

SAVE THE DATE

Department President's Homecoming

Crowne Plaza Melbourne Oceanfront

2601 North A1A

Melbourne 32903

March 14 - 15, 2025

For dinner reservations contact

Mary Kellner

321-914-9292 or maryk@yahoo.com

Deadline: March 1st

To receive the discounted group rate of \$245+ for a Standard Room and \$265+ for a Balcony Room over the dates of Friday, March 14th, 2025 through Sunday, March 16th, 2025 please reference group code "VFW" when reserving by phone at 1-877-701-9252 or online at <https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/melbourne/mlboc/hoteldetail>.

Reservations will be accepted at the group rate until February 9th, 2025. After this date any unused room in the block will be released back into inventory for general sale and your guests will be quoted the prevailing rate at the time of the reservation.

Please also feel free to share your direct booking link (which will not need your group code):

[VFWA Department of Florida Homecoming Booking Link 2025](#)



“Unity”

1
Family

1 Voice

1 Team



“From Our
Roots to Our
Branches –
Extending
Service to Our
Veterans”

November 11th – VETERANS DAY

November 28th – THANKSGIVING DAY

What is Veterans Day and why?

In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank LIVING veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served – not only those who died – have sacrificed and done their duty.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week it falls. The of Veterans Day not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day:

A day to celebrate to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.



During this time of year, we need to remember those fighting and are not able to be with their families. So let’s be thankful to our Veterans during....

THANKSGIVING

The first and most important reason to be thankful to any Veteran out there is that they willingly choose to serve. In

Approved by:
Department President
Virginia Brehmer

simple words, these men and women feel a calling that many of us do not get. This calling compels them to serve their country in every way possible.

Thanksgiving is a significant holiday in American culture for several reasons.

Thanksgiving and praise bring God on the scene, puts challenges in perspective, strengthens your faith and allows you to combat negative spiritual forces that come against you.

Thanksgiving's roots can be traced back to harvest festivals celebrated by ancient cultures, including the Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans. It also has ties to the Jewish harvest festival of Sukkot. In the New World, colonists and Native Americans celebrated days of prayer and feasting and for blessings like safe journeys, military victories, and abundant harvests

History -- Thanksgiving is based on the 1621 harvest feast shared by the Wampanoag people and the Pilgrims. The holiday commemorates the unity of the two groups and symbolizes peace and goodwill between their cultures.

Gratitude -- Thanksgiving is a time to express gratitude for the harvest and other blessings of the year. Gratitude is linked to mental well-being, self-esteem, and spiritualism.

Unity - Thanksgiving emphasizes unity, nationalism, and pride in American values.

Remember,,,, We are here to service and support our Veterans!!

A Soldier’s Prayer

Dear Lord: Bless our soldiers, Protectors of our nation. Give them strength and courage in the face of adversity and deliver them safely home to their loving families once again. Amen

December :

- 12-5 – St. Nicholas Day
- 12-7- Pearl Harbor
- 12-18 – Hanukkah Begins
- 12-25 – Christmas

Remember – to Report your Veterans Day Celebration. Host a community celebration. Conduct a Flag-raising ceremony.



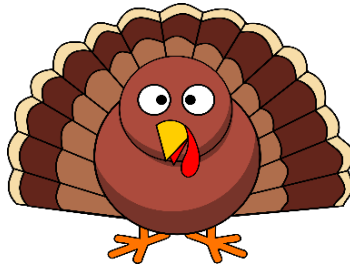
Carol Franker
Americanism Chairperson
Qcarol4u@gmail.com
352-400-9016

AUXILIARY OUTREACH

“1 Family, 1 Voice, 1 Team”

ISSUE 6

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING
FROM OUR HOME
TO YOUR HOME!**



“UNITY” IN OUR COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER 2024



OUR TO DO LIST!

