



VFW NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO

Land of Enchantment



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

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“O Say Can You See”

In September, 2016 our Corrales, NM VFW Post 5432 was visited by Coach Eric Orell, from Manzano High School, Albuquerque, NM. Coach Orell requested our support in his program to teach his basketball team members how to properly honor the flag and veterans during the National Anthem that is played or sung at each game. He referenced the Virginia Tech Coach Buzz Williams, and provided us a link <http://insider.foxnews.com/2016/03/10/virginia-tech-basketball-players-get-lesson-veterans-national-anthem> that allowed us to view what Coach Williams had done at Virginia Tech. Orell stated he had shown the video to his team, and was lining his players up across court at each game so they could face the flag and pay proper respect to the flag and all veterans who have served our country. Coach Orell is an “Army Brat” and fully understands the meaning of respect to the colors. He wants his players to learn why they should not move or adjust clothing while the song is being played or sung; simply stand at attention with your hand over your heart and look at the flag. His team has bought into this, and does a fine job at games.

Coach Orell asked our VFW Post if it would help him in this effort by teaching his players about re-

spect for veterans and what they have accomplished over the years. He knows that our age group grew up with different goals and objectives and under different leadership styles and wanted his team to hear our experiences. The players range in age from 14 to 17 years. We agreed to help him.

Orell felt that he could accomplish this effort by hosting a Sunday evening dinner in January, where we attended the meal and each sat with 2-4 players. Each of us wore slacks, casual dress shirts and our caps.

~ Continued on page 2



Manzano High School Basketball team with VFW Post 5432 members

“O Say Can You See”

~ Continued from page 1



Assistant Coaches served duty as chefs!!

Orell started the program by having all stand for the National Anthem, and then we were seated and viewed the Virginia Tech video.

The young men and their team managers were very interested in learning about:

- What it was like growing up?
- Did we play basketball?
- Where did we serve?
- Why did we serve?
- What high school & college did we attend?
- Were we drafted or did we volunteer?
- Were we ever wounded?
- Would we do it again?

It was a great exchange for us all. From our side, we learned what their goals are and what they expect to gain from school and possibly college. Some plan to serve in the military when they finish school.

As the evening ended, all present were pleased with the effort and have agreed to do it again whenever Coach Orell wants us to come and visit his players. Some of us also attend their games, and though they are a young team, they are spirited and driven

to play the game of basketball. If you are ever near Manzano High School on a game night, stop by and see a game, where these folks do it right, especially the National Anthem.



The food was great as was the conversation.



We all agreed to do this again.



New Mexico Convention VFW Representative



John Furgess was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on August 20, 2004, at the VFW 105th National Convention, held in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is only the second Tennessean to be elected to this office.

John served in the U. S. Army from 1965-70 and continued in the

Tennessee Army National Guard until 1993 when he retired with the rank of colonel. In Vietnam he served in a military intelligence unit, with the Americal Division's headquarters at Chu Lai. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army

Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal, among other awards during his 28 years in uniform.

In 1970, John joined VFW Post 1970 in Nashville, Tenn., where he became a life member in 1974. He has served in various positions within the VFW including Post Commander, District Commander, and Department (state) Commander (1978-79) becoming Tennessee's first Vietnam veteran to hold that office. He served as a member of the VFW National Council of Administration in 1999-2001 and has been appointed to numerous national committees.

He earned a bachelor's degree in business from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro in 1965. He graduated from the U. S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1979.

John is a life member of Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, and the Military Officers Association of America. He is a long time member of the American Legion in Nashville, the Americal Division Veterans Association, and the Vietnam Veterans of America. John retired in October 2002 from the Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs, where he served as assistant commissioner for 20 years, supervising 11 field offices.

John Furgess

Commander-in-Chief 2004-2005

Bataan Memorial March

There were over 7,200 registered marchers. The march is to honor the survivors of the Bataan Memorial March during WWII. This year's march marked the 75th year since the Bataan Memorial March. This was the 28th running of the march that dates back to 1998. The march covers from 26.2 miles of desert terrain. Marchers from all around the world participate in it. 125 Marchers were recruited.

From left Department Commander Len Hampton, Shannon Borland, National Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief 2020 Candidate Tim Borland, Department Surgeon Cynthia Archuleta, and John Archuleta



New Mexico VFWA Representative



Peggy Haake

National Chaplain 2016-2017

Peggy Haake of Kahului, Hawaii, was elected National Chaplain of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States Auxiliary at its 103rd National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., on July 27, 2016.

She is now in the third of five offices leading to the National

Presidency, which she is expected to hold in 2019-2020.

Peggy is a Life Member of Wilbert Wah Hu Tom Auxiliary 3850, which she joined on the eligibility of her husband, Richard, who served in the United States Army in Vietnam from 1970-71. Since joining, she has served the organization in many capacities, including Auxiliary and State President, National Council Member and Western Conference Chairman for the Youth Activities program. She is a Life Member of VFW National Home, Camp Trotter in Michigan, the DAV and the VFW Veteran's Village in Florida.

Peggy retired after 34 years with the Bank of Hawaii and is currently an instructor for AARP's Driver Safety Program. In her spare time she enjoys bowling and volunteer work.

Buddy Poppy

The red poppy is an internationally recognized symbol of remembrance for veteran sacrifice, and since 1922, the VFW has honored the memory of veterans who paid the ultimate price for our freedom with the VFW "Buddy Poppy."

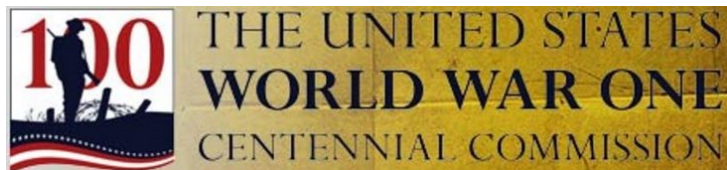
In support of the Buddy Poppy program, the VFW is joining the U.S. World War I Centennial Commission in announcing the launch of a great new grassroots awareness and fundraising program called the WWI Poppy Program. This program aims to raise awareness of WWI and the sacrifices made by veterans.

[Participate in this program today](#) by purchasing a World War I Poppy Kit from the WWI Centennial Commission. Each kit contains 60 poppy seed packets that will spark awareness and conversation about the WWI Centennial, as it honors the legacy of the 4.7 million American veterans that served during WWI.

The WWI Poppy Program is an opportunity to not only raise awareness, but also to raise funds for your Post or Department alongside your Buddy Poppy distribution. The World War I Poppy Kits can be purchased for \$64.99 and each seed packet can be distributed for donations to support your Post programs and community projects! For more information on the WWI Poppy Program and to order your Poppy Kits, visit ww1cc.org/poppy.

For questions regarding VFW's involvement with the WWI Poppy Program, please contact VFW Director of Programs Lynn Rolf at LRolf@vfw.org.

Sincerely,
VFW Communications



Commander's Corner



Len Hampton

This has been a whirlwind of a year for yours truly! I have met the Great, the Good and Ugly. The leaders stood out. Leadership changes are crucial to the success of a Post or District. It begins with the passing-on of information and the sharing of knowledge gained, and ends with success. There is no place in the VFW for involvement in petty

hassles, choosing sides or trivial personalities. We must all be open to change, for change we must.

It was my pleasure and honor to attend the National Legislative Conference with an outstanding and invested committee. The conference held in Washington, DC functions to allow up close and personal contact with our National and State representatives, to inform them of the legislative priorities of the VFW.

During the annual National Legislative Conference, Auxiliary President, Dale Mann and I had the honor of escorting our Department's Voice of Democracy winner Daniel Caroe to the podium. Daniel was the recipient of a trip to our Nation's capital and a scholarship check worth \$2,500.

"As members of this outstanding organization, we must stand together, support and mentor in order to recruit and retain".

My year is coming to its end; again, I want to Thank You for the opportunity to serve as your Department Commander.

"Make It Happen."



