

TEXAS VFW AUXILIARY

OUR TWO ¢ENTS

VOL 35 ISSUE 2

August 2024

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

**“Thankful & Grateful for the Sacrifice”
“From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans”**

MEMO FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Irma Solis has been moved to Department of Texas President and Shawn Terry has been moved from Jr. Vice to Sr. Vice. An election for Jr. Vice and any other vacancies this may produce, may be held according to the Bylaws. If this is appealed by Karen Jeffrey and if she wins the appeal, the Officers will move back to their previous positions.

Sincerely,
Ann Panteleakos
National Secretary - Treasurer
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT—IRMA SOLIS

From our Department of Texas training and prep for the new year. convention in June to our annual Tools for a very successful year have training in July, it has been a hectic been provided to district presidents month. Your Team Texas chairman and and auxiliaries. Take those tools and trainers worked very hard to prepare utilize them. Reach out when you have an informative training that was a question or don't understand a interesting, upbeat, and fun. We program. There is believe that the training was very help available. successful and know that Texas will have an amazing year.



We have just completed the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. sent to the department office when We hope to list multiple awards for the done. Don't drag your feet, they are Texas chairmen in our next Our Two easy to do and are mandatory before Cents. Our districts will start their August 31st. So make sure that your

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT—CONTINUED

auxiliary treasurer gets the bond purchased right away.

District presidents will also start their visits to auxiliaries in their districts this month. this is also a requirement to ensure that auxiliaries are functioning properly according to our By-Laws, catch problems that need to be addressed and work on those problems to fix them. it is also a time to praise those auxiliaries that deserve it. We have an excellent Chief of Staff in Patsy Kemp and she is

but a phone call away for any questions or assistance you might need with your auxiliaries. It is the sincerest hope of the Department of Team Texas that each and every auxiliary and district succeed with the work, assistance and activities you have planned within your areas. We truly appreciate the efforts that every member puts forth for our veterans and our active duty military.

Thank you for your hard work and your support.

AMERICANISM/PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR Amanda Humphrey/Paula Welling

Hello, hello to the great state of Texas! Oh my gosh! What an amazing training that was! I've only been attending state training for the last 8 years, I can honestly say that was the best State Training that I have ever been to!

Hopefully you have plans to celebrate the Coast Guard birthday on August 4th and OIF on August 31st with your post.

The lesser-known holiday for August is Purple Heart Remembrance Day on the 7th. Each year on this day our nation recognizes the men and women who were wounded or killed on the battlefield by remembering the sacrifices they made.

The month of September is a busy month. You should be planning these dates with your post:



9/2 Victory over Japan Day

9/11 Patriots Day

9/14 VFW Auxiliary Birthday

9/17 Constitution Day

9/18 US Air Force Birthday

9/29 VFW Birthday

The 3rd Friday in September, POW/MIA Day.

The last Sunday in September, Gold Star Family Day.

Don't forget to turn in your Auxiliary to Post Community Service Form.

“Hate has four letters, but so does love. Enemies has 7 letters, but so does friends. Lying has 5 letters, but so does truth. Cry has 3 letters, but so does joy. Negativity has 10 letters but so does positivity. Anger has 5 letters, but so does happy. Hurt has 4 letters but so does heal. Wrong has 5 letters but so does right. So, life is like a double-edged sword, so transform every negative side into an aurora of positivity we

Program Coordinator

Debbie Daniel



Thank you to Team Leal for once again doing a wonderful Texas for an amazing job with the quarter auction. And Kim State Training. Our Phillips with “Happy Everything” did a chairmen and trainers fantastic job with the Team building did a fantastic job. Paint Party. There were some amazing There were hiccups and pieces painted and it was a very relaxing it was not perfect event.

but ,everyone did their best to bring informative, fun presentations. We will

take your suggestions, ideas, likes and dislikes and review them, and then use them to improve our mid winter event. Thank you for your input.

The team building events were fun. Thank you to Tracie Frink and Lydia

For those that were able to attend the training, please take home what you learned and share it with your auxiliary members. If you have questions about programs , please contact the chairmen with the contact info listed in the program book with their specific programs. They will be glad to assist you.

