



May 2019

Vol. 43 Issue 3

Representative Alcon Receives Bronze Star

On Thursday March 21, 2019, at the Family Fun Room in Milan, New Mexico House Representative Eliseo Lee Alcon from Milan NM was awarded his Bronze Star by Senator Martin Heinrich. There were about fifty people in attendance for this ceremony.

Rep. Alcon served in the US Army from 1969-1972 as a combat medic. While in Vietnam from 1971-1972, he saved innumerable soldiers and treated many others. Due to his heroic actions and unwavering dedication during this time, he was awarded the Bronze Star. When he returned home, he asked his Commanding Officer about any awards he might be receiving. His answer was: "You are getting out. Don't worry about any awards."

After almost fifty years, Representative Alcon contacted Senator Heinrich about his awards when he was in Vietnam. For two years, Senator Heinrich worked to get these awards for Representative Alcon. On May 27, 2018, the Bronze Star was finally signed off on for Representative Alcon. It took almost another year for Representative Alcon to be awarded the Bronze Star he had earned.

Milan Mayor Felix Gonzales, another Vietnam Veteran, spoke about knowing Representative Alcon for many years, and working with him in the uranium mines. Mayor Gonzales was very touched to see Representative Alcon finally receive the awards he so rightly deserves.

Mayor Gonzales looks forward to working side by side with Representative Alcon in the future. VFW Department of New Mexico Commander Mark Decker talked about how Representative Alcon put his life on hold to answer the call to duty that took him to Vietnam, where he saved many lives. He was glad to be in the presence of the truly heroic combat



National Council Kathie Schiebel, Senator Heinrich, NM Representative Eliseo Lee Alcon, State Commander Mark Decker

veterans in attendance at this time, and especially Representative Alcon. Commander Decker also talked about how Representative Alcon fights for Veterans rights and benefits in the New Mexico House of Representatives at every turn. Senator Heinrich talked about how he was honored and privileged to be able to help Rep. Alcon receive his awards. He was humbled to stand next to Representative Alcon, and to work with him for Veterans rights and benefits.

Rep. Alcon said he did not expect to receive any of these awards, but is glad that they came through. He hopes that because of these awards finally coming through after nearly fifty years, other veterans that are awaiting their awards and benefits will fight for them. He hopes that in the future, the Armed Forces will be quicker in handing out the awards that their members have earned.

State Commander's Corner



Mark Decker

Thank you for a wonderful year. Since this is the last newspaper for me as your Commander, I want to recap this year and let you know how great a year it was. We started out at National Convention with a large turnout for our Department. We all witnessed history when our own BJ Lawrence was elected as Commander-in-

Chief. We went into a homecoming for our VFWA President Mary "Girl" Sanchez in Anthony, followed by my homecoming in the Four Corners area. We then had BJ's homecoming in Albuquerque, and MOCA Homecoming for Clara Montano in Clovis. That is a wonderful and exciting way to start the year.

We moved on to Western Conference in Washington State, where we had a fairly large turnout, followed by our Mid-Winter Conference in Albuquerque, with Past Commander-in-Chief John Smart and Commander-in-Chief BJ Lawrence in attendance. At Mid-Winter we had a larger turnout than normal for our Department.

After this, we instituted a new VFW Post in Roswell. Post 12184 is up and running. They were excited to become a Post, and I hope they continue to strive for success in the future.

Our next trip was to Washington DC for our Legislative Conference and to "Storm the Hill" and listen to our Commander-in-Chief talk in front of Congress for Veterans benefits and rights. New Mexico had almost a dozen members attend and visit all five of our Congress members or their offices at least.

Later in March, we had the Bataan Memorial march in Las Cruces. Again this year, we were able to recruit almost 200 members into the VFW, and about

a dozen into the VFWA. Great job to all who came out to help, whether it was at the booth, handing out water on the course, or at the Posts that put on the dinners all weekend for everyone.

Either the Commander, Senior Vice, Junior Vice, or Past Commander visited every Post in the Department this year. I am hoping this helps the Posts know how important they are to the Department's success. Our Line Officers will be at every District Convention this year to help with elections and any other problems that come up. Every Post and District in the Department was inspected this year and passed. This is great news, and affirms that we are all doing our jobs.

At the time of this writing, we have six Districts and about fifteen Posts that are in the running for All-State. We also have a few Posts and Districts that might make All-American this year. As a Department, we have met or exceeded all requirements for Department to make All-American except membership. And with membership, we are well on our way for that.

I would like to thank everyone that has helped me find my way in this position. There are way too many to name them all, but for a short list they are Bart, Vernon, Cathy, Kathie, Rich, Dave, Kelly, Raul, and Cynthia. My President, Girl, you are wonderful to work with and besides. I knew you would accomplish big things this year. But the biggest thanks has to go to my wife Betty for sticking with me through it all, even when I was tempted to throw it all away. She traveled everywhere with me and was always there, encouraging me and keeping me strong. Without everyone's help, this year would not have been nearly this successful.

I know that you, as a Department, are the strongest and hardest working group in the VFW. Thank you for an incredible year, and I hope you carry it through to next year under Rich and Kelly. I look forward to seeing everyone at Convention and look forward to talking to everyone about anything I can. Have a great time, and enjoy yourself. Nothing is so urgent that you cannot stand back, breathe, and enjoy the people and situation around you.

Senior Vice Commander's Message



I would first like to thank each and every one of you for your hard work and dedication in fulfilling the mission and programs of the VFW and Auxiliary. The Department and National organizations could not be successful without the efforts of each individual Post and Auxiliary. As of this writing, New Mexico is within reach of achieving 100% membership once

Rich Nutt

again, and even more noteworthy is that VFW National is on track to reach 100% for the first time in several years.

It has been a whirlwind last couple months starting with the Legislative Conference in Washington D.C., and I would like to thank all of those that stormed Capitol Hill to voice your concerns on Veterans' issues to our members of Congress. During the Conference, we also had the opportunity to support our Department's Voice of Democracy winner. During the Bataan Death March, our Department conducted yet another successful recruiting effort with the assistance of the VFW Membership Department. Thank you to Raul Sanchez for spearheading this year's Bataan Committee, as well as Post 6917 and 7686 for hosting events for those volunteering at the march and our guests from National Headquarters.

Lastly, I had the opportunity to attend the Sr. Vice Commander training conference in Kansas City. This was a great event that covered everything from the new VFW logo, to membership and administrative topics. We received a ton of information in the span of two days, but every piece of information and advice will help ensure that our Department will not only be more successful this year, but also for years to come.

