



The Texas V.F.W. Auxiliary

Our Two Cents

Published Monthly by the VFW Auxiliary

Editor – Kathy Marrelli

Located at 8503 N IH 35, Austin, TX 78753



Volume 31 Issue 5

December, 2020



Department President

Ramona Henson

Soaring Thru Texas



I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving; my family had a good one. Welcome to December! I suppose you are wondering like me, where has the time gone? It's getting late.

Auxiliary Presidents: Mid-Year Reports are due to your District President by the 10th of this month. Please note they need to be in their hands by the 10th; not postmarked.

District Presidents: Do not hold the Mid-Year Reports from your Auxiliaries until you have them all. Please don't penalize your whole District because of one slow Auxiliary. I also want to remind you that your inspections should be completed by now or close to completion.

Mid-Winter is just around the corner. Please be aware that because of social distancing, we are only selling 275 seats for the President's Luncheon. These tickets are being sold on a first come-first served basis. Send the reservation form back with your meal choices and your check. We **will not** hold tickets for you to bring the money with you.

If you have any questions, call Andrea King. Her cell number is 281-787-0829. A reservation form may be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our National President, Sandi Onstwedder, will be attending the Mid-Year Conference. I hope you will all plan to be there.

There are obligations that must be paid by every Auxiliary. If your Auxiliary has not paid your obligations, it is time for you to get busy and send them to Department.

Thank you to Districts 16 and 12 for the great hospitality. It's always good to renew old friendships and make new ones.

The Department office will close for the Christmas Holiday at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, December 23 and re-open on Monday, December 28; for the New Year Holiday, close on December 31 and re-open on Monday January 4.

May your Christmas be safe and holy and your New Year filled with many blessings and good fortune. In a world where you can be anything, be kind.

Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans

Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans



LEGISLATIVE
Tammie Mosby – Chairman

I know by now everyone has cast their vote for this most important presidential election. But our work is not done. We must continue to fight for our veterans and their rights that they have earned. Remember, there is always more to be done.

Legislative Update on Agent Orange Conditions: On July 23, 2020, the Senate passed [S. 4049](#), the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021* (NDAA). The Senate NDAA contains a provision to add bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and Parkinsonism to the list of presumptive conditions associated with exposure to Agent Orange. The House-passed version of the NDAA, [H.R. 6395](#), does not contain this provision. The differences between the House and Senate versions of the NDAA will be reconciled by a conference committee comprised of members of both chambers, expected to be formed sometime next month. The VFW is fully committed to ensuring that the final NDAA adds these three conditions to the Agent Orange presumptive list. Stay tuned to the VFW Action Corps Weekly for updates and any possible VFW call-to-actions on this important legislation.

The week of October 19, 2020, the VFW-supported [H.R. 1812](#), the *Vet Center Eligibility Expansion Act*, was signed into law. This law expands Vet Center counseling and related mental health services for veterans and service members of the National Guard, Reserve, or Coast Guard, who took part in drug interdictions or responded to national disasters or emergencies. Participating in these high-stress situations can have serious mental health consequences. Expanding access to Vet Centers will provide an opportunity for those who served in these situations to have access to the mental health services they earned and deserve.

Also the same week, [H.R. 2372](#), the *Veterans' Care Quality Transparency Act*, was signed into law. The law requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to assess suicide prevention and mental health services of non-VA entities who have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with VA. The GAO assessment will include the size of the catchment area, staffing structure, staff accreditations or licensures, program limitations, trackable outcomes, and breakdown of specific demographics, such as women veterans, minority veterans, and age and location of veterans.

Remember the deadline on the Word Search is January 1, 2021. I have been getting a lot of response. Will it be your District that wins? I am here to help you in any way I can. If you succeed, I succeed. You can email me at tjpurplerose@yahoo.com or by cell phone at 936-414-5293.

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Please be sure you read your program books and follow the guidelines set out for our National and State priority goals. This is one of the ways we, as auxiliary members, have **Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans** as we are **Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans**.



