

The Ladies Auxiliary V.F.W.
Department of Texas



Our Two Cents



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December 2011



Sharon Helton Department President

I would like to take this opportunity to say Thank You to everyone who attended my Homecoming held in Amarillo. I can tell you it was a day that I will never forget. I especially want to thank Auxiliary 2544 for their most generous love gift. I can honestly say, it blew me away. To my line officers, thank you for the best gift anyone could receive. I am so proud to have my Life Membership in this great organization. To all the members of District 9, you did an outstanding job on my Homecoming. Everyone who attended the Homecoming is still talking about it. Thank you for making my day very special.

The holidays are now here. I know this month is a very busy month for all of the Auxiliaries. Many of you will be holding your children's Christmas Parties. Please make sure you report these activities to the Department Youth Activities Chairman.

Ladies, your Mid-Year Reports are due to your District President by December 10th. She has to have time to get them to the State Chairman. The only way for Texas to show National that we are **"GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY TO HELP OUR VETERANS"** is to be 100% in reporting by Mid-Winter. With your help and dedication, Texas will be Number One. We will show National that Texas has **"STEPPED UP- NEVER LEAVE A VETERAN BEHIND."**

Ladies do not forget to get your membership in. As of January 1st, 2012, dues will go up \$1.50. It takes all of us working together to accomplish this goal. I would like to have all my District Presidents at the Night on the Town. In order for them to do this, they have to be 91% by December 15th. Keep up the good work.

I hope that the holidays are the very best for all of you. May you get everything you want and more? Thank you for all that you do for our great Organization. I am so very proud to serve as your Department President. You ladies are the greatest that any State could have. God Bless all of you.



EXTENSION BARBARA HOFFMAN – CHAIRMAN

Texas continues to 'Step Up-Leave No Veteran Behind' as we work the Membership program along with all our other worthwhile National and State Programs. We have a very caring and working State President and Sharon works all our programs, right along with you.

The National Director Sherl Daverio has reminded all of us of the dues increase effective January 1, 2012. After that date, the National per capita will be **\$5.00** instead of the \$3.50 which will make Texas per capita **\$9.50**. So use this increase to promote Life Membership and getting Annual Dues paid before that date. We've been receiving a lot of new and converted Life Members and that's great. That way, no matter what, your dues are paid. I have my entire family as Life Members.

District Presidents you should be wrapping up your inspections. Don't forget to make that additional visit or two. Just to let your Auxiliaries know that you care about what they are doing and how they are progressing in our Auxiliary work.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

Non-Profit Organization
U S Postage PAID
Permit No. #1006
Austin, TX

Ladies Auxiliary to
Veterans of Foreign Wars Dept. of Texas
PO Box 15285
Austin Texas, 78761

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

EXTENSION

Red Flag Teams, work with Auxiliaries that don't have their bonds in. This is a must and all help is needed to make sure all Auxiliaries have all their requirements done.

Holiday Season is here and many Auxiliaries will be planning various dinners and parties. Don't forget your Veterans in the hospital or nursing homes or maybe just confined to their homes. Take them a card, cookies; candy whatever to show we appreciate them.

We just have two months left to get that 91% for your Night of Celebration with the Department President Sharon. You can all obtain this goal; I am pulling for you as we all **"Go Above and Beyond the Call of Duty to Help Our Veterans"**.

Thank you, Sisters, for everything and a very Happy Thanksgiving.

"Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes"

AMERICANISM

Kathy Stanley-Chairman

Ladies, half the year is gone already. Mid-year reports should all be in by now. I'm so proud of each and every Auxiliary Sister for showing your Patriotism to our country and our Flag. There's been many wonderful reports of the work that is being done in Americanism. It's great that we are teaching the children and the citizens of this Country what we are all about and trying to see that our Veterans are not forgotten.

