

THE RUBY SLIPPER

Thanks to Our Veterans There's No Place Like Home



VFW Auxiliary

Department of Nebraska

August 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I hope everyone enjoyed their 4th of July holiday. Summer is winding down and schools will be starting again.

School of Instruction is August 3rd in Seward beginning at 9:00 a.m. This is a great time to come learn about our programs, get your questions answered, and learn what resolutions were passed at National Convention.

Plans are being made to welcome our National President, Peggy Haake, to Nebraska on October 5-7 in Lincoln. Peggy has expressed that she is looking forward to meeting our members.

Homecoming and Fall Conference will be October 11 and 12, at Divots Conference Center in Norfolk.

Nebraska will be hosting the Big Ten Conference October 18-20 at the Doubletree by Hilton in Omaha. Hotel reservations must be made by September 16 to get the special rate. If you have any items for the goody bags we will be handing out, please bring them to School of Instruction.

Reminder: All Auxiliary Presidents and Treasurers must be bonded by August 31, 2019.

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

Loyally,

Liz Davis

MEMBERSHIP

The first Ruby Slipper article was the start to our year of growth. As our National Ambassador Diane has said, "Membership is a 24/7 effort in making our organization grow stronger for our parent organization, the VFW."

Invite new members to join and include all members in activities. This is the way to invest in the future of this organization. One of the paragraphs in my newsletter from National had this question and a very good answer: Why do members leave and not renew? Members leave because they are not involved/engaged, not aware, not educated about the Auxiliary's mission, goals and activities, and/or they are excluded from decision-making."

We need to be a team to continue our mission in helping our veterans and their families for generations to come. So, imagine if you can what these 3 little words can do if we all participate and do our part as a TEAM – Invite – Include – Invest! Repeat, Invite - Include - Invest!!!!

If you need me call, email, text or leave me a message and I will get back to you as soon as I can. I am here to help you in any

way you need to keep this great organization growing so we can help our veterans. See you at School of Instruction!!!

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

Loyally,

Sharon J Thorne

AMERICANISM

Together everyone can display patriotism by flying the American Flag in our communities. Everyone needs to be aware of the patriotism that exists in America – the land where we live and have honored and cherished for generations. We can visit schools as many will be starting this month and you can present patriotic programs. The students are our future leaders and they need to know that patriotism has been present throughout our history.

When visiting schools you will see teachers who are teaching citizenship in their classes. The next step is to nominate teachers for the Smart-Maher National Citizenship Teacher Award. Nomination forms are in the department program book and are due on the Post level on October 31. It is not too early to begin the paperwork for your nominee!

Auxiliaries can plan ahead to participate in patriotic holiday parades by decorating a float and handing out flags along the way. You might like to include youth groups to help decorate your float. Americanism involves all ages. With youth participating, this is one way to promote Americanism and- your Auxiliary and youth are both doing a community project.

Fly your flag every day or on the following designated day:

September 2 – Labor Day

Eleanor Pacas

BIG TEN CONFERENCE

Big Ten Conference is coming to Nebraska! We will be putting together "welcome gift bags" for our guests. If you have any items for these bags such as, pens, note pads, etc. please bring them to the School of Instruction in Seward August 3rd. We will start to fill these bags shortly after this meeting. If you are able to help us put items in these bags please let Trudy or Jody at Department Headquarters or me know. My telephone number is 402-721-7038. I will set a date and let you know when we will be working on the welcome bags. The bags will be filled at Department Headquarters in Lincoln. Thank you for helping with this project.

Jane Petersen, Department Auxiliary Big Ten Chairman

ALOHA!! CHIEF OF STAFF

Congratulations and a big Thank You to the Line Officers, District Presidents, Program Chairmen and Floor Teams on the Auxilliary, District, and Department levels. Thank you for stepping up and taking the challenge for 2019-2020. The officers of the Department VFW Auxilliary are here to help the Auxillaries across the state do the best that they can do for our veterans and communities.

Presidents and Treasurers for Auxillaries and Districts must be bonded by August 31, 2019. If not, the Department must send a request for a suspension. So please don't be late - just get it done. It's very easy and quick on MALTA. We are also available to help.

Department School of Instruction is August 3rd in Seward. Each program chairman will have a table promoting their program with information and handouts, ideas, and suggestions. Hope to see you there. In closing remember, "THANKS TO OUR VETERANS, THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!"

