

# COLORADO VETERAN

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



and VFW Auxiliary News

NO ONE DOES MORE **FOR VETERANS®**



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

May, 2024

Department of Colorado, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.  
and its VFW Auxiliary Official Publication

Volume 63, Issue 4 2023 - 2024



**Vincent "B.J." Lawrence**

**Past Commander-in-Chief**

**Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States**

**National Representative  
State Convention  
2023-2024 Cripple Creek**

Vincent "B.J." Lawrence was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. on July 25, 2018, at the 119th VFW National Convention in Kansas City, Mo.

B.J. served with the United States Army from 1983 to 1986, earning his VFW eligibility by serving in Korea, where he earned the Korean Defense Service Medal.

Upon joining VFW Post 7686 in Alamogordo, NM., in 2000, he immediately began to dedicate his efforts toward moving the organization forward into the new millennium and beyond. He has proven to be a highly effective and dynamic leader, serving in a myriad of critical leadership positions, to include being elected to command his Post, District and the VFW Department of New Mexico, as well as serving on the National Appeals Committee, and as Vice Chairman of the National Legislative Committee. He was also elected to the VFW National Council of Administration in 2009.

During the 2010 VFW National Convention, he joined the ranks of a select few when he was recognized for his distinctive membership recruiting achievements on the Post, District and Department levels by earning the coveted designation of "VFW Triple Crown Winner."

B.J. attended the New Mexico State Law Enforcement Academy, New Mexico Firefighters Academy, and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration Narcotics Enforcement School. He served his community as a police officer for several years, including time as an undercover agent. Prior to his retirement in 2015, he was a private investigator and owner of Lawrence Investigations.

In 2008 he became a Gold Legacy Life member. He is also a life member of the VFW National Home for Children and the Military Order of the Cootie.

B.J. and his wife, Mary, reside in Alamogordo, NM.



**Penny Hurt**

**VFW Auxiliary  
Chief of Staff/Extension &  
Revitalization Ambassador  
2023-2024**

**National Representative  
State Convention  
2023-2024 Cripple Creek**

Penny Hurt of Davenport, Iowa currently serves the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) Auxiliary as the 2023-2024 National Chief of Staff/Extension & Revitalization Ambassador.

She first joined as a Junior Girls in 1970, then became an Auxiliary member in 1976 at age 16 and is a Life Member of the Canfield-Hughes Auxiliary 9128, in Bettendorf, Iowa. She joined the eligibility of her father, Elmer Hurt, who served in the United States Army from 1950 to 1954 in the Korean War.

Penny has served the organization in many capacities, in-

cluding Auxiliary, Department and District Program Chairmanships and President and is currently the Auxiliary Secretary and Department Treasurer. She was the Big 10 Conference Americanism Chairman from 2017- 2018 and Conference Guard from 2022-2023.

She holds an associates degree in accounting from Scott Community College in Bettendorf, Iowa. Her family includes one daughter, two sons and six grandchildren. In her spare time, Penny enjoys crafts and traveling. Also, she loves spending time with her family and grandchildren.

**2023-2024 State Convention - Cripple Creek, CO  
See Page 7 for Information  
We look forward to seeing you there!**

**Voice of Democracy 2024-2025 Theme  
"Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"**

**Patriots Pen 2024-2025 Theme  
"My Voice in America's Democracy?"**

**Entry Forms are Available on  
[https://www.vfw.org/community/  
youth-and-education/youth-scholarships](https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships)**



*Freedom  
A State of Mind  
A Way of Life*

*Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Loyalty day Parade*

*May 4th 2024*



On behalf of the Clarence G. Draris, VFW Post 5221 and its Auxiliary, please join us for our 24th Loyalty Day Parade and Free Slippy. See launch 30 minutes after the end of the parade at our Post

**Details**  
Line up: 10:00 am - Parade Start: 11:00 am  
Parade will line up at the Corner of 10th St. and Bulldog Dr.  
Horses and Wagons will Stage in the open field east of the El Paso County Fair Grounds

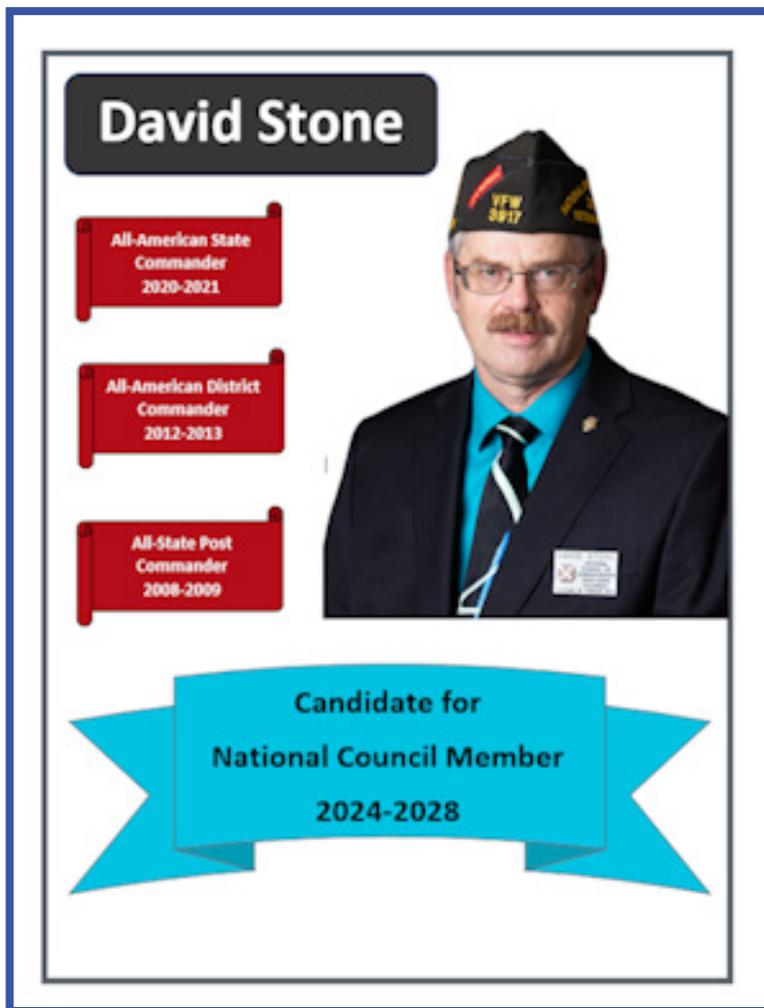
Name of Entry: \_\_\_\_\_  
Type: (Float, Vehicle, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Participants \_\_\_\_\_  
Name/Contact # \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your entry to the Parade Chairman: Jim Crim  
36565 Hanisch Road, Calhan, CO 80808-8911 or  
Email Jim at Crimvfw@gmail.com

**MAY DISTRICT MEETINGS**

NO.	DATE	LOCATION	TIME	REPRESENTATIVE
1	5/15/2024 Wednesday	Post No. 5061 Denver	6:00 pm Election/Installation	Todd Van Sant
3	5/04/2024 Saturday	Post No. 1781 Fort Collins (Host - 12189 Berthoud)	12:00 noon Meal 1:00 pm Meeting Election/Installation	Fred Scheck
5	5/18/2024 Saturday	Post No. 4051 Colorado Springs	12:00 noon 1:00 pm Joint Mtg Meeting to follow Election/Installation	Kirk Rosa
7	5/5/2024 Sunday	Post No. 899 Alamosa	12:00 noon Lunch 1:00 pm Joint Mtg Meeting to Follow Memorial Service Election/Installation	Carol Thomas
10	5/19/2024 Sunday	Post No. 4171 Golden	12:00 noon Lunch 1:00 pm Joint Mtg Meeting to follow Election/Installation	Kirk Rosa
11	5/04/2024 Saturday	Post No. 3981 Grand Junction	9:30 am Registration 10:30 am Memorial Service 11:00 am Joint Mtg 12:00 noon Lunch Meeting to follow Election/Installation	John Keene

Mother's Day is May 12<sup>th</sup>



**District Meeting information available at [vfwco.org](http://vfwco.org)  
Please send any changes to Department Headquarters.**

**Report ALL Program Reports On-Line  
[vfwco.org](http://vfwco.org)  
Updated the First of every Month**

**Written Reports will not be accepted.  
“It is Easy”**

**New Reporting Year has Started**

**Colorado VFW Foundation**

Donations are still being Accepted

Still accepting applications for VFW Members on a 1-time basis for \$500  
(Applications are available at <https://vfwco.org/index.php/foundation-sm>)

**Please send all Deceased VFW Members to [vfw@vfwco.org](mailto:vfw@vfwco.org).**

**They will be saved for the Joint Memorial State Convention Book.  
Our deadline is May 20, 2024**



Post 3471 - Glenn Hemmer  
Post 3471 - Lester Murray

Post 9644 - Daniel Griffith

**COLORADO VETERAN and AUXILIARY NEWS**  
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Ann Mauck, assoc. editor & computer layout  
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Phil Reinold, president  
Lennie Dolan, treasurer

Ann Mauck, auxiliary news chairman  
[vfwco.org](http://vfwco.org)

Send address changes to:  
VFW National Headquarters  
406 W. 34th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111

**POST & AUXILIARY CHANGE OF E-MAIL FORM**

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE MOVED OR WILL BE MOVING

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP NO. \_\_\_\_\_ VFW POST NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO VFW,  
1400 CARR STREET, LAKEWOOD, CO 80214

EDITOR

## Commander's Column John Keene



Comrades,

As my term as State Commander nears the end, I'm struck by all that we have accomplished over the last 11 months. We came out of the gates strong with the National Convention passing two resolutions brought forward by Colorado. Both resolutions were then presented to Congressman Neguse, and with the full support of the 1.5 million VFW and Auxiliary members, we asked that his office act on our priorities. The results were that the Department of Education removed the [question](#) on the Free Application For Student Aid (FAFSA) requiring disabled veterans to disclose their disability compensation, and the introduction of [HR 6197](#), a bill "To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program to provide grants to certain surviving spouses of veterans to pay for housing."