New Mexico VFW News

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VFW

Veterans of Foreign Wars

New Mexico VFW State Officers 2016-2017

National Council Member - Kathie Schiebel 401 *Albuquerque*
 Commander - Len Hampton 6917 *Las Cruces*
 Sr. Vice Commander - Charles Eaton 9515 *Portales*
 Jr. Vice Commander - Mark Decker 9517 *Shiprock*
 Quartermaster - Dave Fouse 7686 *Alamogordo*
 Chaplain - Richard Nutt 7686 *Alamogordo*
 Judge Advocate - Cathy Brock 3274 *Hobbs*
 Surgeon - Cynthia Archuleta 5890 *Rio Rancho*
 Past State Cmdr - Lawrence Vargas 3259 *Taos*
 Inspector - Dave Wimmer 7686 *Alamogordo*
 Chief of Staff - Roger "Bart" Bartosiewicz 3280 *Clovis*
 Service Officer - Cynthia Archuleta 5890 *Rio Rancho*

District Commanders

District 1 - Kyrk Westbrook 9517 *Shiprock*
 District 2 - Danny Evans 5890 *Rio Rancho*
 District 3 - Roy Maldonado 4384 *Anthony*
 District 4 - Jack Doil 1389 *Elephant Butte*
 District 5 - Eusebio "Joe" Esparza 3271 *Clayton*
 District 6 - Christopher Archuleta 5610 *Espanola*
 District 7 - Eduardo Rodriguez 3274 *Hobbs*
 District 8 - Joe Bob Mann 3280 *Clovis*

Senior Vice Commander's Message



Charles Eaton

This has been an exceptionally busy but exciting year for me as Sr. Vice Commander for this fine Department. What an honor it is for me to have some extra interaction with you as I attend events at the Post and District level.

One such event was to present the plaque from our Commander-in-Chief, Brian Duffy, in recognition of VFW Post 3259's (Fernandez de Taos) 75th Anniversary. That plaque was presented to Post 3259's Commander, Joseph DeVargas (pictured below) on 19 November 2016.



I will have the distinct honor of recognizing VFW Post 1131's (Olivas-Valdez) 50th Anniversary when Samuel Muniz will accept the plaque during District 5's Convention on 22 April 2017.

While visiting VFW Post 3259 in Taos, I was deeply inspired by the place where the Post meetings were held, the Not Forgotten Outreach Center (pictured right).



It was quite impressive how much good one organization can do to help our fellow veterans. You will be receiving more information at the upcoming Department Convention and other events throughout the Department, as this organization will be my special project during my year as Department Commander. I am very proud of what they do every day to give veterans hope and respite, and am looking forward to working with them to raise funds to provide a portable lift to assist caregivers in taking care of handicapped veterans.

I trust you all have been recruiting and recruiting some more so this Department can have 100% membership by our Department Convention in June; but even more than that, to make it available to eligible to join the best veteran organization in the world? It is looking like Convention is going to be an exciting time this year; why not add one more thing to celebrate... 100%!!

I truly have enjoyed this year as your Sr. Vice Commander. I have particularly enjoyed meeting more of you and getting to know most of you better. I look forward to serving you as your Commander, if elected, and will ever strive to work hard for you and with you to better this Department. I look forward to seeing you all at our Convention in June.

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

Junior Vice Commander's Message



Mark Decker

With the year almost done, we have lots to look back on. There have been some very good accomplishments this year in the Department. There have been some missteps along the way. But overall, we have done very well this year. As your Jr. Vice this year, I had training at the National Headquarters in Kansas City at the beginning of the year. While there, I learned

about the new website promotion and that this year the VFW Foundation was allowing improvements to Post homes for the grant they award.

In May, I will be going to the National Home for the tour up there. I am hopeful that the bench that Commander Hampton and President Mann had as their special project is finished for pictures to be taken. The Department did a great job raising the \$8000 needed by Mid-Winter Conference. Thank you to all the Posts and Auxiliaries and members that did such a great job raising the money. Without all of you working so hard and donating as much money as you did, this would not have happened.

I look forward to Convention in June, for all the Post and Auxiliary and individual awards to be handed out. This should be a fun and exciting time for all who attend. I look forward to the entertainment Commander Hampton has lined up for us this year. And in July, at the National Convention in New Orleans, it will be a very fun time and we will learn more about this upcoming year.

Chaplain's Message



Richard Nutt

Comrades, I would like to say thank you for allowing me to serve you as your Department Chaplain for the past year. I have had the privilege of sending families of fallen Comrades cards of condolence or get well wishes; but have been honored to assist in other ways. It was humbling to provide the benediction at a pre-flight meeting for the Southern New

Mexico Honor Flight, to assist at the 2016 Bataan March and to be asked to preside over a lost Comrades memorial service.

Although my term as Chaplain is nearing an end, I will always be available to assist with anything if needed.

I wish all of our Comrades, Sisters, and Brothers a successful, productive and fun Department Convention as we join together to accomplish the great work of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary. With it being election of officers' time again, I would like to ask for your support as I will be seeking the position of Department Junior Vice Commander.

Upcoming Events

Department Convention June 2-4
National Convention July 22-26

Judge Advocate's Message



Cathy Brock

In my position as your Judge Advocate, I have been asked to review a number of actions taken by Posts and/or Commanders for compliance with VFW By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure. In many instances, my review determined that many of the violations could have been prevented if the Post and its Officers had taken the time to refer to the current Podium

Edition of the By-Laws. In the last five or six years there have been more than 1,000 changes approved by the National Conventions. If your Post Officers are using Podium Editions that are four or five years old, how can you possibly expect to have your Post Commander's actions upheld upon appeal? Not only the Commander, but the Quartermaster, the line officers and the Judge Advocate should get a copy of the new Podium Edition every year.

Each officer should become familiar with all of Article II-Posts in both the By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, and especially Section 218-Officers and

Chairmen, Duties and Obligations. How can the Judge Advocate fulfill his duties as the legal advisor if he doesn't have the current By-Laws, the Department By-Laws and the Post By-Laws?

Commanders, the Podium Edition should be your "Bible," and should always be readily available for you to refer to at any time. The By-Laws are not "Top Secret"...share them with any members who want to learn more about the workings of the VFW. Remember, the Post belongs to its members and it's the obligation of each and every member to protect the Post's Charter.

The old days of Posts "doing whatever they want, whenever they want" are long gone. If you don't follow the rules, you won't have a Post for long. Don't jeopardize your Charter...follow the rules! But, you have to know what the rules are so you can follow them. At least one copy of the 2017 Podium Edition should be available in your Post. If you have it, learn it, and order the 2018 Podium Edition as soon as it's available.

I am available to anyone feeling that they need assistance in interpreting the By-Laws. I can be reached at 575-318-3149. My email address is OldWAC@aol.com. If I don't have the answer to your question, I will find the answer for you. Sometimes asking a question can save a whole bunch of problems later.



On Saturday, March 11th, the Naval JROTC Cadets of Santa Teresa High School conducted a Buddy Poppy Drive in support of VFW Post 10124. Their efforts provided needed funds to both our Post and Auxiliary, used to support veterans in need. As a Post, we thank these young people for their community service and service to our nation's veterans. Well done!

Delegates, Registration, and Convention Whys

It is coming close to Department Convention time again. As one of the people that has worked the registration booth for the past few years at both Convention and Mid-Winter, we get asked the same question every year by many people. What is the difference between registration and delegation dues? Who pays for them? Why do we have to pay for both? Do we pay delegation dues at Mid-Winter?

So let's start with the easy stuff first. Registration dues are what it costs to attend the Conference and Convention. These are paid by the individual. The individual is responsible for paying this because they are the ones attending the meetings. They might or might not represent the Post, but are there to learn more for themselves. These dues go to the Department to help pay for the hotel, rooms, and extras the hotel provides for these meetings. The Department does not get any money from National or anywhere else to hold these meetings. So to keep the Department from going too far in the hole, they charge registration dues to everyone coming. The hotel gives the Department a discount for the meeting rooms, tables, and services we use because we have so many room nights booked for each meeting, and because we spend so much on food. So the more people that spend nights at the hotel for the meetings, and eat at the banquets, the less the Department has to spend out, and the cheaper the registration dues can be.

