

Must be read by the Auxiliary Secretary at the first meeting following receipt and filed for reference.

1. **FANTASTIC NEWS FOR ALL MEMBERS:** Thanks to each of you, as of December 31st, the Department of Virginia's membership was a whopping 91.15%. Your willingness to reach out to those members who had not paid their 2009 dues or who needed to be reinstated has resulted in this high percentage. Yet, if the Department is going to be 100% in membership at National by May 31, 2009, we all must continue to work hard on collecting dues, reinstating, and recruiting new members. We need you to continue calling members to get them involved in the meetings and programs. Make them feel needed and important, because they are! Continuous members are important, as are reinstated members. However, by recruiting new members, you are allowing your Auxiliary to grow and develop new ideas thus giving it new life. **Virginia's Dream Team can get the job done – let's be at the top in membership!**
2. **ATTENTION AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS AND TREASURERS:** You need to verify that the Department's percentage as December 31st coincides with your Auxiliary's figures. For banner purposes, all dues postmarked by December 31st were considered. Notify the Department Treasurer immediately if there is a discrepancy or it could cost you your banner. If a mistake has been made, it will be fixed or if the Department's figure is accurate, you will receive an explanation. Working as a team, we will see credit is given where credit is due!
3. **ATTENTION AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS:** The deadline for having National Program reports to the Department Chairmen is March 31, 2009 for banner purposes. If your Auxiliary has reported and is not shown as reported, **NOW IS THE TIME TO TAKE ACTION TO EITHER REPORT OR TO CORRECT ANY MISTAKES!** Please be proactive to ensure your Auxiliary gets the recognition it deserves and continue to send reports after March 31st if you complete activities.
4. **CLARIFICATION OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES BANNER REQUIREMENT:** The Youth Activities Chairman, Banner Chairman and I have reviewed the requirements voted on at the June 2008 Convention and agree the wording leads to some confusion. Auxiliaries who do not have a Junior Girls unit may make a donation to one or both of the Department's Junior Girls Units (4809 or 6002) to meet one of the two required banner activities. Junior Girls Unit 4809 just took in eight new members and is going strong. Junior Girls Unit 6002 is fairly new and has equipment to buy. Both units would appreciate your generosity!
5. **"THE WALL THAT HEALS" VISITS VIRGINIA:** The replica of the Vietnam Wall will be in Harrisonburg from April 2-5, 2009. This is open to the public 24 hours a day. **There will be a great need for volunteers** to do everything from: helping to erect the Wall, helping people get to the Wall, finding names on the Wall, hospitality for volunteers, and many others duties. Plans are being made now and volunteers are signing up to help make this exhibit an awesome experience for everyone! **Even if you can give just a few hours to this project, contact Kay Kibler, (540) 820-2331 as soon as possible.** For more information check the Department web-site: www.vfwwaux.org.

6. **ATTENTION 3RD AND 4TH DISTRICTS:** The Department and Stein Mart Stores are co-sponsoring an exclusive shopping event on Sunday, February 8th, at the Stein Mart store at 4740 Commonwealth Parkway in Chesterfield County that will include live music, door prizes, decorating tips, informal modeling, fashion consultations, delightful refreshments, and a 20% off one item coupon. **ALL PROCEEDS will be for the benefit of the National Guard Family Assistance Program and the Challenge Program!** Let's show our Virginia National Guard that we support them with more than just words! See more details on event flyer in this General Orders. Contact Irene Peters @ 804-328-2464 and let her know Auxiliaries in District 3 and 4 will support this event. Others may also support this event--see flyer.
7. **AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS, TREASURERS AND TRUSTEES:** The fourth quarter Audit covering the months of October, November and December was to be mailed to the Department Treasurer no later than January 30, 2009. If you have not done so, your Auxiliary is in arrears. Trustees, please see that you attend to this immediately.
8. **NATIONAL MID-YEAR CONFERENCE:** Will be held in Savannah, Georgia on February 5-8, 2009. While the deadline for reservations for the banquet is past, you can still come and join us in the other festivities. For more information contact Department Secretary, Susie DeShano.
9. **NATIONAL SALUTE TO OUR HOSPITALIZED VETERANS WEEK:** Make sure you pay special tribute and express appreciation to America's hospitalized veterans the week of February 14th as it is National Salute to our Hospitalized Veterans Week.
10. **OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS:** Nominee entries are due to the Department Chairman, Carol Vangi, before the February 14th deadline as the Department's winning entry must reach National Headquarters for final judging by March 10th.
11. **JUNIOR GIRLS SCHOLARSHIPS:** The student deadline for the Junior Girls Scholarship is March 11th – the scholarship is available for those Junior Girls ages 13-16 – encourage them to apply.
12. **OUTSTANDING HOSPITAL VOLUNTEER:** Now is the time you should be working on your "Outstanding Hospital Volunteer" nominee packages. Be sure to submit them to the Department no later than March 31st so they can be at National by May 15th.
13. **YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART:** If you Auxiliary has not contacted local schools or home schooled students, now is the time to **DO IT!** The student deadline is March 31st. Let's not let one talented student slip through the crack by not doing our job – get the word out and get the entries in!
14. **DISTRICT MEETING ATTENDANCE:** Enclosed with each month's General Orders is a schedule of District Meetings for the next several months. The meetings are Schools of Instruction and all members are encouraged to attend.
15. **ATTENDANCE AT EVENTS:** I will be unable to participate in any events from mid-February to mid-March due to surgery. However, if you desire a Department line officer to attend, every effort will be made to accommodate your event. Early requests are appreciated.