Last August, we kicked off our first COA in Burlington, where the Council approved an aggressive new budget. As one of my priorities this year was to support and grow the Service Office, I thank the Council for restructuring their pay scale, giving all the accredited staff a raise, and increasing the budget to hire a new Assistant Service Officer. Now, after much hard work, we have a satellite service office at Post #3917 in [Security](#).

This budget also authorized two new positions at Department Headquarters to prepare for a smooth transition when Bruce and Ann's tenures come to an end. With nearly 50 years of institutional knowledge poised to leave that office it was important to bring their replacements on board as soon as possible. Thankfully, Rachel and Jesse are quick learners, and it appears we will be in good hands moving forward.

As summer turned to fall, our members turned their focus to some of our most important VFW programs: the Voice of Democracy, Patriots' Pen, and Teacher of the Year. It was exciting to see all 13 Districts participate and the results were impressive. While six kids received monetary awards from the Department, it was at the numerous Post and District level banquets where all the students, their parents, and the teachers got to witness first-hand what their local VFW Posts are doing in their communities. I was lucky enough to attend several banquets and often found that the kids who participate typically have some connection to the military. Frequently, I learned they or their parents are eligible for the Auxiliary.

See the full article at [vfwco.org](#) in the VFW Members - News for VFW Members.

## Sr. Vice Column Carol Thomas



We are getting down to the wire for Membership. We need to make a big push to cross the finish line to make our Department 102%. Have you thought

about having your post host a "Spring Fling" Recruiting event in your community or at your Post? You could gather your Post members together and reach out on the phone to your unpaid members. Let them know how important being a member of the VFW is to maintaining Veterans Benefits.

Reach out to your Auxiliary, if you have one, for assistance. They can help you recruit just like you can help them recruit. As veterans and veteran families, we need to work together at our events. We can unite VFW and Auxiliary members and become even stronger organizations.

I have faith in all of you and your Post to reach this goal. IF you need any assistance with setting up recruiting events, reach out to your District Commander and Membership team. You could reach out to other posts and have combined recruiting events.

June 5-8th will be our State Convention in Cripple Creek, and we would love to have as many of you, to attend as possible. Save the date, and mark your calendar for what it takes for you to remember to attend. This is a great time to ask questions and network with other Colorado VFW members. You can share ideas, learn new things about your VFW, and return with information that you can share at your home post

Carol Thomas  
Sr. Vice Commander

## Jr. Vice Column Fred Scheck



Greetings Comrades;

Looks like another year in the books. I would like to thank you for all the support I have received throughout the

past year. It has been my pleasure and privilege to attend your district meetings and talk to you. I am positive I will receive the same support as I (hopefully) move into the Sr Vice Commander position.

The one thought I would like to leave you with is that without the post, there is no district, department or national organization. We are an organiza-

tion run by the membership. I urge you to become active in your post and district business. So please attend those post meetings, attend the district meetings and pay attention to what the department is doing.

We have the state convention coming up in June in Cripple Creek, CO. I look forward to seeing you there and as always if need assistance feel free to ask me, whether in person or on the phone.

I look forward to working with you in the upcoming year.

Fred Scheck  
Jr Vice Commander

## Quartermaster's Column Bruce Dolan



I hope this finds everyone well.

As I write my last newsletter as Department A/Q,

It's been fun and it's been hell.

So I guess it's been A HELL OF A LOT OF FUN!

THANK YOU COLORADO!!!!

## Surgeon Column Todd Van Sant



With our convention coming up in Cripple Creek, Colorado, I want to wish a happy 100th Anniversary to our Auxiliary! It's a huge mile-

stone for us all. This is our last newsletter before the event, and a reminder to get on the Department website and register for the convention. If you're planning to attend the convention, don't forget to send in your articles for the convention magazine. You can find the price list on our website. Let's make the magazine awesome!

I'm excited to announce that I'm running for Junior Vice Commander of the VFW Department of Colorado next

year. Your support would mean the world to me. I also support Carol Thomas for Department Commander, Fred Scheck for Senior Vice Commander, Jesse Eastburn for Quartermaster/Adjutant, and Jim Sheridan for Surgeon next year. They're all great choices to lead us forward.

Before I go, I want to thank Bruce Dolan and Ann Mauck for their amazing service to our department. Bruce, you've been great as Department Quartermaster Adjutant, and Ann, you've been a rock in the Department office for decades. We'll miss you both!

Let's get ready for an amazing convention and keep up the great work supporting our veterans.

Thanks for all you do!

## Chaplain Column Kevin Reinhold



Brothers and Sisters,

As we come to the end of another year of successfully helping our veterans, families, and communities. We are encouraged to give

all thanks to our Lord for giving us the leadership needed to push our organization forward, giving us our membership that made things happen and allowing us to connect with our communities to support and receive support in activities. What a great organization.

As we prepare to go into the upcoming year, let us always remember why we exist. We watched each other's backs while we served. Let's continue as we continue to serve and not leave any veteran behind. Did you know there are a lot of veterans from all areas that have no idea what we do. Let's find them and let them know what the VFW can do for them. And I'm not talking about the dinners at the Post's although that would be a part of it. But I'm talking about what the VFW does to help the veteran with their issues. The bigger picture.

Let's not forget about our Auxiliary, they do so much for our veterans, families and community. They are the better half of the VFW. Support them as they support the VFW. Invite them to trainings and events. I have seen the Auxiliary once informed about anything take it and make things happen. And don't forget some of our Auxiliary are veterans.

As we go into our elections, look for members that are ready and willing to perform their duties and carry them

out to help our veterans and better our organization. Know our members and be aware of the members that just want a title or a position. Most times these members do very little and are not willing to learn.

The apostle Paul, writing to the Christians living in the capital city of the Roman Empire, wrote, "All authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God."

I am running for State Chaplain for the coming year. As Paul stated above, God places people in positions of authority. With the help of the Lord, this Chaplaincy has accomplished a lot over the past few years, and we still have more to do.

Links to Resources:

VFW Chaplain Training Videos  
<https://www.youtube.com/@VFWChaplainTrainingVideos>

Armed Services Ministry - <https://armedservicesministry.org/>

Plus Nothing - <https://plusnothing.com/about/>

The Jewish Publication Society - <https://jps.org/free-jps-tanakh-offer/>

Faith Comes by Hearing - <https://www.faithcomesbyhearing.com/>

GriefShare - <https://www.griefshare.org/>

Chaplain Activity Report - <https://vfw-co.org/index.php/members/vfw-chaplain-activity>

Kevin Reinhold  
Department Chaplain  
"Doing Our Lord's Work for all Veterans"

**DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**  
1400 CARR STREET  
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO 80214

**General Orders No. 4**  
**May 1, 2024**      **Series 2023-2024**

1. The 104th **DEPARTMENT CONVENTION** will be held at the Chamonix Casino & Hotel, 201 E Bennett Ave., Cripple Creek, CO. June 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, hosted by VFW Department of Colorado. The Council of Administration will meet at 6:00 pm, June 5<sup>th</sup>. All Council Members are requested to attend. Uniform for Council Members and Staff who attend the following sessions are: Council of Administration - casual; Joint Opening - Blues & Greys; Business Sessions - Black & White; Joint Memorial - Dark Suit or Blues & Greys. Attendees are asked to dress in a manner appropriate for the occasion. However, do not let your wardrobe prevent you from participating.

2. **POST QUARTERMASERS:** Request the assistance of your members in completing the list of deceased members form and return to Department Headquarters no later than May 20, 2024.

3. **DISTRICT COMMANDERS** must attend Council of Administration meeting June 5<sup>th</sup> at State Convention in Cripple Creek, CO. You must also be present at ALL Business Sessions to receive your full travel expense check plus per diem for your motel room.

4. **POST ELECTION REPORTS:** It is the responsibility of the membership to insist that the responsible officer reports the elections of officers to National Headquarters immediately after the election is completed. National Headquarters will forward to VFW Colorado Headquarters. If not sent to National Headquarters by June 1, 2024, your Post will not be allowed to vote at State Convention.

**Section 213 – Arrearages, Deficiencies and Omissions states:** Any Post in ar-

rears for any financial obligations to District, Department or National for fees, dues, poppy money, supply money, failing to have the office of Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Section 703, failing to ensure that the Post is properly insured in accordance with Section 709, failing to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustees Report of Audit, Post Election Report for the ensuing year, or other obligations, shall be deprived of all representation in District, Department and National Conventions. Such representation shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

**5. POST AND DISTRICT ELECTION REPORTS:** If not sent to Department by July 1, 2024, your officers will be omitted from the Department Roster. No exceptions.

**6. POSTS SHOULD ARRANGE SPECIAL CEREMONIES** and all Commanders shall alert comrades to their obligations for appropriate commemoration of the following outstanding action dates in U.S. History: May 8<sup>th</sup>, VE Day; June 6<sup>th</sup>, D Day; June 14<sup>th</sup>, Flag Day. It is requested that all Posts and their members honor Memorial Day on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

**7. DELEGATE FEE NOTICES** were sent to each Post Quartermaster. Fee must be paid to Department Headquarters prior to State Convention, or your vote will not be accepted. Credential cards are not being used. Council members, Post Commanders and Delegates must register online vfwco.org.