- ✓ **Reach out in the community**
- ✓ **Help at a local food bank**
- ✓ **Look for a non-profit organization hosting an event**
- ✓ **Give your Labor of Love**
- ✓ **Help serve Thanksgiving meals to the homeless**
- ✓ **Look into your local community boards and newspapers**
- ✓ **Look for Cancer Runs, and be a spotter, or hand out water**
- ✓ **Take lots of pictures, videos, hashtag #Auxiliaryoutreach on Facebook**

**THE FOCUS OF THIS PROGRAM IS
STRICTLY VOLUNTEERING OUR TIME AND
TALENTS!**

**There is no money or in-kind donations and
No Splitting hours reported in this
program.**

*Remember, you are helping another
non-profit organization host their event!*



- ❖ **Dept. Awards for most outstanding photo collage in each of the 5 membership groups created by the VFW Auxiliary of their VFW Auxiliary Outreach partnerships during the current program year. 1 picture for each event worked**
- ❖ **Dept. Special Award to one Auxiliary in each of the 5 membership groups who volunteer the most Auxiliary hours with another organization NOT affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary or any other Veteran Organization.**
- ❖ **National Award for the most outstanding photo collage – 1 picture for each event worked**

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

Sandi Hendriks
Auxiliary Outreach Chairman
sandihendriks@yahoo.com

Buddy Poppy/ National Home

Issue 5 November 2024

“Buddy Poppy”

As we get into our holiday season lets remember to distribute and educate our community about the “Buddy” poppy. Remember we do not sell poppy’s but we are grateful for the donations that go to help veterans and their families.

Remember after your event report your event in the reporting site and fill out a National Program Award 1 entry form found on Malta. Send it to me you don’t have to wait until the last minute. You will want to describe your event and send any flyers, Brochures, Social Media post , Handouts , and Photos. You can email them to me or mail them to me at 13620 Silver Charm Ct , Riverview FL 33572.

I look forward to hearing from you!!!!

“Buddy” Poppy Contest.

Do you know what the Buddy Contest Judges are looking for:

Each Display is broken down into 3 Categories. Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign, Inspirational Display, Artistic or Decorative.

Each Category is the judged on effectiveness, purpose, clarity of theme, suitability, originality, beauty and the number of poppies used. Each post and Auxiliary can submit one display per category. Remember don’t include your Post number in the display this is to be placed in an envelope under the display. List the number of poppies used on in front of the display.

After the Department Contest the winner can submit their “Buddy” Poppy display for the National contest. You are responsible for getting it there and back. Forms are on Malta.

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

National Home

What does the National home needs. The National Home needs families. The home does an amazing job but as the current families transition out they need new families to transition in. So lets get the word out.

Share the telephone number 1-800-313-4200.

Eligibility requirements are:

- Actively Serving
- A Veteran
- VFW/ Auxiliary member

Log into www.vfwnationalhome.org and click on the **red box that says get help.**

How are some other ways to help.

Especially during the holiday season is to check the [Amazon wish list](#). You can always send toys and diaper this way.

Buy a Tribute Brick Value at \$100.00, Become a Home Town Hero a monthly donation that you set. Purchase a Memorial for the Tribute Park value starting at \$3000.00. Or you could just send money. Money can help with operational cost.



Monument in the Tribute Park

Kelly Barr, Buddy Poppy/National Home Chairman
Buddypoppy2024-2025@gmail.com

EXTENSION, REVITALIZATION & MENTORING

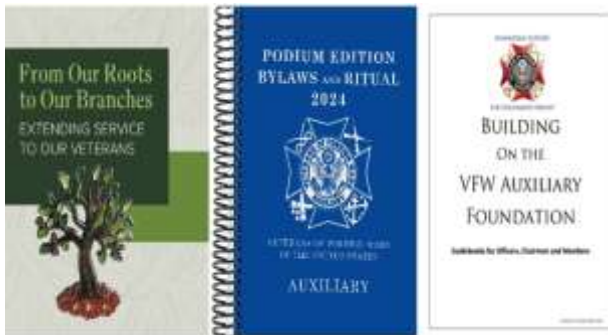
Volume 6 November 2024



Your 990 forms are due by Nov 15, and a copy to Cindy Estell

It's a great time to Thank your members for all their hard work

Where Can You Find the Best Resources to Mentor & Build your Auxiliary?



