



The Colorado Veteran



February, 2025

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National VFW Representative Council of Administration - March 15th & 16th, 2025 Sheridan, CO



David Stone
VFW National Council of
Administration
Representative

David Stone was elected to a four-year term on the VFW's National Council of Administration on August 1, 2024, at the 125th VFW National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, representing the Department of Colorado.

David served in the U.S. Army from 1977 to 1999, earning his VFW eligibility by serving in Berlin and Korea. His decorations include the Army of Occupation Medal.

He joined the VFW in 1995 at Post 3917 in Security, Colorado, where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life Membership. He has served in elected and appointed positions at the Post, District, and Department levels, culminating with his election as the Department of Colorado Commander from 2019 to 2020, in which he achieved All-American status. On the national level, he has served as National Aide-de-Camp and has served on the General Resolutions Committee. This is his second term serving on the Council of Administration, previously serving from 2020 to 2024.

David received his Bachelor of Science in information systems management. He is currently employed with Keysight Technologies as a cybersecurity engineer.

David and his wife, Laura, reside in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

National Auxiliary Representative Council of Administration - March 15th & 16th, 2025 Sheridan, CO



Armithea "Sissy" Borel
National VFW Auxiliary
Past National President

Past National President Armithea "Sissy" Borel of Starks, Louisiana, served the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States Auxiliary as National President from 2013-2014, where she led 500,000 members under her theme "**Keeping America's Veterans & Families Strong.**"

A Life Member of Starks Memorial Auxiliary 4759, she joined on the eligibility of her brother, a Purple Heart recipient who served in the U.S. Army, and she has three sons who give her eligibility as well.

She served the organization at the Auxiliary, District, Department and National level. In 2004-2005 she was elected Department President, earning Outstanding President of the Year in her membership group. She has also been National Assistant Conductress and National Chairman for the Southern Conference on the Membership and "Buddy" Poppy Programs and has served as VFW National Home Trustee for District 6 representing the Departments of Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee.

She has also served as the Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary (MOCA) 2006-2007 Grand President of Louisiana, and is a member of the Starks Lions Club, where she has served as President and LEO Chairman for the state.

Sissy's family includes five children, 15 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

2024-2025 Voice of Democracy “Is America Today Our Forefathers’ Vision?”

It’s hard to picture what our Founding Fathers thought the future would look like. Back in the late 1700s, when a journey across the Atlantic took over a month and the cotton gin formed the cutting edge of technology, it must have been difficult to even fathom a world with the abilities and luxuries that we enjoy every day. Chances are good that most people during the early days of the U.S. had no idea that the flag flying over the 13 States of America would one day symbolize a global superpower. Chances are even better that if someone could go back in time and ask our forefathers what their notion of the twenty-first century U.S. would look like, not one would be able to accurately guess what the U.S. has become. And at first glance, it’s pretty easy to see why.

In 1789, the Founding Fathers were so hesitant to put in place a strong central government for fear of replicating the British government they had so recently gained independence from that they gave the federal government permission to do little more than levy taxes, declare war, regulate commerce, and maintain a federal army. In 1789, four out of five Americans lived in a rural area, and our leaders were hesitant to enter into relations with any foreign entity that could potentially take advantage of their newborn country. The early U.S. was highly decentralized, staunchly isolationist, and very rural.

In contrast, today’s government has expanded its influence to include everything from agriculture and food production to business itself, which seems to stray greatly from our forefathers’ initial concept of a weak central government. Additionally, in the 20th century, the U.S. joined the world scene, entering into wars thousands of miles away from our homeland, an action that many of our Founding Fathers may have condemned. Finally, Thomas Jefferson is often quoted for stating: “Those who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God, if ever he had a chosen people”. Yet today, almost 80% of the U.S. population lives in urban centers. On the surface, it seems that the U.S. has deviated greatly from our initial values. But have we really lost the vision of the U.S. as our Founding Fathers saw it?

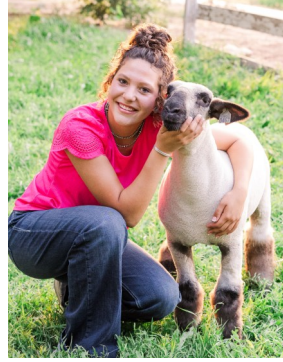
The U.S. looks, acts, and operates very differently than it did two and a half centuries ago. Our federal government has grown immensely, we have taken a much more active role in global politics, and our demographics are worlds apart from the rural society of early America. By all definitions, the U.S. is a completely different country than we were in the 1700s in all but name. But what if our forefathers’ hopes were less of a vision, and more of an idea?

The U.S. was founded on three central ideals: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Throughout the most chaotic three centuries of human history, we have somehow managed to uphold these three simple concepts. When financial behemoths like Standard Oil threatened the stability of our economy, we let our government intervene to stop monopolies from taking away the ability of everyday people to pursue their happiness. When we saw the basic human rights of people around the world endangered by fascism, communism, and totalitarianism, we stepped in to uphold the liberties of people worldwide. And when we experienced a massive influx of people into major cities, we industrialized to support the lives of the millions who now wanted to experience urban life. We may have allowed our government to grow, our politics to change, and our demographics to shift, but time and time again, we have maintained our commitment to the three central values that have governed our nation since its founding.

It is truly a miracle that we have been able to conserve the ideals that our forefathers put in place so long ago. And I think that our veterans have played a large part in this achievement. Veterans have been fighting to uphold these values ever since our independence. Talking to veterans and hearing their stories reminds us that, no matter how many changes the U.S. may endure, the most important aspect of our country is, was, and will always be our values. They help us remember to uphold these beliefs through thick and thin, through good times and bad times, through war and peace. Because in almost 250 years, many aspects of our country have inevitably changed. For one, a trip to Europe no longer takes a month, and the cotton gin is far, far below the cutting edge of technology. But at the same time, the most important aspects of our country, our commitment to preserving the lives, liberties, and opportunities of every citizen, have remained constant. And if our Founding Fathers could see the United States for what it is today, they may be surprised by all of the cars, planes, and skyscrapers, but I’d hope they’d rest easy knowing that the core beliefs of the U.S. haven’t strayed since the founding of this country, and as long as we continue to honor our veterans, and as long as our flag still flies over the 50 States of America, I doubt they ever will.



**1st Place: Noah Lorenz - Senior - Chatfield Senior High - Littleton, CO
District 10 and Golden VFW Post 4171 & Auxiliary, Golden**



2nd Place: Adisyn Rademacher
 Senior - Mead High School,
 Mead, CO
 District 3, Longs Peak VFW Post
 2601 & Auxiliary Longmont

3rd Place: Sky Richards
 Junior - Stratton High School,
 Stratton, CO
 District 13, William Hogate
 VFW Post 6491, Burlington

4th Place: Ava Martinez
 Junior - Delta High School,
 Delta, CO
 District 11, Lee Marts VFW
 Post 3571 & Auxiliary, Delta

5th Place: Leah Struckmeyer
 Senior - Holyoke High School,
 Holyoke, CO
 District 4, Zeiler-Owens-Lindsay
 VFW Post 6482, Holyoke



Veterans of Foreign Wars
 Loyalty Day Parade
 May 3rd, 2025 In Calhan CO
“Honoring All Women in Uniform”
 On behalf of Clarence G. Dzuris, VFW Post
 5221 and it's Auxiliary, please come join us doe
 our 25th Loyalty Day Parade and free Sloppy
 Joe lunch 30 minutes after the end of the
 parade at our post.



Details - Line Up at 10:00 am - Parade Start -
 11:00 am
 Parade will assemble 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 _____ Zip Code _____
 Email _____

Send your entry to Parade Chairman:
 Jim Crim
 36565 Hanisch Rd
 Calhan, CO 80808-8911
 Or email Jim at Crimvfw@gmail.com



Carol Thomas
State Commander

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers,

This time of year, is always exciting with the recent holidays, family get-togethers, parties to include the Super Bowl. Daylight hours are now getting longer each day to allow us to reflect why we belong to the Veterans of Foreign Service.

This VFW administrative year is now half over and already our Department is at 92.97% membership. The goal of course is 102%. This is excellent work by so many working not only for the Department goal but for their individual Post and District goals. As of this writing, we have 2 Districts over 102%, 1 District over 100%, 7 Districts over 90%, and 1 District over 80% membership. District 12 is the present leader sitting at 104.08%, with District 6 just behind them with 103.06%, and District 5 is gaining with 101.12%. The Posts in the state are strong with 4 in the 70% range. We have 12 in the 80% range. We have 51 between the 90% and 100% range. We have 17 Posts above 102% range.

Congratulations to the following Posts whose membership is above 102%:

- Post 12227 (Falcon) 300%
- Post 12230 (Castle Rock) 184.61%
- Post 807 (Boulder) 114.81%
- Post 4051 (Colo Spgs) 111.15%
- Post 9058 (Nucla) 109.09%
- Post 8121 (Del Norte/South Fork) 108.82%
- Post 9700 (Cheyenne Wells) 104.54%
- Post 12063 (Westcliffe) 105.45%
- Post 3551 (Brush) 105.4%
- Post 2411 (Las Animas) 105.35%
- Post 12189 (Berthoud) 105.26%
- Post 4031 (Durango) 104.56%
- Post 5231 (Cortez) 104.32%
- Post 336 (Ordway) 103.17%
- Post 3641 (Pueblo) 102.7%
- Post 6051 (Woodland Park) 102.43%
- Post 4671 (Wray) 102.22%

Congratulations to the Colorado Recruiters (2024-2025)

44 Members:

Mike J Sinchak, Post 4051

16 Members:

Jesse L Eastburn, Post 1

9 Members:

Richard A Cote, Post 4051

8 Members:

David A Anthony, Post 4051

7 Members:

Stephen J Urbany, Post 6461

6 Members:

Chad A Ryan, Post 101
Aarron M Himes, Post 6461
Travis J Baker, Post 6461

5 Members:

Steven A Drapeau, Post 2121
Peter M Dowding, Post 3631
Leonard P Ladue, Post 3981
Jeffrey N Panches, Post 4031