Now for the delegation dues. These are paid by the Posts for their representatives to be able to vote on resolutions, elections, and anything else that comes up. They are paid by the Posts because the person doing the voting is there to vote for the Post and are representing the Post. Delegate fees are set by the Department By-Laws and can only be changed by a By-Law change. This money goes to the Department to offset the cost of doing Department business at the meetings. The only time delegate fees are needed is for the Department Convention because this is the only time that delegates will vote to change By-Laws, elect officers, or do business at the Department level. Mid-Winter is a Conference and also a Council of Administration. The Council members (Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, Jr. Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain, Surgeon, Judge Advocate, Inspector, Chief of Staff, Immediate Past Commander, and all 8 Districts

Commanders) are the ones who vote at the Mid-Winter Conference and all Councils of Administrations.

So now that you know the differences between the two, you can see they are not the same thing, because one is for the Post to be able to vote and voice their opinion, and one is for the individual to learn. This is why there are two different sets of dues. There is no way that someone can pay their delegate fee and not register for the meeting. If you go to the meetings, you will learn to differentiate these things for yourself. The bottom line is that **you** will have to pay your registration fee, while the Post is required to pay for the delegate fees of one delegate per 35 members, or part thereof.

The next question we are asked is this: why does the Department want everyone to pre-register? Pre-registration is required because the hotel needs to block off the correct numbers of rooms for both nights to accommodate our attendees, and they need to be prepared to accommodate our meal needs about a month in advance of the event. This is the number that the hotel uses to set a price to the Department. If we do not have enough food or room nights sold by this cutoff date, the Department gets charged more. Plus, when it comes time for the meals, the amount of food we had ordered is what they will have prepared. So people that register at the last minute, or at the door, or make reservations at the hotel after the cutoff date, are good and welcome, but do not help us with our minimum number of required expenses. Also, having as many as possible pre-registered ahead of time cuts down on the problems of registering at the same time. In this way, we can then make sure we have enough chairs and rooms for all of the meetings, and booklets for all the attendees, etc.

I hope this article helps explain some of the questions attendees have about the Department Convention and Mid-Winter Conference. We are always willing to answer your questions one-on-one if you need more explanation. If you have other questions, please do not hesitate to ask any of the Department Line Officers or anyone at the registration booth. We look forward to seeing you at Convention and hope it is successful and enjoyable for everyone.

Mark Decker—Department Jr Vice Commander

National District 15 Council Member's Message



Here is a summary of Mid-Year Conference held aboard the ship

Independence of the Seas" – a beautiful ship with over 3,000 passengers – 461 of which were VFW and/or Auxiliary members.

The Council of Administration meeting was

Kim Sloan

held Tuesday morning.

The Final 2015-2016 Budget was approved and the 3-month Report for the 2016-2017 year was approved. Also the audit as of August 31, 2016 was approved.

Amendments to the VFW Auxiliary National Standing Rules were approved with a minor addition/clarification.

The Resolutions Committee presented an overview of the Resolutions that have been submitted to date:

- Department of Delaware – Resolution to delete citizenship requirement for membership
- Department of New Hampshire – Resolution to credit former members of the Men's Auxiliary with time in that organization
- Department of Washington – Resolution to allow Auxiliaries to obtain and use debit/credit cards
- Department of Mississippi – Resolution to change Auxiliary Suspension to Auxiliary Review

- Department of Wisconsin – Resolution to move the location of pin on the official look to the other side of the blouse/shirt.
- Department of New Mexico – Resolution to allow Auxiliaries to obtain and use credit card

Note that these resolutions will be available on the National website after April 1, and will not be considered until the 2017 National Convention. So, it would be prudent for you to read them completely, discuss them in your Auxiliaries, and convey your opinion to your delegates. Keep in mind that if you should convey your opinions to your delegates, but don't tie their hands by forcing them to vote a certain way. Delegates should be trusted to use their best judgment when voting as when matters are discussed, opinions can change.

Later in the conference we also heard from the National Ambassadors. Here are just a couple of ideas from other departments that were shared:

- Americanism – Get younger students involved in writing essays by holding an American Essay competition
- Hospital – Collect items for "Distraction Kit" – coloring books, colored pencils, Sudoku and crossword puzzle books; recognize your hospital volunteers
- Scholarships – Bring the previous department Voice of Democracy winner to your Voice of Democracy awards banquet
- Membership – Personal contact is key to getting members to renew
- St. Patrick's Day Goal – Get to 100%

I'm looking forward to visiting with you all again at your Department convention in June! Not as your National representative, but as your friend and outgoing council member. See you then!

National District 15 Council Member Kim Sloan
Email: auxvfwarizona@msn.com
Cell Phone: 520.307.7940

President's Corner



Dale Mann

It is difficult to write a last article for the New Mexico Newsletter when there is still time for changes. However, I want to say thank you for everything that I was privileged to experience this year. If I was to try to name the most important event, I would be stumped to know. Of course, the best is the fact that Joe Bob and I traveled to join the members on both sides, Auxiliary and VFW, in fellowship and participation in meetings

across the state of New Mexico and beyond. It was my honor to serve you as your president and to meet so many members that I had not had the opportunity to do so earlier.

We started our year with the first CofA in Clovis; National Convention in Charlotte, N.C.; and the Commander's homecoming while District meetings throughout the year were a highlight. Then it was on to trips in September to Celebrating America's Freedom Event in South Dakota and Hawaii for Western Conference before the holidays followed by our Department Mid-Winter, the National Mid-Winter cruise and the Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. Our National President Colette Bishop's official visit was closely followed by our Department workshop and homecoming. Now we are getting reports delivered and planning our State Convention. The time did fly!

When we began, I hoped we would have a successful year, and I am convinced that we have even though unfortunately we lost an Auxiliary. I am so thankful for all the members, officers and past officers, chairmen and to all those who work behind the scenes to help our veterans and their families, our communities, youth and our programs in general. Without each of you, we would not be where we are today! Thank you for wonderful memories that I will take with me no matter where I travel from here. Yet, I am not done and neither are you! We have many things to accomplish in the

months and years to come.

I also thank our comrades on the VFW side who have encouraged and helped in any way that added to our success, including our Department Commander Len Hampton, Jr. Thank you for all you have done to make our year together, even though difficult at times, one our members can be proud of.

With that, I will not continue taking up your precious time. Just remember, we are here to help our veterans... continue doing what you do so well and others will be positively affected.

Love ya!



New Mexico VFW Auxiliary State Officers 2015-2016

National Councilwoman - Kim Sloan 10188 Tucson
 President - Vondale Mann 3280 Clovis
 Sr. Vice President - Alison Slate 2528 Tucumcari
 Jr. Vice President - Mary Sanchez 4384 Anthony
 Treasurer - Penney Howard 614 Aztec
 Secretary - Louise Salas 401 Albuquerque
 Chaplain - Kelly Fouse 7686 Alamogordo
 Conductress - Lynda Putzier 9515 Portales
 Assistant Conductress - Judy Hayes 7686 Alamogordo
 Guard - Kandy Brazell 401 Albuquerque
 Assistant Guard - June Brazell 401 Albuquerque
 Chief of Staff - Janis Wimmer 7686 Alamogordo
 Past State Pres. - Janet Huft 3015 Clovis
 Color Bearer #1 - Sharon Olsen 4384 Anthony
 Color Bearer #2 - Billy Russell 6917 Las Cruces
 Color Bearer #3 - Dominique Garcia 401 Albuquerque
 Color Bearer #4 - Robert Henson 2951 Santa Fe
 Flag Bearer - Nancy Tabb 5890 Rio Rancho
 Banner Bearer - Lou Beth Allen 3274 Hobbs
 Musician/Soloist - Diana Wong 401 Albuquerque

District President

District 1 - Betty Decker 9517 Shiprock
 District 2 - Nancy Tabb 5890 Rio Rancho
 District 3 - Beth Miller 6917 Las Cruces
 District 4 - Nancy Evans 1389 Elephant Butte
 District 5 - Mary Ann Padilla 3271 Clayton
 District 6 - Lucretia Henson 2951 Sante Fe
 District 7 - Laverne Lester 3274 Hobbs
 District 8 - Lynda Putzier 9515 Portales

Sr. Vice President's Message



Hello Members of the VFWA and MOCA,

This year has gone by so fast, and each of you has accomplished so much for our Veterans and their families. Thank you for all you have done for both our great organizations. You have made us all very proud to stand beside you.

