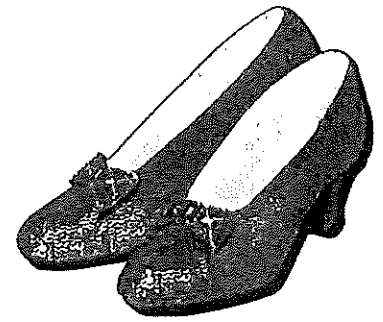


THE RUBY SLIPPER



Thanks to Our Veterans There's No Place Like Home

VFW Auxiliary

Department of Nebraska

April 2020

Dear Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers,

Spring will soon be here and so will our District and Auxiliary meetings where we will be electing officers for the 2020-2021 year. Please don't be afraid of taking a new office. Guidance is available from your District President or from Department.

Be sure to send your reports to the respective Chairmen by April 15. This will allow them time to get their reports to me by May 1. Reporting, even if you think you haven't done anything in that program, allows the Chairman to achieve 100% reporting. This allows our Chairmen to be in the running for National monetary awards for Nebraska, which in turn, improve our budget and allow us to better achieve our goals toward serving veterans and their families, not to mention that it makes Nebraska look good on a national level.

Dixie Hild, Sandee Bellows, Sue Moore, Carol Thompson, Carol Brosnihan, and I attended the Mid-Year Conference and CAFÉ (Celebrating America's Freedom Event) this February in Hawaii. CAFÉ was held at the National Cemetery of the Pacific (informally known as Punchbowl Cemetery). Other events included the Mid-Year Council of Administration and a luau. We also had time to explore beautiful Hawaii.

I attended the Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., the first week of March. This conference gives us the chance to inform our senators and representatives about veteran issues. I also had the honor of escorting our state Voice of Democracy winner, Shruthi Kumar, at the National Parade of Winners. What an exciting night that was as Nebraska finished in first place! She received a \$30,000.00 scholarship. The winner of the Patriot's Pen was a 7th grade female from Michigan. She received a \$5,000.00 scholarship. Both girls have a very bright future.

Jane Reape, National Chaplain, will be our National Representative at June Convention. Elections will be held at June convention. We welcome Jane to Nebraska. We will have the office of Department Chaplain and Department Guard open. If you have always wanted to be Department President, but didn't want to be Conductress, this is your chance to get in the chairs to move up to President.

Have a Blessed Easter!

Thanks to Our Veterans, There's No Place Like Home.

Loyally,

Liz Davis

Department President

Nebraska's Shruthi Kumar wins the 2019-20 National Voice of Democracy contest!



Shruthi Kumar, a high school senior from Marian High School in Omaha was named the 2019-20 National Voice of Democracy first place winner. Shruthi's speech on the theme, "What Makes America Great," won her a \$30,000 college scholarship. Shruthi was sponsored by VFW Post 1581 in Omaha.

Everyone in Nebraska is very proud of her. If you want to learn more about Shruthi, check out her webpage (<https://www.shruthikumar.com/>). You can also listen to her speech by entering "2019-2020 Voice of Democracy First Place Winner Shruthi Kumar" in your search engine and listening to it on YouTube. She is an amazing young lady and will represent her generation well as she becomes a great leader.

MEMBERSHIP

As of this writing (03/13/2020) we are at 96.27%, we need 232 more members to be 100% by June. I know we can do it! Membership is a TEAM effort, so let's "get our ASK in gear!" Remember members paid by June 30 will remain continuous members and back in good standing. After June 30 they will have to rejoin and lose their years of continuous membership.

Our National Ambassador has a lot of ideas on how to recruit: Hold an open house, hold a wine & cheese reception for prospective members, make some meetings social events, bring co-workers to an Auxiliary meeting if they are interested, and/or have members give talks to other organizations on what we are about and what we do.

It takes all of us working together to get the word out about this great organization, on what we do and why we do it. Membership is a 24/7 program. We need members to continue to help our veterans. Remember your WHY!

I am in need of reports, don't wait till the last minute please. And as always if you need me call or email I will help in any way possible.

"Thanks to our Veterans, There's No Place Like Home!"

Loyally

Sharon J Thorne

**Deadline for the May
Ruby Slipper is
April 17, 2020**

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Hooray for our state! We have the First-Place National winner in the Voice of Democracy contest. Shruthi Kumar was sponsored by Post 1581 (District 10) in Omaha and was awarded a \$30,000 scholarship. Congratulations!

The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest is our next deadline (March 31.) Please make sure I receive your winning artwork by April 15. Be sure to follow all rules and completely fill out the entry form including all required signatures.

