



VFW NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO

Land of Enchantment



Official Publication of the Department of New Mexico Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary

December 2020

Vol. 45 Issue 2

Department Wide Food Drive

On Saturday, October 17, VFW and VFWA of New Mexico had a statewide food drive to help our local food banks. With the COVID-19 restrictions and closures, we have had limited access with our communities. Due to this problem, the Department decided to conduct a Department-wide food drive. This brought our Posts and Auxiliaries out into the public eye and showed that we are still doing lots for our communities, and veterans in particular. The joint food drive also had an incentive for our Posts and Auxiliaries, with \$500, \$300, and \$200 prizes to the top three from around the state.

Eleven Posts and their Auxiliaries participated on this project, from 10 AM - 4 PM. With combined donations of goods and money, a total of \$28,434.51 was raised. This was a great job for a first-time effort, considering New Mexico's social gathering restrictions of ten or less, and many community members were in financial trouble.

Here are the ways that Posts and Auxiliaries participated: Albuquerque 401 donated to the local school district; Santa Fe Post 2951 set up a tent outside the Post and unloaded dozens of cars making donations; Hobbs Post 3274 donated to a shelter for battered women and children; and the Grants Post donated to their local community pantry. Clovis Post 3280 teamed up with Walmart to arrange the delivery of multiple pallets of donated water; Rio Rancho Post 5890 asked their local food bank to bring a truck to their Post to collect donated items; Alamogordo Post 7686 welcomed members that were very excited and happy to participate, while Carlsbad Post 8703 donated to six different food banks in their city. Los Alamos Post 8874 paired up with the National Labs to receive donations and Los Lunas Post 9676 solicited their local paper to run an article about the food drive. In Las Cruces, Post 10124 held their meeting before the food drive to get the word out to their members, and the Department paired up with Enterprise Rent-a-Car to get donations at all Posts where an Enterprise was located in their city.

The winners of the food drive were as follows: 1st prize went to Post 8703 Carlsbad; 2nd prize to Post 5890 Rio

Rancho; 3rd went to Post 3280 Clovis. All the other Posts and Auxiliaries did outstanding work also, but these three were the top collectors of the Department. Congratulations to these three Posts and their Auxiliaries. To all of the Posts and Auxiliaries that helped in any way, you rock! And you prove that "No One Does More for Veterans Than the VFW."

With this much food and money being raised by our Posts and Auxiliaries around the state, there will be many less hungry and needy families this holiday season. Keep up the great work, VFW and VFWA of New Mexico.

VFW Department Commander Cynthia Archuleta said "During these difficult times and all of the restrictions we have in place, this shows the community that the VFW never stops caring and giving to our communities. This is what the VFW is about, and we proved it again in one day what we can do during the worst of times. Thank you to all who participated. I am truly honored and proud of all of you. Thank you again for all your hard work."

VFWA Department President Kandy Brazell said "A big thank you from the bottom of my heart for every VFW and VFWA member that contributed to the joint state-wide food bank contest! I know that the prize money was a great incentive to get out and collect non-perishable items for our food pantries, but as our members have the biggest hearts – I think that the overwhelming support that we had across the state would still have happened even if we didn't offer up the prize money. To all VFW Auxiliaries please report your contribution to this most needed charity event! I really hope that we do this again sometime in the spring or if we are able to have a mini drive at Mid-Winter!"

Santa Fe Post 2951's Commander Gilbert Romero said "This food drive is truly a testament to what people of good will can accomplish and it will remain a part of Post 2951's annual calendar," and Grants Post 3221 Commander Tyrra Saavadra said "VFW and Auxiliary are here to help the community any way we can."

Commander's Corner



Cynthia Archuleta

What a crazy year this has been for all of us. I hope you are all well, as well as your families. It has been very difficult for all us during this COVID. As far as I can see, it might be a little longer that we will remain inside. Numbers are going up all over the United States, and this is not a good sign for any of us to re-open. The VA regional office is closed through December 31, 2020, to everyone except a few employees. I believe this may get extended. I

have been doing my service officer job at the VFW in Rio Rancho. If anyone needs to see a service officer, I can be reached at 505-346-4881, Cynthia.archuleta@va.gov.

I am going to schedule another Zoom meeting to discuss any issues that you all may have questions on. Please get with your Post Commanders to discuss any concerns. I am going to try to have the meeting on December 5th at 1300.

National has now offered grants to Posts. Dave sent out an e-mail, but if you did not get it, please let Dave or me know so we can get it to you. This is a great opportunity to get some funding to help you with your finances. There are some stipulations, so please read the email carefully.

Thank you to all the Posts that participated in the food drive. You ALL did a great job.

Western Conference was held in Cheyenne, Wyoming, the weekend of November 7th. We had a really good showing from New Mexico, even with COVID. It was nice to see veterans and their spouses, even if it was just for a few hours. Everyone wore masks and practiced social distancing. Cheyenne did a good job of hosting it. Thanks to all who took the time out of their schedule to show up.

Please continue to remain safe and check on your veterans in your area and within your Posts.



New Mexico VFW State Officers 2020-2021

National Council Member - Len Hampton 6917 Las Cruces
 Commander - Cynthia Archuleta 5890 Rio Rancho
 Sr. Vice Commander - Roy Maldonado 4384 Anthony
 Jr. Vice Commander - Christopher Archuleta 5610 Espanola
 Quartermaster - Dave Fouse 7686 Alamogordo
 Chaplain - Victoria Haddox 5890 Rio Rancho
 Judge Advocate - Cathy Brock 3274 Hobbs
 Surgeon - Brian Ravak 6917 Las Cruces
 Past State Cmdr - Richard Nutt 7686 Alamogordo
 Inspector - Lawrence Vargas 3259 Taos
 Chief of Staff - Richard Nutt 7686 Alamogordo
 Service Officer - Cynthia Archuleta 5890 Rio Rancho

District Commanders

District 1 - Eloy Howard 614 Aztec
 District 2 - James Haddox 5890 Rio Rancho
 District 3 - Richard Hoschar 6917 Las Cruces
 District 4 - Jack Doil 1389 Elephant Butte
 District 5 - Gary Ludi 1547 Las Vegas
 District 6 - Joseph DeVargas 3259 Taos
 District 7 - Michael Grimeson II 3274 Hobbs
 District 8 - Joe Bob Mann 3280 Clovis

New Mexico VFW News

Official Publication of the Department of New Mexico Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Three issues: September, December, and May. News items and photographs, etc., should be sent to VFW Dept. Editor, vfwnmeditor@yahoo.com no later than the 10th day of the month preceding the month of publication. Editor is Mark Decker.

VFW

Veterans of Foreign Wars

New Mexico National Council Member



Len Hampton

Greetings, Comrades and Sisters,

The year 2020 has required many changes for us all. Some of these changes require thinking outside the box. This story reminded me of how this type of thinking works to achieve a goal:

“In a small Italian town, hundreds of years ago, a small business owner owed a large sum of money to a loan-shark. The loan-shark was a very old, unattractive looking guy

that just so happened to fancy the business owner’s daughter. He decided to offer the businessman a deal that would completely wipe out the debt he owed him. However, the catch was that he would only wipe out the debt if he could marry the businessman’s daughter. Needless to say, this proposal was met with a look of disgust. The loan-shark said that he would place two pebbles into a bag, one white and one black. The

daughter would then have to reach into the bag and pick out a pebble. If it was black, the debt would be wiped, but the loan-shark would then marry her. If it was white, the debt would also be wiped, but the daughter wouldn’t have to marry the loan-shark. Standing on a pebble-strewn path in the businessman’s garden, the loan shark bent over and picked up two pebbles. Whilst he was picking them up, the daughter noticed that he’d picked up two black pebbles and placed them both into the bag. He then asked the daughter to reach into the bag and pick one. The daughter naturally had three choices as to what she could have done: 1. Refuse to pick a pebble from the bag. 2. Take both pebbles out of the bag and expose the loan-shark for cheating. 3. Pick a pebble from the bag fully well knowing it was black and sacrifice herself for her father’s freedom. She drew out a pebble from the bag, and before looking at it ‘accidentally’ dropped it into the midst of the other pebbles. She said to the loan-shark; ‘Oh, how clumsy of me. Never mind, if you look into the bag for the one that is left, you will be able to tell which pebble I picked.’ The pebble left in the bag is obviously black, and seeing as the loan-shark didn’t want to be exposed, he had to play along as if the pebble the daughter dropped was white, and clear her father’s debt.”

Enjoy! Think outside of the box!



The National Home has served as a living memorial to America’s veterans for over 94 years by helping our nation’s military and veteran families during difficult times.

