise eligible.
- December was a month of giving, start the new year of 2021: Look at the list of unpaid members and find out if anyone needs financial support to pay their dues. If so, your Auxiliary can pay them out of the Relief Fund, or a member could pay them under the Adopt a Member initiative.
- Happy New Year!

**Step- and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents, and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran.*



The membership summary, recruiters, relief fund guide & membership goal awards are separate pages.



(L) Ramona Hadfield, Auxiliary 4513 received her recruiter pin (C)President, Pattie Leitner, (R) Joyce Ellis during their Auxiliary meeting



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Veterans & Family Support

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Hello Brothers and Sisters,
WOW what a year it has been so far. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and is staying safe and sound. I appreciate all of you that have sent in reports. Let's reflect on the good things we have done despite the virus, health problems and just over all having to deal with what is going on in our world. Let's be thankful for being able to feed, clothe, and help our veterans, military, and families during the trying times. Please continue to reach out to those that are house bound, spouses, and families that have lost loved ones this past year. Remember depression is a serious matter. I enjoyed reading what some of the auxiliaries were doing, like serving dinners and sending food home, remembering special needs of veterans and their families. Sending care packages overseas to our military, remembering the homeless with clothing and helping to find shelter, taking care of fire victims, and helping to build needed items for handicapped. The smiles on the faces of these recipients are worth it all. I have seen folks fill packages at home to be distributed. Some posts did drive thru Christmas presents for children. And the list goes on. If you have folks that just don't want to risk getting out include them in your events. Remember to push the suicide prevention, its real and happening every day. I have handouts and literature if you need anything let me know and I will send it to you. Again, thank you for everything you do for veterans, military, and families. I hope this year brings you many blessings. Mary

Chaplains Corner



As the Department Chaplin I feel it is best to start with a prayer. Dear Lord please watch, guide, direct us and protect us as we start this new year. Amen

Americanism

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Brothers and Sisters,
Hoping that everyone had a safe and great Holiday. I would like to thank everyone that sent in their reports, there were quite a few good ones it just shows that we can still do for our veterans in the middle of a pandemic. I am proud of our Auxiliaries in what they have accomplished thru all of this. In July I ran a contest that was for report time it was for which ever Auxiliary sent in their report first and I am Happy to say the Auxiliary that did that was Auxiliary #7769 Beebe Congratulations. I am going to have another contest for the second round of reports. Even though the schools are not as full as normal you can still go and educate our youth about patriotism. You can contact the teachers and give them the materials to do this, some of the teachers are allowing us to still go into the classrooms so that we can do presentations on the flag folding ceremony, flag etiquette and the importance of respecting the flag. Let's keep patriotism in everyone's daily lives. So now it's time to get back to work and do what we do best taking care of our Veterans and education our country on Americanism. Much Love, Rhonda



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Arkansas Auxiliary View

Auxiliary Community Outreach



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Happy New Year to one and all. I hope everyone had a very merry Holiday season.

First thing is that I must apologize since I have been unable to acknowledge receiving your email reports. I have been having problems with my email for about two weeks. I can receive emails but am unable to send any emails. I have received a report from all but nine Auxiliaries so far, but there still seems to be some confusion about this new program.

Since 1914 the VFWA has been committed to serving our Veterans and our communities in honor of all servicemen/service women who took time out of their everyday lives to serve our country. We have often gone outside of our CORE programs to volunteer in our local communities. This new program gives us the opportunity to reach into our communities and remind them that we are here to serve and have been doing so for over a century now.

The Auxiliary Community Outreach program gives us another way to volunteer on Non-Core projects in our communities with other local organizations or entities, such as Kiwanis, American Legion, Elks Club, Lions Club, Rotary, PTA groups, and Chamber of Commerce. It also provides us a way to report on ALL our volunteer activities. Remember you must be working with another organization and wearing the VFWA insignia while performing these projects.

Here are a few mor ideas for you to consider:

1. Serve a meal, bus tables, or clean up at a local soup kitchen or charity dinner hosted by another organization.
2. Call your local animal shelter and offer to play with the animals; walk the dogs; clean out cages; or take pictures of the animals to post online to help get them adopted.
3. Volunteer at a local food/meal/toy distribution center. Co-sponsor with your local police department to hold an event to collect stuffed animals for children in a hospital or shelter.