NATIONAL HOME/BUDDY POPPY

Tanya Jackson – Team Lead

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!! This year is passing so quickly and at the same time slow as molasses. As we are getting ready for our Christmas season remember that our VFW National Home needs our help, and any is appreciated. If you send anything up to them please report it.

VFW National Home Statewide Project – UNRESTRICTED FUNDS – this continues through the full year. If you do a fundraiser for this, report to us how it turned out. Remember that the award for this is based on the monies sent that are not earmarked for the TEXAS HOUSE. The home is need of the funds that are not earmarked to help take care of other things at the home.

Buddy Poppy Statewide Project – DOLL WITH A BUDDY POPPY DRESS – There has been reports turned in that auxiliaries have been making their dolls. Take them to your District Meeting for judging. The winner from that meeting comes to Mid-Winter to be judged there. The winners will not be announced until State Convention in June. I am working on a way that we all get to judge the dolls and make it fun at the same time. I will be getting with our Program Coordinator to see how to handle this. The dolls are being donated to the VFW National Home. If your doll did not win at your district and you would like to donate it, just get it to me and I will see that it is shipped to Michigan.

Once again, it is the time of year to have good thoughts and to remember the reason for the season. Please take the time to thank your veterans for all that they do and why not put a Buddy Poppy on their lapels. It is a nice way of saying “Thank you”. We are still **“HONORING OUR MISSION TO SERVE VETERANS”** with **“HONOR, COURAGE AND COMMITMENT.”**

YOUTH ACTIVITIES
Mona Benotti - Chairman

Here we are heading into December and I wish for all of you and your families a happy, healthy and joyous Christmas season. For this article I want to emphasize the importance of recognition and a special gift you can make for our **Patriotism Through Literacy** project.

First, let's talk about recognition:

- Recognition for individual children (not part of a group) has been made easily managed by our National Program. There are three versions of the **Patriotic Youth Award** that any of us can print and complete to give to a deserving youth who has provided a service to our Post or to veterans in some way. You'll find this award at <https://vfwauxiliary.org/resources/>. Print out the one you want to use, complete it and present to the youth. Kids love recognition (as do we all).
- Recognition for youth groups is very important whether it be a classroom, entire school, choral group, Scout Troop etc. The same website has the fillable form **Youth Groups Supporting Veterans Citation**. Complete the form; then email or mail to me. I'll do a quick turnaround and send it to National. The youth group will receive a certificate and letter from the National President recognizing their support of our veterans.

We have a gift opportunity for **Patriotism Through Literacy**. The National Ambassador for Youth Activities, Jodie Hollinger, has asked her Department Chairs to make a gift of a book(s) in honor of our National President Sandi Onstwedder. I'm doing this and hoping Texas auxiliaries will want to also. Your book may be given to a school, library or other location where children gather. The suggested book list, divided by age groups, is at <https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Suggested-Book-List.pdf>.

I've provided information on this and a label to place in the book(s) you are donating to our District Presidents or you can email me if you don't have it.

Contact me as needed: mlbenotti@sbcglobal.net or 817.805.3729. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We show **Honor, Courage, Commitment for Our Veterans** as we are **Honoring our Mission to Serve Veterans**.



CHIEF OF STAFF/EXTENSION
Donna James – Chief of Staff

After many questions about reporting, hope this helps.

WHY Report:

1. Collecting the information from your Auxiliary-approved events and projects, such as volunteers, hours, and dollars, helps to substantiate your IRS nonprofit status. Should your organization be audited by the IRS, they will look to these documents to prove you are fulfilling the mission of your organization.

2. Keeping a record of your Auxiliary's events and projects helps you to tell the story of your Auxiliary to the community. Reporting that information to the Department and therefore the National level helps the organization tell its story as a whole.

WHAT to report:

- Describe the event. Give as many details as possible.
- Designate what program(s) to report under, such as Americanism or Legislative.
- Number of volunteers. A volunteer is a person who gives time to the project or event before, during, or afterwards in direct relation to the outcome. Volunteers are not paid.
- Amount of money expended, to include any funds spent in direct relation to the event or project. May include mileage at an estimated value printing.