Are these familiar images to you?

These 3 books hold just about all the VFW Secrets you could ever want to find!

They all can be found located behind the MALTA log in on the National Website:

www.vfwauxiliary.org.

- **Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit**
 - MALTA – Extension & Revitalization
 - The National Podium Book
 - The current year National Program Book
 - “Understanding Auxiliary Traditions” video



Mentoring

November is a wonderful time to show how thankful you are to our Veterans for their service! Don't forget to express your gratitude to all our members for their service to our Organization



- Do You Know of a Post near you that doesn't have an Auxiliary?
- Could they be a bigger, a Stronger Post if only they had an Auxiliary to support them?

Please notify Dept. President Ginger or Myself-Debbie McCollum with information, such as the Post number, the name of the Post Commander and best way to contact them.

Winners are not those who never fail, but those who never quit. Edwin Louis Cole

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

Debbie McCollum, Chairman & Chief of Staff
Ucfnole21@yahoo.com

Historian/Media Relations

2024-2025

Issue 6

**NOVEMBER IS A
REMINDER TO BE
THANKFUL***

**Thank God, our Military,
Veterans, and Families.**

Thank your Volunteers*

Share your Auxiliary story.

Through Media*



Share information

Using the 5 W's

WHO-PEOPLE

WHAT-OBJECT-ACTION

WHEN-TIME OR DATE

WHERE-PLACE

WHY-REASON

TELL YOUR STORY

USING THESE TOOLS

Don't make History a mystery

Communication is very important

Communicate to your members & community on what your event is. Using social media, flyers, newspaper, local radio.

Capture the moment with Photos.

Get the word out "Promote"



The Holidays are almost here.



Veterans Day Nov. 11th

Thanksgiving Nov. 28th

What are the plans?

**How is your Auxiliary Honoring
our Veterans, and Military Troops.**

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

Jeanne Laurine
Historian/Media Relations
Jeannelaurine5@gmail.com

V.A.V.S.

Veteran's Day, November 11th

*Where will you be celebrating our Veterans?

*VA Hospital, CLC, Domiciliary, Cancer Center, Nursing Home?

*Hand out cards, poppies, snacks, flags. ** Shake hands**

*Make an appointment at a facility for yourself, or your Auxiliary.



THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES

Help our Veteran Families with food insecurities.

\$50 value (\$25 in non-perishables, \$25 grocery gift card)

#Contact your VAVS Representative, Deputy, or VA facility for needs list and drop off dates. (in partnership w/ HUD VASH)

Send pictures of all your fabulous hospital work!

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

Karen Heikkila, Hospital Chairman
hospitalauxfl@yahoo.com

HOSPITAL PROGRAM

Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition, and Support

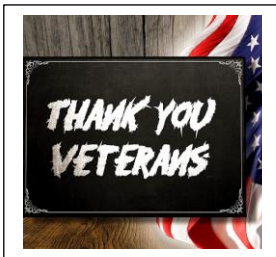
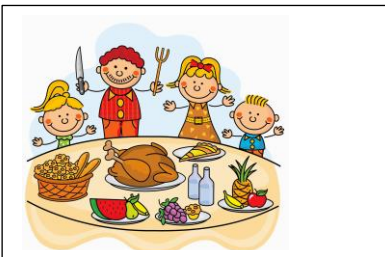
New volunteers are needed more now than ever at our V.A. hospitals, Clinics, C.L.C.s, and Domiciliary. We as volunteers create a friendly, caring atmosphere no matter where we are. Here are tips for recruiting and keeping volunteers:

- Sign up sheets for regular events.
- Emails and phone calls for special events.
- Be detailed about what the volunteers will be doing, with times and dates.
- Find out each person's interests and strengths.
- If someone says "no" to the first invitation, be sure to ask again!
- Public recognition of Volunteers.

MALTA has information on becoming a volunteer, recruiting, how to donate to the HOSPITAL FUND.