4 Members:

Brian K Asbeck, Post 1
James A Peterson Jr, Post 4266
Todd W Van Sant, Post 9644
James Sheridan, Post 2788
Michael R McClure, Post 1771
Leon F Bartholomay, Post 2601
John R Olander, Post 101
David L Stone, Post 3917
Glen D Blackmann, Post 4051

3 Members:

Duane A Johnson, Post 5061
Lynn E Peterson, Post 9644
Lorrie D Mclaughlin, Post 41
Mathew E Cummings, Post 6624
David M Latham, Post 4031
Curtis E Moss, Post 5231

2 Members:

John Keene, Post 1
Michael S Gardunio, Post 322
Brian C Clark, Post 5061
Ronald W Davies, Post 9644
Brian A Guenther, Post 12230
Kevin T Ryan, Post 12230
Geraldine Rimpley, Post 2788
Brian Billel White Alston, Post 3641
Fred Gauna Jr, Post 3641
Anthony Johnson, Post 5812
Benjamin W Livsey, Post 12063
Roman G Sepulveda, Post 1781
David E Gelatt, Post 6624
Terry D Mullins, Post 101
Matthew A Lewis, Post 3917
Robert M Kidd, Post 3917
Eric R Veed, Post 4051
Robert C Lowe, Post 336
Michael J Breaux Jr, Post 7945
Alan W Hughes, Post 5231
John D Reed, Post 9058
David J Adams, Post 15006



(Commander Colum Continued)

1 Members:

David Absolon Pratt, Post 1
 Joshua T Bridger, Post 1
 Robert H Stewart, Post 1
 Rolando E Rodriguez, Post 1
 Lorn D Casey, Post 3471
 Harold R Abney, Post 4666
 Robert B Brekke, Post 4666
 James J Kruse, Post 5061
 Vincent S Miller, Post 5061
 Christopher A Boyer, Post 12230
 David M Mooney, Post 12230
 John Alborghetti, Post 12230
 Tammy J Garrett, Post 12230
 Timothy D La Monda, Post 12230
 Jeffrey M Dietiker, Post 3641
 Edward H Williamson, Post 4061
 Jeffrey E Gill, Post 4061
 Milo D Cress, Post 4061
 Thomas R Coffield, Post 8898
 Mark A Lyons, Post 41
 Randal B Isaac, Post 41
 Dennis P Craig, Post 1781
 Nathan J May, Post 1781

Pete L Camarillo, Post 2121
 Damien S Berg, Post 2585
 Jerry L Eldred, Post 2585
 William D Robards, Post 2585
 Jenny M Santucci, Post 2601
 Nicholas J Miner, Post 2601
 Mark A Martens, Post 6624
 Kraig M Patriquin, Post 12189
 Neil W Schaal, Post 12189
 John D Benedict, Post 3541
 Rodney G Wiebers, Post 3541
 Ronald L Brown, Post 4671
 Kevin Thomas, Post 101
 Michael A Vagle, Post 101
 Mindy K King, Post 101
 Robert McClintock, Post 101
 Barbara A Green, Post 4051
 Guy R Green, Post 4051
 James Mavity, Post 4051
 Larry L Johnson, Post 4051
 Michael H White, Post 4051
 William E Beahan, Post 4051
 Sean McNaley, Post 6461

Tony Hardy, Post 6461
 Joseph Berthelotte, Post 7829
 Thomas P Dowd III, Post 7829
 Christopher M Martinez, Post 899
 Richard E Nagley, Post 899
 Mike R Vining, Post 8121
 Jaron M Bintz, Post 1166
 Jeffrey M Bintz, Post 1166
 Kevin W Burgess, Post 1166
 Jerald L Cunningham, Post 3820
 Carol J Thomas, Post 12009
 Ronald K Johnson, Post 12009
 Frank A Stewart, Post 5843
 Wayne R Neumann, Post 9565
 Frederick W Schaefer, Post 784
 Gary T Tollefson, Post 9221
 Thomas S Valdez, Post 9304
 Alfred M Riedinger III, Post 4031
 Christopher D Gober, Post 4031
 Demetrius L Lewis, Post 4031
 Michael P Omahoney, Post 4031
 Tommy Endres, Post 5231
 Robert J Martinez, Post 15006

If you want to leave a legacy for your VFW Post, go to your Quartermaster and ask him/her if you can make phone calls to help get your unpaid member up-to-date with their dues. Don't lose your post membership base. Be a worthy comrade and call a buddy to the next meeting. Your Post may have members serving in the military, you can pay their dues with your relief fund. You may have elderly or physically impaired members who cannot get in to your meeting they too could have their membership paid from your relief fund. Stay in touch with them in person, by phone and/or through email.

Look forward on seeing everyone at the next COA at Post 9644. We will have the State Liquor Board providing training Saturday morning. It is highly encouraged if you have a bar in your Post or doing events that require having a permit to have someone present.

Carol Thomas

ALL-AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS

For posts to make All-American this year here are the requirements:

- Voice of Democracy
- Patriot's Pen
- VMS Donation (minimum \$125 in OMS)
- Buddy Poppies (minimum order 500)
- Community Service Reporting for all 4 quarters
- 102% Membership
- JUST ADDED: VFW Day of Service (for information and to sign up visit: <https://todaysvfw.org/day-of-service/>)

Council of Administration Weekend
March 15 & 16, 2025

Hosted by Verle Huffman VFW Post 9644, 2680 W Hampden Ave, Sheridan, CO 80110

Auxiliary meets Danny Dietz VFW Post 322, 3800 S Windemere St, Englewood, CO 80110

Sunday Joint at Post 9644, then VFW COA at Post 9644 and Auxiliary COA at Post 322
 (More information available: [Events \(vfwco.org\)](https://vfwco.org))

COLORADO VFW FOUNDATION

Are you in a financial bind because a pipe spring a leak? A utility bill drained your budget? Did you have an unexpected repair on a vehicle you use to get to work?

Emergencies happen with no regard to your paycheck or monthly expenses. The Colorado Veteran VFW Foundation grants up to \$500 for Post or Auxiliary members on a one-time basis for the purpose of meeting an essential basic need for utilities and/or health care. Grants are not made for items that are discretionary in nature ("wants"), and are made on a first come, first serve basis.

Please go to vfwco.org to fill out the application or call 303-421-1630 for more information.



Jesse Eastburn
State Adjutant/
Quartermaster

To the Members of VFW Colorado,

As the April elections draw near, I ask each of you to take a moment and reflect - not just on the positions up for election, but on your own readiness to serve. The VFW is built on the strength of those who lead with integrity, honor, and a deep commitment to our brothers and sisters in arms. We owe it them - and to ourselves - to be honest about what we can offer.

Leadership in the VFW is more than a title or a role; it's about being there for your comrades, guiding with responsibility, and taking action when needed. It's a commitment that goes beyond the duties on a page. It's about living the values we hold dear and making sure the work we do is carried out with transparency, respect, and dedication.

If you're considering running for office, especially Quartermaster or Commander, I ask you to pause and think deeply about your ability to lead. **Are you ready to put in the time and effort?** Leadership requires more than just a willingness to take on a title - it's about being there for your fellow members, making tough decisions, and setting an example for others to follow.

None of us are perfect, and none of us expect perfection from those in charge. But we should expect **integrity, honesty, and a deep commitment to service.** We all share the same goal - to support our fellow veterans and ensure the continued success of this organization.

Remember, our motto is "No One Does More for Veterans." It's not just a slogan - it's a reminder that leadership in the VFW is about **selflessness**, not personal gain. If you're running for office, ask yourself: **Are you doing it to help the VFW grow, or to further your own interests?** The future of our Posts, Districts, and Department depends on leaders who understand the bigger picture and are willing to put others first.

If you feel you are not ready to take on a leadership role, that's okay. It's better to step back and let others who are ready take the reins. The work we do is bigger than any one person, and sometimes the best contribution we can make is to support those who step up and lead.

As election season approaches, I ask each of you to be honest with yourself about your motivations and your readiness to serve. The strength of this organization lies in trust - trust built on honesty, transparency, and a commitment to our shared mission. Whether you run for office or serve in another way, your contribution matters, and your choices will shape the future of the VFW.

Let us lead with integrity, courage, and the spirit of **unselfish comradeship.** Together, we can continue to uphold the ideals of the VFW and ensure our legacy of service remains strong.

In closing I ask for your support at State Convention to continue in this role, as I am just getting started and hope to continue, updating, upgrading, and setting the Department up for future success for many years to come.

With Respect and in comradeship,

Jesse Eastburn
Department Adjutant/Quartermaster

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Cindy Anderson, Treasurer
Rachel Rodgers, Auxiliary News Chairman
vfwco.org



Kevin Reinhold
State Chaplain

Brothers and Sisters,

We pray that Christmas and New Year have brought you and your families a joyous time together. May the blessings of the season stay with you throughout the new year.

I would like to remind VFW Post and District Officers that all Chaplain nominations need to be submitted to the State Chaplain no later than March 31st. The Chaplain Award is to Honor Post and District Chaplains for their commitment and service to our veterans, family members, and community.

The written nomination should be no more than 2 pages, double space, 10 font. Must be serving as the Post or District VFW Chaplain in the 2024-25 VFW year. Nominations can be made by any Post or District Officer in the Chaplain's chain of command. The Chaplain selected by the judges will be notified by the State Chaplain and announced at the State Convention.

The National Chaplain Training will start on January 16th at 18:30hrs. Any VFW or Auxiliary Chaplain or Officer (Commander, Sr. Vice, etc....) that would like the information to the training can email me (chaplainreinhold@yahoo.com) and I will put you on the Colorado Chaplain email list. With that said, this training will help our Chaplains in their service to our veterans, families, and communities. If possible, please attend.

Continue submitting your chaplain report through the Department web site (VFWCO.org). If you need help submitting your Chaplain reports, please email or call me (chaplainreinhold@yahoo.com) or 719-425-0807.

