



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

September 2020

Vol. 45 Issue 1

Executive Order #1

Pursuant to Section 618(a)(4) and the National Council of Administration's July 27, 2020 concurrence for navigating the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions, the following mandate is hereby issued. This order applies to all levels of the organization and supersedes all other guidance that would otherwise conflict with conducting the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions.

National: Pursuant to Section 618 (a)(5) of the National Bylaws, the Commander-in-Chief shall insist that the business and activities of the organization are conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance, or regulation or bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment on this organization. Therefore, the Commander-in-Chief at his judgment and discretion, may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings and conventions electronically.

Departments: Pursuant to Section 518 (a)(1)(c) of the Manual of Procedure, Department Commanders shall insist that Department business and activities are conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment on the Department, its members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Therefore, Department Commanders at their respective judgment and discretion, may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings and conventions electronically.

Districts: Pursuant to Section 418(a)(1)(d) of the Manual of Procedure, District Commanders shall insist that District business and activities are conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment on the District, its members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Therefore, District Commanders, at their respective judgment and discretion, may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings and conventions electronically.

Posts: Pursuant to Section 218(a)(1)(c) of the Manual of Procedure, Post Commanders shall insist that Post business and activities be conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment upon the Post, its members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Therefore, Post Commanders, at their respective judgment and discretion, may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings electronically.

VFW Commander Follow up:

Comrades,

Per National, please adhere to the executive order No.

1. Per the governor of New Mexico we are not to gather in groups of more than 10. National has authorized all meetings/business to be conducted electronically. If you need assistance with this please don't hesitate to contact me.

Commander's Corner



Cynthia Archuleta

Comrades and Auxiliary, The COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic has been dynamic and intense for all of us in the past months. We will get through this. When? I'm not sure, but remaining safe and social distancing is what seems to be working. This is hurting our canteens and our membership, but it is not just New Mexico. Many states are not allowed to open their VFWs or their canteens. The states that are open have seen increases in viral

infections and have had to close. I encourage all of you to continue to conduct meetings via ZOOM. You can contact Dave or me to assist you with this if you need help.

We will get through this and hopefully, sooner than later, our Posts will be open and safe.

Try to get out and speak to your neighbors and their children or grandchildren about Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen and the Teachers awards, of course practicing social distancing. You can even make some copies about our programs and leave them at their doors.

I am working out of the VFW in Rio Rancho where I am seeing one veteran at a time for service officer related issues. We are wearing face masks and practicing social distancing. There are still vets out there that I cannot just help over the phone. Many veterans are retiring from active duty, and I am the only service officer that I know of that is assisting them. If anyone needs any assistance with their claim(s), please e-mail me at cynthia.archuleta@va.gov.

I am thinking about you all and hope you are safe and healthy. Hopefully by January we can meet at Mid-Winter, if not sooner. I will be letting everyone know about the Commanders homecoming here in the next few weeks, which, as of right now, looks like it may not happen. The National Commanders homecoming has already been cancelled. **Stay Safe.**



New Mexico VFW State Officers 2020-2021

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

District Commanders

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

New Mexico VFW News

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

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

VFW

Veterans of Foreign Wars

New Mexico National Council Member



Len Hampton

Comrades,

First thing, I hope all of you are doing well and staying safe. Next, I am grateful for your votes and support as I take on the position of your National Council Member for 2020-2024. Thank you!

The National Council of Administration consists of all elected National Officers, the Adjutant General, Chief of Staff, Inspector General, the immediate past C-in-C and members elected by each

Department. This body is responsible for administering the affairs and transacting the business of the VFW in the intervals between conventions.

I will do my utmost to represent the Department of New Mexico in a professional and diligent manner at all times, while fulfilling the duties of this most esteemed position. Should you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me.

64,000+

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



Senior Vice Commander's Message



Rogelio Maldonado Jr.

Greeting Comrades,

We have great challenges ahead of us due to the COVID-19 virus. We are not sure when things will return to normal. Zoom is the new technology for communicating with each other.

New Mexico Government has a different view of our canteen, so we need to find a way to adapt

and overcome this challenge.

Congratulations to State Commander Cynthia Archuleta and the incoming and returning Officers for the 2020-2021 session. Always give your support and loyalty to our leadership.

I would like to express my thanks to all for trusting in me and I am asking for your continued trust and support.

1.6 million+

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.



Junior Vice Commander Message



Christopher L. Archuleta

Comrades, I want to say thank you for your continued support as I get closer to becoming your next State Commander. I encourage everyone to help every veteran, not just when needed, even if it's just a simple "Hello do you need anything today?"

Please stay safe in this uncertainty that we are dealing with. If you

need me, please remember my phone is always on, to help each and everyone of you.

Always remember this " NO ONE FIGHTS ALONE. "

108,000+

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

Quartermaster Message



Dave Fouse

Comrades,

The distribution of VFW Buddy Poppies will be conducted according to the provisions set forth in sections 711 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Department, District, and Post Commanders should arrange now for the distribution of Buddy Poppies for the Memorial Day campaign in their respective areas. All

profits accruing from the distribution of Buddy Poppies shall be used in accordance with sections 219 and 704 of the Manual of Procedure.

Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218 of the Manual of Procedure, Duty of Trustees. The Trustees Report of Audit must be completed in detail at the close of each quarter, one of which ends September 30, 2020. Commanders are reminded that accurate and complete records shall be kept by all persons handling Post funds, including the Club Manager and Bingo Chairman. These records shall be audited by Post Trustees in the same manner as Post Quartermaster records.