Congratulations to all of our incoming Post and District Commanders and Auxiliary Presidents. Commander Decker and President Sanchez have ensured that we have big shoes (or in Mark's case, high heels) to fill next year, but I have complete confidence that New Mexico will be up to the challenge.

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 VFW State Officers 2018-2019

National Council Member - Kathie Schiebel 401 *Albuquerque*
Commander - Mark Decker 9517 *Shiprock*
Sr. Vice Commander - Richard Nutt 7686 *Alamogordo*
Jr. Vice Commander - Cynthia Archuleta 5890 *Rio Rancho*
Quartermaster - Dave Fouse 7686 *Alamogordo*
Chaplain - Roy Maldonado 4384 *Anthony*
Judge Advocate - Cathy Brock 3274 *Hobbs*
Surgeon - Christopher Archuleta 5610 *Espanola*
Past State Cmdr - Charles Eaton 9516 *Portales*
Inspector - Raul Sanchez 6917 *Las Cruces*
Chief of Staff - Roger "Bart" Bartosiewicz 3280 *Clovis*
Service Officer - Cynthia Archuleta 5890 *Rio Rancho*

District Commanders

District 1 - Abel Saiz 614 *Aztec*
District 2 - Victoria Haddox 5890 *Rio Rancho*
District 3 - Mike Cano 4384 *Anthony*
District 4 - Jack Doil 1389 *Elephant Butte*
District 5 - Eusebio "Joe" Esparza 3271 *Clayton*
District 6 - Joseph DeVargas 3259 *Taos*
District 7 - Eduardo Rodriguez 3274 *Hobbs*
District 8 - Joe Bob Mann 3280 *Clovis*

Quartermaster Message



Dave Fouse

Once again, we had another successful year. The number of members and Posts who are participating in our core programs continues to rise. I hope they continue to rise through the next year.

I wish to thank our line officers for a term well served, and congratulate those upcoming officers in their future endeavors.

We will continue to

strive in improving our programs, and recruiting to serve the veterans of New Mexico and their families. For those who volunteered their time and

effort during the Bataan Memorial March weekend at White Sands Missile Range, it was phenomenal! I challenge each Commander to reach out to these new members, and get them involved in the VFW and your Post.

Please pay close attention to the deadlines for the convention registration we have established. This is necessary in order to know how much food to order/prepare for the reception.

I look forward to serving you next year as I, once again, will be a candidate for Department Quartermaster. I have enjoyed this position as it has been my way of contributing to the success of this Department. Let's make next year an enjoyable one by fulfilling all requirements early.

Judge Advocate Message



Cathy Brock

Are you a new Commander or Quartermaster for the coming year? Here are a few words of wisdom that will keep you out of trouble with not only the VFW, but with New Mexico Agencies and the Internal Revenue Service.

Do you have a Canteen, Bingo program, have employees...?

Remember even though we are tax-exempt organizations, and thus

we are required to follow applicable State and Federal laws, rules and regulations. That means paying NM excise taxes, employee withholding taxes, paying and filing appropriate incomes taxes and version of the 990 to the IRS. Even though you may not think of it as such, each VFW Post is a business and must be run as such.

Quartermasters, have you changed the officers of the corporation (your Post) with the NM Secretary of

State? The Alcohol and Licensing Division is going to check that the names you submit for your liquor license match those of the Secretary of State's Corporation listing. The Secretary of State also requires the Officers and Directors of the Corporation be updated by May 15th of each year. (There's a fine if that's not done.) Be sure the Registered Agent listed for the Corporation is the CURRENT QUARTERMASTER. This requirement is NOT the same as the Resident Agent, which is a liquor license requirement.

If you have a liquor license, don't forget it must be in the Santa Fe office by August 1st...not in the mail by that date. (You sure don't want the fines missing this deadline entails!) And like any business in New Mexico with a liquor license, make sure you know, and follow, all the liquor laws.

These are just a few of the "other things" that come with the title and duties of Commander or Quartermaster. The biggest thing to remember is if you're not sure...ASK! Call me at 575-318-4139, and I'll try to help you out, or call our Department Quartermaster Dave Fouse. Remember, it's always easier to do something right the first time than it is to redo it.

Legislative Report



Vernon Luce

Congratulations to Commander Decker, and President Sanchez for a very successful year. Continued success for the incoming new Officers.

As your National Legislative Committee Member, I had the honor of visiting Washington, D.C. twice this year. Our goal is to make the Senators and Representatives aware of the importance of the VFW's and the VA's

primary needs.

November is election time. Please stress the importance of VOTING.

Any meetings you attend with local, state and federal politicians, please let me know. I have a monthly report due to our Washington office.

Let's have a great Convention, and as our National Commander in Chief says, "MAKE IT HAPPEN!"

Scout of the Year

Congratulations to the VFW Department of New Mexico Scout of the Year Winner, Eagle Scout Matthew Gardiner.

Matthew is an extraordinary young man whose sponsor is VFW Post 5890, Rio Rancho NM



President's Corner



Mary "Girl" Sanchez

I want to thank the New Mexico VFW Auxiliary and the VFW comrades for their support and appreciation over the last year and a half. It has been my greatest honor to serve you.

When I became President in December 2017, I thought to myself, are you ready for this roller coaster ride? I felt at times like I was walking on a tightrope trying to balance the 49

Department Presidents that were mad at New Mexico, proving to them that NEW MEXICO is a good trustworthy state, and on the other side, proving to the Auxiliaries of New Mexico that the Department officers are here to help them and their needs and questions.

As my year comes to a close in June and I look back, I can be proud of what this Department has done. I said Department because it took each of my officers in both 2017-18 and now 2018-19 to stand with me united to make the changes we did, squash some of the problems we have had, and turn the negative into the positive.

New Mexico has a positive image with the other states. Past State Commander Fred Eaton, and present State Commander Mark Decker both have given me some good advice, and their door was/is always open to talk and discuss issues. There are still some unresolved issues out there and we are still working through them and hope to get them resolved before I leave.

I want to thank each officer and chairman for a job well done. I truly have faith that New Mexico is in good hands with the upcoming officers. I do hope New Mexico gets the Circle of Excellence award this year. We have worked hard for it and I hope we also get some good awards to start the year with a good BANG!!

Congratulations!!!!

As of today, April 30, 2019 the Department of New Mexico VFWA is at 100.65%

Congratulations to Department President Mary "Girl" Sanchez and the entire Department. I knew we could and would do it!!! But don't stop – keep recruiting and get those dues paid!!!!

