



## Do Unto Veterans As They Have Done Unto You

VFW Auxiliary

Department of Nebraska

July 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Where has the summer gone? I hope you were able to get out and enjoy your summertime with family and friends.

I had a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July experience. Our day started at our Post Home in Stanton, with a flag raising ceremony. Watching the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts properly unfold the flag and help raise it was so overwhelming. Three young girls beautifully sang the anthem. I was so enlightened by one of our Auxiliary members. Wilma Dopson told her experience of carrying the flag for 71 years. How she started carrying the flag was that someone asked her to and why she continued being a Color Bearer. She felt in her heart with great pride and honor to carry the flag of our country. Wilma will be 92 this coming year. Following the flag ceremony Auxiliary members and spouses helped put our 4<sup>th</sup> of July float together in my honor of being the Department President. What inspired me the most was how the community along the parade route stood up and removed their cover and saluted the flag. These experiences are what I want you to share as this is why we work so hard for this organization for our veterans. "DO UNTO VETERANS AS THEY HAVE DONE UNTO YOU."

August will be a full month as we will have our School of Instructions on Saturday, August 11, 2018, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Civic Center (616 Bradford Street) in Seward. This is where you will be educated on the fundamentals and duties of our organization. I am looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Sandi Kriebel, our National President will be visiting Nebraska on Wednesday, August 15 and 16<sup>th</sup>. The schedule is found elsewhere in this mailing. Come join us welcome our National President and take in the activities being planned.

Remember that your President and Treasurer must be bonded by August 31, 2018.

**BELIEVE... WE CAN DO IT**

Please feel free to contact me at any time you would have a question or concerns.

Loyally,

Linda Vogel, Department President

### CARE AND CONCERN

Past Department President Joyce Lantz passed away on Wednesday, July 11, 2018. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

### MEMBERSHIP

July 1, 2018, does everybody know what day that is? Here's a hint: Membership. The new membership and recruitment year has started, and it is time for all Auxiliary membership chairmen to start sending out dues reminder notices. You may also email or call members to remind them to send in their dues.

Do you have former members that have not renewed membership for a year or more? Reach out and contact them. Let them know how important they are for our veterans and our organization. Find out why they have not renewed their membership, and ask what your Auxiliary can do to get them involved again. Find out what interests they have and then ask them what they like to do. Ask them why they joined in the first place.

Recruit! Anyone 16 and over, male or female may join the VFW Auxiliary if eligible. Mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, even grandma and grandpa are welcome!! There are so many ways to get out and find potential members. Social media (Facebook), newspapers; make up a brochure, or talk to family and friends.

School of Instruction as you know is August 11th in Seward. ALL Auxiliaries should have their President and Treasurer in attendance. I will give a brief introduction on my program and then will have a table set up with a lot of information on what our national membership chairman is wanting us to do. There will also be handouts to take back to your Auxiliary.

Here is my quote for the month: "Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do." Coach John Wooden Team work helps us all do what we need to do.

Two bits, four bits, six bits a dollar, all for Department of Nebraska STAND UP AND HOLLER!

Bonnie Gerlt

### GOLD STAR

I am looking forward to reading the reports on what you do for your Gold Star members. Give them a call, visit, or send a card just to let them know they are always in your thoughts and prayers throughout the year. Also, if you have any members that have passed away please let me know as soon as possible so I can keep the records up to date. I look forward to hearing from you on all that you do.

See you in Seward at School of instruction.

Sharon J Thorne

### CHIEF OF STAFF/EXTENSION

As your Department of Nebraska Chief of Staff, I will work closely with the Districts and Auxiliaries to ensure that all begin the 2018-19 year in good working order:

\*Installation reports completed.

All audits are current with a working Relief Fund

All Auxiliaries are bonded by August 31<sup>st</sup>

Auxiliary program chairmen have been appointed.

Mentoring: (Districts-New Members & Auxiliaries)

When a new member attends their first meeting, take the time to welcome them, introduce them and have your chairmen explain a little about the programs.

Should you notice an Auxiliary struggling or having some issues, please let us know. It is so much easier to help in the beginning stages of a problem/issue.

See you at School of Instruction!!

Loyally,

Donna M. Fenske

### HOSPITAL

I can't believe that we are already one month into our new year. The reports are already coming in. I am really looking forward to reading about all that you do for our hospitalized veterans. The veterans look forward to all of us coming to visit with them. With that being said, we need to recruit new volunteers, so we can make lots of visits and the same old volunteers don't get burned out.

September is Suicide Awareness month and the 10<sup>th</sup> is Suicide Awareness Day. Contact the VA hospitals and see what you can do to help promote the awareness campaign. Remember your Blue Teardrops during the month. When we wear them, people are always asking what they represent. It is always good to educate the public about the staggering fact that so many veterans complete suicide on a daily basis.