Attention of Post Adjutants is directed to sign into VFW.ORG and go to VFW Training and Support, Member & Officer Training, Forms, and Templates, General Orders, HQ Bulletin and Calendar. You are to brief the membership at every meeting the word coming down in General Orders and Bulletin.



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS®



Past Commander Message



Rich Nutt

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers:

It is my sincere hope that everyone is doing well during these trying times that we have been through since around February and I know we are hoping for a sense of normalcy very soon. But in the meantime, we all must continue to do what we can to maintain our Posts and look out for our fellow members in addition to

continuing to perform our VFW programs.

I would like to congratulate the following Posts and Districts for their selections as All-American and All-State winners. These programs take a lot of time and effort to achieve, and I would like to personally

thank every Post and District in the Department for your work during the 2019-2020 year in helping your Department of New Mexico VFW achieve All-American.

All-American

Post 401
Post 6917
Post 9517
District 1
District 2

All-State

Post 1793
Post 2951
Post 3280
Post 5890
Post 6917
Post 9515
Post 9517
Post 10124
District 1
District 2
District 3
District 6
District 8

I wish every Post and District the best of luck in these programs for the 2020-2021 program year.

All-American and All-State Awards

All-American and Commander

District 1	Eloy Howard
District 2	James Haddox
Post 401	Carlos Narvaiz
Post 6917	Brian Ravak
Post 9517	John Charles
Dept of NM	Richard Nutt

All-State and Commander

Post 1793	Edna Candelario
Post 2951	Gilbert Romero
Post 3280	Vernon Luce
Post 6917	Brian Ravak
Post 9515	Charles Eaton
Post 9517	John Charles
Post 10124	Mickey Berry
District 1	Eloy Howrad
District 2	James Haddox
District 3	Brian Ravak
District 6	Joseph DeVargas
District 8	Vernon Luce

Congratulations!

President's Corner



Kandy Brazell

With this being my first article in the Department's newspaper as VFWA Department of New Mexico President I would love to say something witty, something profound, or something very meaningful...not sure if that will happen, but let's see what my middle-of-the-night typing turns out!

First off, let me say that this year is definitely not what I envisioned. When I started up the chairs, I

saw my predecessors travel around the state, going from District to District, traveling to CAFE events, National President's Homecomings, and bringing back great information for our Department. Seeing how other Department Presidents handled things, or even just within our great state how different things are handled, gathering ideas on how to spread the word about the great work our organization does, not just for our Veterans and their families, but our communities, our children and for each other. But most importantly, seeing the friendships and love our VFWA family feels for one another.

Yes, with this pandemic I, as well as all of you, am facing a very different world. But should it be? I keep hearing that if this pandemic lasts much longer, and we are unable to fundraise or open our Posts, that we are going to lose some of our Posts and Auxiliaries. But why should we? The American people have proven to be strong and ever-evolving with the changing times, and maybe it is time for us, the VFW and VFWA, to start evolving. How? We'll figure out different ways to get our message out to the public. I have been hearing that with schools starting the year from home and then later on moving to hybrid models, that it will be just about impossible to spread the word about our scholarship programs, but why, in this day and age with all the social media outlets, we should be able to reach every child in the state. How, you ask? By posting our scholarship information on Facebook and asking all of our friends to share the information. I am not talking about the Department's Facebook page or

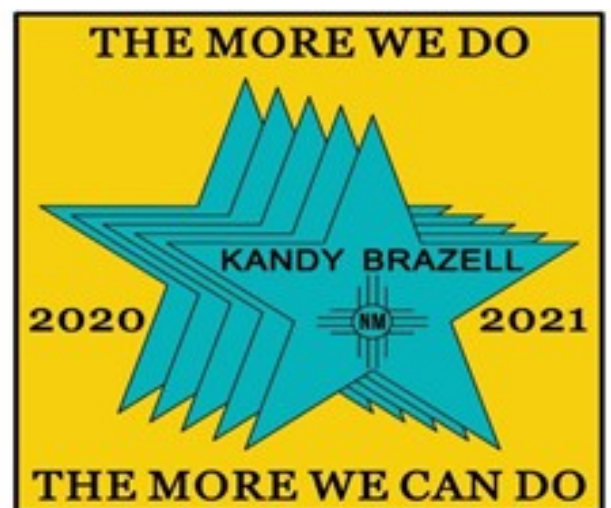
each Post's Facebook page, but to our own personal Facebook pages. Start using the internet to our advantage, search homeschooling in your area, charter schools, websites that show scholarships that are available; by doing this, we can spread the word!

While you are at it, use social media to fundraise. A good example: my Auxiliary was selling popcorn, and I and a few others posted it to our own Facebook pages. Within the first hour, I had sold 6 bags! Is it the same as having bingo at the Posts or dinners? No. But we have got to evolve with the changing times. Who knows? When things become normal again, we might find that by thinking outside the box, the things we have tried now might become a better way to do things, or a great addition to what we used to do.

So, am I blue about not having the year I envisioned? Yes, but I will evolve. I will figure out how to have better ZOOM meetings, and how to reach out to each and every Auxiliary member without the travel. Will it be easy? Maybe not, but because I know in my heart that I can depend on each and every member to show me the strength and love that each one of us has for our VFW/VFWA family and each other, and that things will be okay, because when things get tough, families always come through for each other!