Sisters – As I reflected back over the past, I found many things to be thankful for, most important of them all is you, Your kindnesses, love, and support are very much appreciated. As we enter the New Year, I give my pledge of

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. To these I commit each day!

If I succeed, I will give thanks!

If I fail, I will seek His grace and your forgiveness.

Then when the day is done, I can place my head upon my pillow and rest.


Happy New Year to all and thank you for a wonderful year!

By order of:



Mary Profitt
Department President

Attest:



Linda S. DeShano
Department Secretary

Linda (Susie) DeShano
403 Lee Jackson Highway
Staunton, VA 24401
(540) 324-6807
Secretary62@gmail.com

February, 2009

Roster Changes and Updates

- **New Phone Number:** for Department Secretary Linda (Susie) DeShano 540-324-6807.
- **New Secretary:** for Amelia County Auxiliary 8759, Betsy Gregory, 6541 Bridgeforth Lane, Amelia, VA 23002. Phone Number 804-561-4626.

Calendar updates

- **National President's Visit:** National President Dixie Hild will visit Virginia. She will arrive at Dulles Airport in Washington D.C. on Friday May 15th and depart Monday May 18th. Further info will be made available in next month's General Orders.
- **State Convention:** June 11-14, 2009, Sheraton Richmond West Hotel, Richmond, VA, Telephone 804-285-2000. Room Rates \$93.00, through May 11, 2009.
- **National Convention:** August 15-20, 2009, Phoenix, AZ.

District Meetings Assignments

District Presidents:
If the the date, time or place of your District meeting
changes, please make sure YOU Contact your
Department Representative and the Department Secretary
of these changes.

1st	Date	2/21/2009
	Lunch	To follow meeting
	Meeting	11:00 AM
	Location	Post 3219 - Phoebus
	Rep:	Jr Vice President Betty Gimble

8th	Date	3/8/2009
	Lunch	
	Meeting	1:00 PM
	Location	Post 3103 - Fredericksburg
	Rep:	Dept President Mary Proffitt

2nd	Date	2/28/2009
	Lunch	Noon
	Meeting	13:00
	Location	Post 4914 Franklin
	Rep:	Sr Vice President Kathy Birch

9th	Date	1/25/2009
	Lunch	
	Meeting	10:30 AM
	Location	Post 4667 - Marion
	Rep:	SR Vice President Kathy Birch

3rd	Date	3/7/2009
	Lunch	follows meeting
	Meeting	10:00 AM
	Location	3rd District Hq
	Rep:	Jr Vice President Betty Gimble

10th	Date	2/22/2009
	Lunch	
	Meeting	1:00 PM
	Location:	Post 7916 - Occoquan
	Rep:	Dept President Mary Proffitt

4th	Date	2/8/2009
	Lunch	
	Meeting	2:00 PM
	Location	Post 7819 Crewe
	Rep:	Guard Laine Beckwith

11th	Date	1/11/2009
	Lunch	11:30 AM
	Meeting	12:30 PM
	Location	Post 2216 - Staunton
	Rep:	Conductress Cathy Graham

5th	Date	2/22/2009
	Lunch	Noon
	Meeting	To follow
	Location	Post 647 - Danville
	Rep:	PDP Lee Miller

12th	Date	TBA
	Regisration	
	Meeting	11:00 AM
	Location	
	Rep:	Convention - No Rep

6th	Date	2/8/2009
	Lunch	
	Meeting	2:00 PM
	Location	Salem VA Med Ctr-Bldg 5
	Rep:	PDP Glendon Webb

13th	Date	2/22/2009
	Lunch	
	Meeting	1:00 PM
	Location	Post 1827 Charlottesville
	Rep:	Guard Laine Beckwith

7th	Date	3/8/2009
	Lunch	11:30 AM
	Meeting	1:00 PM
	Location	Post 8613 Shenandoah
	Rep:	Conductress Cathy Graham

Date
1/5/2009

Annual	YTD	% to Date	Hospital Donations			2.00 per member		Cancer	Cancer	Special	Operation
Membership			Banner	Other	Drug	Amount	Paid	Pins	Donations	Project	Uplink

District 1

176	Newport News	35	28	80.00%	35			70	70	20	25	50	75
824	Grafton	19	23	121.05%	35	25		38	38	10		25	50
3219	Phoebus	223	197	88.34%	35	25	10	446	466			38	25
5500	Hampton	15	31	206.67%	35	25	10	30	52	12		10	60
6002	Denbigh	65	50	76.92%	35	15		130	130	20		25	
7167	Warsaw	74	75	101.35%	35	100		148	155	30	74.59	100	50
Total (8)	District 1	431	404	93.74%	210	190	20	862	911	92	99.59	248	260

District 2

392	Virginia Beach	351	292	83.19%	35			702	702	50	3066	25	50
993	Portsmouth	92	78	84.78%	35			184	182	30	500		
3160	Ocean View	307	246	80.13%	35			614	614	50		25	
4411	Franklin	51	51	100.00%	35			102	102	40		50	50
4809	Norfolk	330	331	100.30%	35			660	660				
8545	Smithfield	22	28	127.27%	35			44	50			50	
9382	Suffolk	61	59	96.72%	35			122	122	40		25	
Total (6)	District 2	1214	1085	89.37%	245			2428	2432	210	3566	175	100

Date	Annual Membership	YTD	% to Date	Hospital Donations			2.00 per member		Cancer	Cancer	Special	Operation
				Banner	Other	Drug	Amount	Paid	Pins	Donations	Project	Uplink