LEGISLATIVE

Michelle Booker Chairman

Karen Kaylor Co-chair

Let’s get excited and have a fun and productive year supporting our Veterans and their families. With this being an election year we need to stay alert and informed on the rights and needs for our veterans. One way to ensure this is by receiving and reading the VFW Action Corps Weekly. If you haven’t signed up to receive it, do so immediately.



Improvement Act) The VFW supports Senator Elizabeth Dole with this bill. This bill addresses Veterans and survivors benefit which includes expanding the caregiver programs and ensuring veterans receive care in the VA or the community.

We must continue to advocate on behalf of our veterans. To enhance the services and benefits providing all veterans with access to care and prompt mental health services. This

H.R. 8371 was called to action. (The Healthcare and Benefit

bill also addresses the needs of our veterans' needs are met. Letters and caregivers. It addresses the resources or phone calls are needed to support this required to properly care for our selfless bill.

men and women. Additionally, veterans should not be financially burdened when receiving ambulatory services for emergency care. Why not create a joint project with your VFW in supporting this bill? A fun suggestion is to have a free Action Corps Weekly sign up luncheon or ice cream social and encourage your members to invite family and friends. Demonstrate how quick and easy it is to sign up and support our veterans and receive all the action alerts.

AUXILIARY OUTREACH

Pamela Fintel -Chairman

Ilona Shipley – Co-Chairman

I hope you all enjoyed the Statewide Training. It was great to see you and



for. You can contact your local Chamber of Commerce and let them know your VFW Auxiliary is looking to

thank you for coming by our Auxiliary Volunteering in your community. Outreach table for more information on giving back to our communities. Check out this great website www.volunteermatch.org , just type in

This Auxiliary Outreach Program was your city and you can find created to bring the VFW Auxiliary organizations in your area where you together with our Community. If we can volunteer. You can check your volunteer with the organizations in our local food pantries, your senior citizen community we are paying it forward for centers, your local library, animal all the support they have given the shelters, homeless shelters, also your VFW and VFW Auxiliary. police and EMTs.

Depending on the size of your town you Let's show our Auxiliary Outreach may have to search and use your Ambassador that TEXAS knows how to imagination to find all the work hand in hand with our organizations that you can volunteer communities.

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Missi Palmore Chairman

BAZINGA!!! Are you as excited, pumped, and motivated to get started after that fab**YOU**lous state training we just attended? It was great to see all the new, familiar, and some faces that have been hiding out for a little while. I am still reading through all the material thinking of all the great ideas TEXAS is going to showcase in 2024-2025.

For August I would like to challenge every V&FS

district auxiliary auxiliary down to



district president, program chair, president, program chair everyone at the individual

auxiliary member level to think OUTSIDE the box. You are bringing back the 2024-2025 Veteran & Family Support Program, you heard my “riveting” training presentation, hopefully you have checked out the national program online, so now with all these swirling around in those wonderful creative patriotic brains I am sure y’all have multitudes of creative & innovative ideas to invigorate the soil of this TX program. Please do not forget to engage your new members, these new eyes have fresh ideas and a lot of questions—what might they bring to your table of possibilities?

Texas is home to multiple National Guard/Reserve Armories, Active Military Installations, families of those troops and others that may serve in other states, abroad, or in harm’s way. These are our ACTIVE-duty families we support, and our V&FS program assists daily, think about them when you plan your programs. Think about your community and what families you may have impacted.

Here is something from our National Ambassador, Evan Smiley, from his July National Ambassador Promotion. Let’s just call it a little idea to start some conversations this month: National President Brenda Bryant’s special project this year is taking a different spin on supporting veterans, service members and their families. Through **Operation Bottom Cover** Auxiliary members nationwide are tasked with collecting diapers and other necessities for families with small children. When you consider other necessities like baby wipes, formula, etc., the cost of bare necessities skyrockets. Consider how your Auxiliary can support our veterans, service members, and their families **HINT HINT—this is a reporting item!** **From Our Roots to Our Branches, Extending Service to Our Veterans.**

Don’t forget the little blue soldier I had as my hand out, with my business card, in the program bag in training. I meant what



I said as part of my presentation, name him/her, keep them out & present, talk to them---they are to remind you WHY you are here this year supporting Veterans and Family Support in 2024-2025. So, as you look at these thoughts and ideas for program possibilities, bounce them

off your “blue army”. This is a house of honor, and we must keep it running strong. Are we stepping up to the challenge, are we being fresh but honoring our roots, are we showing we are **Thankful & Grateful for the Sacrifices.**

THINK before you Post

As we begin the journey into setting up and bettering our Facebook presence, it's important to keep a few things in mind. These things are relevant for your personal Social Media pages, as well as the pages that you will be managing for your Auxiliaries and anything else you manage.