WHEN to Report:

• Compile this information as soon as possible. It becomes more difficult to compile the information the further you get from the event or project.

- Report as often as your Department requests.

HOW to Report:

- Each Department establishes its own reporting system. For details and assistance, contact your Department Chairman and/or Department Secretary.
- Follow up to be sure your report was received.

Best Practices in Reporting:

• Do not double report. A project may be applied to multiple programs. However, the hours, volunteers and expenses should be split between those programs.

• Use common sense. If a project or event doesn't seem to be covered by a specific program, choose the program most closely related.

• If a project does NOT fit a program in any way, then report the information to inclusion in the Community Outreach Report.

• Include your name, contact information, Auxiliary number and the best way to reach you.

- Keep one copy for Auxiliary records.

• Don't forget to report financial donations made by motion or established by standing rules.

- If your Auxiliary participates in a District and/or Department event, be sure to report this information, i.e., volunteers, hours, and expenses.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!

**Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans
Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans**



**PRESIDENT’S SPECIAL PROJECT
Beth Creasey – Chair**

While we drive around with our loving families, sipping on hot chocolate, looking at Christmas lights as one of just a few holiday activities we can do this year while social distancing, remember those who are not able to do so. Your fundraising efforts to support the Veterans’ Assistance Program help alleviate the angst and horror our veteran families feel when worrying about how to pay the bills, keep a job, keep their home, and keep their family safe during this pandemic. We do this by making funds available, so they do not become homeless, lose their utilities and/or their mode of transportation on our watch.

Honor your veteran by supporting Texas veterans and their families in need: Fundraise/donate to the Veterans’ Assistance Program.

Have Courage to continue the fight: Do not let the pandemic slow your efforts. Hold a bake-less bake sale, start an old-fashioned chain letter, create and play bingo via Zoom with a small buy-in. Get creative and stay safe.

Show your Commitment for our Veterans by reporting what you do. We do not tell our story well. Send in those reports so we can. Did you know you can use your phone as a scanner to send a copy of the check your Auxiliary sent to the VAP? Just take a picture! You can probably complete a report on your smart phone as well. The report form is on the Texas Auxiliary website, is accessible through your smart phone. If the picture is already saved on your phone, select the photo and forward via email to bethvfwaux@gmail.com. If you don’t include the report form, be sure and send that information in your text/email.

Lastly, **“Honor Our Mission to Serve Veterans”** by participating. Struggling Texas veterans and their families need to feel our Christmas Spirit now more than ever.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a most Happy New Year!

**AUXILIARY COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Susie Carter - Chairman**

This is the season for giving and that does fit right in with our Auxiliary Community Outreach Program. I know you have a million things you are doing and staying super busy but don’t forget to report all those things that you are doing for your community. By the time you read this I will need to be saying Thank You for all of your wonderful Mid-Year Reports and Thank You to all our District Presidents for getting those needed little pushes to get things done, changes and reminders out to you. I wish each one a Very, Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May God Bless us all and keep us safe.

REMEMBER: When this program was first written with the inclusion of Boy/Girl Scouts. It should have been left out because it should be considered one of our CORE Programs under Youth Activities. Any volunteer work related to a CORE Program should be reported under that Program. Here is an example when partnering with the Boy/Girl Scouts:

1 Aux member/2 hours; 5 Boy/Girl Scouts/10 hours/\$\$
Reporting: 1 Aux member/2 hours under Auxiliary Community Outreach and under Youth Activities 5 Boy/Girl Scouts/2 hours each/and if any \$\$ is expended.

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**REPORT! REPORT! REPORT! REPORT!**  
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“Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans” - “Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans”



**CHAPLAIN RECOGNITION PROGRAM
Susie Carter - Chairman**

Tis the Joyous Season of Christ our Lord’s birth. Please make every effort to ensure all our Veterans, Brothers and Sisters have a wonderful holiday. With this pandemic America needs to be in our prayers more than ever this year. Please stay safe. I am keeping each one in my prayers and wish you a spectacular Christmas and rewarding New Year. May God Bless each and everyone.