Thanks for all you do—Department Membership Chairman Kandy Brazell

New Mexico VFW Auxiliary State Officers 2018-2019

National Councilwoman - Jeanette Garcia 401 *Albuquerque*
 President - Mary Sanchez 4384 *Anthony*
 Sr. Vice President - Kelly Fouse 7686 *Alamogordo*
 Jr. Vice President - Janis Wimmer 7686 *Alamogordo*
 Treasurer - Penney Howard 614 *Aztec*
 Secretary - Jeanette Garcia 401 *Albuquerque*
 Chaplain - Kandy Brazell 401 *Albuquerque*
 Conductress - Betty Decker 614 *Aztec*
 Assistant Conductress - Judy Hayes 7686 *Alamogordo*
 Guard - Dominique Garcia 401 *Albuquerque*
 Assistant Guard - Dela Sanchez 4384 *Anthony*
 Chief of Staff - Beth Miller 6917 *Las Cruces*
 Past State Pres. - Mary Sanchez 4384 *Anthony*
 Color Bearer #1 - Sue Frappier 3015 *Clovis*
 Color Bearer #2 - Elaine Mitchell 3015 *Clovis*
 Color Bearer #3 - Sharon Olsen 4384 *Anthony*
 Color Bearer #4 - Sandra Esparza 3271 *Clayton*
 Flag Bearer - Louise Salas 401 *Albuquerque*
 Banner Bearer - John Mersman 8703 *Carlsbad*
 Musician/Soloist - Diana Wong 401 *Albuquerque*

District President

District 1 - Suzanne John 9517 *Shiprock*
 District 2 - Nancy Tabb 5890 *Rio Rancho*
 District 3 - Janis Wimmer 7686 *Alamogordo*
 District 4 - Nancy Evans 1389 *Elephant Butte*
 District 5 - Penny Esparza 3271 *Clayton*
 District 6 - Margie Carrillo 2951 *Sante Fe*
 District 7 - John Mersman 8703 *Carlsbad*
 District 8 - Bobbi Van Dyke 3280 *Clovis*

VFWA Chaplain



Kandy Brazell

Just a reminder that I am needing the names of all Auxiliary members that we have lost this year in order to get them printed in the Memorial booklet, so please get those reports in to me as soon as possible. My mailing information is on my year-end report – see our website.

Prayers to all of our members that are recovering from illnesses and members fighting the fight, and never forget to pray for all our military here and overseas that are protecting our freedom!

With much love and prayers for everyone's health.



VFW AUXILIARY

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Fisher House

A beautiful site is taking shape on the grounds of the VAMC in Albuquerque. The Fisher House is taking shape and will soon be open for business, but they still need our help. Let's continue the fundraising and let's get this house built!

At MOCA Convention we will be holding a silent auction to raise funds – stop by 401 and bid on the items.



Post 9515 Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and Teacher Awards

On February 21, 2019, VFW and VFWA members from Post 9515 held a banquet to recognize our local Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, and Smart/Maher Teacher of the Year Award recipients.

Rae Ruiz won the Patriots Pen at our Post, District 8, and at the Department. Dakota Belcher won the Voice of Democracy for our Post, and gave a rousing

presentation of his speech during the event. Amy Greene won the Smart/Maher Teacher of the Year Award at both our Post and District 8. Sasha Ramirez, one of Ms. Greene's students, nominated her for the award, and is the first student in the Post's history to do so.

Congratulations and thanks to all students, teachers, and families involved!



Post 3015 Voice of Democracy Award

Clovis Christian Schools senior Alanna Greenwell, at 17, still isn't old enough to cast a ballot in any general election. But she had no trouble finding reasons why it mattered.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars gave her another 600 reasons on Friday, as Greenwell was honored for her high marks in the VFW's nationwide Voice of Democracy essay contest. Greenwell finished third in New Mexico for the competition, and was honored in a brief Friday afternoon assembly at Clovis Christian High School.

She was awarded a \$500 prize for third place, and VFW Post 3015 surprised her at the ceremony with another \$100 on top of it.

The essay contest is open to students in grades 9-12 annually, with each year including a different theme. This year, entrants had to submit a three- to five-minute speech on the theme, "Why My Vote Matters." Though it ultimately comes down to student participation, it is the intent of every VFW Post to have a local contest and winner.

Greenwell said although she still couldn't vote herself, she still found plenty of reason why her eventual vote would matter. "I just looked back at how much people fought for the right," Greenwell said. "We have secured that privilege, and we might as well put it to use."

Gordon K. Lam, a retired Air Force Master Sergeant and Commander of Post 3015, told the assembled students all state winners receive a trip to Washington, D.C., as part of the National contest. The National winner receives \$30,000, and each state winner receives at least \$2,000.

- by
**Editor
Kevin
Wilson**



District 2 Recruiting

Comrade Sean Chavez, member of VFW Roadrunner Post 10763, with support from other Posts (North West Rio Rancho (VFW 5890), South West (VFW 6216), North East (VFW 10763) and South East, (VFW 401)) set up a recruiting booth at the Coronado Mall. The Comrades were there over the weekend and talked to many veterans. The young veterans stated they were not familiar or aware of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. These are the people we need to recruit to keep our great organization growing and active. The cost was not cheap, but the expense was reimbursed by National thru Department of NM.



Past State Commander's Dinner

St. Clair Winery at 901 Rio Grande Blvd. N.W.
B-100 31 May 2019 – Room open at 6:30 p.m.
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

There will be a 20% gratuity added to your ticket
Don't forget to bring your \$25 annual dues!
POC – Karla Eaton, karlasmail@swwmail.net or
832-971-4825

Members can bring a guest – Dinner is “Dutch Treat” (separate tickets)

New Post Opening in Roswell Post 12184

On April 2, 2019, Past Department Commander Fred Eaton presented a Certificate of Recognition from VFW Commander-in-Chief, B.J. Lawrence. It was in special recognition to the first members of the Post “who have come together in service of something greater than themselves.” They are a very enthusiastic group and are hitting the ground running. We congratulate our newest Post members and wish them every success.



New Mexico

Women's Grants



Free Grants For Women, a website that helps low income women with finding grants and financial assistance programs. These grants help families with education, rent, housing, utility bills, mortgage, and medical bills.

<https://freegrantsforwomen.org/>

5432 Veteran's Memorial

Horacio Martinez Post 5432 in Corrales is planning to erect a 6-foot tall black marble obelisk memorial in Corrales, New Mexico.

