



The Texas V.F.W. Auxiliary

Our Two Cents

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Editor – Kathy Marrelli

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COMMENTS

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT

DONNA JAMES



We had a wonderful year in Texas. Thank you to all the Chairwomen for doing an excellent job this year. I was so blessed with a Great Team. Thank you to all hard-working District Presidents and Auxiliaries for everything you do for our Veterans. Everyone worked so well together to make Texas proud!

Thank you to the Line Officers and Staff for keeping everything going strong through the virus problems. We have a strong organization and nothing can bring us down.

Thank you to Vicky Dickerson, Tanya Jackson, JoJo Kilgore, Irma Solis, Betty Royston, Glenda Hunt, and Susie Wakeland for all your hard work in getting new Auxiliaries, Lake Whitney, Frisco, Cloverleaf, Lampasas and Harlingen.

So many things have happened at the year's end. We will stay strong and safe. Everything was a first ever and the virus only made us stronger. Department Commander King and I have changed the Homecoming to June 26 and 27, 2020. We did get permission from Department Senior Vice Commander Dick Shawver and Department Senior Vice President Ramona Henson. We booked a great famous Country Singer for the Homecoming, so I hope everyone comes. We will have a good Country time. Wear whatever you feel comfortable wearing.

I appreciate everyone that helped make the year so rewarding. I enjoyed all my visits and meeting new Sisters and Brothers. As the year comes to an end, we will be 100 percent behind our incoming President Ramona Henson. Keep up the good work and stay safe.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Andrea King

Well, here we are at the end of our year. I know that last "T" was crossed and that last "I" was dotted on those year-end reports. Now everyone take a deep breath and relax so we can get right up and do this all over again, maybe with some changes.

I know many are thinking **WHAT NOW?** We just don't know. For many of us, we are learning to take one day at a time. To hear the birds, to see the beautiful flowers bloom, to watch a butterfly fly or to look to the sky and see the beautiful colors in a sunrise or sunset. We are trying different things. Yep, we're learning and experiencing new and different ways of doing things. For many, you are working from home or working in your yard, learning a new hobby, homeschooling, taking classes online yourself, being excited when you find "that item" on the shelf at the store or maybe taking time to read or work a puzzle. I heard someone say they went to their bank and people had on "masks" and no one was alarmed by the "mask."

Some things are different – but many things are the same. Your heart of caring, your desire to serve others including our Veterans, Military, First Responders and Healthcare personnel, your attitude of giving – these things are still the same. Your caring hearts are shining through during what many see as a dark time. You are shining right where you are. I have seen and experienced your support and encouragement through your words, thoughts and actions.

For some around us this is such a difficult time – no job – everyone home together – fear – a feeling of loss – a time of hopelessness. If you are experiencing that feeling of overwhelming loss – not being able to face another day – please reach out to me or someone – anyone. I agree things may see dark and scary now, but there is Hope. Please look out for each other – your neighbors, coworkers, friends, family both biological and VFW, even the person on your FB page. Together we can.

I would like to like to close by saying that this year’s chairmen have been the hardest working/caring individuals anyone could ever want to work with. I am so proud of each of you, you have truly made Texas Shine! Thanks, also to Kathy Marrelli, you have been a joy to work with on the Our Two Cents newsletters and we became A Voice for our Veterans, Not an Echo.



MEMBERSHIP
Brenda Foltz - Chair
Karlene Chambers – Co-Chair

What a year it has been. Still have not reached our goal of 100% but we can still do this for the great State of Texas.

As of the time of this writing there are 8 districts that have reached 100%. Out of 190 auxiliaries there are 103 that have reached 100%. WOW that is awesome. Texas we can do this. Our members are the backbone for our veterans, your voice matters.

Some of the awards were given out at Mid-Winter the rest will be done at State Convention.

It has been an honor to be Membership Chairman for this great State. It has really been a challenge and have enjoyed it.

A big shout out to my co-chair for all the help. Hope to see everyone at State Convention.

Keep Rounding ‘Em Up and Roping ‘Em In

WE ARE A VOICE FOR OUR VETERANS
NOT AN ECHO
SERVING OUR VETERANS WITH ALOHA



CHIEF OF STAFF
Betty Royston

Attention District Presidents and District Deputy Chiefs of Staff, it is important that you continue to work with your new Auxiliaries. Stay in contact with the person who organized and instituted the Auxiliary to see if they need you to work with them on keeping this Auxiliary in good working order. When and how to collect dues. Offer to assist in securing and filling out official and proper paperwork. See that deadlines and filings are met in a timely manner. For more information on this topic, see Article II of the Podium Edition: Bylaws and Ritual.

“WE ARE A VOICE FOR OUR VETERANS, NOT AN ECHO” so keep our commitment to our Veterans and their families as we honor all those who have served our Country, remembering **“ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL”**.

District Presidents and Auxiliary Presidents don’t forget to send in your nomination for Outstanding District Deputy Chief of Staff, along with a brief note as to why she/he should be chosen for this award. Deadline was April 25, to me. **NO EXCEPTIONS, LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE JUDGED.**

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY TO ALL YOU WONDERFUL LADIES, wishing each of you a Blessed Day.