Let's Pray: Dear Lord, you are so good. You are the Savior of the world for anyone who places their faith in You. Thank You for the gift of salvation. Thank You for giving us the ability to grow in our trust in You each day. Thank You for giving us Your Word. Romans 10:17 says, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." We have faith today because of Your truth and Your gospel. Please help our personal walk with You to continue moving forward. Please lead us to new levels of faith. Help us not only to believe in You but to believe You. Give us open eyes to see the truth of Your Word and then the courage to walk in it. Amen.

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

VIETNAM ERA VETERAN WELCOME HOME AND PINNING CEREMONY
Honoring Those Who Served

★★★★★
Date: May 6, 2025
Time: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Location: Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum

★★★★★

Join us in recognizing and honoring Vietnam Era Veterans for their service and sacrifice. This special event will feature a Welcome Home and Pinning Ceremony to express our gratitude.

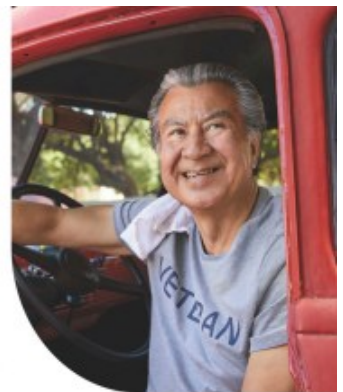
(720) 456-7921
Please call or scan the QR code to register.

*Lunch will be provided.

This event is proudly hosted by Ryan Murchie & Associates (RMA), Humana, and VFW.

For your service,
for your sacrifice,
we honor you

The United States of America Department of Defense Vietnam War Commemoration Pin was established to thank and honor Veterans of the Vietnam War, highlight their service and pay tribute to their contributions. Humana, in affiliation with Vietnam Veterans of America, is hosting a commemoration ceremony event to distribute these pins and honor Vietnam-era Veterans.



The Vietnam Veterans lapel pins are part of ongoing efforts to honor all Vietnam-era Veterans who were on active duty between November 1, 1955, and May 15, 1975, regardless of where they served. If you served during that time, you're eligible to receive a pin at the event.

Please join us for a Vietnam War commemorative pinning event

When: May 6, 2025

Time: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Location: Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum

Please Call or Scan QR Code to RSVP
Ryan Murchie & Associates

(720) 456-7921

*Lunch will be provided





Fred Scheck
State Sr. Vice
Commander

Greetings Comrades;

Happy New Year, I wish you all a joyful and prosperous year. With the new year, brings the new year, new me, not happening, you all are stuck with the same ol me.

Congratulations to all the Post, District and Department Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen winners. Thank You to all the Chairpersons, at all levels, for all the hard work and dedication you have shown this year for this program.

District and Post Commanders and Quartermaster's keep an eye on the audit deadlines and get them turned in on time to the Department.

Fred Scheck
State Sr. Vice Commander



Todd Van Sant
State Jr. Vice
Commander

New Year, New Challenges: Let's Focus on Membership!

As we start a new year, it's important to focus on what matters most - membership! Many VFW posts and auxiliaries in Colorado are still working to reach 100% membership. Now is the time to work even harder to bring veterans and their families into our posts.

Is your post signing up new members at fairs, rodeos, farmers markets, or town events? These are great ways to meet veterans and their family members, and show them why they should join the VFW. Don't miss out on these chances to grow and welcome more veterans.

But signing up members is just the first step. How many of your current members come to meetings? Membership is not just about numbers; it's about getting people involved. When a new member joins, reach out to them and see what they need. Invite them to the next event. Don't let them feel left out – welcome them, include them, and make them part of the VFW family.

Another important thing is making sure people can find your post online. Do you have a website or a Facebook page? Is your calendar up to date? These tools help new and current members know when you are open and what events are coming up.

When new members visit your post, what do they see? Do they see people arguing? Do they notice problems in your post? Every post has challenges, but how we handle them matters. If members see too much drama, they might not come back.

Membership has three important steps:

1. Signing up a new member.
2. Helping and mentoring that new member.
3. Getting that new member to come back and be part of the VFW.

This last step is often the hardest.

Let's make 2025 a great year for our VFW posts. Work hard to bring in new members, stay connected, and make your post a friendly and welcoming place. Together, we can grow and keep serving our community.

Todd Van Sant
Department Jr. Vice Commander

Salute to Service Forms are available on

<https://vfwco.org/index.php/events-m/143-salute-to-service-award>

They are due to Department by **March 15, 2025 - email to vfw@vfwco.org OR
mail to VFW Department of Colorado, 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214**

**Please send all Deceased VFW & Auxiliary Members to vfw@vfwco.org
They will be saved for the Joint Memorial State Convention Book. Our Deadline is May 20, 2025**

Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
1400 Carr Street
Lakewood, CO 80214

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 3

February 1, 2025

SERIES: 2024-2025

Please remind all Posts that you MUST be 102% to qualify for All-State & All-American. The deadline is June 30, 2025.

1. As prescribed by Sec 216 & 217 of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws and Manual of Procedure Nominations of Post Officers shall open in March and election in April. Nominations remain open until elections are held.

- a) The officers of each Post will consist of Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, and 3 Trustees.
- b) The Post shall elect the Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, and 3 Trustees.
- c) Per Sec 2016, Appointed Officers of each Post shall consist of Adjutant, Chaplain, and may appoint a Service Officer.
- d) The Post Commander may appoint a Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Officer of the Day and/or Guard if required by Post By-Laws.

2. Proof of Eligibility Requirements for Officers: All Posts, Districts, and Department should be reminded of the provisions of Sec 215 (Post), 415 (District), and 515 (Department) of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws and Manual of Procedure that officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility has been submitted to the respective Commander and Adjutant for review.

3. Registration for the VFW National Convention: East Post will pay, in advance, a national registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials, and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the national convention will pay ten dollars (\$10) delegate fee, in accordance with Sec 222 (d) of the National Congressional By-Laws. **Delegate fees should be sent directly to the Quartermaster General at National Headquarters.**

4. Attention is directed to Sec 213 of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws concerning arrearages of Posts for National, Department and District Dues, National Convention registration, poppy money, supply money and other financial obligations, or failure to have the office of the Quartermaster properly bonded in accordance with Sec 703 of the National By-Laws, or failure to submit properly completed quarterly Post Trustee Report of Audit or Election Reports. Posts that are delinquent in any of the aforementioned shall be deprived of all representation at District, Department and National Conventions.

5. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Sec 218 (a)(11), Manual of Procedure, Duty of Trustees. Trustees Report of Audit must be completed by the Trustees, in detail, at the close of each quarter, one of which ends March 31st. Commanders are reminded that all funds are to be under the custody and control of the Post Quartermaster. Persons other than the Post Quartermaster who may handle Post funds, such as club manager, bingo chairman, or committee chairman are responsible to the Post Quartermaster to maintain accurate records and accounts and should be properly bonded. Post Trustees are to ensure that the financial records of these special funds are also audited in the same manner as the other accounts of the Post Quartermaster.

6. Commanders at all levels should be organizing their 2025 Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Campaign. To qualify for All-American, VFW Posts must purchase at least 500 traditional or tin poppies.

7. All- State Commanders and Quartermasters, entry forms for All-State Commander and Quartermasters will be emailed to all qualified persons by July 3, 2025. Post and Districts Commanders must be 102% in membership by June 30, 2025, make a donation to the Department Service Office, must advance one Voice of Democracy, one Patriot's Pen winner to the next level, and a donation to the National Veteran and Military Support (VMS) – VMS donation must be \$125 or more to qualify. Post Quartermasters will be eligible if their Post achieves 102% in membership by June 30, 2025. The entry form must be submitted to State Headquarters by suspense date provided on the notification letter. All State teams will be presented at the second 2025-2026 COA meeting during the Joint Opening.

8. Council of Administration Meeting will be March 16th, 2025 at Verle Huffman VFW Post 9644, 8:30am for Joint Meeting and Council meeting to follow. Trainings will be on March 15th, 2025.

9. The VFW Department of Colorado Loyalty Day Parade will be in Calhan, CO, Saturday, May 3, 2025 line up at 10:00am.

10. VFW Department of Colorado State Convention is scheduled for June 19 to 22, 2025 in Colorado Springs, hosted by the VFW Department of Colorado. **Information will be posted on the Department of Colorado Webpage (www.vfwco.org)**