I would like for you all to make some Christmas cards using poppies that we can pass on to the veterans when we go to the homes and hospitals for the annual parties.

Linda Hansen

### LEGISLATIVE

As we start off the new program year I want to remind you of the power that we have in making our voices heard. You may think that you are only 1 person, but the combined forces of our efforts to support our veterans and current members of the military will have an everlasting impact on the care provided for them. To quote Dr. Seuss, "To the world you may be one person; but to one person you may be the world." Every action we make has an impact on those we are striving to support. Because of this and the fact that the world is always changing, it is vital that we are informed Auxiliary members

when it comes to Legislation. November 6, 2018, is the date of the next mid-term elections for many of our communities. As a state, we will elect a new Governor, 1 Senator and 3 members to the House of Representatives. Do you know the candidates and what they stand for? Have the incumbents in these races voted as you would like to see them vote in support of you and your veterans? With the elections being held in November, there is plenty of time to schedule a coffee or meeting in which you invite the candidates to be present for a presentation and/or Q & A session.

Candidates are:

Governor :

Republican-Pete Ricketts

Democrat-Bob Krist

US Senate:

Republican-Deb Fischer

Democrat-Jane Raybould

US House of Representatives:

1<sup>st</sup> District:

Republican-Jeff Fortenberry

Democrat-Jessica McClure

2<sup>nd</sup> District:

Republican-Don Bacon

Democrat-Kara Eastman

3<sup>rd</sup> District:

Republican-Adrian Smith

Democrat-Paul Theobald

Until next month, Do unto Veterans as they have done unto you!

Kim Abboud

### NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Now is the time to think about your appointments. As District and Auxiliary Presidents who will be your National Scholarship Chairman? Please send me the name of your chairman so that I can contact him/her and help them with any questions or concerns. Now is also the time to contact your school. Teachers have to plan ahead; they cannot just fill in our Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and Creative Art Scholarship programs into their plans at the last minute. I know this as a former teacher and sometimes principals frown on last minute changes to curriculum!

I will have a booth at School of Instruction with information on all the national scholarship programs. Please stop at my booth and pick up a packet for your chairman if he/she does not attend the training session August 11<sup>th</sup> in Seward.

Jane Petersen

### BUDDY POPPY/NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

Time to start your Buddy Poppy and National Home for Children programs. Remember when having a Buddy Poppy distribution all donations go into the Relief Fund. Don't forget your donation of 10¢ per member for the National Home.

Joyce Witt

## DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Since we are getting off to a new year, I want to start by saying a huge THANK YOU to all the Auxiliaries and members who have so strongly supported this program in the past. Last year the 50/50 raffle provided \$450 for one lucky individual and \$450 for the Department Scholarship fund and that doesn't include the donations and scholarships from the Auxiliaries. I owe it all to YOU!!!

Now on to new business. I hope everyone has gotten the information for 2018/2019 and has taken time to look it over and started planning for another successful year. I already got my first report -- woo-hoo!! Keep them coming.

School will be starting before we know it and students are always looking for financial resources. When you think of those who need scholarship assistance don't forget Post and Auxiliary members who may be furthering their education. Be sure to let them know our scholarships are available to them as well as high school and college students.

I hope to see many of you at the School of Instructions in Seward on August 11<sup>th</sup>. I will have forms and information ready for you and will answer any questions you may have. I will also be giving the District Presidents the 50/50 raffle tickets for each Auxiliary. Thank you in advance for supporting the scholarship program.

"DO UNTO VETERANS AS THEY HAVE DONE UNTO YOU." We owe them so much for what they done and by supporting the programs of the Auxiliary we are showing them we have not forgotten.

Iva Carlson

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Summer is ending soon, and school starting is right around the corner. Now is the time to start going into schools to see what the youth can do to help our veterans. Auxiliaries can sponsor any youth group and encourage the youth to get involved in any programs, and encourage the youth to honor our veterans or help with active-duty military. A few examples of youth groups your Auxiliary could work with are school clubs, home-school associations; youth sport teams, and after-school programs. Make sure you report everything you do with the youth for our veterans. Don't wait until the end of the year to send one report in. Don't forget to promote Youth Activities every day throughout the year.

Katlyn Abboud

## AMERICANISM/PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

"School; days, school days, dear Old Golden rule days" -- a song we learned in school. We did *Reading* - had to read to learn; "*Riting*" -- yes we did a lot of paper writing and "*Rithmetic*" -- all those numbers we had to get answers for. Auxiliaries, you will "*have a school*" day on August 11<sup>th</sup> when our Auxiliary programs will be presented and you will get a chance to ask questions and get answers. You will have a chance to "*rite*" the information. As for the "*rithmetic*," you will do that when you fill out a report form.