December 7th is national Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. I hope to see some good reports about your Auxiliary activities for the day.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Mid-Winter. If you have any questions, Please feel free to call me any time.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Kathy Stanley-Chairman

I know each of you is already doing a great job, teaching new Auxiliary members the rituals of the Auxiliary. I hope you are working with the Americanism Chairman to teach children about Patriotism and the Flag. I would like to hear from all of you, about the things you are doing. Keep up the great work.

New Chairman for Veteran and Family Support
Debbie Daniel-1604 16th St, Brownwood, TX
76801 325-642-0954 debd@bwoodtx.com

Do not bring Poppy Displays to Mid Winter have them when our State President comes to Visits your District.



HOSPITAL/VAVS

Janet Ratliff-Chairman

VAVS—what does it stand for?? Veterans Affairs Volunteer Service. This means that the VAVS Representative works hand in hand with Veterans Affairs Service at the VA hospitals or the outpatient clinics. How do you get to be a VAVS representative? They are appointed each year by the State President when she appoints her chairman for the upcoming year. The VAVS reps do receive money allocated for the hospital or outpatient clinic, the amount received is determined by the size of either one. The VAVS Rep must keep a set of books showing where the money is spent and how much is left, they maintain a ledger book just like our Auxiliary Treasurer does and it is audited twice a year. This appointment is not to be taken lightly, it is a big responsibility. They are to see what the Veterans need and how they can assist them in anyway. Each year the VAVS Rep has what is called a joint review that states what she has done the past year and that goes to national after it has been reviewed and signed by the Supervisor of Voluntary Services. The National Advisory Committee (NAC) recognizes an Outstanding Adult Volunteer of the year with an award. The application must not exceed 300 words and be submitted to the National Chairman by February 1, 2012.

Remember to go **"Go Above and Beyond the Call of Duty to Help Our Veterans"**.

CANCER AID & RESEARCH

Jayne McCormick – Chairman

"Our Windmill of Courage"

December brings such joy and happiness to most of us. We have lived in a society that puts so much in giving "Things" but the greatest gift you can give is to make sure you take care of yourself. Get your check-up do what you need to do to ensure you will be here to see your family and friends.

Cancer will not take a holiday

Let us remember why we celebrate Christmas. May we all have the wonderment of a child with purest love for this season of joy which brings us closer to our God.

Thanks to all my sisters for the hard work all of you are doing for the Cancer Program. WE must keep the faith that RESEARCH will find the CURE.

The McCormick Family wish to extend a very Merry Christmas to all and have a very Happy New Year. May God bless you and yours and may he keep you wrapped in his loving care.

"Going Above and Beyond the Call of Duty to Help Our Veterans"

Step Up Leave No Veteran Behind"

Thanks for all the cards and prayers from everyone. I enjoyed so much getting them and reading them. Sure brightened my spirits. Love ya, God Bless Linda Henry

STATE NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Andrea King-Chairman

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, we all have so much to be thankful for, which is why we had to **“Step-Up and Leave No Veteran Behind.”** Can you believe it's Christmas shopping time already? In all the excitement of the season, **do not forget** that your Mid-Year Reports are due to your District President by December 10, 2011.

Since we are all busy, I won't take much of your time. Reports on Nursing Scholarship Fundraisers are starting to come in and I just want to remind you. Send the check for the funds raised to department earmarked Nursing Scholarship Fundraiser and the report to me. Please do not send me the money.

We have visited in Districts 8, 21, 1 and 12, thanks so much for the great hospitality. During this holiday season remember the reason we are here by **“Going Above and Beyond the Call of Duty to Help Our Veterans.”** Please, also, remember to keep our service men and women in your prayers and send them a card or gift just to let them know we're thinking of them. MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY/PATRIOTS PEN