I know it has been difficult this past year to get out and volunteer. Here’s hoping that the 2021 year will be better.

I know you can come up with some events or activities to support your local communities. Start thinking outside of the box!

Loyally, Donna

Buddy Poppy® & National Home

Becky Lamb

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!06-8158 - ljbb40721@gmail.com



Hello Members,

Happy New Year to you all!! Let’s make 2021 a year of “Honoring our Mission to Serve Veterans

Since 1922 we have conducted annual distribution of “Buddy” Poppies in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. We have been raising monies for needy, disabled, and other veteran services. This small but mighty flower is the memorial for all who have given their lives in war time. Wear it proudly and give generously. When out in your community be recognized by wearing VFW or Auxiliary clothing or hats. Keep working hard and be safe. Visit www.vfwauxiliary.com/resources for more information.

Since1925 the VFW National Home for Children has been accepting military veterans and their families to their campus to accomplish life goals for a brighter future for them. Donate anytime or purchase a Life membership for \$50, a brick for \$100. Great way to remember loved ones, recognize loved ones even your VFW and Auxiliary. Contact them at Military and Veterans Family Helpline-1-800-313-4300 or www.vfwnationalhome.org.

Remember to submit a report for the National Award to me by March 1st. Due into National by March 31st. I want to know how you promote and educate the community and if you purchased a life membership to the VFW National Home.

Thank you ALL!! Keep Smiling!! ☺ Becky Lamb



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REMEMBER MID-WINTER CANCELLED

The Mid-Winter scheduled for January 22-23 will not take place so that we may safeguard everyone’s health. Students District winners will be notified by the VFW. Information concerning the ZOOM Council Meeting will follow with detail in December or as we get firm plans.

Chief of Staff

Laurie Herman
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Happy New Year! Let us start the year by taking a good look at the National Award for the Extension portion this program. Everyone loves to get an award for something they have done!

This is easy! – have you assisted in revitalizing or rejuvenating a failing or weak auxiliary and utilized the Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation book in the process? Any member at any level can be nominated. It’s NOT too late! I am sure many of you have heard of a weak or failing auxiliary in your district – REACH OUT and try to help them. Attend one of their meetings, you don’t have to physically be there – attend via Zoom or Skype or Facetime! Share info on what has worked in your auxiliary. Use the foundation book to clarify member and officer roles, walk them through the guidebook so they know how to find answers they need. Nominations are made by the Auxiliary that has been helped! Has anyone helped your Auxiliary? Thank them by nominating them. Use the form found in this year’s Program Book or on the National Website at www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources. Nominations are to be sent to me by 3-31-2021.

You all have three full months to work on this. If you need my help, I am only a phone call away. “Honoring Our Mission to Serve Our Veterans” and “Steadfastly Serving Our Veterans” works when we can keep our organization alive! Please help grow and revive our Auxiliaries so our Veterans have the support they deserve”

Loyally, Laurie

HOSPITAL

Terri Gothard

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Hello y’all

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Now that the holidays are behind us, it’s time to get back to work. It’s a new year, and it is starting out the way 2020 ended, that means we are still going to have to think “outside the box”.

Reports looked great, and a lot of Auxiliaries are working hard and thinking outside the box. I had a few that said they couldn’t do anything because a VA facility was too far away. You DO NOT have to do things just for the VA. Contact a local Nursing Home, I’m sure there are veterans living there, and ask what you can do for them. I know where I live, we have 3 Nursing Homes, with an average of 10 in each one. There are so many ways you can work this program.

February is just around the corner and with it comes The Salute to our Hospitalized Veterans, which is held the week of Valentine’s Day. Now is a good time to start making those Valentine’s Day cards to hand out to all local veterans. Again, check your local nursing homes, find out how many veterans run a small business in your town. There’s always a veteran somewhere to give a card to.

This month, I am again mentioning our Women Veterans, we still have a long way to go, to get them recognized at a VA facility. How can we help? If you can’t have a get together for them, have a zoom meeting, and ask them how you can help.

As we start out the new year, keep working your programs, and don’t forget your hospitalized, homebound, and nursing home veterans. Even though we can’t physically go into visit, there are many other ways to volunteer. Just keep “Thinking Outside the Box”

Until next time, always Steadfastly and Honor our mission to serve our veterans. It is about them, not us.