Firstly, think about voice. Every time you post on your personal page, you are representing yourself, your views, and your experiences. When you are posting on an Auxiliary page, as an Admin, you are no longer speaking for yourself. You are speaking for the collective that is your Auxiliary. Avoid using "I" statements and giving personal opinions. Using "We" sentences or just avoiding personal pronouns in general are two ways that create the illusion that *Person A* is not speaking, but rather the Auxiliary itself is speaking.

Secondly, think about the content that you are posting and the message you want to convey. Including a picture, video,



or link in your post will always create more interaction and impact than words can alone – A picture is worth a thousand words, right? Make sure that pictures you are posting to represent the Auxiliary do not go against the views, beliefs, and values of the organization. Check your Triple A's before snapping the picture –

Alcohol, Attire, and Attitude. None of these are inherently bad, but there are cases that these factors make a picture turn inappropriate. It is good to use your judgement and common sense when sharing your Auxiliary in photographs. There are also the common mistakes to avoid as well – eyes closed, eating, etc.

Finally, and most importantly, remember the reason you are posting – to reach out within our community and beyond. Use this motivation to ensure that every post you make has meaning and intention. Nothing should show a personal opinion, a derogatory message, or something that the poster and Auxiliary cannot take back. And remember, THINK.

SCHOLARSHIP *Ronnie Mote*

After returning from the most exciting and educational State Training Conference ever, I am energized and ready to help our Auxiliaries promote our scholarships throughout the 2024-2025 year! Just a quick reminder of the upcoming deadlines:

- * Patriot's Pen Patriotic Written Essay Competition October 31, 2024
- * Voice of Democracy Patriotic Audio

Essay Competition October 31, 2024

- * Continuing Education Scholarship February 15, 2025
- * Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest March 31, 2025
- * 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest March 31, 2025

If you'll recall from State Training, our focus this year will be on promoting through Facebook, Instagram and other

SCHOLARSHIP *Ronnie Mote*

social media platforms, like VFW and VFW Auxiliary websites, Blogs, e-newsletters, etc. A step-by-step guide on creating an Auxiliary Facebook page can be found at vfwauxiliary.org-Media-Emblem Branding Center-Websites And Social Media-How To Setup Your Facebook Auxiliary Page. Our Historian & Media Relations Chairman, Marissa Anderson, has graciously offered assistance when your Auxiliary is ready to jump on that Techy Train!

Once your Auxiliary Facebook page has been created, you can search for the TX VFW AUX SCHOLARSHIPS page. Look

for and click on Follow, and your Auxiliary Facebook page will begin receiving all posts regarding the Scholarships Program. And please, Please, PLEASE actively encourage all your members to follow your new Auxiliary Facebook page. By doing so, many more people will see the Scholarships updates as well. This is how we will Get the Word Out “further, Faster, FARTHER... We need to further refine our outreach tools to faster attract attention to our organization, so we can extend our reach farther throughout our state, the nation and all around the world.”

HOSPITAL

Glenda Hunt

A BIG TEXAS GREETING TO ALL OUR AUXILIARY SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN THIS GREAT STATE!

Statewide training was informative and fun!

Share the information. Keep in touch with the Auxiliary members you met and the ones you had not seen in a while. Working together we can take care of our Veterans!

It is HOT in TX! A grape snow cone would surely result in a Veteran’s smile. Be creative in providing happiness to our Veteran patients. Smile (:

Due in August 2024 is the Hospital Pledge. Hospital Pledge is \$0.50 per member based on Auxiliary membership as of June 30, 2024. The Auxiliary check should be earmarked “Hospital Pledge”. Pledge funds can be earmarked to a VA Medical facility for meeting Veteran’s needs. Make check payable to the VFW

Auxiliary Department of Texas. Send copy of check with report form to Department Hospital Chairman. To assist the Hospital Pledge, the Auxiliary Relief Fund can be used. Read page 21, yellow page of 2024

Podium Edition Bylaws and Ritual book.

