



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

**Treasurer, Linda Evans**

**President, Martha Cothren**

**Secretary, Karlene Beams**

**revans123@windstream.net**

**mrcothren@yahoo.com**

**karbeam@aol.com**

**Issue 6 2020-2021**

**December 2020**

## Arkansas Auxiliary View



### PRESIDENT SCOREBOARD

#### TO BE READ AT MEETING AND FILED!!!

Happy Thanksgiving to All!!

I know that this year is really tough on everyone. We keep getting knocked down, but we have to just keep getting up to find our way toward the closest thing to normal that we can find. We are facing challenges that just seem to be getting harder and harder to overcome. However, we know that our ancestors – those who fought and overcame the evils of the world – have passed their toughness on to us. Our organization in particular is full of the families of heroes. We have inherited their spirit, their resourcefulness, their determination, and their stubbornness. We will overcome!!! We have what it takes!! So.... what should we be doing???

First, we have to take the precautions needed to protect ourselves and others. We cannot just quit living our lives, but we must, with precautions, move forward safely. We have a responsibility to serve our Veterans. We made a promise that we would step up to help our heroes, and we must follow through with this. We will NOT fail!!!

Second, we must use any tools provided for us by National to guide us into ways to perform services for or to reach out to Veterans and their families when they need help. We CAN do it!!!

Third, we MUST help our organization grow. You should be receiving information from the Membership Committee to give you some great ideas for recruiting. We desperately need to recruit new members. There are scores of family members who have never been asked to join. Let's find them, train them, and let them share in the joy we feel when we do things to help our Veterans. We MUST do this!!!

I am so honored to be a part of this organization. I love to help our Veterans. I am so proud of all of you who do so much hard work for our heroes. I am so thankful that I live in this country and share the freedoms that we are so blessed to have. I pray for our country every day. As we “Honor Our Mission to Serve Veterans,” I know we will be “Steadfastly Serving Our Veterans!” Remember, it's not about us, it's about THEM!!! I pray that your Thanksgiving is happy and safe!!

Much love, Martha

# Membership

Linda Evans

revans@123windstream.net

### Invest in the Future of the VFW Auxiliary

One of this year's membership goals is to Invest in the Future of the Organization. The word **invest** implies that we are speaking about money but investing means so much more than just spending money. It means working cooperatively with your members to achieve your goals.

- Send out your second dues notice by the end of this month.
- Start pushing to reach 95% Plus so you meet your November 30<sup>th</sup>
- Offer incentives if dues are paid by a certain date.
- Mentor your new members.
- Have a membership recruiting event.
- Contact your members for more than just dues.

The future of the VFW Auxiliary depends on you and your fellow members! Thank you for all you are doing to invite, include and invest in our VFW Auxiliary by working the Membership Program. Continue to assist us in “Honoring our Mission to Serve Veterans.”

Loyally, Linda



(L) Tom Hughes, District 6 President, received his recruiter pin from #2283 Russellville Auxiliary President, Christina Roulston during their Auxiliary meeting



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# Veterans & Family Support

Mary Jacobs

[maryjacobs4308@gmail.com](mailto:maryjacobs4308@gmail.com)

Hello Brothers and Sisters,  
 I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving. It is so wonderful to be thankful for the many things we are able to have all because of our veterans and military that have given us this freedom. Reports have been sent in and I was surprised I did not receive more. I know many have not been able to do anything due to this dreaded COVID. However, during this holiday, you can still do things to help our veterans and families. If you are at home send a note to a member or veteran letting them know you are thinking of them. If you are cooking a meal send a plate or two to someone. Sharing with others is a blessing and the rewards are great. If you sew, crochet, do crafts or anything handy make things and drop them at the door or send them. There is a need for slightly used or new blankets or comforters for the homeless at the Veterans Village. Please let me know if you can help. Maybe serve at a soup line or feed the homeless. Adopt a family in need in your community. All this can start from home. Remember staying at home confined can be depressing, stay active. I would like to share this poem with you.



### Ring in Goodness

Listen to the Christmas bells  
 Ringing in the corner church  
 Announcing to all in hearing  
 That Christmas time is near.  
 Now is the time for everyone  
 to give out love and peace  
 To show caring to another  
 and to show good will to man.

Poetry by Sharon Hendricks

Bless each and every one of you and have a safe Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Mary

### Chaplains Corner



Our Country is in the midst of struggle from many fronts. Let's all take time to pray for each other, our legislators, and our country during the holidays. Have a blessed Christmas and a Happy Prosperous and Healthy New Year.