Dates for Hospital Program Projects for volunteers:

- ✓ Veterans Day November 11, recognize and celebrate.
- ✓ Christmas, Caroling, candy canes, and cheer
- ✓ Salute to Veteran patient week. February 10-14, 2025. Take cards, candy (sugar free), and love to a VA facility.
- ✓ Vietnam Veteran Day, most VA hospitals have a ceremony where we can volunteer by handing out water, cards, snacks.
- ✓ Memorial Day, Volunteers for the tags & flags tables, creating a garden of flags at each VA facility.



YOU are the veteran's "little ray of sunshine. Be creative with ways to make them happy.

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

Karen Heikkila
Hospital Chairman
hospitalauxfl@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP

REMEMBER - INVITE - INVEST - INCLUDE MEMBERS

Congratulations to every Auxiliary who received their special membership pins at the fall meeting. There are plenty of pins to give out, so help me get these to you and increase by **ASKING**, people to join.



Make sure you are wearing your pin to show and tell everyone how you received it.

How are you recruiting, most people today do not have time for small talk, ask for their phone number, then you can text them the QR code, ask for emails so you can send membership applications. Many people especially younger members are more technology savvy and would rather use technology to communicate. Where do you find the QR code? Its in MALTA under membership for a clear copy.



SWAP Idea. An Auxiliary member went into Office Max for some flyers to be made for fundraising event. Standing next to her a gentleman asked what the copies were for, then she explained about the VFW and the upcoming fundraiser. She then asked him if he had served, he stated he was not a veteran, so she proceeded to ask if he had a relative who served during wartime, and he could join under them. She got his phone number and gave her personal business card.

Thank you, Jeanne Laurine,

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

Betty A. Bailey, Membership Chairman
bann652@aol.com

We the Auxiliary: Can Be An Advocate, Be Informed, Be Engaged

Veterans of Foreign Wars POW/MIA GOALS



The VFW will not rest until we achieve the fullest possible accounting of all missing American military service members from all wars.

The VFW encourages the U.S. government to continue its missing personnel accounting efforts, and is directly engaged with former enemy nations urging their fullest cooperation and assistance in obtaining information about American POWs/MIAs. VFW national officers make periodic

trips to Pacific, Asian and European countries where they meet with senior host country officials to stress the importance of conducting investigation and recovery operations, as well as gaining access to documents and archival research facilities.

VFW's Stance on POW/MIA Issues

1. Never quit on achieving the fullest possible accounting of all American POWs/MIAs from all wars.
2. Urge Congress to fully fund the requested amounts for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and all supporting agencies involved in the Full Accounting Mission.
3. Encourage POW/MIA public awareness projects and events.
4. Support POW/MIA Recognition Day.
5. Encourage the flying of the POW/MIA flag on all local, state and

6. Immediately drape all transfer cases containing recovered remains of military members with the U.S. flag upon departure from foreign soil.
7. Solicit and provide information to assist the government of Vietnam in accounting for their own missing-in-action during the war with the U.S.
8. Keep the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs intact in mission, personnel and funding.

NEV [POWMIA-Awareness-Brochure.pdf \(vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net\)](https://www.vfw.org-cdn.azureedge.net/POWMIA-Awareness-Brochure.pdf)

NEVER FORGOTTEN ACCOUNTED FOR OCTOBER 2022 - SEPTEMBER 2023

WORLD WAR II

ARMY
Staff Sgt. Alvin Scarborough
Pvt. Carl Minter
Pvt. Earl Satterly
1st Lt. Tom Harrison
2nd Lt. Gene Walker
Sgt. George Hancock
Sgt. Gregory Knoll
Staff Sgt. Harold Schaler
Pvt. John Hopp
Pfc. Henry Wade
Pvt. Henry Wilson
Pfc. James Hartman
Sgt. James McClinton
Sgt. John Merrick
Sgt. John Radovich
Cpl. Julius Wolfe
Staff Sgt. Leroy Daultoff
Pvt. Lee Kline
Pfc. Manuel Trujillo
Pvt. Nelson Kasper
Pvt. Robert McKeon
Staff Sgt. Max Thurston
Pfc. Noah Neave
Pvt. Raymond Schlamp
Pvt. Richard Simmons
Pvt. Robert Hurd
Staff Sgt. Robert Rudd
Pfc. Thomas Long
Pvt. William Smith
Pvt. William Simon
Staff Sgt. Woodrow Gerdesse