ATTESTED BY:  
/s/ Bruce R. Dolan  
Bruce R. Dolan  
State Adjutant

BY COMMAND OF:  
/s/ John Keene  
John Keene  
State Commander

**Local Vietnam Veterans Recognized**

VFW Post #2411 honored local veterans on National Vietnam Veterans Day with a breakfast followed by a recognition ceremony. The event commenced with Pam Valdez introducing post commander Jess Garcia and auxiliary president Deb Abdulla. She extended a thank you to those who placed two hundred flags in the community early that morning and those who prepared breakfast and assisted with set up.

The Pledged of Allegiance was recited and a prayer was offered by auxiliary Chaplain Pat Gonzales. A breakfast of bacon and eggs, biscuits and gravy, fruit, cinnamon rolls, and more was thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance.

Pam Valdez recognized and honored our Vietnam veterans and the spouses of deceased Vietnam veterans. She expounded on the service of these veterans, gave a history of the annual celebrations to be held every year on March 29<sup>th</sup>, and welcomed these heroes back home. Sandy Milenski explained the meaning of the elements of the Missing Man Table and offered a tribute to two missing in action local veterans. Award were presented to veterans who had not yet received their pins.

Lynette Wolf and Janice Ramey performed America the Beautiful. The ceremony concluded with all joining in to sing God Bless America.



**2023 - 2024 Membership**

As we approach the milestone of overcoming our membership challenges, it becomes increasingly crucial to uphold meticulous record-keeping practices for our new members. It is imperative that we accurately input each new member's information into the VFW national system, including valid contact details such as email addresses, phone numbers, and mailing addresses. Furthermore, regular updates to this information are essential to facilitate effective communication and engagement within our organization.

I've noticed instances where some post officers lack their own information within the system. This absence of critical data may impede our ability to connect with members and engage them effectively. Therefore, it is vital for every post QM/Adj to diligently input and maintain accurate contact details for all members. By doing so, we can improve our retention rates and strengthen member engagement, ultimately contributing to the success and growth of our organization.

I commend your efforts in recruiting and retaining membership within the Department of Colorado. With the membership year not concluding until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, let's continue our push to ensure all posts and districts reach 102% or higher by that deadline.

Additionally, I would like to inform

those who may not be aware that I am running for the position of Department Quartermaster at the upcoming convention in Cripple Creek. For those unfamiliar with my background, I have been an All-American and All-State Quartermaster for my post for soon to be four consecutive years. I've also held the title of Department of Colorado's Top Recruiter for three years. Over the past year, I've served as Bruce's assistant QM, and if elected, I am fully prepared to embark on this new journey and tackle the responsibilities of this position head-on.

In my leadership philosophy, I emphasize the principles of fairness, firmness, and impartiality. I advocate for the stewardship of our organization and abide by the golden rule of treating others as I would want to be treated. I have no tolerance for petty jealousies or trivial personalities. I am committed to dispelling the notion of "It's always been done this way" and believe in integrating the proper technology at the post, district and department levels to meet the needs of veterans in 2024 and beyond.

Let's work together to make our organization better and ensure its longevity for future generations of fighters who serve our nation.

Jesse Eastburn  
Membership Chairman

**Have you paid your 2023-2024 Dues?**



**Surgeon Todd Van Sant visits Grand Junction & Rifle Veteran CLCs and presents checks for Resident Needs**

**VFW Post Membership by District as of April 30, 2024**

Number/ City	2023	2024	%	Number/City	2023	2024	%
<b>DISTRICT #1</b>				<b>DISTRICT #8</b>			
1 Denver	925	941	102*	859 Leadville	27	25	93
501 Denver	255	234	92	1166 Buena Vista	111	105	95
5061 Denver	249	234	94	3820 Salida	68	64	95
TOTAL	1429	1409	99%	8661 Bailey	111	106	96
<b>DISTRICT #2</b>				<b>DISTRICT #9</b>			
2788 Penrose	104	91	88	10721 Minturn	109	99	91
3641 Pueblo	82	76	93	11411 Lake George	43	44	103*
4061 Canon City	243	215	89	12009 Conifer	109	112	103*
5812 Pueblo West	188	194	104*	TOTAL	578	555	97%
7305 Colo. City	46	45	98	<b>DISTRICT #10</b>			
8898 Boone	37	41	111*	322 Englewood	98	98	100*
12063 Westcliffe	56	54	97	3471 Morrison	64	60	94
TOTAL	756	716	95%	3631 Aurora	280	264	95
<b>DISTRICT #3</b>				<b>DISTRICT #11</b>			
41 Loveland	275	263	96	4171 Golden	373	361	97
807 Boulder	30	30	100*	4266 Parker	77	88	115*
1771 Lafayette	224	220	99	4331 Arvada	221	215	98
1781 Ft. Collins	287	287	100*	4444 Cmmrc Cty	157	153	98
2121 Greeley	160	157	99	4666 Littleton	113	102	91
2585 Johnstown	175	165	95	7563 Black Hawk	32	29	91
2601 Longmont	290	274	95	7945 Thornton	266	258	97
4334 Ault	66	56	85	8449 Bennett	39	39	100*
6624 Evans	203	204	100*	9644 Fort Logan	395	397	101*
9565 Broomfield	93	84	91	12230 Castle Rock	0	21	0
12174 Brighton	33	33	100*	TOTAL	2115	1971	99%
12189 Berthoud	39	38	98	<b>DISTRICT #12</b>			
TOTAL	1875	1811	97%	4031 Durango	254	244	97
<b>DISTRICT #4</b>				<b>DISTRICT #13</b>			
3378 Yuma	51	48	95	3411 Kit Carson	20	20	100*
3541 Sterling	75	71	95	6491 Burlington	54	49	91
3551 Brush	39	36	93	6612 Hugo	29	27	94
4671 Wray	50	43	86	9700 Chynn Wlls	23	22	97
6482 Holyoke	35	30	85	TOTAL	126	118	94%
7153 Fleming	13	12	92	15006 MAL	2805	2686	96%
8064 Akron	52	40	77	<b>TOTAL DEPT 13965 13611 98%</b>			
12226 Sterling	0	21	0	<b>2024 dues are now DUE</b>			
TOTAL	315	301	96%	<b>Be 100% +1 in 2023-2024</b>			
<b>DISTRICT #5</b>				<b>Help Colorado be 100%+</b>			
101 Colo. Spgs.	442	443	101*				
3917 Security	512	497	97				
4051 Colo. Spgs	502	505	101*				
5221 Calhan	86	82	96				
6051 Wldnd Park	41	41	100*				
6461 Fountain	360	351	98				
7829 Monument	140	145	104*				
10649 Elizabeth	31	30	97				
12227 Falcon	0	19	0				
TOTAL	2114	2020	99.95%				
<b>DISTRICT #6</b>							
336 Ordway	67	66	99				
2411 LasAnimas	65	62	96				
4001 Springfield	26	22	85				
4281 Holly	23	24	105*				
TOTAL	181	174	97%				
<b>DISTRICT #7</b>							
899 Alamosa	74	69	94				
4849 La Jara	43	41	96				
6101 San Luis	46	42	92				
8121 Del Norte	38	36	95				
TOTAL	201	188	94%				

**Colorado VFW New Recruiters as of 4/30/2024**

Izzy Abbass*	Normando Gallardo	Michael Parsons
Brian K. Asbeck	Charles Garlick*	Sharon Perle
Brandon Allen*	Robert M. Gombos	Jack Roger Phares Jr.
Elihu M. Allen	James Hanlon*	Charles D. Rasco
David Anthony*	John E. Havens	Daniel W. Shake
Gary L. Bean	Thomas Heaton	Gary N. Shrewsbury
Brandon Beisner	Ted Hefferman*	Mike J. Sinehiak
Glen D. Blackmann	George Horgan Sr.*	Danne Sym-Rollins*
Anthony F. Bratton	Robert Jacobson*	James C. Stevens
John R. Brueske	Fredrick Jahn Jr.	Thomas Stewart*
Helmar Brunn*	Nicole Jirtle	Carol Thomas*
Kevin W. Burgess	Anthony Johnson	Gary T. Tollefson
Joshua C. Caverzagie*	Jerry L. Jones	Rick Uyemura
Margaret J. Copeland	Shawn M. Jones	Jerry Walker*
David L. Craig	Keith J. Kay	Lewis H. Weaver
Rockie J. Cuppari	Paul H. Matejka Jr.	Richard Wellensiek
Brian A. Dornbrock	Dana Maurer*	Nicholas J. Williams
James D. Espinoza	Rickey G. McCann Jr.	Dwyane R. Windisch
Joshua Flenner	Vincent Miller*	Thomas E. Yepsen
Keith A. Francis	Patrick E. O'Toole	

\*13 VFW Members recruited an Auxiliary Member

**Membership Awards**

The following individuals are currently considered Recruiting Aces and have earned a t-shirt and an invitation to the Council of Administration Meeting to be held on June 5, 2024, at 1800 hours, at the State Convention in Cripple Creek. Upon signing in for the meeting these members will be eligible for reimbursement equal to that of a District Commander. In other words, \$75 Per Diem plus round-trip mileage paid at \$0.50 per mile. \*

Aarron Himes	Absolon Pratt	Barbara Green
Bob Heriford	Robert Kidd, Sr.	Bruce Dolan
Carol Thomas	Chad Ryan	Damien Berg
Danielle Depaolis	Darold Stafford	David Stone
David Anthony	Jay Malone	Jesse Eastburn
James Kruse	James Sheridan	John Breckenbridge
Julie Robertson	Karen Vindelov	Kristen Luevanos
Larry Johnson	Len Ledue	Leon Bartholomay
Linda Reinbold	Lynn Peterson	Mathew Cummings
Matthew Lewis	Michelle Sheridan	Phil Reinbold
Stephen Urbany	Steve Kjonaas	Todd Van Sant
Travis Baker		

Additionally, the following individuals have all recruited at least 10 VFW and/or Auxiliary members, so they are eligible for up to three nights Per Diem (maximum \$225) and round-trip mileage to the Convention as described above. If any award winner is already utilizing Department funds to attend the COA/Convention or cannot attend their award is transferable.