ATTESTED BY:
\s\ Jesse L. Eastburn
Jesse L. Eastburn
Department Adjutant

BY COMMAND OF:
\s\ Carol J. Thomas
Carol J. Thomas
Department Commander

VFW Post Membership by District as of January 31, 2025

Number/City	2023	2024	%	Number/City	2023	2024	%	Number/City	2023	2024	%	
District #1			District #5			District #10						
1 Denver	1017	791	77.77	101 CO Springs	448	441	98.43	3631 Aurora	267	261	97.75	
322 Englewood	102	92	90.19	3917 Security	514	482	93.77	4171 Golden	352	333	94.60	
3471 Morrison	57	55	96.49	4051 CO Springs	511	558	109%*	4331 Arvada	212	198	93.39	
4266 Parker	108	88	81.48	5221 Calhan	84	80	95.23	4444 Cmmce City	153	144	94.11	
4666 Littleton	97	96	98.96	6051 WdlnD Park	41	42	102%*	7945 Thornton	257	243	94.55	
5061 Denver	236	214	90.67	6461 Fountain	367	337	91.82	8449 Bennett	40	33	82.50	
9644 Fort Logan	396	364	91.91	7829 Monument	144	143	99.30	9565 Broomfield	85	80	94.11	
12230 Castle Rock	26	47	181%*	12227 Falcon	20	60	300%*	TOTAL	1603	1292	94.58	
TOTAL	2039	1747	85.67	TOTAL	2159	2143	101%*	District #11				
District #2			District #6			784 Montrose			120	114	95.00	
2788 Penrose	110	86	78.18	336 Ordway	63	65	103%*	1247 Grnd Jnctn	188	184	97.87	
3641 Pueblo	74	76	103%*	2411 Las Animas	56	59	105%*	3571 Delta	44	34	77.27	
4061 Canon City	239	196	82.00	4001 Springfield	22	22	100%*	3981 Grnd Jnctn	194	185	95.36	
5812 Pueblo West	189	183	96.82	4281 Holly	22	22	100%*	5485 Parachute	30	29	96.66	
7305 Colo. City	44	41	93.18	TOTAL	163	168	103%*	9221 Cedaredge	86	84	97.67	
8898 Boone	42	41	97.61	District #7			9304 Rifle	22	19	86.36		
12063 Westcliffe	55	58	105%*	899 Alamosa	74	60	81.08	TOTAL	684	649	94.88	
TOTAL	753	681	90.43	4849 La Jara	40	40	100%*	District #12				
District #3			6101 San Luis			41	41	100%*	4031 Durango	241	252	105%*
41 Loveland	274	254	92.70	8121 Del Norte	34	37	109%*	5181 Dove Creek	41	40	97.56	
807 Boulder	27	31	115%*	TOTAL	189	178	94.17	5231 Cortez	185	193	104%*	
1771 Lafayette	220	215	97.72	District #8			9058 Nucla	22	24	109%*		
1781 Fort Collins	285	255	89.47	859 Leadville	26	22	84.61	TOTAL	489	509	104%*	
2121 Greeley	154	145	94.15	1166 Buena Vista	105	105	100%*	District #13				
2585 Johnstown	178	163	91.57	3820 Salida	58	55	94.82	3411 Kit Carson	20	20	100%*	
2601 Longmont	269	260	96.65	7563 Black Hawk	29	24	82.75	6491 Burlington	49	47	95.91	
4334 Ault	58	52	89.65	8661 Bailey	105	99	94.28	6612 Hugo	28	28	100%*	
6624 Evans	203	181	89.16	10721 Minturn	101	91	90.09	9700 Chynn Wells	22	23	105%*	
12174 Brighton	33	27	81.81	11411 Lake George	43	43	100%*	TOTAL	119	118	99.15	
12189 Berthoud	38	40	105%*	12009 Conifer	109	104	95.41	15006 MAL	3145	2764	87.88	
TOTAL	1739	1623	93.32	TOTAL	576	543	94.27	TOTAL DEPT				
District #4			District #9			13941			12940	92.81		
3378 Yuma	46	44	95.65	4264 Stmbt Springs	89	81	91.01					
3541 Sterling	71	70	98.59	4265 Craig	98	87	88.77					
3551 Brush	37	39	105%*	5261 Rangely	20	18	90.00					
4671 Wray	45	46	102%*	5843 Meeker	38	38	100%*	* = 100% Membership				
6482 Holyoke	29	28	96.55	9374 Kremmling	26	24	92.30	Be 100% + 2 in 2024-2025 for All America				
7153 Fleming	11	11	100%*	TOTAL	271	248	91.51	Help Colorado be 100%+				
8064 Akron	40	39	97.50									
TOTAL	279	277	99.28									

Are you an Annual Member? Do you need to renew your membership for the year?

Go to vfw.org/renew

FEBRUARY DISTRICT MEETINGS:				
District Number	Date	Location	Agenda	Representatives
5	2/15/2025	VFW Post 101 Colorado Springs, CO	11:00am Training 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Fred Scheck, Sr Vice Commander Sherri Wright, Jr Vice President
7	2/16/2025	VFW Post 8121 Del Norte, CO	12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Carol Thomas, Commander Rena Cales, Sr Vice President
11	2/1/2025	VFW Post 3571 Delta, CO	11:00am Joint Meeting 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Kirk Rosa, Judge Advocate Rena Cales, Sr Vice President
MARCH DISTRICT MEETINGS:				
3	3/23/2025	VFW Post 2121 Greeley, CO	10:30am Memorial Practice 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Memorial 2:00pm Meeting	Fred Scheck, Sr Vice Commander Sherri Wright, Jr Vice President
4	3/15/2025	VFW Post 6482 Holyoke, CO	2:30pm Joint Meeting 3:00pm Meeting	To Be Determined
10	3/9/2025	VFW Post 7945 Thornton, CO	10:00am Memorial Practice 11:00am Memorial 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Carol Thomas, Commander Rena Cales, Sr Vice President
APRIL DISTRICT MEETINGS:				
2	4/12/2025	VFW Post 2788 Penrose, CO	11:30am Joint Meeting 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Jim Sheridan, Surgeon Queenie Barz, Conductor
5	4/19/2025	VFW Post 3917 Security, CO	11:00am Memorial Practice 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Todd Van Sant, Jr Vice Commander Nadia Flores, President
6	4/12/2025	VFW Post 2411 Las Animas, CO	11:00am Joint Meeting 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Fred Scheck, Sr Vice Commander Sherri Wright, Jr Vice President
8	4/26/2025	VFW Post 12009 Conifer, CO	11:30am Lunch 12:00pm Joint Meeting 12:30pm Meeting	William Flores, Chief of Staff Nadia Flores, President
12	4/5/2025	VFW Post 5181 Dove Creek, CO	10:30am Joint Meeting 11:30am Lunch 12:30pm Meeting	Jim Sheridan, Surgeon Nadia Flores, President
13	4/27/2025	VFW Post 6612 Hugo, CO	3:30pm Meeting/Pot Luck to Follow	Todd Van Sant, Jr Vice Commander
MAY DISTRICT MEETINGS				
1	5/17/2025	VFW Post 9644 Sheridan, CO	9:00am Joint Meeting 9:30am Meeting	William Flores, Chief of Staff Nadia Flores, President
3	5/18/2025	VFW Post 41 Loveland, CO	11:00am Training 12:00 Lunch 1:00pm Meeting 2:00pm Installation	Jim Sheridan, Surgeon Sherri Wright, Jr Vice President
4	5/10/2025	VFW Post 8064 Akron, CO	2:30pm at Cemetery Memorial 3:00pm Meeting	Fred Scheck, Sr Vice Commander
7	5/4/2025	VFW Post 899 Alamosa, CO	12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	William Flores, Chief of Staff Cindy Anderson, Treasurer
9	5/3/2025	VFW Post 4264 Steamboat Springs, CO	12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Carol Thomas, Commander
10	5/18/2025	VFW Post 4171 Golden, CO	12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Carol Thomas, Commander Queenie Barz, Conductor
11	5/3/2025	VFW Post 3981 Grand Junction, CO	10:45pm Memorial 11:30am Joint Meeting 12:00pm Lunch 1:00pm Meeting	Jim Sheridan, Surgeon Sherri Wright, Jr Vice President

VFW Convention Registration - June 19th to 22nd, 2025
VFW Department of Colorado 105th Convention
Host: VFW Department of Colorado & Auxiliary



PLEASE PRINT
 VFW Member Name _____ Post # _____
 Address _____

2024-2025 VFW Officer Title _____

• **Registration Fee \$25.00** \$ _____
 Mail to: **VFW Department of Colorado • 1400 Carr St, Lakewood, CO 80214 (Checks Payable to VFW Dept of CO)**

• **Military Banquet Friday, 6/21/2025 - \$60.00 (CUT OFF FOR REGISTRATION IS 6/5/2025)**
 (Not available for purchase at the door, must be Reserved and Paid) *Seating Capacity 200
 Dress code: Coat and Tie, Pant Suit, Evening Dress, or Military Uniform

Convention Hotel
 DoubleTree Colorado Springs - 719-576-8900
 1775 E Cheyenne Mountain Blvd,
 Colorado Springs, CO 80906
Group Rate Cut Off Date 5/15/2025
 Room Rate: \$179 + Tax (\$50 Incidental Hold Per Night)
 SUBJECT TO CHANGE
 Code: VFW State Convention

of Tickets for Military Banquet

Beef	_____ x \$60.00 =	\$ _____
Chicken	_____ x \$60.00 =	\$ _____
Vegetarian	_____ x \$60.00 =	\$ _____
Special Diet/Allergy:	ATTACH NOTE	

TOTAL for Registration:



VFW Auxiliary Convention Pre-Registration - June 19th to 22nd, 2025
VFW Department of Colorado 101st Convention
Host: VFW Department of Colorado & Auxiliary

PLEASE PRINT
 Aux Member Name _____ Post # _____
 Address _____

2024-2025 Aux Officer Title _____

• **Registration Fee \$25.00** \$ _____
 Mail to: **VFW Department of Colorado • 1400 Carr St, Lakewood, CO 80214 (Checks Payable to VFW Dept of CO)**

• **Military Banquet Friday, 6/21/2024 - \$60.00 (CUT OFF DATE FOR REGISTRATION 6/5/2025)**
 (Not available for purchase at the door, must be Reserved and Paid) *Seating Capacity 200
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Beef	_____ x \$60.00 =	\$ _____
Chicken	_____ x \$60.00 =	\$ _____
Vegetarian	_____ x \$60.00 =	\$ _____
Special Diet/Allergy:	ATTACH NOTE	

TOTAL for Registration:

2025 VFW State Convention Ad Sheet - Corporate

FULL PAGE \$400.00 8 1/4" X 10 3/4"
HALF PAGE \$250.00 8 1/4" X 5 1/4"
FOURTH PAGE \$200.00 8 1/4" X 2 3/4"
BUSINESS CARD AD \$150.00 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

Payment and Ad must be received by May 9, 2025
 (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

2025 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

Payment and Ad must be received by May 9, 2025
 (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



VFW Department of Colorado & Auxiliary ~ 2025 State Convention
June 19th to 22nd, 2025



Sponsorship Levels

Platinum Sponsor
\$5,000
2 Remaining

Includes All in Gold Sponsor PLUS
 Full-Page Advertisement in Event Program
 Booth at Convention
 Announcement at Joint Session & Military Ball
 Table of 8 at Military Ball

Gold Sponsor
\$2,000
3 Remaining

Includes All in Silver Sponsor PLUS
 Full-Page Advertisement in Event Program
 Announcement at Military Ball
 4 Seats at Military Ball
 Booth Space (Limited Availability, First Come First Serve Basis)

Silver Sponsor
\$1,000
3 Remaining

Includes All in Bronze Sponsor PLUS
 Half-Page Advertisement in Event Program
 Announcement at Joint Session
 2 Seats at Military Banquet
 Booth Space (Limited Availability, First Come First Serve Basis)