Donna Fenske

LEGISLATIVE

I am happy to report that President Donald Trump has signed into law the "Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act," requiring the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide disability benefits to veterans who served in the waters off the coast of Vietnam. National Commander B.J. Lawrence said, "The VFW is proud to have helped lead the charge to return these benefits to these deserving veterans and to expand existing benefits to dependent children. We look forward to the Department of Veterans Affairs publishing implementation guidance on their website very soon." It is wonderful to see positive results due to the action of the VFW and Auxilliary.

To find information on legislation concerning veterans, The National Conference of State Legislatures has updated information on bills that have been introduced in the 50 states and the District of Columbia related to military and veterans' issues. You can search legislation for each year from 2010-2019 by state, topic, keyword, year, status, and/or primary sponsor. To access information on military and veterans' issues, go to www.ncsl.org.

I have received the first report for Legislature. I will announce who sent it at School of Instruction. There is still time for the second and third reports. Please send a report monthly in whatever method is easiest for you.

Contact your Legislators to support our veterans.

Synthia Stanosheck

HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS/VFW NEWS

The August 3rd School of Instruction will be a time to catch up on reporting methods and share ideas for news stories. Vicki Luebbe will be covering the training for Historian/Editor/Community media relations in my absence.

The Historians/Editors for the various Auxillaries have sent in

articles promptly for newsletter use. In May and June there was lots to report including Memorial Day and Flag Day events. It's a great time to invite new members to share their volunteer stories. The 4th of July was celebrated in many different ways. It's fun to read about how each Auxilliary participated in their communities. Historians/Editors be sure to get your articles in to Judy Workman and Jody Sullivan, VFW Department Editor before deadlines.

Post 759 and Auxilliary were honored to have State Commander Joe Smith ride on the float July 4th in the Gibbon parade. What fun! We enjoyed passing out brochures and candy along the parade route. A great way to look for new members, too.

Remember if your Auxilliary does not have an Historian/Media Relations Chairman/News Editor, fill out a report now stating that and send to Department Historian Judy Workman, PO Box 814, Kearney, NE 68848 or e-mail to opusworkman@yahoo.com to avoid calls for articles. Your Auxilliary will have met the need for reporting for 2019-20 by doing so.

Your work is important to support what the VFW is striving to do in promoting veterans' programs in communities and throughout the organization. Please share your story!

Thanks To Our Veterans, There's No Place Like Home to report on!

Loyally,

Judy Workman

GOLD STAR/CHAPLAIN

Greetings to all my Sisters and Brothers.

I hope everyone had a safe and fun 4th of July.

School of Instruction is August 3rd and I hope to see you in Seward. I will have information for you so make sure you stop by my table and pick up a few things.

We have lost 16 Auxilliary members already this year. Please say a prayer for their families.

An Honor No One Wants: What is a Gold Star Family and How is it different from a Blue Star Family? **What is a Blue Star Family?** A Blue Star Family consists of the immediate family member(s) of a service member during a time of conflict. **What is a Gold Star Family?** A Gold Star Family is the immediate family member (s) of a fallen service member who died while serving in a time of conflict. If you have done something for our Gold Star Members, please don't wait to send in your reports. Send them to me anytime.

Death Reports: Information we need is: member's name, Auxilliary number, District number, and date of death. Please print clearly. Thank you.

If you hear of someone in our Department who is sick or in hospital please let me know so I can have a card signed by us all to send to them.

God's Blessings,

Vicki Luebbe

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

I will be going to National Convention in Orlando, Florida and will bring back as many handouts as I can about National Scholarships to share in Seward in August. I am really excited about some changes to the National Scholarship Program which I will be sharing as well. I will also be writing in this column and you can check the program book you were given after Department Convention or received in July by mail. Presidents please give your chairman for National Scholarships the information in the program book so he/she is aware of the changes. Either give them the pages out of the program book or make copies for them. The program book is meant to be shared with all of your chairmen. Also share this newsletter with your chairmen each month. Working together is the key to a successful program. Please call or email me with any questions. Our National Scholarships provide for the young people in our communities.

Jane Petersen

"BUDDY" POPPY /VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

I am hoping to bring back more information on the "Buddy" Poppy and VFW National Home for Children from the National Convention in Orlando. I am planning to attend the workshops on the National Programs and will also be meeting with a Representative from the VFW National Home for Children. I will put this information in the next newsletter and if you are able to attend School of Instructions, I will have that information and my contest rules for the upcoming year at that time.