1/5/2009

District 3

1426	Midlothian	31	21	67.74%				62				
2239	Colonial Heights	97	90	92.78%	35			194	196	40		
3125	Ruther Glen	4	4	100.00%				8				
4639	Williamsburg	38	39	102.63%	35			76	76	45		25
6364	West Richmond	33	32	96.97%	35			66	66			
8046	Norge	42	54	128.57%	35			84	84	30		100
8356	West Point	27	27	100.00%	70	100		54	54	20	280.08	25
9224	Richmond	29	24	82.76%	35			58	50	20		25
9501	Central Garage	41	42	102.44%	35			82	82	20		
9808	Mechanicsville	163	154	94.48%	35			326	326	60		
10387	Petersburg	43	36	83.72%	35			86	86	30		25
10654	Richmond	32	34	106.25%	35			64	66	30		100
10657	Glen Allen	33	27	81.82%	35			66	66	20		
Total (13)	District 3	613	584	95.27%	420			1226	1152	315	280.08	200

District 4

622	Petersburg	47	48	102.13%	35	25		94	108	72		25
637	Hopewell	62	71	114.52%	35			124	124			
2584	Cullen	37	36	97.30%	35			74				
5313	Nottoway	25	27	108.00%	35			50	50	10		
7059	Farmville	67	60	89.55%	35			134	134	30		25
7166	South Hill	90	75	83.33%	35	200		180	188	30	200	100
7819	Crewe	76	79	103.95%	35			152	152	70		50
7897	Blackstone	24	3	12.50%				48				
8048	Lawrenceville	27	26	96.30%	35			54	58	20		25
8163	Clarksville	72	69	95.83%	35	15		144	144	26	20	
8759	Amelia	55	50	90.91%	35			110	110	10		25
8902	Keysville	12	12	100.00%	35			24	22	10		
9855	Appomattox	29	30	103.45%	35			58	58			50
9954	Victoria	198	200	101.01%	35			396	396	30	465	10
Total (16)	District 4	821	786	95.74%	455	240		1642	1544	308	685	260

Date
1/5/2009

Annual	YTD	% to Date	Hospital Donations			2.00 per member		Cancer	Cancer	Special	Operation
Membership			Banner	Other	Drug	Amount	Paid	Pins	Donations	Project	Uplink

District 5

647	Danville	103	103	100.00%	35			206	206	30	1,000.00	50	
1115	Hillsville	470	433	92.13%	35	25		940	940	80			
2820	Bassett	20	12	60.00%				40					
4637	Martinsville	49	50	102.04%	35			98	98	10	336.66	25	
7568	Galax	30	31	103.33%	35			60	60	30		10	
7726	Grayson	154	156	101.30%	35		15	308	308	30		32.5	
7800	Stuart	27	27	100.00%	35		78	54	54	20			
8243	Halifax	64	57	89.06%	35	100		128	128	30		25	100
8467	Meadows of Dan	53	54	101.89%	35			106	106	20	27		
Total (8)	District 5	970	923	95.15%	280	125	93	1940	1900	250	1,363.66	142.5	100

District 6

1033	Covington	103	99	96.12%	35	25		206	206	30		25	
1264	Roanoke	60	61	101.67%	35			120	126	30		20	
1444	Dunbar Roanoke	42	40	95.24%	35			84	84	10			
1841	Fincastle	56	55	98.21%	35			112	112	12			
2157	Bedford	56	55	98.21%	35			112	112			25	
4522	Vinton	61	55	90.16%	35			122	122	20			
5311	Christiansburg	46	44	95.65%	35			92	92	20			
7854	Floyd	29	13	44.83%	35			58	58	10		10	
Total (8)	District 6	453	422	93.16%	280	25		906	912	132		80	

Date
1/5/2009

Annual	YTD	% to Date	Hospital Donations			2.00 per member		Cancer	Cancer	Special	Operation
Membership			Banner	Other	Drug	Amount	Paid	Pins	Donations	Project	Uplink

District 7

621	Luray	109	119	109.17%	35			218	218	40	30	100	600
1860	Front Royal	149	151	101.34%	35	75	25	298	298	40	106	25	100
2123	Winchester	71	56	78.87%	35			142	142				
2447	Edinburg	87	83	95.40%	35	100		174	174	40		25	100
8613	Shenandoah	87	67	77.01%				174		20			
9292	Elkton	32	31	96.88%	35			64	66	10			
9660	Broadway	78	79	101.28%	35			156	156	50			
9760	Berryville	176	176	100.00%	35			352	352	100		25	70
9872	Mt. Clinton	30	29	96.67%				60	60	20			
Total (8)	District 7	819	791	96.58%	245	175		1638	1466	320	136	50	870

District 8

2524	Culpeper	63	63	100.00%	35			126	126	30	84.4	25	
3103	Fredericksburg	107	107	100.00%	35	100	50	214	214	40	100	25	
7589	Manassas	62	59	95.16%	35			124	124	40	75		
Total (4)	District 8	232	229	98.71%	105	100	50	464	464	110	259.4	50	

District 9

1184	Pulaski	37	39	105.41%	35			74	76			50	50
4667	Marion	121	132	109.09%	35			242	242	40		100	
6000	Narrows	115	86	74.78%	35			230	230	20	58	30	
7136	Tazewell	51	30	58.82%	35			102	102	40			
7328	Saltville	29	28	96.55%	35			58	58				
7969	Bland	32	17	53.13%	35			64	64	20		15	
9640	Richlands	42	27	64.29%	35			84	84				
9696	Bluefield	140	112	80.00%	35	50	50	280	300	50	50	25	88.5
Total (8)	District 9	567	471	83.07%	280			1134	1156	170	108	220	138.5

Date
1/5/2009
District 10

Annual	YTD	% to Date	Hospital Donations			2.00 per member		Cancer	Cancer	Special	Operation
Membership			Banner	Other	Drug	Amount	Paid	Pins	Donations	Project	Uplink