Stay safe, wear those masks, wash your hands, and we will win!

With much love and hope!



District 15 Representative



Kim Harney

I hope that everyone is doing well during these strenuous times. I am confident that before long, we will be able to visit and socialize without having to worry about our safety.

Kudos to the 2019-2020 Department Chairman and officers for a great year! Congratulations to the Department of New Mexico and President Kelly Fouse for achieving the Circle of Excellence!

National held a mini-convention on July 24th, where Arkansas candidate Lois Callahan was elected to the office of National Guard and the Council of Administration held a meeting. Zoom and live streaming were used for those unable to travel due to COVID-19 restrictions in place for safety. We are all learning how best to use this new technology to our advantage. I am positive that it will continue to be beneficial long after we go back to our regular way of conducting meetings and trainings.

The Department of New Mexico webpage is looking good. I know that Betty Decker has been hard at work on that project. Best wishes to the incoming Department President Kandy Brazell, as well as all of the newly elected officers at the Auxiliary, District and Department Levels for the 2020-2021 year.

Hopefully, travel will resume soon and I will be able to attend your Mid-Winter in January. Until that time, please continue to stay safe and well.

Kim Harney
National District Council Member #15

New Mexico VFW Auxiliary State Officers 2019-2020

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

District President

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

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Senior Vice President Message



Betty Decker

Welcome VFWA
Department New
Mexico,

The “Zombie
Apocalypse” has had
us locked down for
almost a half year
already. There are still
veterans and their
families in need of our
help, and we still need
to do our VFW Auxiliary
business.

There are many ways
to go about this: website, Facebook, Twitter, Zoom
meetings, and just talking to people on the street.
Look for any and every situation to talk to people
about the Auxiliary and thank all veterans and their
families for the sacrifices they have made for us.

As Historian/Media Chairman this year, I need any
pictures, or articles about anything you have done
this year or are doing for the rest of the year. VFW
Auxiliary New Mexico has a Facebook page that we
try to update with pictures from around the
Department. Please follow us at New Mexico VFW
Auxiliary. Our website is vfwauxnm.org. We have
lots of great information for all of our members.
Please check the webpage at least weekly to stay
up to date with all of the newest information we
have.

Congratulations to Commander Cynthia Archuleta,
President Kandy Brazell, and the rest of the elected
and appointed officers in the Department of New
Mexico. Until we are all together for meetings and
activities, stay safe, and continue working on the
VFW Auxiliary mission.



Circle of Excellence

Circle of Excellence Award– Kelly Fouse

Hospital:

Outstanding Performance Award – 2ndPlace Danielle Garcia

Legislative:

Best Promotion – How to Contact you Legislators regarding
Veterans’ Issues - Vondale Mann

Outstanding Performance Award – 1stPlace Vondale Mann

Membership:

Best Performance on training and promotion of the program –
Janis Wimmer

Most Outstanding Training and promotion of the Membership
Program – 1st Place Janis Wimmer

Outstanding Promotion Award – 1stPlace Janis Wimmer

Veterans and Family Support:

Outstanding Performance Award – 1st Place Kandy Brazell

Best Promotion of Veterans and Family Support –
Kandy Brazell

Youth Activities:

Best Promotion Illustration America – Janet Huft

Outstanding Performance Award – 2ndPlace Janet Huft

Junior Vice President Message



Dominique C. Garcia

Greetings Department of New Mexico,

I am Dominique C. Garcia, your Department Jr. Vice President for the 2020-2021 year. I am a Life Member of VFW Post 401 in Albuquerque. I come under the eligibility of my grandfather, a Vietnam Veteran. My whole life has revolved around the VFW and Auxiliary. I grew up in the

organization, at 6 years old becoming a Jr. Girl, and on my 16th birthday my mom signed me up for the

Auxiliary. Some of my favorite memories are with the VFW Family.

A little about me: I am 22 years old. I work at ZIA Pharmacy as a Pharmacy Technician, and I am also a full-time college student. I enjoy traveling, shopping, and iced coffee. I am currently the Grand MOCA President of New Mexico, the VFW Auxiliary 401 President, and the Department Youth Activities Chairman. I look forward to working with all our Department Officers, accomplishing our program goals and getting New Mexico to 100% in membership.

COVID sure threw us all for a loop in starting this new year, but we still move forward and continue working for our veterans and their families. Everyone stay safe, wash your hands, and wear your masks.

VFWA Hospital Chairman



Danielle Garcia

Comrades and Auxiliary, My name is Danielle Garcia and I am your Hospital/VAVS Chairman for this year. I just want to wish Commander Cynthia and President Kandy on a great year, and I can't wait to see what you both have planned for this year.

As VAWS, we had our first quarterly meeting in July, and we learned

that there are a lot of wants and needs right now in the VA. A list of wants and needs can be found at www.vfwauxnm.org under the Programs tab. If you do donate anything, please leave it at Voluntary Services, make sure to call ahead and tell them you are coming to make donations.

Back as Hospital, I want to make a challenge to the Department of New Mexico, it's a CARD CHALLENGE. We need to make sure that our

veterans know that we are still thinking about them and making sure that they are keeping their spirits up. I want to send each hospital, that we cover in the Department of New Mexico cards to hand to our veterans. These cards can be happy birthday, get well, thinking of you, cards of inspiration, and humor cards. The cards can be homemade, or store brought, this is also a good time to get the youth involved. When you send them, please make a note and tell me which hospital you would like them to go to, you can send to the following address:

Danielle Garcia
8308 Waverly Dr. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120

If you have question, please don't hesitate to call, text, email, or snail mail.