To my fellow Cooties,
Thank you for all you

Alison Slate

have done; each of you has been the most amazing support system for my family and me during these past few months. You are all such incredible volunteers for our organization, and your dedication is very much appreciated by our Veterans and their families. To my chairman, you have done such an amazing job. I could not have asked for a better team.

Kandy,

It has been such an honor to work beside you over the years. I will be very happy to continue to work for you as a Past Grand President and as your Chairman. You will be an outstanding Grand President, and we are all proud to stand beside you in your journey.

Madame Department President,

You have done a great job this year and have offered us all a great deal of wisdom. I have enjoyed being your Senior Vice and have appreciated the opportunity to be a Chairman for you. I have dedicated my efforts to being all I can be for our Veterans and their families. It has been a great honor for me. Dale, you have been a good teacher to many and a leader to those of us in this organization. I hope to follow in your footsteps and to make you proud. Thank you for being there for me both personally and professionally; I have always considered you a friend.

Looking forward to the two great conventions in June, and our banquets will be a great time. I am looking forward to seeing each of your smiling faces and hearing your laughter. Spread hugs, love and lots of joy.

Alison Slate
MOCA Grand President
Department Sr. Vice President

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Jr. Vice President's Message



Mary "Girl" Sanchez

Times are changing. I sat down to write an article for the newspaper to help out Mark and Betty, and Bob Dylan's song "Times... they are a changin'" kept popping into my brain. Thought of writing something about the WWII vets being the work horses in starting the VFW's, and then I would throw in some Korean War vets for good measure. I did not see too many of these guys, but the ones I did see were always

fixing things. These are my fixer uppers or the fixers.

Now in command are the Vietnam Vets, who are mostly in their early 70's, and fading faster than I would like them to, most from Agent Orange and its

side effects. Vietnam Vets are my volunteers for service, since most did not have a choice when they were younger. These Vets want to hand over the reins to the Desert Storm, Iraq and Afghanistan vets, but this change is slow. These comrades are moving cautiously into the positions of this great organization, which brings me to another song. (The lyric is "Tiiiiime ...is by my side, oh say it is", by the Beatles??)

Anyway, this is also true of the Auxiliaries; I think we are a lot slower to change. As I journey throughout the state - visiting Auxiliaries and Districts for the past 2 years, I finally see the changeover from WWII wives being in charge to Vietnam wives being in charge ten year later. This is all good and changes are still coming, bridging the future progress of computers, websites and mobile applications with respect to what we have learned from the shortcomings of our past mistakes. I fear change, but I know it's for the better; I like the unknown that change brings, but also like to throw caution to the winds of change.

Treasurer's Message



Penney Howard

Here is a little update from your Department Treasurer!!

During March, and so far in April, we have had 4 more Auxiliaries and 1 more District reach 100% in Membership. Congratulations to Auxiliaries # 6917, 4384, 401 & 3015, and also District #2. At our workshop held at President Dale's Homecoming District #5, President Mary Ann Padilla won the \$50.00

drawing and then District #2 won another \$50.00 drawing from the 4 Districts that had Officers present. Good Job District Auxiliaries. As of April 11th we are at 97.54%. We are only 90 Members away from our 100%+ so let's get those last few dues collected or if someone is in "NEED" pay it

from your Relief Fund with their permission.

During April you are also going to Elect your Delegates and Alternates for both Department (one for every 15 members or fraction thereof) and National (one for every 50 members or fraction thereof). You need to send your list and Delegate Fee (\$8.00 per Delegate in my hands by May 19th or \$10.00 per Delegate after that). Make sure to send a copy of your Delegates and Alternates to Louise also. Your National Delegates and Alternate need to be put in online within 30 days of your election and no later than May 31st that is also the deadline for National Registration online to attend Convention in New Orleans. Only Register and pay if you are planning on attending as National WILL NOT be mailing books to non-attendees. Hope to see a lot of you at Department Convention, Albuquerque and maybe a few in New Orleans for National Convention.

I am always here to help if you need it. Call me 505-334-8605 or cell 505-330-1023 or email: nm-vfwa-treas@comcast.net

National Home for Children Trustee



Sylvia C. Sanchez

First and foremost, I would like to thank you for the great hospitality I received from everyone when I attended the Mid-Winter Conference in February.

CONGRATULATIONS on achieving your goal of acquiring the funds to purchase a bench at the National Home. I have spoken to the staff at the National Home, and hopefully the bench will be ready by May, when your State Jr. Vice Mark Decker and

Auxiliary Jr. Vice Mary Sanchez attend the National Home Jr. Vice Conference. I know they will really enjoy it.

By you, the Department of New Mexico VFW and Auxiliary placing this bench in Tribute Park, you have "provided a timeless expression of your dedication to the mission of the VFW National Home for Children, and have helped create a peaceful and beautiful park which residents and visitors can enjoy."

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

CAMPBELL'S LABELS FOR EDUCATION IS ENDING:

"As of August 1, 2016, only UPC's with the Labels for Education logo will be accepted and redeemed for points. Campbell has begun the process of removing the logo and expect there will be a limited number of products that contain these labels

through Aug. 1, 2017. Once logos have been removed from the products, UPC's will no longer be accepted. **The National Home will continue to collect UPC's until July 1, 2017.**"

TOGETHER WE DID IT!

"**Thanks to your label donations**, we were able to receive the 7th and final van from the Campbell's Labels for Education. This generous program is ending, and we were able to get this 2017 Dodge Grand Caravan in the nick of time". "To achieve this goal, 11.2 million Campbell labels were sent in from dedicated people across the country."

Once again, it is an honor and a privilege to represent the Department of New Mexico as the National Home Trustee District 10. If there is anything I can help with, please let me know.



Sylvia C. Sanchez
National Home District 10 Trustee

AMERICANISM



292,781

U.S. Flags were distributed

LEGISLATIVE

145,550

Number of contacts made to help pass or block important bills



Scouting Requirements

Annually, the Veterans of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States awards three individuals who are: Eagle Scouts, Girl Scout Gold Award recipients, Venture Summit Award recipients and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank. National awards are as follows: \$5,000 1st place, \$3,000 2nd place and \$1,000 3rd place.

I encourage VFW Posts in New Mexico to sponsor exemplary Scouts from their communities for this honor. Your Post can sponsor a scout regardless if the Scout is chartered by your Post. In other words, if your Post does not charter (sponsor) a Scout Troop, your Commander may still sponsor a Scout for this award. Each year in New Mexico, an exemplary Scout is selected to receive the NM VFW Scout of the Year \$500 Scholarship Award. In 2014, an Albuquerque Girl Scout Gold Award recipient received the NM VFW Award. In 2015, an Eagle Scout from Cloudcroft and in 2016 an Eagle Scout from Farmington received the VFW NM Award. Each recipient of the VFW NM Award is entered in the VFW National Award competition.

Eligibility:

- Be registered, active member of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship.
- Be the recipient of the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award.
- Have demonstrated exemplary citizenship in school, Scouting and community.
- Have reached his or her 15th birthday and be enrolled in high school or home schooled at the time of selection

The nomination submittal must be filled out by the Scout, and turned into a VFW Post who will serve as his/her sponsor. A Post may receive more than one nomination. Deadline for entry to a VFW Post is March 1. One candidate with full entry criteria can then be submitted by a VFW Post to me, the NM Department Scouting Chairman by April 1. VFW New Mexico will select the youth who has risen above his/her peers exemplifying the qualities of that rank, and send the winner's nomination submittal to National for their judging.

The nomination forms can be found on the VFW

National website, www.vfw.org, or you can contact me for a copy.

The following documentation should be submitted to the local Post by the scout:

- Photograph of the Scout
- High School Participation Record
- Scouting Record
- Community Service Record
- Letters of Recommendation
- Completed Entry Form

The paperwork and nomination form must be filled out by the Scout. I encourage you to announce this award to your Boy Scout Council's and with Scoutmasters in your community. The dates for this award are set by the national VFW and are rigidly followed. A team of VFW members who are Eagle Scouts serves as jurors for VFW New Mexico Award.