ARMY Air Forces
2nd Lt. Albert Stahl
1st Lt. Alfred Bessie
Sgt. Arthur Van Rieck
1st Lt. Charles Reynolds
Sgt. Charles Rogers
Cpl. Charles Cook
Flight Officer Chester Rinke
1st Lt. Dan Gibson
Sgt. Donald Aiken
Pvt. Doyle Smith
Staff Sgt. Eugene Mills
1st Lt. Edward Barnett
Tech. Sgt. Edna Scollion
Staff Sgt. Felix Spisak
Tech. Sgt. Frank Friel
2nd Lt. Fred Brewer
1st Lt. George Heuter
2nd Charles Myers
Staff Sgt. Henry Stevens
Pvt. Henry McCormick
Technician 4th Grade Herbert March

Sgt. Irving Newman
Staff Sgt. Jack Coy
Staff Sgt. Jackson Barbour
Cpl. Joseph Gurnea
2nd Lt. James Marsh
1st Lt. James Garland
Tech. Sgt. James Triplett
Staff Sgt. John Hoke
Tech. Sgt. Keith McKeman
Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Reitz
2nd Lt. Noel Sauer
Tech. Sgt. Paul Estelman
2nd Lt. Peter Jelle
Staff Sgt. Raymond Kaudelky
1st Lt. Robert Kasten
Staff Sgt. Robert Ferris
Tech. Sgt. Robert Allen
Staff Sgt. Robert Elliott
Tech. Sgt. Robert Johnson
2nd Lt. Walter Miklosh
Sgt. Willie Jones II
Tech. Sgt. William Leuchering
1st Lt. William Montgomery
Staff Sgt. Willie Jones

Marine Corps
1st Lt. Alvin Cockrell
Pfc. Christopher Barber
Sgt. Harold Hammett
1st Lt. Harold Weaver
Pfc. John Reynolds
Cpl. Manuel Jimenez
Sgt. Robert Moon
Cpl. Robert Chesek
Cpl. Thomas Phillips
Cpl. Walter Vaughan

NAVY
Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class Anthony Dipetta
Gunners Mate 3rd Class Arnold Gort
Aviation Radiomen 1st Class Wilbur Mitts

KOREAN WAR

ARMY
Sgt. Adin Norris
Pfc. Albert Gosnell
Pfc. Alan Dutton
Pfc. Anthony Long
Cpl. Billy Decker
Cpl. Cameron Griffin
Cpl. Charles Robson
Sgt. Desenciano Garcia
Cpl. Daniel Deanda

Master Sgt. David Sluder
Cpl. Dewey Reavis
Cpl. Donald Dupont
Cpl. Erik Cox
Cpl. Ernesto Ortiz
Cpl. Gordon McGrath
Sgt. Howard Malcolm
Sgt. 1st Class James Dorrance
Pfc. Jan-Clas James Wilkinson
Pfc. James Smith
Cpl. John Spruell
Sgt. Lawrence Robidoux
Cpl. Lester Story
Cpl. Lyle Short
Cpl. Ray Lilly
Cpl. Rex Powell
Pfc. Richard Sharrow
Pfc. Robert Wright
Master Sgt. Roy Barrow
Sgt. Stanley Lutz
Cpl. William Herrington
Sgt. Willie Bay

VIETNAM WAR

ARMY
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Larry Zich
Air Force
Cpl. Ernest DeSio
Capt. Frederick Hall
Marine Corps
Cpl. Ralph Chipman

158 ACCOUNTED FOR

Picture obtained from this website:
[Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency](https://www.defense.gov/POW/MIA/AccountingAgency)

Legislative priority goal

National Security, Foreign Affairs, POW/MIA



To fully support the all-volunteer force, protect our nation's citizens, and defend American interests around the world, Congress and DOD must:

- Ensure DPAA is fully funded to perform its personnel recovery mission.
- Expand partnerships with host nations and private/public organizations to achieve the fullest possible accounting of U.S. military personnel missing from all wars.
- Deter threats to our national security by supporting our allies in Ukraine, Israel, Korea, and Taiwan.
- Ensure all service members who served in harm's way, to include foreign nationals, receive the recognition, care, and benefits they have earned.
- Provide recognition and support for Afghan and Iraqi translators and allies.
- Award the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for operations in Eastern Europe.