The children of our communities will be going to school this

month. Now is the time to plan a program at school on patriotism. But, first of all contact the school to see when you can present the program. It is important that the students know how to respect the America Flag.

However, patriotism is not just about the American Flag. People need to learn that our veterans have defended our country throughout the centuries for the freedom they have today.

Now is the time to nominate a teacher for the Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teacher Award. It takes time to "*rite*" the information on the application form. The deadline is November 1 on the Post level.

So, hope to see you at our "*school of instruction*" on August 11.

Patriotic instructors, we have no patriotic holiday this month, but we need to fly the flag to show our patriotism. You can provide information about why we respect our flag with instructions on how to display the flag.

Fly the American Flag every day or whenever you want to display your love and patriotism for our country.

Eleanor Pacas

## HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS

Hope everyone had a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July. With summer in full bloom, your Auxiliary may be participating in community activities, marching in parades, building a parade float, or having a booth at your county fair. This is everything you can report on. Put it on Facebook or write a news article. This information can also be used in the President's, History book. These two programs go hand in hand, what you report for one, you can use for the other.

Have a wonderful reporting summer, let everyone know you are out there doing something for our veterans, the families of veterans, your community, and for the youth.

Hope to see all of you at Seward for School of Instruction.

Loyally,

Sheree Brown

A Note or Two from Your Department Secretary

Information received from the Veterans of Foreign Wars indicates that approval has been given for the consolidation of Sidlo Post No. 5641, Red Cloud, Nebraska and Blue Hills/Bladen Post No. 9984, Bladen, Nebraska. The consolidation Post to be known as Webster County Post No. 5641, Red Cloud, Nebraska.

Be sure to check out the information on National President Sandi Kreibel's visit to Nebraska this month.

Please be sure to let me know if your address changes.



Department of Nebraska										
2018 - 2019 Membership as of 7/17/18										
Auxiliary	Life New	Life Rejoin	Life Continuous	Annual New	Annual Rejoin	Annual Continuous	Prior Total			
1375	0	0	28	0	0	0	28	51,54.90 %		
1681	0	0	43	0	0	0	43	63,68.25 %		
2243	0	0	25	0	0	0	25	62,40.32 %		
5639	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	12,41.67 %		
7970	0	0	23	0	0	0	23	23,100.00 %		
Total - DNE01	0	0	124	0	0	0	124	211,58.77 %		
1151	0	0	41	0	0	0	41	79,51.90 %		
1644	0	0	229	0	0	0	229	381,60.10 %		
3602	0	0	32	0	0	0	32	182,50.55 %		
4504	0	0	16	0	0	0	16	31,51.61 %		
4996	0	0	32	0	0	0	32	77,41.56 %		
5287	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	18,27.78 %		
5291	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	15,40.00 %		
5545	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	35,17.14 %		
5765	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	10,30.00 %		
5816	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	19,10.53 %		
5824	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15,0.00 %		
7838	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	10,80.00 %		
Total - DNE03	0	0	440	0	0	0	440	872,50.46 %		
1504	0	0	82	0	0	0	82	144,56.94 %		
1652	0	0	14	0	0	0	14	40,40.00 %		
4688	0	0	27	0	0	0	27	73,36.99 %		
5379	0	0	11	0	0	0	11	15,73.33 %		
6219	0	0	13	0	0	0	13	31,41.94 %		
7028	0	0	47	0	0	0	47	68,69.12 %		
8298	0	0	13	0	0	0	13	35,37.14 %		
9155	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	4,68.70 %		
Total - DNE04	0	0	211	0	0	0	211	452,47.12 %		
1077	0	0	36	0	0	0	36	99,36.36 %		
1765	0	0	26	0	0	0	26	90,28.89 %		
2634	0	0	15	0	0	0	15	29,51.72 %		
3113	0	0	23	0	0	0	23	62,37.10 %		
4959	0	0	56	0	0	0	56	87,64.37 %		
5289	0	0	46	0	0	0	46	97,47.42 %		
5547	0	0	15	0	0	0	15	85,17.65 %		
7102	0	0	14	0	0	0	14	89,15.73 %		
8221	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	24,33.33 %		
10042	0	0	14	0	0	0	14	35,40.00 %		
10579	0	0	11	0	0	0	11	27,40.74 %		
Total - DNE06	0	0	264	0	0	0	264	724,56.46 %		
854	0	0	54	0	0	0	54	98,56.12 %		
1251	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	23,4.35 %		
4912	0	0	32	0	0	0	32	86,97.21 %		
5543	0	0	7	0	0	0	7	32,21.88 %		
5767	0	0	31	0	0	0	31	50,62.00 %		
6928	0	0	11	0	0	0	11	46,23.91 %		
7998	0	0	19	0	0	0	19	62,30.65 %		
8223	0	0	57	0	0	0	57	82,73.17 %		
8332	0	0	34	0	0	0	34	58,58.62 %		
Total - DNE07	0	0	246	0	0	0	246	537,46.55 %		