Terri



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Upcoming District Meetings

THESE ARE ALL SUBJECT TO CHANGE				
Dist.	Date.	Location	Eat/Meet	Rep
6	Jan 9	Choctaw	2 - 1	Kim
1	Jan 17	Rogers	2:30	Becky
7	Jan. 17	Huntington	1 - 2	Amanda
5	Feb 6	Batesville	1 - 2	Kim
2	Feb 21	Marshall	1 - 2	Cheri
4	Feb 21	Pocahontas	1 - 2	Amanda
9	Feb 21	Benton by HSV	1 - 2	Rhonda
13	Feb 21	L. R. 9095	1 - 2	Martha
10	Mar 6	Pine Bluff	12 - 1	Martha

Mentoring for Leadership

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Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to a brand-new year! Hopefully, we will soon be able to come together again safely. I hope everyone had a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season. January is MENTORING MONTH! Of course, we should be doing this all the time. To continue our Auxiliary business and our mission for veterans, we need to look for members to step into leadership roles, those who have the ability to help us navigate through our ever-changing society. As mentors it is our responsibility to guide, encourage, and seek out those who embody leadership skills. Remember with new leaders come new ideas, new leadership styles, and new leadership skills. When you learn what leadership role the member would like to take, set goals. Once you do that, start going through the proper guidance and education they may need for that position. We are to promote success and encourage the skill strengths of the upcoming leader to guide them to work within the Bylaws and Ritual. Then please see them through the whole process, not just the beginning. Show them you care about them as a person or as a family member. “By Honoring Our Mission to Serve Veterans” we become a team. As a team we become a family because we are “Steadfastly Serving Our Veterans”.

Everyone stay warm, safe, and healthy! If I can answer any questions or help in any way, please contact me.

Loyally, Vicki

Legislation

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I hope this finds everyone well.

We still have a lot to do this year. We are starting out with a new United States President and we must stay vigilant in our support of our Veterans. Make sure our Legislatures stay true to their promises. If you haven't yet, be sure to sign up for Action Corps Weekly. Keep an eye out for the "Take Action" notices. Be sure to read them respond to make your voice heard.

Here's to a new year and may we all be together soon.

Happy New Year!

Cheri'



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Scholarship

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Hello folks, the District judging for VOD and Patriot's Pen should be complete and entries received at Department level by the time this newsletter is printed. I sincerely hope that all involved with these two Scholarships thoroughly enjoyed their involvement with the Programs. We will soon have a winner selected and ready to go to National.

Please do not forget to recognize all the students, their parents, teachers, and counselors who participated and helped to make our Scholarship Program successful!

Please remember to contribute to the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest Escrow Fund if you are able. Please help us to increase the number and dollar amount of the awards available for this Program.

The Young American Patriotic Art Contest ends on March 31st of 2021.

Please, if you haven't already, contact the schools and youth organizations about this wonderful opportunity! It needs to be done early enough to allow the participants enough time to be creative with their entries! Open to grades 9-12, U.S. Citizen, or U.S. National, 2- and 3-dimensional art is allowed. Digital art, photography and jewelry are not allowed. Art must weigh 5 pounds or less.

Please do not forget to promote the Continuing Education Scholarship!

Open to any Auxiliary member (who has been a member for at least a year), their spouse, son, or daughter with a financial need. Entrant must be at least 18 years old, complete the application and submit an essay of 300

words or less. The application must be received at National Headquarters by **February 15:**
Program Awards Administrator
VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters
406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64111
Or email it to info@vfwauxiliary.org
\$1,000 will be awarded to an applicant in each of the four Conferences. Applications are available from Department Scholarships Chairmen or at vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships.

Thank You for “Steadfastly Serving Our Veterans”!
I hope you have a Happy and Blessed New Year!
Regards, Tom

Historian/Media

Patti Leitner
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Brothers and Sisters,

This last month everything has been very quiet due to Covid-19. I hope all is well with you and yours and I pray that in January things just might get back to a little more normal.

I hope you had a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please stay safe and I hope to hear from you in January.

“Honoring Our Mission to Serve Veterans” while we are “Steadfastly Serving our Veterans”.

Respectfully, Patti



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Department President's Project

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Happy New Year! Yes Happy, we must stay positive. We must keep doing our best while staying safe with our washing of hands, wearing our masks, and keeping a safe distance from others.

