



## Department President

**Ramona Henson**

**Soaring Thru Texas**



### THANK YOU TEXAS!

At this writing we are just over 83% in membership and this is only October! Keep up the good work, it is most appreciated.

Most of my September was taken up with recovering from Hurricane Laura. It was a hassle cutting down the trees that fell on our house and picking up the shingles from the roof that landed in our yard. I am so thankful it was not as bad as it could have been. Please continue to pray for those who lost everything.

I hope you all had your special ceremonies for Patriot Day, POW/MIA Day and Gold Star Mothers/Family Days and then reported it. I look forward to seeing those reports.

In October we have Health & Happiness due at the National Home. Be sure to send \$.10 per member based on your July 1<sup>st</sup> membership. To receive a certificate from National Home, send at least \$.25 per member. Audits are also due this month. Be on time!

Auxiliary Presidents, please be aware, if you have changes in your officers, National Headquarters and

our Department office need the replacement's Membership Number and contact information to change anything in MALTA. Do not expect either to do your job for you. In a world where you can be anything, be kind.

### Official Visit Schedule

**October 10, 2020 – District 6**

**October 18, 2020 – District 4**

**October 24, 2020 – District 25**

**October 31, 2020 – District 10**

**Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our  
Veterans**

**Honoring Our Mission To Serve Veterans**



## CHIEF OF STAFF

**Donna James**

The Deputy Chief of Staff may attend an inspection but only as a guest. The Deputy Chief of Staff only speaks if asked by the Auxiliary President. The Deputy Chief of Staff assists the District President when asked and should never correct her/him in front of membership. The President is in charge of the inspection. Deputy Chief of Staff works with the Department Chief of Staff on problems in their assigned area while assisting District President. The Chief of Staff and Deputy Chief of Staff are appointed positions not elected.

We need to keep working to get new Auxiliaries. If we have a Bachelor Post in your District that is interested in getting an Auxiliary, we need to make it happen. We need the minutes from the VFW meeting voting to accept an Auxiliary, at least 15 new members and \$100 for the charter kit. Once you receive this information please send it to Secretary, Andrea King. Madam Department President and Department Chief of Staff will appoint an organizer to work with the Auxiliary to get chartered and for at least a year to make sure they are a success. We must continue to grow every year to remain strong.

Always remember, we are here because of our Veterans and for our Veterans. They need us now more than ever before during this virus.

**“Honor, Courage, Commitment For Our Veterans”  
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## LEGISLATIVE

**Tammie Mosby – Chairman**

Time is getting closer and closer to the November elections. Please be sure you are working on the state wide project. It is getting more imperative that we help our communities to get registered to vote. We must let our voices be heard in this turmoil of times.

The President signed into law VFW-supported [H.R. 3504](#), the *Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019*. The new law will provide enhancements to VA's Specially Adapted Housing program by increasing the number of grants awarded, raising the dollar amount of the individual grants and expanding the number of times qualified veterans can use a housing grant. This change will help certain severely disabled veterans purchase adaptive homes or upgrade existing homes to meet their specific needs for daily living activities. The VFW applauds the

passage of this important bill which will greatly benefit veterans.

This is one example of how our voices, united together can bring about change. I cannot express enough how we must “Get Out The Vote”.

I want to remind everybody to be sure each auxiliary member is receiving the Action Corps Weekly e-newsletter. You can sign up online to receive this resource at [www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-effort](http://www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-effort). You can also go to the resource page in Malta under Legislative to find more tools and resources.

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

I am here to help you in any way I can. If you succeed, I succeed. You can email me at [tjpurplerose@yahoo.com](mailto:tjpurplerose@yahoo.com) or by cell phone at 936-414-5293.



## HOSPITAL

**Pat Kessler – Team Leader**

Here we are in Oct. already and things are moving along as best we can. We have been receiving lots of reports. It is great to see everyone is looking out of the box to help our Veterans. With the virus it is hard to do a lot, but it looks like the challenge is working. Our auxiliaries always come through.

### **Hospital Pledge**

I received lots of reports where the Auxiliaries have sent in your money. This is what our VAVS need to continue helping in our VA hospitals.