E. Jane Petersen

AMERICANISM

APRIL 15 is an important date for all Auxiliaries in the department. Reports are due to all program chairmen on that date. As your Americanism chairman I am looking forward to receiving your report to make Nebraska 100%.

Loyalty Day is May 1st. It is not too early to plan a special program and encourage everyone to fly the American Flag that day. Use your local newspaper (if you have one) to let your community know the proper way to display the American flag. You can also make up flyers to hand out.

As members of this great organization- the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary – we became eligible because of the sacrifices made by some members of our family. They served under the American Flag to give us the freedoms we have today. Now let us show our veterans and communities the respect and love we have for America by flying the Flag.

Remember the deadline for reporting what your Auxiliary has done is **April 15th**.

Fly your flag every day or on the special days:

April 12 – Easter

May 1 – Loyalty Day

Until next month, let's thank our veterans for there is no place like home.

Eleanor Pacas

GOLD STAR/CHAPLAIN

Happy Easter to all my Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters.

Don't forget to submit your Gold Star Year-End Report and your deceased members report which are due before April 15. Please get them to me as soon as you can. It is not too late, just get them to me soon, Please. (Also even if you don't have a Gold Star member send me a report (Page 18 in the program book.) I would like the reports by April 5th so I can send my report in by April 10th to get our information in the Memorial Book for Convention

The Gold Star/Membership gathering has changed - watch for more detail in the May - "Ruby Slipper."

Thank you - God's Blessings

Vicki Luebbe

"BUDDY" POPPY/ VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

This would be a good time to start working on your "Buddy" Poppy displays. That way you will have your displays finished in time to bring them to June Convention to be judged. Displays will be presented and judged in three categories:

CATEGORY 1 – Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotion, etc.) Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for wearing of the VFW "Buddy" Poppy.

CATEGORY 2. - Memorials or Inspirational Displays (wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes) Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the "Buddy" Poppy.

CATEGORY 3. – Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies (Post Home displays, table center pieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.) Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.

At least one of the Poppies used in each display must be in its original form and color, with label attached. These guidelines have been designed to place emphasis on the purpose and effectiveness of the displays. (Please be advised, as there are no longer Jr. Girls Units or Sons of the VFW, Category 4 has been removed. For more information on the "Buddy" Poppy Display guidelines go to www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources.)

A reminder that the year-end report for "BUDDY" POPPY/ VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN need to be sent by April 15, 2020, to my address: Linda Vogel, 501 East Prospect, Norfolk, Nebraska 68701 or email ljvogel73@gmail.com Thank you for the Auxiliaries that have sent me their year-end report.

My contest - HOW MANY WAYS YOU USE THE "BUDDY" POPPY AND VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN IN OTHER PROGRAMS will end by April 15, 2020. The winner of the contest will be announced at June Convention, in Norfolk. The prize of \$100 will be sent in the winning Auxiliary's name to the VFW National Home for Children. In case of a tie \$50 will be sent in each Auxiliary's name. Thank you for all the hard work you have done for our veterans.

Linda Vogel



LEGISLATIVE

April is here! The Tax Man Cometh! And, the reports for Legislation are due, too.

All District Presidents, except District 9, please call your Auxiliaries who have not submitted a report. Ask them to send a report or ask them the questions on the report and email me the reply.

We must be 100% to qualify for National Awards. This has been a great year. A lot has been accomplished; we need to report it.

I will be waiting by the mailbox.

Highway 20 is now the 'Nebraska Medal of Honor Highway.' Highway 20 runs for 3,365 miles from Newport, Oregon, to Boston, Massachusetts. Google Maps shows a red line crossing the entire United States. Nebraska has 432 miles of the highway. "It is a fitting way for Nebraska to show respect and appreciation for our veterans for their sacrifices to keep us safe," said Governor Pete Ricketts.

Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming have already named their sections. Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts are in the process of renaming their portions also. Let's hope we see the red line across the United States turn to red, white, and blue for our veterans!

Synthia Stanoscheck

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

It's hard to believe this year is almost over, I have received so many reports and am proud of Nebraska and what your Auxiliaries have done with the youth for our veterans. Reports are due April 15th, please make sure you get them turned in on time. Remember that my address has changed since the Program Book and reports forms were sent. Send them to me at 10008 S, 170th Circle, Omaha 68106.

April 12th is Easter. Did your Auxiliary plan an Easter Egg Hunt or a party for the kids? Did you have anyone participate in the Young American Patriot Art Contest? Don't forget the deadline for the Illustrating America contest for department is April 15th. Please get those turned into me as soon as possible. Let's continue to work together and remember Thanks to Our Veterans, There's No Place Like Home.

