

The Golden Rule

VFW Auxiliary

**Department of
Nebraska**

Linda Vogel

President

2018 – 2019

PROGRAM BOOK

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Theme:

DO UNTO VETERANS AS THEY HAVE DONE UNTO YOU

Colors

RED, WHITE, AND BLUE

Flowers

RED POPPY AND WHITE CARNATION

Special Project

MEMORY LOSS FOR VETERANS

Dear VFW Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters,

It is my privilege and great honor to be representing the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary as the Department President this year.

I was raised in a VFW home. My mother signed me up for this great organization under the eligibility of my father, a World War II veteran. My dear mother asked me to attend a meeting with her. I attended and was inspired by the floor work and what this organization does for the veterans. I became involved with my local Auxiliary #3602 and later the District level which inspired me to move through the chairs in the Department to become your State President.

This year there are some changes in National programs that hopefully will bring back some of the basics of what we need to do for our veterans.

We will need to stay positive and be kind to one another as we work together with pride with our VFW comrades in helping our veterans and their families.

I would like to kindly thank each one of you for everything you do for our veterans!

Please feel free to contact me if you have a question or concern.

"DO UNTO VETERANS AS THEY HAVE DONE UNTO YOU"

Loyally yours,

Linda Vogel

Department President

501 East Prospect Avenue

Norfolk, NE 68701

Phone: 402-750-6487

Email: Vogelfamilyjlj@conpoint.com

OUTSTANDING AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Group 1	10-50 Members	Group 5	201-250 Members
Group 2	51-100 Members	Group 6	251-300 Members
Group 3	101-150 Members	Group 7	301-575 Members
Group 4	151-200 Members	Group 8	576+ Members

There will be one Outstanding and one Runner-up President in each of the above membership groups according to the following criteria. Awards to be presented at the June 2019 Convention.

30 points for 100% Membership, 20 points for 95% Membership.

20 points for quarterly audits submitted by required deadline.

30 points for 25 cents per member sent to the VFW National Home's Health & Happiness/Christmas Cheer fund or 20 points for the 10 cents per member quota.

25 points for donation to Veterans & Military Support Programs (MAP), Operation Uplink, Unmet Needs.

20 points for participating in Buddy Poppy distribution.

20 points for attending a District meeting.

15 points for paying your District dues.

30 points for attending a Department meeting.

20 points for paying your 2017-2018 Department Convention Delegate Fees.

10 points for participation in the following programs: Americanism, Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home for Children, Hospital, Legislative, Department Scholarships, National Scholarships, Veterans & Family Support, Youth Activities.

** 20 Bonus Points for donating to the President's Special Project.

Final Report Due By: May 1, 2019

Return completed report to: Linda Vogel, Department President
501 East Prospect Avenue
Norfolk, Nebraska 68701

OUTSTANDING AUXILIARY PRESIDENT REPORT FORM

2018 – 2019

Deadline for reporting May 1, 2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

President _____

1) Membership Total _____ Membership % _____

2) Date Quarterly Audits Sent: _____

3) Auxiliary contribution to the VFW National Home Health & Happiness Fund:

10 cents per Member \$ _____ donated Date _____

25 cents per Member \$ _____ donated Date _____

4) Did you pay your 2017-2018 Department Convention Delegate Fees? \$ _____ sent in

5) Did anyone from your Auxiliary attend Department Convention? Yes _____ No _____

6) Did you pay your 2018 – 2019 District dues? \$ _____ sent in

7) Did anyone from your Auxiliary attend your District meetings? Yes _____ No _____

8) Did your Auxiliary participate in Buddy Poppy distribution? Yes _____ No _____

9) Did your Auxiliary have Foundation training? Yes _____ No _____

10) Is your Auxiliary using MALTA? Yes _____ No _____

Auxiliary participation:

Program: Americanism # of reports sent _____

Program: Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home # of reports sent _____

Program: Hospital # of reports sent _____

Program: Legislative # of reports sent _____

Program: Department Scholarships # of reports sent _____

Program: National Scholarships # of reports sent _____

Program: Veterans & Family Support # of reports sent _____

Program: Youth Activities # of reports sent _____

Program: President's Special Project amount sent in \$ _____

Deadline: May 1, 2019

Return completed form to:

Linda Vogel
501 East Prospect Avenue
Norfolk, NE 68701

EXTENSION and CHIEF OF STAFF

As Chief of Staff my main duty will be the contact person for the Extension Program. Further duties will include but are not limited too; the formation of new and maintenance of current Auxiliaries and mentoring. I'm excited to serve as your Auxiliary Advocate and assistant to President Linda and the Department of NEBRASKA Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliaries.

Included in this program book are the tools available for District and Auxiliary Presidents. Please review and use:

- A) The Checklist: What the Auxiliary President needs for a meeting.
- B) Sample VFW Auxiliary Meeting Agenda
- C) VFW Auxiliary Meeting Challenges and Solutions
- D) Healthy Communication Phone/Text Tree
- E) Health Checkup for your Auxiliary
- F) R U Healthy? Auxiliary To-Dos and Deadlines
- G) 5 Essentials of an Auxiliary

I will do my best but I need everyone's help to identify an Auxiliary that needs assistance. If it is your Auxiliary, it's okay to ask for help. We can't help an Auxiliary unless someone lets us know there is a need.

Everyone working together and helping each other will make the Department of Nebraska a strong Department and one that we can all be proud to say, "I am a member of the Department of Nebraska Auxiliary TO THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS."

"Do Unto Veterans As They Have Done Unto You!"

Donna Fenske

2128 No. Garden City Rd.
Fremont, NE 68025

Phone: 402-727-8135 (home)
402-957-6164 (cell)

Email: donnamfenske@yahoo.com



The Checklist:

What the Auxiliary President needs for a meeting

- Current Podium Edition of *Bylaws, Ritual and Booklet of Instruction*
- National Program Book (available for download at vfwauxiliary.org.)
- Department Program Book
- Current year's Department General Orders (if applicable)
- Order of Business/Agenda prepared with the assistance of Secretary and Treasurer prior to meeting
- Chairman Reports to be distributed prior to meeting
- Arrive early to check that the room is prepared for meeting:
 - Charter
 - Gavel
 - Altar Cloth
 - Bible
 - Flag stands properly placed
- Start and end the meeting as scheduled.
 - A clock on the podium will help achieve the suggested one hour time.
Hint: Set a timer!

Sample VFW Auxiliary Meeting Agenda

Auxiliary Name

Date

*** Please silence your cell phones**

*** 1 rap**

It has been moved and seconded that.....

- Discussion
- In favor – "Aye"
- Opposed – "No"

1. Opening according to Ritual (p.____)
2. Introduction of National and/or Department Officers
3. Reading and Referring of Applications for Membership
4. Report of Investigating Committee
5. Voting on Candidates
6. Initiation (Optional)
7. Presentation of Minutes of Previous Meeting
(approved – will stand approved as read..... will stand approved as corrected)
8. Reading of Official and Other Communications
9. Treasurer's Report of Previous Meeting (any discussion – will be filed subject to audit)
10. Presentation of bills
11. Introduction of Guests (non-Auxiliary members)
12. Reports of Committees, Standing and Special
13. Unfinished business
14. New business
 - Reminders
 - Guests to speak
15. Report of Trustees and Action Thereon (audit report – needs a motion)
16. Suggestions for the good of the order
17. Closing ceremonies (p.____)

Motions made at this meeting	Made by	Second by	Approved

Donations	To	For	Amount

Reports from Program Chairmen - Information To Be Added To Year End Report	

VFW Auxiliary Meeting Challenges & Solutions



Challenge

Members do not know when the meeting is.

Our meetings are too long.

There is no agenda.

Solution

The day of the month, time and location of the meeting is voted on and approved by the members. The presiding officer closes the Auxiliary business meeting with "The next business meeting will be..."

Other suggestions for contacting members are telephone calls, e-mails, newsletters or postcards. If your Post and Auxiliary has a website, display this information front and center. Consider a Facebook page for your Auxiliary, an excellent (and FREE!) way to inform members and increase public awareness.

A prepared Order of Business/Agenda can help a meeting start and end on time. Business that can be transacted formally, such as making a motion and voting, keeps distractions at a minimum. If an event requires more discussion, invite members to stay after the business meeting for further discussion within.

Have a white board or separate piece of paper to create a "Parking Lot" to hold issues that need to be discussed in depth at a later time. This will table an issue and keep the meeting focused on the business at hand.

Consider the option of a roundtable or contemporary meeting. See the Ritual for guidelines.

Auxiliary Officers knowing their roles and duties beforehand will also help the meetings run faster and smoother.

The Ritual provides detailed outlines for conducting an official Auxiliary meeting. Prior to the meeting, the Auxiliary President can meet with the Secretary and Treasurer to draw up an agenda containing projects to be discussed, motions to be voted on and any other business. A written agenda will keep the meeting on track as the President moves efficiently through the Unfinished and New Business.

Challenge

There is too much socializing.

Certain members speak too many times.

Members see no reason to come or do not feel needed or involved.

We do not seem to get anything done for our veterans.

There is lack of respect for other members and too much gossip.

Solution

If socializing is an important part of your Auxiliary meeting, reserve a half hour prior to or a half hour following the scheduled meeting time for socializing. A designated social time allows the new and seasoned members to get acquainted, share ideas and enjoy one another's company. This reserved time fills this need while being courteous to members who prefer to attend meetings for the business session only.

Leadership of the President can help with membership participation. Encourage members to express their views while being respectful of everyone's input. Limit conversation to the topic at hand.

Increase involvement by asking for it! An Auxiliary function is the perfect opportunity to ask a member to participate or provide them with a "job." It feels good to be needed. Mentor a new member – offer to pick them up for a meeting or an event. Your personal contact will make a difference. An Auxiliary newsletter or e-mails are other communication tools to request volunteers. Each member has their own special talents; encourage and utilize their contributions.

Our eight National VFW Auxiliary Programs have veterans, their families and member-driven objectives. Educating members on these programs will create awareness and enthusiasm toward program goals. Auxiliary Chairman promotions and projects help provide program awareness and participation. Two communication tools available to all members are the e-newsletter with sign-up through the National VFW Auxiliary website and the VFW Auxiliary Programs Blog, which allows all members to read the latest information and ideas from the National Ambassadors in regards to their programs.

A good leader will set the dynamic of the meeting. Effective leadership techniques and a positive manner from the officers and chairmen will help alleviate the negative. Being diplomatic and fair to each member's comments and/or concerns is key.



Healthy Communication Phone/Text Tree

Use this phone/text tree to promote Healthy Communication in your Auxiliary. Whenever members need to be contacted or reminded of meeting or events, the President first calls or texts the Senior Vice-President and Junior Vice-President. Then each of them would call/text the next person down on the tree, and so on and so forth. Each member would only have one other person to contact!

President	
Senior Vice	Junior Vice
Treasurer	Secretary
Chaplain	Conductor/Conductress
Guard	Chief of Staff
Member	Member
Member	Member
Member	Member
Member	Member
Member	Member
Member	Member



Health Checkup for Your Auxiliary Member Questionnaire

1. Why are you a member of the VFW Auxiliary? _____

2. Do you volunteer for, or offer financial support to, any of the eight National Programs: Veterans & Family Support, Americanism, Chief of Staff, Hospital, Legislative, Membership, Scholarships and/or Youth Activities?

YES NO (circle one)

3. If you answered "YES", to question #2, what do you do and why? _____

4. If you answered "NO" to question #2, please share the reason why. _____

5. Do you feel our National Programs benefit our local veterans, their families and our own members?

YES NO (circle one)

6. If you answered "YES", to question #5, what do you do and why? _____

7. If you answered "NO" to question #5, please share the reason why. _____

8. Are there activities you would like to see in this Auxilliary? _____

9. Is the monthly business meeting conducted at a time that is suitable for you?

YES NO (circle one)

If not, what time would you like to see the meeting scheduled? _____

10. Is the monthly meeting length appropriate for the business conducted?

YES NO (circle one)

11. Do you have ideas on how to increase meeting attendance? _____

12. If child care was available during the meeting, do you think members would use it?

YES NO (circle one)

13. What do you feel would bring new members into our organization? _____

14. Where do you see the VFW Auxilliary ten years from now? Will you still be a part of it? _____



R U Healthy? Auxiliary To-Dos and Deadlines

What Your Auxiliary Needs to Do:

Deadline:

Election of Officers, and Delegates and Alternates chosen.

o April

Installation Report forwarded to Department and National Headquarters.

o May

Bond Application submitted for offices of President and Treasurer bonded with an indemnity company authorized by National Headquarters.

o July

Itemized report of the financial and membership status of the VFW Auxiliary.

o 30 days after assuming the office of President

District Dues - Based on June 30 membership of prior year.

o September 30

Audit Reports

Period 10/1-12/31 due by 1/31

Period 1/1 - 3/30 due by 4/30

Period 4/1 - 6/30 due by 7/31

Period 7/1 - 9/30 due by 10/31

o No later than the end of the month following the expiration of each calendar quarterly period

Project, promotion and/or donation to each National Program. See the National Program Book for Key Goals, awards and more information.

o March 15

30 days after assuming the office of President, an itemized report of the financial and membership status of the VFW Auxiliary will be given to the Post Commander, according to the National Bylaws.