- We provide housing and daycare to the military, veteran and veteran related families participating in our one to four year program.
- Educational, recreational, and enrichment opportunities are available to our families both on and off campus.
- Personal case management services for each family.
- Counseling & other community resources as needed.

If you know a family that could use our help please encourage them to call 1.800.313.4200



Quartermaster Message



Dave Fouse

Comrades, Adjutants and/or Quartermasters, please review the Monthly Compliance Report for the status of your Audits and Minutes of your Post Meetings. These should be sent to Department Headquarters in a timely manner. If there are not enough members for a quorum, just send a letter stating such.

REMINDER: All Community Activity Reports will be processed through www.nmvfw.org;

Login with Last Name and membership number, scroll to the bottom of the page and on the left side you will see the Community Activity Report link. This will collect all the data and provide a report to National HQ. This data has a large impact towards the selection of the All-State and All-American Teams.

REMINDER: The Post Quartermaster is the chief financial officer of the Post. The Quartermaster is the custodian of all Post property and the officer responsible for safeguarding Post funds and property. The Quartermaster is accountable to the Post, Department, and the National Organization, for all of the monies, securities, vouchers and property of the Post. The Quartermaster is the only one authorized under the By-Laws, to receive, handle, disburse and account for funds

of the Post. There are no exceptions to this rule!

No committee, holding company, canteen manager, group or individual in the Post or in any way connected with the Post's activities, can take this authority and responsibility from the Post Quartermaster. All funds, monies or property accumulated under the name of the Veterans of Foreign Wars for the Post, regardless of the nature of the activity which accumulates them, are the property of the Post and are subject only to disposition by Post action. No Post member can mandate the expenditure of funds or disposition of Post Property unless properly authorized by the Post and executed by the Quartermaster.

Section 218 (a) (5) (h) of the Manual of Procedure

The books and records of the Quartermaster shall be maintained in a legible and uniform format. Record keeping by electronic means may be used, provided a back up and a hard copy is maintained. Books and records shall be available for inspection by authorized officers and Post members' at all reasonable times. Reconcile and verify all transactions listed on all bank statements to assure the accuracy of post records. Unless authorized by the Post to remove such books and records from its facilities, all such books and records shall be kept at the Post facilities

know the five signs.

Nearly one in every five people, 42.5 million Americans, have a diagnosable mental health condition. Our friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family members may be suffering emotionally. They may not recognize the symptoms or ask for help.



Not feeling like yourself? Are you feeling agitated? Are you feeling withdrawn? Taking care of yourself? Are you feeling hopeless?

Chaplain Message



Victoria Haddox

Man, what a year! What trying times! We have canceled State Convention and Commander Homecoming. We managed to make it to Western Conference, and are currently quarantining. All of this seems so small if you know about members in hospitals that we can't see, or lost members we weren't able to put to rest properly.

I wish I could provide guidance on how to beat this virus, but I can't. It's

something we must endure, but we know how to do that! We endured all the conflicts and wars we've fought, and we endure everyday with our personal demons. With that being said, we all have demons; please check in on your members as much as possible. Be that ear that is needed to help them battle through.

We are entering the hardest part of the year and with this lockdown, our members need us now more than ever. Buddy-check as many people as you can. If you need to talk, call me at 505-203-5007, or email me: torihdx@gmail.com.

Just know that I care for every single one of you, and I want to see all of us get through this together. Please wear your mask, love your hand sanitizer, and social distance. Hope to see every single one of you in the New Year!

Surgeon Message



Brian Ravak

"A surgeon is surrounded by people who are sick, discouraged, afraid, embittered, dying - but also courageous, loving, wise, compassionate and alive." Bernie Seigel

I would like to start by saying "thank you!" for allowing me to serve you as the Department Surgeon, 2020-2021. Department Commander Archuleta has assembled a team dedicated to serving you. I truly believe New Mexico is better because of the outstanding work our fraternal organization does

each and every day.

To the Comrades and to the women and men of our amazing Auxiliary: We are halfway through this VFW Year and face an uphill battle. COVID is spiking across the country, flu season is starting, and all of our Posts are hurting because we are not open for business. However, I encourage you to focus on continuing to do "the VFW business" even during these challenging times. I share with you three important topics below:

1) I am hearing Posts are becoming lax in their approach to COVID-19. This is unacceptable and not debatable. We **must** and we **will** adhere to the current COVID Public Health Orders. Whether at your Post or representing the VFW in any

way in your communities, you are directed to follow the established Public Health protocols set by national, state, and local government agencies.

2) Do not use COVID as an excuse to not do the VFW programs mandated by our bylaws; "the programs" establish our non-profit eligibility. Be creative, plan ahead, and find new and unique ways to get out and support and promote our great organization. If you believe No One Else Does More For Veterans, then show it. Lead by example!

3) Take care of each other! Just because there are Public Health Order restrictions in place, doesn't mean our job of taking care of veterans stops. Take a few minutes to evaluate yourself first and then those around. Focus on these four principles. Ask yourself: how is my physical health, mental health, social health, and spiritual health? Then, when you are confident you are "healthy" in all four principles, check in on your neighbors, your co-workers, your family, our veterans and their families.

Comrades and Auxiliary members alike, we will get through 2020! Stay safe! Keep the faith! And always remember, **Never Give Up the Fight for Veterans!**

Thank you for all you do, day-in and day-out, for our veterans and their families.

Finally, if there is something you need help with from the VFW Department of New Mexico, you may call me anytime, day or night; calling or texting is the best and fastest method to get my attention. If you send an email of an urgent nature, please, text me and let me know so that I may direct my attention to your service.

Inspector Message



Lawrence Vargas

Comrades and Sisters hope all are doing well from this COVID-19 lets all be safe and take care of each other. This is to all District Commanders, I sent an inspection packet to you to get the Posts in your Districts inspected. If you are unable to have a District meeting or visit your Post you can call each individual Post and get their information over the phone. When all the information is taken, by phone, print the Post Commanders name, date taken, and time then

you sign and print the inspectors name. once this is done, send it to me by e-mail, LRV49ERS@MSN.COM all lower case, or by mail, PO Box 3122 Taos, NM 87571.

The deadline is the third week of December or sooner. If you need any more information please contact me at 575 -779-3108 or my e-mail. Thank you

District 2 Commander



James Haddox

District 2 has been busy, even during this pandemic situation! We have been holding our meetings online and have been learning how to work around the circumstances that have been presented. I would like to thank all of our District members that help to make us still accomplish so much. Our District has been fully engaged with the Department food drive! I would like to specially recognize Post 9676 and Post 5890 for their efforts in

supporting this event. All of our District Posts participated, and the most important thing...we helped our communities! Our District Posts represented their communities in the recent Veterans Day services all

across the Metro area.

Chet Pino, Post 9676 Commander was featured in an article in Los Lunas! Here is the link: https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.news-bulletin.com%2Fnews%2Fchet-pino-commander-of-daniel-d-fernandez-vfw-post-9676-in-los-lunas-remembers-the%2Farticle_16e01954-244e-11eb-bbfc-1b599eadc458.html%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR0xpT2RxmjJiqwG-GR67_8Ae4rAtPfNs85EnzPnnCzXfXmIVpmSnHLfQPHM&h=AT3RYBhsQAKEYi_iX1KFjeaLYgYsMUojCRijnrcl8as_jXgTiuCjyXfXx1lclIN50Wq-0Kd5KzIUJ2SrY5jRG6HG1ILT3FYHPRSa0C61o6qy0qpHkMJm_1Xo1kOTpRhOZ8I

Congratulations Chet!

May there be a resolution to this situation so we can all be together again in true fellowship!

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS®

President's Corner



Kandy Brazell

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

With the New Year fast approaching I say bring it on – but please be nicer than 2020!

For the Auxiliary, District, Department Officers, and all of the VFW Officers – I know that this year, 2020 – 2021, has not been what any of us have envisioned but let me pass on something that the VFWA National President Sandra Onstwedder said at

Western Conference in her

speech – this isn't exactly word for word but it went something like this: I have been wondering why I was chosen to be National President this year of all years but it finally hit me – I was chosen to be an officer this year because I was needed to lead in this very challenging pandemic.

So it made me start thinking – Kandy, you selfish person, you have been feeling sorry for yourself for not getting to go around the state, but yes, you were put here as Department President as well as all the other officers in the state, because you were needed to be here at this time. Yes, I have made mistakes, but let us face it – we have never been faced with what we are going through. I have learned from those mistakes and have figured out changes that need to be brought before this organization in order to insure that some of the things that have been going wrong – such as not knowing how to hold a meeting with everything shut down – never happens again. It has been strongly hinted at by National that if some Department were to send in a resolution seeking to change the bylaws to incorporate virtual meetings in some way that it would probably pass. Department of New Mexico Resolution Committee – Hint! Hint!