Katlyn Abboud

**Year-end report deadline to
Department Chairmen is
April 15, 2020**

HOSPITAL

It's time for your reports to be sent to me. I have many Auxiliaries that have sent me their reports but there are some that haven't sent any, please take time and send me one.

Hospital party for the western part of the state is May 16.

Joyce Witt

ROSTER CHANGES

Please mark these in your Roster immediately.

Page 16, Knox County Auxiliary No. 1151 in Creighton has a new treasurer. It is Jane Wilmes, 52875 875 RD, Creighton 68729. Her phone number is 402-847-3395.

Page 24 Ryan Auxiliary 5543 in Oakland meeting time and location changed to 4:00 p.m. and 406 N. Oakland Avenue. Treasurer Hilda Benne's new address is 714 N. Thomas Avenue, Oakland.

Page 24 Webster County Auxiliary 5641 (chairmen please note this change of name from Sidlo for making out certificates.) President Barbara Goebel and Secretary Diana Goebel's address is 218 Arch St. Their annual dues have changed to \$13.00

Page 27 George Raymond Jelley Auxiliary 8221, Tecumseh has a new Secretary. It is Shelly McCourtney, 684 N. 5th Street, Tecumseh 68450/2055. Her phone number is (931) 249-8554.

CARE AND CONCERN

We have received information that PDC Roger Lang passed away on February 5, 2020. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

**2020—2021
Election of Officers
Regular Business
meeting
in APRIL**

**Send in Warrant
Application ASAP but
no later than May 1
to ensure you have
the Installation
Report when you
install officers.**

*A NOTE or TWO FROM YOUR
DEPARTMENT SECRETARY*

Can you believe that it's already April? I know that all of you are busy making sure that all your local chairmen have their reports turned in to their respective Department Chairmen (make sure you are using the current report forms) by the April 15th deadline.

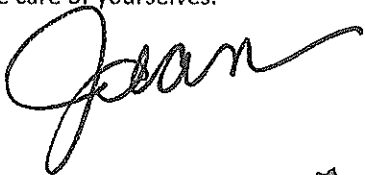
I've attached some VERY IMPORTANT forms in this mailing. Secretaries please pay special attention to this. Let's start with the Application for Warrant. National Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 804A states that "Elective Officers shall be nominated and elected at a regular business meeting in APRIL." Immediately following this meeting/election (the next day) you need to send the Application for Warrant to me so I can get the Installation Report back to you in time for your Installation. Then, IMMEDIATELY following your installation you need to send a copy to me. I will enter your officers for you in MALTA if you don't want to do it yourselves. I must make sure all Auxiliary officers have been entered in MALTA before June 15. If you feel that you might have issues getting officers please contact President Liz, Chief of Staff Donna or me right away so we can help before the deadlines creep up on us.

The second form we need to talk about is the Department Convention Delegates. You will note the National Bylaw information on the form. Your delegates/alternates must be elected not less than 30 days prior to the convention. This information should be in my hands no later than May 6, 2020. Department Treasurer Sandee will send you information on the number of delegates to which you are entitled. Don't forget that your Convention Delegate fees must be paid even if no one from your Auxiliary is attending.

The National Convention Delegates list is also included, and you will need to have that information to me (or entered) in MALTA no later than MAY 31, 2020.

As always if you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at 8100 Regent Drive, Lincoln/68507, jeanbarton@windstream.net or 402-464-1586.

Take care of yourselves.



April 24, 2020

From: Ann Panteleakos, National Secretary-Treasurer

Subject: Auxiliary, District, and County Council Business during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The purpose of this MEMO is to provide local, County Council, District, and Department Presidents and Officers some ideas about making sure that the needed regular business meetings are convened so elections of Delegates/Alternates for each level of the organization and election/installation of Auxiliary, County Council, and District officers are completed with the effects of the COVID-19 in mind.

So, what happens when that "regular business meeting" for the election of officers, etc. cannot be held due to COVID-19?

Begin planning ahead now. Call your officers and ask for their input.

Remember to be flexible in your planning.

Get the word out of the planned changes to all members of your Auxiliary whether they attend or not.

With proper notice given to the members, meeting dates and time may be changed.

You may conduct a meeting via video or teleconference provided a quorum (5 members) are at the meeting site. (See Sections 210 and 212).

A regular business meeting may be postponed (with an alternative meeting date and time set), or it may be completely cancelled.

We are hopeful that by the end of April through the first week in May, COVID-19 is much diminished, and we will be able to resume our normal Auxiliary business practices. Thus, our Department Conventions would proceed as in the past.