Reminder to our Texas VFW Auxiliary Veterans Affairs (VAVS) Representatives

and Deputy Representatives who have received funds from the Department reporting is required. Monthly Funds Report Form can be found in the VFW Auxiliary VAVS Participation Guide, Go to VFW Auxiliary MALTA under Member Resources /Hospital Program. Form and receipts copies should be sent to Department with a copy to Department Hospital Chairman. If there are any issues



OFFICE INFO

Office Information

Hours: Monday – Thursday
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Phone: 512-834-9190
Asst Secretary/Treasurer Press #1
Secretary Press #2
Treasurer Press #3

Fax: 512-834-0747

Addresses:

Dept. of Texas VFW Auxiliary
PO Box 15285
Austin, Texas 78761

Dept. of Texas VFW Auxiliary
8503 North IH 35
Austin, Texas 78753

Office Staff

Secretary—Natalie Copeland

Treasurer—JoElla Menn

Asst Secretary—Margie Menzel

Asst Treasurer—Shary Tutt

CORRECTIONS

SMALL DIRECTORY

SCHOLARSHIPS

Ronny Mote
512-241-8494

PROGRAM BOOK

SUNSHINE

Linda Henry
lindahenry628@gmail.com

LARGE ROSTER

Aux 10429 MEETING is
4th Thursday 7:00 PM

or questions contact
Department Hospital
Chairman.

Reminder to our VFW
Auxiliary Hospital Chairman
in reporting. If there was an
Auxiliary Hospital event after
April 1, 2024-June 30, 2024,
send a report to Department
Hospital Chairman. These
will be accepted until August
31, 2024. Thank you for your
participation and support of
the Hospital Program, You
are appreciated!

WE BRING THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.



WE SERVE WITH CARING HEARTS AND HELPING HANDS.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can reach out to a local Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent or Auxiliary and invite them along when you go pay a visit to a hospital or nursing home! They might even have a clown or three who



NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Renee Clark Chairman

STATEWIDE TRAINING

I personally thought it was very informative on all the programs...and it was so awesome to see some old friends and I always love to make new ones. I hope you had safe travels and did not contract the Covid virus (please keep those that did in your thoughts).

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The nursing scholarship fund has become self-

sustaining but due to your generosity the amounts have been increased -to \$5000 (1st place), \$3000 (2nd place) and \$2000 (3rd place). We would like to keep adding funds to that account, to ensure that these scholarships can continue for the years to come. We are asking for a \$15 donation from each auxiliary. The donation is listed on your program participation list. I am sincerely sorry that I had this program written up

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP—CONT

before I knew about it being put on the participation list.

FUND RAISING IDEAS

Why not a pass the hat for a loose change collection one or two times.... Maybe get the comrades to contribute.... if you have a canteen or bingo, do it for a weekend or for a night at bingo...tell the folks what it is for. And, here is an idea...make the collection container something folks will take a second look at! Please report your efforts, whether it is the requested \$15, or a fundraising effort. Make sure you take pictures and share them with me.

I HAVE A CHALLENGE FOR YOU

At the 2025 state convention, I will have a special gift for an auxiliary in EACH of the divisions that raised the most monies with a fund raiser, not just writing a check. In addition, I will present a gift to the most original top three fundraising ideas and share those ideas with the membership. Let us get creative Texas!!!!

QUALIFIED / ACCREDITED NURSING SCHOOLS IN TEXAS

I am attaching two links which list the 115 colleges/universities in Texas that offer

Nursing Programs. I am encouraging each district to reach out to the schools in your district and share the scholarship information with them. The lists include the Director of the Nursing Program for each college – with email, phone number and mailing address. If you need suggestions on HOW TO REACH THEM, and WHAT TO SAY...



please email me. I have had great success for our Auxiliary and our District in my contacts (with the email as my starting point). I will gladly help your auxiliary or your district create your own unique email in getting the word out to the colleges in your area.