EXTENSION/CHIEF OF STAFF YEAR END REPORT FORM

2018-2019

Auxiliary# _____ District# _____

Deadline: Due to Chief of Staff by April 15, 2019

1. Did your Auxiliary use the Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit? _____
2. Did your Auxiliary use the Healthy Checkup Member Questionnaire? _____
3. Did your Auxiliary use the Mentoring resources available to start
Or continue mentoring in your Auxiliary? _____
4. Did your Auxiliary establish a Greeting/Mentoring Committee for
New or other members needing support and knowledge? _____

Send completed report form to:

Donna Fenske
2128 No Garden City Rd.
Fremont, NE 68025

AMERICANISM

Americanism shows our love and loyalty to a great country because of patriotic citizens, a heritage to be passed on to the future. The veterans have fought for certain rights under the American Flag.

The Americanism program this year will be promoted because we *BELIEVE WE CAN DO IT*. Veterans will be remembered and honored now and forever for their service to our country. Our Department President's theme, "*Do Unto Veterans As They Have Done Unto You*" is following the Golden Rule, BELIEVE WE CAN DO IT for the veterans who have given us our freedom.

The Americanism program goals for this year are: *Safety in America/Disaster Preparedness; Flags Across America; Flag Education; Promote Patriotism; POW/MIA Recognition, and the Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.*

The past year we heard of destruction by hurricanes, tornadoes and flooding in many states and islands. We need to be prepared for **disasters** and know what should be done for the **safety** of all citizens in our communities. In our monthly newsletter, information will be listed of items to keep in your car and/or in your home in case of an emergency.

When we travel throughout our Country, we see **Flags Across America**. The flag is a symbol that waves proudly over the land of the free and the brave. We should educate youth and adults about our Flag's history, proper etiquette, and retirement ceremonies. Many of us fly the Flag every day or on special patriotic days to show our patriotism across America. When you visit a school, ask a veteran to go with you and explain his service to America. By educating our youth about the veteran's service, they will know why we respect our Flag.

The **Family Freedom Festival** is a way to promote patriotism. Publicize to have others join you for this festival - play bingo, have children's races, card playing, etc. Provide information to be handed out on Flag Etiquette, the POW/MIA Recognition Day, and a listing of all patriotic holidays. BELIEVE we can do it by promoting patriotism all year long not just for one day. Supplies for this event are available from the VFW Store for distribution.

Auxiliaries can participate in community events; present certificates of recognition for flying flag daily or promoting American pride; provide information about Suicide Awareness; promote "Get Out The Vote" when elections are held; publicize all promotions of patriotism, etc. The list can go on and on and is endless.

Today fewer citizens know the meaning of patriotism. Let's promote our patriotism by distributing the small American flags at parades, fairs, school, or community events where there are large groups of people. The Americanism Chairman and Patriotic Instructor (if not the same person) should work together to promote patriotism. Some days to promote patriotism are: Veteran's Day, November 11; Pearl Harbor Day, December 7; Loyalty Day - May 1; Memorial Day (traditional) May 30; Flag Day - June 14; Independence Day - July 4; Patriot Day - September 11; and POW/MIA Recognition Day - third Friday in September.

We should emphasize that POW/MIAs are American heroes and we must make sure they are never forgotten. Honor them and visit our veterans all through the year, not just on special occasions. Set up the **Missing Man Table Ceremony** so the citizens of our country know we continue to remember them.

One way to honor our teachers is by nominating them for the **Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award**. Recognize those who teach citizenship, promote America's history, American traditions, and play a key role in the success of our students. Contact your school

early and explain the importance of this program to the principal. Deadline is **November 1** at the Post level.

On the Department level there are contests **for grade school students**. For grades 1-3 there is a **coloring contest** entitled, "I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag." The coloring page can be enlarged to hand out at pre-school and daycare but not submitted for Department judging. Our contest for students in grades 4-6 is the **theme contest** entitled, "Our Stars and Stripes Forever." Students should write a 250 to 300 word theme about the "stars and stripes." Deadline for both contests is **February 15, 2019**.

There is concern for the families of veterans who have completed suicide. We need to wear the blue tear drop and distribute them so others know that our veterans face many challenges when they come home. Let's be there for the veterans and assist them as well as their families throughout the year.

Present Certificates of Recognition to citizens and businesses for displaying the American Flag, POW/MIA flag, or other displays of American pride. This would be the time to hand out the "Our Flag" brochure which gives instructions on the care of the flag as well as the disposing of it.

For the Americanism program let us "Do Unto Veterans As They Have Done Unto You," because we "BELIEVE we can do it," by continuing to promote Americanism every day throughout the year.

Eleanor Pacas, Chairman

603 Elk Street
Schuyler NE 68661-2452

Phone; 402-352-2193

Email: epacas@centurylink.net

VFW Teacher Nomination Form

Please photocopy or cut out and attach to nomination essay.

Nominated Teacher

Name: _____
 Email: _____
 Subject and grade taught: _____
 Current school: _____
 School address: _____
 School phone #: _____

On a separate piece of paper, please describe (type or print) in 350 words or less why you feel your nominee should be selected for the Smart/ Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award, then sign the nomination statement.

Submit nomination materials to your local VFW Post. Visit www.vfw.org/find-a-post for locations. **DO NOT** send to VFW National Headquarters.

_____ Number of words in essay (not to exceed 350). Please provide this information.

Person Nominating Teacher

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone #: _____
 Date submitted: _____
 Signature: _____

Deadline: Submit to local VFW Post by October 31.

Identify and recognize America's best educators. Wouldn't you like to see them get the honor they deserve?

Now you can.



For more information, contact your local VFW Post or its Auxiliary or visit our website at www.vfw.org.

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
 406 W. 34th Street
 Kansas City, MO 64111
 (816) 756-3390 ext. 6287
 E-Mail: theauchamp@vfw.org
www.vfw.org

Local VFW Post Information

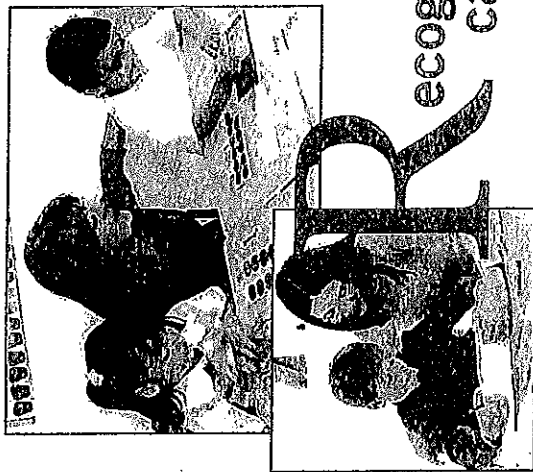
© 2017 Veterans of Foreign Wars www.vfw.org Revised 4/17



VFW Honors America's Teachers

**Smart/Maher
 VFW National
 Citizenship Education
 Teacher Award**
 Grades K-12





Recognize teachers who care about America

VFW Cares About Education

Founded in 1899, the VFW highly supports the education of America's youth. VFW and its Auxiliary have developed a slate of programs dedicated to helping America's educators. VFW Citizenship Education programs stimulate interest in America's history, traditions, Americanism, civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism.

VFW wants to identify and recognize America's best educators who instill a sense of national pride in students. It offers cash awards, commemorative plaques and all-expenses-paid trips to the VFW National Convention for these worthy teachers. The trip provides an opportunity for winners to network with like-minded individuals.

Teachers care deeply about America and its children. They're concerned about the perpetuation of America's noblest traditions and highest ideals. Wouldn't you like to see them get the honor they deserve? Now you can...

VFW annually recognizes the nation's top classroom elementary, junior high and high school teachers who teach citizenship education topics regularly and promote America's history and traditions effectively.

Teachers who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism are prime candidates for this award. For example, do you know a teacher who plans field trips to city hall or organizes community volunteer projects? Maybe you know an instructor who invites veterans into the classroom to discuss their military experiences. Perhaps you are familiar with a teacher who fosters the development of democratic values and beliefs through special projects. If you know of such a teacher, honor him or her today with the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award.

How Does the Contest Work?

Based on the nominees submitted, VFW local chapters, called Posts, will recognize one outstanding teacher in grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Posts then submit these winners' names and required documents to their District-level judging, who will forward their winners to the Department (or state) level. After judging, each Department then forwards the names of its winners to VFW National Headquarters for consideration in the national awards contest.

Who is eligible?

All current classroom teachers (teaching at least half of the school day in a classroom environment) in grades K-12 are eligible. Previous national VFW winners and homeschool teachers are ineligible. Nominations can be submitted by fellow teachers, supervisors or other interested individuals (not relatives). Self-nominees are not eligible.

How are teachers nominated?

Fill out the nomination form contained in this brochure. In 350 words or less, describe why you feel your nominee should be selected. Describe the teacher's innovative teaching and resource development methods, as well as his or her dedication to education. Please submit your completed nomination form and signed essay to your local VFW Post. Visit www.vfw.org/find-a-post for Post locations or call VFW Programs Department at (816) 756-3390 ext 6287 to find the Post nearest to you.

All Post-level nominees, if they win, should provide a one-page resume, up to five pages of documentation of their teaching experience (references, news articles, etc.) and a head-and-shoulder photo of themselves. These items will be forwarded on to the District with the Post Teacher Entry form, nomination form and essay.

When is the deadline?

Nominations must be submitted to your local Post by October 31. Judging occurs November 1-15.

What are the National awards?

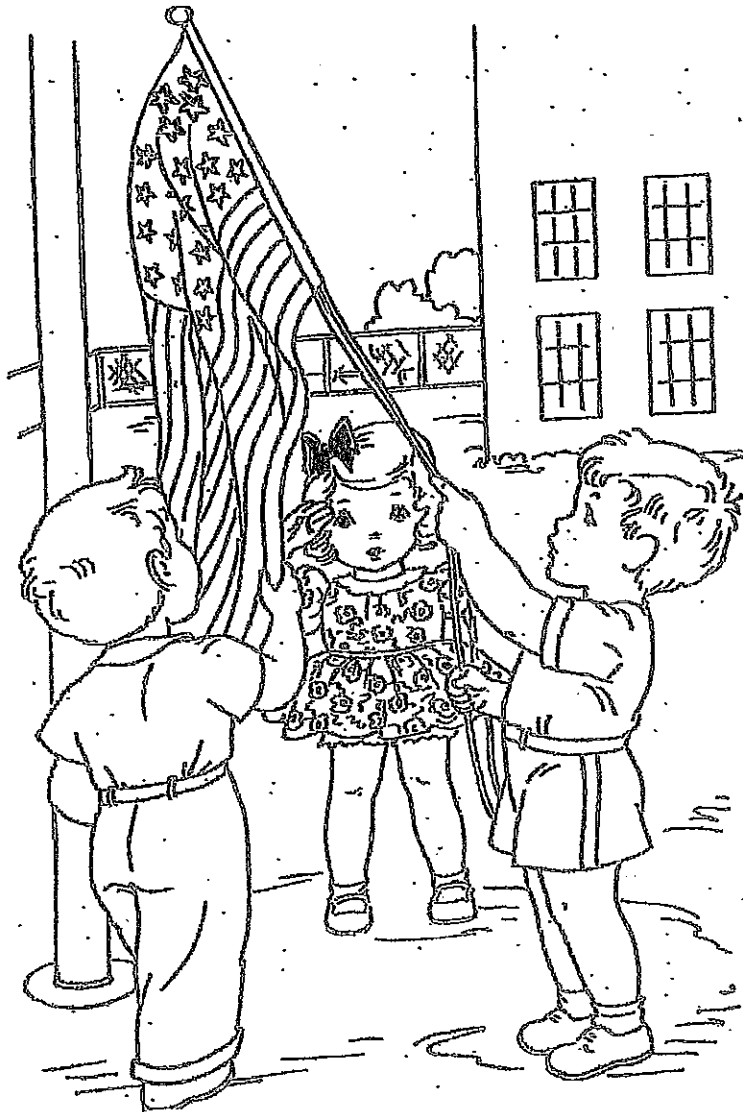
Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Awards include the items below:

- A national \$1,000 Past Commander-in-Chief John Smart award for each of the top K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 teachers for professional development expenses.
- \$1,000 award for each winning teacher's school.
- Plaques for both the winning teacher and school.
- An all-expenses-paid trip to attend the VFW National Convention.
- Top 10 high school teachers invitation to attend a summer Graduate Seminar at Freedoms Foundation in Pennsylvania.

NOTE: (Winners will receive a 1099-MISC as a result of their award and all-expense paid trip.)

Nominate Someone Deserving

Have a teacher in mind? Complete the nomination form and required essay, then submit it to your local VFW Post. The investment that a teacher makes in today's youth will be the dividends we will all reap from future leaders.



I pledge allegiance to the flag.....

Aux. No. _____ City _____ Dist. No. _____

Student's Name _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Number of entries _____ Value of prizes awarded _____

Send to: Eleanor Pacas
603 Elk Street
Schuyler, NE 68661-2452

Deadline is February 15, 2019

"OUR STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER"

"Our stars and stripes" can tell a story about our country, America. When students in the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade write a theme about the stars and stripes, they are participating in the Veteran of Foreign Wars Auxiliary word theme contest for the Americanism program.. Students are to use the words listed at left of the grid and fill in the grid. The theme should have 250 to 300 words and are to be underscored in the theme only once.