Are you having a Freedom Festival?

Create legislative games, have a skit, design an age appropriate coloring or activity book. Have a table set up to sign people up for Action Corps. Teach priority goals and hand out the Action Corps brochure to your guest. [PriorityGoalsBrochure.pdf \(vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net\)](https://www.vfw.org-cdn.azureedge.net/PriorityGoalsBrochure.pdf)

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer



MELISSA MCKEON
Legislative Chairman
Melissamckeon6767@gmail.com



Psychologists demonstrated that horses could recognize a human's mood from their facial expressions and differentiate between anger and happiness.



What ideas have you done to “Win the Triple Crown”

Share your ideas with other Auxiliary's on Facebook,
Brag about how great your event went and the fun you had to raise
money for “Freedom Rides”

The Triple Crown can be won by raising \$1600.00 or more to qualify.
The Auxiliary that raises the highest amount will win the
“Triple Crown”.

Fun Ideas

Dance a Thon

Yard Sale

Potluck Cook off

Chili Cook off

Shoe Donations

(Website in previous bulletins)



Remember October “Fall Round-Up”

The Parade of Checks, Tell us how you
raised the money for “Freedom Ride”

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

Pauline Riddle
Department Special Project
Fireballs44@hotmail.com



VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM



November 2024-25, ISSUE 6

FL DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S THEME:

"One Family One Voice! One Team!"



2024

2025

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S THEME:

*"From Our Roots to Our Branches...
Extending Service to Our Veterans"*

Together, our focus this year is to *Keep Moving For-*

Remember: *REPORT, REPORT, REPORT*

Now Is the Time for ALL VFW and Auxiliary Members to Come to the Aid of Our Veterans, Their Families, and Our Communities!

RECENT STORMS AND OTHER DISASTERS HAVE IMPACTED OUR STATE, AS WELL AS MOST OF THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES. MANY VFW POST HOMES, VETERAN BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITY HOMES HAVE VARIOUS LEVELS OF DAMAGE OR DEVASTATION. WE ALL NEED TO STEP UP AND HELP!

DISASTER RELIEF

A Disaster Relief Fund has been set up to help our Florida Auxiliaries in case of emergency (Hurricane, Tornado, fire, flood). A minimum of not less than \$250 and not more than \$500 shall be distributed at the discretion of the Department President. If you have members who are in need, PLEASE share this information with them. If they are unable to send their information, we ask that you assist them and let our Department President know exactly the circumstances. Monies will be based and distributed upon priority. Please ensure that Correct and Current Contact Information is provided.

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

- ◆ If your Auxiliary needs financial assistance, please work through your Auxiliary and/or District President to our Department President to request Disaster Relief Funds.
- ◆ Help us replenish our Disaster Relief Funds. Sends donations directly to our Department Treasurer, and earmark them as Disaster Relief. Ensure you report on your efforts!
- ◆ Check the VFWAUXFL.ORG website for any additional and latest information.

**NOW IS THE TIME
TO COME TO THE
AID OF OUR
TEAMMATES!**

Our 2024-2025 National Goals

- Goal #1—National Veterans Suicide Prevention
- Goal #2—Childcare for Active-Duty Service Members
- Goal #3—Veterans and Military Support Programs

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer



Bob Kabala
Veterans & Family Support Chairman,
rkabala@tampabay.rr.com



VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM



November 2024-25, ISSUE 6 — Page 2

FL DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S THEME:

"One Family One Voice! One Team!"



2024

2025

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S THEME:

*"From Our Roots to Our Branches...
Extending Service to Our Veterans"*

NOW IS THE TIME TO COME TO THE AID OF OUR TEAMMATES ON GUARD! BE ALERT!