Now with that, let's see what we can do for our President's Project. I want to thank those who sent in their donations AND Reported what they did. Are you running out of ideas for fundraising? Well with the virus I admit it is harder to do a lot of things - BUT we still can! Why not recycle? There're aluminum cans, bottles, paper, cardboard, etc. Call your local recycle company for details on "trash for cash".

Winter is upon us as I write this article so keep warm and Enjoy the time inside with the family and stay safe.
Love, Mary Jo

AND DON'T FORGET TO Support the President's Project with purchase of raffle ticket, and you just might win this TV:

RCA 58" Smart 4K TV



- Proceeds for Arkansas Veterans Village
- Tickets One (1) for \$5.00 or Three (3) for \$10.00
- Drawing: State Convention 2021
- Make out Check to VFW Auxiliary

- Earmark check: Department Pres Project (TV)
- Send check to Linda Evans, 5 Maple Lane, Greenbrier, AR 72058 & report to Mary Jo.
- You will receive tickets in the mail

YOUTH

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WOW!!! What a Christmas!! I have seen and heard about all the youth that helped make Christmas Baskets and sent Cards to our Veterans in the Nursing homes and to the ones that don't have family around here. SOOOOO PROUD!!! I just love to see our Veterans being taken care of by our youth!

But the Year has turned to the Second Half and we still have a lot to do!! We are still working on Illustrating America with the K-8 age group! It is Due by April 15th. We also have the Get excited for the Red White and Blue!! It is also due to me by the 31st of March so I can get them graded. As always if you need help or some ideas please email me or text me and I will help you. We have way too much talent and heart in our youth for us to not be supporting them!!

As always if you need any help please don't hesitate to call or text me. I am always available!!!!!!

Youth Chairman, Amanda Pipkin



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VAVS Central Arkansas

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Veterans Home, No. Little Rock

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Attention, Hospital Chairmen,

It's not too early to think about the needs of the VA for "Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week". Do you know that this is held the week of Valentine's in every VA Hospital around the world? Donations can be coordinated with me or Michael Dobbs at North Little Rock, Volunteer Services. We might not be able to attend but we can donate baked goods, fruit, or Valentine's. Get the youth involved or another civic group in the making of cards! Then you have done two or three programs.

Needs List for Central Arkansas

Extra-long charging cords with multiple ends for charging IPHONE Android cellphones, Wireless phone charging 'spots' for bedside table, Karaoke machine and microphone, Dominoes/Checkers/ Cards Connect Four/Monopoly, Happy Hour Yahtzee, Fire Stick/ Roku Stick (CLC), Cornhole game/Large bowling set,, Fur real pets/Large stuffed animals, Busy boards, Inflatable balls, Simple bed side radios New or Used Modern IPADS, Television 55-65 Inch (3H 2L and 2K), Head Sets, Ear phones, Full Size Refrigerator (3H DOM), Xbox or Play Station Wii Gaming systems and Games, Individual DVD Players.

You may earmark your monetary donation specifically for these or other items and activities, Mail to CAVHS (135/NLR) 2200 Fort Roots Drive North Little Rock, AR 72114. Checks are made to CAVHS Voluntary Services

I would like to Thank everyone who donated, helped stuff bags and stockings for the home. Thank you to. Jessica Greer, Post 4548 Auxiliary, Post 9095 Auxiliary, Beebe Auxiliary, Kiwanis Club, Kroger Cabot, Sticher's Mending Hearts, ALA Unit 71 Cabot, and the many other friends and family that made this possible this year. We delivered 92 gifts and 92 stockings to the VA home. Again, thank you for you love and support.

Mary Jacobs

VFW WEB SITE

www.vfwar.org

The View is now available to all VFW and VFW Auxiliary Members on the web site. Go to www.vfwar.org and select the **NEWS tab**, then click on **Auxiliary News**. On the left side in red it will list each month's issue. Click on the issue you need, and it will pop right up! Currently it is public, and I will not be putting contact information for officers of members on the web. Once the VFW has the web secured any member in good standing will be able to signup for access and at that point contact information will be listed.

Currently the VIEW will be put on the web so that you may direct members to that site. Next, we will have all reports available. Then you will be able to print as much or as little of the View that meets your needs.