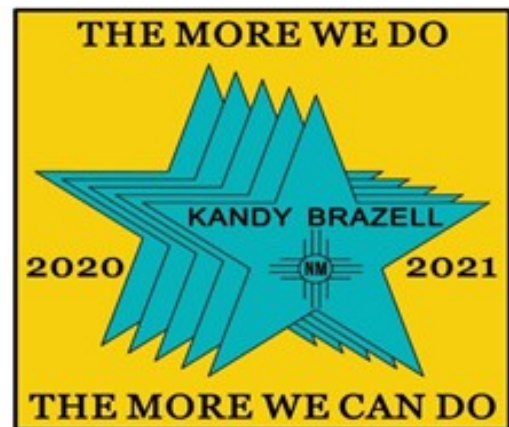
I really feel that even though some are struggling with virtual meetings such as Zoom, using this format should become a part of our "normal" meetings. Just think about those meetings that you haven't had a quorum because someone was sick and couldn't make it to the meeting. Or say that someone quits coming because going down to the Post home to attend a meeting just doesn't work for them because for some reason they can't leave the house. It needs to be noted in your meeting

minutes – we had this many in person attendees and this many members attended via Zoom, and that our meeting was so well attended that we made our quorum? Think about your members that are shut-ins and miss the interaction of being with their brothers and sisters. Virtual and in-person meetings are the wave of the future. So, let us use this pandemic as a means of developing a new practice for our future meetings.

Think about the use of virtual meetings. It would even save money for the Department as we would not need to send someone to your District meeting, because they could attend by Zoom. Or even your Auxiliary meetings – Department line officers and chairmen could attend virtually, to every meeting. Think about the problems that would solve! If an urgent problem needed to be addressed, it could be done almost immediately; you would not have to table it until the next meeting. Think about adding some kind of virtual software to your budget for the upcoming year and add it to your meetings – because I can imagine that some Departments will add it as a resolution to our bylaws and it will become a rule instead of a suggestion.

So, as I stated in my last newspaper article – now is the time to evolve, not only for myself, but for the entire state! Will it be easy? Maybe not, because change is hard, but I know in my heart that I can depend on each and every member to show me the strength and love that each one of us has for our VFW/VFWA family and each other, that things will be ok, because when things get tough, families always come through for each other! So, with the New Year upon us – if we are able to show mercy and grace, and be willing to change, we will be a much stronger organization. The West is the Best – but our Department outshines them all!

Stay safe, wear those masks, wash your hands – and we will win! Fingers crossed that we see each other in person and virtually at Mid-Winter! May all your holiday wishes come true, and may we all have an incredibly happy New Year.



District 15 Representative



Kim Harney

As we head toward the end of the year, I, for one, will be glad to see 2020 over. While the year started out promising, with many of us at Mid-Year in Hawaii, it did not stay that way. We have dealt with the COVID for what seems like forever, and yet we have managed to continue our business of working with our Veterans and their families. With face-to-face meetings not always being the best option, the use of Zoom meetings is on the increase. We have learned to use this technology to the best of

our ability. It does not replace the face-to-face meetings, but does allow us to continue to conduct business.

Despite the times, I feel that Western Conference was a success. There were approximately ninety-five people in person on the Auxiliary side and sixty on Zoom. It was great that so many were able to attend via Zoom. There was a by-law change stating that we will no longer nominate and elect at the Western Conference, with the exception of the treasurer. The reasoning behind this is now that there is a rotation among the states, nominations and elections are happening at State Conventions, and therefore these duties need not be conducted at the Western Conference.

We heard from the two candidates for National Guard from the Eastern Conference. Hopefully you have seen their brochures. If not, they are posted on the Arizona Webpage -<http://www.vfwauxaz.org> under the tab news-national news. I am hopeful that we will be able to elect in-person in Baltimore at the National Convention in August.

States presented information on the programs. I am sorry for your technical difficulty with your presentation, but thank you for the link to the video. National President Sandi Onstwedder spoke to the members. National will be presenting a resolution concerning a new shirt. It will still be blue, but with long sleeves while the short sleeve will not have the white inside the collar. These shirts will be more cost effective. A second resolution will be made concerning moving the emblem back to the left side. All the resolutions that we did not address last year will be covered.

Next year, Western Conference will be held in Sparks, Nevada, November 4-7th. Starting in January, you will be able to check out the website, www.vfw3396.org for all the new updated registration and tours.

As I head into the last part of my final year as the National Council Member for Arizona and New Mexico, I look forward to continuing to represent you in the best possible way given the current circumstances.

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

New Mexico VFW Auxiliary State Officers 2019-2020

National Councilwoman - Kim Harney *Arizona*
 President - Kandy Brazell *401 Albuquerque*
 Sr. Vice President - Betty Decker *614 Aztec*
 Jr. Vice President - Dominique Garcia *401 Albuquerque*
 Treasurer - Penney Howard *614 Aztec*
 Secretary - Jeanette Garcia *401 Albuquerque*
 Chaplain - Vicky Westbrook *614 Aztec*
 Conductress - Elaine Mitchell *3015 Clovis*
 Assistant Conductress -
 Guard - Renee King *2951 Santa Fe*
 Assistant Guard - Dela Sanchez *4384 Anthony*
 Chief of Staff - Louise Salas *401 Albuquerque*
 Past State Pres. - Kelly Fouse *7686 Alamogordo*
 Color Bearer #1 - Teresa Livengood *3370 Moriarty*
 Color Bearer #2 - Caryle Goss *8703 Carlsbad*
 Color Bearer #3 - Lequanah Crawford *8703 Carlsbad*
 Color Bearer #4 - Kelly Heard *8703 Carlsbad*
 Flag Bearer - Nancy Tabb *5890 Rio Rancho*
 Banner Bearer - Robert Henson *2951 Santa Fe*
 Musician/Soloist - Diana Wong *401 Albuquerque*

District President

District 1 - Vickey Westbrook *614 Aztec*
 District 2 - Shirlee Frias *401 Albuquerque*
 District 3 - Beth Miller *6917 Las Cruces*
 District 4 - Nancy Evans *1389 Elephant Butte*
 District 5 - Penny Esparza *3271 Clayton*
 District 6 - Margie Carrillo *2951 Santa Fe*
 District 7 - Angel Martinez *3274 Hobbs*
 District 8 - Vondale Mann *3280 Clovis*

VFWA Secretary Message



Jeanette Garcia

VFWA Sisters and Brothers:

It is a new year, and even though we are in this COVID-19 pandemic, we still have Veterans and Families that we need to keep as our priority. As Auxiliary members, I hope that you are finding creative ways to reach out to them and see how they are feeling during this time and how we can provide services. I know I am writing this as Department Secretary, we need to start thinking about the following:

First, you need to find a way to have your meetings. We are not able to be at the VFW to hold our meeting, but you can have a Zoom meeting, which is free. You may not have a computer, but you can call in for the meeting. If you are five or less, (5), you can meet at someone's house; just make sure you are socially distancing, wearing your mask and washing your hands.

We have to try something. I know everyone is scared and some of you do not want to leave your homes and be out in your respective communities. So, find a way to have your meetings, find a way to have your audit, because this needs to continue. Email who you can, get the word out through your radio stations, and for some a little note would be great. Find a way and be creative.

Also, when you have your meetings, do not forget to turn in your minutes. Please approve them at your next meeting and then submit to me. You do not need to submit them to the Department President. One other change this year; for Secretary of the Year, I am asking for each of the Auxiliary Presidents to provide a report on what each of their Secretaries accomplished this year. Our Secretaries do so much more than just taking notes and writing up minutes of the meeting. Many are Auxiliary Chairman; they make phone calls, check-up on our members, help with fundraising (it will be different this year), and run errands for families and neighbors. Even though we are asking you to continue your meetings, to work on your audits, and to continue the work of the Auxiliary, we want you to take care and be safe. Hopefully soon, we will be able to see one other, give hugs, cry a little and celebrate this organization and our Veterans and families.

President's Gift

When Kathleen Lopez was Department President, I unknowingly started a new tradition for the Department of New Mexico Auxiliary. We were in San Diego, California, eating at a wonderful restaurant. Everyone who was there really, I mean REALLY liked the dinner rolls and the butter spread. Everyone kept asking the waiter for more rolls. He would not bring them to us. Well, Kathleen asked for rolls and they brought her some. So all of us asked her to ask for rolls for us, and hence, the beginning of the tradition. When she left office and was passing the gavel to me, I gave her a gift. I had several sisters (no brothers in the Auxiliary at the time) take "ROLLS" to her.