Barbara Green	Carol Thomas	David Anthony
Jesse Eastburn	Larry Johnson	Len Ledue
Steve Kjonaas	Todd Van Sant	

To learn more about this incentive, how to transfer your award, or submit your t-shirt size email [commander@vfwco.org](mailto:commander@vfwco.org)

Transferring your award is intended to maximize participation, so please be generous if that option is available to you. Please review the Colorado Membership [program](#) on the Department website to learn what other awards are available.

\* Receipt of Per Diem or mileage to attend a previous COA means your award has already been redeemed. Additionally, mileage will only be paid to the person driving if multiple winners travel to the Convention together.

**Thank You  
for Recruiting!**

**Past Commanders Club Banquet**

**Who:** Any member of the Department that has held the position of Commander at any level for at least six months.

**What:** A fundraiser to provide a Voice of Democracy and Patriots' Pen scholarship.

**When:** Thursday night, June 6, at 1800 hours.

**Where:** Cripple Creek Heritage Center, 9283 CO-67, Cripple Creek, CO, 80813

**Why:** To raise money, for the comradery, and to sample a variety of drinks provided by Fighting 69th Whiskey. To also gather information on how partnering with the Fighting 69th can help raise money for your Post.

**How:** New members may join the club for \$30, dinner and drink tickets are \$25. All money to be collected at the door. Please rsvp to [john@vfw-post1.org](mailto:john@vfw-post1.org) so we can get a headcount and have enough food.

**IMPORTANT! - No Credential and Delegate Cards Will be Mailed**

Please note that the Department HQ will not print and mail paper convention credentials for Delegates, Post Commanders, District Commanders, and State Officers. Instead, all Post, District, and State Officers will be identified with official VFW and Department rosters and Post Adjutant's or Quartermasters are asked to report the Post's elected delegates via the Department website. Credentials will then be "stamped" on the individuals name badge when they register at the convention.

Under Section 222 of the Manual of Procedures, "Delegates and alternates for the District Convention and Meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April." Posts are entitled to 1 delegate for every 30 members or fraction thereof based on the number of members in good standing as of March 31st. The Department Headquarters will notify each post in writing what their delegate strength is along with the delegate registration fee which must be paid no later than 15 days before the convening of the Department Convention.

The on-line delegate report form will be available starting 1 April through the day before the convention opening date.

**Delegate fees must be into Department Headquarters by June 1!**

Fees not accepted at the State Convention.

## ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT



**CAROL THOMAS**  
for State Commander  
2024-2025

I have been a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States for over 10 years.

As I finish out my year as your Sr. Vice State Commander, I am looking for your support to be elected to the position of State Commander.

“Restoring Veterans to the Forefront”

**VOTE**  
**FRED SCHECK**  
**VFW DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO**  
**SR VICE COMMANDER**

### Todd Van Sant For State Jr. Vice Commander



As I finish my year as your State Surgeon, I'm looking forward to your support to be elected to the position of State Jr. Vice Commander

- US Air Force 1991 to 1999
- VFW Department of CO Surgeon 2023-2024
- VFW Department of CO Voice of Democracy & Patriot Pen Chairman 2022-2024
- VFW Department of CO District 10 Adjutant 2022-2024
- VFW Post 9644 Commander 2021-2025

### Jesse Eastburn For State Quartermaster



- National Aid-de-Camp 2021-2022, 2022-2023
- National Certified Recruiters: 2023-present
- Department Assistant QM 2023-2024
- Department Membership Chair 2023-2024
- VFW Post 1 Quartermaster/ Adjutant 2020-2024
- VFW Post 1 Incoming Commander 2024-2025
- Multiple Positions at Post level 2016-current
- Veterans Arts Council Founding Board Member, Assistant Director & Head curator 2015-2023
- Navy: 2003-2008

### KEVIN REINHOLD DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN 2024 – 2025



- DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN 2018 –
- ALL STATE DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER 2017–2018
- ALL STATE POST 6461 COMMANDER 2013–2016
- MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE 2012
- VFW LIFE MEMBER 2004
- CHAPLAIN ORDAINED 2005
- PASTORAL COUNSELOR 2006
- ARMED SERVICE MINISTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL 2022

**CAMPAIGN PROMISE:** I will work with the District and Post Chaplains functioning as a resource, coach and mentor, helping them carry out their responsibilities to effectively minister to Post members and their families, and to have a positive impact on their communities.

### Rev. Edward Williamson for Department Chaplain



“Integrity – Commitment – Service”  
I will physically attend all Department Staff Meetings and support all VFW Chaplain Programs and Training. I will mail a Monthly Post Chaplain Newsletter and support the ministry of all Post and District Chaplains.

- Experience:
- US Army Chaplain – 16 years
  - CO Department Chaplain from March/June 2019
  - District 2 Chaplain – 6 years
  - CO Chaplain of Year in 2020
  - All-State & All-American Commander
  - All-State & All-American Quartermaster
  - Gold Legacy Life Member

### John Keene for National Council of Administration Representing the Department of Colorado VFW

As the National Council Rep, I will:

- work to expand the capabilities of our service office,
- push for more grant opportunities for our Posts, and
- continue my advocacy for veterans’ legislation.

I look forward to your support.

Thank you, John



**VOTE**  
**JAMES SHERIDAN**  
VFW Department of  
Colorado Surgeon  
US NAVY & US ARMY  
VETERAN

**Vote at State Convention in Cripple Creek!!**

**VFW Convention Pre-Registration - June 5th thru 8th, 2024**  
**VFW Department of Colorado 104th Convention**  
**Host: VFW Department of Colorado & Auxiliary**



PLEASE PRINT PLEASE USE THE REGISTRATION FORM ON THE  
 VFW Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT WEBSITE (www.vfwco.org) \_\_\_\_\_

2023-2024 VFW Officer Title \_\_\_\_\_ CONVENTION TAB \_\_\_\_\_

- **Pre-Registration Fee \$25.00 - must be paid by 5/15/2024** (Registration at the Door \$30.00)  
 Mail to: **VFW Department of Colorado • 1400 Carr St, Lakewood, CO 80214 (Checks Payable to VFW Dept of CO)**  
 (June 5th Arrival & Check In) Pre-Registration Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- **Warriors Luncheon \$40.00 (Wednesday, 6/5/2024) Due by 5/15/2024** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- **Register for Commander/President Thank You Luncheon Thursday, 6/6/2024 (no charge)** Yes or No  
 Must be registered for the Convention to attend. RSVP by 5/15/2024 if you are attending.
- **Military Banquet Friday, 6/7/2024 - \$40.00, RSVP and Payment must be received by 5/15/2024**  
 (Not available for purchase at the door, must be Reserved and Paid) \*Seating Capacity 200

**Convention Hotel**  
 Chamonix Casino & Hotel: 719-689-2142  
 201 E Bennett Ave, Cripple, Creek, CO 80813  
**Group Rate Cut Off Date May 15th, 2024**  
 Room Rate: \$159.00 + Tax + \$34 resort fee per night  
 SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
 Code: VFW24

**# of Tickets for Military Banquet**  
 Beef \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Diet/Allergy: ATTACH NOTE

**TOTAL for Registration:**



**VFW Auxiliary Convention Pre-Registration - June 5th thru 8th, 2024**  
**VFW Department of Colorado 100th Convention**  
**Host: VFW Department of Colorado & Auxiliary**

PLEASE PRINT PLEASE USE THE REGISTRATION FORM ON THE  
 Aux Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT WEBSITE (www.vfwco.org) \_\_\_\_\_

2023-2024 Aux Officer Title \_\_\_\_\_ CONVENTION TAB \_\_\_\_\_

- **Pre-Registration Fee \$25.00 - must be paid by 5/15/2024** (Registration at the Door \$30.00)  
 Mail to: **VFW Department of Colorado • 1400 Carr St, Lakewood, CO 80214 (Checks Payable to VFW Dept of CO)**  
 (June 5th Arrival & Check In) Pre-Registration Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- **Warriors Luncheon \$40.00 (Wednesday, 6/5/2024) Due by 5/15/2024** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- **Register for Commander/President Thank you Luncheon Thursday, 6/6/2024 (no charge)** Yes or No  
 Must be registered for the Convention to attend. RSVP by 5/15/2024 if you are attending.
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 Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Diet/Allergy: ATTACH NOTE

**TOTAL for Registration:**

**2024 VFW State Convention Ad Sheet -**  
**VFW Members & Auxiliary and other Non-Profits**

**FULL PAGE \$200.00** 8 1/4" X 10 3/4"  
**HALF PAGE \$125.00** 8 1/4" X 5 1/4"  
**FOURTH PAGE \$100.00** 8 1/4" X 2 3/4"  
**BUSINESS CARD AD \$75.00** 3 1/2" X 2"

Full Page Ad  
 8 1/4" X 10 3/4"

HALF PAGE  
 8 1/4" X 5 1/4"

ONE QUARTER PAGE  
 8 1/4" X 2 3/4"

Business Card  
 3 1/2" X 2"

Business name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Webpage URL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Point Of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Select Ad size: \_\_\_ Full \_\_\_ Half \_\_\_ Quarter \_\_\_ Business Card

**Total Enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Submit : Copy this form along with your Ad (PDF FILE ONLY) to: [rachel@vfwco.org](mailto:rachel@vfwco.org)

**Payment and Ad must be received by May 10, 2024**  
**(Ad will not be printed if payment is not received)**

Make Checks Payable to: VFW Department of Colorado  
 Mail Form & Payment to: 1400 Carr St, Lakewood, CO 80214  
 Check Memo Line: 2024 State Convention