609	Alexandria	36	29	80.56%	35			72	72		10	25	
1503	Dale City	328	331	100.91%	35			656	656	100			100
3150	Arlington	158	163	103.16%	35			316	316	55	15	250	
7327	Springfield	130	135	103.85%	35			260	260	140		200	
7916	Woodbridge	105	96	91.43%	35			210	210				
8241	McLean	43	35	81.40%				86					
9274	Falls Church	56	57	101.79%	35			112	112	30	173.95	50	
9478	Sterling	22	26	118.18%	35			44	46	10		25	
Total (9)	District 10	878	872	99.32%	245			1756	1672	335	198.95	550	100

District 11

632	Harrisonburg	216	214	99.07%	35	5000		432	434	40		25	
1499	Lexington	71	73	102.82%	35			142	142	20	44.6	200	
2216	Staunton	136	87	63.97%	35			272	272	60		100	
2424	Waynesboro	41	40	97.56%	35			82	82	20		25	
3136	Mt. Solon	19	19	100.00%	35			38	38	20			
4204	Hot Springs	42	42	100.00%	35			84	84	20			
7814	Staunton	19	21	110.53%	35			38	40	20			
8279	Steeles Tavern	26	26	100.00%	35			52	52	10		10	
8644	Bridgewater	109	102	93.58%	35	215		218	218	30			300
9339	Stuarts Draft	53	43	81.13%	35			106	108	40			
9480	Craigsville	23	20	86.96%	35			46	44				
10826	Verona	17	9	52.94%	35			34	34	7			
Total (12)	District 11	772	696	90.16%	420	5215		1544	1548	287	704.6	360	

Americanism/Patriotic Instructor

Beverly B. Abbott
130 Brookview Rd
Danville, VA 24540-3408

Phone: (434) 792-4497
E-Mail: desiabbott@comcast.net
General Orders February

*“Meet the needs of others through living a life of love”
And “Our dreams become rainbows”*

I wish each of you a prosperous new year as you initiate programs for the proper observance of patriotic days and assure the flag is properly respected. Work through the schools, home school associations, nursing homes, scout troops, other civic organizations. Allow **"our dreams become rainbows"** as we **“live a life of love while serving the needs of others.”**

Federal Legal Holidays in February: 16th - President's Day
12th - Abraham Lincoln's Birthday 22nd - George Washington's Birthday

Patriotic Days in March: March 3, 1931, the *Star Spangled Banner* became our National Anthem
March 4, 1789, The Constitution of the United States went into effect.

National Americanism director Jean Barton writes that she corresponded with someone affiliated with the Nebraska men's basketball requesting that the audience be asked to remove their hats and put their hands over their hearts during the national anthem. Although she did not receive a response to her letter, at the game the announcer followed through on her request. **I ask that each auxiliary write to the athletic directors of their local schools making the same request for all athletic events. Educate others on showing respect during the rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed:** all present except those in uniform should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note. When the flag is not displayed, those present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed there. (from the U.S. Code) It is everyone's right to not participate if they so choose, but such a request may instill more pride and respect for our flag.

Dayna Steele has a series of online videos of U.S. soldiers serving in Iraq. These videos are played at various venues and show the soldiers asking those in attendance to stand at attention, turn off their cell phones, etc. prior to the playing of the National Anthem. Dayna Steele even suggests a local soldier record a similar video to be used. Go to <http://www.daynasteele.com/ona.htm> or operationnationalanthem.com.

A touching video to view on You Tube is “Baxter Black – *So Lucky to Be an American*”. Check it out on your computer...

Let me know of any plans your Post and Auxiliary have for Loyalty Day and Flag Day...last month's program information gave details of what we have been asked to do on for these patriotic days.

Unfortunately, I attended the funerals of two veterans over the holidays. There is nothing so moving as when the flag is folded and the explanation is given. Contact local scouts troops to teach them the proper way to fold the flag: See: <http://www.usflag.org/foldflag.html> or a copy of the flag code.

Remember...continue to educate others, be good role models *and*
“Our Dreams will become Rainbows.”

Awards: best Americanism program, Patriotic Instructor education, and Loyalty Day program.

REPORT! Don't wait until the last minute...

Report forms are online and in the President's Handbook.

Remember: reporting began in June ~ so, let's get those reports in.

All districts except 4 & 12 are 50% or better in reporting!

Ladies, get your reports in...and keep up the great work of your Auxiliary by promoting patriotism in your community and REMEMBER to **REPORT ALL THAT YOU DO!**

YOU are your best publicist!

Report ALL patriotic activities your Post and Auxiliary have completed.

Dist. No.	No. of Aux.	Auxiliaries ~ NOT ~ Reported as of Feb. 8								% Rptd
1	6	6002								83
2	7	4411	9382							71
3	12	2239	6364	9808	10387					67
4	14	637	5313	7059	7166	7897	8048	8759	8902	42
5	9	2820	7800							78
6	8	1444	1841	2157	7854					50
7	9	2123	8613	9292	9760					50
8	3	7589								67
9	8	7328	7969							75
10	8	7916	8241							75
11	12	2216	2424	4204	7814	9480	10826			50
12	9	1994	6975	8652	9600	9830	10298	10310		22
13	6	2217	8436							67
Total	112									61.3

Loyally, Beverly Abbott

Patriotic Instructor February, 2009

Gail M. Payne
Department Patriotic Instructor
3709 Palace Place, Virginia Beach, VA 23452
757-631-9286 E-mail address: Gpayne@specialtyproducts.net

Patriotic Real Story
Contributor: [Robert VanDerslice](#)

Did You Stand?