Chaplains do not forget to send me your reports/scrapbooks of random acts of kindness. Final deadline is April 20, 2021.

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**REPORT! REPORT! REPORT! REPORT! REPORT!**  
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**“Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans”
“Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans”**

MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP

Denise DuBois - Chairman

Hello, Sisters and Brothers. Can you believe that half of our year is almost over? Yes, it is time to think about our time together at Mid-Winter. I know that we are all anxious to see each other and enjoy the fellowship that we can have in Corpus.

I have heard from a few auxiliaries who have shared their mentoring information. I know there are many more mentors in our state that are doing a great job. Please use the forms that have been sent out to your District President on a monthly basis and return them to me ASAP.

Mentorship is a relationship in which a more experienced or more knowledgeable person helps to guide a less experienced or less knowledgeable person. The mentor may be older or younger than the person being mentored, but they must have a certain area of expertise and believe in the

Organization and the Department President's goals for the year.

I wish each one of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans
Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans**



OUTSTANDING DISTRICT PRESIDENT

Vicky Dickerson - Chairman

District Presidents, you have survived the first half of your year, in very unusual circumstances. You have held your first ever virtual meetings. In some cases, you have even held virtual inspections! You have found new ways to cope with on-going restrictions, to raise funds, and to support our Veterans.

Please, please, *please*, tell me what you have been doing. I have heard from very few of you to date. Again, filling out a form is never enough to make you the Outstanding District President for your group. Let me know the number (and result) of the visits you make. How many miles you drive, how many e-mails you send to your Auxiliary Presidents, how many phone calls you field. Let me know how you help your Auxiliaries move forward and overcome their challenges as we continue to serve with **Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans.**

Best wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year. And remember our primary purpose is **Honoring our Mission To Serve Veterans**



STATE NURSING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Nelda Hackett - Chairman

To all you amazing Auxiliary members, I pray each and every one of you have a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Bright and Happy New Year!

I appreciate all the reports you have been sending me, keep up the good work. To the Auxiliaries that have **not** sent any monthly reports for the Nursing Scholarship Program, please do so. I hope to see you all soon!

Please get those Scholarship applications out there! Don't hesitate to contact me for any questions at 830-660-9606 or neldal52@swbell.net

Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans

Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans



HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS

Bernadette "Bernie" Adams – Chairman

Well I am going to shake things up a bit this year. Let us see which Historian notices. We are going to have a scavenger hunt game that we will finish at Mid-Winter Conference. All Historians who show up will get a chance to finish the game and win a prize. To be entered in the scavenger hunt 1st thing I need is a hard copy picture of your President and you brought to Mid-Winter with your names on the back and what District and Post. You will find the rest out once here. Happy Hunting!!!

If Mid-Winter is cancelled, I have a plan B. I will need a picture of your President and you holding a current copy of the Bylaw Book (2020 or 2021 edition). The picture will need to be sent to me to be entered into the prize drawing. Remember, I will need the five W's when sending pictures: the who-what-where-when- and why of your Auxiliary.

As of now plan A is a go. Plan B will only happen if Mid-Winter is cancelled. Looking forward to seeing all Historians at Mid-Winter.

Please still send me your photos, news articles and reports so I can compile it into a book for President Ramona's keepsake of memories. There is a form in

MALTA, under Program & Publicity Resources, called **Historian/Media Relations Award for Auxiliaries No 1** that is due to me by March 31, 2021.

This year the VFW Auxiliaries are displaying **Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans** as we are **Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans**.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT **Shawn Terry - Team Leader**

Can you believe that we are almost to the end of this 2020 year? Speaking for myself, I will be very glad to get this year over and done.

I have received many amazing reports and I am so impressed with how hard everyone has worked.

The Toys for Tots Program deadline is rapidly approaching. If you have not already gotten your project underway, you can make a monetary donation to your local Toys for Tots Distribution Center or to the Department Treasurer. Please earmark your check "Toys for Tots" in order to get proper credit.