This will be my last article as the Chief of Staff for the current year. Thanks to each of you who have organized and instituted a new Auxiliary and continue to assist them in maintaining a **HEALTHY AUXILIARY**. You are to be commended for remembering **“WE ARE A VOICE FOR OUR VETERANS, NOT AN ECHO”**. I ask you to continue working with these Auxiliaries to ensure they keep the spirit of our organization alive and growing stronger with each passing year. **REMEMBER THINGS CHANGE and WE MUST ADAPT CHANGES.**

A very special **THANK YOU** to our Department President, Donna, for allowing me to serve as your Department Chief of Staff for 2019/2020. It has been a year of working with pride in the changes being made in our Organization and prayers that it will continue to grow in membership and loyalty for our Veterans and their families. To our Staff in Austin, special kudos for all you do for us. To our Department Commander Keith and his Staff thank you for all the courtesy shown to me. Love you all. Dan West you are awesome. I will continue to be available for anything I can do to keep our Auxiliary **STRONG.**

“WE SERVE OUR VETERANS WITH ALOHA”

**Texas VFW/Auxiliary
Department Convention
June 17th – 21st
Austin Texas**

Available ways to make reservations:

1. Online – www.crowneplaza.com/reservations
2. Contact Central Reservations at 800-227-6963
3. Contact Reservation Manager – Lupe Amador, between 7:00am – 5:00 pm - Monday – Friday at 512-371-5235 or email:
reservations@cphaustin.com

Block Code VFW



IRMA SOLIS

**Candidate for Department of Texas
VFW Auxiliary Guard
2020-2021**

Endorsed by District 18 & Auxiliary 7473

Auxiliary President – 3 years
District President – 3 years
Auxiliary Secretary – 1 year
District 18 Conductress – 1 year

Jo Ella Menn

Candidate for Department Treasurer
2020-21

Endorsed by
Auxiliary 8621 and District 6

I am running for Department Treasurer
2020-2021

I will serve the Department of Texas
to the very best of my ability.
Thank you for your support in the past and
am looking forward to serving in the future.

**Candidate for National Council
Area H
2020-2022**

Donna James

“Always Serving Our Veterans”

**20-21
Auxiliary Year**

**If anyone is interested in one of the following:
Department Musician, Soloist or VAVS
Deputies -- please contact Ramona Henson as
soon as possible.**

Installing Conductresses Please note

**Please be dressed in full uniform
No Black Jacket
Black closed toe shoes
Brass on collars
Stud earrings only**

District Presidents will wear full uniform WITH Black Jacket

2020 Texas VFW Auxiliary Annual State Convention Schedule

Wednesday June 17, 2020

12 Noon	4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Registration/Credentials	Crowne Plaza
12 Noon	4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Ways & Means	Crowne Plaza
3:00 PM	5:00 PM	President's Reception (Invitation Only)	Crowne Plaza
4:00 PM	5:30 PM	Floor Practice	To Be Announced
6:00 PM		Dinner with National Representative (Dutch Treat)	To Be Announced

Thursday June 18, 2020

12 Noon	4:00 PM	Vendor Booths & Poppy Displays	DeWitt/Doubletree
8:00 AM	4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Registration/Credentials	Crowne Plaza
8:00 AM	4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Ways & Means	Crowne Plaza
8:00 AM	9:30 AM	VFW Auxiliary Council of Administration	Crowne Plaza
11:00 AM	6:00 PM	Busses to State Capitol from Both Hotels	Crowne/Doubletree
11:00 AM	12:30 PM	Past Department President Lunch	To Be Announced
1:00 PM	5:00 PM	JOINT Memorial & Opening Session	State Capitol
6:00 PM	12 PM	Combined Hospitality	Magnolia/Dovers

Friday June 19, 2020

8:00 AM	4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Registration/Credentials	Crowne Plaza
8:00 AM	4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Ways & Means	Crowne Plaza
8:00 AM	12:00 Noon	VFW Auxiliary Business Meeting	Crowne Plaza
12:00 Noon	1:00 PM	LUNCH	
1:00 PM	4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Business Meeting & Nominations Presentation of Programs & National Citations	
2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Incoming District Presidents Pick Up Packets from Registration	
5:30 PM	6:30 PM	Reception with Cash Bar	Doubletree
6:30 PM	9:00 PM	Awards Banquet	Doubletree
6:00 PM	12 PM	Combined Hospitality	Magnolia/Dovers

Saturday June 20, 2020

8:00 AM	4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Registration/Credentials	Crowne Plaza
8:00 AM	4:00 PM	VFW Auxiliary Ways & Means	Crowne Plaza
8:30 AM	Adjourn	VFW Auxiliary Business Meeting Continuation of Programs Historian, Presentation of Pages, Memorial Service, Presentation Of National Representative, Final Nominations & Elections of 2020-2021 Officers	Crowne Plaza
4:00 PM	5:30 PM	JOINT Installation of Officers	Doubletree
5:30 PM	6:30 PM	State Commander & President Reception	Doubletree
6:30 PM	12 PM	Combined Hospitality	Magnolia/Dovers

Sunday June 21, 2020 – Safe Travels

hello
spring!



TEAMWORK = SUCCESS