3-4 letter words

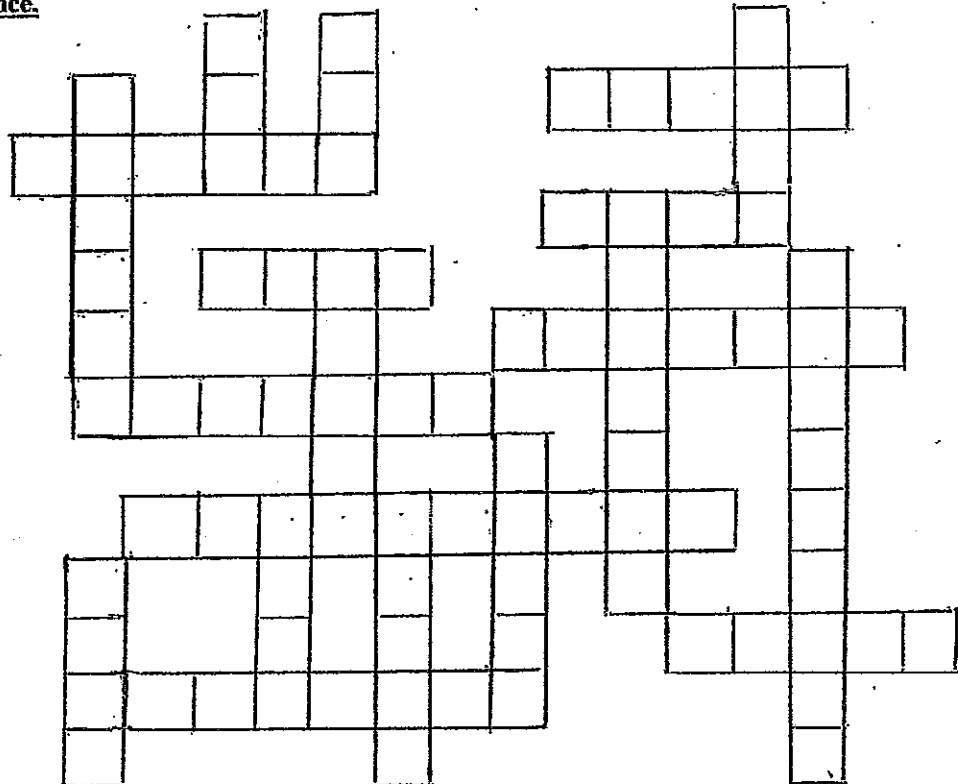
Blue
Live
Love
Now
Red
Taps
Wave

5-6 letter words

Bugle
Casts
Great
Pride
Shadow
Thanks
White

7 + letter words

Allegiance
America
Community
Freedom
Service
Veterans



Number of words in theme _____

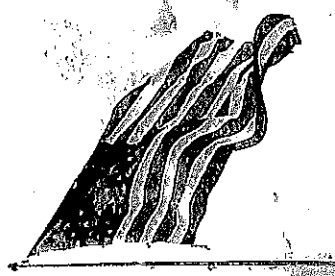
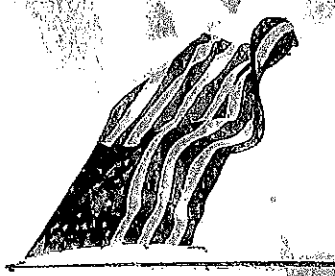
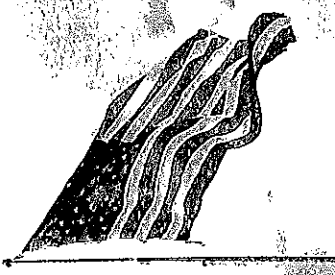
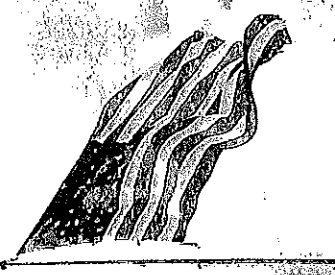
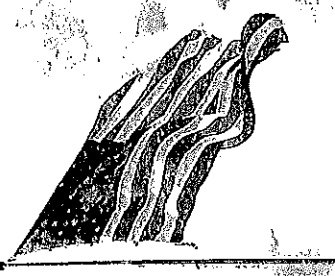
Deadline is February 15, 2019

Aux. No. _____ City _____ District _____

Student's name _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Please report number of entries _____ and value of prizes Aux. awarded _____

Send to: Eleanor Pacas
603 Elk Street
Schuyler, NE 68662-2452

VFW Post/Auxiliary _____ Contact _____ Before the Pledge of Allegiance is said, • Remove your hat • Face the Flag • Place your right hand over your heart	THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, And to the Republic For which it stands, One nation under God, Indivisible, With Liberty and Justice For all. - Francis Bellamy	
VFW Post/Auxiliary _____ Contact _____ Before the Pledge of Allegiance is said, • Remove your hat • Face the Flag • Place your right hand over your heart	THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, And to the Republic For which it stands, One nation under God, Indivisible, With Liberty and Justice For all. - Francis Bellamy	
VFW Post/Auxiliary _____ Contact _____ Before the Pledge of Allegiance is said, • Remove your hat • Face the Flag • Place your right hand over your heart	THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, And to the Republic For which it stands, One nation under God, Indivisible, With Liberty and Justice For all. - Francis Bellamy	
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Before the National Anthem is played and/or sang, please

- Remove your hat
- Face the Flag
- Place your right hand over your heart

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

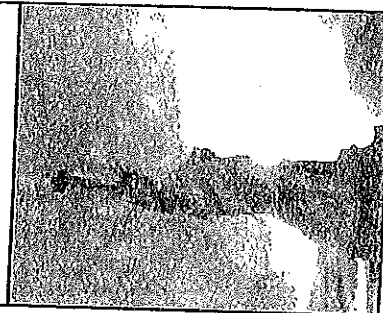
Oh, say, can you see
By the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed
At the twilight's last gleaming;

Whose broad stripes
And bright stars,
Through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched,
Were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare,
The bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night
That our Flag was still there.

Oh, say does that
Star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the
Home of the brave?

- Francis Scott Key



Before the National Anthem is played and/or sang, please

- Remove your hat
- Face the Flag
- Place your right hand over your heart

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

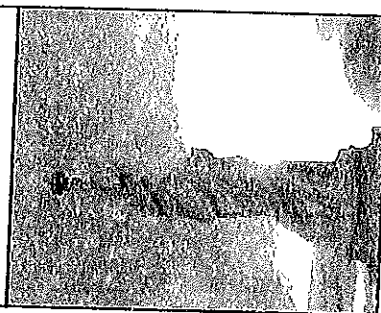
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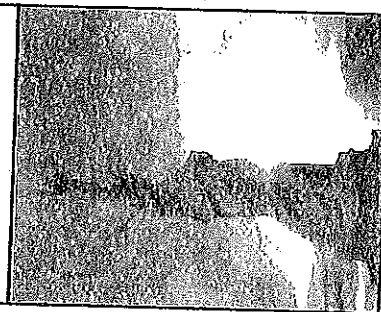
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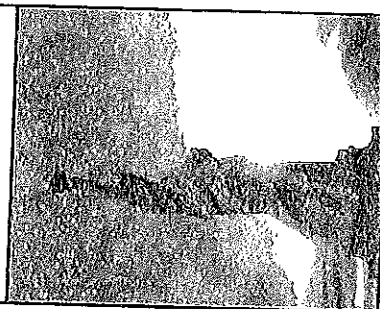
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- Place your right hand over your heart

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

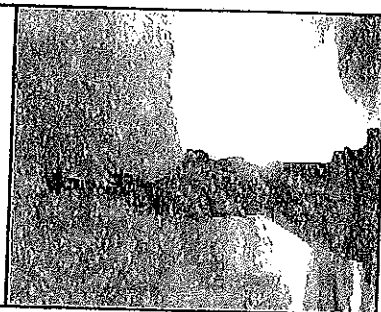
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Home of the brave?

- Francis Scott Key



AMERICANISM YEAR END REPORT FORM

2018-2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Deadline for final report is April 15, 2019. (Send a report when you have completed a project or program)

1. Did your Auxiliary conduct special programs on patriotic holidays? Yes _____ No _____
(Examples: Memorial Day, Veterans Day, POW/MIA Remembrance Day, etc.)

2. Did your Auxiliary participate in a POW/MIA program? Yes _____ No _____
If you did, please describe _____

3. Number of POW/MIA flags presented (at least 2" x 3" or larger) _____

4. Number of American Flags presented (at least 2" x 3" or larger): _____
(Includes, but is not limited to schools, businesses, parades, gravesites, etc.)

5. Did your Auxiliary participate in the Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award? Yes _____ No _____
(Example: assist the Post, take the contest information to schools, or make a donation.)

6. Number of certificates presented to businesses or citizens in recognition of displaying the U.S. and/or POW/MIA flags, or other displays of American Pride. _____

7. Did your Auxiliary promote Americanism through any media? Yes _____ No _____
(Examples: newspaper, radio, TV, Facebook)

8. Did your Auxiliary conduct patriotic education in your Auxiliary and/or community? Yes _____ No _____

If you did, please describe _____

9. Number of education programs conducted. _____

10. Did your Auxiliary conduct a Family Freedom Festival? Yes _____ No _____

If you did, please describe _____

11. Did your Auxiliary promote or participate in Safety in American/Disaster Preparedness? Yes _____ No _____

12. Did your Auxiliary promote/participate in Flags Across America? Yes _____ No _____

13. Did your Auxiliary do a program or project other than those described above? Yes _____ No _____

If you did, please describe: _____

Send completed report form to:

Eleanor Pacas
603 Elk Street
Schuyler, NE 68661-2452

BUDDY POPPY AND VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

This year National has brought back the Buddy Poppy and VFW National Home for Children programs. The Buddy Poppy program provides money for the Relief funds which Auxiliaries can use for veterans, the National Home, and Americanism projects.

Veteran's Day and Memorial Day are a couple of the days that VFW Auxiliaries like to promote the Buddy Poppy program or you could sponsor a Poppy King and Queen contest. Don't forget to report it all to me.

Please bring a Buddy Poppy corsage/boutonniere to our Mid-Winter Conference for your Voice of Democracy winner. If you have a Patriot's Pen winner you'll want to bring one for them as well.

This year we are having a Valentine poppy display contest. One of the requirements is to use President Linda's colors (red "Poppy," white, and blue.) Also remember that you will need to leave the white label on at least one Poppy. I'll give more information on this contest and have a sample at School of Instruction and Fall Conference.

Our hope is that you will send twenty-five cents (25¢) per member to the Health & Happiness fund for the National Home. These donations should be sent to VFW Auxiliary, Attn: Health and Happiness Donation, 406 W. 34th Street, 10th floor, Kansas City, MO 64111.

Spread the word that there is a military and veterans help line by calling 800-313-4200.

Joyce Witt
106 S. Nadine
Kimball, NE 69145

308-235-2705

BUDDY® POPPY/VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

YEAR END REPORT FORM

2018 – 2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Final report is due by April 15, 2019

- 1) Did you promote the Buddy® Poppy throughout the year through distribution, education and/or publicity:

Within the Post/Auxiliary: _____

In the community (community outreach): _____

- 2) How many Buddy® Poppy drives did you host?

With the Post: _____

Without the Post: _____

- 3) Did you participate in the Buddy® Poppy Display Contest?

Yes _____ No _____

- 4) Did you use the Buddy® Poppy Chairman's Manual?

Yes _____ No _____

- 5) Did you promote the VFW National Home for Children through education and/or publicity?

Yes _____ No _____

- 6) Did you donate to the VFW National Home for Children:
(DO NOT include Health & Happiness donation here!)

Yes _____ No _____

Amount donated \$ _____

- 7) Did you promote the VFW National Home's
Military & Veteran Family Helpline?

Yes _____ No _____

Send completed report to:

**Joyce Witt
106 South Nadine
Kimball, NE 69145**

EDITOR/VFW News

Do Unto Veterans As They Have Done Unto You

The goal of the NEBRASKA VFW NEWS is to communicate information to the general membership. The newspaper is a tool that reaches every VFW and Auxiliary member across this GREAT state and beyond! You might ask yourself what information needs to be communicated. It is the WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, and WHY of your Post and Auxiliary, as well as, the PAST, PRESENT, and FUTURE activities (as advertisements for events consistent with VFW Guidelines.) Please be sure to write in clear, concise, short sentences or paragraphs. Don't forget to include names, times, dates, and locations.

I would like to challenge all Department Program Chairmen to submit an article to the VFW News about their program, important dates, and any other information you think is worthwhile learning.

I would also like to challenge each District President to submit an article for your District or to have your Auxiliaries submit an article.

Listed are things to keep in mind when submitting your material.

NEWS:

1. Keep the article brief and to the point! Please type or legibly hand print your report.
 - a. Make your article interesting, so as to catch and hold the reader's attention.
 - b. Include important details.
 - c. Put your important information in the first two paragraphs.
 - d. Avoid repeating yourself, check for accuracy of the information within the article, and the spelling.
2. Observe deadlines. Get your article to the editor in a timely fashion. Be sure to indicate if the news is old, current, or for future activities.
 - a. Articles from newspapers or magazines cannot be used without written permission.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

1. Use quality photos that show the VFW and Auxiliary in action. NO NEWSPAPER OR COMPUTER PAPER PRINTED PICTURES CAN BE USED.
2. People in the photos must be recognizable. Use a separate sheet of paper to identify the people in the photo. Identify them left to right and try to limit the amount of people in the picture to 5 or 6.
3. Zoom in on the main focus of the picture. Delete any distracting subjects or objects. Select good, sharp photos.

If these rules are not followed, your picture or article may not appear in the paper.