Should COVID-19 still be disruptive to our Auxiliary business practices, National Headquarters will issue directives as to how our Department Convention business will be conducted.

National Headquarters cannot make these decisions for you, as the virus's effects differ from state to state. Therefore, it is up to the leadership on various levels to plan how the "regular business meetings" for nomination, election, and installation will be held, whether as usual, postponed, held accordance to Section 210, the 6th major bullet, or cancelled. Please continue to follow the advertised procedures for dealing with COVID19, take care of your family and be vigilant for others whose health may already be compromised.

Please continue to follow the advertised procedures for dealing with COVID19, take care of your family and be vigilant for others whose health may already be compromised.

2019 – 2020 Patriot's Pen & Voice of Democracy Winners

Patriot's Pen

- 1st Place: Representing District 10 is Sam Verdoni
Sponsored by: VFW Post 9558 in Springfield
- 2nd Place: Representing District 6 is Ellie McAlexander
Sponsored by: VFW Post & Auxillary 2634 in NE City
- 3rd Place: Representing District 11 is Delaney Rogers
Sponsored by: VFW Post 6157 in Arnold

Voice of Democracy

- 1st Place: Representing District 10 is Shruthi Kumar
Sponsored by VFW Post 1581 in Omaha
- 2nd Place: Representing District 11 is Colleen Fulton
Sponsored by VFW Post & Auxillary 7029 in Ord
- 3rd Place: Representing District 3 is Mariah Barnell
Sponsored by VFW Post 7603 in Tilden
- 4th Place: Representing District 7 is Samantha Linder
Sponsored by VFW Post & Auxillary 5543 in Oakland
- 5th Place: Representing District 13 is Payton Morrow
Sponsored by VFW Post 5537 in Heartwell
- 6th Place: Representing District 4 is Morgan Peterson
Sponsored by VFW Post & Auxillary 4688 in Imperial
- 7th Place: Representing District 6 is Kaitlyn Otto
Sponsored by VFW Post & Auxillary 10042 in Adams
- 8th Place: Representing District 15 is Mitchel Beeson
Sponsored by VFW Post & Auxillary 4836 in Schuyler
- 9th Place: Representing District 1 is Teagan Flick
Sponsored by VFW Post & Auxillary 1681 in Gering
- 10th Place: Representing District 9 is Rachel Pohl
Sponsored by VFW Post 9844 in Yutan

From the desk of Sandee Bellows

Correcting Birth Dates in MALTA

Many Auxiliary Treasurers are finding, as they become more and more familiar with MALTA, is that the birth dates of many of their members is incorrect. This is caused by previous version of the membership database that required only a year or any month, day and the year of birth be entered. Now many members were born on 01/01/year. How to correct this.

Any individual member can request a correction of their data. An Auxiliary Treasurer can request a correction.

The Department Treasurer can request a correction. Send a note, a spreadsheet to Department Treasurer at 745 K Street, Pawnee City NE 68420 or an email to kb25311@windstream.net. I will then add those names to a spreadsheet I have built and will report your requests to the Membership Department at National every week or so.

When requesting a correction do not do so via phone, National prefers that all contact that changes a member's information be documented. Send an email or write a note and mail to National Headquarters, Attn: Membership Dept, 406 W 34th St, 10th Floor, Kansas City MO 64111

Do Not Contact in MALTA

When in MALTA you might see a column with the heading "Do Not Contact" and down the column next to a name is a red circle with a red X in it. This is something that you as an Auxiliary Treasurer, President, or Secretary cannot do anything about. It is also something that I, as a Department Treasurer, cannot do anything about. What the red circle means is that the member or the member's representative (family member, guardian, etc.) has sent in a request that National not contact them. This does not mean that an Auxiliary cannot send them a Dues notice or newsletter. I would hesitate to send a solicitation for any Auxiliary fundraiser, however. That "do not contact" notice also means that their address will not come up when you print labels.

A couple items sent from National Headquarters — Financial Division.

Don't Abbreviate 2020 - It's the end of January and you're (finally) used to writing or typing a new year on checks and other documents. It's important to write or type the year 2020 in full or you could open yourself - and your Auxiliary - to fraud,

People are being advised to write the full year out when writing the date. Instead of 2/2/20, write out 2/2/2020.

This will prevent numbers being added at the end, changing the date to: 2/2/2010 or 2/2/2021.