And so it began. I have given a "gift" to each President as they started their year. This year was no exception. Even though we are in a Pandemic, I presented Department President Kandy Brazell with her gift. Kandy loves to make cakes. Every event we had, Kandy always offered to bring cakes. They of course are perfect, every single time. So, I presented her a gift of off-balance cake pans. They stack up to make an uneven cake. I decorated it with red, white, and blue. She will carry this with her the entire year.

Congrats, Kandy!

108,000+

Number of veterans the VFW assisted in submitting new VA claims in fiscal year 2019.

64,000+

Number of high school students who competed in the 2019-20 VFW Voice of Democracy competition.

2019-2020 Joint Food Drive



2019-2020 Joint Food Drive



MOC Grand Commander



Mark Decker

Well, the year is almost half over. We should have held Grand Convention, Supreme Convention, Grand meetings, MOCA Grand President Homecoming, Pup Tent scratches, Tomb Trek and Cootie Christmas by this time. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 all of those were either cancelled or held virtually. This is an unexpected situation. We have to adapt and overcome (please let me know what movie this is

in). I know we will do this...it is just a little harder than normal.

As Grand, we have been having a monthly get together on Zoom. We have been inviting all MOC and MOCA members to attend. Those that have come seem to have a lousy time with it. We are planning a Zoom get together on December 8, and we're having an ugly

sweater contest. Please attend if you get the chance, but do not expect to win, because Betty picked out my sweater, and I do expect to win!

Our membership is doing okay, but please help get the monkey off my back. I know it is hard with no in-person meetings to get people to join or renew. But please, reach out to all MOC members and make sure they are OK. Also, talk to any VFW member that is not a Cootie to join. Remember they only need to have held a position of responsibility in the Post or higher at any time to be eligible. Get out and talk to them. Most are willing and wanting to join once they learn what we do.

As for what we do, we need to report this to Grand right away. Please send all reports to Gordon Lam at nmcootie@gmail.com. Our reporting this year is low. Please report all that you do.

Stay safe and healthy. Check on your fellow Cooties/Cuties and all Veterans. Reach out if you are having problems. We are all here for each other.

MOCA Treasurer



As of today, November 9, 2020, the MOCA Grand of New Mexico membership is at 65.77%. Officers, please remember that your dues must be paid by December 31, 2020, or you can no longer be an officer. In order to meet the deadline of December 31, 2020 you will need to pay your dues by the 1st part of December so that your Auxiliary

Treasurer can get them to me by the 15th of December and then I can forward them on to Supreme to be posted by the end of the year. We have one Auxiliary that has not sent any transmittals in for this year! So please, get those dues in.

May you all have a Cootie kind of Christmas and a Cootie New Year!

K2

1.6 million+

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

9.4 million

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

VFW Post 2951

VFW Post 2951, along with everyone else, is being critically affected by the current COVID-19 Epidemic which prevents us from doing our normal fundraisers that allow us to pay required operating bills and utilities. We are glad to provide support to our local base and community organizations, we desperately need your help to preserve our VFW existence, and will provide you a receipt for your tax deductible donation.

Established in 1935, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2951 has hit hard times after closing its doors following state-level regulations on bars across the state amid the coronavirus pandemic.

“The fact that we are treated as a bar is hurting the mission of the VFW,” said Gilbert Romero commander. “We are a canteen in our Post home. We’re not a bar,

and having us classified as that prevents us from accomplishing these other vital services that we provide to the community.”

Like many VFW chambers, VFW Post 2951 serves as a local gathering place for veterans in the Santa Fe area, Romero said.

“It’s become a center where veterans from this community can come to get away from daily life to interact and meet up with veterans who have experienced similar things in their past,” he said. “[The center provides] respite from what can be sometimes an almost unfamiliar space in the world, ... [but] that has been removed as well because, again, our doors are shut, and we can’t meet up and have that camaraderie ... with each other.”

VFW Post 401 Toys for Tots Drive

Thank you, Marine Corps Toy for Tots Peaceful Protest Against Poverty Motorcycle Poker Run. On October 25, 2020, Albuquerque held this event, and the weather was cloudy yet warm. Team 401 was able to secure a spot to help with this year's Toys for Tots Poker Run. Almost 200 bikes passed through our Post poker stop. We sold Frito pies during this event, which took place outdoors. My team stayed safe, and enjoyed seeing our home actively supporting our community and helping children for Christmas. It's a great feeling to be helping our friends and family during this tough year of Covid-19.

Semper Fi! This is Veterans helping Veterans, along with our true commitment to those who cant help or just need help getting up.



Post Pandemic Relief Grant

Due to the recent Covid-19 pandemic, the VFW has faced previously unknown challenges throughout our entire organization, including at the local Post level. We realize that VFW Posts have been severely impacted in their ability to cover operating expenses through conventional means that have been hampered if not completely halted. To lessen the financial burden created by this unprecedented crisis, the VFW Foundation has earmarked \$680,000 for the VFW Foundation Post Pandemic Relief Grant (PPRG). Eligible Posts that own or lease their own Post Homes may apply for a grant of up to \$2,500. Requests will be reviewed, and if qualifying, approved in the order they are received by VFW Foundation staff. If approved, awards should be received within six weeks after submission.

ELIGIBILITY:

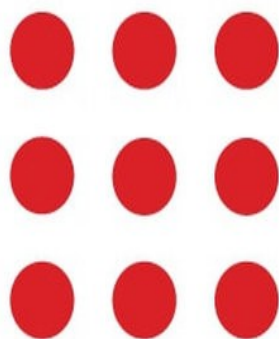
To qualify to receive this PPRG grant, a VFW Post must have completed any three out of the five following criteria during the 2018-2019 and/or 2019-2020 fiscal year:

1. Achieved 100% membership.
2. Submission of Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, and/or Teacher of the Year
3. Buddy Poppies purchased
4. Donation made to Veterans & Military Support Programs
5. Reported 1,000 or more hours of community service to their Department
6. Be in good standing (i.e. not on suspension)

with VFW National.

7. Own or rent a Post Home. The title deed or lease agreement must be held or signed by the members of the VFW Post. The building deed or rental must solely be in the name of a VFW Post and cannot be jointly owned or rented by any other veterans' group(s).
8. Have a fully completed Election Report on file with VFW National Headquarters. It is advised that a Post submit a copy along with their application to ensure expediency.
9. Have a combined total of less than \$10,000 in all non-restricted bank accounts held by the Post. Copies of the most recent statement for each non-restricted account must be submitted via email along with the application form.
10. Agree to complete and return a two-page grant report form along with proof of how the funding was used.
11. Have a qualifying need, which includes payment assistance for the following: Mortgage/Rent; Utilities (gas, electric, water, etc.), Insurance; Property tax

NOTE: Requests for funding purposes not listed above will not be considered. The PPRG application is available to download at www.vfw.org/grants. Questions regarding the PPRG may be directed to Jason Couch: jcouch@vfw.org or 816-968-1174.



Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255 **PRESS 1**

Goodwill Services

My name is Chris Flores and I am the new Case Manager for the Veterans Family Services Department at Goodwill Industries of NM. I am trying to get this information out to our community of veterans and their household members to help those looking for work. The COVID disruption has had devastating effects, and we are working diligently to reach these folks.

I wanted to reach out and introduce myself, since in-person networking and outreach events are not being held during the pandemic. Although there are many programs for veterans and their family members in Albuquerque, many do not duplicate services.

The Goodwill Veteran Family Services program provides job development, on-the-job paid training through TrialWorks and comprehensive case management to veterans and their household members. We want to help our veterans improve their odds of success in finding community-based employment. TrialWorks is a paid warehouse/retail training offered to participants of the VFS program with part-time hours at our Juan Tabo

location. Here is the link for VFS: <https://www.goodwillnm.org/veteran-family-services.html>

Please provide your staff and those you encounter with my phone number or ask them to call the main office for more information and to sign up (San Mateo office is open, but not allowing the public to enter the office). We are not closed and are looking to help vets and their family members during and after the pandemic.

Chris Flores, MBA, Case Manger Goodwill VFS
505-88-6401 extension 1874 or 505-750-3698

Feel free to ring and chat with me about how I may help your organization as well. If you would like, and there is an opportunity for me to present this information about the VFS and TrialWorks paid training program to your staff or community members, let me know. I am open to a 10-15 minute in-person, Zoom, phone call or other meeting formats. I look forward to working toward our common goal of helping our community together.