Angie Ostrander

1337 Frances Street
Goehner, NE 68364

Phone: 402-540-8117 (cell)

402-523-4109 (home)

Email: litfireball2000@yahoo.com

GOLD STAR & CHAPLAIN

As Auxiliary Chaplain you have certain duties you must perform as the Ritual may prescribe, or the President may require. You will assist the Conductress with the opening and closing ceremonies at the meetings and draping of the Charter in memory of a deceased member. You will also be in charge of the Memorial Service.

When the Chaplain is on the floor to open or close the Bible, everyone should stay still and stop all talking until the Chaplain is back at her station.

Who is a Gold Star Member? It is a mother, father, grandparent, sister, brother, wife, husband, or child of a service member who has given the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our country. They need to be honored and acknowledged for the loss of their loved one.

It is your duty to report all of your deceased members to me by April 15, 2019, so all names can be included in the Memorial Book at the 2019 June Convention. Please report often so we do not miss anyone and ensure that they are not left out of the Memorial Book. I have included a copy of the report form, please make as many copies as needed.

If you know of a Past Department President or a Department Officer that is ill or has lost a loved one please contact Secretary Jean or me so we may send a card to let them know we are thinking of them at this time.

Remember to report often; please contact me with any questions, concerns.

Sharon J. Thorne

1616 7th Avenue
Nebraska City, NE 68410

Phone: (402)873-4388 home

(402)297-6049 cell

Email: thornebear@hotmail.com

DECEASED MEMBER INFORMATION

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Name of Deceased member _____

Date of Death _____ Gold Star Member ____yes ____no

Charter member ____yes ____no

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Name of Deceased member _____

Date of Death _____ Gold Star Member ____yes ____no

Charter member ____yes ____no

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Name of Deceased member _____

Date of Death _____ Gold Star Member ____yes ____no

Charter member ____yes ____no

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Name of Deceased member _____

Date of Death _____ Gold Star Member ____yes ____no

Charter member ____yes ____no

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Name of Deceased member _____

Date of Death _____ Gold Star Member ____yes ____no

Charter member ____yes ____no

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Name of Deceased member _____

Date of Death _____ Gold Star Member ____yes ____no

Charter member ____yes ____no

As you send the names of your deceased members start at the top of this page, cut off one section, send it in. By starting at the top my name and address will remain at the bottom of the sheet so you will know who to send them to.

Send to:

Sharon J. Thorne
1616 7th Avenue
Nebraska City, NE 68410

GOLD STAR YEAR END REPORT FORM

2018- 2019

DEADLINE FOR REPORTING: December 15, 2018 & April 15, 2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Please list the names of your Gold Star Members:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

List any special event or activities you have done to honor your Gold Star members:

List the names of any new Gold Star member:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Date _____

Return completed report to:

Sharon J Thorne
1616 7th Avenue
Nebraska City, NE 68410

HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS

A new year and a new addition for the Historians. Our program goals are: HISTORIAN DUTIES and MEDIA RELATIONS.

The duties of the Historian are:

- To document (chronologically) everything that went on in the year (there are 5 key words to always remember when compiling your events: Who, What, Where, When, and Why.)
- To keep record of all events from installation to installation for your President.

As an Auxiliary or District Historian ask for photos, articles, and flyers to add to the mementos. Once you have compiled your History Book please submit it for judging at the Department Convention 2019. All Auxiliary and District books are welcome. The guidelines are the same for making your books and are on the following pages.

NOW for your Media Relations: What does this mean? You will still be using the 5 Ws. You have already been collecting the Auxiliary events and activities.

Note: You can use this information to spread the word out to our communities through various media outlets like local newspaper, radio, or Facebook. Send newsletters monthly or quarterly. You can also just do a bulletin.

Consider what is newsworthy.

- Does it involve local people?
- Does it interest non-members?
- Does it help the community?
- Is it unique and new?

If the answer is yes, there is a chance for you to pitch a story that will showcase your Auxiliary's hard work and accomplishments. Let's show our communities and our nation everything we do to improve the lives of veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families.

Since this is new to all of us, I will compile as much information as I can and disseminate it to you. We all will be learning this together. Please report to me when you have promoted your Auxiliary and its events and what type of media you used. I will be reporting to National so please send me some reports.

Sheree Brown

417 S. 21st Street
Ord, NE 68862

Phone: 308-730-0807

Email: wsbrown2@chater.net

AUXILIARY HISTORY BOOK WORKSHEET

(Do Not Copy or Use as your History)

A typewritten copy would be the best and is always legible.

Page 1

Auxiliary HISTORY BOOK

Term of Book

May 1, 2018 – May 1, 2019

President's picture could go here

Name, Number and Location of Auxiliary

Anywhere Memorial Auxiliary #0000

Any Town, Nebraska

Page 2

Auxiliary OFFICERS

President

Sr. Vice President

Jr. Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Chaplain

Conductress

1, 2, & 3 Year Trustees

Guard

Patriotic Instructor

Historian

Color Bearers (#s 1, 2, 3, and 4)

Banner Bearer

Flag Bearer

Musician

(NOTE: The Officers were listed in two (2) columns only to save space in Program Book)

CHAIRMEN

Americanism

Hospital

Membership

Veterans & Family Support

Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home for Children

Legislative

Scholarships

Youth Activities

(NOTE: The Chairmen were listed in two (2) columns only to save space in the Program Book)

Page 3

Date of Installation

Installing Officer

Date and Place of Regular Meeting

Membership - May 1, 2018 _____ May 1, 2019 _____

Members Serving as National Officers or Chairmen

(If none, put "None")

Members Serving as Department Officers or Chairmen

Members Serving as District Officers or Chairmen

Page 4 (and for as many pages as needed)

PROGRAM PROMOTIONS AND AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES

Example

VFW and Auxiliary and American Legion and Auxiliary awards banquet was held on April 12, 2018 at the VFW Post. The menu was baked steak, cheesy hash brown potatoes, green beans with bacon, a garden salad and jello cake with whipped topping. There were 88 meals served with the awards presentation after the meal. Six Auxiliary members set up, decorated the tables, and provided the cakes.

Page 5

(Following last page of programs and activities)

RECORD OF AWARDS GIVEN

(Record all Citations and Awards received at State Convention and throughout the year)

Page 6

MEMBERS ATTENDING

National Convention

Department meetings:

State Convention

State School of Instruction

Fall Conference

Mid-Winter Conference

National President's Visit

District meetings:

Spring

Fall

Winter

District Picnic

Page 7

VISITORS

Record any visitors attending your meetings

Example: District President making her Inspection

List her name and address

DECEASED MEMBERS

May 1, 2018- May 1, 2019

(For one year only)

HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS YEAR END REPORT FORM

2018 – 2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Deadline for reporting is April 15, 2019

- 1) Number of monthly or quarterly newsletters or bulletins sent to your members:

Printed/Mailed: _____

Sent electronically (PDF, Word document, or email message): _____

- 2) Does your Auxiliary have a Facebook page?

Joint Facebook page with the Post: _____

Own Auxiliary Facebook page: _____

- 3) Does your Auxiliary have a website?

Joint website with the Post: _____

Own Auxiliary website: _____

- 4) Has your Auxiliary used the VFW Auxiliary Publicity Guide? Yes _____ No _____

- 5) Did you use a fillable press/media release available from www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources?

(Examples: Membership Drive, Family Freedom Festival Voice of Democracy)

Yes _____ No _____

- 6) Did you present a Communications Award to local media? Yes _____ No _____

- 7) Did you attend a media relations training hosted by your Department Historian/Media Relations Chairman?

Yes _____ No _____

Send completed report to:

**Sheree Brown
417 S. 21st Street
Ord, NE 68862**

HOSPITAL

Our Hospital program is the way we show our veterans that we are there for them and that we care. There are several things that we can do at our medical facilities to help our veterans. We can serve as valet parkers, work at the information desk, be patient escorts, be a waiting room aide, work at the coffee shop, or help them find their way around the facility, and several other things. It takes a lot of volunteers to keep our veterans' facilities running smoothly, to make sure our veterans receive proper care in a timely manner.

We need to do our best to always be recruiting new volunteers of all ages from within our local VFW and Auxiliary. We need to think outside the box and try to recruit from youth organizations, church groups, schools, civic organizations, etc. I encourage all Auxiliaries to get a Hospital Volunteer Recruitment Kit from the National website, www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources. It will give you all the information you need including posters and public service announcements. I also encourage you to get the Auxiliary Hospital Program Guide, it includes The VAVS Participation Guide, and it clearly explains the difference of the two. All our volunteers should read and understand both. All our volunteers outside of the Auxiliary should be interviewed and screened in the same way as Auxiliary members as they will be governed by the same ethics and rules as our members.

Our Program Goals for this year are:

1. Spotlight Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Issues
2. Volunteer: Recruitment, Recognition, and Support
3. Veterans Voices Writing Project

This year we still have the Veterans Crisis Line and the Blue Teardrop to spotlight Suicide Prevention. We will use these resources to educate as we have in the past. We have several resources for Mental Wellness Support, they are:

1. The Campaign to Change Direction – www.changedirection.org
2. Give an Hour – www.giveanhour.org
3. Patients Like Me – www.patientslikeme.com/join/vfw
4. One Mind – Help Heal Veterans (Therapeutic Craft Kits) – www.healvets.org
5. Objective Zero – www.objectivezero.org

The Veterans Voices Writing Project is a therapeutic writing program that helps veterans express themselves and communicate in a creative way. To learn more about the program and how to become involved, visit www.veteransvoices.org, call 816-701-6844, or email volunteer@veteransvoices.org.

Here are some ways to promote our program at the Family Freedom Festival:

1. Promote mental health awareness by wearing and sharing the blue teardrop. Give adults cards about the Veterans Crisis Line with numbers to call and text as well as information about the chat line.
2. Create a station where youth and adults can draw or color pictures and sign cards for hospitalized veterans, and the staff who care for them.
3. Have samples of Veterans Voices magazine from the Veterans Voices Writing Project with subscription forms, donation cards, and writing aide information sheets. Many people have never heard of this magazine.

Please go out and "Do Unto Veterans As They Have Done Unto To You." Have fun and bring joy to the lives of our veterans.

Linda Hansen

212 Southwest
Missouri Valley, IA 51555

Phone: 402-812-3686

Email: lindahansen224@yahoo.com

NATIONAL HOSPITAL AWARDS

Awards for Members:

1. Award to one member with the most VA volunteers recruited. Form Required.
2. Award to one member with the most sponsored non-member volunteers recruited. Form Required.
3. Award to one member with the most non-VA volunteers recruited. Form Required.
4. Award to one member with the most total recruits from all categories. Form Required.

In addition to these special awards, Hospital Volunteer Service Pins are also available.

HOSPITAL YEAR-END REPORT

2018-2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Please report October 15, January 15, and April 15

1. Number of Auxiliary members volunteering in all VA and Non-VA medical facilities:
of Volunteers _____ Total Hours _____
2. Number of new Volunteers recruited:
Adults _____ Youth _____
3. How many events or activities did your Auxiliary sponsor/conduct at all VA and Non-VA facilities: _____
4. Total amount spent on all Hospital projects: \$ _____
5. Did you submit an applicant for the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year to Department?
Yes _____ No _____
6. Did you promote Veteran and Military Suicide Awareness? Yes _____ No _____
If yes how: _____

7. Did you recognize your volunteers throughout the year? Yes _____ No _____
If yes, how: _____

8. Did you use publicity and/or media to recruit Volunteers and involve the community?
Yes _____ No _____
9. Did you present Hospital Volunteer Service Pins to members? Yes _____ No _____
If so, how many? _____
10. Did you conduct or participate in a volunteer recognition event? Yes _____ No _____
11. Did you participate in the Veterans Voices Writing Project? (example: subscribe to the magazine, make donation, or volunteer with the program.) Yes _____ No _____
If so how: _____

12. Did you participate in the Community Volunteer Recruitment Weeks?
November 5 – 11, 2018 _____ April 7 – 13, 2019 _____
13. Did you use the Hospital Program Guide? Yes _____ No _____

Send completed report to:
I'll accept reports all 3 ways

Linda Hansen
212 Southwest
Missouri Valley, IA 51555 /
Phone: 402-812-3686
Email: lindahansen224@yahoo.com

LEGISLATIVE

Ralph Nader once said "It is fascinating to watch legislators turn away from their usual corporate grip when they hear the growing thunder of the people." This is the power that the nearly 1.7 million VFW and Auxiliary members have in speaking up for the best interests of our military and veterans. The Legislative program encourages and helps us utilize our voices to let the legislators hear our rolling thunder as we encourage them to enact legislation that is in the best interest of our military and our veterans.

Every January the VFW releases their Priority Goals for the ensuing year. These goals align with the resolutions passed by the VFW, and are aimed at ensuring the VA system remains strong and able to support our millions of active duty military and all veterans. The goals can easily be found by searching for the 2018 VFW Priority Goals on the VFW website. The Priority Goals are divided into 8 distinct categories:

- Budget
- Workforce Development and Accountability
- Healthcare
- Compensation and Benefits
- Education, Employment and Transition Assistance
- Defense/Homeland Security
- Military Quality of Life
- POW/MIA

Knowing the goals and expectations that the VFW has for our legislators helps us to speak up and let all levels of government know that we are serious when it comes to caring for our men and women who are serving and who have served. Our elected representatives need to be held accountable to representing the people who have elected them into their office.

Another means of keeping informed is through the VFW Action Corps. This is an email that keeps you up to date on the happenings on Capitol Hill. The Action Corps keeps you updated on pressing needs to contact your representatives in Congress. You can sign up for the VFW Action Corps by going to www.VFW.org/actioncorps.