Bronze Sponsor
\$500
5 Remaining

Quarter-Page Advertisement in Event Program
 Recognition on Social Media
 Announcement at Joint Session

Organization Name: _____ Contact Person: _____
 Phone Number: _____ Email: _____
 Address: _____

Sponsorship Level Commitment: Platinum Gold Silver Bronze
 Payment Amount: Payment Date: Check Credit Card (reach out to vfw@vfwco.org)
 Please return this sheet with payment by May 1, 2025 to:
 VFW Department of Colorado
 1400 Carr St, Lakewood, CO 80214
 If paying by check, please make your check payable to VFW Department of Colorado and in the memo line: 2025 State Convention Sponsorship



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



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: TIMES & LOCATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Thursday June 19

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
6:00 pm	Council of Administration	Douglas/Fremont/El Paso

Friday June 20

	Breakfast (On Own)	
7:00 am – 4:00 pm	VFW Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:30 am – 11:00 am	Joint Opening Session	Grand Ballroom
12pm	Commanders/President Luncheon (BY INVITE ONLY)	Colorado Springs Ballroom
1:30 pm	General Resolutions	Douglas/Fremont/El Paso
1:30 pm	Service/Rehab Resolutions	Douglas/Fremont/El Paso
1:30 pm	Time & Place Committee	Douglas/Fremont/El Paso
4:30 pm	Joint Memorial Service	TBD
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Past Commanders Banquet	VFW Post 3917

Saturday June 21

	Breakfast (On Own)	
7:00 am – 1:00 pm	VFW Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:00 am – 11:30 am	VFW Business Session	Douglas/Fremont/El Paso
12:00 pm	Lunch (On Own)	
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	VFW Business Session/Caucus/Election of Officers	Douglas/Fremont/El Paso
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Military Banquet	Elevations

Sunday June 22

9:00 am	Installation Practice	Grand Ballroom
11:00 am	Joint Installation of Officers	Grand Ballroom
1:00 pm	State Commander/President Reception	Elevations

BUDDY POPPY / SCRAPBOOK WILL BE IN CHERRY CREEK/CRIPPLE CREEK ROOMS

AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DoubleTree Colorado Springs, 1775 E Cheyenne Mountain Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Past Commanders Banquet - VFW Post 3917, 4715 Clearview Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80911

Memorial Service Location – To Be Determined



TENTATIVE – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DoubleTree Colorado Springs

1775 E Cheyenne Mountain Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80906

STATE CONVENTION – VFW AUXILIARY

June 19-22, 2024



Thursday, June 19, 2024

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
10:00 AM	Department Audit	Red Rocks
11:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Red Rocks
11:30 AM-1:30 PM	Lunch (On Own)	
2:00-3:00 PM	Floor Team Practice	Park/Pueblo/Teller
4:00-6:00 PM	Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
6:00 PM	Council of Administration Meeting	Park/Pueblo/Teller

Friday, June 20, 2024

	Breakfast (On Own)	
7:00-9:00 AM	Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:30-11:00 AM	Joint Opening Session	Grand Ballroom
11:30am-1:30pm	Lunch (On Own)	
12:00 PM	Commander/President Luncheon (BY INVITE ONLY)	Colorado Springs Ballroom
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
1:30 - 3:30 PM	Business Session	Park/Pueblo/Teller
4:30 PM	Memorial Service	TBD
6:00 PM	Past Department Presidents Dinner (By invitation only)	TBD

Saturday, June 21, 2024

	Breakfast (On Own)	
7:00 AM-1:00 PM	Registration	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:30 AM-12:00 PM	Business Session	Park/Pueblo/Teller
12:00-1:30 PM	Lunch (On Own)	
1:30-4:00 PM	Business Session (Elections)	Park/Pueblo/Teller
5:00-8:00 PM	Military Banquet	Elevations

Sunday, June 22, 2024

8:00 AM	Auxiliary/Past District Presidents Club Breakfast	TBD
9:00 AM	Installation Practice	Grand Ballroom
11:00 AM	Joint Installation of Officers	Grand Ballroom
1:00 PM	State Commander/President Reception	Elevations

BUDDY POPPY/SCRAPBOOK WILL BE IN CHERRY/CRIPPLE CREEK ROOMS

(LOCATIONS OF MEETINGS AND ADDRESSES –

DoubleTree Colorado Springs, 1775 E Cheyenne Mountain Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80906)

Memorial Service Location – To Be Determined

“All Veterans – All Voices”



RED FLAG LAWS IN COLORADO

Misinformation about **Red Flag** Laws can keep Veterans from seeking mental health services. The Department of Veterans Affairs and your local law enforcement agencies encourage Veterans to seek Mental Health help when needed.

Here are some Truths about Red Flag Laws:

1. There is no "list" of everyone with a mental illness.
2. If you get a mental health diagnosis, you do not lose your firearms or right to own them.
3. Mental illness is a protected condition just like any other health information.
4. For the Red Flag law, there needs to be a petition to the court with facts and evidence as to why an individual is a "significant" risk to themselves or others by owning or possessing their firearms.

Know your rights and get the Mental Health support you need.



DON'T FEED THE SHARKS



DontFeedTheSharks.org

What we think a "Claim Shark" is:

- A Claim Shark is an individual or company that charges hefty fees to "assist" or "consult" veterans with filing their VA benefit claims – this practice is illegal!
- Claim Sharks are not VA accredited, meaning they aren't required to adhere to the well-established professional and ethical standards of VA accreditation, so their advice can often be misleading or even fraudulent.
- Like a "Loan Shark," once you're in, you can't get out, and may be subject to new and hidden fees whenever you get a new rating, no matter who does the work.

Some of their predatory practices are:

- Promising or guaranteeing an increased disability rating or percentage increase.
- Advertising expedited VA claims decisions.
- Requesting login credentials to access a veteran's personal information through secure VA websites like eBenefits or VA.gov.
- Using confusing tactics or ambiguous language to mislead claimants or coerce them into signing a contract.
- Telling veterans to forego VA exams and offering health consultations within their own network of doctors.

Who we think the Claim Sharks are:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trajector Medical • Veteran Benefits Guide • Veterans Guardian • VA Claims Insider • Telemedica • Patriot Angels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veteran Care Services • REE Medical • VA Claims Academy • Vet Assist • Just4Veterans • Veterans Disability Help |
|---|--|

Veterans can protect themselves by:

- Always working with VA accredited representatives.
- Attending all exams ordered by VA.
- Not signing contracts.
- Not agreeing to fees or payments from future benefits.
- Not agreeing to pay for medical consultations or opinions.
- Not providing access to Protected Health Information or Personal Identifiable Information.

Who is NOT a Claim Shark?

- VA accredited veterans service organization representatives, like the VFW
- VA accredited claims agents
- VA accredited attorneys
- Attorneys assisting with Camp Lejeune lawsuits who do not charge excessive fees



Welcome Home Celebration

Dignity, Honor, Respect
Saturday, March 29, 2025

Vietnam Veterans Day
1100 to 1400

Doors Open at 1030

WHERE: VFW Post 9644
2680 W. Hampden Avenue
Sheridan, Colorado 80110

\$35 Event Ticket

Each event ticket includes sponsorship for one veteran.

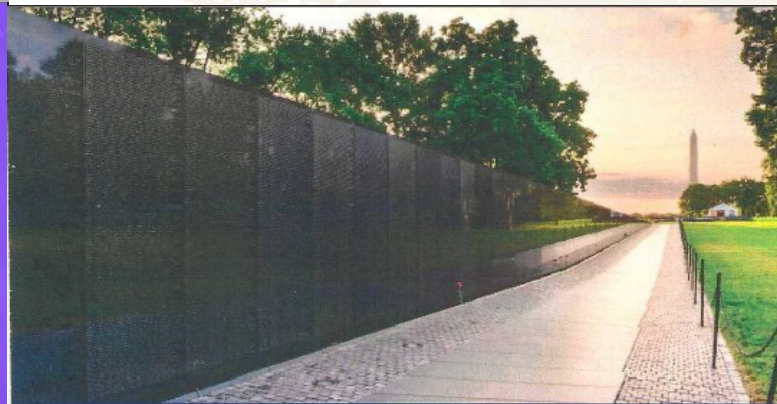
FREE event to Veteran's of all Eras
- Veteran's must preregister



- BBQ
- Cash Bar
- 11 am - Opening & Honor Bell Ceremony
- Official Launch of "Honor Bell" Song
- Louis Olivera & Michelle Mallin Awards
- Vietnam Veteran Pinning Ceremony
- Entertainment
- Silent Auction and Drawings

Thank You!
For your service

For Tickets and Sponsoring
<https://HBWelcome.givesmart.com>
or Text HBWelcome to 76278



Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Presented by Intermountain Health Hospice

March 30, 2025 2 p.m.- 4 p.m.
12911 W. 29th Ave Wheat Ridge, CO 80401

Come celebrate this Colorado annual commemorative holiday to honor the return of our Vietnam Veterans and Welcome Them Home!

This historical day became a bill in 2021 and was adopted from the "National Vietnam War Veterans Day", which occurs on March 29th. This date marked the day the very last combat troops pulled out of Vietnam.



We will be providing a special pinning ceremony specifically for Vietnam Veterans that includes:

- Special tokens of appreciation
- Personalized certificate
- Acknowledgement from our guest speakers

Special Dedication

Join us as we dedicate this celebration to service men and women that we have lost to suicide. Veterans account for 14% of all US suicides.

Register for this event today by leaving a voicemail at 303-403-7324 or by scanning the QR Code

Auxiliary News



Published by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of Colorado

Rachel Rodgers, Auxiliary News Chairman



Nadia Flores
Auxiliary State
President

Happy 2025 Everyone! I hope that everyone was able to spend some time being with family, friends, and just being able to rest. I know that many use the holidays and each new year to reflect on all that they are grateful for and were able to accomplish throughout the last year, while others may grieve during this time because they are missing a loved one. I mention all of this because I have had many conversations with members, over the last several months, where there have been many negative interactions with other members that have been reported and feelings of animosity towards others. This year has not been without some difficult challenges, and I want to take a moment to remind everyone to be kind to each other and to give others grace, as we are all here to uplift and honor the veteran that we are eligible under, whether that be in their memory or in their living honor, by serving and fighting to take care of our veterans. We may not know the personal struggles that our auxiliary sisters and brothers, or even our VFW counterparts, are going through, but we can always make sure that we are someone that they can come to in their times of need, through the work that we do in our auxiliaries and having compassion for each other.