Completion is scheduled in conjunction with 2019 Veterans Day ceremonies. The memorial will have a bronze VFW medallion circled by five bronze medallions designating each of the five military branches. It will be a proud and lasting replacement for the existing small wooden memorial placed by Post 5432 years ago. The obelisk will have a bronze plaque that reads "In honor of the men and women who served in the armed forces of the United States in all wars past and present." The memorial will be erected beside the Corrales Library flagpole, and the foundation will be constructed by Corrales Boy Scout Troop 703.

the honor of serving in the armed forces, but we can't do it alone. Your assistance not only helps veterans, but also the children of Corrales and their guardians who will learn about the sacrifice that our military veterans gave and continue to give to our country.

The memorial will stand "shoulder to shoulder" with the existing library flag-pole to serve as a lasting reminder of those who served our country overseas in harm's way. We are a 501(c) 19 (EIN #85-0123009) and would appreciate your individual and/or Post support.

The memorial will be located beside the Corrales Library, adjacent to La Entrada Park which serves as a public meeting area for children and adults of all ages from the Village of Corrales and surrounding areas. It will complement the entire park and library areas, and serve as a constant reminder of the sacrifices of combat veterans.

Post 5432 is dedicated to supporting and teaching children and their family members about



D-Day Vets Interviews Wanted

My team with the DOD is looking for 2-3 lucid living veterans who were part of the Invasion of Normandy that we could interview ahead of the DDay 75th anniversary in June. Video interviews would be best, but phone interviews would work, too, if necessary. The time frame for doing said interviews would be between now and the last week of May. We would be looking to ask questions about what they remember from that day, how it affected their war experience, how it affected the rest of their lives, and what it did for America and the world at that time.

Katie Lange

Public Affairs Specialist

DOD Social Media

REJ & Associates (Sub-contractor for Excision, Inc.)

DMA Desk: 301-222-6588

Work cell: 667-967-4180

Website: www.defense.gov

Facebook: facebook.com/DeptofDefense

Twitter & Instagram: @DeptofDefense

YouTube: youtube.com/DeptofDefense



VA Disability Calculator

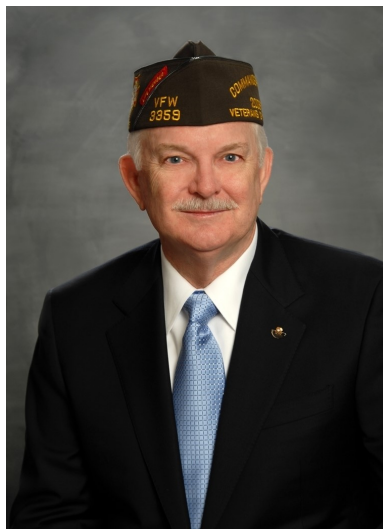
This is a calculator for veterans that helps them determine how much disability they may be owed by the VA based on their injuries.

www.ptsdlawyers.com/va-disability-rates-benefits/va-disability-calculator





VFW National Representative



Glen Gardner

Glen Gardner was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on August 21, 2008, at the 109th VFW National Convention in Orlando, Fla.

Glen served in the U. S. Marine Corps from 1966 to 1970. He served as an aircraft mechanic with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Aircraft Group 12 in Chu Lai, Vietnam, 1968 to 1969. He was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal, Good Conduct

Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with device and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

In 1969, Glen joined VFW Post 2993 in Olathe, Kan. Later, when he moved to Texas, Glen joined Post 3359 in Garland where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life membership. He was elected Post Commander

in 1977 and again in 1983, and served as Post Quartermaster for five terms. He earned the title of All-American District Commander in 1981-1982. Glen served as the Adjutant/Quartermaster for the Department of Texas, 1984-2006. Glen has served on several national committees, including the National By-Law Review committee for 19 years and as chairman of the Budget and Finance committee.

He was instrumental in forming the Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations. He chaired the 600,000 member group for 15 years.

Glen's hobbies include golf and antiques.

He is a member of Military Order of the Cootie, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Marine Corps League and the National Association of Uniformed Services.

Glen is the proprietor of GG and Associates, dealing with estate sales.

Glen and his wife, Jean, reside in Round Rock, Texas. They have three children (one deceased), four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.



**Veterans
Crisis Line**

1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

VFWA National Representative



Past National President Virginia Carmen of Renton, Wash., currently serves the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States Auxiliary as Department Secretary and Chairman of the National Bylaws and Review and Resolutions Committee.

Virginia Carmen

In 2007-2008 as National President, she introduced her theme, "Tradition of Caring", and emphasized that traditions are important, not only to her but to our organization as a whole.

Eligible through her Father, Donald Bracken, who served in the US Army in Korea, she was raised in an active VFW/Auxiliary home. Her father was VFW State Commander and served 10 years as State Quartermaster, and her mother served as Auxiliary Department President.

Virginia began her 54-year involvement with the Auxiliary by serving as President of the newly

formed Junior Girls unit at age 10. At age 16 she joined Rainier Auxiliary 2289 and has been an active member, serving 3 terms as President and several terms as Treasurer.

She has served the organization in other capacities, including District President, National Hospital & VAVS Deputy Director, and National Western Conference Chairman for the Community Service and Americanism Programs. When she served as the Department President in 1998-1999, she was named Outstanding President of the Year in her membership group.

In 2011, she was elected to serve the VFW National Home for Children on its Board of Trustees. Her six-year term representing District 12 ran through 2017. She also served as President of the National Home Board from 2015-2016.

In 2000, she earned a bachelor's degree at City University while working full-time and holding several positions in the Auxiliary.

Virginia worked for the VFW Department of Washington for 13 years helping veterans with their VA claims, then 17 years as manager for PACCAR, Inc., maker of Kenworth and Peterbilt trucks.

She has four stepchildren and 3 step-grandchildren.





VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO
85th ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
MAY 30 – JUNE 2, 2019



Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel
2910 Yale Boulevard South East
Albuquerque, NM 87106

National Reservation # 1-800-325-3535

Local # (ask for reservations) 1-505-843-7000 Fax at hotel front desk: 1-505-843-6307

Online Registration: (Preferred Method) <<https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1554994821228&key=GRP>>

KEY PERSONNEL

State Commander Mark Decker: 505-947-5179

Co-Convention/Conference Chairman, Kelly Fouse: 575-973-2213

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

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

VFW Department Senior Vice Commander, Rich Nutt, Post 7686

GUESTS

VFW National Representative: Past Commander in Chief, Glen Gardner, Department of Texas

VFWA National Representative: Past National President, Virginia Carman, Department of Washington

Room Rates

Single/Double/King: \$98.00 per night plus 13.875% in local and state taxes
up to four people per room

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 5:00PM, May 11, 2019 to get the VFW rate.