### **Valentines for Veterans**

Get started now making valentines for our Veterans in the nursing homes and VA Hospitals. Get your youth involved. Children love to make Valentines. Share the love we have for our veterans and service members this Valentine's Day by sending a store-bought or handmade valentine. Fellow members, individuals and groups in your community can use their creativity to show compassion for our veterans and service members.

### **Women Veterans Health Care**

Women have served our nation for generations and are the fastest growing group within the veteran population. Learn about the resources and health care services available and help them receive the benefits and services they deserve.

## **Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition and Support**

New volunteers are needed every day across the country. Volunteers offset millions of dollars in expenses in health care. They help create a friendly and caring atmosphere no matter where they volunteer.

### **Special Project**

Our pillows are coming along better than we expected. I have received reports and phone calls from auxiliaries making pillows for our veterans. It is great. Because of COVID-19 I have told some that call me, if you want to distribute the pillows locally that is fine. If you do this please send pictures, a report of where you took them and how many. Keep up the good work.

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### **AMERICANISM/PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR Irma Solis – Chairman**

Hope everyone is doing good. We sure have had our share (and more) of things coming from mother nature. But none the less, here we are.....ready to work!!!!

I am going to give you a little bit of “our flag history” hoping it can help you in some way. The Flag of the United States of America has 13 horizontal stripes, seven red and six white. The white and red strips alternate. The white stars of five points are on a blue field and placed on the upper quarter next to the staff. The number of stars represent the number of states in the Union. When a state is admitted into the Union, a star will be added to the Flag and such addition will take effect on the 4th day of July after the admission of the new state.

It is customary to fly the Flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on flagstuffs in the open. If a more patriotic effect is desired, the Flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness. Always raise the flag briskly, but always lower it slowly and ceremoniously.

The Flag should be displayed on all National and State holidays and on special occasions, weather permitting. An all-weather flag can be flown daily, even in inclement weather. The Flag should be flown daily on or near the main administration building of every public institution and of every public school building in or near the school entrance. The Flag should be displayed in or near every polling place on election day.

Another piece of information that is very important is that when carried in a procession with

one or more other flags, the Flag of the United States should be either on the marching right, or when there is a line of other flags the Flag of the United States may be in front of the center of that line. When displaying with flags from other states or cities, the Flag of the United States should be at the center and at the highest point of the group. I hope to continue gathering tidbits of info to share with you all. Until next time.....!!

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### **MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP Denise DuBois – Team Leader**

Is Fall really around the corner? Let’s hope so. All of you have been busy with your trainings and setting things into play for this new year. We continue to request the mentoring forms be filled out and returned. We have great mentors in the state of Texas, but we would like to know who they are. Mentoring and Leadership build strong relationships.

The better we all understand our organization, the stronger our department will be. The mentoring for leadership team is committed to listen, watch and be there for you. We will continue to develop member confidence and ensure there is a positive member experience. Please tell us “Who is your R.O.C.K.”

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### **AUXILIARY COMMUNITY OUTREACH Susie Carter – Chairman**

**What Is Auxiliary Community Outreach?** It is service work done by an Auxiliary member or Auxiliary as a group of people that benefits others. You are not paid to perform community service but volunteer your time. We participate in community service because they enjoy helping others and improving our communities, but remember, to wear our brand (VFW Auxiliary attire) when volunteering in the Outreach Program so everyone will know who we are.

**Why Should We Participate in Community Outreach?** There are many benefits to participating in

community service, both for the member as individuals and the Auxiliary itself. Some of these are:

- Gives us a way to help others
- Helps improve our community
- Can be a way to meet new friends
- Often results in personal growth
- Helps you find new members for both the VFW and the Auxiliary

More suggestions from our National Ambassador for performing community service: Read books or letters to a person who is visually impaired, volunteer to help at a charity auction, contact a tree farm about donating Christmas trees to nursing homes, hospitals or to families who can't afford to buy their own. Collect unused makeup, perfume and personal care items to donate to a domestic violence shelter, help deliver meals and gifts to patients at a local hospital.

Remember...it is all about SERVICE! Volunteering yourself as a member or the Auxiliary as a group; reporting the number of members participating and total number of hours. NO monetary donations!