Mid-Year Reports are due to District Presidents by December 10th and to the Department Chairmen by December 20th. It is my hope that we can achieve 100% reporting.

I want to wish all of you and your families a Merry Christmas. Thank you for all you do to support our precious veterans.

"Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans"
- **"Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans"**



TEAM WAYS AND MEANS **Deborah Knorring and Sherry Craft**

Merry Christmas and a HO! HO! HO! We have made it to December. The New Year is just around the corner bringing with it hope and faith for our Veterans and their families.

We still have a lot of work to do in accomplishing goals we set for 2020 thru 2021. As you all know, Mid-Winter

Convention is fast approaching and the following items must be finalized at that time. These things include:

*Scratch Off's – \$5.00 or Scratch Off's totaling \$5.00 from each Auxiliary to Ways and Means Chairman.

*Grab Bags – Each Auxiliary brings 5 grab bags (valued at \$5.00 each bag) to Mid-Winter.

*President's Pins – Each District and Auxiliary should send in all money for pins sold to date.

*Lotto Calendars – Each District and Auxiliary should send in all money for Calendars sold to date.

*Statewide Raffle Tickets (Red) – Each District and Auxiliary should send in all money and stubs sold for drawing at Mid-Winter.

*President's Special Raffle Tickets (Yellow) - Each District and Auxiliary should send in all money and stubs sold for drawing at Mid-Winter.

We would like to thank all of the District Presidents and Auxiliaries that have contacted us by phone and sent in reports regarding the great work they have done. Thanks for "Getting R Done"! We know what a struggle it has been and have seen tremendous effort in accomplishing the task set out before them. Mid-Year Convention be fun and exciting new live auctions will take place for those members planning to attend. Come by and visit our Ways and Means General Store.

We join you in celebrating this season with Hope, Happiness and Peace for you and your families!

Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans **Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans**



PROGRAM COORDINATOR **Andrea King**

Recently, with my coke, purse & keys in hand I headed out to do some errands and attend a couple of meetings. I stopped in at the car wash before heading to the first meeting. I was in a hurry and was thankful there was no line. The attendant washed my front windshield quickly and the track started moving me through the cycle. Oh, my what a feeling of "urgency" I felt. It seemed to take a long time to reach the first wash brushes – would I ever make it to my 11:00 appointment? Then it happened – I felt the track that moves my vehicle along start slipping. Boy was I praying that I would make it out of the wash, rinse & wax cycle and let the blower do its job so I could be on my way. I was in a hurry – things

to do and places to go – that 11:00 meeting was a lunch meeting and I sure didn't want to be late. I made it – oh no, where's my calendar and notebook? I had left them at home. Grabbed a piece a paper and my phone and walked in trying to look all prepared – NOT! Well, that night a bird took care of "business" on my windshield and the hood of my car – so back to the car wash I went, AGAIN. Once again, I felt that same feeling of urgency and then the slippage of the tracks – and at that moment I got "IT!" It took two trips to the car wash to see "IT" clearly but I left the dry cycle realizing that no matter how much of a hurry I am in, how many "to do's" on my list – I need to make sure I don't try to move forward too quickly. Sometimes things take time, maybe more time than I planned for. Sometimes we need to stop our rushing and enjoy our swing, call a friend, take a walk or a nap!

As I drove out of the car wash I was reminded of a couple of scriptures – "Be still and know that I am God" and "Lo I am with you always." Sometimes when we feel overwhelmed or have that feeling of "urgency" to do this or that or go here or there we need to remember to stop and take a deep breath, smell the roses, listen to the sound of the birds or whatever it is that we do to help us focus on the important things – not just the "stuff" that fills our calendars and lives. Things are really stressful now for so many. Life is hard, there are so many uncertainties – the "what if's" can drive us crazy. For me I must slow down, be still and let God be God – He is so much better at life than I am. His ways are so much better than mine – His plans are the best! We must take care of ourselves and be aware of those we come in contact with – are they doing ok?