I was sitting the other day in a crowded airport, waiting for a boarding call on my flight to Arizona.

As I sat there, I noticed an old man sitting across from me facing the large picture window that gave passengers a view of the runway. The history of a life of hardship traced the old mans eyes as they stared into the twilight of his years, and as I watched, I saw tears rolling from those ancient steel gray eyes, leaving a trail of sadness that tore at my heart. I got up and walked to him and asked if I could join him. Without even looking up to identify me, he nodded, and I sat down, feeling awkward but intensely drawn to him in compassion for his quiet tears.

"I'm sorry, but I couldn't help but notice you sitting here alone. Are you ok?" I asked.

There was a deafening silence suddenly between us, for what seemed a long time, and finally he spoke in a voice that was worn and weary with age, "Did you stand when she walked by?" he asked.

I was confused by his question, and a bit taken off guard by the tone of his voice that sounded almost accusatory.

"I don't understand sir, I answered." Did you stand when she walked by?" he asked again, staring straight into my eyes. "Who?" I asked him. But he turned away from me, staring again at the tarmac just outside our window.

I waited for an answer, but there was not going to be any. Our conversation was over it seemed, and I got up to leave, hearing the call to board that by this time, was welcome as an excuse to get out of an awkward situation.

I started walking away, but was troubled and torn by his question. I boarded my plane after clearing the gate, found my seat, and settled into it, looking back at the terminal I had just left. He was there as I had left him, sitting alone facing the tarmac.

I watched for several minutes, and in that time I noticed a number of people stop to visit with him, presumably to ask if he was ok, and then walk away, some of them shaking there heads, others just gone from view at a brisk pace. And still he sat, fixated on a plane that was resting about 300 yards away.

surrounded by military personnel.

As I watched, a small procession of 6 men carried a flag draped coffin away from the plane to a waiting hearse, where they stood after the rear door of the black car had been closed and they offer a salute as the car slowly drove away. I looked back toward the window of the terminal, and instantly my tears nearly blinded me when I saw the old man I had been talking to also offering a salute, but from his wheel chair now parked next to the window.

Since our craft had used a rolling stair gantry for passenger access, I got up, and made my way to the door of the plane, and got off. I walked deliberately, heading for the terminal, making my way through the crowds to the old man at the window. I walked up beside him, faced the plane as yet another coffin draped with Old Glory was placed in a waiting hearse, and I slowly raised my hand in salute, allowing my hand to drop only when the hearse rolled out of view around a security fence.

I turned slowly to the old man who by now was looking solidly into my soul with eyes of countless memories.

"I know her name now sir, and I stood when she walked by."

He was visibly moved, and he said to me in quavering voice, "Thank you sir . . . for what you did. My greatest wish these days is to stand again for her, but I can't."

I gave my legs in '43 and my oldest son in '67 to that Lady, so she could keep walking. It hurts when no one cares that she walks by.

I missed my flight that day, but my heart and soul found wings to the heavens on the words of an 90 year old man who dared to share a heart full of memories with me and dared to remind me why Old Glory stills waves as the beacon of Hope in a lost world.

By [Robert VanDerslice](#)
Copyright 2003

February 2009

BANNER

***Kay S. Kibler, Chairman 9652 Phillips Store Rd Broadway, VA 22815
540-896-5335 or 540-820-2331 (cell) kiblerk@hotmail.com***

To: Department Chairman, District Presidents, Auxiliary Presidents, Auxiliary Chairmen and Members

Hello Ladies!

I don't know about you but this year is moving along fast! February is here already. Winter will soon be over, thank goodness! I am not a winter person. I hope everyone is getting their reports in. Did you take my advice and sit down with cup of hot tea and get those reports written? I know it takes time to get these reports in but ladies; this is the only way to tell what amazing projects you've been doing. I too am working on reports so I understand when I say it's takes a little time to get them done.

REPORT, REPORT, REPORT

March will be here before you know it. Are you checking the Banner Requirements to be sure your Auxiliary is reported? Something else you may want to check on, go back through the handouts your Chairman sent you at the beginning of the year. See what awards will be given out. You still have time left to work on projects that will put your Auxiliary in the running for those awards! It's so much fun to receive awards for your Auxiliary at the convention!

KEEP REPORTING! KEEP REPORTING! KEEP REPORTING!

As I was reading back over the General Orders from this year, I can almost hear President Mary saying "***When we live a life of love, we will serve the needs of others***". We all need to keep this in mind as we do our work with the Ladies Auxiliary. What a great month to put this to action! February is the month of LOVE! People will see that the men and women defending our country are special to us and will see how we support them and the needs that they have. Let us stay focused on our mission with the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Get busy ladies!

Kay

REQUIREMENTS 2008-09
LADIES AUXILIARY VFW – DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA
REPORTING PERIOD: JULY 1, 2008 - MARCH 31, 2009

MEMBERSHIP: 100% dues paid no later than Dec. 31, 2008

All requirements based on June 30, 2008 membership. All dues are sent to Department Treasurer, Debbie Martin, 539 Westwood Rd., Ruckersville, Va. 22968. **CHECK PAYABLE TO: Ladies Auxiliary VFW, Department of Virginia.** (postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2008)

AUXILIARY AUDITS: Auxiliary Quarterly Audits Reports must be conducted for the calendar quarters ending in **MARCH 2008, JUNE 2008, SEPTEMBER 2008, DECEMBER 2008, (National By-laws Sec.814A)** This report must be sent to Department Treasurer: (SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE) The Department Treasurer will verify audit report to Banner Chairman after each Audit.