Important Dates

District

December 5	District 4	Post 3317	Joint 1030, Meeting 1100, Lunch
January 9	District 5	Post 1547	Meeting at Noon Lunch to Follow
January 10	District 3	Post 4384	Lunch at Noon Meeting to Follow
January 10	District 8	Post 9515	Lunch at Noon Meeting to Follow
January 30	District 1	Post 2182	Lunch at Noon Meeting to Follow
February 6	District 2	Post 401	Lunch at Noon Meeting to Follow
February 7	District 7	Post 3274	Meeting at 1100
April 3	District 4	Post 1389	Joint 1030, Meeting 1100, Lunch
April 10	District 6	Post 7688	Lunch at Noon Meeting to Follow
April 11	District 8	Post 3015	Lunch at Noon Meeting to Follow
April 17	District 1	Post 614	Lunch at Noon Meeting to Follow
April 17	District 5	Post 1131	Meeting at Noon Lunch to Follow
April 18	District 3	Post 6917	Lunch at Noon Meeting to Follow
May 1	District 2	Post 5890	Lunch at Noon Meeting to Follow

Mid-Winter

February 5-6 Albuquerque Sheraton Airport

VFW 3015 Veterans Day

VFWA Post 3015 served over 50 meals to veterans on 11 Nov. 2020. PBS was there and filmed the event to air on 13 November, 2020 at 5pm, Facebook, News 3NM and channel 3-1.

VFW/VFWA is also planning on having a FREE full Thanksgiving Day dinner for all veterans on 21 November 2020, starting at 5pm.

3015 Veterans Day lunch was great success. The college newspaper showed up talked and interviewed members that included commander Tom Hudspeth along with Auxiliary president Elaine Mitchell. Following guides of our governor temperatures were taken along with a name and numbers just in case someone let us know that they had tested positive after the lunch, that way we can call and inform them they need to get checked. Keeping names private, holding onto list of names for three weeks to be safe. All that attended was on board with procedures. The menu: Ribs, brisket, pulled pork, collard greens, corn, green beans, mashed potatoes, peach cobbler and cake. This was the Auxiliary saying thank our veterans and all veterans for their service. It was dine in or take out all was take out after brief conversation. The helpers VFWA President Elaine Mitchell, VFWA Sr. Vice President Leeann Lam, MOCA President Arlene Smith, Dale Hurt, Danny Wilson, Katelyn Slate, Zaiden Slate. Great job to each and

everyone. Only wish we had thought ahead and made more food. We started at eleven and ran out by one thirty. We turned veterans away (sad).



VFW 5432 Veterans Day



Corrales VFW Post 5432 held a meaningful Veterans Day ceremony at the VFW Memorial in Corrales's La Entrada Park.

A bell was rung promptly at the 11th hour to remember Armistice Day, the date an armistice was signed ending the First World War.

living and the dead. Our observance of that special day still reflects our respect for the end of this war and many more in which our nation has engaged over the past 102 years. Corrales Post 5432 dedicated this handsome black granite memorial 19 2019 on Veterans Day.



Its name, Armistice Day, has been changed to Veterans Day and has been expanded to include all veterans - the

Post 401 Zoom With Senate Candidates

On October 8, 2020, Auxiliary 401 Senior Vice President and Legislative Chairman Terry Barrett invited the three candidates running for the open Senate seat to a Zoom meeting with the members of Post and Auxiliary 401. In the meeting, each candidate was allowed to discuss what they planned to do if elected, and answered questions from members.

It was a great evening. Thank you, Terry!



Turkey Donation to VFW 9517

This year has been trying for all Posts, including VFW 9517 in Shiprock. However, Bisti Fuels wanted to give back to veterans during this time of uncertainty and stress. So, they donated seven turkeys to VFW 9517 in Shiprock, to give to veterans.

The turkeys this year came at a special time with COVID19 running rampant on the Navajo Nation and in the Four Corners area. With the economic shutdown and families being hard hit for money, these donations helped seven veteran families have a normal holiday season.

“With this donation, seven families will have a better Thanksgiving than they were expecting. This is a wonderful donation to help out the veterans in the area.” Commander John Charles stated.

Andy Hawkins, Community Engagement Manager for Bisti Fuels, delivered the turkeys to the Post on Thursday Nov 19. The seven families all received the turkeys, which ranged from 16-20 pounds, the week before Thanksgiving. All seven families were thankful for the donation.

QM Mark Decker said “Companies like Bisti Fuels, that donate to help veterans, help make us feel welcome and proud of our service. I hope this starts a long and lasting relationship between VFW 9517 and Bisti Fuels.”



VFW 4384 Veterans Day

Post 4384 celebrated Veterans Day by honoring the departed Comrades in ten of the area cemeteries. Both Comrades and Auxiliary working together placed over 700 small and medium size flags on gravesites: small flags to all veterans, and medium sized flags to fallen members of Post 4384. Many gravesites had no flowers or wreaths, nor any signs that anybody or anyone has

remembered them.

This is our way to say thank you for your ultimate patriotism.



Candidate VFWA National Guard 2022



Jeanette D. Garcia
Candidate for National Guard

I am a Life Member of VFW Auxiliary to Post 401 and have been a member for 35 years. I was a Junior Girl for two years. My eligibility comes through my father Joe D. Salas, who is a Vietnam Veteran. I have two daughters Danielle (24 years old, Education Assistant for Volcano Vista High School), Dominique (22 years old, a Pharmacy Technician). I work for Bernalillo Public Schools as the Indian Education Director.

Jeanette Garcia

I am running for the office of National Guard.

The election for National Guard will not be held until 2022. My goal will be to ensure that our Auxiliary members are receiving information from National in a timely manner. Also, to see that Auxiliaries are receiving the support they need and that we continue to work with our VFW to ensure our Veterans receive the benefits owed to them. Our Auxiliaries need to work closely with the families of our Veterans: provide them with resources, materials and help them navigate our system for medical help, and to let them know we are there to help. I want our Auxiliaries to understand the rules, guidelines, and bylaws of the organization and to never be afraid to ask questions.

Our Veterans carry a very special place in my heart. It is an honor to work beside our comrades in the VFW and outside of the organization. Our Auxiliary is very fortunate to be able to work the National programs and be able to help our Veterans and their families.

Our role as an Auxiliary is to work beside our Veterans, but not to interfere with VFW business. We have programs such as Veterans and Family Support (V&FS), Americanism, Legislative, Scholarship and Youth Activities that not only help our Veterans, but their families. It is our job to ensure that the families are provided with the best support we can provide to them. Sometimes that is lending an ear, they just want someone to listen. They need to be able to talk about what might be bothering them, cry, or to talk about the good things that are happening to their families.

Some of my qualifications:

Member of the Building on the Foundation Team for Sandi Kriebel

Western Conference: Scholarship – helped to review and place new criteria into the Scholarship program.

National Ambassador: (2016-2017) - Veterans & Family Support

National District 15 Council Member: 2017-2019

Department President: (2014-2015) - Outstanding President of the Year – Group 3

Auxiliary President: (2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2015-2019)

President of the Year: (08-09) & (17-18)

District II President: (2008-2009, 2009-2010)

Department Chairman of the Year: (2011–2012, 2013-2014, 2015-2016)

National Awards Received as Department Chairman: for the following programs: Americanism (2 years), Cancer Aid & Research (2 years), Veterans & Family Support, Youth Activities, Junior Girls (2 years) - 1st place in each at National Convention, 2nd place in Americanism

Life Member: VFW National Home

I feel that I can represent the Department of New Mexico and the National Organization with professionalism, integrity, passion, strength and a heart full of love for this organization. This position is not built on just qualifications, but on someone who has the ability to listen, work well with others, and can see the vision of the organization and lead.

I have the support of my Auxiliary, District II and the Department of New Mexico VFW Auxiliary. I would love the support of the VFW Department of New Mexico.

Loyally,
Jeanette D. Garcia
Candidate for VFWA National Guard
2022-2023

Candidate VFWA District 15



Shirlee Frias
Candidate for District 15
Council Member
2021

Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Shirlee Frias and I am asking for your support and vote at the **2021 Department Convention**, as I am announcing my candidacy for the Auxiliary District 15 Council Member. I know that it is very early to announce,

Shirlee Frias

but I want everyone to know that I am interested in advance.

My eligibility is under my husband, Don Frias who is a life member of 401. I am a Past Department President, and currently District 2 President. I have held several positions at the Auxiliary, District, and Department Level. I earned, with the help of the entire NM VFW Auxiliary, National President of the Year. This is an extremely high honor to earn, and I am proud of the work that the NM

Auxiliary has put, and continues to put, into making our Department **"BEST IN THE WEST."** I have also placed first or second place every year at National for my work as a Department Chairman.