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

VFW STATE CONVENTION AGENDA

Buddy Poppy Displays will be set up in Foyer B

Thursday - May 30, 2019

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM – Registration – Foyer A

6:00 PM – 11:00 PM - Hospitality Room – Gran Quivera

Friday May 31, 2019

7:00 AM – 9:00 AM – Registration – Foyer A

7:00 AM – 7:45 AM – VFW Audit – Valle Grande

7:45 AM – 9:45 AM – VFW Budget – Valle Grande

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM – Open Q & A Session – Bandelier

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM – Council of Administration Meeting – Tijeras

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM – Lunch on your own

1:30 PM – 4:00 PM – Joint Opening – Bandelier/Tijeras

5:00 PM – Joint Memorial – Bandelier/Tijeras

6:00 PM – 11:00 PM – Hospitality Room – Gran Quivera

Past State Commanders Dinner – **Time and place TBA**

Saturday June 1, 2019

7:00 AM – 8:45 AM – Registration – Foyer A

9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon – VFW Business Session – Bandelier/Tijeras

12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM – Buddy Poppy Judging Will Be Completed

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

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM – VFW Business Session; All incoming Chairman
(mandatory meeting) – Bandelier/Tijeras

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – VFW/VFWA Joint Installation of Officers – Bandelier/Tijeras/Chaco

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM - Reception – with DJ Diana Wong - Bandelier/Tijeras/Chaco

Hospitality Room

Sunday June 2, 2019

9:00 AM – 11:00AM – 2019-2020 VFW Council of Administration Meeting –
Bandelier/Tijeras

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



AUXILIARY STATE CONVENTION AGENDA

Buddy Poppy Displays will be set up in Foyer B

THURSDAY May 30, 2019

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM - VFW & Auxiliary Registration – Foyer A
 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM – VFWA Line Officers Meeting – Office (2nd Floor)
 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM - Hospitality Room – Gran Quivera

FRIDAY May 31, 2019

7:00 AM – 9:00 AM - Auxiliary Registration – Foyer A
 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM - Floor Practice – Chaco
 8:30 AM Presentation from Host Post
 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM- Auxiliary Council of Administration - Chaco
 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM - Business Session - Chaco
 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM - Past Auxiliary Presidents' Luncheon – TBA
 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM - Joint Opening Session – Bandelier/Tijeras
 5:00 PM - Joint Memorial – Bandelier/Tijeras
 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM - Hospitality Room – Gran Quivera

SATURDAY June 1, 2019

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM - Past Department Presidents' Breakfast – Rojo Grill at the Hotel
 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM - VFW & Auxiliary Registration – Foyer A
 7:00 AM – 7:45 AM - Floor Practice - Chaco
 8:00 AM - 11:15 AM - Business Session (Continued) - Chaco
 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM - Officer/Chairman Luncheon - TBA
 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM - Lunch on your own
 12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM – Buddy Poppy Display Judging Will Be Completed
 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM - Business Session (Continued) - Chaco
(Nomination and Election of Department Officers)
 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – VFW/VFWA Joint Installation of Officers- Bandelier/Tijeras/Chaco
 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM – Reception with DJ Diana Wong – Bandelier/Tijeras/Chaco
 Hospitality Room – Gran Quivera

SUNDAY June 2, 2019

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM – 2019-2020 VFWA Council of Administration (all are welcome)-Chaco
 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Training: What the Auxiliaries and Districts will need to do for State Inner Circle, and National Inner Circle; Programs; Line Officers Responsibilities on all levels (Building on the Foundation, Auxiliary and District level). Please have a representative from each Auxiliary and District at the training. This is for you the members! - Chaco

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

**STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
FOR VFW MEMBERS ONLY****DEADLINE FOR MAILING THIS FORM TO RECEIVE
A PRE-PRINTED NAME TAG IS MAY 13, 2019**

Name: _____ Post: _____

Department, District or Post (Just One Title) _____

Title/Position: _____ Membership #: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Ck# _____

\$8.00 for VFW members (\$15.00 after 5/13/19 and at the Door)

(Make checks payable to **VFW DEPT of NM HQ**)**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

Name as appears on card: _____

Card # _____

CVV2: _____
(3 NUMBERS ON BACK OF CARD)

Expiration date: _____ Amount: _____

ZIP: _____

Authorized Card Signature: _____

Circle One

Do you want a receipt emailed? Y or N

Email Address: _____

If paying by Credit Card for Registration and/or Banquet
Forms may be faxed to: 575-653-4207



**STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
FOR VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERS ONLY**

**DEADLINE FOR MAILING THIS FORM TO RECEIVE
A PRE-PRINTED NAME TAG & HOLDER IS MAY 13, 2019**

Name: _____ AUX#: _____

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

Membership #: _____ Ck# _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

\$10.00 for Auxiliary Members (\$15.00 after 5/13/2019 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 VFW AUXILIARY)

Auxiliary Members, send your registration & payment to:

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

*Come celebrate
the outgoing and
upcoming
New Mexico
VFW/VFWA Year!!*

RECEPTION TICKET(S) REQUEST
DUE BY MAY 13, 2019
See next page for the menu

***DJ by
Diana
Wong***

Name: _____ Post/Aux#: _____

Name: _____ Post/Aux#: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

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

(Make checks payable to VFW DEPT of NM HQ)

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 ACCEPT CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS
(AMEX/VISA/DISCOVER/MASTERCARD)

(PRINT LEGIBLY)

Name as it Appears on Card: _____

Card # _____

CVV2: _____
(3 NUMBERS ON BACK OF CARD)

Expiration date: _____ Amount: _____ ZIP: _____

Authorized Card Signature: _____

Circle One

Do you want a receipt emailed? Y or N

Email Address: _____

If paying by Credit Card for Registration and Banquet
Forms may be faxed to: 575-653-4207



RECEPTION MENU

\$30.00 per Person

Sauces are served on the side, unless noted

Southwest Table

Chili Con Queso with freshly made Blue, Red and Yellow Corn Tortilla Chips
Guacamole and house made salsa and
Taquitos

Jalapeno Cream Cheese Pinwheels

Fresh Jalapenos and Cream Cheese on sliced, Flour Tortillas

Southwestern Crab Cakes

Southwestern Crab Cakes served with a Red Chile Aioli

Coconut Shrimp

Coconut Shrimp served with a Raspberry Horseradish Sauce

Buffalo Chicken

Skewered Buffalo Chicken served with a Bleu Cheese Dipping Sauce

Pork Sliders

Pulled Pork Sliders on home baked Rolls topped with Cole Slaw

Teriyaki Chicken Skewers

Asian marinated and served with a Teriyaki glaze (not on the side)

Candidate Forum

Tim Borland, Life Member of James R. Bob Currieo VFW Post 9972 in Sierra Vista, Arizona, is a candidate for the VFW Western Conference's nomination for National Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Select in July 2019. His nomination and election will be on 20 July 2019 at our 120th National Convention in Orlando. Tim earned his eligibility to join the VFW during his 28-year long career in the U.S. Army, retiring as a First Sergeant at Ft. Huachuca in Sierra Vista, with deployments to Korea and Iraq. Tim and his wife Shannon reside in Benson, Arizona and visit our Department as many opportunities as they possibly can.