**State Convention – VFW**  
 Hosted by VFW Dept of Colorado & Auxiliary



**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: TIMES & LOCATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**Wednesday June 05**

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	VFW Warriors Lunch & Meeting Followed by Ride	Chamonix Salon Grand Ballroom
12:00 pm	Lunch (On Own)	
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Registration	Chamonix Library 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
6:00 pm	Council of Administration	Double Eagle Conference Center

**Thursday June 06**

	Breakfast (On Own)	
7:00 am – 4:00 pm	VFW Registration	Chamonix Library 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
8:30 am – 11:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Chamonix Grand Ballroom
11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Dept Commanders/President Luncheon (Registered Attendees)	Chamonix Grand Ballroom
1:30 pm	General Resolutions	Double Eagle Conference Center
1:30 pm	Service/Rehab Resolutions	Double Eagle Conference Center
1:30 pm	Time & Place Committee	Double Eagle Conference Center
4:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	Cripple Creek Baptist Church
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Past Commanders Banquet	Cripple Creek Heritage Center

**Friday June 07**

	Breakfast (On Own)	
7:00 am – 1:00 pm	VFW Registration	Double Eagle Conference Center Foyer
8:00 am – 11:30 am	VFW Business Session	Double Eagle Conference Center
12:00 pm	Lunch (On Own)	
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	VFW Business Session/Caucus/Election of Officers	Double Eagle Conference Center
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Military Banquet	Chamonix Grand Ballroom

**Saturday June 08**

10:00 am	Installation Practice	Chamonix Grand Ballroom
12:00 pm	Lunch (On Own)	
2:00 pm	Joint Installation of Officers	Chamonix Grand Ballroom
3:00 pm	State Commander/President Reception	Chamonix Grand Ballroom

**BUDDY POPPY / SCRAPBOOK ROOM AT CHAMONIX IN HOSPITALITY ROOM 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR NEAR ELEVATOR**

**AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE**  
 Chamonix Casino Hotel, 201 E Bennet Ave, Cripple Creek, CO 80813  
 Double Eagle Hotel & Casino, 442 E Bennet Ave, Cripple Creek, CO 80813  
 Cripple Creek Heritage Center, 9283 CO-67, Cripple Creek, CO 80813  
 Memorial Service Location – Cripple Creek Baptist Church, 137 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St, Cripple Creek, CO 80813

Updated: 4/24/2024



**TENTATIVE – SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**CHAMONIX CASINO HOTEL**

201 E. Bennett Ave. – Cripple Creek, CO 80813

**STATE CONVENTION – VFW AUXILIARY**

June 5-9, 2024



		Location
<b>Wednesday, June 5, 2024</b>		
10:00 AM	Department Audit	Executive Boardroom
11:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Executive Boardroom
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Warriors Lunch & Meeting Followed by Ride	Salon Grand Ballroom
12:00-4:00 PM	Lunch (On Own)	
2:00-3:00 PM	Floor Team Practice	Grand Ballroom
4:00-6:00 PM	Registration	Library 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
6:00 PM	Council of Administration Meeting	Grand Ballroom
<b>Thursday, June 6, 2024</b>		
	Breakfast on Your Own	
7:00-9:00 AM	Registration	Library 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
8:30-11:00 AM	Joint Opening Session	Grand Ballroom
11:30 – 1:30 PM	Department Commander/President Thank You Lunch Buffet (Registered Attendees)	Grand Ballroom
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Registration	Library 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
1:30 - 3:30 PM	Business Session	Grand Ballroom
4:30 PM	Memorial Service	Cripple Creek Baptist Church
6:00 PM	Past Department Presidents Dinner (By invitation only)	Maggies, 300 E Bennett
<b>Friday, June 7, 2024</b>		
	Breakfast on Your Own	
7:00-10:00 AM	Registration	Library 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
8:30 AM-12:00 PM	Business Session	Grand Ballroom
12:00-1:30 PM	Lunch (On Own)	
1:30-4:00 PM	Business Session (Elections)	Grand Ballroom
5:00-8:00 PM	Military Banquet	Grand Ballroom
<b>Saturday, June 8, 2024</b>		
7:00-8:00 AM	Auxiliary/Past District Presidents Club Breakfast	Maggies, 300 E Bennett
10:00 AM	Installation Practice	Grand Ballroom
	Lunch on Your Own	
2:00 PM	Joint Installation of Officers	Grand Ballroom
3:00 PM	State Commander/President Reception	Grand Ballroom

**BUDDY POPPY/SCRAPBOOK ROOM AT – CHAMONIX HOSPITALITY ROOM ON 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR NEAR ELEVATOR**

**(LOCATIONS OF MEETINGS AND ADDRESSES –**  
 Chamonix Casino Hotel, 201 E Bennett Ave, Cripple Creek, CO 80813)

Memorial Service Location – Cripple Creek Baptist Church, 137 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St, Cripple Creek, CO 80813

**We Value Every Veteran**



# Auxiliary News

Published by Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary  
Department of Colorado

Ann Mauck, Auxiliary News Chairman



## President's Column Phil Reinpold



The end of this Auxiliary year is rapidly approaching, and I took some time to review all that we have accomplished. In my view, this has been an extremely posi-

tive year with some of the best cooperation, teamwork, and worthwhile participation that I have seen from our members on a statewide basis. Our membership was over 99% by the middle of March and continues to grow every day – so many worked so hard to make this happen. Statewide training and mentorship have improved and increased in ways that I could never have imagined. The number of training sessions at every level and the quality of the presentations was really gratifying to see. The sharing of both information and experience this year has really been a big benefit for us all. We have all worked the programs this year for the benefit of our veterans, families, and communities, some members taking on 2 or 3 programs to ensure that no one goes under served. Our Auxiliary has a dedicated and hard-working core that always delivers above and beyond.

Two more new Auxiliaries were instituted this year, and there are two more that are in the process of working for institution as well. Well known celebrities have made appearances at each of

our COAs this year—that would not have happened if we did not have such a dynamic group! Hospital visits are again on the increase and several more visits are scheduled by the end of this year. Your wholehearted support and action on behalf of my Suicide Awareness and Prevention Programs throughout the state has been very humbling for me and has made a difference in Colorado. We must continue to identify those in our Veteran and local communities that are at risk and make sure that they get the help that they need.

It has been my incredible honor to serve as your Department President this year and I owe so much to my Line Officers, Staff, Program Chairs and Hospital Volunteers. Beyond these outstanding individuals, I offer a sincere “Thank You” to each of you throughout the state for your tireless work, your creative ideas and efforts, your mentorship, and your contributions of time and finances toward the Veterans, families, and communities where we live. It has made a difference.

I look forward with anticipation to our 100<sup>th</sup> Department of Colorado Auxiliary Convention in June 2024 and hope for blockbuster attendance and participation – hope to see all of you there !

With appreciation,

Phil Reinpold  
President 2023-2024

## Montezuma VFW 5231 Auxiliary & District 12

Endorse

**Sherri Wright**  
Department Jr Vice President  
2024-2025



Montezuma VFW Auxiliary 5231 and District 12 is proud to endorse Sherri Wright for the position of Colorado VFW Auxiliary Jr. Vice President.

Sherri, a life member, joined the VFW Auxiliary at the age of 16 in the year of 1968. She joined under her father, Juan Benito Sanchez, Jr, who was a charter member of the Troy Young Post 5181.

Sherri has held many chairs, both in the Auxiliary and District, since she has been a member. Sherri has been President, Sr Vice, Jr Vice, Conductor and Guard in the Auxiliary. In District she was President in 1974 and also held chairs as Sr Vice, Jr Vice, Guard, Conductor and Chief of Staff.

Sherri is active in the many programs that the VFW Auxiliary promotes. Sherri also

is a member of the Colorado State Color Guard and was Flag Bearer in the year 2022-2023 and State Chaplain 2023-2024.

Sherri has a proven track record of being an active member and attends to the needs of all vets.

We recommend and endorse Sherri Wright as Colorado State VFW Auxiliary Jr. Vice President for the year 2024-2025.

Respectfully,  
Crystal Oveson  
President #5281

Crystal Proffitt  
President District 12



**Fontaine Qui Bouille**  
VFW 6461 Auxiliary

Endorse

**Rena Cales**  
Department Sr Vice President  
2024-2025

We, the members of Fontaine Qui Bouille Auxiliary to Post 6461 in Fountain, proudly endorse Rena Cales for the position of CO Dept Sr Vice President. Rena has been a Life Member since Dec. 2009. During these years she has held most of her Auxiliary's and District 5's positions.

Rena has been a Department Chairmen since 2016 with Buddy Poppy and currently doing Legislative.

Jenn Hardy  
VFW Auxiliary 6461 President



**Joseph J Jacques**  
VFW 7945 Auxiliary

Endorse

**Cindy Anderson**  
Department Treasurer  
2024-2025

We, the members of Auxiliary 7945 in Thornton, are proud to endorse Cindy Anderson for the office of Department Treasurer.

Cindy has been a member of the VFW Auxiliary for 34 years joining under the eligibility of her husband Warren who was a Vietnam veteran serving with the Air Force. She is currently the National District 13 Council member representing Colorado and Kansas and is serving as our Department Secretary. Her background includes serving as an Auxiliary President for 3 years, going through the chairs of District 10 and serving as District President in 2005-6. She then held each chair in the Department officer line and served as Department President in 2011-12. She has held many chairmanships on all levels. Along with serving as

Department President, Cindy has served as Department Secretary three years. Cindy held the position of Department Treasurer for seven years and is now eager to resume this position after a two-year hiatus. We feel confident that she will continue to do a wonderful job of overseeing the Department finances and training members and Treasurers alike on the traditions and responsibilities of the Auxiliary.