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



**SCHOLARSHIPS**  
**Norita Jackson – Chairman**

By now we have made contact with the schools counselors, teachers, school liaisons, financial aid offices and past youth group contacts in our neighborhoods and districts to get the word out about the Patriot's Pen Essay Contest and the Voice of Democracy Voice Essay Contest sponsored by the VFW.

The Department of Texas VFW has extended the deadlines due for scholarship applicants to post due by November 15, 2020. The post in turn should have all entries judged and their winners turned in to their district by December 1, 2020. At which time, the district must send their winner into the Department of Texas by December 15, 2020.

Please be aware that now is a good time for promotion of the Continuing Education Scholarship. Visit the website at [vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org) for applications, deadlines and details.

We remain hopeful that we will have progress on the post re-openings and are ever mindful of ways to raise funds for donations to the Young American Creative Patriotic Arts Escrow Fund. This is our Statewide Project and as such is a year long project and endeavor.

All of your efforts are appreciated and every contribution, no matter the amount is important to the success of the project.

I am receiving a lot of your reports. Thank you for that and if I have not yet received a report from you, please do send a report of your activities.

Let's continue to move forward with **Honor, Courage and Commitment For Our Veterans**, while **Honoring Our Mission to Serve Veterans**.



**HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS**  
**Bernadette “Bernie” Adams**

Now, we have gone through some busy times and it will be getting busier and busier. We have Halloween, Mid-Year Reports and oh yes, you will be sending pictures to me of President Ramona's visit to your post.

Did you know that the hardest picture to take is one of a group picture? It is hard because everyone is looking everywhere. Some are smiling and some are talking. So, what I have come up with is when I am ready to take the picture I will holler out, “Hey I am over here, now smile”.

By now you have seen my video on Texas VFW Auxiliary Facebook Page. If not then please go there to see what I am looking for in my Statewide Project. I want 100% on the **History of every post in Texas to turn in to President Ramona**. If we do not tell our story, then who will? If you have any questions please email or call.

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**NATIONAL HOME/BUDDY POPPY**  
**Tanya Jackson – Team Leader**

As we navigate through this pandemic and attempt to have some projects and fundraisers you may have to become a little creative.

Let us do some innovative things to make sure that the VFW National Home for Children is taken care of. One of the reports that I have received tells of a bake sale where the profits were donated. I am planning a yard sale where part of those will be donated. Do you remember the bakeless bake sales, maybe do one of those? There are so many different things that we can try to do to take care of this program.

Report and tell me what you came up with to make this a successful year. Please take the time to do our Statewide Project – to send unrestricted funds to National Home to be used as needed.

Now, Buddy Poppy! Thank you for the phone calls that have come in asking questions. If you do not know, reach out and I will explain. If you cannot reach me for some reason please reach out to my co-team member Brenda Foltz, she can also answer questions. THE DOLL – please work on your dolls, they need to be judged at your district meeting and the winner comes to Mid-Winter to be judged. The winner for this will not be announced till State Convention. But if you would like your doll to go to the VFW National Home please get it to me so that it can be mailed.

I have been so excited about this year. This program is so important to me, it takes a lot to get the fundraising done. I know that new and creative means are being done and I want to hear about them. Remember that we have “HONOR, COURAGE AND COMMITMENT FOR OUR VETERANS” while “HONORING OUR MISSION TO SERVE VETERANS”!



### **VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT** **Shawn Terry – Team Leader**

Wow! It is hard to believe it is already October! I wish I had some terrific news about how great is to have our Posts open and serving veterans the way we would like to be doing. Unfortunately, that is still not happening.

There are however, still many great things to talk about. Auxiliaries are continuing to help the veterans in their area. They are making goody bags to take to nursing homes and assisted living facilities to hand out to the veterans that feel trapped because they are not allowed to have visitors due to the ongoing pandemic. Quilts are being made to give to veterans, meals are being made to take to homebound veterans and their families, auxiliary members are helping the veterans affected by the recent hurricanes in our state and auxiliaries are working together to help one another out. I could go on for pages

about how we, as auxiliary members have pulled together to help each other and our veterans during this crazy time.

The Toys for Tots project ends at Christmas time. If you have not already started working on getting this project set up, now would be a good time to start thinking about doing so. December will be here before we know it. I am looking forward to getting some great reports with pictures from this project.