If elected, Tim will then advance to National Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief in 2020-21, and then Commander-in-Chief in 2022-23. Tim has been traveling the country since November 2015, and has already visited every Department in the Conference at least twice with 15 of 16 possible endorsements. Tim's passion and loyalty for this organization is strong as he continues to travel all over the Nation promoting the VFW and encouraging younger members from Iraq and Afghanistan to join. He has already attended 5 Bataan Death March recruiting events, and plans to support New Mexico as long as his schedule will allow.

If you would like to help Tim in his quest to become VFW National Commander-in-Chief, please contact him at 520-678-9180 and join his team. At this time, donations are being accepted to help alleviate travel expenses. If you would like to donate, please feel free to do so by either visiting his website at www.everyveterancounts2020.org or make checks payable to "Every Veteran Counts 2020" and note on the check "Tim's Campaign" and send it to: Tim Borland • P.O. Box 341 • Benson, AZ 85602



Western Conference Candidate

Timothy C. Peters Candidate for Western Conference Vice Chairman

Comrades,

Having the full support and unanimous endorsement from the Department of Montana, I would like to take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for Vice Chairman of the Western Conference in 2019.

Earned my eligibility to the Veterans of foreign Wars for my service in the Gulf War in 1991. Served in the Air Force for 20 years as a C-130 Crew Chief and retired in 2001. Gold Legacy Life member of VFW Post 10010 in East Helena, Montana.



POST

All-American Post Commander
All-American Post Quartermaster
Captain of the All-State team of Post Commanders
Co-Captain of the All-State Team of Post Quartermasters
Century Recruiter - 4 Times

DISTRICT

All-American District Quartermaster
All-State District Quartermaster

DEPARTMENT

All-American State Commander
All-American State Quartermaster

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Secretary – Treasurer (2014-2016)

NATIONAL

National Council Member (2011-2015)
Chairman National budget & Finance Committee (2018-2019)
By-Laws Study Group – Member
National Audit Committee (2011-2015)
National Budget & Finance Committee (2011-2019)

Wishing you a very successful state convention. Would have loved to be there however I have another function at the same time. Highly motivated and dedicated member of the Western Conference, and humbly ready to serve the Western Conference and would appreciate your support in the upcoming election.

In your Service, Tim Peters

Western Conference Candidate



Comrades,

I come to you seeking your support for the position of Western Conference Vice-Chairman at the upcoming National Convention in Orlando. As in the past I continue to be privileged to have Oregon's endorsement in the various Posts, State and National level positions I have held over the years.

I have been a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America for almost 40 years. During that time I have virtually served in every position at the Post, District and Department level, except Quartermaster, and excelled in every position I have held. My commands have been All-State and All-American six times. I proudly wear the pin of the coveted Triple Crown Recipient. Through the years I have served on five different national committees.

My qualification for the VFW comes from two years' service in Vietnam with the United States Marine Corps, one year in Bosnia-Herzegovina and one year in Afghanistan with the United States Army. Between active duty and reserve duty I was in uniform for almost 41 years. I began my military career as a Marine Private and retired from the Army at the rank of Colonel.

In addition to my military career, I am a retired high school teacher in the Oregon Public School System where I taught Social Studies and coached athletics for 31 years.

I have served on the National Council of Administration representing Oregon for over 6 years, and at the same time continue to serve in various positions at the Post, District, and State levels, including these past two years as All American Sandy Post 4273 Commander.

In pursuing the position of Vice-Chairman I have met the requirement of being endorsed by my Post, District, Department, and more importantly my wife and family.

I do not seek this position because it is easy. If it was easy someone else would do it. I do not ask your support for myself. I ask it for us as a team. If you choose to endorse my candidacy you can rest assured that I will never disappoint you. I do not work to the clock. There are 24 hours in a day. I work to the completion of the mission. If that means work the whole 24 hour day, so be it. I may not be the smartest person to ever put on the uniform, but remember this: I cannot be out worked!

Service is the key to our success.

Bert W. Key

"NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS"

Judge Advocate Candidate

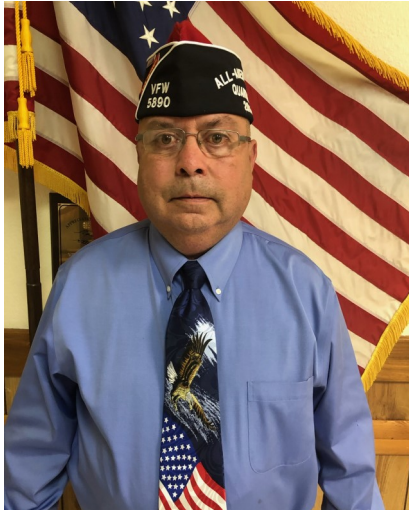


I would like to announce that I am running for the position of Judge Advocate for the 2019-2020 year at the Department Convention. I would appreciate the support of each one of you in my desire to continue serving the best Department in the VFW...New Mexico.

Cathy Brock

Cathy Brock

Candidate for Department Surgeon



Comrades of the Department of New Mexico, I would like to take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for Department Surgeon 2019 – 2020.

While serving on the USS Constellation in 1985, I earned my initial qualification for the VFW with an Armed Force Expeditionary Medal. I then joined VFW Post 5477 in Imperial Beach, California, the same

Expeditionary Medal. Additionally I was awarded 5 Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medals, and a Joint Service Commendation Medal. I also earned my Bachelor's Degree in Science with a major in accounting while stationed in Hawaii during 1999 - 2001. On my final deployment in the Persian Gulf in 2003, I became a Life Member of the VFW.