Chris Bishop-Chairman

Season's Greetings to all of you! I wish I had better News for each of you but to my dismay, We are not at 100% in reporting. We have 5 Districts who have not reported anything on the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen. I know everyone is working the programs but not reporting the programs. You can email me these reports I have no problem with that. For those who have reported Thank You so very much. I have to send Our National Director Bernadette Botbyl the numbers this month so I will send her what I have. I hope each of you had your entries into your Post by November 1st at midnight. I am looking forward to receiving all the entries and hoping we get a 1st place winner this year. As we continue to go **“Above and Beyond the call of Duty to Help our Veterans”** Remember to **“Step Up Leave No Veteran Behind”** and Please have a Safe & Happy Holiday Season as each of you are very special to Us! God Bless.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Joyce Dalton-Chairman

It's December and our year of **“Going Above and Beyond the Call of Duty to Help Our Veterans”** is half over. Even with the holidays just around the corner you have time to complete as many of our programs as you can before Mid-Year reports are due.

I'm amazed by the wonderful reports already received. You are showing that it's time to **“Step up (with our youth) and Leave No Veteran Behind”** Remember the youth in our communities will be our leaders of tomorrow; support them as well as our Troops and our Veterans. Ask the various youth groups in our community to assist with holiday baskets for needy Veterans; make card for Veterans in the hospital and nursing homes. If you are having a Christmas party at you Post, ask the young people to help with decorating, and then invite them to attend the festivities.

“Children are the closest thing to angels this side of heaven”
Arthur unknown

Remember, Auxiliary Mid-Year reports are due to you District President by December 10, 2011. District Presidents your Auxiliary reports are due to Department Chairman by December 20, 2011. We all have deadlines to meet, Please do not hold the Mid-Year reports just because you're waiting on one or two Auxiliaries.

Wishing everyone a Blessed Christmas and prosperous New Year.

LEGISLATIVE

CALLIE LUMPKIN- CHAIRMAN

Happy Holidays!!! I know you are busy with Auxiliary actives and taking care of our Veterans but do not let your work contacting your Senators and representatives lag behind.

I did not make a Mid-Year report but have asked that you contact me frequently .There are some of you I have not heard from, Please correct this as soon as possible.

Veteran Priority Goals are our main focus for this program Each District President was given a goal for your District to work on together if you do not have your goal please check with her or call me anytime I will be glad to help you out. Veterans Opportunity To Elect is important because we can't change things if we can't vote in elections.

Contact Information

CallieJane36 @aol.com

469 426 6618

STAND UP- LEAVE NO VETERAN BEHIND

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Debbie Daniel-Chairman

As we enter the Holiday season, we certainly want to "Step Up and Leave No Veteran Behind". There are many opportunities available for an Auxiliary to work this program. Just a few examples are Christmas boxes for our military overseas. Most communities pitch in and help fill those boxes with needed items, Christmas cards and other goodies. It is time to get those in the mail as it takes longer to get to our soldiers than in state mail.

Assist the families here who have a loved one overseas. Maybe they need financial assistance or maybe a Post/Auxiliary Christmas party for their children.

There are many veterans in nursing homes. Contact the facilities in your area and find how many veterans are registered there. Make small gift bags of socks, soaps, underwear, pajamas, whatever your Auxiliary can afford and give them to the Veterans for Christmas. Spend some time with them at the facility Christmas party. They absolutely love it.

And finally, those veterans that still live in your community. Invite them to your post home for a Christmas meal or party. You can have gifts for them too, depending on what your post/auxiliary can afford. Take a Christmas meal to Veteran shut - ins as well as a small gift for them.

Don't forget to make donations for Operation Uplink which supports our phone cards, free call days and internet cafes for our military overseas or in hospitals. And, donations for Unmet Needs /MAP which is used to aide service members

and recently discharged veterans with unexpected financial issues.

Buddy Poppy:

I hope that all of you had very successful Buddy Poppy Drives for Veterans Day. Be sure to use and donations received as part of your relief fund to help veterans and their families in need.

If President Sharon has not visited your district as of yet. I would like for you to complete a Buddy Poppy display using her theme, windmills, cowboys, and horses when she makes her visit. Be creative.....Use poppies in decorations for your post and auxiliary events. Make poppy items to take to nursing homes and shut ins.