The youth of our country are our future military members, voters and possible leaders. They hold the future in their hands, therefore, it is important that they understand the importance of electing representatives who will fight for the well-being of our military members and veterans. The VFW Auxiliary has the "Guide to the Legislative Process" as well as many other items on their website, www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources that can be printed off and used at school or community events.

We need to maintain a presence in our communities as well in order to help promote and publicize important issues that are facing our veterans. Contact your local newspapers, TV/Radio stations, social media, etc. in order to get the word out on important issues. 2018 is the mid-term elections and is an important time to remind your community members of the importance of voting. There are stickers available that you can wear when you vote. These stickers say "I Vote in Honor of a United States Veteran" and will remind everyone why we have the democracy, the rights, and freedoms that we do have...the United States Veteran! Set up booths at local events, where you can hand out all of the valuable information on veterans issues, legislative process and the VFW Priority Goals.

Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions. We need to do whatever possible to make legislators hear the rolling thunder of our members as we continue to fight for the benefits that our veterans have earned!

Kim Abboud

4230 Hickory Lane, Apt. 734
Sioux City, IA 51106

Phone: 402-578-2976
Email: abboudkim@yahoo.com

LEGISLATIVE YEAR-END REPORT

2018-2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

PLEASE SUBMIT BY DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND APRIL 15, 2019

1. How did your Auxiliary promote the VFW Priority Goals?

2. How did your Auxiliary encourage members to communicate with legislators on veterans' issues?

3. How many Auxiliary members signed up for VFW Action Corps? _____

4. How did your Auxiliary communicate pending legislation and special legislative alerts?

5. How many contacts were made by members personally to legislators on veterans' issues?

Personal Contacts _____ Emails _____ Social Media _____

Letters/Postcards _____ Phone Calls _____

6. Number of members who attended events where they could interact with legislators
(meet & greets, town halls, legislative conferences) _____

7. Did your Auxiliary promote the "Vote in Honor of a Veteran" initiative? _____

8. Did your Auxiliary use the tools outlined in the "Guide to Contacting Your Legislator?" _____

9. Did your Auxiliary educate youth on the legislative process? If yes, how many youth were educated?

Send completed report to:

Kim Abboud
4230 Hickory Lane, Apt. 734
Sioux City, IA 51106

MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT

As you may have noticed, the membership program has a different title. Last year's program was membership and leadership. Why the change? In order to grow our membership you need leadership, but not with just a few leaders to guide the rest of us to get new members to join. All of us need to be leaders and recruiters. Each of us has the knowledge and capability to recruit new members, retain current members, and renew former members to help our Auxiliaries.

President Linda's theme is: "DO UNTO VETERANS AS THEY HAVE DONE UNTO YOU." How does this pertain to getting new members to join? There are numerous places, times, and ways to ask someone to join the VFW Auxiliary. Your approach should be one with the attitude of talking and listening to a prospective member the way you yourself would like to be heard and acknowledged.

RECRUIT - As recruiters for the VFW Auxiliary it will be your part to see that the potential new member has some knowledge of what the VFW Auxiliary is and what the Auxiliary does before they receive an application. Some of the tools you will need to have a successful membership year are:

1. Fact Sheets - show the many ways in which the VFW Auxiliaries use their money to help our veterans and their families. Fact sheets are available for free from National Headquarters. Go to the Auxiliary website and you will be able to print off copies of the fact sheets to handout to potential new members.
2. Programs - share information about each of the programs the Auxiliary participates in.
3. Member benefits - information on benefits can be found on national website.
4. Business cards or handouts with the contact information for the National website (www.vfwAuxiliary.org) on them.

RETAIN - The new membership year starts July 1, 2018. Auxiliary membership chairman should be sending out dues notices to current members.

RENEW - Does your Auxiliary have members that have not paid dues for the past year or so? Your treasurer or membership chairman should have a list of all your Auxiliary members. Check it for those who have not paid dues for the past year or so. Then, call or send a letter encouraging them to renew their membership. They can also renew online in MALTA!

WE, as team recruiters for the Department of Nebraska can achieve 100% membership!

Bonnie Gerlt

8510 Monroe Street
Ralston, NE 68127

Phone: 402-618-5458
Email: bgerlt@cox.net

MEMBERSHIP REWARDS

DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

100% Membership Recognition

- Every Auxiliary that achieves 100% in membership by June 30, 2019 will receive \$10.
- Every Auxiliary that achieves 100% by December 31 will receive a certificate of recognition.

Individual Membership Recruiting Awards:

- Recruit 2 new or rejoined members and receive a U.S. flag pin with Auxiliary emblem
- Recruit 5 new or rejoined members and receive a gold plated Auxiliary pin
- Recruit 25 new or rejoined members and receive an Auxiliary shirt

NATIONAL AWARDS:

Member Awards:

- ❖ **One Uncle Sam Hat Pin** to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019. Official form required.
- ❖ **One Patriotic Vest Pin** to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits 10 new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary July 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019. Official form is required.
- ❖ **National Membership Achievement Award** to each VFW or VFW Auxiliary member who secures 20 new and/or rejoined members from July 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019. Official form required.

Auxiliary Awards:

- ❖ \$50 to one Auxiliary in each Program Division and a ***We Believed You Could Coin*** to the Auxiliary Membership Chairman with the most outstanding training and promotion of the Membership/Recruiting Program. One entry from each Department will be judged by the criteria on the guide sheet. One entry from each Department will be judged by the criteria on the guide sheet. Auxiliary entries are due to the Department Chairman by December 31, 2018. One entry from each Department is due to the National Membership Ambassador by January 31, 2019.
- ❖ \$50 to one Auxiliary in each Program Division with the most outstanding fact sheet or brochure used as a membership recruitment tool. One entry from each Department will be judged by the criteria on the guide sheet. Auxiliary entries are due to the Department Chairman by December 31, 2018. One entry from each Department is due to the National Membership Ambassador by January 31, 2019.
- ❖ \$25 to each Auxiliary when it reaches 100% Plus by June 30, 2019, based on June 30, 2018, total membership numbers.

HAVE A PLAN

Every Department and Auxiliary should have a Membership Plan. This plan should include:

- Contacting current members
- Outreach to former members
- Recruiting events for new members
- Picking a mentor for a new member

Before a membership year begins, set your calendar for when you plan to do each of these:

- Make it as easy as possible for members to renew their dues. They can renew online in MALTA!
- Plan at least four recruiting events in your community each year.

VFW Auxiliary Member Award

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Each Auxiliary or VFW Post member who secures 20 new members from July 1, 2018, to April 30, 2019, with the official form received at National Headquarters no later than May 31, 2019, will be honored with a National Membership Achievement Award.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Recruiter's Name _____ Member ID# _____ Aux. No. _____

Recruiter's Address

Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
----------------	------	-------	----------

Recruiter's Email Address _____

NUMBER	AUXILIARY NUMBER	MEMBER NAME	DATE ACCEPTED
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			

Completed form must be received by National Headquarters by May 31, 2019.

Mail form to:

VFW Auxiliary

ATTN: Membership Awards

406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor

Kansas City MO 64111.

Or email to info@vfwauxiliary.org

Member Recruiter Award

UNCLE SAM HAT MEMBER RECRUITER AWARD: Each Auxiliary or VFW Post member who secures five (5) new and/or rejoined members from July 1, 2018, to April 30, 2019, with the official form received at National Headquarters no later than May 31, 2019, will be honored with an Uncle Sam Hat Member Recruiter pin.

PATRIOTIC VEST MEMBER RECRUITER AWARD: Each Auxiliary or VFW Post member who secures ten (10) new and/or rejoined members from July 1, 2018, to April 30, 2019, with the official form received at National Headquarters no later than May 31, 2019, will be honored with a Patriotic Vest Member Recruiter pin.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Recruiter's Name _____ Member ID# _____ Aux. No. _____

Recruiter's Address _____

Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
----------------	------	-------	----------

Recruiter's Email Address _____

THIS FORM CAN BE USED FOR BOTH THE FIVE AND TEN MEMBER PIN AWARDS

NUMBER	AUXILIARY NUMBER	MEMBER NAME	DATE ACCEPTED
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Completed form must be received by National Headquarters by May 31, 2019.

Mail form to:
VFW Auxiliary
ATTN: Membership Awards
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor
Kansas City MO 64111
Or email to info@vfwauxiliary.org

**MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT YEAR END REPORT FORM
2018 – 2019**

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

PLEASE SUBMIT BY DECEMBER 15, 2018 AND APRIL 15, 2019

You may also send them monthly, quarterly – whatever works best for you.

1. Did your Auxiliary host a recruiting event? Yes _____ No _____
2. Did your Auxiliary use any of the following methods to collect Annual dues? Check all that apply.
Phone Calls: _____ Emails: _____ Letters/postcards: _____
Face-to-face conversations: _____ Social Media: _____
3. Did your Auxiliary offer incentives to members for renewing by October 31, 2018? Yes _____ No _____
4. Did you send dues reminders/notices? Yes _____ No _____
If so, was it by: Mail _____ Email _____
5. Did your Auxiliary use media to promote membership? Yes _____ No _____
(TV, radio, newspaper, flyers, Facebook)
6. Do you create a fact sheet or brochure as a recruiting tool? Yes _____ No _____
7. Did your Auxiliary hold a Membership & Recruitment Training session? Yes _____ No _____
8. Did your Auxiliary have a Membership Appreciation event? Yes _____ No _____
(Special dinner, card night, snacks after meeting, thank you cards or gifts)
9. Does your Auxiliary put a monthly flyer or sign-up sheets up for regular events that lets members know what your Auxiliary is doing? Yes _____ No _____
10. Do you send out emails or call members informing them of special events? Yes _____ No _____
11. Do you use MALTA for membership? Yes _____ No _____
(Renewing membership, adding new members)

Please send completed report to:

**Bonnie Gerlt
8510 Monroe Street
Omaha, NE 68127**

Email: bgerlt@cox.net

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP
"DO UNTO VETERANS AS THEY HAVE DONE UNTO YOU"

Each and every one of us is a part of this great organization because of:

"A Veteran: whether active duty, retired, or National Guard or reserve - is someone who, at one point in their life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America" for an amount of "up to and including THEIR LIFE." -- Author unknown

WOW -- How do you do something for someone who was willing to do that for you? I think you start by never forgetting what they were willing to do so that we could wake up every morning to the many freedoms that we enjoy and too often take for granted. Take every opportunity that we can to reach out to veterans and tell them THANK YOU for the sacrifices they made for this country.

I believe that the VFW and Auxiliary is an organization that is here to give our veterans the recognition they so greatly deserve and reach out to do for them whatever we can as our way of saying "THANK YOU" and never forgetting them.

The Department of Nebraska Scholarship Program is one way we have of giving back and helping them for all they have done. Last year we awarded 30 scholarships totaling \$18,500 to veterans or their family members to further their educations.

In order for this country to stay a strong nation we need people who are prepared to lead us in the right direction. People who have the right information and skills to take us forward and that means learning everything they can to be prepared to be strong leaders.

Higher education costs go up every year so I hope you will be willing to help our veterans and family members continue their education quest with your support.

This program has been going on for over 50 years and I hope you will help me continue to give back to our veterans by participating in the Department Scholarship program. Many Posts and Auxiliaries also give scholarships at the local level and that also is a way of giving back - I hope more of you will consider doing that.

Your donations - no matter the size are greatly appreciated. The 50/50 raffle has been a very good source of funds and I plan to do it again this year.

Let's take every chance we get to remember and honor the men and women of this country who gave so much for us.

You will find the application forms -- Qualification Guidelines and report forms on the following pages.

"DO UNTO VETERANS AS THEY HAVE DONE UNTO YOU." Let's make sure we never forget what veterans have done for us and show them how much we appreciate their sacrifices.

Iva Carlson

636 Hickory Circle
Wahoo NE 68066

Phone: 402-443-3599

Email: icangels77@hotmail.com

DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND ITS AUXILIARY

Scholarship application

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2019-2020: MARCH 31 DEADLINE

On a separate sheet of paper, please state why you feel you should receive a scholarship award. Include your goals and other supporting information. Use only applications for the appropriate school year. List all income for you, your parents and spouse. Should special situations need explanation, attach a separate sheet citing appropriate details.

Name _____ Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ email: _____ Phone () _____ Veteran _____

Date of Birth _____ Nebraska resident: _____ Marital Status: _____ Dependents: _____ Ages: _____

Any college credit hours received in high school _____ (total 24 credit hours = 1 yr.)

College Now Attending _____ Years Completed _____ (Must have completed one year)

Name of College Accepted In _____ Address _____

Current Grade Average _____ Hours per semester _____ Cost per credit hour \$ _____ Cost per Yr. \$ _____

Major _____ Student's School Contribution \$ _____

Student and/or Spouse's Employer _____ Income Past Year \$ _____

Applicant VFW / Aux: _____ VFW/Aux affiliated member is: _____

Name of VFW or Auxiliary, Dept. of NE: _____ Life member?: _____

Relationship: _____ Deceased: _____ Post/Aux Number and Location: _____

Participation in VFW or Auxiliary: officer or a chairman: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Address: _____

Names and Ages of Other Dependents: _____

Parent's Net Income: \$ _____

Parent's Contribution Next Academic Year: \$ _____

Estimated (\$) Needs After Grants, Scholarships, Loans, Etc.: \$ _____

All Other Aid Received For Next Academic Year (Grants, Fellowships, Scholarships, & Loans): _____

SOURCE	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT APPROVED	DATE APPROVED
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____

All VA Benefits (Per Month): \$ _____ Date Benefits Terminate: _____

Other Income (List source): \$ _____

CHARACTER AND ACADEMIC REFERENCES:

Name _____ Address _____

Name _____ Address _____

All information is true to the best of my knowledge. _____

As of this date: _____

(Signature)

SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

1. Generally, qualified, needy applicants must have completed at least one year (or 24 college credit hours acquired in high school) of college education and be members, spouses, children, grandchildren, or stepchildren of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or its Auxiliary, Department of Nebraska. Individual scholarship requirements or restrictions are as follows:

Department of Nebraska, VFW State Scholarship requires attending school in Nebraska.