This is the season to show others what we are made of, as an organization. Our skin color, our choice of religion or choice in politics are what makes us each unique. It should not divide us. Take care of each other, remember the reason for the season and Happy New Year as well!

Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans



SCHOLARSHIPS Norita Jackson – Chair

Seasonal Greetings to you, My Sisters and Brothers of the Department of Texas VFW Auxiliary!

As we close out our participation in the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Voice/Essay contest, please be reminded that the extended December 1st deadline to submit your winning entries to your District for judging is the next item for consideration. As we make those considerations, please be reminded that issuing awards and certificates of participation to both the entrants and judges is always a gesture of goodwill and goes a long way in encouraging future participation. Afterall, we are in the season of extending goodwill. It is a good practice to reward those who have helped to make your program participation a success. The act of giving awards, sending 'thank you' notes and certificates of appreciation is a really meaningful way of showing appreciation and gratitude for those who put forth effort and gave generously of their time, energy, and expertise.

'Tis the gift giving season, and as such, why not click on the link below and print off a few copies of the [VFW Auxiliary Continuing Education Scholarship Application](#) to include as stocking stuffers to those immediate family members.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.

Applicant must be one of the following:

Current VFW Auxiliary Member*

Spouse of current VFW Auxiliary Member*

Son of current VFW Auxiliary Member*

Daughter of current VFW Auxiliary Member*

*Qualifying member must have been a member of the VFW Auxiliary for one (1) year by the application submission deadline. Please visit the website at [Scholarships](#) for more details.

Please continue to work your programs and tap into the creativity we've been blessed with to find ways to make contributions to the Statewide Project of donating to the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Escrow Fund. The reports I have received thus far reflect your hearts to give where you can. It is very much appreciated.

This time of year compels us to count our blessings— and among them are YOU, the hard-working Brothers and Sisters of the Auxiliary, out here, in your communities, carrying out the edict of "**Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans**" to do the duty of "**Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans**".

Merry Christmas and Best wishes for a joyous season!

MEMBERSHIP
Barbara Koehn- Team Leader

It is that time of season where carols are sung, gifts are wrapped, menus are being prepared, cards are being signed but worshipping our Savior is one of the most important we can do in our lives. If Covid has taught one thing is that we all need to slow down, stop and smell the roses, be safe, and sprinkle love all around. I know that for a fact since I was recently diagnosed with a Covid positive test.

Membership in the VFW Auxiliary is not one time of the year, it goes year round. It is not the responsibility of one person, but it is the entire team composed of Line officers, Department Chairmen, District and Auxiliary Presidents, Past Department Presidents but the most important is all of the Auxiliary members of the VFW Auxiliary organization. Texas now stands at 91%. We are hoping to have a big surge of membership applications coming in before Christmas.

At the VFW Auxiliary Mid-Winter, on Friday, January 22, 2021, will be our "Spirit of Freedom" Membership Celebration where we will recognize Auxiliaries and Districts who have met their membership goals. Remember, all District Presidents and their District Membership Chairman who reached 95% by December 15 will be invited. There will not be any substitutions. All Auxiliary Presidents and their Auxiliary Membership Chairman will also be invited to this celebration if they reach 100% membership by December 15.

We have only 2 Districts (District 25 and District 28) who will receive an invitation at this time for achieving 95% + but, 12 Districts follow with 90-95% There are 44 Auxiliaries who have 100% plus with Auxiliary #12160 District 6 leading the pack with 125%.

Congratulations to all for a job well done. BUT, we are not done yet, remember we are Texas Strong, we can soar like an eagle to new heights. If you want to Waltz Across Texas, do Cotton Eye Joe, or do the San Antonio Stroll, let's do it together. As Babe Ruth said once, "The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don't play together, the organization won't be worth a dime".



I like to pay our respects to our Membership Co-Team Leader for the Department of Texas, Kathy Marrelli who lost her husband, Tom in November. God Bless you, Kathy.

During Mid-Winter, we will have a Membership Walk. Be sure and bring any continuous, and new member applications that you receive after December 15 so you can present them to Madam President, Ramona Henson, be sure to include the check for the presentation.