Terrance Brown, FAIA
VFW NM Department Scouting Chairman
h)505-792-4415
tblazestar@aol.com



Left to right-Terry Brown, VFW NM Dept. Scouting Chair, Girl Scout Annika Cushnyr, recipient of the 2014 VFW New Mexico Award, Cynthia Archuleta, Post 5890 in Rio Rancho

2017 Boy Scout of the Year Competition



Eagle Scout Benjamin Curnutt of Troop 178 in Las Cruces, was selected to receive the Department of New Mexico VFW's prestigious Scout of the Year \$500 Award. He was nominated by VFW Post 10124 of Las Cruces, and his nomination will be entered in the VFW National competition. Benjamin has earned 30 merit badges and served as his troop's Senior

Patrol Leader, Chaplain Aide, and Team Secretary. He is the recipient of the 100 Mile Award from Philmont Scout Ranch, and has attended Florida Sea Base, where he crewed on a sail boat on the Atlantic Ocean.

ABOUT THE SCOUTING PROGRAM Scouts who are registered, active members of a Boy or Girl Scout Troop, Venturing Crew, or a Sea Scout Ship who have received the Eagle Scout Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Venture Summit Award or Sea Scout Quartermaster Award are eligible for the Scout of the Year Award. Scouts must be 15 years of age and have demonstrated practical citizenship in school, scouting and the community. Scouts must be enrolled in high school at the time of selection. *Note: All applicants still in high school who reach their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified.*

HOW TO ENTER Scouts should download and submit a completed VFW Scouting Scholarship form, resume of high school activities, scouting record, community service record and letters of recommendation to a local VFW Post no later than March 1. Note: A Scout can enter through one (1) VFW Post only.

HOW IT WORKS Local VFW Posts submit all candidates with full entry criteria to their respective VFW Department (state) by April 1. From there, the Department selects a winner and forwards the entry to the VFW National Headquarters by May 1 for national-level judging.

HOW TO Eligible Scout of the Year applicants are normally submitted by individual units. It should be remembered that the VFW is not the only organization seeking to recognize these young people.

The ideal process is for Department of NM Posts to select and recognize a Scout of the Year. Following the selection of Scout of the Year by Posts, and if practical, a District level judging should be conducted. Again, the winner should be recognized at a Post/District meeting and the application forwarded to me for the Department judging process.

The Department judging for New Mexico is done by at least two Eagle Scout VFW Members. One of the jurors who has consistently served as a judge is Seth Orell, Commander of VFW Post 5432 in Corrales. We often receive 5 to 6 submissions a year from Posts across New Mexico. Recognition for the Department winner is normally held during the Department Annual Convention generally held in June. This is a great opportunity for the Scout to see the VFW in action. If anyone has questions about this process, please call.

Terrance Brown, FAIA
VFW NM Department Scouting Chairman
PO Box 1
Corrales, NM 87048
505-792-4415



Patriot's Pen/Voice of Democracy/Teacher's Awards



Karla Eaton

What a pleasure it continues to be to be the VFW Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, and Teacher Awards Chairman. I am honored that incoming Commander Eaton has entrusted me with this responsibility for 2017-2018, and I look forward to working with the Auxiliary Chairperson, Lynda Putzier, for the student programs.

I want to thank all who worked to recognize our deserving students and teachers. We did very well at the National level with our students and our teachers will be recognized at the upcoming Convention on Friday, June 2nd between 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Some of you were at Mid-Winter conference where we recognized our students, but I would like to recognize and congratulate all of our deserving Department winners. They are as follows:

Patriot's Pen

- ◆ 1st Place Winner is Adam Mssika from Vista Middle School (6th grade) in Las Cruces, NM.
- ◆ 2nd Place Winner is Mikaela Ornelas from Floyd Municipal Schools (7th grade) in Floyd, NM.
- ◆ 3rd Place Winner is Angelica Webb from Manzano Christian School (8th grade) in Truth or Consequences, NM.

Voice of Democracy

- ◆ 1st Place Winner is Daniel Caroe from Desert Springs Christian Academy (11th grade) in Las Cruces, NM.
- ◆ 2nd Place Winner is Reagen Truex from Elida High School (12th grade) in Elida, NM.
- ◆ 3rd Place Winner is Ellie Gardiner who is Home-schooled (12th grade) from Bernalillo, NM.

Grade School Teacher

- ◆ Mr. Israel Martinez from Broadmoor Elementary in Hobbs, NM.

Middle School Teacher

- ◆ Ms. Elizabeth Malone from Yucca Middle School in Clovis, NM.

High School Teacher

- ◆ Ms. Deborah Davidson from Elida Municipal Schools in Elida, NM.

It's not too early to start thinking about the upcoming year; so I wanted to make sure you all had the themes for the student programs. Patriot's Pen Theme is: **"America's Gift to My Generation"** and the Voice of Democracy Theme is: **"American History: Our Hope for the Future"**.

Again, thank you for your efforts in making these programs a success. I will be available at our State Convention to assist with any questions you all may have for the upcoming year.

Lynda Putzier and I are looking forward to making this a banner year for our Department, and thank you all for working with us to do just that. If you ever have questions or want to discuss these programs, you are all welcome to e-mail me at karlasmail@swwmail.net or call me at (832) 971-4825.



Commander Len Hampton, Department Voice of Democracy winner Daniel Caroe and President Dale Mann

Alexis Frias-2017-2018 Overall Cinderella Teen VFWA 401 Auxiliary member



My name is Alexis Frias, and I am a member of George O' Breece Auxiliary 401. On March 26, 2017, I won the title of Overall Cinderella Rio Rancho Teen and will be representing Rio Rancho for the 2017/2018 year. I am a new member of Auxiliary 401 (as I turned 16) and was a member of the Junior Girls 401 Unit, where I held several positions, and was the President until the program ended. My parents, Don and Shirlee Frias, my brother, Zacharie, my grandfather, and several of my cousins are all members of the VFW or Auxiliary for the department of NM.

My platform for 2017/2018 is supporting veterans and special needs children. I will be participating in several events through the year, and will promote the Department of New Mexico VFW and its Auxiliary, as I am a proud member. I will be creating "Blessing Bags" that can be given to homeless veterans. I plan on making several of these bags and delivering them to the Posts as a thank

you for supporting me.

I am moving on to compete at the state level in June, and hope that my endeavor will help me move to internationals. I hope to see you all at the convention in June.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT COLETTE BISHOP VISITS NEW MEXICO

VFW Auxiliary National President Colette Bishop made her official visit to New Mexico on Wednesday and Thursday, March 14-15, in Clovis, New Mexico. After a delay in flight arrangements, she enjoyed visiting with Auxiliary 3280 and 3015 with visits to the Rock 'n Roll Museum, Leslie's Candy Company, and a meal at ShoGun's Japanese Steak House on Wednesday.

Thursday was a busy day with breakfast at Denny's, a visit to Wheatfield's Retirement Center to present veterans with an Easter treat made by the Auxiliary members of 3280, and a lovely lunch provided by Auxiliary members at Post 3015. Following lunch, Auxiliary members accompanied Madam National President to the Norman Petty Studio, where she was serenaded by one of the back-up members to many of the artists who recorded under Norman Petty's direction.

After a busy day of activities, it ended with a banquet at Post 3280 with a much-anticipated Mexican dinner, and fellowship with members from all over the state and several VFW dignitaries, including Tim Borland and Shannon from Arizona, and Tim Peters from Montana who is a long-time friend of President Bishop's. Other guests introduced included our own National Veteran and Family Support Ambassador Jeanette D. Garcia, Department line-officers, and Past

Department Presidents, as well as VFW Department Senior Vice-Commander Fred Eaton and wife Karla Eaton from Portales.