With all of that being said there is some absolutely amazing work that is being done throughout our beautiful state by each of our Auxiliaries, and I am so proud of the all of the dedication and love that is

put into each event, and I am absolutely positive that those who benefit from all that each auxiliary does are grateful as well. Auxiliaries are holding fundraisers to support our various programs, visiting our hospitals and sitting with our veterans, working with our youth through our scholarship and outreach programs, and bringing new members into our folds – even through all of the obstacles and challenges – and it absolutely fantastic to see the resilience and strength of our membership.

Membership for Colorado is at just below 95% right now, and I know that that number will grow, as our auxiliaries are amazing in getting the work that needs to be done, completed. There are many opportunities to show prospective new members all the amazing work that the auxiliary does, and if your auxiliary needs help with any ideas for membership, please reach out to the Dept. Membership Chairman.

The work that everyone does is what our mission is all about and is what we need to continue striving to accomplish. I know that we still have a few months left in our reporting year, and there are many auxiliaries that still have a lot of events and projects that they are working hard on, and I can't wait to hear about all of them. Remember to report all of your activities, even after our current reporting year ends, as those activities still count for the next reporting year.

In regards to reporting, there are still several official visits that need to be completed, in several districts. If they have been completed, please forward those reports to the Department Chief of Staff. This is the same for audit reports, there are still several outstanding auxiliary audits that need to be sent into the Department Treasurer as soon as possible. The administrative paperwork, that each auxiliary must complete, is to keep the auxiliary in good standing and in compliance with our Bylaws. Please reach out to us if you have any questions or believe that some extra mentoring in these areas would be beneficial to your District or Auxiliary. We are all here to help each other and share our knowledge with our members.

Our next Council of Administration meeting will be held March 14th-16th, in Sheridan, CO, and I hope to be able to see many of you there. At this meeting, I will be bringing in the National Home House that was given to each Department President to decorate, and would love to see this house filled during our COA and be able to send those funds to them during their 100th year celebration. This will also be at our State Convention, which will be June 19th-22nd in Colorado Springs, it would be great to have it filled during each of these meetings.

Thank you for all that you are doing and continue to do for our veterans; past, present, and future. Unexpected obstacles and challenges will face us each year, but we will get through all of them together. Each of you are doing some fabulous work, and yes, the small things count as well, because if it wasn't for the small moments there wouldn't be such great happiness, warmth, or love. The smallest of kind gestures can bring the greatest joy to an individual, so I encourage each of you to continue working for our greater cause through small acts of kindness, and watch as those small acts become something even greater.

Warmest Wishes,
Nadia Flores
Department VFW Auxiliary President

Fontaine Que Bouille Auxiliary Proudly Endorses Rena Cales for Department President 2025-2026



We, the members of Fontaine Que Bouille Auxiliary to Post 6461, very proudly endorse our long term member and mentor, Rena Cales for the office of Department President for the 2025-2026 term. Ms. Cales has been a loyal Life Member of the Auxiliary since 2009 through her step father, William Peck who earned the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal. During her years in our Auxiliary, Rena has held many different positions, such as 3 years as our President, 7 years as our Treasurer, 6 years as our Secretary, and as a Trustee for 1 year. Rena held District 5 positions like Guard, 3 years, Secretary for 6 years, Treasurer for 7 years and President for 1 year. She also served as Department Chairperson for 7 years, 3 being the Hospital Chairperson, as well as Buddy Poppy, Americanism, Veteran and Family Support, and Legislative. She was Department Conductor, Jr. Vice and Sr. Vice, as well. With the Military Order of the Cooties, Rena served as the Auxiliary Grand President Grand Chaplain and on the local level, President. Rena is a mentor to all of us in our Auxiliary, helping with her vast knowledge of the organization and her willingness and dedication to help in every task and event.

We firmly believe that Rena Cales will be a dedicated and loyal Department President and will continue to be an asset to the Colorado VFW Auxiliary. We hope that you will join us in supporting Rena at the Department Convention.

Sincerely,

On behalf of Bobbi Vigil, President
Karen Marshall, Secretary
Fontaine Que Bouille Auxiliary
VFW Post 6461

Legislative

What an exciting and eventful time it has been for our country and our state over the past few months! Members' participation in many aspects of our Legislative Program has also been amazing and exciting to watch. Auxiliary members are actively participating in the Legislative process by being informed on issues, monitoring candidate's platforms, and attending and participating in community forums. They worked in several capacities during the last elections and are sending letters and calling their representatives regarding veteran issues. And very importantly, Auxiliary members are taking the time to vote and to report their activities. I have committed to let you know the most important issues associated with the Legislative Program – following are the most recent updates:

- I am very happy to report that with VFW and Auxiliary support, that Amendment G which gives tax exemptions to some Disabled Veterans for property values up to \$200,000, passed with a large margin to aid Veterans within the State of CO! This was a concerted effort on both the VFW and the Auxiliary sides of the house.
- Action Corps Weekly participation and responses to Action Alerts is definitely on the rise. Members of Congress have sent their responses to our Auxiliary members on a number of issues where members have shown interest and written letters. Remember -- you don't have to be an Auxiliary member to sign up or participate in the Action Corps and Action Alerts system. Encourage friends, teachers, community members, and others to sign up also – they can help too! As noted previously, there may be a Conference Challenge Program coming soon where we in Western Conference can show those in the other conferences how committed we are in Colorado to our veterans based on how we respond to and act on Action Alerts – more information on this to follow.
- Claim Shark Legislation continues to advance in the Colorado Legislature. The current effort includes language that states that unaccredited individuals cannot advise or represent our Veterans in processing their claims as this violates the Commerce Clause. Please encourage anyone applying for benefits to **contact a VFW Veteran Service Officer first** before going to one of these questionable law firms.
- Please continue to follow SB 2888 / HR3933 the TAP Promotion Act (Transition Assistance Program) which authorizes Veteran Service Organizations like the VFW to aid service members just leaving the service of our nation in signing up for and receiving their well-deserved benefits. The Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act HR8371, continues to move forward and has now passed both the House and the Senate and is on the way to the President for his signature! This bill addresses many aspects of veteran care including such things as “long term care, mental health resources, education, job training, VA modernization and many more” according to a Dole Foundation spokesman. More on this will follow as this legislation proceeds.
- There is an excellent Legislative section on our vfwco.org home page that gives key points that can aid members in evaluating legislation and legislators. It also highlights the importance of advocating for our veterans and gives guidance on how you can get involved. Please take some time to review this important information and then jump into action! Your participation is valuable.

I will continue to bring you more action items and information throughout this year.

Phil Reinpold
Legislative Chairman

Veteran & Family Support

Veterans and Family Support

Hello everyone and welcome to a new quarter in our reporting year. I want to remind everyone about suicide prevention. We generally worry about our Veterans when it comes to this but it really applies to all of us. We can make a difference to one person with a little bit of our time or kindness. Be the light for even one person in your life. We all need that someone to do that for us.

Sometimes that may look like “Embracing the S.U.C.K.”

S - stands for Stop what you’re doing. Recognize that something’s not right.

U - stands for Understand that your thoughts are completely normal for those who have gone through similar experiences.

C - stands for Change your Scenery. Remove yourself from the situation and call a friend.

K - stands for Know that you are loved. Don’t fix a temporary problem with a permanent solution.

As a reminder please note The Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online, or send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Support for deaf and hard of hearing individuals is available. There is also the new number 988. Also available are many resources to assist someone with mental health. Together let’s change the stigma surrounding mental health!

Christina (Tina) Lilly
Veterans and Family Support Chairman

Youth

Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year to you all. I do hope everyone had a great holiday. I am very happy to report that youth activity reporting increased even more over these last couple of months. Great job to all those who have sent in their reports. I have received 63 reports this far.

Our youth are looking up to us, to help them learn about the history of our veterans. I would like to encourage all of you to get out there into the classrooms. Have the youth read to veterans or veterans read to the youth. Let this be one of your new years resolution. Engaging with youth means a lot to them, it shows them how important they are to the future. Knowing that they have a bright future to succeed in anything they choose to do.

It was great to see the engaging with youth programs. There were a few that were giving books, and educating etiquette of our flag. This is all amazing work. I commend you all for a great job. Please keep up the great education.

Remember you can go to the MALTA Resources if you need help in suggestions of a list of books. Remember to report all your activities. Everyone still has an opportunity to get a \$50 gift card to the top 3 Auxiliaries.

Thank you!

Rowena Martinez
Youth Chairwoman

Report ALL Program Reports On-Line
Vfwco.org

Updated the First of Every Month

**Written Reports will NOT be
accepted**

It is Easy

Council of Administration Weekend
March 15 & 16, 2025

Hosted by Verle Huffman VFW Post 9644, 2680 W Hampden
Ave, Sheridan, CO 80110

Auxiliary meets Danny Dietz VFW Post 322, 3800 S
Windemere St, Englewood, CO 80110

Sunday Joint at Post 9644, then VFW COA at Post 9644 and
Auxiliary COA at Post 322
(More information available: [Events \(vfwco.org\)](https://www.vfwco.org))

Auxiliary Outreach

Whew!! Am I glad the holidays are over!!! From fighting the crowds to go shopping; school programs with the grandkids; working the school concessions; cooking and baking; wrapping and mailing presents; decorating the house, the church, my work office; building a float for the parade; wrapping candy canes for Santa; ringing the Salvation Army bell; working the coat drive at the local food bank; delivering presents to the Veterans at the Nursing Home; delivering presents to families for the church; getting attacked and bitten by a vicious dog, with a trip to the ER; more cooking and dinner at our house; shoveling snow; sledding, ice skating and movies with the kids --- I am TIRED!!! Even with all that, our family had a great Christmas and I am looking forward to an even better 2025!!!