# Americanism

Rhonda Lawrence

[rhondalawrence92@yahoo.com](mailto:rhondalawrence92@yahoo.com)

This month we remember Pearl Harbor Day, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941 and the Battle of the Bulge, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 1944. Let's take a moment for those service members who fought and those we lost in service. During the month of December let us recognize all the groups, businesses and individuals who display our American Flag in the community.

I would like to thank District's 1, 4 and 7 for 100% reporting in Americanism. I received a lot of great reports and would like to thank all of you for your hard work, it just proves that we are a great Organization that works great as one team and that we will not let anything stop us from working hard for our Veterans.

I would like to wish each and every one of you Happy Holidays stay safe and remember that "Steadfastly Serving Our Veterans" & "Honoring our Mission to Serve Veterans!" is what we do best.

Rhonda



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# Arkansas Auxiliary View



## Auxiliary Community Outreach



Donna Bader  
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**Service, Service, Service** - this is the reason our VFWA organization exists. We are here to support and serve not only our Veterans but our local communities. We want our Auxiliaries to be thought of as a "good neighbor". We need to interact daily with our communities, so we are seen as a positive model. We must work with other civic groups, civic clubs, institutions, and non-profit organizations to plan and sponsor events for the betterment of our communities and neighbors. The Auxiliary Community Outreach program is our way to not only support our communities, but it also gives us the opportunity to make new friends, recruit new members, and teach the general public about our Auxiliary and our programs.

Remember to work with your local newspaper, television station, radio station or other media to promote and publicize your Community Outreach event so you will have a big community turnout.

The Holiday Season can be a tough time for many families. Work with your local DHS office, school, or other organization to host a food, clothing, or toy drive.

Due to COVID-19, we will all have to think "outside of the box" to plan and host an Outreach event, but I know you can do it! Just remember to be safe.

Here is a good slogan for all of us to follow: "You have two hands; one to help yourself, the second to help others".

Hope you all have a blessed Holiday season. Donna

## Buddy Poppy® & National Home

Becky Lamb



[ljbb40721@gmail.com](mailto:ljbb40721@gmail.com)

Hello Members,

The Holiday season has arrived. We have reached the end of 2020. Thank You ALL for the great reports. This month we have Pearl Harbor Day December 7th and Christmas.

Get out there to promote and educate our members and the community. Be creative and open your mind to all the possibilities. Have your "Buddy®" Poppy drives at the post and out in the community. Make Christmas ornaments and sell them. Send 10% to National Home and the rest goes in your relief fund. Poppy's, Made by Veterans for Veterans. Put a "Buddy®" Poppy on silverware, your gifts, use your imagination. Get ideas from [vfwauxiliary.org/resources](http://vfwauxiliary.org/resources).

VFW National Home for Children Life Membership makes a fabulous Christmas gift for \$50.00. The National Home Bricks can be purchased for \$100.00. Remember you can donate at any time through MALTA or through the mail. Don't forget the HELPLINE for Military and their families is 1-800-313-4200.

Spotlight members on social media and remember to thank them with a card, gift, or certificate. "Buddy®" Poppy materials available at the [vfwstore.org](http://vfwstore.org).

Happy Holidays to ALL!! Be Safe and Healthy!!  
Becky Lamb

### 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.



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## Arkansas Auxiliary View

# Chief of Staff

Laurie Herman



laurhb@aol.com

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

A BIG Thank You to everyone who sent your reports in November! This month many of us will be busy getting ready for Christmas and New Year’s Eve. This means countless preparations for the holidays.

While we are concentrating on our immediate family, let us not forget our VFW Family. I know that this year it is even harder because of the “COVID FACTOR”.

Many of you do care packages for those less fortunate than we are, perhaps in the form of food baskets or small gifts for our Veterans and their Families. Perhaps some of you donate or serve food in homeless shelters. Sometimes we do Holiday Parties at the Post for those Veterans and their Families that would not be able to celebrate. So how about extending that one step further and make this the month to help our “Homeless” Auxiliary members (members “At Large”) find a new home in an existing Auxiliary. We can give you a list of these members in your district. Invite them to a Holiday Party at your Post or meet them for lunch somewhere that will allow you to converse (following COVID safety guidelines)! This will give you an opportunity to talk to them and let them know how important they are to our organization. Show them that we care about them and ask them to “come back” and help us serve our Veterans and Their Families. (You can also accomplish most of this via a phone call)

Don’t forget about those members in your Auxiliary that no longer come to meetings. Reach out to them as well, make sure they get notified of your Auxiliary Holiday plans. Sometimes all it takes is a ride to a function to get them thinking about coming back!