We have seen her dedication to the job and to the organization over the years and we respectfully ask you to join us in supporting Cindy at the Department Convention with your vote.

Loyally,  
Shelley Schlieman  
VFW Auxiliary 7945 President

### Have you got your Delegates selected?

District Delegates to be sent to the District Secretary  
State Delegates to be sent to State Secretary  
National Delegates need to be entered in Malta

Delegate Forms are available at [vfwco.org](http://vfwco.org)

### Looking Ahead to May 4, 2024 Third-Annual VFW Day of Service!

Veteran-Led Community Service Projects on this day and the month of May, the VFW intends to bring focus to the role veterans play in the well-being of their communities and surrounding areas.

Have to planned your project yet?



**Troy Young  
VFW 5181 Auxiliary  
&  
District 12**

**Endorse  
Crystal Proffitt  
Department Chaplain  
2024-2025**

Troy Young VFW Auxiliary to Post #5181 and District 12 proudly support Crystal Proffitt for VFW Auxiliary Department of Colorado Chaplain. Crystal is a Life Member who has been serving in Auxiliary 5181 for over 30 years. Crystal joined the Auxiliary when she was 16 years old, under the eligibility of her father, Roy L. Huskey, a Purple Heart Recipient, who served in the Army in Vietnam.

Over the years, Crystal has held a wide range of Auxiliary and District Offices. In Auxiliary 5181, she has served as President, Junior Vice, and is currently serving as Senior Vice President. Crystal has served as the Auxiliary Chairman for the Americanism, Youth, Scholarship, and the Buddy Poppy Programs. At the District level, she has served as Senior Vice President, and is currently serving in her third term as District 12 President.

Crystal is a very active member of her auxiliary. She is very dedicated to the mission of the VFW Auxiliary. She makes a daily effort to support Veterans and their families. Crystal always supports all of the Auxiliary and Post activities, and she usually takes on the active role of organizer/planner for many

of these activities. Crystal is in charge of the annual Buddy Poppy Drive. She also helps to organize, plan, and serve the memorial/funeral dinners that are provided by the auxiliary to all veterans and their families in our community. Crystal also serves as a liaison between our community, the local school district, and the Troy Young VFW Auxiliary and Post 5181. Crystal has ensured that our local schools are very supportive of our Veterans. For the past 11 years, Crystal has been in charge of the Annual Veteran's Day Assembly at the local high school. Crystal is always striving to learn how to better support Troy Young Auxiliary and Post #5181 and District 12. We know that Crystal will serve the Department of Colorado with great dedication, and we therefore ask for your support and vote at the Department Convention in June 2024.

Respectfully,

Keith Huskey  
President, VFW Auxiliary Post #5181

Crystal Oveson  
Sr. Vice President District #12

### Hospital Program

Greetings Sisters and Brothers!

I cannot believe another year has flown by. One reporting year ended March 31<sup>st</sup> and the next one began April 1<sup>st</sup>. Soon we will be gathering for the annual state convention in Cripple Creek. There we will hand out awards for all the hard work everyone has done over the past year. On that note, I want to thank each and every one of you who participated in that hard work in whatever way worked best for you.

Please remember that even though the reporting year ended, our work doesn't end! Keep up with all the great work you've done this year so that next year is just as successful.

Enjoy the warmer weather and I hope to see you all in Cripple Creek!

Loyally,  
Brandi Dolan  
Hospital Chairman

### Historian / Media Relations

Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters,

As this program year draws closer, it's incredible to think about all that we've achieved together. Now is the perfect time to reflect on our accomplishments and look ahead to new opportunities.

Let's reach out to other auxiliaries, districts, and departments for fresh ideas for our social media platforms. Brainstorm with fellow members to discover what's working well for their local auxiliaries.

I've been immensely proud and excited to see everyone's posts on social media and to witness the impactful events taking place across our great state of Colorado within the VFW community.

As we strive to communicate our dedication to serving veterans, keep these tips in mind:

Engage with our local community to share our mission and activities. Capture plenty of photos at events and share them

on social media.

Remember the 5 W's: who, what, where, when, and why of our auxiliary events.

Highlight newsworthy activities, such as hosting events at VA facilities, participating in Wreaths Across America, assisting deployed troops' families, adopting a unit through the VFW's Veteran and Military Support Program, collecting supplies for deployed troops, and welcoming troops home at the airport.

Continue your exceptional work for our veterans and communities. Your unwavering dedication, hard work, and passion are truly commendable.

It has been an honor to serve as the 2023-2024 Historian/Media Relations Chairwoman.

Respectfully,  
Karrie Grizzell  
Department Historian/Media Relations

### Americanism

Americanism is going strong in Colorado. Thanks to all your hard work and sharing. It was great to see you all at our March COA. Post 1 has an awesome display of our way to share, provide history, and honor our military with their nook of national military history treasures and their Missing Man table display. This year as I visited other posts I always looked for the Missing Man displays and admired how you chose to place it in a special, safe place with extra lighting adding extra items to make belong to your members.

The one observation I do want to visit with you all about is the collection of the branches of service small flag stand. It is so very important and needed to be proactive and in the forefront to honor all of our branches of service. Very few displays have the Space Force flag in their collection. This is a new branch of our military for the USA. It is a vital and necessary branch of security our country needs with all of the cyber business, activity, communications and devices used by all countries around the world, I want to share a few facts about this branch and encourage you to learn more, share more, and put their flag and emblem on display along with all of our other branches of service.

Space Force motto: Always Above. Their song is Semper Supra, meaning "always above", this official march was composed in 2022 by James Teachenor and Sean Nelson. This is the first new branch of military in 73 years. Service members assigned to Space Force are known as Guardians. Their uniform has 6 silver buttons as it is the 6<sup>th</sup> branch of service. Question about if Space Force ever see combat? They have been participating in every conflict since the Vietnam War. In fact, the Persian Gulf War is referred to as "Space War".

This year is coming to an end. Be proud of your activities, events, projects, and programs you put so much time, energy, and funding to make this year at your post the best it could be. Celebrate with get togethers, coffee, pot luck just for you and your volunteers and families who assisted you throughout this year. You all are auxiliary warriors stepping up, continuing on, shining the spotlight on our USA flag and doing the right thing representing your post with pride, respect, and love of this great nation. See you at convention.

Respectfully,  
Marilyn Peters  
Americanism Chairman

### Auxiliary Outreach

Greetings to all my Auxiliary friends!

Our 2023/2024 year is completed as far as reporting. But that doesn't mean that we don't need to continue doing what we do best – helping others! Keep track of what you do and as soon as State Convention is over, go back to your calendars and REPORT, REPORT, REPORT what you have done since March 31<sup>st</sup>. I have challenged myself this next year that I will sit down the end of every month and send in the reports for the past month. I hope you all will consider doing that also. I'm hoping that all of our hard work and reporting assures that President Phil makes it to the Circle of Excellence at National Convention.

I am impressed with all of the different ideas that the Auxiliaries came up

with to work with the different organizations in our communities! This program has always been around for a long time, National has just changed the name and added a few requirements to the program in the past couple years. Our organization has always been active in our communities, we just need to remember to report it differently.

Thank you for all that you do for our Veterans and our communities.

Stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all at State Convention and rewarding our Auxiliaries for the work they have done.

Sincerely,  
Queenie Barz  
Auxiliary Outreach Chairman

### Veterans and Family Support

Greetings Auxiliary Sisters, Brothers, Post members and all others reading I cannot believe another year is coming to an end. I know we all took a minute to check on someone. By the time you are reading this it will be May, and everyone will be getting ready for the Convention.

I would like to thank President Phil for asking me to do Veterans and Family Support this year. Like Phil, Suicide Awareness and Prevention/Mental Health Awareness are important to me. I have to say this year took a turn from where I had planned on going and it also took on a mind of its own. Not only did I get to help share part of one of our own stories and help them to begin a new journey but also share part of my story. Let's continue to be mindful that everyone is going through something, and it is not always shared out loud. Continue to check on one another and continue doing a great job of supporting all our Veterans. They gave so much for us, and they deserve it in return.

It has been an incredible year with all the support given to all our Veterans and Family Support programs such as National Veterans Service (NVS), Military Assistance Program (MAP), Unmet Needs, VFW "Sports Clips" Help a Hero Scholarship program, and our Women Veterans. Continue to do the great things each of you do. Even though this year's reporting has come to an end, we have next year, and we need to continue rocking all these things we do for veterans. Remember the new reporting year began April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you for all you do for our veterans. I am excited to see everyone in June and share the outstanding things our Auxiliaries have done in supporting our Veterans this past year as we are ***Banding Together for Our Veterans***, let us remember ***We Value Every Veteran!*** Colorado is a great place to be, we all rock!

Brigitte Dolan  
Veterans and Family Support Chairman

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO  
GENERAL ORDERS #4**

**May 1, 2024**

All General Orders from the Department President are official and must be read at the first meeting following receipt before being filed for reference.

1. Department of Colorado Convention will be held in Cripple Creek, CO at the Chamonix Casino Hotel, 201 Bennett Ave., Cripple Creek, CO 80813 on June 5 through 8, 2024. All business sessions will be held at the hotel. Uniform of the day for Wednesday night Council meeting will be comfortable casual or President's shirt. Thursday Joint Opening and Business Sessions uniform will be the official blue shirt, black skirt or slacks and black shoes. Friday business sessions will be patriotic red, white, and blue tops or President's shirt with blue or black slacks and black shoes. This applies to all council members only.

2. Department President's special project is Operation Veteran Strong. Please forward all donations to Department Treasurer, Lennie Dolan.