In 2004, I was hired by the USDA Forest Service in Fresno, California, and transferred to Albuquerque Service Center, where I'm currently a Supervisory Financial Analyst. Recently I received the 2019 Director's Coin for excellent customer service. Additionally I'm assigned to an Interagency Incident Management Team which supports large wildfires throughout the country.

I transferred my membership to VFW Post 5890 in 2005, and have been an active member ever since. I'm a Silver Legacy Life member and member of the National Home. During this time I have held several Post, District and State positions.

I am ready to serve you in the Department and would appreciate your support in the upcoming election.

Paul Golden

year.

Here are a list of my qualifications for the VFW:

While serving in the US Navy from 1983 -2003 I received the following awards: Southwest Asia Service Medal, Operation Southern Watch Medal, Operation Iraqi Freedom Campaign Ribbon, 4 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals, and the Navy

Candidate for Department Surgeon



Victoria Haddox

Victoria "Boats" Haddox was raised in Belen, New Mexico. Upon graduation in 2005, she joined the US NAVY Reserve (NOSC Albuquerque), where she is currently serving as Surgemain NR Albuquerque Leading Petty Officer and ACB-1 Training Leading Petty Officer. She currently holds the Rate/Rank or BM1/E6. Her previous assignments are Comphibron 1 Det. 101, NMCB-17 Fort Carson, Co NPDB-6, Iraq ACB1, Coronado Island,

Ca. and Surgemain NR Albuquerque.

She earned her membership in the VFW by deploying in 2009-2010 to Camp Bucca, Iraq and Camp Cropper, Iraq under the OIE/OEF conflict.

She joined the VFW at VFW Post 5890 in 2015. She has been elected or appointed to many Post and District positions. She is currently serving as District 2 Commander for her 2nd year. She is a mother/step mother of five boys: Riley, Aidan, Andres, Tristen, and Jacob. She married her husband and fellow comrade Jim Haddox in 2016, and currently resides in Rio Rancho NM.

As your 2019-2020 Candidate for State Surgeon, I ask for your endorsement and support. Thank you.

VFWA Guard Candidate



Elain Mitchell

I, Elaine Mitchell, am running for position of Guard of Department of New Mexico.

I am eligible to VFW Auxiliary under my husband's service in the US Navy. I have been a member of VFW 3015 Auxiliary for about eight years. I have held office of President, Senior Vice, and Junior Vice. During my year as President, I received the boxing gloves award for membership.

If elected to this position, I will do my best for the Auxiliary of Department and my fellow sisters. I look forward to being on the team of Department of New Mexico. Thank you for your consideration.

For god and country,

Elaine Mitchell.
VFWA 3015



MOCA Treasurer Candidate

I am announcing that I am running for Grand MOCA Treasurer for 2019 – 2020. I have held many offices in my MOCA #14. I have been through the chairs for Grand, and became Grand President in 1988-1989. In Supreme, I held Historian for two years.

I joined the VFWA under my father in 1981. I've held many offices, and was Department President in 2002-2003. I was Western Conference President in 2006-2007.

My MOCA, VFWA and District #1 are backing me for

this high office of Grand Treasurer. My life was put on hold for awhile, but now I am able to move forward and I will make you proud.

I feel that I am well qualified to represent the Grand as your Treasurer. Your support for this position will be greatly appreciated.

May God Bless our Veterans, and their families and keep them safe.

"Keep' m Smiling in Beds of White"
Vicky L Westbrook



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.



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.

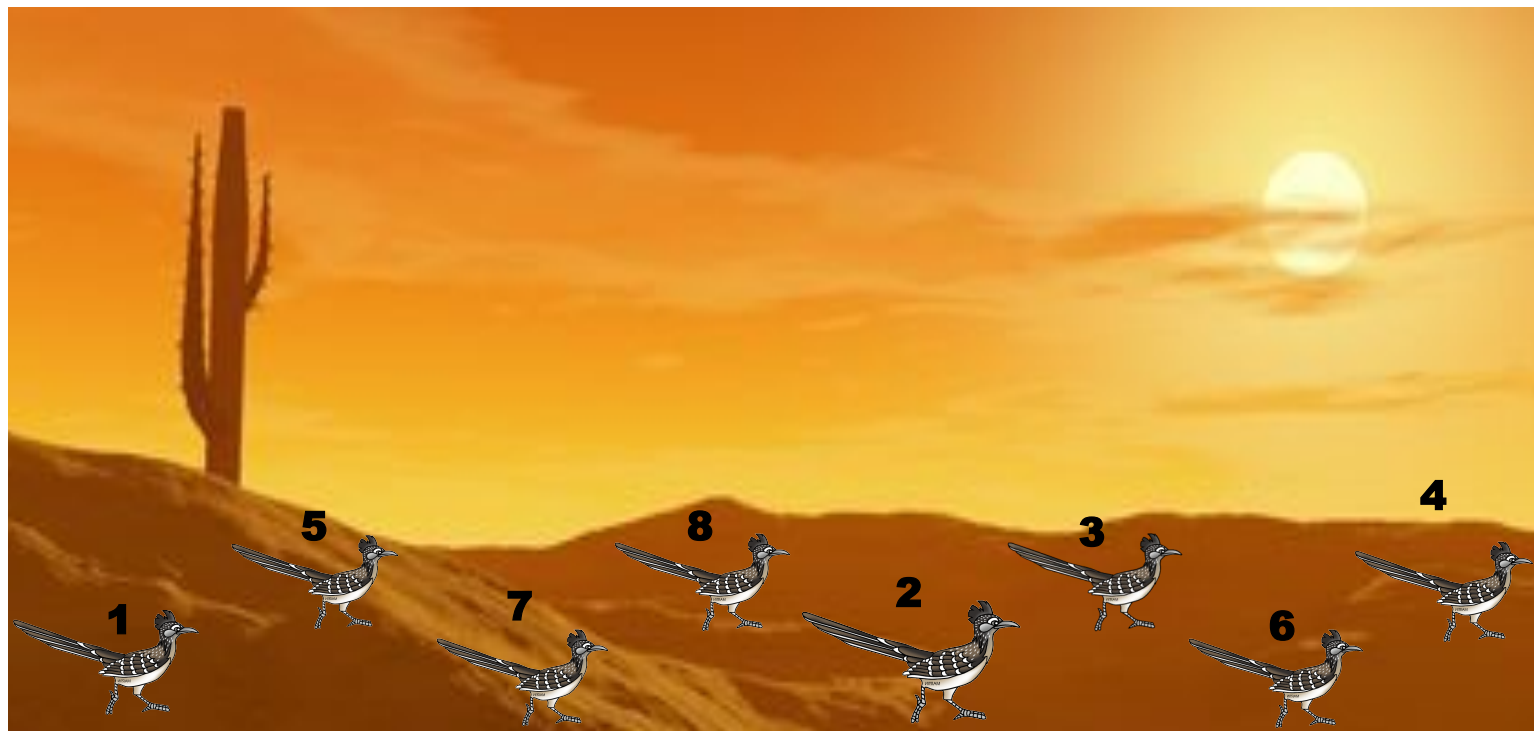
- We provide housing and daycare to the military, veteran and veteran related families participating in our one to four year program.
- Educational, recreational, and enrichment opportunities are available to our families both on and off campus.
- Personal case management services for each family.
-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



V F W
NATIONAL HOME
FOR CHILDREN
Every child deserves a happy home.