Danielle Garcia
VFWA Hospital/VAWS
dgarciafvwa@gmail.com
505-917-6660



VFW Auxiliary Fund Raising Chair

Comrades and Auxiliary,

This year our President put together a committee that oversees fundraising. This committee consists of Danielle Garcia (401), Dominique Garcia (401), Nancy Tabb (5890), and Bobbi Vandyke (3280). We oversee the National Presidents Special Project, Department Presidents Special Project, and Ways and Means. Below are the projects for National and Department:

National President: United to Combat to Hunger

Department President: Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge.

If you would like to donate money to these projects or Ways and Means, please send all monies to the

Department Treasurer, Penney Howard. We do have monthly fundraisers going on, if you would like more information on those please email me and I could give you more information.

I also have for sale our Department Presidents NVS pin. They are \$3 each and I call it her HOPE pin. The pin she made defines what we need to be thinking of right now and that Hope for better days to come. Please send all money to me with a note stating how many pins you would like, then in turn I will send your money to Penney. Please make checks out to Department of New Mexico Auxiliary.

Danielle Garcia
dgarciafvwa@gmail.com
505-917-6660

MOC Grand Commander



Mark Decker

Greetings from Grand Commander,

Cooties, thank you for electing me into this position this year. This year has started off slow and more differently than any year before. We have to keep our distance from each other and are not allowed to visit the hospital patients like normal. We have to look for other ways of making

our hospital visits. Send them cards, send gifts to the hospitals for them to hand out, make phone calls, and any other way you can think of to brighten someone else's day.

Annual Cooties, please help to get the monkey off my back. Let us renew our membership right away. Any VFW member that has held any position of authority is eligible for MOC membership. If you are not a Cootie already, why not become one? Ask any Cootie what we do and they will give you information about the MOC.

MOCA Grand President Dominique Garcia, I look forward to us working together this year. I believe we can make the Grand one of the bright spots in the MOC/MOCA.

Congratulations to Commander Nutt on making All-American, and President Fouse on making the Circle of Excellence last year. I know Commander Archuleta and President Brazell will continue the great work New Mexico has been doing over the last few years. Congratulations to Len Hampton for being elected National Council Member 2020-2024 for New Mexico. All of the line officers in the VFW/VFWA/MOC/MOCA this year will do a wonderful job in this trying time.

I am looking forward to a year when we can get back to normal, have our meetings, see each other in person, and continue to do good for our veterans and their families. Until then, keep your head up, and stay safe and healthy. Hope to see all of you at Mid-Winter in January, if not sooner.

Until then, have a Lousy day.

MOCA President

Greetings Departments/Grands of New Mexico,

My name is Dominique C. Garcia from LOCO #7, and your Grand President for the 2020-2021 year. A little bit about me: I belong to VFW Auxiliary 401 in Albuquerque, and I come under the eligibility of my grandfather, a Vietnam Veteran. I am 22 years old. I work full time as a Pharmacy Technician at Zia Pharmacy, and I am a full time student as well. I currently hold offices on both sides of the MOCA and VFWA.

MOCA

Grand President

Auxiliary #7 Chaplain

VFWA

Department Jr. Vice President

Department Youth Activities Chairman

Department Fundraising Co-Chairman

District 2 Sr. Vice President

District 2 Auxiliary Community Outreach Chairman and Mentoring/ Leadership Chairman

Auxiliary 401 President

My Theme this year is Triumphant Care for our Veterans

My Special Project is Supplies for the Fisher House

I am very excited to be working alongside Grand Commander Mark Decker, as well as Department President Kandy Brazell and Department Commander Cynthia Archuleta. I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. Let's have a successful year and hopefully soon we can all meet in person again.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. If you would like one of my pins, please let me know and I can get some to you.

Phone 505-974-0018. Email:

dgarcia81@centurylink.net

Address: 8308 Waverly Dr. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120

MOCA Junior Vice President



Danielle Garcia

Welcome to a New Year! I am your Jr. Vice for the Grand of New Mexico and I am happy to be under the leadership of my sister. I want to say Good Luck to her and our Grand Commander Mark Decker! I hope that we have a great year considering the conditions that we are under. I know this year has started off different, but we can and will still exceed our goals. Please remember all of our veterans and family members in the hospital and homebound.

If there is anything I can do to help you, just email me at dgarciafvwa@gmail.com or call me at 505-917-6660

9.4 million

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

MOCA Treasurer



As of today, August 9, 2020 the MOCA Grand of New Mexico is at 31.53%. Please remember that your members must pay their VFWA dues before paying their

MOCA dues. Also, do not forget to start paying those across the boards.

MOCA National Home Chairman

My name is Danielle Garcia, I am the new National Home for Children chairman for the Grand of New Mexico. This year I am doing things differently, let me explain and then I will tell you what I am having all the MOCA Auxiliaries do to raise money.

Every year the chairmen has raised money for the whole National Home, while I have changed that this year. We will be working on raising funds for the Day Care Center. I wanted to do the Day Care Center, because I myself work in Education, and education is near and dear to my heart.

to the children that I have made up in my monthly promotional. At the beginning of the year, I sent each president a baby bottle because the daycare cares for children baby to toddler. I have mini fundraisers in my promos each month for them to put more money in. I have asked them to keep putting spare change in their bottles.