Darrell Thibault and the Nathan Grossman VFW State Memorial Scholarship

Other restrictions apply and requirements to be determined by committee.

Post 3704 Columbus VFW State Scholarship requires awards with VFW Post 3704 Columbus affiliation. If none received, then VFW District 15, then State affiliation. Allows awards for in or out of state schools.

Department of Nebraska, VFW #2 Nuts & Bolts Scholarship VFW Post 8334, District 10, State affiliation.

Department of Nebraska, VFW Kenny Bellows Scholarship VFW Post 5289, District 6, then State affiliation

1504 Auxiliary North Platte Auxiliary 1504. If none received, then District 4, then State affiliation.

Marilyn Haines Music Scholarship music student.

6016 Hildreth Scholarship Wilcox/Hildreth area. If none received, Post 6016, District 13, or State affiliation.

Past State Commanders In or out of state schools.

Phillips Scholarship No restrictions apply to use for education.

Post & Auxiliary 2704 Irvin Holst Scholarship Post 2704, District 10, then State affiliation.

Connie Liebsack Memorial Scholarship No restrictions apply to use for education.

Post 2503 Scholarship VFW Post 2503, then state affiliation.

Post 131 Scholarship VFW Post 131, then state affiliation.

2. If you are recently accepted initially or for your second year at a qualifying school, you must enclose a copy of the acceptance letter with your application. Must have 12 hours scheduled per semester and be attending school full time. A school year is considered September to June. VFW payment is per semester made September 10th and January 10th.
3. Qualified applicants must be prepared to present themselves, when properly notified in writing, for a personal interview before the Scholarship Committee at the VFW Department of Nebraska headquarters building located at 2431 North 48th Street, Lincoln, NE. Any necessary and required personal interviews will be scheduled during April each year at the applicant's own expense. Thorough applications usually preclude the need for personal interviews of applicants. Use of the telephone maybe considered for conducting necessary personal interviews. SS # will be given if needed.
4. Completed applications must be received at the listed address by March 31 each year and clearly identify Nebraska VFW or Auxiliary affiliation.
5. Nebraska VFW and or Auxiliary member and applicant must be a resident of Nebraska.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Department of Nebraska, VFW
2431 No. 48th Street
Lincoln NE 68504-0552
Phone: 402-464-0674
or to Johnl@vfwne.org

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS YEAR END REPORT FORM

2018 - 2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Deadlines for reporting - December 15, 2018 and April 15, 2019

How did your Auxiliary promote the Department Scholarship program?

Did your Auxiliary donate to the scholarship program? _____

Amount donated \$ _____

Did your Auxiliary participate in the 50/50 raffle? _____

Does your Post/Auxiliary have a local scholarship? _____

What is the amount? \$ _____

Send completed report to:

Iva Carlson
636 Hickory Circle
Wahoo NE 68066

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

I am excited to serve as the Department of Nebraska National Scholarships Chairman. This was a favorite program of my husband and I have honored his memory by establishing a District and Department scholarship in his name.

The students that participate are good examples of being great ambassadors for the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliary. They talk, promote, and live patriotism every day and they are very knowledgeable about the sacrifices of our veterans. Over the years I have heard from our winners or read about them in the local newspapers – they have made very good use of their scholarship money. We provide them with scholarship money for college and they are the best promoters of our programs. This should give us a good feeling about our efforts to promote our programs.

National Scholarships consist of Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest, Patriot's Pen Essay Contest, Continuing Education Scholarship, and Young American Patriotic Art Contest.

Voice of Democracy theme this year is, ***Why My Vote Matters***. Deadlines for entries to VFW Posts is midnight, October 31; completion of Post judging is November 15; completion of District judging is December 15; completion of Department judging is January 10 with the state winner to National by January 15. The National grand prize is \$30,000.

The theme for the 2018-19 Patriot's Pen contest is, ***Why I Honor the American Flag***. Deadlines for entries to VFW Posts is midnight, October 31; completion of Post judging is November 15; completion of District judging is December 15; completion of Department judging is January 10 with the state winner to National by January 15. The National grand prize is \$5,000.

The Young American Creative Patriotic Art contest is open to all students (including those students who are home-schooled) in grades 9-12 no older than 18 years of age at the time of entry, a United States citizen, or a U.S. National. The student must be a resident of the state in which they enter. One Department winner will be forwarded to National Headquarters for judging. No digital art will be accepted. Artwork must be on canvas or paper. It will be judged on patriotic theme and technique. Please see the student brochure on the National website (www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships) for more details on requirement. Student deadline is March 31, 2019. VFW Auxiliary or District entries must be received by the Department National Scholarships Chairman by April 15, 2019.

The Continuing Education Scholarship is open to any Auxiliary member who has been a member for one 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, and sent to the Administrator of Programs, National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111. The application must be received at National Headquarters by February 15, 2019. \$1,000 will be awarded to an applicant in each of the four conferences. Applications are available from the Department National Scholarships Chairman or the National website.

Elizabeth Jane Petersen

1841 Garden City Road
Fremont, NE 68025

Phone: 402-721-7038

Email: lpetersen6@neb.rr.com



Voice of Democracy

2018 - 19 Theme

"Why My Vote Matters"

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2018

Patriotic Audio Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$30,000 Award

WHAT IS THE VOICE OF DEMOCRACY PROGRAM?

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 40,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is, *Why My Vote Matters*.

WHY SHOULD I ENTER?

Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, state and national level. Department (State) winners receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., March 2-6, 2019, to tour the city, be honored by the VFW and its Auxiliary and receive their portion of \$154,000 in national awards, the top scholarship being \$30,000.

THE RULES

Who can enter?

The Voice of Democracy is open to students in grades 9-12 by the Oct. 31 deadline, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or in an overseas U.S. military/civilian dependent school. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or over; previous Voice of Democracy first place state winners, GED or Adult Education Students are ineligible.

What do I need to enter?

Record your original 3-5 minute (+ or - 5 seconds max.) essay on an audio CD or a flash drive. One student per CD or flash drive. When burning your CD, make sure that "Create Audio CD" option (or similar) is selected so the program can properly convert your sound file and burn it to CD. After it has finished, be sure to play back your audio CD on a system other than your computer, such as a standard radio or car CD player, to verify that the conversion/burning process was successful. You will submit the recording, typed essay and this completed entry form. Provide these items to your school/group competition or local VFW Post for judging. In addition you can submit your emailed entry form, essay, and audio file to the VFW Post upon approval. You must be the sole author of your essay. The recording must be in your own voice and in English. Hearing/speech impaired students should email the Voice of Democracy National Office at youthscholarships@vfw.org for special instructions. No music, singing, poetry or sound effects are allowed. The body of the essay must not identify you in any way, (including, but not limited to, your name, school, city, state, race or national origin) although the recording & typed essay should be labeled with your name, to show ownership. You may enter only one competition at one Post (if otherwise eligible) per year. At any time during the contest, additional participant personal information could be requested by the VFW, including but not limited to a photograph, SSN or biographical information.

2018-19 OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM VOICE OF DEMOCRACY COMPETITION

MUST BE COMPLETED BY ALL CONTESTANTS

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

Email

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)

Grade in School

School Name, City, State

Teacher's name and Email (if applicable)

First Name You'd Like on a Name Badge

Student Jacket Size
(Adult Size Only)

TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT'S PARENT/GUARDIAN
(required even if student is 18 or over)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

()

Parent/Guardian's Daytime Phone

Parent/Guardian's Email

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE D.C. NATIONAL FINALS RULES
(ON OPPOSITE SIDE)

I certify that I am the sole author of the enclosed audio/essay entry and that I have only entered the competition once yearly if otherwise eligible.

I understand that if it is found that I have entered any other Post's competition or used this essay for another VFW competition, I face elimination from the competition and will return any and all prizes or incentives awarded.

Signature of Student Participant

Date

Voice of Democracy

2018 - 19 Theme

"Why My Vote Matters"

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2018

OFFICIAL RULES FOR STUDENTS ADVANCING TO NATIONAL LEVEL

If selected as a first-place state winner, I have the consent of my parent/guardian and school to attend the Voice of Democracy National Finals in Washington, D.C. March 2-6, 2019, as a guest of the VFW National Organization.

I understand that state winners who do not attend as stated above will forfeit all rights to compete in the National Finals and will be replaced by their state's second place winner.

In the event my audio essay is selected for entry into the National Voice of Democracy Competition, I do hereby for myself, for my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns; waive, release and discharge all rights and claims which I have or which may hereafter accrue against the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) and/or the several Departments (state organizations) of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their respective officers, agents, successors and assigns from any damages which may be sustained by me in connection with my participation in or association with the VFW Voice of Democracy Competition and/or arising out of my travel to and during the Competition. In the event of sickness, accident or injury in connection with the Competition, I consent to and accept the services of a duly licensed medical, surgical or dental specialist selected on my behalf and for such treatments, as they may deem necessary. I understand that VFW will not be liable for such treatment. I further understand that the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States retains non-exclusive rights to use my tape, essay and likeness in the promotion and execution of the organization's programs and activities.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VFW POST

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post level Voice of Democracy Competition.

Post Commander's/Chairman's Signature _____ Post # _____

VFW Auxiliary President's/Chairman's Signature (if applicable) _____

Post Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

VFW Post Email _____

No. of students participating _____

No. of winners advanced to District _____

Am't. of Post/Aux. scholarship awards \$ _____

Am't. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (banquet, pins, etc.) \$ _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VFW DISTRICT

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Voice of Democracy Contest District Competition and is our sole entry into the Department finals.

District Chairman's Signature _____ Dist. # _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VFW DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Voice of Democracy Department Competition, is our sole entry into the National Judging and will attend the National Finals in Washington, D.C.

Department Chairman's Signature _____

Daytime Phone _____ Email _____

The winner ☐ has been ☐ will be (check one) notified that they are the first-place Department winner on _____. Note: National Headquarters will contact your winner after this date to make travel arrangements for them to be in Washington, D.C.

WHERE DO I SUBMIT MY ENTRY?

All entries begin at the local VFW Post level. The only exception is where schools/classes/youth groups have large numbers of students and wish to conduct their own competition, submitting one winner for each 15 students to the local VFW Post. Individual students may submit their entry directly to the Post. This VFW Post should be within your local area and within your U.S. state of residence. Entries sent to VFW National will be returned. One winner for every 15 entries from each Post advances to District and one District winner advances to the state (Department) competition. State winners are invited to Washington, D.C., where their audio essays compete in the finals competition. If you need help finding a participating VFW Post in your area, follow these instructions: First, visit this website

www.vfw.org/find-a-post to "Find A VFW Post." Be sure this Post is within the state you reside in. If you do not have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble getting in touch with them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit this link <https://www.vfw.org/ContactUs/> and look for "Find a State Contact" to get your VFW state office's phone number and email. If you still need assistance, please email us at VFW National Headquarters at youthscholarships@vfw.org

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE FOR MY ENTRY?

All entries competing at the Post level must be in the hands of that VFW Post by midnight, Oct. 31, 2018. It is the responsibility of the student to meet this deadline by submitting their entry to the proper location by ensuring it is a participating Post.

WHAT ARE THE JUDGING CRITERIA?

Originality is worth 30 points:

Treatment of the theme should show imagination and human interest.

Content is worth 35 points:

Clearly express your ideas in an organized manner. Fully develop your theme and use transitions to move smoothly from one idea to another.

Delivery is worth 35 points:

Speak in a clear and credible manner.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) has again approved this contest for its National Advisory List of Contests and Activities.



For assistance contact:

(816) 756-3390 ext. 6155

Email: youthscholarships@vfw.org

www.vfw.org

Revised 2/2018

LOCAL VFW POST INFORMATION:

CONTACT: _____

PHONE: _____ BEST TIME TO CALL: _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT: _____

PHONE: _____ BEST TIME TO CALL: _____



Patriot's Pen

2018 - 19 Theme

"Why I Honor the American Flag"

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2018

Patriotic Essay Writing Contest Grand Prize: \$5,000 Award

WHAT IS PATRIOT'S PEN?

Conducted nationwide, this VFW-sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. We invite you to join the more than 120,000 students who participated last year in this contest. The national winners will receive at least \$500. The first-place national award is currently \$5,000 plus an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for the winner and a parent or guardian.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NAASP) has again approved this contest for its National Advisory List of Contests and Activities.

BIG NATIONAL PRIZES

National awards total: \$54,500

Prizes include the various amounts listed below:

1st: \$5,000	7th: \$1,750
2nd: \$4,000	8-10th: \$1,500
3rd: \$3,500	11-12th: \$1,250
4th: \$2,750	13-22nd: \$1,000
5th: \$2,500	23-24th: \$750
6th: \$2,000	25-53rd: \$500

The Internal Revenue Service requires that any recipient that receives more than a \$599 award should receive a Form 1099 identifying the proceeds as taxable.