After being away for a little over a year (Cancer fight), I am ready to represent the Department of New Mexico and Arizona for the Position of **YOUR** District 15 Council Member.

Don and I have two children who are Auxiliary members. My son Zacharie (23), is a senior at New Mexico State University studying history/archeology, and my daughter Alexis (19), is a sophomore at University of New Mexico studying criminology/criminal justice.

I would appreciate your support and vote at the June 2021 Department Convention. I will continue to support the Department and I feel this is the next logical step on that journey.

Thank you,
Shirlee Frias

2224 High Desert Circle NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144
505-235-1237
ztf@aol.com

Candidate for Department Surgeon



Hello Comrades,
I am Christina Backus; I am running for Department Surgeon for 2021-2022, and would appreciate your support to continue my service to the VFW organization and our Veterans.

I come from a military family, with a military upbringing. Supporting military members and our Veterans has always been a part of my life, and I strive to continue serving

Christina Backus

the needs of my fellow Veterans.

I have two main concerns for the needs of our Veterans; getting sufficient health care needs provided closer to home and addressing the root causes of suicide. We have a large number of our VFW family that do not live close to Albuquerque or El Paso, the two main VA

Hospital locations. I would like to help find our more remote Veterans the care they need, without having to travel or stay far from their homes.

I am also concerned that there are many issues that plague our Veterans, and it is good that these are being spotlighted as problems, but I would like to encourage our fellow Veterans to seek help for the root causes. Alcohol, drugs and mental health are among the top causes for many who lose their battle for life. There are too many avenues for receiving support for this to continue. I believe having strong communication among the Surgeons, at every level throughout our state, can set strong building blocks to accomplish great things for our Veterans.

I earned my eligibility for the VFW while serving in Korea in 2006. I became a member of the VFW in 2008, and a Life member in 2016. I served as Quartermaster for 3 years and as the Gaming Manager for the Post. I received All-State and All-American Commander in 2019. On District level, I have held the position of trustee, Senior Vice and I am currently District 2 Junior Vice.

Candidate for Department Surgeon



Don Frias

Greetings, fellow Comrades!

My name is Don Frias and I am asking for your support and vote at Department Convention 2020, as I am announcing my candidacy for State Surgeon.

My journey begins at Eldorado High School. I graduated in 1985 and enlisted in the United States Navy in 1986. After attending bootcamp, I was assigned to the USS Peleliu LHA-5, an

amphibious assault ship. While serving, I worked on auxiliary engineering equipment throughout the ship, and with about 2 ½ years left, I was reassigned as a search and rescue boat engineer as part of a crew of four. We were responsible for any downed helicopters, or any aircraft going down. After my first four years were complete, I reenlisted and was sent to Assault Craft Unit One based out of NAB Coronado, CA (Naval Amphibious Base). Our unit was placed on high alert and was flown to Saudi Arabia ahead of Desert Shield to prepare for possible land invasion.

Upon my return to the United States, our squadron commander signed us up at the local VFW Post in Imperial Beach (Post 5477). I transferred to Post 401 in Albuquerque when I returned. I have held several positions since joining Post 401 including:

Post Level

- Post commander for two years (making 100% one of the years)
- Senior Vice for four years
- Junior Vice for three years
- Two years as Trustee
- Two years on the Board of Directors
- Service Officer for three years
- Surgeon for six months

District Level

- Adjutant for six years
- Service officer for five years

Department Level

- VA/VS Rep for seven years

- VOD/Patriots Pen/Teachers Chairman
- Buddy Poppy Chairman
- National Home Chairman

National Level

- Appointed to the 120th National Convention Resolutions Committee

Military Order of the Cootie (MOC)

- Past Grand Commander
- Current Seam Squirrel for Pup Tent #7

My wife Shirlee is an Auxiliary member who has gone through the Post, District, and Department chairs and is a Past Department President. I have two children who are Auxiliary members. My son, Zacharie (23), is a senior at New Mexico State University studying history, and my daughter Alexis (19), is a sophomore at University of New Mexico studying criminology/criminal justice.

As your State Surgeon, it will be my mission to work along with all Post and District surgeons to help our vets with their medical needs. Working with the VA and our Department Service Officer, I will be able to convey all new and the latest health information. I'll also be able to pass along Mental Health services that are being offered, not only here, but throughout the state. We need to help our veterans and their families. If we don't, who will?

I am proud to be a part of this phenomenal Department for the past 25 years, and I am ready to serve the Department as its State Surgeon, and eventually as your Department Commander.

Regardless of the outcome of June's election, I will NEVER stop helping those in need. It's not who I am. I can't say "no" when it comes to our Veterans.

Your consideration for this high office is appreciated.

Thank you,
Don Frias

2224 High Desert Circle NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87144
505-417-0053
ztf@aol.com



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND ITS AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AND
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
FEBRUARY 5-6, 2021**



IMPORTANT INFORMATION, PLEASE READ!

Hotel Information:

Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel
2910 Yale Blvd SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106

Online Reservation: [Book your group rate for VFW Mid Winter 2021](#)

Website: <http://www.sheratonalbuquerqueairport.com/>

Local # 1-505-843-7000 (reference: VFW February Conference)

Fax at front desk: 1-505-843-6307

Please read all information, and disseminate to your VFW and VFWA Members as soon as possible.

We are meeting at the Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel, at 2910 Yale Blvd S.E., this year!

Room Rates are: Single/Doubles: \$109.00 per night plus 13.875% in local and state taxes. **Reservations must be made prior to 5:00 PM, January 7, 2021** to get the VFW rate and to meet our quota. **Don't forget the Post is responsible to ensure their winners and families have their award luncheon tickets and rooms reserved!**

Commander Archuleta and Scholarship Chairman Brian Ravak are working diligently to get the Posts notified of the winners asap! After this date, room rates will be based on current hotel rates. The amenities for the Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel are:

- ◆ Breakfast is included in your room rate-please don't forget to take care of your servers!
- ◆ You can get the group rate 3 days prior, and 3 days post event
- ◆ Complimentary Gated Parking for those that have a room
- ◆ Complimentary Internet in Sleeping Rooms
- ◆ Dedicated Shuttle Service to Uptown, Old Town and Nob Hill (Each location on a scheduled night-check with front desk)

The registration and Awards Luncheon ticket request deadline for the VFW and the VFWA is January 22, 2021, the VFW and VFWA registration and agenda is a part of this packet, as well as the agendas.

- ◆ Your registration and Awards Luncheon Request is attached
- ◆ Dress for the VFW is **Business Dress** for all of Saturday's meetings and the Luncheon. VFW caps in the meetings only-not during the awards luncheon
- ◆ Dress for the VFWA is the, "Official Look", if you have it, if not, it is Business Dress. VFWA caps are to be worn in the meetings only-not during the luncheon
- ◆ All awards luncheon ticket forms and monies are to be sent to VFW Headquarters by 1/22/2021 As this is a served Luncheon, we need an accurate head count!
- ◆ VFW Registration is to be sent to VFW Headquarters
- ◆ **VFWA Registration is to be sent to Penney Howard, every year VFW HQ receives registration from an Auxiliary member-please, don't do this**
- ◆ Please follow the instructions on each form, it costs both Department's money, time and makes for inaccurate food and seating counts when you do not!

We look forward to seeing each of you at our Mid-Year Conference and Scholarship AWARDS LUNCHEON!!