"What Greater gift could Christmas bring than Love that touches everything? Merry Christmas to all and may your holiday season be filled with love and joy.

Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans
Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans

Directory Changes/New Auxiliaries

Past Department President Meredith Howard's new email:
meredithhoward04@gmail.com

Auxiliary 9192 – District 14
President – David Reese Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer – Amber Gonzalez

Office Hours

Christmas

December 23 – Closed afternoon
December 24 & 25th Closed
Re-open December 28th

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**New Years**

December 31 – Closed  
January 1 – Closed  
Re-open January 4, 2021





**President Luncheon  
Mid-Winter  
January 22, 2021**

Send Reservation to: VFW AUXILIARY  
Department of Texas  
PO Box 15285  
Austin, TX 78761

**Deadline: January 6, 2021**

**Meal will be:** Grilled Flank Steak, Red Wine Mushroom Sauce  
Chef's Choice Seasonal Starch & Vegetable, Fresh Rolls, Butter or  
**There is an Option**—Greek Pasta Salad, Flaky Tuna Salad & Grilled Chicken Salad  
Fresh Rolls, Butter

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL DEPARTMENT AT 512-834-9190

**ENCLOSE CHECK FOR \$ 35.00 PER LUNCHEON TICKET**

***ONLY 275 TICKETS AVAILABLE***

PLEASE MAKE CHECK TO: VFW AUXILIARY, DEPT OF TEXAS – EARMARKED LUNCHEON

Number of Grilled Flank Steak \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Bayfront Trio Salad \_\_\_\_\_

- Names: 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
6. \_\_\_\_\_  
7. \_\_\_\_\_  
8. \_\_\_\_\_  
9. \_\_\_\_\_  
10. \_\_\_\_\_



## 2020-2021 Mid-Winter Round-Up

### Tentative Agenda

#### **Wednesday – January 20, 2021**

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Registration – Omni Hotel, Corpus Christi, Texas  
VFW Auxiliary Ways and Means  
6:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner with National Dist. Council Member, Donna James  
*(DUTCH TREAT) All are welcome!*

#### **Thursday – January 21, 2021**

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Registration and Booths  
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Council of Administration Meeting – Nueces Ballroom  
Representative Donna James Council Member (Ramona's Black Shirt)  
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Past Department Presidents' Luncheon  
1:00 PM – 4:30 PM Training begins - Program Coordinator Andrea King - Nueces Ballroom  
6:00 PM Invitation Only Event

#### **Friday – January 22, 2021**

TBD Arrival of National President – Sandra Onstwedder  
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Registration and Booths  
8:00 AM – 8:45 AM Joint Memorial Service – **Uniform With Jacket**  
**Dept. President, Dept. Chaplain, District Presidents**  
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Joint Opening Session  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Presidents Luncheon – Nueces Ballroom - **Purchased Tickets Required**  
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Presentation of Past Dept Presidents  
Presentation of District Presidents  
Programs: Program Coordinator Andrea King - Drawings  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Spirit of Freedom Membership Celebration – **INVITATION ONLY** – Nueces Room

#### **Saturday – January 23, 2021**

8:00 AM – 10:00 PM Registration and Booths  
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM POW/MIA Ceremony – Nueces Ballroom  
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM Completion of Programs  
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Lunch  
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM Completion of Programs/Raffles  
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM Remarks National President  
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM Shuttle Service to USS Lexington  
6:00 PM – Close Voice of Democracy Banquet **Purchased Tickets Required**

#### **Sunday – January 24, 2021 – Safe Travels**

Thank you

My sincerest thanks for all the cards and prayers that have been sent.

Peggy McGowen PDP

I would like to extend my thanks for the cards, prayers, emails and texts that have been sent. Veterans Day will indeed hold even more of a special place in my heart. He always said that when it was his time, he hoped that he passed on Veterans Day and he did.

Kathy Marrelli



**SHAWN TERRY**  
Candidate for Department of Texas  
VFW Auxiliary Guard

2021 – 2022

Life member of VFWA 7835

Endorsed by District 21