Department of Nebraska										
2018 - 2019 Membership as of 7/17/18										
Auxiliary	Life New	Life Rejoin	Life Continuous	Annual New	Annual Rejoin	Annual Continuous	Prior Total			
131	0	0	186	0	0	0	186	275,67.64 %		
1609	0	0	14	0	0	0	14	53,33.96 %		
3606	0	0	74	0	0	0	74	128,57.81 %		
4502	0	0	76	0	0	0	76	112,67.86 %		
4755	0	0	135	0	0	0	135	151,89.40 %		
9776	0	0	25	0	0	0	25	55,45.45 %		
Total - DNE09	0	0	510	0	0	0	510	774,66.41 %		
247	0	0	43	0	0	0	43	71,60.56 %		
2503	0	0	234	0	0	0	234	435,53.79 %		
2543	0	0	74	0	0	0	74	146,50.68 %		
2704	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	16,50.00 %		
3421	0	0	23	0	0	0	23	43,58.14 %		
8334	0	0	131	0	0	0	131	250,52.40 %		
10727	0	0	59	0	0	0	59	89,133,66.92 %		
Total - DNE10	0	0	570	0	0	0	570	1094,55.21 %		
926	0	0	46	0	0	0	46	55,83.64 %		
1347	0	0	143	0	0	0	143	220,65.00 %		
3576	0	0	25	0	0	0	25	84,29.76 %		
4677	0	0	14	0	0	0	14	19,73.68 %		
5138	0	0	11	0	0	0	11	38,28.95 %		
5820	0	0	12	0	0	0	12	60,20.00 %		
6159	0	0	29	0	0	0	29	59,49.15 %		
7029	0	0	151	0	0	0	151	200,75.50 %		
8256	0	0	24	0	0	0	24	39,61.54 %		
Total - DNE11	0	0	455	0	0	0	455	774,58.79 %		
759	0	0	57	0	0	0	57	116,64.66 %		
890	0	0	17	0	0	0	17	37,45.95 %		
1346	0	0	71	0	0	0	71	112,63.39 %		
5136	0	0	80	0	0	0	80	104,76.92 %		
5539	0	0	48	0	0	0	48	62,77.42 %		
5641	0	0	17	0	0	0	17	41,41.46 %		
Total - DNE13	0	0	290	0	0	0	290	472,65.25 %		
736	0	0	52	1	0	0	53	74,71.62 %		
3704	0	0	69	0	0	0	69	124,55.65 %		
4836	0	0	17	0	0	0	17	39,43.59 %		
5814	0	0	9	0	0	0	9	33,27.27 %		
Total - DNE15	0	0	147	1	0	0	148	270,54.81 %		
Total - NE	0	0	3564	1	0	0	3565	6488,55.90 %		
Grand Total	0	0	3564	1	0	0	3565	6488,55.90 %		

## **AGENDA FOR THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO NEBRASKA**

Sandi Kriebel is a very pleasant lady to get to know and I hope we all will be able to welcome her to Nebraska.

### **Wednesday, August 15, 2018**

- President Linda will pick National President Sandi up in Sioux Falls and arrive in Norfolk later in the afternoon.
- Dinner will be hosted by Stanton VFW Auxiliary #3602 at 6:00 pm at Stanton VFW Post Home, 1106 Veterans Avenue in Stanton.

### **Thursday, August 16, 2018**

- Meet at 10:00 am at the Norfolk Veteran's Home, 600 East Benjamin in Norfolk for a tour.
- Leave after the tour and drive up to Ash Falls Historical State Park stopping at The Green Gables café for lunch. Please note that lunch at The Green Gables will be on your own.
- After our lunch we will proceed to Ash Falls Historical State Park (a State Park sticker is required for each vehicle and there is a \$7 fee to get into Ash Falls.) This park will be well worth seeing if you have not visited before.
- Return to Norfolk for a dinner hosted by Winter Munson #1644 VFW Auxiliary at 6:00 pm at the VFW Post Home, 316 West Braasch Avenue in Norfolk.

### **Friday, August 17, 2018**

- National President Sandi will depart early from the Sioux City airport.

We'll be staying at the Norfolk Lodge and Suites, 4200 W Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE 68701.  
\$117 plus tax. Phone: (402) 379-3833

## **SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTIONS**

School of Instruction will be held in Seward on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Civic Center located at 616 Bradford Street.

The Post and Auxiliary will provide pulled pork and two sides. Vicki Luebbe will be making bread pudding for dessert. There will be a free-will offering.