List of accredited nursing schools in Texas

<https://www.nursingschoolsalmanac.com/categories/texas>

Texas Approved Professional Nursing Education Programs as approved by the Texas Board of Nursing

https://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/education_pdfs/education_programs/ApprovedRNSchools.pdf

*If you have a college, that is not on the list, that you think has an accredited program,

HAPPENINGS

August 7

Purple Heart Day

Sept 2

LABOR DAY

Sept 7–12th

Annual C.A.F.E

VFW National Home

Sept 11

Patriot Day

Sept 14th

VFW AUXILIARY Birthday

Sept 20th

POW-MIA Day

Sept 29th

Gold Star Family Day

Sept 29th

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS Birthday

THIS SPACE AVAILABLE FOR ADVERTISING SPECIAL EVENTS.

We would like to hear from you! Do you have suggestions for the Our 2 Cents, Let us know what you like or do not like.

Email to:

Secretary@texasvfwaux.org

Have a big event you want the Department to know about? Send it to us and we will get it in. Remember, these are put together a month in advance. Deadline for input is the 10th day of the previous Month.

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP—CONT

please let me know and I will **FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM** double check for you.



SCHOLARSHIP ENTRY

There were a few questions raised during the training regarding clarification of the Nursing Scholarship Program/Requirements. Most of the requirements are clear. One that could use clarification is - As for this year – in addition to the other requirements on the application – the scholarship entrant must be “graduating” from an accredited Texas College/University and be either in the process of obtaining their RN License (with an Associate, Bachelor, or Master Degree) and they must be on schedule to graduate during the 2025-2026 school year. If they have already received their RN License and are advancing their education in the furtherment of their nursing career that is also acceptable. As long as they are on schedule/track for graduating in the 2025-2026 school year.

There have been suggestions that the 30+ year state program should be revamped for future years. I can assure you that the current Program Coordinator, myself, and other team members are working through that process. We are still gathering comments, suggestions, and questions/concerns on what is needed to be addressed. We will be working on this throughout the next few months and plan to have a final program for review and vote at the midwinter council meeting.

If you have ideas that you would like to share on the revamping of the program, please feel free to send those ideas to myself and to the Department program



coordinator for consideration. We will gladly review and possibly use your ideas for the final program. Debbie's email is debbiedaniels81@yahoo.com. And mine is reneesclark@msn.com

WAYS AND MEANS

Tracie Frink, Chairman Lydia Leal, Co-

Thank you to all the to be sent to Department Auxiliary's that brought by Mid-Winter. Please do their Quarter Auction not send any of these items Items and to all who to Lydia and me. Each participated in the District President must put Auction. I hope you had a together a basket valued at great time; we did. \$100 to be raffled off in



your district and money collected should be sent to Department by Mid-Winter. If you have a problem with the Baskets, please contact us and we can try and help you with this. Any question is encouraged!! Please see your program book for our Calendars, and President's contact information.

Remember as soon as you have received your Ways & Means raffle tickets, Lucky Pins. We need the money

MEMBERSHIP

Gerald Spradlin, Chairman Cyndy Yanc-

Hello, Team Texas!! It was so great to see so many of you at Statewide Training. Hope you learned some new things and how to manage some old things more efficiently.

So, did you "Get Your Ask in Gear"? Are you ready to find your JustOne? We are hoping you did, and you are ready! "Prepare your Ask." Make your list. Create your Column A with the family and friends that you know are qualified to be Auxiliary Members. Then, create

your Column B with the family and friends you think may be qualified. That is your starting point. Then tell those people why you joined this great or-



ganization, who your "why" is, and why you think they could be a good fit to join our mission. Find out what they are interested in and

DISTRICT MEETINGS

August 3—Dist 20 SOI Post 2059
August 3—Dist 16 Pearland
August 3—Dist 8 SOI Burkburnett
August 3—Dist 29 Post 2148
August 4—Dist 1 SOI Post 8558
August 10—Dist 24 SOI Post 3972
August 10—Dist 5 Post 8315
August 10—Dist 6 SOI Beeville
August 10—Dist 9 SOI Post 2024
August 10—Dist 17 SOI Post 12213
August 10—Dist 4 SOI Post 912
August 10—Dist 2 SOI Orange
August 10—Dist 25 SOI Post 4372
August 10—Dist 3 SOI Post 7843
August 11—Dist 28 SOI Post 8587
August 11—Dist 18 SOI Post 2410
August 17—Dist 17 SOI Pittsburg
August 18—Dist 1 mtg Allen
August 18—Dist 13 SOI Kerrville
August 20—Dist 14 SOI Belton

MEMBERSHIP—cont

Gerald Spradlin, Chairman Cyndy

think of ways they could plug in.