3. Delegates to the Department Convention will be recognized by the Credential Committee upon registration according to the Delegate reports filed by the Auxiliary Secretary. Secretaries be sure to send Department Delegate Forms to the Department Secretary immediately following delegate elections. NO Delegate cards will be mailed to the Auxiliaries. Remember elected delegates serve for one year.

4. Any Auxiliary in arrears for submission of audits shall be deprived of their vote at the Department Convention. Audits covering the months of July 2023 through March 2024 must be completed and on file with the Department Treasurer prior to convention. All rights shall be promptly restored upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

5. Audits for the months of January, February and March 2024 are due by May 31, 2024. Audits must be read on the Auxiliary floor and voted to be approved before sending them to the Department Treasurer, Lennie Dolan.

6. District Presidents: Annual official visits to the Auxiliaries should be completed. The District Officer making the visit should sign the Secretary and Treasurer books to verify that they are being kept in accordance with procedures. Copies of bonds, audits, and verification of 990 filings should be available for review. All questions on the visit form should be completed. Completed inspection forms should be mailed or emailed to Department Chief of Staff Linda Reinbold and President Phil Reinbold.

7. Membership for those who have not yet paid 2024 dues will end July 1, 2024. Dues for lapsed members can be paid up to June 30, 2024. Any member who has not paid by that time will be dropped from the rolls and must re-apply for membership.

8. Department Officers and Chairmen must have their year-end convention book reports to Department Secretary Cindy Anderson by May 1, 2024.

9. A special thank you to all of you who attended the Council of Administration held in Denver in March.

BY ORDER OF:  
/s/Phil Reinbold  
Department President

ATTEST:  
/s/Cindy Anderson  
Department Secretary

**Chief of Staff - Extension & Revitalization**

Thank you to all of you for making our Colorado VFW Auxiliary an exceptional one and to Department President Phil for allowing me to serve as Department Chief of Staff. It has been my pleasure to work with District Presidents and Auxiliary Presidents as they provide leadership and encourage their members to strengthen their Auxiliaries through participation and programs. Thank you for using the Good Job Award and the many resources on the National and Department websites.

I have enjoyed meeting many members during visits to Districts and Auxiliaries and have been overwhelmed by the many programs, activities, donations and volunteer time you provide to our Veterans and their families. It has been an honor to have had the opportunity to meet and serve you. Your dedication and commitment make such a difference in helping them improve their lives.

This year we instituted 2 new Auxiliaries – Boone #8898 on November 12, 2023 and Platte River #12226 on April 2, 2024. These new Auxiliaries are excited to be a part of our organization and are looking forward to becoming involved in our programs to help our Veterans. Congratulations to the new

members and we look forward to meeting them in the future.

There are several VFW Posts who are considering an Auxiliary at this time. Please continue to encourage, communicate and work with them. Also, let bachelor Posts know about the reasons of having an Auxiliary and how we can work together for our Veterans. This is a great opportunity to increase new Auxiliary membership.

Thank you to every member not only for what you are doing for our Veterans and families but also for the mentoring you do to each other. It can be Member to Member, Officer to Officer, or Officer to Member. It is important to continue to revitalize and/or renew our commitment to each other and our Auxiliary as we continue to grow for the future.

It has been a great year for our Auxiliaries. Your hard work has been appreciated and everyone of you should take deep satisfaction in the work you have accomplished this year! I wish all incoming officers and chairmen best wishes for their upcoming year. I look forward to seeing you at our Department Convention.

Linda Reinbold  
Department Chief of Staff

**Youth Program**

Hello Auxiliary brothers and sisters,  
Wow, this year has flown by and now that spring is in the air we can start looking forward to warm weather and backyard barbeques. As Memorial Day approaches, let's find ways to get our youth involved in celebrations by teaching them the importance of the holiday.

It's hard to believe our reporting year has ended. All our auxiliaries have done an outstanding job supporting our youth. My sincere thanks to all those who reported your activities. As we look forward to convention, keep the momentum going in working with our youth.

I have enjoyed being your youth activities chairman and would like to thank President Phil for giving me the opportunity. I enjoyed meeting many of you at COAs.

I have enjoyed all the pictures and seeing all the creative ways of getting our youth involved in patriotism. As always, I am available through email [km-ltwood10@msn.com](mailto:km-ltwood10@msn.com) and phone (720) 201-4062, should you need assistance.

Respectfully,  
Kristi Wood  
Youth Activities Chairman



**"100 YEAR AUXILIARY CONVENTION"  
VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO RAFFLE 2024**

**Just a reminder that tickets can be sent to me or brought to the convention.**

**If you have UNSOLD tickets, please bring them, send them with your district President or someone. We can still get all the tickets sold at the convention.**

**Remember what we are supporting! VFW Auxiliary Scholarship programs!**

**TICKETS; 6 FOR \$5.00 OR \$1.00 EACH**

**PRIZES; 1<sup>st</sup>~\$500.00 2<sup>nd</sup>~\$300.00 3<sup>rd</sup>~ \$200.00**

**Drawing will be held Friday June 7<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm  
During the Convention closing session.**

**License # 2024-19459**

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "VFWA DEPT. OF CO"**

## Membership 2023-2024

Greetings Producers, Actors and Stars,

Camera: Where did this year go? To know that this will be the last Colorado Veteran I write as Membership Chairman, is something I will miss. This has been a fun year for me, and I want to tell you that you all Rocked with membership!

You reached the goal of March 31<sup>st</sup>, of having Department of Colorado Auxiliary at past 98%, but actually you had this done by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Way to go!!

As of today April 1<sup>st</sup>, Department Auxiliary is at 99.39% and need 36 members, to have Department at 100%. You all are so close as I see in Malta there are so many Auxiliaries that need 1, 2, even 10 members, to be 100%. I have so much faith in you to get to this goal because you have been working so hard!

We have 30 Auxiliaries at 100% and 7 District at 100%. This is only April 1<sup>st</sup>, so I know by end of April, we will be so much closer to the goal, or even hitting the goal.

Lights: Let you shine, as you are so close to being there. Remember:

You have the deadline of June 30<sup>th</sup> for everyone to pay their membership dues but keep pushing them. Continue to work on your members who have not paid their dues or try and retain old members who may have not paid their dues for some reason. Some may need help,

some may have forgotten, some may not want to rejoin, but speak with them all and see what you as an Auxiliary can do to get them paid and keep them in your Auxiliary. Don't stop now; you continue to do everything you can possibly do to get your Auxiliary to 100%.

At our last Council of Administration at Post 1, we had the contest of any Auxiliary that reached 100% by March 13<sup>th</sup>. Our National Representative was our National Chaplain Donna Mills, who graciously picked the 4 Auxiliary winners. Congratulations to:

Auxiliary 859 - Two-Mile High  
Auxiliary 5843 - Meeker  
Auxiliary 4265 - Samuel Havenga Jr. - Craig  
Auxiliary 9221 - Grand Mesa - Cedaredge

Action: Be yourself, take action on helping your Auxiliary. Remember we are all a team, and we have "The True Grit" to do what we know needs to be done.

I thank you all for your dedication in everything you do and for helping our veterans. See you at the State Convention in June.

With Loyalty,  
Lucille Chavez  
Membership Chairman

## Scholarship Program

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

It is hard to believe that another program year is in the books! I want to thank each and every one of you for your hard work over this past year. Your dedication to the Scholarship Program continues to amaze me! Although this reporting year has come to an end, please continue to track your activities over the next few months so that you can report them when the new reporting year opens.

The Continuing Education Scholarship continues to grow in the number of applicants and I hope with your help, we can continue to see an increase in participation in this scholarship opportunity in the future. The VFW Auxiliary support for the VFW Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Scholarships continues to grow as well. Your recognition of recipients for all the scholarship programs has been amazing this year. There have been numerous events, banquets, and recognition activities throughout our state to acknowledge these participants. The VFW has already released the theme for next year's program.

The 2024-2025 Voice of Democracy theme is: "*Is America Today Our Forefather's Vision?*". The 2024-2025 Patriot's Pen theme is: "*My Voice in America's Democracy?*".

The Young American Patriotic Art 2-D and 3-D Scholarship Programs also continues to grow in participants. I am very excited for the State Convention to see all the art work on display and to recognize our Department of Colorado recipients!

Congratulations to all of the Department of Colorado scholarship recipients for the 2023-2024 year! Thank you for representing our wonderful state! To all of our auxiliaries in the state of Colorado, THANK YOU for all that you do! Remember, the best way to ensure the continuing growth and support of our organization is by continuing to support and encourage our younger generations through these scholarship opportunities.