VFW Membership



In the Race for Membership here are you standings:

District 4—Jack Doil 102.80%

District 6— Joseph DeVargas 102.44%

District 3—Mike Cano 102.29%

District 2—Victoria Haddox 101.52%

District 8—Joe Bob Mann 100.78

District 7—Edwardo Rodriquez 104.58%

District 5—Joe Esparza 100.33

District 1—Abel Saiz 94.51%

Divisions

**1—Post 5432 Corrales
100.69%**

**2—Post 11999 Cloudcroft
109.72%**

**3—Post 8703 Carlsbad
104.94%**

**4—Post 3242 Las Cruces
106.07%**

5—Post 2951 Santa Fe 103.10

Recruiters

1st—BJ Lawerance—111

2nd—Jason Lee—48

3rd—John Archuleta—23

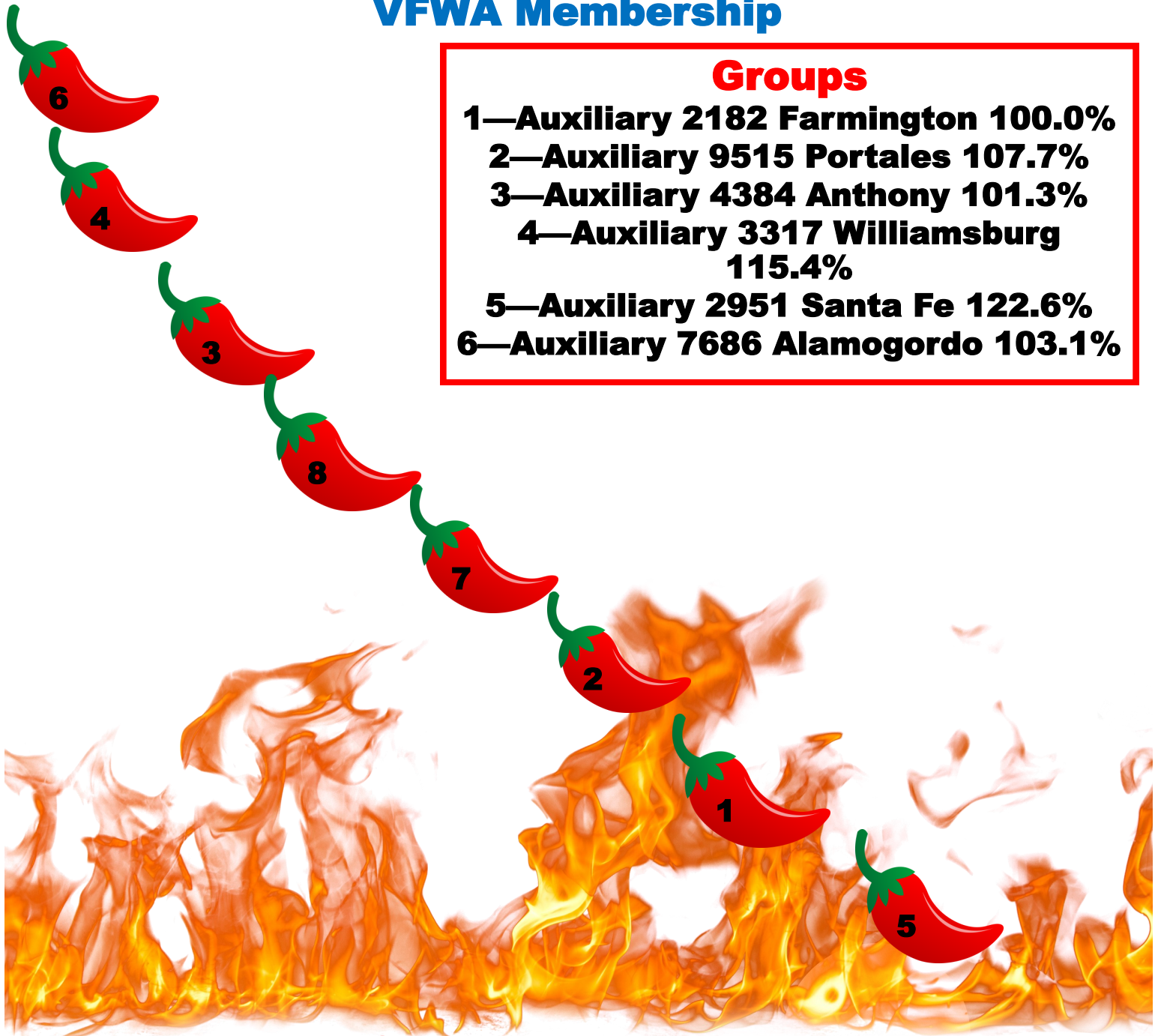
4th—Mark Decker—23

4th—Mary Tutza—12

VFWA Membership

Groups

- 1—Auxiliary 2182 Farmington 100.0%**
- 2—Auxiliary 9515 Portales 107.7%**
- 3—Auxiliary 4384 Anthony 101.3%**
- 4—Auxiliary 3317 Williamsburg 115.4%**
- 5—Auxiliary 2951 Santa Fe 122.6%**
- 6—Auxiliary 7686 Alamogordo 103.1%**



In the Race for Membership here are you standings:

- District 6—Margie Carillo 110.6%**
- District 4—Nancy Evans 109.1%**
- District 3—Janis Wimmer 102.9%**
- District 8—Bobby Van Dyke 100.3%**
- District 7—John Mersman 97.2%**
- District 2—Nancy Tabb 94.3%**
- District 1—Suzanne John 91.4%**
- District 5—Penny Esparza 87.7%**