Start looking at the guidelines and rules for a display to be judged at the Department convention. I know every Auxiliary in the state has at least 1 or 2 creative people that can make something beautiful, expressive pieces of art using the buddy poppy. Just always remember that on any Buddy Poppy Display, you must have at least 1 poppy that is in its original form.

Get the poppy into the schools with handouts on what the poppy is and why we have Buddy Poppy Drives.

National Home for Children:

Have you sent in your Health and Happiness and Christmas Cheer money of .10 per member? If not, please make sure that is done as soon as possible. Our funds are what makes the children at the National home have better lives. Remember that if you increase your donation to .25, you will receive a citation from the National Ladies Auxiliary.

I hope that all Auxiliaries and Jr. Girl's units are sending in those Campbell's soup labels as well as Tyson project A+ bar codes. This particular program enables the purchase of vans to transport the kids and computers for school work.

Purchase National Home Life Memberships as those funds also are used to maintain the facility. Remember that Texas has a house at the National Home that we have to support. You can send donations to the home earmarked for the "Texas House" and they will be used to maintain the house we support. Send Christmas cards to the Home. All cards are posted for the families to see.

Continuing Education Scholarship:

Do you have a Ladies Auxiliary member, her spouse, son, or daughter that is in school and needs some financial assistance? There is a \$1000 scholarship awarded to one winner in each of the 4 conferences each year. Applications must be received at the National Headquarters no later than February 15, 2012. You can find rules and details at the VFW LA National website WWW.ladiesauxvfw.org

Ladies, I know this has been long, but, it is a very big and a very important program to our organization. Please make every effort to work this program as much as your Auxiliary can afford in money and time. Our veterans, soldiers overseas and in hospitals as well as the children at the National Home will appreciate it very much. Always keep in mind that we are "**Going Above and Beyond the Call of Duty to Help Our Veterans**"

MEMBERSHIP

Cheryl Owen – Chairman

Rose Marie Sweet – Co-Chairman

Congratulations to the Auxiliaries who achieved award #6 by reaching 91% by 11/30/11. Now we are working towards award #7 of reaching 100% by 12/15/11. District Presidents, keep working towards achieving 91% by 12/15/11 so you can join President Helton at her Jamboree at the Mid-Winter Conference. Keep up the good work!

We are enjoying reviewing the Membership Round-up reports we've received. Thank for a job well done!

One of the most important things to remember when recruiting someone new or bringing back someone is follow-up. Remember to contact them to see how they are doing, if there is anything you can help them with and to remind them of upcoming events. We lose more people this way and it can be remedied by a simple phone call. Let's get those phones ringing!

"We will be 100% - we will settle for nothing less." So put a smile on your face and a pep in your step while "**Going Above and Beyond the Call of Duty to Help Our Veterans**" as we "**Step Up—Never Leave a Veteran Behind**".

**Starting Jan. 1, 2012 Due will be \$5.00
for National and \$4.50 for Department
for a total \$9.50.**

Roster Corrections

Louise Golden PSP- 385 Carmel Dr, Sandia, TX 78383

Margie Davis-Page Chairman- 3173 Curry Lane, Abilene, TX 79605 325-660-9203

New Auxiliary 12104 D-28 President-Leslie Morrison 131 Cardinal Loop, Paige, TX 78659 512-541-1181 Secretary-Debra Goff 242 Shadow Oak Dr, Bastrop, TX 78602 Treasurer-Natalie Torres 1808 Carter St, Bastrop, TX 78602 512-303-0309

Auxiliary 5875 Secretary- Willie Mae Kristymik 3424 Dubina Weiner Rd, Weiner, TX 78952

Auxiliary 2527 Treasurer Ann Russell 502 Perkins St, Bastrop, TX 78602

Auxiliary 8566 Agnes Bright 5007 Chase mountain Dr, Bacliff, TX 77518 832-864-3643