I'm sure you all had similar experiences but hopefully no vicious dog! With all those activities and more, I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I also hope you remembered to report your hours helping with all the organizations in your communities!! So far, I haven't seen any new reports, so please, please send them in. I want to hear what other Auxiliaries are doing!

The Auxiliary still has time to work with other organizations in the community NOT AFFILIATED with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary Programs. Auxiliary Outreach runs until April 15th!!

Reach out to the local cancer group, the Alzheimer's Association and other groups that sponsor Walk A Thon's or 5K Runs. Volunteer to pass out water, register entrants, direct traffic, etc. Auxiliaries can NOT donate money, or walk as an entrant. They must volunteer to help the other organization. They also must wear Auxiliary attire so that they are recognized as Auxiliary members. Also, the event must be voted on by the Auxiliary.

With all of the most recent weather disasters, now is a good time to volunteer to help the Red Cross, local food banks collecting clothing and food and packaging it to send to those in need. Winter is here and warm clothing and coats are needed for the homeless and those suffering from the disasters. The Auxiliary can count this as Auxiliary Outreach IF members stay and help man the collections and packing.

Schools are always needing volunteers to work the concession stands at athletic events. Remember to discuss it at your meeting, vote on it and then show up to help the local schools. Since this is an on-going event, you can vote one time. Be sure to wear your Auxiliary attire!

February has Valentine's Day and March has Mardi Gras and St. Patrick's Day! Several organizations will be hosting craft fairs before these holidays. Auxiliary members can volunteer to help set up and clean up after the events. Members can also help in the kitchen if the event is serving food. Spring is a good time to volunteer with the local police and firefighters doing clinics on bike safety, child ID kits, and fire safety and prevention. Vote on it & wear Auxiliary attire!

Our Auxiliaries are always active in our communities doing great things. Let's just remember to coordinate with the other organizations and help them with their events. Keep up the good work and Report, Report, Report!!! I look forward to receiving your reports and hope to see you all at the spring COA.

Queenie Barz
Auxiliary Outreach Chairman

Scholarship

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

Welcome to 2025!! I hope you and yours are enjoying the New Year. I want to thank all the auxiliaries on their continued support of the VFW Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Scholarship Programs. It looks like this was another successful year for these scholarships. Most importantly, THANK YOU for reporting your activities.

The Continuing Education Scholarship deadline is fast approaching and entries are due to National Headquarters by February 15, 2025. This scholarship is open to any VFW Auxiliary member (who has belonged for at least a year), his/her spouse, son or daughter. March is fast approaching and is a very busy month as the Young American Patriotic Art and the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Scholarships entries are due to your local auxiliaries by March 31, 2025. More information, including promotional materials for these scholarship opportunities are available at vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships, and in MALTA Membership Resources.

March is also the end of the reporting period for all programs so please make the time to turn in your reports! If you need any help in online reporting, please feel free to contact me!

Please remember my current promotion focuses on recipient recognition and student participation. I am looking forward to the next COA where I am hopeful to learn about how our wonderful Posts and Auxiliaries recognized their local Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Scholarship participants and winners.

As always, 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 Chairman

Buddy Poppy

Happy 2025! I want to thank everyone for all of the reports that have been submitted to date. I am receiving lots of reports. It is great to see all the wonderful activities the Auxiliaries are doing. Keep up the great work! Let's finish out the year strong. The end of the reporting year is fast approaching. You still time to have poppy displays and poppy distribution events.

How is your poppy display entry coming along for the Convention and National competition? You still have time to work on it. Order your poppies now so you will have enough poppies for your entry.

Just a reminder about the new order form. You will need to include your VFW Auxiliary membership # on the form. There is a link to the new form at the bottom of the Department of Colorado homepage (<https://vfwco.org>).

VFW National Home

On January 7, 2025 the VFW National Home turned 100 years old! It is time to **CELEBRATE!** Visit <https://vfnationalhome.org/news/blog/> for the latest news about their 100 year celebrations or follow them on Facebook at <https://vfnationalhome.org>. There is a very informative article in the January 2025 issue of the [VFW Auxiliary Magazine](#) about the National Home. It talks about the history of the National Home as well as a recent event held there. I encourage everyone to read it.

Just a reminder to send a birthday card to the VFW National Home so they can be displayed for the birthday celebrations. Instead of sending gifts for the traditional birthday party, remember that the VFW National Home has an Amazon Wish List with things they could use, or your Auxiliary could make a donation to help with costs of the 100th celebration in June.

There are so many different ways to support the Home, including:

- National Home's Amazon Wishlist
- Become a Life Member
- Donate to Health & Happiness
- Purchase a brick for the Tribute Park
- Become a Hometown Hero contributor

There are many events and special things planned for the birthday celebration for the National Home. Please participate and help in all of the celebrations.

Kathy Kurtenbach
Buddy Poppy-VFW National Home Chairman

Hospital

Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

Happy New Year! I hope you are all looking forward to 2025 and making it a great year like I am. I hope you all had wonderful holidays and are ready to not only finish out this reporting year strong but also continue with your great work during the upcoming year. National Salute to Veteran Patients Week is February 9-15 this year. It's always the week of Valentine's Day, so it's a perfect time to get out into facilities and plan Valentine's Day events, or if you are unable to do that, send cards! Valentine's for Veterans is one of our goals from national this year, so if you haven't planned something yet, you still have time to do it! As has been the case the last several years, please make sure you check with the facility first to make sure they don't have any COVID or other restrictions in place.

Skimming through the things that have been reported this year, we are doing very well in volunteering in medical facilities, but are lacking in a couple of areas. We have two months still in this reporting year, so this is the time to make your push on trying to do those things you haven't yet. Have you recruited volunteers to help with your hospital events or sending cards? If you have, have you thought of ways to recognize them (and, have you reported it)? I am going to have a special drawing at the March Parade of Programs for anyone who has recruited volunteers this year. I really hope we have lots of people entered! Have you researched and found information regarding women's health and provided that information to those who need it? How about Honors Escorts in hospitals? Have you looked into that yet? As you plan out your hospital projects, please contact me if you have any questions at all. I'm here to help you! I would also love to see pictures of your events, so please send those to me.

Loyally,
Brandi Dolan
Hospital Chairman

Chief of Staff - Extension & Revitalization

Happy New Year to Everyone:

I trust this note finds that everyone had a spectacular holiday season.

I mentioned at the last Council of Administration that I had a challenge for all auxiliaries – I even mentioned it briefly in my last Coloradoan article. Only a couple of auxiliaries have either taken me up on the challenge and/or reached out to find out about the challenge. So where are all my auxiliary presidents at? There is a \$50 donation on the line – I will make a \$50 donation to the program of the auxiliary's choice if they participate and are selected from a random drawing.

What's the catch? Members from the auxiliary needs to fill out the "Health Checkup for your Auxiliary Member Questionnaire" and return it to me. The more members from your auxiliary that turns in a questionnaire, the more chances **your** auxiliary has at winning this donation.

The questionnaire can be found on MALTA – click on member resources, select extension & revitalization, scroll down to healthy auxiliary toolkit, select the 6th bullet topic "VFW Auxiliary Member Questionnaire". You will need to print – fill it out, then mail it to me or email it to me. If you would like a fillable version of this form – please let me know and I'll email it to you.

Thank you to all district presidents who have completed their annual visitations and have submitted the questionnaire that President Flores and I requested to be filled out. We have been reviewing each one and are happy to see /hear about each auxiliary. If your auxiliary's annual visitation has not been completed yet, please reach out to your district president to schedule a date. If you are not sure who your district president is – please reach out to me and I'll get you in contact with them.

All presidents – there will be an email coming out with a little bit of information in preparation before our next Council of Administration. Please be on the lookout for it and respond with any questions or concerns.

Again, Happy new year – wishing you all a very happy 2025.

Stephane Trujillo
Department Chief of Staff

All-State Achievement

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

Can you believe it's already 2025! How time has flown by! I just want to remind all Auxiliaries that at the State Convention in June 2025, I will be holding two drawings. All Auxiliaries (at the Post level) that submit an All State Achievement Report by May 15, 2025 will be eligible for a drawing of \$25. The other drawing of \$25 will be for all District Auxiliaries that submit an All State Achievement Report by May 15, 2025. This is very important....Even if your Auxiliary or District DOESN'T earn enough points to receive the All State Achievement Award, you are still eligible for the drawing if you fill out the report with what your Auxiliary DID accomplish and have the President, Secretary and Treasurer sign it. Please remember these reports are due to me by May 15, 2025. Please continue to review the tasks on the All State Achievement Auxiliary/ District Report form. Being familiar with the tasks to earn points that are needed to reach the minimum points required may also help your Auxiliary remain healthy and successful. Both the Auxiliary/ District Report forms can be found on the Colorado Department website, vfwco.org or in the 2024-2025 Colorado Program book. All Auxiliaries, Post or District that meet the following requirements are eligible to receive the All State Achievement Award.

- #1 – The Auxiliary reach the minimum points required.*
- #2 – The All State Achievement Report form be completed and submitted by the deadline.*
- #3 – The All State Achievement Report form be signed by the President, Secretary and Treasurer.*

Good luck to all Auxiliaries, both Post and District! Thank you all for the continued hard work and the volunteering you do to support our Veterans and their families. I would like to encourage all Auxiliaries to share what they are doing by sending in program reports. So come on Colorado, let's get busy creating new memories and working together for "All Veterans, All Voices".

Hugs,

Patsy Gilmore – Chairman
Gayle Stockwell
Charlotte Lattin
All State Achievement Committee

NOTES FROM THE DEPARTMENT SECRETARY
AUXILIARY AND DISTRICT SECRETARIES

April is a busy month for our Secretaries. Please see that your Auxiliary and/or District completes the Auxiliary and/or District, Department, and National Delegate forms in accordance with the National Bylaws and send to the appropriate person.

District Delegate form – If already completed, be sure to send it to the District Secretary and take a copy with you to the District Convention.

A copy of the completed District Roster is due to me by May 15, 2025.