DISTRICT DUES: Auxiliaries **MUST** pay District Dues (National By-laws Sec. 506) **by September 30, of current Auxiliary year. THE DISTRICT TREASURER WILL VERIFY PAYMENT TO BANNER CHAIRMAN.**

ATTENDANCE: An Auxiliary member must be present at either a District Meeting or Department Council/Conference, during the reporting period. **DISTRICT AND DEPARTMENT SECRETARY WILL VERIFY ATTENDANCE TO BANNER CHAIRMAN – AFTER EACH MEETING.**

District Conventions/Election of Officers **DOES NOT count.

PARTICIPATION: Each Auxiliary **must participate** in the National Programs shown below and **MUST REPORT TO DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN BY MARCH 31, 2009. (NO EXCEPTIONS)**

Americanism	Youth Activities (any)	Veterans & Family Support	
Cancer Aid & Research	Patriotic Art	1. Unmet Needs	7. Operation Uplink
Community Service	Jr. Girls	2. MAP	8. Adopt a Unit
Hospital/VAVS	(report in at least2)	3. Buddy Poppy	9. Fisher House
Legislative/VFW-PAC	VOD/Patriots Pen	4. VFW National Home	10. Wreaths Across America
(either one or both)	(either one or both)	5. Snowball Express	
		6. Continuing Education Scholarship	
		(must complete at least 5 of the 10 listed)	

DONATIONS:

1. CANCER FUND: \$2.00 per member. Based on June 30, 2008 membership. Checks payable to Ladies Auxiliary VFW, Department of Virginia marked for **Cancer Fund.** Send to Department Treasurer no later than **MARCH 31, 2009. DEPARTMENT TREASURER WILL REPORT THESE DONATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN.**

2. STATE HOSPITAL FUND: \$35.00. Checks payable to Ladies Auxiliary VFW, Department of Virginia, marked **Hospital Fund.** Send to Department Treasurer, no later that **MARCH 31, 2009. DEPARTMENT TREAUSRER WILL REPORT THESE DONATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN.**

3. HEALTH & HAPPINESS FUND: \$0.25 per member, based on June 30, 2008 membership. New Auxiliaries based on institutional membership. Checks payable to Ladies Auxiliary VFW, marked **Health & Happiness Fund.** Send to: **NATIONAL TREASURER, 406 W. 34th STREET 10th Floor, KANSAS City, MO. 64111.** Postmarked no later than **MARCH 31, 2009. NATIONAL TREASURER WILL VERIFY REPORT TO DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN.**

4. POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE: (for your information if you choose) No funds can be derived from VFW Post or Auxiliary membership dues or treasuries. Funds are obtained from individual contributions and/or fund raisers held by Post or Auxiliaries. Make checks payable to VFW-PAC, and mailed to 200 Maryland Ave. N.E., Washington D.C. 20002 and report to Department Legislative/VFW-PAC Chairman postmarked no later than MARCH 31, 2009. DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN WILL VERIFY TO BANNER CHAIRMAN.

Approved: Department Convention
June 2008

Kay S. Kibler, Banner Chairman

CANCER AID AND RESEARCH

TO: All District Presidents, Auxiliary Presidents and Members

FROM: Lee Miller, Dept. C.A.R. Chairman
3907 Yorktown Drive
Hopewell, VA 23860

February 2009

“LIVE A LIFE OF LOVE, WHILE MEETING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS”

and

“OUR DREAMS BECOME RAINBOWS”

February is recognized as the month of love, so our President’s theme can become a reality as we try to find a cure for the dreaded disease of Cancer. Each day when you pick up a newspaper or listen and watch the television you hear something about this disease.

My National Director reports that so far \$1,061,992.60 has been raised, but we still need to raise \$1,938,007.40 to reach the National goal of \$3,000,000.00. The southern Conference is in first place at 99.31% reported. Let’s keep working and paying our \$2.00 per member and having those fundraisers so that Virginia can be #1 in southern Conference and at National. We have done it before and we CAN do it again.

The annual report released by the American Cancer Society reported that for the first time ever, the overall cancer incidence and death rates have declined for men and women in the United States, which shows that real progress is being made against this dreaded disease of Cancer. By practicing early detection and treatment, practicing good health habits and being aware, we will one day beat this disease.

By doing all of the above our dreams one day will become rainbows.

Remember to be promoting the “Dime a Day” program at your meetings and this can be presented at the June Convention.

If you haven’t already done so, please send in your \$2.00 per member and REPORT it to me. Also, if you have not sent in the money for your cancer pins, please do that now and report that to me.

*The following Auxiliaries **NOT** reported are:

Dist. 1	824, <u>6002</u>
Dist. 2	100% Congratulations!!!!
Dist. 3	1426, <u>2239</u> , <u>6364</u> , 9224, 10387
Dist. 4	637, 8902
Dist. 5	1115, 2820
Dist. 6	1444, <u>1841</u> , <u>2157</u> , 7854
Dist. 7	<u>621</u> , 2123, 8613, <u>9292</u>
Dist. 8	100% Congratulations!!!!
Dist. 9	<u>4667</u> , 7136, 9640
Dist. 10	<u>7916</u> , 8241
Dist. 11	<u>632</u> , <u>4204</u> , <u>9480</u>
Dist. 12	<u>1994</u> , 6975, 8652, 8979, 9600, 9830, 10298 REPORT, REPORT, REPORT
Dist. 13	1827, <u>2217</u>

Auxiliaries that are underlined have sent their \$2.00 per member to the Department Treasurer, but have not sent me a report. Remember you must send me a written report so I can credit your Auxiliary and also to give credit where it is due at the Convention in June. It does not have to be on a report form, but make sure your Auxiliary number and District number are on the report.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY !!

Now open your heart and give hope to those who are fighting this dreaded disease.