Then, a representative from the Curry County Commission presented Madam President with a City of Clovis Proclamation signed by Mayor David M. Lansford, designating March 16th as "Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes Day", in honor of her visit to New Mexico. A proclamation was signed and sent later from the Curry County Commission stating the same. She presented her speech about our organization, and thanked the Department for all of the hospitalities. Those attending presented gifts to the President, finalizing the night and her visit.



VFW Records Retention

The Veterans of Foreign Wars has specified records that must be kept for certain times. Many Posts, Quartermasters, and Adjutants are unsure of these times.

Please use the following list as your guide for what records you need for certain timeframes.

- ◆ For 1 year after fiscal year: Postal records.
- ◆ For 2 years: Audit reports periodic, bills of lading, financial reports periodic, freight claims, income statements periodic, periodic financial reports, and shipping and receiving documents.
- ◆ For 3 years: Community activity reports, correspondence general, entertainment gift and gratuity records, freight bills, inspection records, labor cost records, and petty cash records.
- ◆ For 3 years after termination: Bonds fidelity and surety, and lease records.
- ◆ For 4 years after termination: Employee records, and insurance records general.
- ◆ For 5 years: Audit work papers, balance sheets, bank deposit slips, bank statements, budgets, election of officer reports, membership rosters, Post minutes (note 2), and quartermaster reports (note 3).
- ◆ For 7 years: Accounts payable invoices, accounts payable ledger, accounts receivable ledger, employee withholding records, cancelled checks, cash receipt records, employee

- termination, expense vouchers, and payroll register.
- ◆ For 7 years after termination: Contracts, employee contracts, and garnishments.
- ◆ For 10 years: Audit reports annual and correspondence executive.
- ◆ For 11 years after termination: Employee insurance records
- ◆ For 30 years after settlement: Employee accident reports.
- ◆ Permanent: Annual financial report, certified annual financial statements, depreciation schedules, general ledger, income statements annual, incorporation papers, inventory records, membership applications (note 1), property records, and tax records.
- ◆ Continuing: Annuity and deferred payment plans.
- ◆ Until superseded: By-Laws

Note 1- Membership applications should be used for establishment of eligibility, length of membership, and historical value.

Note 2- Keep minutes that are for policy decisions longer if policies have not been incorporated into By-Laws.

Note 3- Monthly Quartermaster reports are dead files after quarterly audits are done. But recommended kept in case of a detailed reconstruction is needed.



Department of New Mexico VFW and VFWA Officers are represented at Legislative Day!

National Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief 2020 Candidate



Tim is our Western Conference Candidate for Jr. Vice Commander in Chief Select for 2019 and if elected will become our next Jr. Vice Commander in Chief in 2020. Tim has already been endorsed by our Department, the Department of Montana and the Department of Arizona. He has proven leadership in both the Army and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 28 years in the Army and over 16 in the VFW. He's a huge

Tim Boreland

supporter in membership and continues to recruit year after year with now 13 consecutive years with 100 or more members. He's a Triple Crown winner in 2012 and has already served as our Western Conference Chairman in 2012 – 2013 and a National Councilman from 2012 – 2016.

Most of you should know Tim from all his travels to our Department in the past 9 – 10 years. He personally has recruited over 25 members for the Department of New Mexico the last two years and plans to attend the Bataan Death March in March of 2017 to help our Commander Lenny Hampton with his membership year. Tim's qualification for the VFW come from his service both in Korea and in Iraq. If you would like to support or help Tim with fund raising or a donation, please visit his website noted below or send contributions to "Every Veteran Counts" c/o Tim Borland, 2089 W Cave Cotton Lp, Benson AZ 85602.

He also has an extremely awesome campaign shirts to where you can order either a short or long sleeve and also display your name, VFW Post / Auxiliary ## and your Department on them. The price for the shirts are \$35 and a small portion helps support his campaign.

You can contact Tim at tangles99@earthlink.net or visit his website at www.everyveterancounts2020.org; or by phone 520-678-9180.

If you would like to pre-order Tim's Campaign Shirt, on which you can put your name, VFW Title and State, with up to three lines for only \$35, please contact Tim at 520-678-9180. Help support his campaign today!"



Candidate for National District 15 Council Member



Jeanette D. Garcia

I am a Life Member of VFW Auxiliary to Post 401 and have been a member for 31 years. My first two years were spent as a Junior Girl. My eligibility comes through my father, Joe D. Salas, who is a Vietnam Veteran. I have two daughters Danielle (21 years old, a nanny and a CNM student), and Dominique (19 years old, a CNM student). I work for Bernalillo Public Schools as the Indian Education Coordinator.

We now have men in our organization, which is an amazing accomplishment for the organization. As an Auxiliary, we have welcomed the men with open arms and helped them become comfortable as members and to learn the bylaws of the organization. One of these days we will see one of them as National President.

Some of my qualifications:

- ◆ **National Ambassador:** (2016-2017) - Veterans & Family Support
- ◆ **Department President:** (2014-2015) - Outstanding President of the Year – Group 3
- ◆ **Auxiliary President:** (2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2015-current) President of the Year – 2008-2009
- ◆ **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
- ◆ **Life Member:** VFW National Home

I am running for the position of National District 15 Council Member.

If elected as the National District 15 Council member for 2017-2019, my goal will be to ensure that our Auxiliary members are receiving information from National Headquarters and that they understand any changes or additions to rules, guidelines, and our bylaws.

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 programs that we have, and to be able to see firsthand the families who have lost their hero, and those who still have their hero with them.

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 as well. 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 to them. 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.

I feel that I can represent the Department of New Mexico 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, to work well with others, and can see the vision of the organization and lead.

I cannot do this alone; we will work together for our organization. So, I need your help and support and ask for your vote at our State Convention in June, 2017, for the office of National District 15 Council Member.

Loyally,
Jeanette D. Garcia



Candidate for Western Conference Guard



SHIRLEE FRIAS

Candidate Western Conference Guard

**Twas' the Day of the Election and all through the room,
Brothers and sisters were deciding which candidate to choose.**

**The candidates were nervous, pacing and pulling their hair,
In hopes that the election would soon would be theirs;**

**When from out behind the PDP chairs she came,
Bumbling and fumbling and shouting her name.**

**Auxiliaries and Districts, and presidents too
Vote for me, because I want to represent you.**

**"To the top of the Conference! to the top of the hall!
"Now Vote away! Vote away! Vote away all!"**

**And laying her finger aside of her nose
And giving a nod, up the ladder she rose.**

**She sprung to her sleigh, to her team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew, like the down of a thistle:
But I heard her exclaim, as she walked out of sight**

**Happy Elections to all,
Vote Shirlee Frias Western Conference Guard,
and to all a good night.**

Endorsed by Auxiliary 401 and District 2



Candidate for Western Conference Guard



Janet Huft

My name is Janet Huft, and I'm announcing my candidacy for Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary – Western Conference Guard 2017-2018. I'd like to represent New Mexico and Western Conference, going up the chairs as a line officer.

I joined the Auxiliary 3015 Clovis, NM - April 1995 – Life

Member, under my husband Dale Huft. He is a life member Post 3015 Clovis, NM – October 1994. We have two children that are life members; Elizabeth Acosta life member Auxiliary, Jason life member VFW Post 3015, and his wife Emi, life member of Auxiliary 3015. We have 9 grandchildren; one of them is a Life Member Auxiliary 3015.

I'm a military brat. I graduated at RAF Lakenheath, England. I have been working at Plains Regional Medical Center in Clovis, NM for 22 years. I work in the Call Center helping the patients with the diets the doctor has them on, and meals. Some college.

I have served as an Auxiliary, District and Department President. As you all know, I am past Department President New Mexico, 2015-2016. As you all know, New Mexico was in Group 3 when I was Department President in 2015-2016, and earned the "Outstanding as President" and I call it "Outstanding Award New Mexico," because they are the ones that did a lot of the work. I have been Department Chairman Cancer, Americanism, Youth Historian, Color Bearer, American Flag, Flag Banner, Asst. Conductress, and Asst. Guard. I feel I have a lot to offer our Western Conference.

I would appreciate your vote . If you have any questions as I'm running for Western Conference Guard, please feel free to contact me at jhuft62@gmail.com or 1-575-749-5049.