Each District Secretary is to input the 2025 – 2026 Officers into MALTA and send me (Ginny Rosa) a copy of the installation report by June 30, 2025 at the address listed below.

Each Auxiliary Secretary is to input its 2025 – 2026 Officers into MALTA and send me a copy at the address listed below before June 30.

Auxiliaries should nominate and elect 2025 – 2026 Officers at their April meeting.

Those officers are installed at the May meeting. Be sure the Installing Officer signs and dates page 3 of the installation report. If you are unable to install officers at your May meeting, notify Department President Nadia Flores and me immediately.

The completed installation report is to be sent to Ginny Rosa before June 30.

HOW TO GET PAPERWORK TO GINNY ROSA, DEPARTMENT SECRETARY:

Scan and email the documents to humming657@gmail.com

Fax documents to 303-914-5598 Attn: Ginny Rosa

Mail documents to:

Ginny Rosa
416 S Pine Drive
Bailey CO 80421

You may call me at 970-560-0639 with any issues.

Please do not send your delegate forms or installation report to National Headquarters.

Ginny Rosa
Department Secretary

Post & Auxiliary Change of E-Mail Form

Name: _____

New Email: _____

VFW Post Number: _____

Send changes to vfw@vfwco.org



**SAVE THE DATE
NATIONAL PRESIDENT
BRENDA BRYANT
COMES TO VISIT COLORADO
MAY 1 - MAY 3, 2025
WATCH THE WEBSITE FOR
MORE INFORMATION**

President's Special Project

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

As we say good-bye to 2024 and hello to 2025, may we all remember our *WHY* as a member of this great organization! Just a reminder that President Nadia and Commander Carol has joined together for their Special Project. The monies raised through sales of the Veteran pin will be going to their joint Special Project, the *"Equine-imity" Program of the White Ribbon Project.*

The *"Equine-imity" Program* is a project in which those who receive services for any of the above referenced and in need of help, would be able to participate in a program that isn't the standard approach of therapy. Individuals who participate in the *"Equine-imity" Program* would participate in sessions that would span over approximately six weeks, assisting them to heal through connecting with the animals at *Horse Partners*. Currently, the project is geared more towards Veterans and Veteran caregivers, but the Intimate Partner Violence Assistant Program (IPVAP) has already been looking at creating a model of this for the survivors of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse. The Rocky Mountain Regional VA would be the second VA facility to incorporate the program. San Diego VA was the first to implement this program for IPTV survivors.

I would like to remind all Auxiliaries that I will be drawing two tickets of all eligible Auxiliaries, that will each win \$25, at the State Convention in June 2025. All Auxiliaries that have purchased at least ten Veteran pins are eligible for the drawing. All Auxiliaries will receive credit for all purchases made by any Auxiliary or VFW member of that Post.

So come on Colorado, let's get busy creating new memories and working together for "All Veterans, All Voices".

Hugs,

Patsy Gilmore
Special Project Chairman



**2024-2025 Veteran's Pin Order Form
Department of Colorado Auxiliary
Presidents Special Project
"White Ribbon Project"**

Post or Auxiliary Name and Number: _____

Ship to (Name of a Person): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Quantity: _____ Pins x \$3.00 each = \$ _____

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 to: Patsy Gilmore
1719 Ascot Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO**

GENERAL ORDERS #3

February 1, 2025

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. **The Department of Colorado VFW Auxiliary** Parade of Programs, Workshops and Council of Administration meeting is scheduled for March 15 – 16, 2025 at Verle Huffman Post 9644, 2680 W. Hampden Avenue, Sheridan CO 80121. A complete schedule of programs and workshops will be available on the Department website at www.vfwco.org. A joint Council of Administration meeting will be held on Sunday, March 16, 2025 at 9:00 am and the Auxiliary Council meeting will follow. Please watch for further details coming out soon.
2. **Department President Nadia Flores' special project** is the "Equine-imity" Program of the White Ribbon Project. Please forward all donations to Department Treasurer, Cindy Anderson.
3. **Members in Good Standing** are those who are life members or those who hold a 2025 annual membership card as of January 1, 2025. A member who is not in good standing is not eligible to attend meetings, vote or hold office or chairmanship. They are also not eligible for a cancer grant from National. All rights and benefits are restored immediately upon payment of the current year dues. Proof of payment may include a paper or digital copy from MALTA.
4. **Membership:** Members who have not yet paid their dues for 2025 are requested to send dues to your Auxiliary Treasurer or pay them directly through the MALTA system with an activated account. Membership cards will be sent to paid annual members from National Headquarters within 2 to 4 weeks. Members should always carry an application in order to recruit new members. The VFW Auxiliary may fix an admission fee. This entitles each new member to a copy of the National Bylaws and Booklet of Instructions and a membership pin. (See Section 102 of the Bylaws)
5. **The 2025 National Podium Edition Bylaws and Ritual** is ready for distribution. Please order from the VFW Store or you can download a copy direct to your computer from the Member Resources behind the MALTA login. Please ensure that your President, Secretary and Treasurer are using the current edition.
6. **Audits** for the months of October, November and December 2024 were to be completed by January 31, 2025. Audits must be read on the Auxiliary floor and voted to be approved before sending them to the Department Treasurer by February 28, 2025.
7. **District Presidents:** Annual official visits to the Auxiliaries should continue only as it is possible to do that safely for all. A copy of the visitation report is to be sent to the Department Secretary and Department Chief of Staff. 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.
8. **Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen:** The Department VFW Auxiliary would like to extend congratulations to all the winners throughout the state and to thank all Auxiliaries for their hard work to promote these programs.
9. **Hospitalized Veterans** will receive special recognition during the week of February 10 through 14, 2025. Consider planning a special event or activity to honor our hospitalized veterans during this time.
10. **Salute to Service** nominations from the Auxiliaries are due to VFW Department Headquarters by March 15, 2025. While there won't be a Department Banquet again this year, the recognition for those nominated can be done at each District meeting starting in April 2025. All plaques will be sent to the respective Districts. Forms are available on the Department website.
11. **Program reporting:** The reporting year is April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025. All reporting must be done through the Department website and must be completed by April 15, 2025.
12. **Department Convention** will be held June 19 – June 22, 2025 at the DoubleTree in Colorado Springs. Registration forms are available on the Department website. Please be advised that reservations for the Military Ball must be made and paid for prior to June 5, 2025.
13. **A special thank you** to all of those that attended the Parade of Programs in Grand Junction. The Program Chairmen did an outstanding job of promoting their programs and I am sure that each of you were able to take some good information back to your Auxiliaries.

BY ORDER OF:
Nadia Flores
Department President

ATTESTED BY:
Ginny Rosa
Department Secretary

VFW Auxiliary Membership by District as of January 31, 2025

Number/City	2023	2024	%	Number/City	2023	2024	%	Number/City	2023	2024	%
District #1				District #5				District #10			
1 Denver	181	178	98.34	101 CO Springs	76	73	96.05	501 Denver	147	137	93.20
322 Englewood	76	64	84.21	3917 Security	196	179	91.33	3631 Aurora	100	88	88.00
5061 Denver	174	166	95.40	4051 CO Springs	239	255	107%*	4171 Golden	288	280	97.22
9644 Fort Logan	354	349	98.59	5221 Calhan	25	25	100%*	4331 Arvada	130	128	98.46
TOTAL	785	757	96.43	6461 Fountain	153	148	96.73	4444 Cmmce City	153	149	97.39
District #2				7829 Monument	44	30	68.18	7945 Thornton	268	257	95.90
2788 Penrose	45	45	100%*	TOTAL	733	710	96.86	TOTAL	1086	1039	95.67
3641 Pueblo	62	53	85.48	District #6				District #11			
4061 Canon City	102	83	81.37	336 Ordway	66	63	95.45	1247 Grnd Jctn	77	70	90.91
5812 Pueblo West	45	46	102%*	2411 Las Animas	108	100	92.59	3571 Delta	49	47	95.92
7305 Colo. City	23	23	100%*	TOTAL	174	163	93.68	3981 Grnd Jctn	46	37	80.43
8898 Boone	18	11	61.11	District #7				9221 Cedaredge	51	48	94.12
TOTAL	295	261	88.47	899 Alamosa	40	37	92.50	TOTAL	223	202	90.58
District #3				8121 Del Norte	106	102	96.23	District #12			
41 Loveland	125	108	86.40	TOTAL	146	139	95.21	4031 Durango	148	138	93.24
1771 Lafayette	248	239	96.37	District #8				5181 Dove Creek	33	33	100%*
1781 Fort Collins	128	101	78.91	859 Leadville	17	17	100%*	5231 Cortez	57	51	89.47
2121 Greeley	112	87	77.68	11411 Lake George	48	47	97.92	TOTAL	238	222	93.28
2585 Johnstown	84	81	96.43	12009 Conifer	32	37	116%*	District #13			
2601 Longmont	162	157	96.91	TOTAL	97	101	104%*	3411 Kit Carson	17	18	106%*
4334 Ault	44	43	97.73	District #9				6612 Hugo	37	36	97.30
6624 Evans	180	176	97.78	4264 Stmbt Springs	28	28	100%*	TOTAL	54	54	100%*
12189 Berthoud	18	15	83.33	4265 Craig	37	31	83.78	15006 MAL	756	758	100%*
TOTAL	1101	1007	91.46	5843 Meeker	31	31	100%*	TOTAL DEPT			5889 5589 94.91
District #4				9374 Kremmling	22	23	105%*				
3541 Sterling	45	45	100%*	TOTAL	118	113	95.76				
4671 Wray	20	18	90.00								
12226 Sterling	18	0	0.00								
TOTAL	83	63	75.90								



* = 100% Membership
 Help Colorado be 100%+

Please send all Deceased VFW & Auxiliary Members to vfw@vfwco.org

They will be saved for the Joint Memorial State Convention Book. Our Deadline is May 20, 2025

Salute to Service Forms are available on
<https://vfwco.org/index.php/events-m/143-salute-to-service-award>
They are due to Department by March 15, 2025 - email to vfw@vfwco.org OR
mail to VFW Department of Colorado, 1400 Carr Street, Lakewood, CO 80214