Have a Safe Holiday Season! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our house to yours!

Loyally, Laurie

# HOSPITAL

Terri Gothard

terri72257@yahoo.com

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving and got to spend time with family.

Reports are looking good, Congratulations to Dist. 1, 4 and 7 for 100% reporting, way to go. On a sad note, I saw a few reports stating they couldn’t do anything, because the VA hospitals are too far away. I hope we are all remembering, each town has a Nursing Home, and I’m sure there are veterans in there, also, we have our homebound veterans that have caretakers. Let us not forget them. I’m also sure, there are Women Veterans in your town, reach out to them, why not have a Christmas tea for them. Maybe set up a few hours to babysit kids, so momma can go Christmas shopping.

Christmas is just around the corner, so, what can we do? Your auxiliary can take Christmas cards to the homebound, and nursing home veterans, you can stand outside and sing Christmas carols. I know we can’t go in these places, but we can take things and leave them at the desk. Some of our veterans have no one, and we need to remember them at Christmas.

You can call your Nursing Homes and see if you can fix goodie bags for them to hand out, but most of all, during this holiday season, strive to think “OUTSIDE THE BOX”, and make this Christmas a good one for our Veterans.

Taking an excerpt from my National Ambassador’s blog, and I must agree,

“If there’s one thing I know: Hospital is both mission and ministry. The mission is never ending and the ministry showers blessings on those who serve and are served. Our veteran patients will reap a harvest of love and devotion this season because we continue to cultivate and “Honor Our Mission to Serve Veterans.”” *Hospital work is a blessing to not only the veteran, but to you.*

*Here’s wishing you and yours a safe, healthy, and very Merry Christmas, and a wonderful New Year.*



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

Terri

### Upcoming District Meetings

THESE ARE ALL SUBJECT TO CHANGE				
Dist.	Date.	Location	Eat/Meet	Rep
4	Feb 21	Pocahontas	1- 2	TBA
7	Jan. 17	Huntington	1- 2	Amanda
10	Dec. 5	Cancelled	1- 2	Martha
13	Nov. 22	Cancelled	1- 2	Cheri



# Legislation

Cheri Wood

[shadowdreamin@hughes.net](mailto:shadowdreamin@hughes.net)

It' been a rough year. But I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for getting out and voting. Now is the time to hold our elected officials accountable. We must make sure they hold to their promises of supporting our Veterans.

I pray that we all have a Merry Christmas and continue to Stand Strong for our Veterans.  
See you in the New Year.

Cheri.

# Mentoring for Leadership

Vicki McGahhey

[vmcgahhey@gmail.com](mailto:vmcgahhey@gmail.com)

Brothers and Sisters,

“Honoring Our Mission to Serve Veterans” we must continue to grow and have a strong organization. We welcome our new members, but are we mentoring members to become leaders in our Auxiliaries? Why do members not want to take leadership roles in the Auxiliary? What is the current leadership doing to encourage leadership? What is the current support level for leadership? Once you have these answers, you can start planning the right way to correct this and maybe you will get some interest from members to take leadership roles. We have to be supportive, encouraging, and kind. No leader wants to do everything by themselves, nor can they. The last thing a leader wants to deal with is discontent and cliques among members. As mentors we need to show our Brothers and Sisters the right path and lead by example. We need to encourage kindness, unity, and our why. If we do this and support them maybe others will take leadership roles. Remember to stress that we are all different, but we should help each other for the better of our organization. No matter how a person does things, if it is within the Bylaws, it's okay. We are a TEAM and we're “Steadfastly Serving Our Veterans”.

This will be an unusual and possibly difficult holiday season for many this year due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. Please check on your Veterans and our Auxiliary members. See if they need anything, or just need cheering up. Be kind and respectful to everyone. I hope you all have a safe and Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Loyally, Vicki



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## Arkansas Auxiliary View

# Scholarship

Tom Hughes



southernmountainman@gmail.com

Hello to all you wonderful Auxiliary Members!

I have been sitting here going through Scholarship reports. Some of you had great results, some of you worked hard and did everything possible for you to do, and still had no applicants. That is just the way things are, in this program and in life in general. Please do not feel discouraged, all we can do is work to get the information out there, we cannot make anyone participate. After all, it's still a free Country, last time I looked.

I greatly appreciate the number of reports I have received. Thank you for sending them to me. If you haven't please do so, not just for Scholarships, but all programs, as 2 reports per program per year are required.