If you would like to get into the Battle of Bottles, go to the nearest MOCA and they will be happy to collect your money.

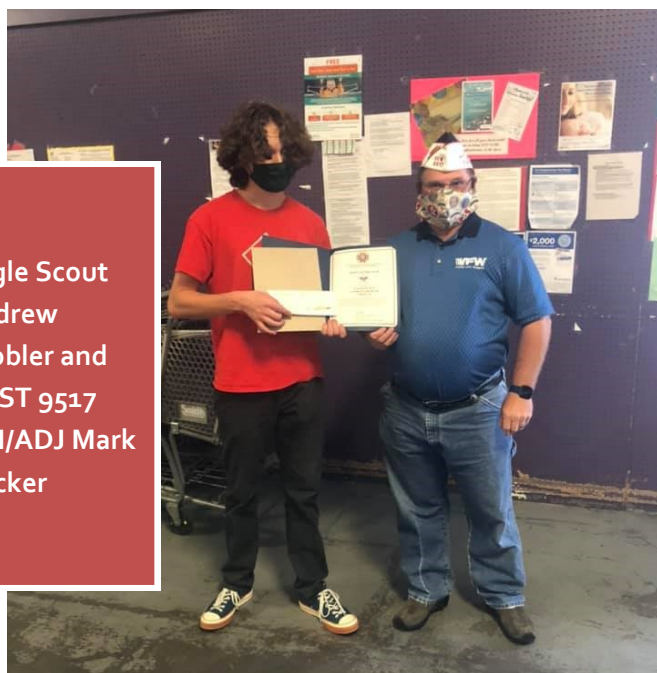
So, all the MOCA Auxiliaries are in teams according

State Scout of the Year

On July 15, VFW Post 9517 QM/Adj Mark Decker awarded Andrew Grobler, a junior from Farmington High School this past year, the VFW State of New Mexico Scout of the Year Award for 2019-2020. Andrew won the State award back in March, and competed at National this summer.

Andrew's Eagle Scout Project was a burn box placed at Berg Park next to the Riverwalk in Farmington. "We are proud to have sponsored Andrew for this award this year. It is young adults like this that will be the next generation to lead this country," Mark Decker said.

Andrew is currently working with the Order of the Arrow out of Farmington. He is also volunteering his time at Echo Food Bank, among other projects.



Eagle Scout
Andrew
Grobler and
POST 9517
QM/ADJ Mark
Decker

History of VFW Post 9676

Daniel D. Fernandez
VFW Post 9676
District 2

Our Post is named after Daniel D. Fernandez, one of only nine New Mexican Medal of Honor Recipients. It has been in existence and continuous operation for fifty four years, i.e. since 1966. Over these many years of providing community service to Veterans and residents of Valencia County, our membership has fluctuated at around ninety members. Because of a recent local newspaper recruitment push, we added five new members in July, 2020. This takes our membership to ninety five members in good standing. Our objective is to reach one hundred- plus members by June 30, 2021.

We began working on our Post website, vfw9676.org, in FY 2019 and launched it in July, 2020. Like many VFW Posts in New Mexico, we have been unable to engage in our normal fundraising activities due to Covid-19. So, to raise funds to cover our monthly expenditures, website hosting fees, and costs related to our Community Service activities, we sent out over sixty fundraising letters in July. We asked

various businesses and entities to become Site Sponsors for our new website, or to just make a donation to our Post. We are asking these businesses to donate \$300 to become Site Sponsors and to place their logos and hyperlinks on our website. During FY 2021, we are hoping to convince ten to fifteen businesses to become Site Sponsors. We will continue to recruit more VFW Site Sponsors in the future.

Although it will be a challenge this year, we plan to aggressively participate in the Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen, Teacher and Public Servant National Awards, Scout of the Year, and Community Service Programs.



VFWA 3015 Raffle

This is to inform you that VFW 3015 Auxiliary is holding a raffle. Two beautiful handmade wooden American flags (37"x19") will be awarded to the winner on September 11, 2020, after our ceremony commemorating 9/11.

Ticket prices are as follows:

- 1-\$10.00
- 2-\$15.00
- 3 for \$20.00

If you are interested, please contact me @ (575) 693-6853, and ask for Elaine Mitchell. I can send a picture. Thank you. Proceeds of the raffle sales go to Amarillo Veterans.





VFW Facebook Rules

VFW Facebook Standards

Facebook Page:

Your VFW page name should reflect whether it is a page for a Post or a District, as well as the Post number, District number or state. For example:

VFW Post 6917

VFW District 3

VFW Department of New Mexico

Facebook Category

Your VFW page's category should be nonprofit organization.

Facebook URL

Your VFW page's customized URL should match your page name:

www.facebook.com/VFWPost6917

www.facebook.com/VFWDistrict8

www.facebook.com/VFWDepartmentofNewMexico

Facebook profile image:

Your profile image should showcase your Post/District/Department, or the VFW organization. We recommend using the Cross of Malta, the VFW logo, or if you are a Post, a picture of your Post building. The VFW logo, formatted for a Facebook profile picture, has been made available on the website in the Training and Support section.

Page Description

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is a nonprofit veterans service organization composed of combat veterans as well as active-duty, Guard and Reservists who continue to serve in harm's way. Founded in 1899 and chartered by Congress in 1936, the VFW is the nation's largest organization of combat veterans and its oldest major veterans organization. With nearly 1.7 million members located in more than 6,600 VFW Posts worldwide, "NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS." The VFW and its Auxiliaries are dedicated to veterans service, legislative advocacy, and military and community service programs worldwide. For more information, or to join, visit our website at (link to Department Website).