Sincerely,  
Crystal Proffitt  
Scholarship Chair

## Auxiliary Membership by District as of April 30, 2024

Number	City	2023	2024	%	Number	City	2023	2024	%
<b>DISTRICT #1</b>					<b>DISTRICT #7</b>				
1	Denver	183	188	103*	899	Alamosa	40	41	103*
501	Denver	146	139	96	8121	So Fork	106	107	101*
5061	Denver	167	173	104*	TOTAL		146	148	102%*
TOTAL		496	500	101%	<b>DISTRICT #8</b>				
<b>DISTRICT #2</b>					<b>DISTRICT #9</b>				
2788	Penrose	42	46	110*	859	Leadville	18	18	100*
3641	Pueblo	72	57	80	11411	Lake George	48	51	107*
4061	Canon City	104	100	97	12009	Conifer	32	32	100*
5812	Pueblo West	41	41	100*	TOTAL		98	101	104%*
7305	Colo. City	21	22	110*	<b>DISTRICT #10</b>				
8898	Boone	0	18	0	322	Englewood	78	78	100*
TOTAL		280	285	102%*	3631	Aurora	109	109	100*
<b>DISTRICT #3</b>					<b>DISTRICT #11</b>				
41	Loveland	123	123	100*	1247	Grnd Jcnctn	76	75	99
1771	Lafayette	240	250	105*	3571	Delta	51	53	104*
1781	Ft. Collins	132	127	97	3981	Grnd Jcnctn	45	44	98
2121	Greeley	112	114	102*	9221	Cedaredge	50	51	102*
2585	Johnstown	78	84	108*	TOTAL		222	223	101%*
2601	Longmont	182	175	97	<b>DISTRICT #12</b>				
4334	Ault	46	45	98	4031	Durango	129	129	100*
6624	Evans	194	187	97	5181	Dove Creek	33	33	100*
12189	Berthoud	19	18	95	5231	Mancos	61	58	96
TOTAL		1126	1124	99.82 %	TOTAL		223	220	99%
<b>DISTRICT #4</b>					<b>DISTRICT #13</b>				
3541	Sterling	58	47	78	3411	Kit Carson	18	18	100*
4671	Wray	20	20	100*	6612	Hugo	37	37	100*
12226	Sterling	0	18	0	TOTAL		55	55	100%*
TOTAL		78	65	109%*	<b>DISTRICT #14</b>				
<b>DISTRICT #5</b>					<b>DISTRICT #15</b>				
101	Colo. Spgs.	75	69	92	15006	At Large	802	782	98%
3917	Security	192	180	94	TOTAL DEPT.		5,895	5,908	101%*
4051	Colo. Spgs	226	237	105*	<b>Time to pay your 2024 Dues</b>				
5221	Calhan	25	25	100*	<b>Be 100% in 2023-2024</b>				
6461	Fountain	150	151	101*					
7829	Monument	43	43	100*					
TOTAL		711	705	99.16%					
<b>DISTRICT #6</b>									
336	Ordway	68	66	98					
2411	Las Animas	107	111	104*					
TOTAL		175	177	102%*					

## Legislative Program

Sisters and Brothers,

WOW!! How time flies. Since April 1<sup>st</sup> we are on the 2024-25 reporting year but don't stop reporting. It is all to easy to say "I'll do it later" and then forget it. I would rather you report every time you did something than not at all. Your info will be turned over to the chairman for the 24-25 yr.

Thank You to all that did submit your reports. Many of you voted & I

hope more voted than just those that reported it. Several helped with the election sites, attended a lot of political meetings, town halls and sent emails, post cards and made calls.

Let's keep "pestering" our Legislatures to do right for all of our veterans and family members.

Rena Cales  
Legislative Chairman

**Voice of Democracy 2024-2025 Theme**  
**"Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"**

**Patriots Pen 2024-2025 Theme**  
**"My Voice in America's Democracy?"**

**Entry Forms are Available on**  
**<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>**

**Please send all Deceased VFW Auxiliary Members to**  
**[vfw@vfwco.org](mailto:vfw@vfwco.org).**  
**You must also notify MALTA and Colorado Department Treasurer.**

**They will be saved for the Joint Memorial State Convention Book.**  
**Our deadline is May 20, 2024**

## President's Special Project "Operation Veteran Strong"

Greetings Auxiliary Members!

The 2023-2024 year is winding down. There is still time for all Auxiliaries to show that we support our Veterans and their struggles to return to civilian life and the issues with suicide by purchasing Phil's beautiful pins.

Phil has chosen Operation Veteran Strong as his special project. Operation Veteran Strong is a Colorado based non-profit set up as a useful tool just for US Veterans navigating civilian life. This help is 100% FREE to our Veterans and confidential. Here our Veterans can get the tools they need to get things done. They can connect on their own terms with Veterans benefits, VSO contacts, outdoor recreation, employment, financial support, education, family ad spouse supports, Vet groups, VFW's, community support and so much more. They also specialize in mental health programs and help with Suicide Awareness.

Phil's special project pin is a beautiful purple and teal ribbon pin, with the Auxiliary emblem in the middle. The pin's colors are from the suicide prevention ribbon. They signify hope and courage for those who have attempted suicide and remembrance for those who lost their battle. They truly represent President Phil's special project that is dear and true to him – Suicide Awareness by proving "WE VALUE EVERY VETERAN!"

There are still a few Auxiliaries that have NOT purchased any pins. Our State Standing Rules require that each Auxiliary purchase at least ten (10) pins. LET'S MAKE THAT HAPPEN BEFORE STATE CONVENTION and show Phil our love and reach 100% in sales.

Pins can be purchased by mailing

an order along with the monies to pay for the requested number of pins. Once I receive the order form, I will send your requested number of pins to you via USPS. The cost per pin is \$3 and you are allowed to resell the pins for \$3. **If you resell the pins at a higher cost, you are required to send the extra monies into Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary.** All monies raised from this pin are to go to Operation Veteran Strong. I'm still **CHALLENGING** each and every Auxiliary member to save \$0.25, \$7.75 a month or \$91.25 a year, and donate to Phil's Special Project. Bring your quarters to the State Convention in June and let's fill the Operation Veteran Strong birdhouses with our quarters!!! It is already getting heavy.

And the **CHALLENGE** to each and every Auxiliary member to give \$1 a month or \$12 a year to Phil's Special Project. This money can also be mailed to me at PO Box 533, Mancos, CO 81328 or brought to me at State Convention.

Also, for those Auxiliaries that have been collecting pop tops off of the beer and soda cans – you can take the to your local aluminum collector, have them weighed and send the money to Department earmarking it for Phil's Special Project. Or you can bring them to me at State Convention. They are too heavy to mail. I will get them weighed at my local distributor and send the money to State.

Let's raise some money for our Veterans!!

Queenie Barz  
Special Project Chairman

## VFW Buddy Poppy - National Home for Children

Greetings Buddy Poppy Chairman!

First of all, I want to thank Phil Reinbold for having me as his Buddy Poppy/National Home Chairman for 23-24. I have thoroughly enjoyed the chairmanship and getting to know more about the Buddy Poppy and the National Home.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be at the end of the reporting year, and I will have all the numbers of what you have reported to me this year. I want to say that I am very proud of all the work that every one of you have put into this program this year. For every poppy we give out, and every donation we get, we are supporting our veterans' programs and our disabled who

assemble these little red flowers.

I hope all of you are getting ready for Memorial Day Poppy table.

**National Home** needs our support, whether it's through our poppy sales, Auxiliary donations, or personal donations. They rely on our support to keep our Colorado house going and help the families that live there. Always remember, the Amazon wish list is one good way to support National Home, or become a Home Town Hero. Those are two of the many ways to help, so please remember them.

Patricia Rowley-Wilson  
Buddy Poppy/National Home Chairman

### Please Note

**There are two (2) NEW Buddy Poppy Order Forms on the Colorado Web Site.**

- **One order form is for the Traditional Red Cloth Poppy.**
- **One order form is for the NEW TIN RED METAL POPPY, that is available.**

**You must include a VFW Membership #, since we have to order thru the VFW and they have access to that Data Base. If you do not include a VFW Membership #, we can look up the Post Quartermaster and use your address for Delivery.**

**Orders still have to be placed with VFW Department Headquarters.**

**VFW will get credit for their Poppy Order.  
Auxiliary will get credit for their Poppy Order.**

**You must include Shipping charges when you order.  
Rates are on the Order Form.**

**Please use the New Order Forms**

### Buddy Poppy Display Contest

Buddy Poppy Display Contest will again be held in connection with the State Convention. Rules have been designed to put emphasis on the purpose and effectiveness of the displays.

#### Rules

**(1). Displays will be presented and judged in three categories:**

**CATEGORY 1** Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign.

(Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)

(a). Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW Buddy Poppy

(b). At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

**CATEGORY 2** Memorial or Inspirational Displays

(Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)

(a). Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the Buddy Poppy.

(b). At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

**CATEGORY 3** Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies

(Post Home displays, table centerpieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)

(a). Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.

(b). At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

The State Buddy Poppy Committee shall have no responsibility in setting up, taking down, or returning displays. Displays may be entered and set up at any time from 7:30 a.m. Thursday June 6.

Displays shall be set up in space provided in the Convention exhibit or meeting halls. At the time the display is set up, the responsible person must complete an entry form which will show the category of competition, the number of Poppies used, the purpose of the display, the use to which it has been put and plans for future use, the Post and/or Auxiliary number and location, and the name of the person who will dismantle and remove the display at the close of the Convention.

Displays may be accompanied by a white card, not to exceed 4 inches by 6 inches in size, on which is lettered in black ink an explanation of the theme for the display or other information of interest to the viewer or the judges. Post name, number or location may not be visible on display entries; failure to comply will result in disqualification.

**Judging** of displays will be on the basis of effectiveness, purpose, clarity of theme, suitability, originality, beauty and number of Poppies used. Where a sample of a large number of identical items (such as corsages or wreaths) is entered, full credit shall be given for the total number of Poppies used.

**Prizes** - Plaques will be awarded to the first, second, and third place winners in each of the three categories. Plaques will be awarded at the Military Banquet when the winners are announced.

**First Place winners in each category** will be eligible to be taken to National Convention and be entered in their respective category. Entry forms must be signed by the Department Adjutant. If someone from your Post or Auxiliary is not taking the entry to National Convention, you must designate someone to be responsible to set up and take down the display at National Convention.

### 2023-2024 Veteran's Pin Order Form

Department of Colorado Auxiliary  
Presidents Special Project

"Operation Veteran Strong"

Post or Auxiliary Name and Number \_\_\_\_\_

Ship to (Name of a Person) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Pins x \$3.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total money enclosed

**You can pay via check or money order - please do not send cash  
Make check payable to Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary**

**Mail Veteran's Pin order to: Queenie Barz  
P O Box 533  
Mancos, CO 81328**

Please Help Support Phil's  
Special Project  
"Operation Veteran Strong"  
Send your orders to Queenie