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND ITS AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AND
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
FEBRUARY 5-6, 2021**



VFW National Representative: TBA

VFWA National Representative: TBA

State Commander: Cynthia Archuleta
State President: Kandy Brazell

VFW Conference Chairman: David Fouse
VFW Co-Chairman: Kelly Fouse
VFW Conference Planner: Mark Decker

VFWA Conference Chairman: Jeanette Garcia
VFWA Co-Chairman: Louise Salas

VFW'S AGENDA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2021

(Note: All meetings rooms are subject to change)

4:00 PM - 8:00 PM VFW & Auxiliary Registration

Alvarado Ballroom

4:00 PM - 11:00 PM Hospitality Room

Alvarado Ballroom

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2021

7:00 AM - 1:00 PM VFW & Auxiliary Registration

Alvarado Ballroom

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM Audit

Vista Norte Boardroom

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM VFW & Auxiliary Joint Session

Chaco/Bandelier/Tijeras
(Anasazi Ballroom)

Noon - 1:30 PM Scholarship Award Luncheon

Chaco/Bandelier/Tijeras
(Anasazi Ballroom)

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM VFW Council of Administration

Alvarado Ballroom

3:00 PM - 4:30 Q&A by Commander Archuleta & QM/ADJ Fouse

Alvarado Ballroom

5:00 PM - ??? PM Cocktails in Hospitality Room

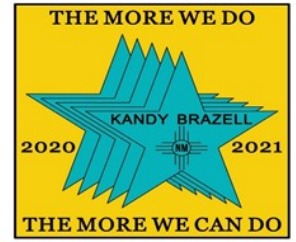
Alvarado Ballroom

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM PSC Dinner

TBA



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AND ITS AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AND
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
FEBRUARY 5-6, 2021**



VFW National Representative: TBA

VFWA National Representative: TBA

State Commander: Cynthia Archuleta
State President: Kandy Brazell

VFW Conference Chairman: David Fouse
VFW Co-Chairman: Kelly Fouse
VFW Conference Planner: Mark Decker

VFWA Conference Chairman: Jeanette Garcia
VFWA Co-Chairman: Louise Salas

**VFW AUXILIARY'S AGENDA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2021
(Note: All meetings rooms are subject to change)**

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM VFW & Auxiliary Registration	Post 401
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM Budget Meeting – Budget Committee	Post 401
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM Audit Committee	Post 401
4:00 PM – 11:00 PM Hospitality Room	Alvarado Ballroom

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2021

7:00 AM – 9:00 AM VFW & Auxiliary Registration	Alvarado Ballroom
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM VFW & Auxiliary Joint Session	Chaco/Bandelier/Tijeras (Anasazi Ballroom)
Noon - 1:30 PM Scholarship Award Luncheon	Chaco/Bandelier/Tijeras (Anasazi Ballroom)
1:30 PM – 2:30 Council Meeting	Chaco/Bandelier/Tijeras (Anasazi Ballroom)
2:30 – 5:00 PM Business Session	Chaco/Bandelier/Tijeras (Anasazi Ballroom)
5:00 PM – ??? PM Cocktails in Hospitality Room	Alvarado Ballroom



MID-WINTER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

VFW MEMBERS ONLY

DEADLINE FOR MAILING FORM is January 22, 2021



Name: _____ Post: _____

Official VFW

Title/Position: _____ Membership #: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Ck# _____

\$8.00 for VFW members (\$15.00 after 1/22/2021 and at the Door)

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER!!

If Paying by check or cash, send this completed Registration Form and Payment to:

**VFW Dept of NM HQ
PO Box 1084
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346**

**WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS!
(ONLY FILL OUT BELOW IF USING DEBIT/CREDIT CARDS)**

Please print clearly

Name as appears on card: _____

Card #: _____ - _____ - _____

Expiration date: _____ Ccv Code: _____ Amount: _____

Authorized Card Signature: _____

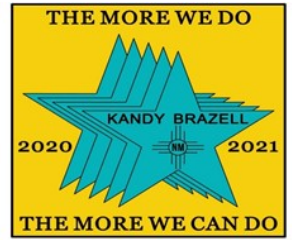
Do you want a receipt emailed? (Circle One) Y or N

Email Address: _____

Print neatly



MID-WINTER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM
VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERS ONLY
DEADLINE FOR MAILING FORM is January 22, 2021



Name: _____ AUX#: _____

Title/Position: _____ PDP: YES or NO (circle one)
(as you want to appear on name tag)

Membership #: _____ Ck# _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

\$10.00 for Auxiliary Members (**\$15.00 after 1/22/2021 and at the Door**) Amount Enclosed \$ _____

or Paid by Auxiliary # _____

THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR PRE-PRINTED NAME TAG TO BE MADE
(Make checks payable to DEPT of NM AUXILIARY)

Auxiliary Members, send your registration to:

**Penney Howard P O Box 34
Flora Vista, NM 87415-0034**

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER!!



VFW MID-WINTER LUNCHEON TICKET(S) REQUEST
DUE BY January 22, 2021

No tickets sold after above date-no exceptions



Name: _____ Post/Aux#: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux# _____

Phone: _____

All meals are \$30.00; please put how many of each plate in the space provided.

_____ Garden Salad w/Dressings, Green Chile Chicken Enchiladas, Pinto Beans, Spanish Rice, Warm Flour Tortilla, Chef's Choice Dessert, Ice Tea and water (coffee on request)

_____ Garden Salad w/Dressings, Baked Ziti with Sausage, Chef's Choice Seasonal Vegetable, Garlic Knots, Chef's Choice Dessert, Ice Tea and water (coffee on request)

SPECIAL MEAL REQUEST: i.e. - Vegetarian, vegan, lactose free, gluten free etc.)

Special Diet Plate: (Please Specify your name and request)**

Name(s) & request: _____

Amount Enclosed at \$30.00 per Person: _____ Ck# _____

(Make checks payable to VFW DEPT of NM HQ)

VFW and Auxiliary! If Paying by check or cash, send this completed Registration Form and Payment to:

VFW Dept of NM HQ
PO Box 1084
Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS!

(ONLY FILL OUT BELOW IF USING DEBIT/CREDIT CARDS PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!!!)

Name as it Appears on Card: _____

Card #: _____ - _____ - _____

Expiration Date: _____ CCV Code: _____ Amount: _____

Authorized Card Signature: _____

Do you want a receipt emailed? (Circle One) Y or N

Email Address: _____

Print neatly

Credit card forms may be faxed to: 575-653-4207 or emailed to vfwnmhq@gmail.com



**Military Order of the Cootie
Grand Mid-Winter Schedule
February 5, 2021**

Grand Commander: Mark Decker
 Convention Chairmen: Gordon K. Lam
 Supreme Guests: Supreme Adjutant Gordon K. Lam
 Supreme Dist. 11 Councilmember Warren Booker

Thursday, February 4, 2021

5:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Early Registration (\$15 at door)	VFW Post 401
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Budget Meeting	VFW Post 401

Friday, February 5, 2021

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Registration (\$15 at door)	VFW Post 401
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Opening Joint Session	VFW Post 401
10:00 AM – 12:00 AM	Grand Council of Administration	VFW Post 401
12:00 AM – 1:30 PM	Lunch Break - Food available at Post	VFW Post 401
	Past Grand Commanders Luncheon	TBA
1:30 PM – ?? PM	Grand C of A continue if needed	VFW Post 401

**February 5-6 , 2021
VFW Mid-Winter Conference**

**February 7, 2021
Tentative Albuquerque VAMC Hospital Visit**

**HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME !!!!
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**



Military Order of the Cootie
Grand Mid-Winter Schedule
February 5, 2021

MOC GRAND MID-WINTER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM (DUE BY 1/15/21)

Name: _____

Pup Tent#: _____

Title(s): _____

PGC (Y/N) _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Membership #: _____ \$10.00 for MOC members (\$15.00 at the Door)

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ CK# _____

MOC Members Send Your Registration To:



**Grand MOC QM
816 Jeanie Dr
Clovis, NM 88101**



Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary Mid-winter Conference Schedule February 5 – 6, 2021

Grand President: Dominique Garcia
 Conference Chairman: Louise A. Salas
 Danielle Garcia

(All Events will be held at the VFW Post 401)
 (Early Registration-\$10.00 / Late and at door-\$12.00)
Food To Be Served During Registration

Thursday, February 4, 2021—VFW Post 401

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM Early Registration
 5:30 PM – MOCA Budget / Audit
 6:30 PM— C of A

Friday, February 5, 2021—VFW Post 401

7:30 AM – 8:45 AM Registration
 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM Joint Session
 9:45 AM – 12:00 PM Business Session
 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Lunch at Post 401
 6:30 PM –???? Dinner at Post 401 with Clown Table and Silent Auction