Facebook Posts

Your Facebook posts should highlight your VFW activities.

Your Facebook posts should reflect the VFW's mission and values. Ensure all posts are:

- Non-discriminatory
- Apolitical

Always double check your Facebook posts for spelling and grammatical errors.

Respond to your Facebook messages and comments in a timely manner - daily if possible.

Comments and discussions that occur on your page should be monitored and adhere to your VFW social media code of conduct. We recommend including the below code of conduct in your page's "About Us" section.

We do not tolerate:

- Hateful comments
- Racial discrimination or discrimination of any kind
- Excessive profanity
- Links, images or excessive references to outside companies or their products
- Referral codes
- Identifying members in defamatory, abusive, or generally negative terms or endangering their privacy
- Posting ads from other companies or posting any content in a provocative or harassing manner repeatedly
- Trolling: the posting of content specifically to incite arguments, harass the organization or fans of the organization
- You are, however, more than welcome to post complaints or issues in an effort to seek resolution in a generally accepted civil manner.

#VFWPostPride

Use the hashtag #VFWPostPride to showcase the good works of your Post and those within your Department. These photos and videos will also be featured on the website at: www.vfw.org/VFWPostPride

VFW Social Media Rules

The Benefits of social media for your Post / District expand your reach. Spread the word about your Post / District! Ask for community input and provide other valuable information.

Social media will:

- Attract new members and provide a larger platform to communicate your mission.
- Engage your existing community.
- Let your community know what's been happening, share your successes and challenges.
- Attract new donors and event attendees.
- Promote your next fundraiser or VFW programs on Social Media.
- Reach a larger audience!

- Engage and connect.

All social media platforms offer an opportunity to connect with individuals who may become new members, donors or volunteers. Social media is one of the best ways to reach the new generation of veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. Technology is changing. Communication is morphing constantly, and in order to reach the audience you want to reach, you need to get on board with social networking.

For more information on starting your website, check out the VFW Website Solution Program at www.vfw.org or contact your Department Webmaster at vfwnm12@gmail.com



Important Dates

District

September 12
September 20
September 26
October 11
November 7
November 14
December 5

District 5
District 8
District 1
District 3
District 2
District 6
District 4

Clayton Meeting at Noon Lunch Follows
Post 3280 Lunch at Noon Meeting at 2
Zoom Meeting at Noon
Post 3242 Lunch at Noon Meeting follows
Post 6216 Lunch at Noon Meeting follows
Santa Fe Lunch at Noon Meeting follows
Williamsburg Joint 1030 Meeting follows
followed by Lunch

Mid-Winter

February 5-6 Albuquerque Sheraton Airport

Candidate for Western Conference Vice Chair 2020-2021



Kathie Schiebel

Kathie D. Schiebel,
Candidate for Western
Conference Co
Chairman 2020-2021


I served in the United States Air Force (USAF) from 1971 to 1993. I earned my eligibility by serving in the Gulf War. I received the Southwest Asia Service Medal w/2OLC, AF Achievement Medal, AF Commendation Medal w/3OLC, Meritorious

Service Medal, Joint Meritorious Service Unit Award, AF Outstanding Unit Award w/3OLC, AF Good Conduct Medal w/5 OLC, National Defense Service Medal w/1 Bronze Star, AF Longevity Service Ribbon w/4OLC, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, AF Sort Tour Overseas Ribbon, AF Long Tour Overseas Ribbon w/4OLC, NCO Graduate Ribbon w/2OLC, and the AF Training Ribbon. I was a Personnel Technician in the AF and supervised several personnel during my career. I retired as a MSgt. In addition, I was a Human Resources

Specialist with the USDA Forest Service for 23 years. I supervised up to 30 personnel at one time.

I belong to VFW Post 401 in Albuquerque, NM where I am a Gold Legacy Life Member. I have served in several elected and appointed positions at the Post, District and Department levels. I have served on several committees at the National Level and I am currently serving as the National Council Member for NM, 2016 – 2020. I am a Past Grand Commander in the MOC from PA and NM. I am currently Chief of Staff for NM and Adjutant and Judge Advocate for VFW Post 401. I was also National Home Chairman for the Western Conference and am currently Co Chairman for the Time and Place Committee. I received All American Post, District and Department Commander. I am a triple crown winner and I am also a All Star Grand Commander for NM and was Co-Captain of the All Star Team.


My other affiliations are, I am a life member of the American Legion, DAV, MOC and AMVETS. In addition I am a member of the Elks Lodge and the Women of the Moose.



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.

Candidate for Department Surgeon



Don Frias

Greetings, fellow Comrades!

My name is Don Frias and I am asking for your support and vote at Department Convention 2021, as I am, again, announcing my candidacy for State Surgeon.

My journey begins at Eldorado High School. I graduated in 1985 and enlisted in the United States Navy in 1986.

After attending bootcamp, I was assigned to the USS Peleliu LHA-5, an amphibious assault ship. While serving, I worked on auxiliary engineering equipment throughout the ship. With about 2½ years left, I was reassigned as a search and rescue boat engineer, as part of the crew of four. We were responsible for any downed helicopters of any aircraft going down.