Loyally,

Lee

Department of Virginia, Chaplain General Orders – February 2009

Robin Milewski, Chaplain
207 Coinjock Run
Yorktown, VA 23693
Telephone: (757) 223-5763
Email: vmilewski@msn.com

*Now is a good time to take a look at your
life's map, find a better route, and move forward
in the direction of the good things in your future.*
-Unknown

Sisters,

As we all know, there is a commitment that requires true dedication when holding office in our wonderful organization. This is especially so when the office is that of President for the Department of Virginia. Our Sister Mary has been diligently working to keep the Department of Virginia Ladies Auxiliary to the Veteran's of Foreign Wars the best group of women providing service to our veterans, our community and our nation.

As many of you are unaware, Mary has been accomplishing this (no less than) great feat, while battling a diagnosis of renal cell carcinoma in her right kidney. She has assured me that she has been "doing fine" other than being totally exhausted at times. Her busy schedule of travel and Auxiliary responsibilities I'm sure have contributed to this feeling.

Mary is scheduled for surgery on February 19th, at the University of Virginia Medical Center to remove her right kidney, and hopefully all of the cancer. I will be sending out Chaplain's Alerts as information becomes available.

I am sure that we will all keep her and Ray in our thoughts and prayers.

Please remember all of our sisters that work so hard for our organization and must survive their own personal hardships. God Bless You All.

"Lord, keep our servicemen and women safe, whether they serve at home or overseas. Hold them in your loving hands and protect them as they protect us."

Let's all keep those currently serving and those who have gone on before, in our thoughts. They are the reason for the many freedoms we enjoy, and let us remember the loved ones who served also.

***It is hard to understand why people are taken away from us,
But find comfort in knowing you were a special part of a well-lived life.***
- Unknown

Community Service

Carol Vangi
1024 Hullview Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23503

Phone: 757-621-5519
E-Mail: cvangicomserv@yahoo.com
February, 2009

Our Dreams Become Rainbows Live a Life of Love While Serving The Needs Of Others Educate – Communicate - Participate

Disaster Preparedness and Safety: Organize a safety seminar with the aid of local police or fire departments to cover weather preparedness and home safety. Work with neighborhood organizations to help form a Neighborhood Watch Program. Contact your local police or sheriff's department for help. For more ideas about disaster preparedness and safety programs go to www.citizenscorps.gov , www.ready.gov. or www.ReadyVirginia.gov.

America Supports: This web site list over 300 non profit groups that are devoted to helping our service men and women. These groups provide financial assistance, sending care packages, writing letters and assisting wounded warriors. For more information go to www.americasupportsyou.mil.

Connect America: Offer individuals and organizations opportunities to work together toward a common goal. To learn more go to www.pointsoflight.org .

Outstanding Community Volunteer: THE DEADLINE IS HERE. I WILL NEED YOUR NOMINATION FORMS BY FEBRUARY 14, 2009. Remember the volunteer must be a member of the Ladies Auxiliary for at least five years, cannot be nominated for the Ladies Auxiliary VFW Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in the same year as nominated for this award and former national winners are not eligible to compete again. The nomination forms are available at our department website, www.vfwvvaux.org or I will be happy to mail you the forms.

REMEMBER: Community Service is anything a person does that benefits the community; they DO NOT receive compensation, are done in the name of Auxiliary, with Auxiliary approval and are voted on so that it is a part of the minutes and official Auxiliary business. There is no value on time that can be reported. It is most helpful to use the reporting form and complete the summary on the reporting form. Don't forget to count mileage in the cost of the project. \$.14 per mile for each member that participates in the project. You can e-mail the reports or send by mail. Reporting forms are available on the department website. www.vfwvvaux.org.

KEEP THE REPORTS COMING!!!!!!!!!!

Congratulations District 8.....100%

Department percentage – 64.2% Reported

Dist No.	No. of Aux	Auxiliaries > NOT < Reported as of Jan 6									% Rptd
1	6	176	824								67%
2	7										100%
3	12	2239	8046	9224	9808	10387					58%
4	13	637	5313	8048	8902						69%
5	9	2820	7800								78%
6	8	1444	7854								75%
7	9	621	2123	8613	9292						56%
8	3										100%
9	8	7136									88%
10	8	7916	8241								75%
11	12	632	2216	2424	4204	7814	8644	9480			42%
12	8	1994	6975	8652	9600	9830	10310				25%
13	6	1827	7683	8436	10574						33%

EXTENSION

**Chairman
Ines Kerch**

1918 Storm Drive
Falls Church, VA 22043
703-790-8221

February 2009

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

What a great month to remember our loved ones, as well as Veterans and their families, in general. This is a perfect month to reflect on our Department President's theme: ***"Live a life of Love while serving the needs of others."***

In our organization, it can easily be concluded that members are truly committed to living a life of love (sharing, caring, giving), because the Auxiliary is founded on the principle of serving the needs of others (Veterans, their families, and our Communities). When we consider that ladies join us for a reason, we have to consider: what are those reasons; what benefit do they desire from their association with the Ladies Auxiliary VFW. After selecting an organization that appeals to them, members join because of their own basic need of being needed and of being accepted by others.

This is important to remember when dealing with applicants and with members in our Auxiliary. We need to retain such applicants and members by satisfying their needs. Accepting this may inspire us to do better work in mentoring and encouraging our new or previously inactive members. At a recent National gathering, it was startling to be informed that the average member's age is sixty-eight (68)! Ladies, WE GREATLY NEED TO RETAIN NEW, ESPECIALLY YOUNG, MEMBERS!