HOW DOES THE CONTEST WORK?

All entries begin at the Post level. The only exception is where schools/classes/youth groups have large numbers of students and wish to conduct their own competition, submitting one winner for each 15 students to the local VFW Post competition. Individual students may submit their entry directly to the Post. This participating Post should be within your local area and within your U.S. state of residence.

The contest consists of four levels. The first level (entry) is sponsored by local VFW Posts. Post winners advance, one for every 15 entries, to the VFW District (regional) level where the one first-place winner is advanced to the VFW Department (state) level. The one first-place winner at the Department level is then advanced into the VFW national competition. The winner from each Department (state) then competes for the national prizes.

WHO CAN ENTER?

Patriot's Pen is open to 6th-, 7th- and 8th-grade students enrolled by the Oct. 31 deadline in public, private or parochial schools in the U.S., its territories or its possessions. Home-schooled students also are eligible. Although U. S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U. S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools can participate too. (Foreign exchange students and former winners that placed in the National contest are excluded from the contest.)

2018-19 OFFICIAL STUDENT ENTRY FORM

PATRIOT'S PEN COMPETITION

ENTRY FORM MUST BE COMPLETED BY ALL CONTESTANTS PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE CLEARLY

Name: First, M.I., Last

Address

City, State, Zip

()

Phone

Email

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy)

Grade in School

Essay Word Count

School Name, City, State

Teacher's name and Email (if applicable)

Parent/Guardian's name phone/email

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTEST RULES

Signature of Student Participant

Date

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VFW POST

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post Level Patriot's Pen Competition.

Post Commander's/Chairman's Signature

Post #

VFW Auxiliary President's/Chairman's Signature

Post Address

City, State, Zip

VFW Post Email

No. of students participating _____ No. of winners advanced to District _____

Amt. of Post/Aux. awards \$ _____

Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (banquet, pins, etc.) \$ _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VFW DISTRICT

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Patriot's Pen Essay Contest District Competition and is our sole entry into the Department finals.

District Chairman's Signature

Dist. #

Address

City, State, Zip

()

Phone

Email

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE VFW DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Patriot's Pen Essay Department Competition, and is our sole entry into the National Judging.

Department Chairman's Signature

()

Daytime Phone

Email

The winner ☐ has been ☐ will be (check one) notified that they are the first place Department winner on _____. Note: National Headquarters will contact your winner after this date to notify them of their national placement.

Patriot's Pen

2018-19 Theme

"Why I Honor the American Flag"

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2018

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

- Ask a teacher or youth group/club adult leader to supervise the Patriot's Pen writing competition.
- Contact a local VFW Post within your local area within your state and indicate your interest in participating.
- Establish a contact person who is a member of that VFW Post or its Auxiliary.
- Make sure that your essay is submitted to the VFW Post before the contest deadline of Oct. 31, 2018. You can submit your essay and entry form electronically (by email) upon the Post's approval. Entries sent to VFW National directly will be returned.

HOW AM I JUDGED?

You will be judged on how well you understand, develop and present the theme. A positive approach is recommended to express your viewpoint.

Knowledge of the theme is worth 30 points:

You must show a thorough knowledge of the theme in your work. Demonstrate you have researched the issue extensively.

Theme development is worth 35 points:

Answer all relevant facts about the theme such as the who, what, where, when and why. Relate the theme to your own experiences.

Clarity of ideas is worth 35 points:

Write your essay in an easy-to-understand format. Leave your reader with a clear understanding of your explanation of the theme.

WHAT IS THE THEME?

VFW's Commander-in-Chief annually chooses the year's theme. The 2018-19 theme is, Why I Honor the American Flag.

WHAT ARE THE RULES?

- Essay length: 300-400 typewritten words. (+ or - 5 words max).
- You must write your own essay.
- All essays should be typed in English with no color or graphics and cannot be less than 300 words or greater than 400 words in length. (Essays under or over these word amounts will be eliminated.) Every word is counted regardless of length. The essay title (theme) or added footnotes do not contribute to the word count. At any time during the contest additional participant personal information (i.e. SSN, photo, etc.) could be requested by the VFW.

In no way may contestants identify themselves within their essay (including, but not limited to, your name, school, city, state, race or national origin.) Do not put your name on your essay. The entry form is your essay's cover sheet. Secure the

Official Student Entry Form with a staple or other fastener on top of your essay. Contestants are allowed to enter only once each year if otherwise eligible (one Post competition). Contestants found in violation of this rule will face elimination from the competition and will be required to return any and all prize money awarded or received.

The essay must be a contestant's original work and a product of the contestant's own thinking. The approach to the Patriot's Pen theme should be positive and clearly focused. Poetry is not acceptable. Quotations may be used sparingly if plainly identified wherever used. A contestant's teacher, counselor or parent may check the essay for punctuation, grammar and/or spelling, but the content must remain the contestant's. Contestants will be judged on the basis of their essay alone and are not required to present the essay orally. All essays become the property of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The VFW retains non-exclusive rights to use your essay and likeness in the promotion and execution of the organization's programs and activities.

DEADLINE INFORMATION

To qualify, all entries must be submitted to a sponsoring local VFW Post by midnight October 31, 2018.

Note --

If you need help finding a participating VFW Post in your area, follow these instructions:

First, visit this website <https://www.vfw.org/find-a-post> to "Find A VFW Post." Be sure this Post is within the state you reside in.

If you do not have success in finding a Post, or if you have trouble getting in touch with them, you can contact your VFW Department (state) headquarters office to see if they can offer any information or assistance. You can visit this link <https://www.vfw.org/ContactUs/> and look for "Find a State Contact" to get your VFW state office's phone number and email.

If you still need assistance, please email us at VFW National Headquarters at youthscholarships@vfw.org



For assistance contact:

(816) 756-3390 ext. 6155

Email: youthscholarships@vfw.org

www.vfw.org

Revised 2/2018

LOCAL VFW POST INFORMATION :

CONTACT: _____

PHONE: _____ BEST TIME TO CALL : _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT: _____

PHONE: _____ BEST TIME TO CALL : _____

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Awards

CONTEST APPLICATION

Name _____ Age _____ Phone (____) _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
School _____ Grade _____
Email Address _____ Date Art Completed _____
Teacher's or Supervisory Adult's Signature verifying that the entry was done by you _____
Parent/Guardian Name _____ Signature _____

I hereby grant permission for my artwork to be published in the VFW Auxiliary Magazine and on the VFW Auxiliary website and to be used for any and all promotional purposes by the VFW Auxiliary and the VFW Store if I win one of the top national awards.

(Student Signature)

State the source of your idea for entry: magazine, TV, newspaper, etc. To comply with copyright laws, all artwork must be original to the entrant. Artwork may be inspired by other artist's/photographer's work, but not to the degree that the new piece of artwork is easily recognized as being derivative of the other artist's work. If another artist's/photographer's work is used as a source of inspiration or reference, a copy of the work must be provided along with the name and date of publication in which it was found. Any artwork that is recognized as being in violation of these rules will be disqualified.

Source _____ Media used in entry (e.g., colored pencil, oil paint) _____

PLEASE ATTACH A TYPED EXPLANATION OF PATRIOTISM EXPRESSED IN ART

(150 Words or Fewer)

Artwork not sponsored by a local VFW Auxiliary will be returned without being judged.

Sponsored by VFW Auxiliary # _____ City _____ State _____

Date Judged _____ Signed by VFW Auxiliary Scholarships Chairman _____

Chairman of Judges' Signature (Required) _____

DISTRICT JUDGING (Optional)

Date Judged _____ Signed by District Scholarships Chairman _____

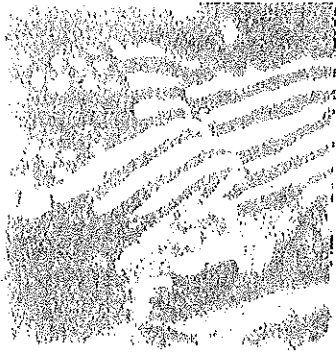
Chairman of Judges' Signature (Required) _____

DEPARTMENT JUDGING

Date Judged _____ Signed by Department Scholarships Chairman _____

Chairman of Judges' Signature (Required) _____

Only department first-place winner art must be received at the VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111, for National Judging by May 5 or it will be disqualified.



Young American Creative Patriotic Art Awards

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

Contest Rules

Art must be on paper or canvas. Water color, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen-and-ink, or oil may be used. **Digital art and photography are not accepted.**

Do not frame! Submit canvas entries on stretcher frames or canvas board. **Other entries must be matted on white.** Do not use other color mats. In matting, **use heavy paper to reinforce back.** Mounted and floating mats may also be used. The art should be no smaller than 8" x 10" but no larger than 18" x 24", not including mat.

- Be sure to complete entry form and attach to back of entry.
- Note that you must be sponsored by a VFW Auxiliary.
- Entry may be signed by the student.

Package art so that it can be mailed without being damaged.

If you use the American Flag in your entry, it must conform to the Federal Flag Code as far as color, number of stars and stripes, and other pertinent rules of the code.

Entry must have been done during the current school year—note that you must have your teacher's or supervisory adult's signature. Each student may submit only one entry.

Each entry will be judged on the originality of concept, presentation, and patriotism expressed; the content of how it relates to patriotism and clarity of ideas; the design technique; total impact of work; and uniqueness.

Eligibility

Students must be in grades 9, 10, 11 or 12. Students must attend school in the same state as the sponsoring VFW Auxiliary. Home-schooled students are eligible; foreign-exchange students are not. Students must be a maximum of 18 years of age at the time of local entry, and they must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. national.

National winners of the past contests may not compete in future Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contests.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

\$10,000	First Place
\$5,000	Second Place
\$2,500	Third Place
\$1,500	Fourth Place
\$500	Fifth – Eighth Place

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

Deadlines

Student Deadline

March 31. Participants must submit entries to a local VFW Auxiliary Scholarships Chairman by this date. The first-place winner from each VFW Auxiliary will be sent to the Department Scholarships Chairman for judging.

District Judging

(Optional) If held, the District winners must meet the Department deadline for judging.

Department Judging

VFW Auxiliary or District entries must be received by the Department Scholarships Chairman by April 15!

National Deadline

Department entries in the National Contest must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters, 406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City, Missouri 64111 **by May 5!**

Only the first-place Department winner is eligible for the national competition. The Department winners will be judged at the National Convention.

Judges

Those selected to judge the contest on all levels will be teachers, professionals, and persons knowledgeable in art. Comments of local and state judges will be attached to and forwarded with the art.



CODE 7/16

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

JUDGE'S SCORING SHEET

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART AWARDS CONTEST
(Each category can receive up to 10 points, with 10 being the best)

CRITERIA	POINTS									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
DRAWING NO.										
<u>PATRIOTIC EXPRESSION</u> (TOTAL 30 POINTS)										
1. Concept	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Presentation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Patriotism Expressed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<u>CONTENT</u> (TOTAL 30 POINTS)										
1. Clarity of Ideas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Elicitation of Emotion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Can It Stand on Its Own	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<u>DESIGN</u> (TOTAL 40 POINTS)										
1. Technique	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Creativity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Contrast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Total Impact of Work	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ALL POINTS										

COMMENTS

VFW AUXILIARY CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

The VFW Auxiliary is pleased to present scholarships to assist members who wish to further their education by pursuing a college degree or a career direction at a vocational/technical school. **ONLY the spouse, son and daughter of a member are also eligible to apply.**

One (1) scholarship will be awarded each year to a selected candidate in each of the four (4) VFW Auxiliary Conferences. Applicant must be 18 years of age or older. Qualifying member must have been a member of the VFW Auxiliary for one (1) year by the application submission deadline. Previous national Continuing Education Scholarship winners are not eligible.

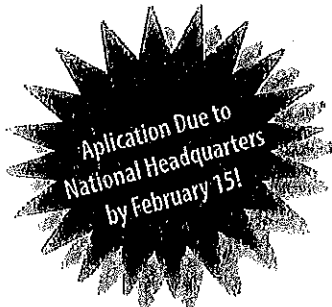
The \$1,000 scholarship shall be used in the academic year following completion of the contest. The scholarship will be paid directly to the American college/university or vocational/technical school of the awardee's choice.

Applicant Name: _____ Relationship to Member: _____
First Last M.I. Self, Spouse, Son or Daughter
Applicant Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Applicant Phone Number: _____ Applicant Email Address: _____
Member Name: _____
First Last M.I.
VFW Auxiliary Member ID Number: _____ Date Member Joined the VFW Auxiliary: _____
Month Date Year
VFW Auxiliary Name and Number: _____
Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____
Month Date Year

On a separate piece of paper, please answer each of the questions listed below:

1. What is the name of the college/university or vocational/technical school you plan to attend?
2. Have you been accepted?
3. What is your intended major or course of study?
4. What is your Adjusted Gross Income from the family's Federal Income Tax return for the prior year?
5. How many dependents are in the household?
6. What are your financial reasons for applying for the Continuing Education Scholarship?
7. Have you been awarded Financial Aid from any other sources? Please list/specify.
8. Write a brief essay (no more than 300 words*) describing your commitment to your goals and how this scholarship will help you attain these goals. **Essays longer than 300 words will not be accepted.*

ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED FOR YOUR APPLICATION TO BE CONSIDERED.