After my first four years were complete, I reenlisted and was sent to Assault Craft Unit One based out of NAB Coronado, CA (Naval Amphibious Base). Our unit was placed on high alert and was flown to Saudi Arabia ahead of Desert Shield to prepare for possible land invasion. Upon my return to the United States, our squadron commander signed us up at the local VFW Post in Imperial Beach (Post 5477). I transferred to Post 401 in Albuquerque when I returned. I've held several positions since joining Post 401 including:

Post Level

- Post commander for two years (making 100% one of the years)
- Four years as Senior Vice
- Three years as Junior Vice
- Two years as Trustee
- Two years on the Board of Directors
- Service Officer for 3 years
- Surgeon for 6 months

District Level

- Adjutant for six years
- Service officer for five years

Department Level

- VA/VS Rep for seven years
- VOD/Patriots Pen/Teachers Chairman
- Buddy Poppy Chairman
- National Home Chairman

National Level

- Appointed to the 120th National Convention Resolutions Committee

Military Order of the Cootie (MOC)

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

My wife Shirlee is an Auxiliary member who has gone through the Post, District, and Department chairs, and is a Past District/Department President. I have two children who are Auxiliary members. My son, Zacharie (24), is a senior at Baylor University studying history and will be getting married November 20, 2020. My daughter, Alexis (20), is a sophomore at University of New Mexico studying criminology/criminal justice.

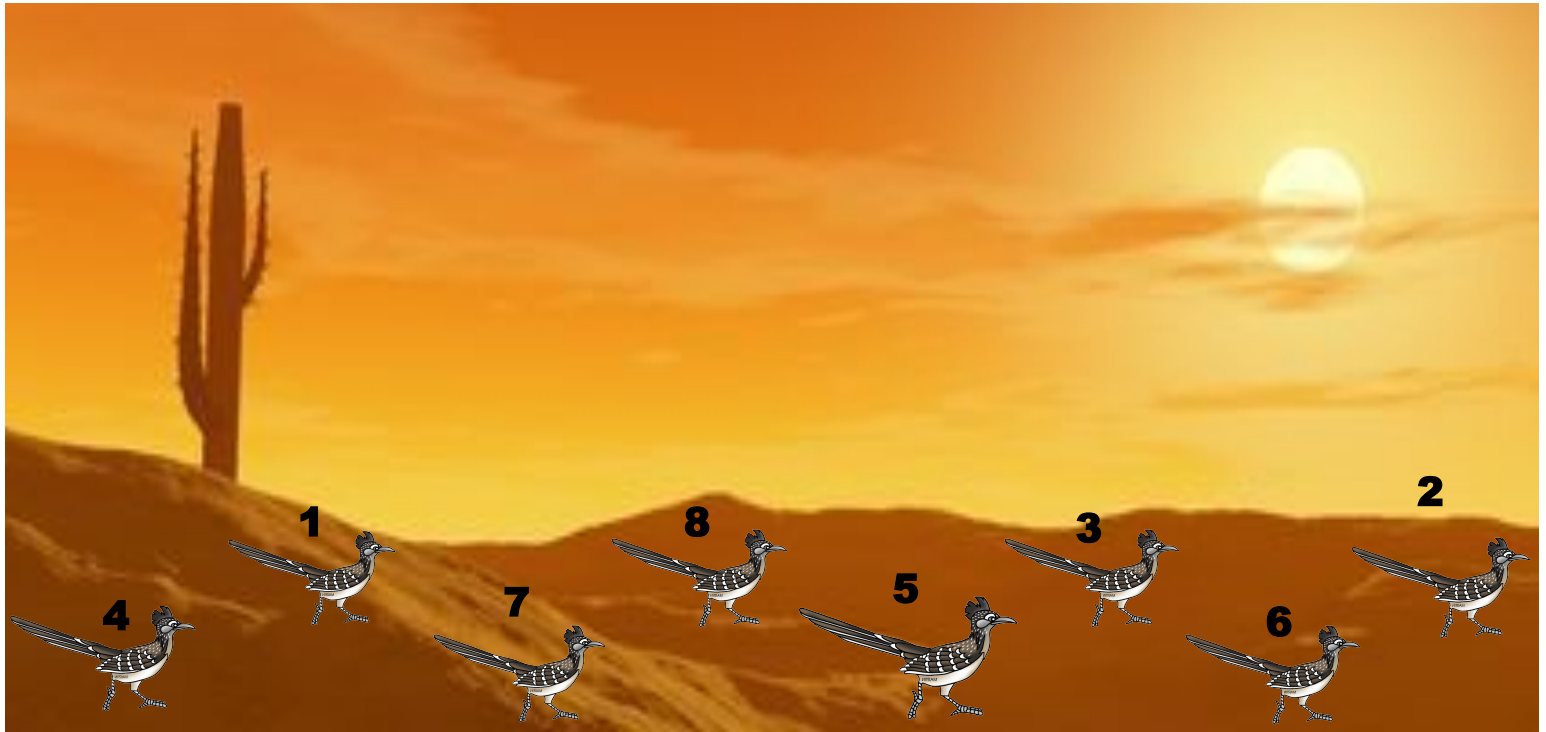
As your State Surgeon, it will again be my mission to work along with all Post and District Surgeons to help our vets with their medical needs. Working with the VA and our Department Service Officer, I will be able to convey all new and the latest health information. I also will be able to pass along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

I am proud to be a part of this phenomenal Department for the past 26 years, and I am ready to serve the Department as its State Surgeon, and eventually as your Department Commander.

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

Your consideration of this high office is appreciated.