Auxiliary 2772 Secretary-Shirley Culpepper 3205 N Marksville, Sherman, TX 75044



**LADIES AUXILIARY MID-WINTER ROUNDUP
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Wednesday-January 25, 2012

6:00 PM - Dutch Treat Dinner with Line Officers & Past Department Presidents

Thursday-January 26, 2012

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Registration & Booths
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM District Presidents & Department Chairmen
12:45 PM Greet National Representative
12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM Lunch
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Council of Administration & Gene Koci
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Sharon's 91% Celebration Dinner for Winning District Presidents

FRIDAY-JANUARY 27, 2012

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Registration & Booths
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Joint Opening Session - Doubletree
12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM President's Luncheon (Crowne Plaza)
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Presentation Past Dept. Presidents
Presentation District Presidents
Membership
Introduction by President
Remarks by National Representative
8:00 PM - 12:00 AM Dance with Cash Bar - Crowne Plaza??

SATURDAY-JANUARY 28, 2012

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Registration & Booths
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM POW/MIA Ceremony, Program information for Americanism, Veterans
& Family Support, Hospital, Youth, Legislative, Extension,
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Workshops - Reporting, Treasurers, And Auxiliary Presidents
11:30 AM -- 1:00 PM Lunch Break
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM Sr. Vice & Jr. Vice Presidents 2011-2012 Meeting
1:30 PM --- 3:30 PM Further presentation of programs.
Membership and Cancer Aid & Research
National Representative
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Reception Cash Bar
6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Voice of Democracy Banquet Doubletree

SUNDAY-JANUARY 29, 2012

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Line Up for Memorial Service
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Memorial Service

**All Auxiliary Events are at the Crowne Plaza Unless Stated Otherwise!
Joint Functions with the VFW at the Double Tree Hotel**

2012 VFW Mid Winter Round UP

	Wednesday 1/25/2012	Thursday 1/26/2012	Friday 1/27/2012	Saturday 1/28/2012	Sunday 1/29/2012
Number of people in room					
1 King or 2 Double Beds					
Group Rate \$99	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

** Your reservation must be guaranteed on a major credit card
or an advance deposit of one night's room and tax.**

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Special Needs/Requests: _____

CHECK-IN: 3:00PM

CHECK-OUT: 12:00NOON



CROWNE PLAZA

AUSTIN

THE PLACE TO MEET.

Crowne Plaza Austin

6121 North IH 35

Austin, TX 78752

Phone: 512-323-5466

Fax: 512-371-5269

If enclosing an advance deposit, please place in an envelope and mail directly to the hotel.

** Reservations without an accompanying deposit or valid credit card cannot be processed.

PLEASE NOTE: ROOM TYPES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE A REQUEST ONLY

**To guarantee room availability and special rates, these reservation
cards must be received by hotel by January 4, 2012.**

MID-WINTER ROUND-UP LUNCHEON

THERE WILL BE NO LUNCHEON
RESERVATIONS AVAILABLE AT THE HOTEL.

JANUARY 27, 2012

SEND RESERVATIONS TO:

MARJORIE MENZEL

P.O. BOX 231

THORNDALE, TX 76577

PHONE: 512/898.2830

Enclose check or money order for \$21 for each
luncheon

Please make checks payable to the Dept. of Texas
Ladies Auxiliary

DEADLINE DATE: JANUARY 23, 2012

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

District: _____ Auxiliary: _____

Past Department

President: _____

District Number &

President: _____

Your ticket will have your table number on it and
may be picked up at Auxiliary Registration.

2011-2012

Mid-Winter Awards Banquet Tickets

No Refunds After January 14, 2012

Name: _____

Post/Aux#: _____ Dist#: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

of Tickets: _____ @ \$50 each=\$ _____

of Tables: _____ @ \$450 each=\$ _____ (seats 10, a \$50 savings)

MAIL Payment and Completed Form to:

Texas VFW, P.O. Box 14468, Austin, Texas 78761

Make checks payable to Texas VFW

*Limited to first 500 paid only. *Tables must be ordered as
tables at time of purchase.

(Must be received by Jan. 14, 2012 - \$75 at
the door, if available)