Complete the application in **FULL** and send to:
VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters
Attn: Administrator of Programs
406 W. 34th St., 10th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64111
or

Email to: info@vfwauxiliary.org with the following subject line:
Continuing Education Scholarship Application

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS YEAR END REPORT FORM

2018 - 2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Deadlines for reporting: December 1, 2018 and April 15, 2019

Continuing Education Scholarship

1. Did you participate in the Continuing Education Scholarship?
(Distribute applications, publicize and/or promote programs) _____

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

1. Did you promote the Patriotic Art Contest? _____
2. How many students entered? _____
3. How much did you award entries? \$ _____
4. Number of members involved _____ Number of hours volunteered _____

Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

1. Did you assist your Post with the Patriot's Pen essay contest? _____
2. Did you have an entry? _____ How many? _____
3. Number of members involved _____ Number of hours volunteered _____
4. Did you give awards? _____ How much? _____
5. Did you participate without having an entry? _____

Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest

1. Did you assist your Post in conducting the contest? _____
2. Did you have an entry? _____ How many? _____
3. Number of members involved _____ Number of hours volunteered _____
4. Did you give awards? _____ How much? _____
5. Did you participate without having an entry? _____

Did you publicize all of the scholarship opportunities within your community? _____

Did you host/co-host an awards ceremony to recognize awardees and participants in these contests? _____

Please remember to report, even if you don't have any entries for these contests. You have participated as long as you have assisted with judging and/or promotion of these contests.

Send completed report to:

Elizabeth Jane Petersen
1841 Garden City Road
Fremont, NE 68025

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

This program is probably the most versatile and gratifying program that the Auxiliary has. Every member of this organization has a "special" veteran that they want to support and honor. That is why we are members of this great organization. There is no better way to honor and support our VETERANS and their FAMILIES than by participating in this program.

This program has 3 Key Goals:

**National Veterans Service (NVS)
Veterans & Military Support
Assisting Veterans, Military and their Families**

If your Auxiliary serves veterans and their families, then your Auxiliary has participated in this program. There are many ways to serve veterans in your community. Sometimes it's the smallest acts of kindness that have the greatest impact.

National Veterans Service (NVS) has nearly 300 VFW Service Officers who can assist veterans and Departments find their way through the VA (Veterans Affairs System). Hospital care, outpatient care, specialized healthcare for female veterans, alcohol and drug dependency treatment, medical evaluations associated with Agent Orange exposure, military service, radiation and/or other environmental hazards, are some of the issues the NVS helps our veterans get access to through the VA and their hospitals. NVS is working to ensure veterans receive quality, timely, accessible VA health care. They recover over \$1 billion annually in VA benefits for veterans and their dependents. Your donations help NVS help veterans, service members and their families obtain the benefits they deserve, at no cost to them. You may make donations online at www.vfw.org/ways-to-help, select National Veterans Service then click "Contribute" or you can mail your funds to the VFW at:

**VFW National Headquarters
Attn: NVS
406 W. 34th Street, 11th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64111**

There are resources available to help promote this program. There are Veterans and Family Support **Resource Rack Cards** available on the National website that are very helpful in promoting this program. You may print one out on the website and distribute or display them in very prominent places in your communities to let our veterans, active duty, or their families know what is available to them. There are also VFW Auxiliary **Thank You Coins** available for purchase from the VFW Store (www.vfwstore.org.) They may be purchased and given to veterans and/or active duty military to thank them for their service. Those who receive them are very appreciative of the thought and act of honor that these coins represent.

Veterans and Military Support contains 4 programs:

1. Military Assistance Program (MAP)
2. Unmet Needs
3. Sports Clips Help a Hero Scholarship
4. Operation Uplink

Military Assistance Program (MAP) funds ways to connect with troops. MAP helps VFW and Auxiliary members give more to their local military units. It helps provide Posts, Districts, and Departments to sponsor morale boosting send-offs, homecomings, and casual get-togethers. MAP also keeps care packages circulating by covering postage costs for Posts and Auxiliaries participating in Adopt-a-Unit and helps with Family Readiness Group events.

For guidelines to apply for MAP funds contact VFW NMS office at (816) 756-3390.

Donations to support National Military Services should be sent to:

**VFW National Headquarters
406 W. 34th Street 11th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64111**

Checks earmarked: National Military Services

Unmet needs can help in a crisis. Whether it be making a mortgage payment or fixing the car, maybe even purchasing a new refrigerator. Your donations make it possible for the VFW to assist a soldier serving on foreign soil, some peace of mind that his family isn't in danger of doing without a necessity that they just can't afford at that critical time. Grants of up to \$2,500 can be applied for to help with mortgage, rent, food and clothing.

Sports Clips are giving the gift of scholarships to our nation's heroes as a way of thanking them for their service. They will award \$5,000 to qualifying veterans and service members to help them complete their education goals, without incurring excessive student loan debt. For more information go to www.vfw.org/scholarship.

Operation Uplink provides free call days, unlimited calls home three days each month via internet cafes. Plenty of virtual PINs for free call time are also available for distribution from the VFW. Request them for hospitalized veterans.

We will once again have our "Veterans and Family Support" table at every Department meeting. Watch the newsletter for different events that will be going on each time. It will be a little different this year as far as donations go. We are looking for hand-made items that may be used as raffle items as well being placed on the "goody" table. (Afghans, wall hangings, plaques, figurines are still all right also!) You may bring any items that you want to donate at any time, we will be collecting all year long. Bring items to District meetings to give to your District Presidents or State Officers if you are not able to attend the Department meeting. We are trying to change things up a little bit this year!!

We will still have each District donate at least 1 basket. If your individual Auxiliaries want to donate their own baskets that's fine also.

Fall Conference: Districts 1, 4, and 13

Mid Winter: Districts 3, 6, and 9

Convention: Districts 7, 10, 11, and 15

Gayle Beran
1220 W. Eugene Ave.
North Platte, NE 69101

Phone: (308) 650-9204 Cell
(308) 221-2652 Home

Email: glberan@hotmail.com

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT YEAR-END REPORT FORM

2018 - 2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Deadline for Reporting April 15, 2019

1. Did you host or co-host an event with the VFW fundraising activities for National Veterans Service? _____
2. Did you host or co-host an event with fundraising activities for Veterans and Military Support Programs? (Unmet needs, MAPS, Operation Uplink etc.) _____
3. Did you provide direct aid to veterans, active-duty military and/or their families? (Meals, transportation, cards, packages, donations, etc.)
Total value of donations, goods/services provided? \$ _____
Number of veterans/military personnel assisted _____
4. Did you participate or sponsor any events for homeless veterans? _____
5. Number of veterans and military personnel served and/or assisted by **ALL ACTIVITIES** under this program. _____
6. Did you purchase VFW Auxiliary "Thank You Coins?"
How many? _____
How many distributed? _____
7. Did you distribute VFW Auxiliary Resource Rack Cards?
How many? _____
8. Did you promote or donate to the Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship? _____
9. Please describe projects that supported and/or served a veteran and/or his/or her family.

Send completed report form to:

Gayle Beran
1220 W Eugene Avenue
North Platte, NE 69101

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The VFW Auxiliary is in a unique position to help teach our youth the skills to become responsible adults through serving our country, communities, and veterans. We have a new generation of veterans who need the support of family, friends, and country as they serve overseas and when they come home from conflicts abroad. Today's youth are the future of our nation.

The 4 program goals are:

- Creating, Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups
- Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.)
- Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans National Citations
- Creating a Contest for Students in Grades K-5

Creating, Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups: Any Auxiliary can sponsor any youth group and encourage the youth to get involved in any of the programs, and to encourage the youth to honor our veterans or help with active-duty military. Involving youth in helping veterans will help to bring more membership to your Auxiliary.

Some examples of youth groups your Auxiliary could work with:

- Youth sport teams
- Home-school associations
- Church youth groups
- After-school programs

Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P): Whenever you're walking by do you see a youth thanking a veteran for their service? Or do watch someone place their hand on their heart correctly? Give her or him R.A.P. coin and/or a card. The cards can be downloaded off the website and printed for free. The coins can be purchased at from the VFW Store at 1-800-821-2606. This is great way to engage the youth!

Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans National Citations: With the national citations youth groups can be recognized by honoring our veterans. If you visit www.ladiesauxvfw.org/programs-page/youth-activities/ you can recognize and nominate a youth group in your community. These young citizens should be recognized for what they do every day for our veterans!

Creating a contest for students in grades K-5: The National VFW and Auxiliary already sponsors contests for grade 6-8 and 9-12, unfortunately there is no contest for K-5 at the national level. Does your Auxiliary sponsor a contest for K-5 at the Auxiliary level? If not the Department of Nebraska sponsors a contest for K-3 and 4-6 under the Americanism program and your Auxiliary could encourage the kids to participate.

Don't forget to promote Youth Activities every day throughout the year! Let's do everything we can to make it a good year!

Katlyn Abboud

14764 W Plaza
Omaha, Ne 68137

Phone: 402-201-4772
Email: vballkatie@yahoo.com

YOUTH ACTIVITIES YEAR END REPORT FORM

2018-2019

Auxiliary # _____ City _____ District # _____

Deadline for Reporting April 15, 2019

1. How many members volunteered in youth activities? _____
2. How many youth group did your Auxiliary work with throughout this year? _____
Estimated youth involved _____
3. Did your Auxiliary publicize Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citations? _____
4. How did your Auxiliary work with different youth groups during the course of the year?

5. Did your Auxiliary promote or use of Random Acts of Patriotism? _____
 - a. How many RAP cards did your Auxiliary distribute? _____
6. How many RAP coins did your Auxiliary distribute? _____
7. Did your Auxiliary recognize youth in your community for their academic, athletic, scouting, or other accomplishments? _____
Number of youth recognized. _____
8. Did your Auxiliary recognize youth with a Patriotic Youth Award? _____
9. Did your Auxiliary create a contest for students in grades K-5? _____
 - a. If so, please explain

Send completed report to:

Katlyn Abboud
14764 W Plaza
Omaha, Ne 68137

COMMUNITY Service a Valuable Resource

How a Post interacts with its community determines the relevancy of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The VFW and its Auxiliary's ability to impact veterans, youth, political issues, patriotism, civic pride, volunteerism, almost anything you can name, is directly dependent upon the Post being recognized as a caring and involved participant in the community. This also help increase the interest of Post members.

Commanders, be sure to appoint a Community Service Chairman who has the leadership capabilities to conduct a strong and vibrant program. The 2018-2019 program will begin May 1, 2018 and will end April 30, 2019. Reporting to the Department Headquarters is now only mandatory to be done annually.

Our goal is to have all Posts reported and accredited by December 2018. District Commanders and Presidents are urged to get these reports on their inspection visits. Documentation of your efforts is the thing that ensures the VFW reputation and our not-for-profit status.

Reporting to your Department the volunteer hours, dollars donated by VFW, Auxiliary, Cooties, Jr. Girls and any other information supporting your activities.

Community Service Program reporting can be submitted online on our Department web site. If reporting is accomplished using the mail-in form, May 1st to April 30th period to be mailed no later than May 15th. Mail in form is included in this program book. Send to: VFW, 2431 N. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68504. Report only what you can verify with the IRS with meeting minutes and/or receipts. Be careful of duplicate reporting to Department Headquarters.

Reporting: Hours- Only projects benefitting the community are to be reported and number of volunteers and their hours. (Do not report value of the hours on your report, National will apply the current value of hours.) Money that should be reported are the dollars donated or expended by the members in the performance of the community service hours reported, plus \$.14 per mile for each mile driven by the volunteer.

National Volunteer Programs:

- **America's Promise** — The Alliance for Youth connects adult mentors with youth.
February 2 National Groundhog Job Shadow Day
- **March of Dimes Walk America** — improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, infant mortality and much more. (Organize a team to raise money, provide a color guard for opening ceremonies.)
- **St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital** — Cancer research — www.stjude.org

Citizen Corps - Part of Homeland Security, community based initiative to engage all citizens in homeland security.

Honor Through Service — honor active duty men and women currently serving and those who died in the war on terrorism by sponsoring a community service project in his or her name.

- :Make A Difference Day
- :National Family Volunteer Day & National Volunteer Week
- :March of Dimes March for Babies

Be creative and plan new projects and report.

COMMUNITY SERVICE RECORD BOOKS

The RECORD BOOKS play an important part in our program, not only as proof of the project, but also as an historical record for the Post. Displaying the post and community events is a great public relations tool. Posts are eligible for Department prizes. The Record Book should be submitted to Department Headquarters prior to **May 1st, 2019**. Material enclosed in the book may cover the period of May 1st, 2018 through April 15th, 2019. When completing your Community Service Record Books answer the questions of What?, Why?, When?, Where?, and How? as to your actions, and Who? benefited by your efforts.

All entries will receive a certificate for their efforts.

The following cash prizes will be presented at the Department Convention.

Best Overall Book	\$100.00 and certificate
Second Place	\$ 75.00 and certificate
Third Place	\$ 50.00 and certificate

The District Commander who is first to report 100% in Community Service will receive:

First Place \$75.00
AND Second Place \$50.00

Please use this form and attach to the inside cover of the Community Service Record Book that your Post/Auxiliary enters in the Department Community Service Record Book Contest.

Include a card in your record book with this information.

Name of the individual responsible for pickup of record book. _____

Contact Phone Number _____

Post _____ Auxiliary (Yes/No) _____

(Chairman Name) _____

Submit reports and books to the Department Chairman:

Jerry Chlopek

State Judge Advocate

2431 N. 48th St; Box 4552; Lincoln, NE 68504. Phone 402-464-0674