Janet Huft
Past Department President 2015-2016

Candidate for Department Sr. Vice President



Mary "Girl" Sanchez

Candidate for Sr. Vice President for the VFW Auxiliary in 2017-2018 First, I would like to Welcome National Auxiliary Chaplin Peggy Haake from the State of Hawaii to the great Land of Enchantment "NEW MEXICO". Also I would like to welcome back National 15 Council representative Kim Sloan.

Welcome, Comrades and Auxiliaries, to the Department of New Mexico State Convention, 2016-2017. To State Commander Len Hampton,

Mary, and VFW Auxiliary President Dale Mann, and to Joe Bob and your respective leadership teams, a great big "congratulations" for a job well done throughout the year. Wishing you all a very successful Department Convention.

To my VFW Auxiliary sisters and brothers, I would like your vote and continued support as I take the next step. I want to be your next Department of New Mexico Auxiliary Senior Vice-President for the upcoming year, 2017-2018. I hope you vote for me, and thank you!

Respectfully in Service,
Mary (Girl) Sanchez
VFW Auxiliary
Junior Vice President
2016-2017

Candidate for Department Judge Advocate



Cathy Brock

Dear Comrades,

I would like to take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for the position of Judge Advocate for the Department of New Mexico for the year 2017-2018.

I have had the distinct honor to have served the Department as your Judge Advocate for the past five years and I hope that you will allow me to continue to serve

you during the coming year.

During my time as your Judge Advocate, I have provided both verbal and written guidance concerning procedural questions and interpretations

of both National and Department By-Laws, the Manual of Procedure and the Ritual to both Department and Post Officers when requested.

I have also served as the Chairman of the Department By-Laws Committee numerous times since 2005 and have been actively involved in all the revisions to the Department By-Laws, including the complete rewrite accomplished in 2007.

I have tried to serve the Department of New Mexico to the best of my ability since 2002 in many capacities, including Post Commander, District 7 Commander and State Commander, prior to becoming your Judge Advocate. I ask that you allow me to continue to serve the finest Department in all of the VFW as your Judge Advocate for the 2017-2018 administrative year.

Yours in Comradeship,

CATHY L. BROCK



Military & Veteran Family Helpline

800-313-4200

BE HEARD. BE HELPED.

The Military and Veteran Family Helpline is a free service of the VFW National Home for Children. It offers information, creates connections and gives hope to struggling military and veteran families.

Call for any reason. All calls are answered and no caller is turned away.

Department Convention



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
STATE CONVENTION
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
JUNE 2 - 4, 2017



Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown Hotel
2600 Louisiana Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

<http://www.sheratonalbuquerqueuptown.com/>

National Reservation # 1- 888-627-7127

Local # (ask for reservations) 1-505-881-0000

Fax at hotel front desk: 1-505-881-6933

Online Registration: (Preferred Method) <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/VFW2017>

KEY PERSONNEL

State Commander Len Hampton: 575-405-9001

Dave Fouse at State Headquarters Office: 575-653-4378 or cell: 575-973-4965

VFWA President: Dale Mann

GUESTS

VFW National Representative: Past Commander-in-Chief John Furgess

VFWA Representative: National Chaplain Peggy Haake

Master of Ceremonies: Jack Smith, Commander Post 11999

Room Rates

Single/Double/King: \$93.00 per night plus 13.00% in local and state taxes

Prices do not include suites or 8th floor rooms

(Must Mention VFW State Convention to Get Special Rate)

Hotel Reservations must be made prior to May 1, 2017 to get the VFW rate.

After this date, room rate will be based on current hotel rates.

Department Convention

VFW STATE CONVENTION AGENDA

Wednesday May 31, 2017

4:00 PM – 12:00 AM - Hospitality Room – Ivory

Thursday June 1, 2017

4:00 PM – 7:00 PM - Registration

6:00 PM – 12:00 AM - Hospitality Room - Ivory

Friday June 2, 2017

7:00 AM – 9:00 AM – Registration

7:00 AM – 7:45 AM – VFW Audit – Boardroom

7:45 AM – 9:45 AM – VFW Budget – Boardroom

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM – Workshop – Ivory

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM – C of A Meeting – Registry/Regal

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM – Lunch “Grab-n-Go”

1:30 PM – 4:00 PM – Joint Opening – Registry/Regal

5:00 PM – Joint Memorial – Ambassador/Registry

6:00 PM – Midnight – Hospitality Room - Ivory

Saturday June 3, 2017

7:00 AM – 8:45 AM – Registration

9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon – VFW Business Session – Regal/Registry

11:45 AM – 12:00 Noon – Buddy Poppy Judging

12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM – Lunch on your own

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM – Business Session if needed / Workshops

6:00 PM – 11:00 PM – Dinner/Entertainment & Silent Auction – Ambassador / Registry

Past State Commanders – Dinner / Luncheon – TBA

Sunday June 4, 2017

Breakfast – 8:30 AM (**ONLY FOR THOSE MEMBERS WHO STAY FOR THE VFW COUNCIL MEETING. NO EXCEPTIONS**) - REGISTRY

9:00 AM – 11:00AM – 2017-2018 VFW C of A Meeting - Registry

(Note: Meeting Rooms/Times are subject to change)

Department Convention

AUXILIARY STATE CONVENTION AGENDA

Thursday June 1, 2017

4:00 PM – 7:00 PM - VFW & Auxiliary Registration - Galleria
 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM - VFWA Budget - Boardroom
 (All Line Officers)

FRIDAY JUNE 2, 2017

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM - Auxiliary Registration - Galleria
 7:00 AM - 8:15 AM - Floor Practice - Ambassador
 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM- Auxiliary Council Meeting - Ambassador
 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM - Business Session - Ambassador
 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM - Past Auxiliary Presidents Luncheon - TBA
 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM – Lunch “Grab-n-Go”
 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM - Joint Opening Session - Regal / Registry
 5:00 PM - Joint Memorial Service - Regal / Registry
 7:00PM - Dinner for all Aux Department Officers & Chairmen (Dutch Treat)