It's time to get real...now that we've reacquainted ourselves with our roots, we need to focus on reaching skyward with our branches! That means figuring out the disconnect with the current generation of war veterans and their families...a.k.a. our potential members. This means meeting them WHERE THEY ARE; figuring out how to reach them on their phones and through social media.

Let's all work together and reach that first goal of getting the Department of

Texas to 95% by November 30, 2024, then 98% by March 31, 2025, and keep working to reach that 101%+ membership by June 30, 2025. Let's show everyone that the Department of Texas is the best Department in the VFW Auxiliary and work to reach those goals way before those deadlines. If each of us tries to find our *JustOne* we can achieve these goals and so much more! As a team, we can do anything!! We look forward to telling you next month about what we learned in Louisville, Kentucky at the National Convention. Maybe we will see you there!

MESSAGE FROM AREA H COUNCIL MEMBER

Karen Kaylor

On August 2nd, I will begin as your newly elected National Area H Council Member for 2 years. I would like to thank all the VFW Auxiliary membership for electing me and allowing me to have this opportunity to serve you. I can be reached

at 254-547-5619 or deelee26@msn.com.

Additionally, I would like to thank you all for your prayers during my emergency hospitalization and surgery during the Department Training session. I appreciate each of you. Prayers do work.

CHIEF OF STAFF/EXTENSION

Patsy Kemp

“Thankful and Grateful” is what I am, for the Wonderful State Training. I hope you came away Revitalized, more knowledgeable of our programs and ready to Mentor, those not there. What did you think about the face-book live feed? What a great podcast Candi and Sharon did. Did it hit home? Would you like to see more? Maybe a Presidents, Secretary or Trustee one.

We have our 1st application for a NEW Auxiliary turned in, at the training. Way to go Post 2397, in Corpus Christi. Thank you, Michelle Bird, Dist. 6 President.

As we continue to C.A.R.E. this year our membership will grow.

C – Catch the member when they first join.

A – Ask them to participate.

CHIEF OF STAFF/EXTENSION—CONT

Patsy Kemp

R – Remember what it felt like to be new?

E - Engage them in a Program that fits them.

Each Auxiliary should have turned in the April/May/June Audit. BONDS: Are due BY August 31. In September or sooner your District dues are due. Do you have at least 10 paid members on your rolls? What goals have you set and programs do you have planned? Please check out the National and Department

Program books for the awards Auxiliaries and even Members can win. Recruit a New Member Today! Only one from each member, that attends meetings would problem help each Auxiliary make 100%+.

I am as close as the phone, email or mailbox. No question is a bad question. Until next month, may God be with each one. Now, set your goals, plan activities that will draw in the community, get your smile on and show your enthusiasm.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE AUXILIARY

It was truly an honor for me to have my first official appearance as Grand of Texas President for the Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary to be addressing my brothers and sisters in the Department of Texas at OTS. I hope that you were able to learn something about our organization as well as learning about all of the wonderful programs that we will all be working for the Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. The Supreme Convention for

the Military Order of the Cootie is immediately adjacent to the National Convention, so my first task is going to be looking through both programs to see how many more opportunities we will have to work together. For those who are waiting on more detailed information on the situation with Help Heal Vets, I am hopeful that they will have that information to me in time for the next issue of Our 2 Cents.



BUDDY ® POPPY/NATIONAL HOME

Sally Jarret chairman Sarah Begley Co-chairman

“Listen Up & Speak Out for Our Veterans”

WOW! What a great Statewide Training OTS 2024-2025. It was very different, sometimes a little too long presentations on some programs, but overall, it was informative. Remember, I will keep you updated with the



change on the “Buddy” Poppy Statewide Project. On page 2 on your Program Development Book, item #3 will move up to #1. Your “Buddy” Poppy Display Contest will be Madam President Karen Jeffrey’s, logo

BUDDY ® POPPY/NATIONAL HOME—CONT

Sally Jarret chairman Sarah Begley Co-chairman

(white cross with the state of Texas). Project requirements: 18in H x18in W x18in L, each Auxiliary's' winner will be first judge at your District meeting then forwarded to Mid-Winter for final judging. Never forget "HONOR the DEAD by HELPING the LIVING".