This is of utmost importance on the following:

- Notarized documents, Contracts where dates matter (e.g. rental agreements, hotel contracts, etc.), Checks

VFW Foundation -- Many donors will only contribute to a 501(c)(3) charity. Since a VFW Auxiliary is a 501(c)(19) nonprofit this can sometimes be a problem. To help out, the VFW Foundation can serve as a 501(c)(3) fiscal agent by accepting contributions on behalf of your Auxiliary.

This is a free service with no administrative or any other charges removed from the donation check. We only ask that any such donation is \$100 or more.

In order for your Auxiliary to benefit from this offer the Donation Assistance for VFW Auxiliaries form must be completed and a donation check made out to "VFW Foundation" is to be mailed to: Richard Freiburghouse, Manager, VFW Foundation, 406 W. 34th Street, Suite 920, Kansas City, MO 64111

If you have any questions, please contact Richard at rfreiburghouse@vfw.org or (816) 968-1124.

Finally, does anyone know Henrietta G Leon? If so, please give me a phone call, email, or drop me a note.

APPLICATION FOR WARRANT TO INSTALL OFFICERS

DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

VFW AUXILIARY

Please TYPE or PRINT and use MAILING ADDRESS

AUXILIARY NAME _____ NO. _____ DISTRICT _____

REGULAR MEETING PLACE: _____

(Name of building (if applicable) & street address)

REGULAR MEETING DAY and TIME: _____

PRESIDENT: Name _____ Member ID # _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

SECRETARY: Name _____ Member ID # _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

TREASURER: Name _____ Member ID # _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

AMOUNT OF AUXILIARY DUES: _____

DATE OF INSTALLATION: _____ (Date shall be between April 7 and June 5)

INSTALLING OFFICER: _____

Address: _____

TITLE OF HIGHEST OFFICE HELD: _____

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP AS OF THE DATE OF THIS APPLICATION: _____

AUXILIARY BONDED WITH: _____ **DATE OF BOND:** _____

PLEASE NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT SECRETARY IF ANY OF THIS INFORMATION CHANGES

SEND THIS FORM TO: Jean Barton, Department Secretary
8100 Regent Drive
Lincoln, NE 68507-3366

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE - FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Date Application received _____

Date Warrant Mailed _____



NOT ACCEPTED BEFORE APRIL 1, NOR AFTER MAY 31
of the Current Calendar Year

**NATIONAL CONVENTION
OFFICIAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

~~DO NOT SEND THIS FORM IN IF NAMES HAVE BEEN INPUT ONLINE~~

TO: National Secretary
VFW Auxillary
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

FROM: AUXILIARY NO. _____ DEPARTMENT OF Nebraska
AUXILIARY NAME _____
CITY AND STATE _____

Per Section 305 of the National Bylaws, "Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall be elected at the last regular meeting in April; one for each fifty (50) members or fraction thereof in good standing on March 31. The VFW Auxillary Secretary shall provide the names of the Delegates and Alternates to the National Secretary, along with their membership ID number, within thirty (30) calendar days of the day of election" and no later than MAY 31. The Auxillary Secretary is asked to input his or her Auxillary's Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) online in MALTA via use of their respective membership ID number(s) and to print out a copy of the Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) for his or her records.

This is to certify that the Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) listed below were duly elected to represent our VFW Auxillary at the upcoming National Convention on July 18-23, 2020 based on the total VFW Auxillary membership as of MARCH 31 in the MALTA System.

ID Number and Name ARE REQUIRED to complete this form.
TYPE or PRINT NEATLY each Delegate's or Alternate's ID NUMBER and NAME.

~DELEGATE CREDENTIALS WILL BE ISSUED AT CONVENTION SITE UPON CHECK-IN.~

DELEGATES		ALTERNATES	
ID NUMBER	MEMBER'S FIRST AND LAST NAME	ID NUMBER	MEMBER'S FIRST AND LAST NAME
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(Auxiliary Secretary) _____ (Address) _____ (City, State & Zip Code) _____

NOTE: This is a listing only. (NO CHECKS ARE TO BE INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM.)

VFW Nebraska State Convention

June 5-7, 2020

The Divots Conference Center

4200 W Norfolk Ave

Norfolk, NE

Room Rates \$99.00 + Tax

Call Department or mail in form for Reservations!!

VFW Department of Nebraska 2431 N. 48th St. Lincoln, NE 68504

402-464-0674

email to: trudie@vfwne.org

Deadline for Reservations is May 11, 2020

Personal and Billing Information	
Traveler name	
E-mail	
Post	
Phone	
Billing address	
Badge name(s)	
Number of Banquet Tickets? (purchase at Convention)	
Check in date?	
Check out date?	
Cost per night	\$99.00 + tax
Number of people	
Room preference (e.g., king, double, single)	
Special requests?	