Remember our President Liz's theme: "Thanks To Our Veterans, There's No Place Like Home."

Enjoy the summer and stay cool!

Linda Vogel

Dear Auxilliary Brothers and Sisters,

I want to sincerely thank everyone that was able to contribute funds for my special project: Memory Loss for Veterans. I was able to send \$600 to each of our four Veterans Homes in Nebraska. I was very pleased as my goal for this project was \$500 for each home. I was able to visit each of our Nebraska Veterans' Homes while I was President and know that those funds will be put to good use.

My father was a World War II Veteran, and would have likely ended up with some kind of memory loss as all nine of his siblings had some kind of dementia. My father passed away at age 64 with a heart attack. I felt that my father would have ended up in the Veteran's Home if he would have lived longer. My Special Project was very dear to me and my family. I thank you again for your contributions for my Special Project.

Sincerely,

Linda Vogel

Care and Concern

District 7 President and Past Department President Jane Petersen's son Mike, suffered a stroke early in July. He is at Madonna Rehabilitation at this time and hopes to be able to go home in early August. Please keep Jane and her family in your prayers for a complete and speedy recovery.

A NOTE OR TWO FROM YOUR DEPARTMENT SECRETARY

PLEASE, if you (or any of your officers) have changed your address use the enclosed form to report that change to me. You may not get your newsletters if I don't have your correct address.

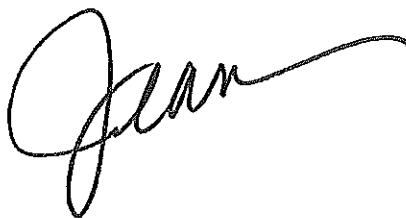
Be sure that you get the 2019-20 bond for your President and Treasurer. The information is no longer mailed to you. If you are having trouble getting the information on MALTA, please contact Department Treasurer Sandee and she will be able to assist you.

Secretaries I hope that you will keep your Auxilliary on top of their game by reminding your President of all of the important information that needs to be addressed at your monthly meetings. If any of you have questions or concerns please get in touch with me. I'm here to help you

I know when it's hot and humid we don't want to be out and about but I hope that all of you are working hard on your programs to assist our veterans and their families and to get all your members to pay their dues now. Just think how nice it will be when your Auxilliary is 100% in membership.

If you need anything please let me know. You can contact me via email (jeanbarton@windstream.net), snail mail (8100 Regent Drive/68507-3366), or give me a call (402-464-1586.) If you do call and I'm not available at that moment, be sure to leave a message.

Keep cool and we'll see you in Seward.



Roster Additions and Corrections
Please write these changes in your Roster

Page 3: Council Members

Conductress - Lavonne Hornik

205 Park, Norfolk 68701

402-640-0409

1644

Guard - Katlyn Abboud

14764 W Plaza, Omaha 68137

vballkatie@yahoo.com

402-201-4772

8334

21st District Council Member – Sandee Bellows

745 K Street, Pawnee City 68420

kb25311@windstream.net

402-852-2721

5289

Page 6: Department Chairmen

Veterans and Family Support – Linda Hansen

508 E. Huron St., #3, Missouri Valley, IA 51555-1683

Page 12: Past Department Presidents

2012-13

Linda Hansen, 508 E. Huron St., #3, Missouri Valley, IA 51555-1683

Page 22: BLUE VALLEY AUXILIARY NO. 4959, Crete

2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., 130 W. 13th, Dues \$20.00

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
"In Fortitude and Loyalty"

AUXILIARY OFFICER CHANGE OR CORRECTION

Auxiliary # _____

Department of Nebraska

Change from: _____

President	Sr. Vice President	Jr. Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	
Chaplain	Conductress	Guard	Trustee #1	Trustee #2	Trustee #3

(Circle the appropriate officer)

Change to: _____

Name

Membership ID No. _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Change of Annual Auxiliary Dues: from _____ to _____

.....This form is not to be used to report Annual Elections.....

Send to: Department Secretary
Jean Barton
8100 Regent Drive
Lincoln, NE 68507-3366
Email: jeanbarton@windstream.net

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND THIS FORM TO NATIONAL
OR CHANGE ANYTHING IN MALTA.**