Thank you everyone that visited our "Buddy" Poppy and VFW National Home Display at OTS Statewide Training. Some

of you picked up quite a few of our National Home Lifetime applications, again, thank you for considering becoming a Lifetime Member. Your donations are greatly appreciated and will go a long way. Please remember Military families in need, not Living on the National Home Campus can receive invaluable assistance through the **National Home Helpline at 1-800-313-4200**. For more information to

MENTORING

Patsy Kemp

The fate of our VFW Auxiliary is in our hands. Yes, each year our goal is to make this one better than the last. Each Auxiliary needs your generous commitment of time, guidance, positive attitude, training, support and love. They are counting on YOU, the valuable Mentors, to help provide the needed ingredient to make New and Not So New members the best they can be.

You are the Seeds of success, that make our roots strong. You, the Mentors help provide the resources needed to help us grow. To bloom where we are planted, we need to be the best version of who we are. We should be the strong and caring influence that others see when they see our auxiliary. That means not only in the auxiliary but, in our communities.

How do we show commitment and strength of mentors?

By attending meetings regularly.

By being friendly, warm and supportive in our

attitude toward all members and our leaders. By volunteering where and when we can. Even if we can't be physically be there, there are ways to aid each project. Of course, our prayers and financial support are always needed.

Our #1 Goal in Mentoring is to Train & Educate members on the duties of the Officers Roles. This will ensure that our Roots stay strong and our Branches grow.

Just as Paul went about strengthening the Church. We must be committed to strengthening our auxiliaries. Strong "Green Light" auxiliaries keep our foundation strong, secure and thriving.

Next month I hope to look at our branches and how mentors aid them.

Mentors, I look forward to hearing how you are doing the work of being a mentor.

God Bless

Youth

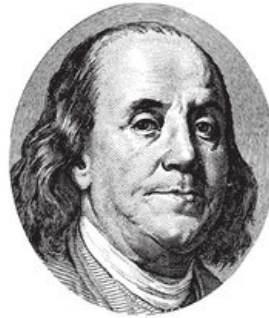
Hi Everbody!

Rodeo over here! While Ole' Joe is getting ready for work tomorrow I wanted to send you this little note to see how Y'All are doing? Wasn't state training fun? I wish I could have been there but I had to go to the doctor to get a couple shots. Anyway, Joe told me training was fun and it was real cool that everyone got to visit and all!

Anyhow August is just a few days away and I hope you've got a good start on your Victory Gardens! I can't wait to hear all about how your gardens are growing all tall and beautiful...

In August I know you kids are going to be getting into the swing of things at school as well as reconnecting with all of your friends and making new friends too! How exciting is that? This month I have a favor to ask of you... Ole' Joe is letting me decorate my room and I'd like your help. So this month I'd like you to color or even paint a picture of something "American". I saw some really neat coloring books with pictures of places like Mt. Rushmore or Statue of Liberty and

even pictures of our Nation's flag and famous Americans! Do you have a favorite Founding Father? Ben Franklin is my favorite guy! He's like what you'd call a "Renaissance Man". Renaissance means



that you're good at doing lots of different kinds of stuff. Anyways, if you could help me decorate my room by coloring a picture of something American and then take a picture of you

holding your coloring and send me that picture of you with your colored picture, then I can get Joe to print it out and I'll put all of your pictures on my wall! Wouldn't it be cool to fill the entire wall of all of Y'Alls pictures? I think it would be absolutely AWESOME!!!

OK, time for me to get ready for bed! Y'All have a great night and look forward to seeing your pictures!

Woof-Woof for now!

Rodeo



National Awards

Susie Carter Dept of Texas
Circle of Excellence

Tammy Mosby Veteran & Family Support
2nd Place Outstanding Performance Award

Ronnie Wiley Americanism
2nd Place Outstanding Performance Award

Denise Dubois Buddy Poppy
Best Promotion to Educate their Community About the Buddy Poppy

Denise Dubois Buddy Poppy National Home
2nd Place Outstanding Performance Award

Debra Daniel Chief of Staff
2nd Place Outstanding Performance Award

Bernadette Adams Historian Media Relations
2nd Place Outstanding Performance Award

Lytle 12041
Hospital recognize non traditional holidays

Laurie Hayes Wiley
National Membership award for recruiting 20 new members.

Singing red white and blue
Addison 3rd place

Congratulations!

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