Coupons, coupons, coupons... while they are not an official part of this year's program, auxiliaries can still do them. I would ask that you take a picture of the coupons collected to send along with your report to me. While there is not an award for the most collected, the troops and their families will still be grateful to receive them. The address to send the coupons is *Support Our Troops, PO Box 70, Daytona Beach, FL 32115-0070*. If you need anything or have questions, please do not hesitate to email [seterry1965@yahoo.com](mailto:seterry1965@yahoo.com) or call 817-776-1830.

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



### **YOUTH ACTIVITIES** **Mona Benotti – Chairman**

I am seeing many great reports and you are showing Honor, Courage, Commitment for Our Veterans through the Youth Activities you are doing.

For our competitions in Youth Activities, please be sure to share the brochure/entry form with your members as well as the community. Take for example Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue. The age range is 6 – 16 and the entrant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. National. Mastery of the lyrics of the song is very important as no wording can be changed. The style of the music may vary and it may be sung acapella or with musical accompaniment. Please set up your own local competition with the deadline for you to receive entries March 31, 2021. You then have until April 15 to send your first-place winner to me for state-level judging.

Illustrating America is open to students in grades 1 – 8 and is divided into three divisions: grades 1-2, 3-5, and 6-8. The art must be two-dimensional on canvas or paper and unframed. The brochure/entry form has all the specifications. The entrant must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. National. Once again you establish your own local competition with entries to you by March 31 and to me for statewide judging by April 15, 2021.

Reading can open all the doors in the world so let's concentrate on Patriotism Through Literacy. Ask your members and friends to donate books for a variety of age levels. There is an excellent list of suggested books, divided by age groups, at our National website: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/wp-content/uploads/Suggested-Book-List.pdf>.

Include the American Flag is turning out to be a very popular statewide project. Having flag salutes, the Pledge of Allegiance, flag etiquette and history – all are important. Getting more kids to participate with you in all the work you do is an awesome reflection on who we are and who we serve. Try to work toward a flag-themed youth event during the year. Among the many ways youth could participate at that event would be cards/letters/pictures for our VA hospital patients, our military, the veterans at your Post and in your community.

We are Honoring our Mission to Serve Veterans through promoting our youth activities with any means available to us. Remember we are the 'carriers' of patriotism and our zest for all things veteran. More information is on the National website. I'm also here to help you find what you need to get the job done: [mlbenotti@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mlbenotti@sbcglobal.net) or 817.805.3729.

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



#### **MEMBERSHIP Barbara Koehn – Team Leader**

The purpose of the VFW Auxiliary is to improve, assist, and support our veterans and their families. Without members, we will be unable to do this. Our veterans have sacrificed so much for the freedoms we now enjoy. Remember, freedom is not free, therefore, we, as members, must do everything possible to preserve these through programs, financial assistance, volunteering at VA medical systems, adoption of military units, preservation of continued benefits through legislature, to name a few. This is why our membership is so important.

After working with many of you, I know your heart, your spirit, and mind are with the veterans. Texas rocks!!!! But we cannot get complacent, to be pleased with oneself or with one's merits if you made 100% already. Our ultimate goal in Auxiliary level, District level, Department and National level is to be 101% plus not including deaths.

As of September, 12, 2020, Texas is 84.38%. We are still leading in Southern Conference with Florida and

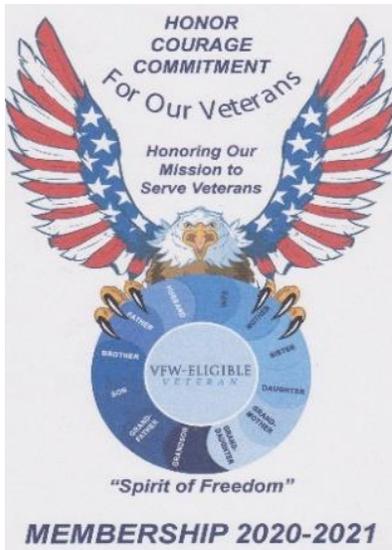
Georgia between 1-2% behind us. We have 1 District in the 60% percentile, 6 Districts in the 70%, 14 Districts in the 80%, and 3 Districts in 90%. 8 Auxiliaries have reached 100% in their membership. Congratulations to those who have achieved their goal.