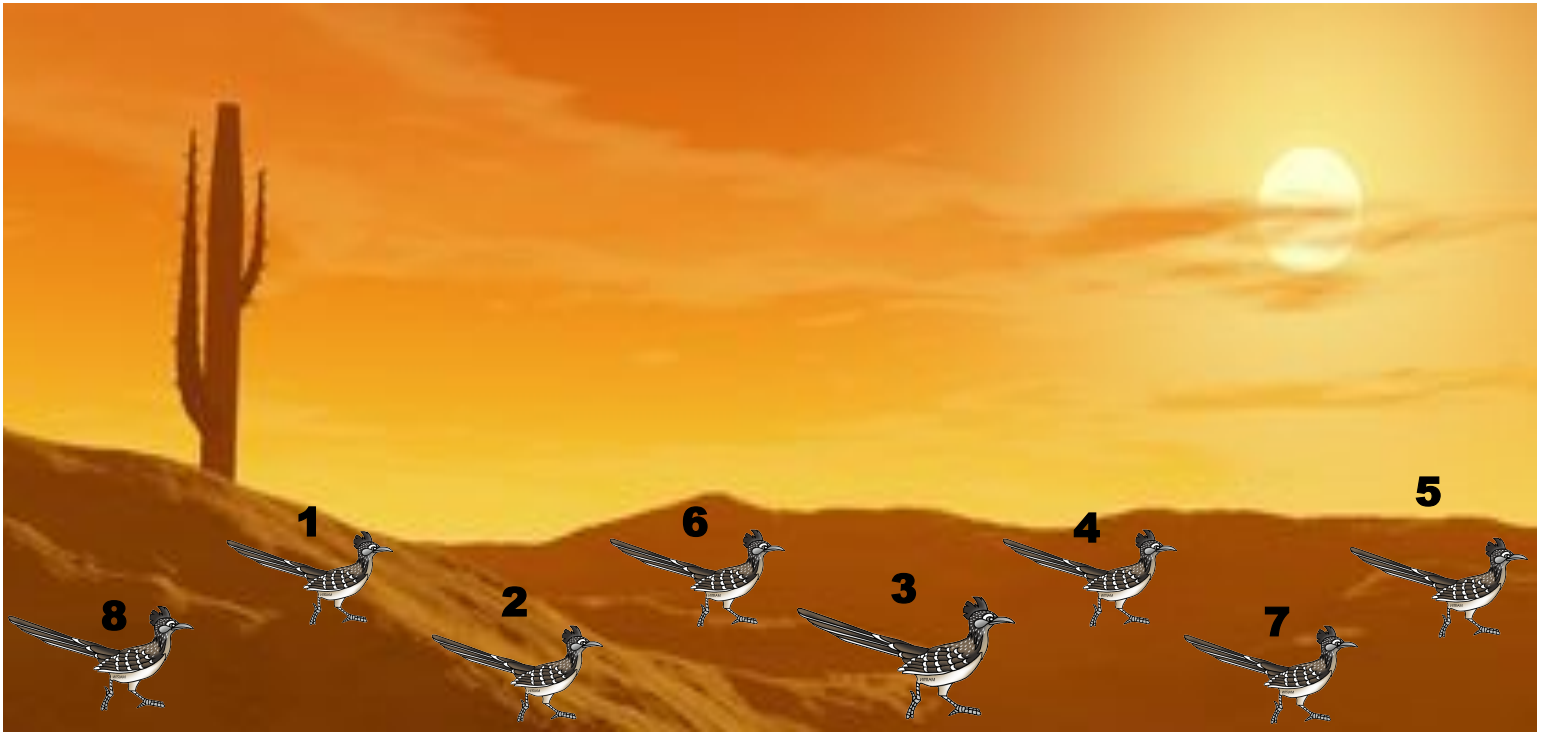
Sunday, February 7, 2021—VFW Post 401

12:00 Noon Registration Supreme Hospital Visitation Day at VA Hospital
 1:00 PM Program and Visit on Wards

**MAY YOU HAVE SAFE TRAVELS TO YOUR HOMES
 AND YOUR STAY WAS AN ENJOYABLE ONE**

NOTE: THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

VFW Membership



In the Race for Membership here are you standings:

District 5—Gary Ludi 90.03%

District 7—Michael Gimeson II 89.89%

District 4—Jack Doil 89.24%

District 3—Richard Hoschar 89.20%

District 6—Joseph DeVargas 87.78%

District 2—James Haddox 86.82%

District 1—Eloy Howard 86.15%

District 8—Joe Bob Mann 78.11%

Divisions

Division 1—2387—97.82%

Division 2—9676—95.55%

Division 3—1131—94.21%

Division 4—3242—94.28%

Division 5—7686—91.42%

Recruiters

1st—Jack Lovato—6

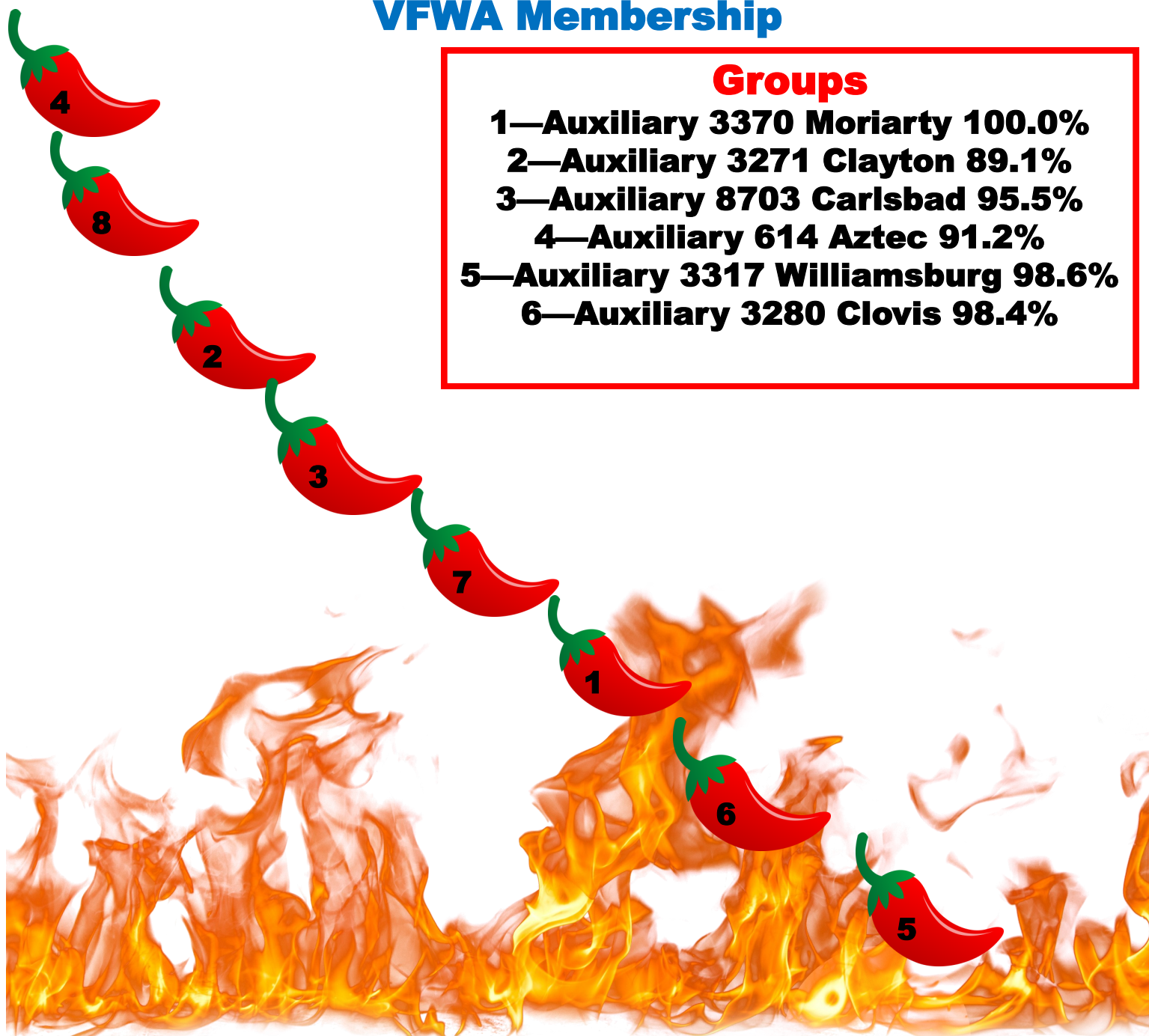
2nd—Steven D. Robertson, Jr—3

3rd—Hector Ortiz Jr—2

VFWA Membership

Groups

- 1—Auxiliary 3370 Moriarty 100.0%**
- 2—Auxiliary 3271 Clayton 89.1%**
- 3—Auxiliary 8703 Carlsbad 95.5%**
- 4—Auxiliary 614 Aztec 91.2%**
- 5—Auxiliary 3317 Williamsburg 98.6%**
- 6—Auxiliary 3280 Clovis 98.4%**



In the Race for Membership here are you standings:

- District 4—Nancy Evans 94.1%**
- District 8—Vondale Mann 90.8%**
- District 2—Shirlee Frias 89.5%**
- District 3—Beth Miller 89.1%**
- District 7—Angel Martinez 85.0%**
- District 1—Vickey Westbrook 81.5%**
- District 6— Margie Carrillo 76.9%**
- District 5—Penny Esparza 70.1%**