The Young American Patriotic Art Contest ends on March 31<sup>st</sup> 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. \$1,000 will be awarded to an applicant in each of the four Conferences. 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](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org)

Applications for all scholarships are available from Department Scholarships Chairmen or at [vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships](http://vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships).

Thank You for “Steadfastly Serving Our Veterans”!  
Regards, Tom

# Historian/Media

Patti Leitner

[dandplit@artelco.com](mailto:dandplit@artelco.com)

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I would like to thank all of you that have sent in your Historian reports. It is so nice to hear what is going on in our Department of Arkansas. If you have not sent in your reports yet please do so as soon as you can – better late than never. If you need any assistance, please let me know and I will be happy to assist you in filling them out. I will also take a report over the phone if that is easier for you.

Please remember to wear your masks and practice social distancing.

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

Respectfully,  
Patti





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### Department President's Project

Mary Jo Eubanks

maryeub@att.net

Hello, are you into the spirit of Christmas yet?

Staying at home because of the virus? Well you can decorate the house, bake holiday cookies, address Christmas cards --- Oh, here is a suggestion for gifts --- donate to the President's Project a donation in a love one's name. That way you don't have to get out in a crowded store to shop. Safety first always.

The year 2020 is closing and what a year it has been. We MUST look forward towards a better tomorrow.

Remember the Babe born on Christmas Day.  
*Merry Christmas Everyone*

**SUPPORT THE PRESIDENTS PROJECT WITH PURCHASE OF RAFFEL 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

### National Presidents Special Project Stars Stripes & Support

Food insecurity remains one of the biggest problems that our military and their families face.

Donate by mail by making a check payable to the VFW Foundation earmarked for Unmet Needs - Hunger. Mail check to Linda Evans, Dept Treasurer,

We will have a special drawing for all that participate. You will get one ticket for every dollar you send to Linda.

A citation will be mailed to every Auxiliary, District and Department that donates a minimum of \$25 between July 1, 2020 and April 30, 2021, by National.

National Donation Citation Award Levels:

- Platinum: \$1,000 or more
- Diamond: \$500 - \$999.99
- Gold: \$250 - \$499.99
- Silver: \$100 - \$249.99
- Bronze: \$25 - \$99.99

Donations are cumulative. A citation will be awarded for the highest donation level reached. Citations will be mailed directly to the Auxiliary, District or Department after May 1, 2021 from National.

Report to Veterans & Family Support, Mary Jacobs



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# YOUTH

Amanda Pipkin

[pipkin.amanda@yahoo.com](mailto:pipkin.amanda@yahoo.com)

**Thank you everyone that REPORTED!! You guys have been busy even with our restrictions.**

Wow the Holidays are upon us!! What a great time of year to give our youth some crafts to occupy their time. One of my youth chairmen from another state had a great idea and I want to share it with you. She was getting with parents and youth groups and asking them to paint rocks with thoughtful sayings and on the back put the VFW Auxiliary and a phone number for contact and place them around the areas. This is great to make people feel better when they find it and who knows they may even want to know more about the Auxiliary and what we do and want to join.

Also don't forget the Veterans in Nursing homes and the elderly or disabled ones not able to get out during the Holidays. Get with some youth groups and maybe put some food baskets together and deliver to doorsteps so we can all stay safe!! Maybe buy toilet paper and paper towels and deliver with the food baskets.

**LET'S SUPPORT OUR YOUTH DURING THESE TIMES AND SEE HOW CREATIVE THEY CAN BE!**

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

Youth Chairman  
Amanda Pipkin

## VAVS Central Arkansas

Karlene Beams

[karbeam@aol.com](mailto:karbeam@aol.com)

It's time to think about Christmas. Shoe Box distribution thru VAVS will be December 7-11.

### 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

## Veterans Home, No. Little Rock

Mary Jacobs

[maryjacobs4308@gmail.com](mailto:maryjacobs4308@gmail.com)

Hello everyone,

I plan on doing the Christmas Party around the second week of December. Call me if you have a desire to participate.





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**Arkansas Auxiliary View**



*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

**FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AR.**

**Martha Cothren, President**

**Kimberley Davis, Sr Vice**

**Amanda Pipkin, Jr. Vice**

**Karlene Beams, Secretary**

**Linda Evans, Treasurer**

**Cheri Wood, Chaplain**

**Becky Lamb, Conductress**

**Rhonda Lawrence, Guard**

**Laurie Herman, Chief of Staff**