Auxiliaries can earn \$10.00 if you reach 95% in Membership by November 30, 2020 at the National level and one established Auxiliary in each membership division who reaches 100% plus by December 15<sup>th</sup> will receive a \$25.00 cash award. Any established Auxiliary securing the largest number of new members and any new Auxiliary established after July 1 making the greatest gain in Membership from July 1, 2020 - March 31, 2020 in each membership division will receive \$50.00 cash award. The first three District President reaching 100% plus by December 15, 2020 of their membership quota will receive \$100.00, \$75.00 and \$50.00, respectively from the Department of Texas. For individual members, National is awarding pins to any member who recruits 5 new/rejoined members, a National President's coin to recruit 10 new/rejoined members, and a National Membership Achievement Award who recruits 20 new/rejoined members. National is also offering for every Auxiliary member each time recruits 5 new/rejoined members, his or her name will be entered in a drawing for one of three \$100 VFW Store gift certificates. At the Department level, any Auxiliary member who recruits the greatest number of new members from July 1, 2020 - May 31, 2021 will receive \$75.00 cash award and any Auxiliary members who recruits the most new Life members from July 1, 2020 - May 31, 2021 will also receive a \$75.00 cash award. All Auxiliary Presidents and their Membership Chairmen who reaches 100% by December 15 will receive a special invitation to the "Spirit of Freedom Membership Celebration" at Mid-Winter.

District Presidents and their Membership chairmen who reaches 95% of their membership quota will also receive an invitation to this celebration.

The Department of Texas VFW Auxiliary cannot be more proud of you than what we are. Your committed will power, your enduring strength, your dedication for our veterans and their families and your willingness to travel that extra mile is a tribute to all Auxiliary members. Let's fly with "Spirit" into the clear blue skies and reach that 101% membership so we can show "**Honor Courage Commitment To Our Veterans**" and "**Honor Our Mission Serving Our Veterans**".





**AVAILABLE FROM DEPARTMENT OFFICE**

Program Books	\$10.00 + \$3.00 Postage
Training Books	\$10.00 + \$3.00 Postage
Rosters	\$10.00 + \$3.00 Postage
Small Directories	2 for \$5.00 + \$1.00 Postage

Please send money and quantity of each book needed to Department Headquarters – **Attn: Treasurer**

**SMALL ROSTER CHANGES**

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**Patriotic Instructor** Cheyenne Harper, 412 E. Shepard St, Denison, TX 75021. Cell:903-328-4724, email [chychycoke@gmail.com](mailto:chychycoke@gmail.com)

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**Soloist** – Rosyln Lewis, 315 Mountain Wood, Canyon Lake, TX 78133. Cell 830-481-0760, email [croserml@gtvc.com](mailto:croserml@gtvc.com)

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**District 18 President** Jayme McCormick, 555 Heather Dr., Harlingen, TX 78552 Cell 214-477-5037 Email [mccormickjayne556@gmail.com](mailto:mccormickjayne556@gmail.com)

**Page 10 District 20 President** email [carmen.gonzales4488@gmail.com](mailto:carmen.gonzales4488@gmail.com)

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**District 28 President** mailing address: 385 Peaceful Valley Rd, Kyle TX, 78640

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**Veterans and Family Support** Team Leader phone number 817-776-1830  
Remove Co-Leader

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**Buddy Poppy/National Home**

Tanya Jackson new address: 795 Sharon Blvd., Dora, AL 35062

**Did you know.....**

- Australia was originally called New Holland
- 90% of the world's population kisses
- a cat has 32 muscles in each ear
- coins thrown into the Trevi Fountain in Italy are collected for charity
- the safest car color is white
- the average golf ball has 336 dimples
- a group of frogs is called an army
- a group of owls is called a parliament
- the film Mary Poppins was filmed entirely indoors
- there is no butter in buttermilk
- pearls melt in vinegar
- 111,111,111 x 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321

**THANK YOU**

Wanted to thank everyone for the cards and prayers that were sent while Clif was in hospital.  
Millie Holland

**TEAMWORK**



**SUCCESS**