SATURDAY JUNE 3, 2017

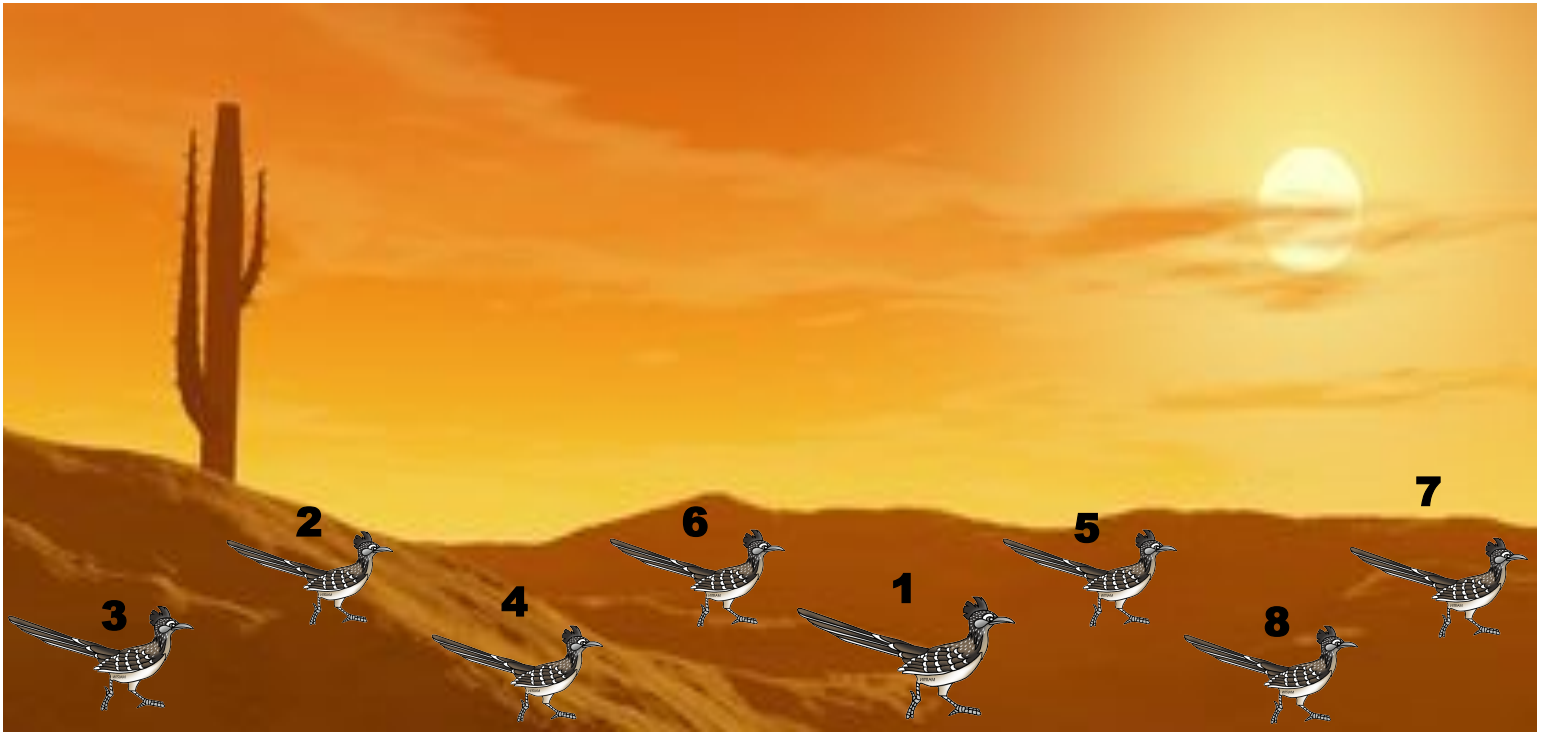
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM - Past Department Presidents Breakfast - TBA
 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM - VFW & Auxiliary Registration - Galleria
 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM - Floor Practice - Ambassador
 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Business Session (Continued) - Ambassador
 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM - Draping of Charter/Memorial Service - Ambassador
 11:45 - 12:00 Noon - Buddy Poppy Judging - Galleria
 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM - Officer/Chairman Luncheon - TBA
 11:45 PM - 1:30 PM - Lunch on your own
 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM - Business Session (Continued) - Ambassador
(Nomination, Election and Installation of Department Officers)
 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM – Dinner/Entertainment & Silent Auction – Ambassador / Registry

SUNDAY JUNE 5, 2016

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM - 2017-2018 VFWA Officer/Chairman Meeting - Ambassador

(Note: Meeting Rooms/Times are subject to change)

VFW Membership



In the Race for Membership here are you standings:

District 7—Eduardo Rodriquez 106.76%

District 8—Joe Bob Mann 99.31%

District 5—Joe Esparza 98.71%

District 1—Kyrk Westbrook 97.76%

District 6— Christopher Archuleta 96.06%

District 4—Jack Doil 96.02%

District 2—Danny Evans 93.97%

District 3—Roy Maldonado 93.39%

Divisions

- 1—Post 8448 Tierra Amarilla
105.00%**
- 2—Post 11999 Cloudcroft
96.66%**
- 3—Post 8703 Carlsbad
118.54%**
- 4—Post 2182 Farmington
102.24%**
- 5—Post 3280 Clovis 102.05%**

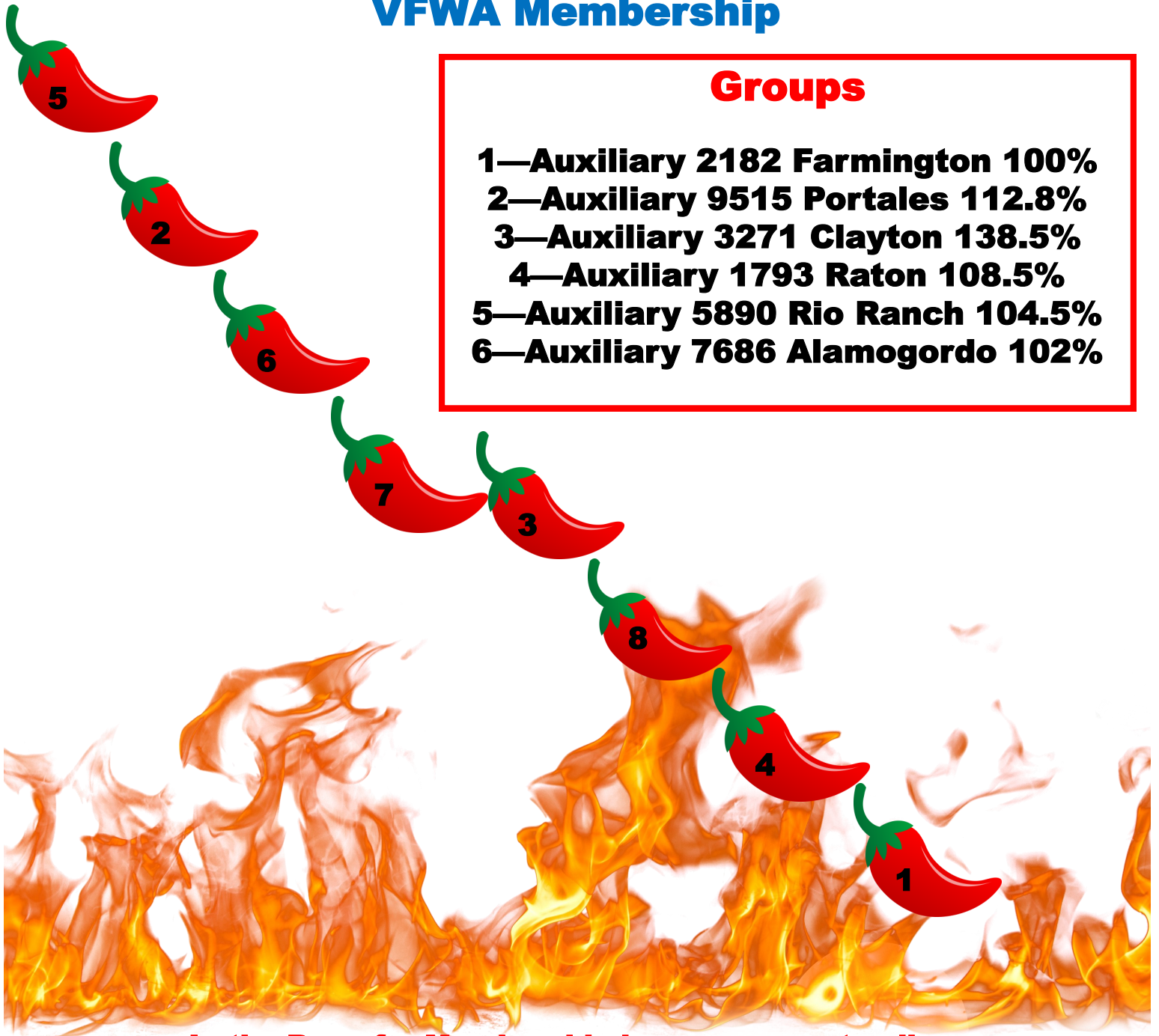
Recruiters

- 1st—Cynthia Archuleta - 25**
- 2nd—Kathie Schiebel - 15**
- 3rd—Lenwood Hampton - 13**
- 4th—Warren Booker - 12**
- 5th—John Archuleta - 11**

VFWA Membership

Groups

- 1—Auxiliary 2182 Farmington 100%**
- 2—Auxiliary 9515 Portales 112.8%**
- 3—Auxiliary 3271 Clayton 138.5%**
- 4—Auxiliary 1793 Raton 108.5%**
- 5—Auxiliary 5890 Rio Ranch 104.5%**
- 6—Auxiliary 7686 Alamogordo 102%**



In the Race for Membership here are you standings:

- District 5—Mary Ann Padilla 109.2%**
- District 2—Nancy Tabb 102.3%**
- District 6—Lucretia Henson 100%**
- District 7— Laverne Lester 98.7%**
- District 3—Beth Miller 97.6%**
- District 8—Lynda Putzier 96.9%**
- District 4—Nancy Evans 96.1%**
- District 1—Betty Decker 89.8%**