VFW Membership



In the Race for Membership here are you standings:

District 2—James Haddox 1.46%

District 6—Joseph DeVargas 1.37%

District 3—Richard Hoschar 1.30%

District 5—Gary Ludi 1.26%

District 8—Joe Bob Mann 1.14%

District 7—Michael Gimeson II 1.01%

District 1—Eloy Howard 0.77%

District 4—Jack Doil 0.35%

Divisions

Division 1—4243—7.40%

Division 2—9676—8.88%

Division 3—6216—3.33%

Division 4—10124—4.31%

Division 5—5890—1.38%

Recruiters

1st—Jack Lovato—6

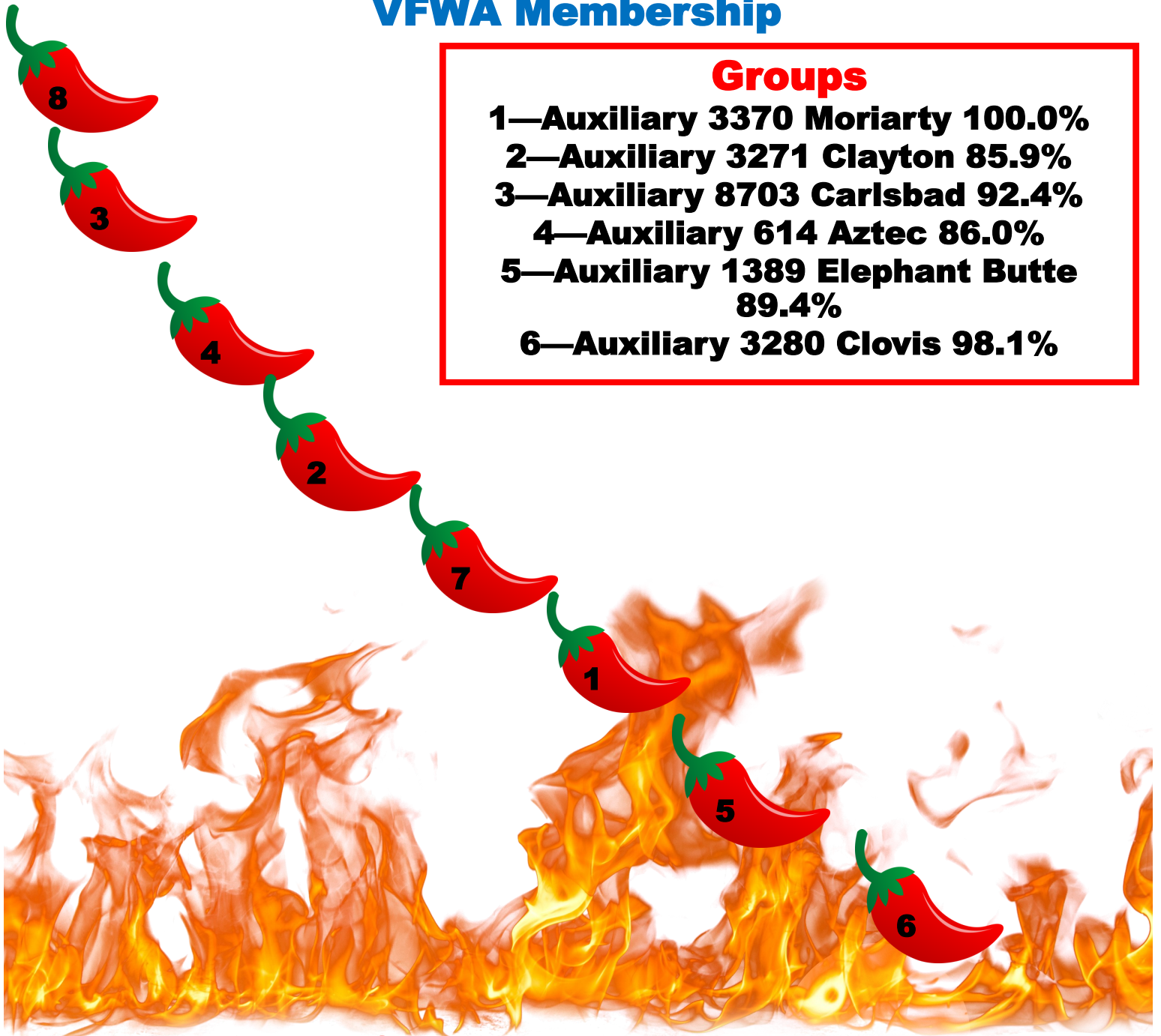
2nd—Hector Ortiz Jr—2

3rd—Jonathan H. Beldowski—1

VFWA Membership

Groups

- 1—Auxiliary 3370 Moriarty 100.0%**
- 2—Auxiliary 3271 Clayton 85.9%**
- 3—Auxiliary 8703 Carlsbad 92.4%**
- 4—Auxiliary 614 Aztec 86.0%**
- 5—Auxiliary 1389 Elephant Butte 89.4%**
- 6—Auxiliary 3280 Clovis 98.1%**



In the Race for Membership here are you standings:

- District 8—Vondale Mann 88.3%**
- District 3—Beth Miller 83.9%**
- District 4—Nancy Evans 83.3%**
- District 2—Shirlee Frias 79.9%**
- District 7—Angel Martinez 78.6%**
- District 1—Vickey Westbrook 74.1%**
- District 5—Penny Esparza 68.9%**
- District 6— Margie Carrillo 68.0%**