***WITH THE LOSS OF FAMILY, FRIENDS, HOMES, JOBS, ETC., WE MUST BE EVER VIGILANT
TO THOSE AROUND US! USE THIS CHECKLIST TO ASSIST IN YOUR EFFORTS.***

GOAL #1—SUICIDE PREVENTION

- ◆ If you see someone in distress, don't be afraid to *E—N—G—A—G—E*.
- ◆ Keep in close contact with those who are/were severely impacted, depressed, or facing personal or family challenges.
- ◆ Set up a daily/weekly contact list (In person, by phone, or by e-mail) within your Auxiliary and/or community.
- ◆ Immediately share any issues or areas of concern with your Auxiliary Team.
- ◆ Be knowledgeable about available suicide prevention programs in your area.

GOAL #2—CHILDCARE FOR ACTIVE-DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

- ◆ Have your Auxiliary Adopt a Veteran Family or Families who have children.
- ◆ Create a Contact and Network Plan to assist the group. Reach out daily/weekly to assist how ever your team can help.
- ◆ Help Out When and Where You Can by Offering: Babysitting Duties, A Trip to the Park, An Ice Cream/Pizza Outing , Reading a Book to the Children, Go to a Playground.
- ◆ Provide child support to allow parents time to address personal and family challenges.

GOAL #3—VETERANS AND MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

- ◆ Be knowledgeable on VFW programs, assets, and resources available for Veterans.
- ◆ Ensure that our Veterans and their family members are aware of the aid available.
- ◆ Guide our Veterans and their family members in their efforts to obtain such benefits.
- ◆ Coordinate and team our Veterans with a VFW Accredited Service Officer.

Approved by:
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

Bob Kabala
Veterans & Family Support Chairman,
rkabala@tampabay.rr.com

YOUTH PROGRAMS

November 24-25
Volume 1, Issue 6

KEY POINTS

1. Recruit Youth Assistance
2. Host Youth Christmas Events
3. Support Local Youth Leagues
4. Submit Reminders for Art Contests
5. Book or Confirm Veteran Read Event

AUTUMN LEAVES, PUMPKIN PATCHES, SNUGGLE WEATHER W/ A NEW GREAT READ, WHILE WAITING ON HOLIDAY PIES.... SOUNDS LIKE FALL TO ME

While our communities are getting into the spirit of giving thanks, it's a good time to festively begin recruiting. Begin by recruiting our local youth, from schools, boys' and girls' clubs and youth groups. Please include church children's groups as well as, boys, girls and cub scouts to assist your VFW Auxiliary, VFW Post, Nursing Homes, Veterans, Seniors and or Disabled Community Members w/ holiday décor, Christmas Tree set ups and or projects. It is a great honor for children to receive VFW Auxiliary Awards, R.A.P. cards while earning community service hours for graduation & college.

Increase the Amount Patriotic Youth Involvement with program activities hosted by your VFW Auxiliaries and VFW Posts

Q: How can we engage with local youth during the holidays?

A: Host & Invite local Youth & Families to a Free BREAKFAST W/ SANTA. Consider co-hosting w/ your VFW Post & maybe provide a Mrs. Clause.

Q: How can a Boy, Girl or Cub Scout Group become more involved in our Veteran Organization?

A: Guest speak at one of their meetings and learn what criteria the children need to meet to be able to earn prestigious patches that coincide with a project, goal or assistance that helps your local Veterans at the same time.

*"If you Have not Already, Please BOOK your
VETERAN READ TO CHILDREN and or
CHILDREN READ TO A VETERAN EVENT!
(Criteria found: Youth Program description Page)*



SUPPORT LOCAL YOUTH SPORTS LEAGUES!

Please take the time to reach out to locale Sport Leagues to verify if any have reached Championship Levels and could use support w/ parties, travel cost, trophies etc.... Bring findings to your next VFW Auxiliary Meeting.

Approved by;
Dept. President
Virginia Brehmer

Amy DiMauro
Youth Activities Chairman
stavamy@aol.com