As we reflect on President Mary's theme, let us resolve to say a kind and encouraging word to our new members or those who had been 'inactive.' Perhaps they have missed a meeting, or two, what with the hectic pace of the Holiday Season. Please give them a call and let them know you have missed them at the Auxiliary meeting. But before you call, check with your Treasurer to ensure they are current paid-up members. We don't want them to be embarrassed by being challenged to pay their dues or leave the meeting. ***Remember, all members must show their current 2009 or Life Membership Card, without exception.***

Sometimes new members need to be 'nudged,' just a little, to get them to participate in our programs. If they express a lack of confidence or say they don't know how or what needs to be done, ask them to be there and ***you will show them.*** It's important to let them know how much time will be needed for the task, too! So give a good estimate of how much time it'll take; hopefully, not much more than an hour. ***While our spare time is our most precious resource, remember, most members can give up a little bit, in return for recognition and appreciation by their Sisters for their time and talent.***

Remember, ALL MEMBERS ARE VALUABLE. It's much easier to keep (Retain) members, than to find (Recruit) new ones!! Remember, have some ***Talking Points*** to mention, e.g.:

- o A social event that will occur in the near future that she might find enjoyable or interesting, Perhaps an Open House held in honor of President's Day, or a Valentine's Dance.
- o A project where her help is needed. Have available time and dates of next project meeting. (For example, decorating the Post Home for a social event.)
- o Your Auxiliary meeting date, time, and place. Offer a ride, or plan to meet one another ahead of time.

Be her 'Sister'!

We have work to do!

The ABC'S OF FRIENDSHIP

A is for all the nice things you do for me.

B is for being there for me.

C is for coming to my rescue

D is never deserting me.

E is for your eagerness to please.

F is for being quick to forgive.

G is for your generosity.

H is for extending a helping hand.

I is for your interest in me.

K is for your kindness toward me.

L is for the love you have shown me.

M is for the many laughs we share.

N is for never gossiping about me.

O is for your openness.

P is for always playing fair.

Q is for the quiet times we share.

R is for the respect we have for each other.

S is for all the smiles you bring.

T is because you touch my heart.

U is for how well you understand me.

V is for all the extra nice things you do.

Y is for giving of yourself.

Z is for the zip you add to my life.

If we cannot do all, let's try our best to practice most of the ABC's,
especially as Sisters of the Auxiliary.

Georgette Dausey, Historian
1415 Elder Ave.
Chesapeake, Va. 23325
757-222-0169
georgetteds@aol.com

Dear Sisters,

The months are just flying by and I have been receiving great pictures and reports. keep them coming please. I am going to ask one favor of you and that is if you can try not to email them to me. I have no printer so it makes it difficult at this time.

Everyone is doing great things and working really hard and President Mary's Book will reflect that her **Pot of Gold** is shining.

Don't forget there will be awards at June Convention.

I look forward to many more pictures keep them coming...

Keep up the good work and always remember....

“Live a life of love while serving the needs of others”

Loyally,
Georgette Dausey, Historian

Department of Virginia
Hospital & VAVS
General Orders – February 2009

Robin Milewski
207 Coinjock Run
Yorktown, Virginia 23693

Phone: (757) 223-5763
E-mail: vmilewski@msn.com

Dear Sisters,

This is a reminder that the week of February 14th is the “*National Salute To Our Hospitalized Veterans*”. I know that we all make a special effort to pay tribute and express our appreciation to America’s Veterans during that week.

Please remember that the *Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project* continues throughout the year. This is a therapeutic writing program designed to acknowledge veterans’ experiences and build self-esteem through creative expression and gives the opportunity of publication in *Veterans’ Voices*. I continue to encourage you to contact your area VA Medical Center or HVWP Headquarters, 5920 Nall, Room 105, Mission, Kansas 66202-3456 or visit www.veteransvoices.org. *Veterans’ Voices* is published in March, July and October. **YOU CAN ALSO SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM BY PURCHASING A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE VETERAN’S VOICES.**

Our National President, Dixie Hilde’s theme “Our dreams become rainbows” can not be incorporated in a better way than by supporting our Hospital & VAVS program. The smiling face of a volunteer shows our veteran’s that their dreams are not just possible, but they are within their reach. Commitment, dedication and caring by our volunteers, is the true example of the Department of Virginia’s President Mary Proffitt’s theme “Live a life of love while serving the needs of others”.

A kind word and a smile can make all the difference in the world to a veteran. Make a difference!

Robin Milewski
Hospital & VAVS Committee Chairman

Status: (not reported as of 10 Jan 08) TOTAL 90% reported for Virginia

Dist 1: 100% Reported
Dist 2: 100% Reported
Dist 3: 1426, 10387 (10 of 12for 84%)
Dist 4: 100% Reported
Dist 5: 2820 (8 of 9 for 89%)
Dist 6: 100% Reported
Dist 7: 2123, 8613 (7 of 9 for 78%)
Dist 8: 100% Reported
Dist 9: 100% Reported
Dist 10: 8241 (7 of 8 for 88%)
Dist 11: 100% Reported
Dist 12: 6975, 8652, 10298 (6 of 9 for 67%)
Dist 13: 8167 (6 of 7 for 86%)

Legislative and VFW Political Action Committee
2008-2009
Our Dreams Become Rainbows
(As we) Live a Life of Love While Serving the Needs of Others

Deborah J. Branham
339 Sanctuary Farm Rd.
Haysi, VA 24256
E-mail captainjackb@peoplepc.com

Sisters,

We are now at the beginning of our first term of a new president and many new Senators and Representatives. This is the beginning of their work and ours. It is crucial to make our mission known to the new national leaders.

One of our important functions is to educate our national leaders about the entitlements of our veterans and their families. While they say that they know about the needs of veterans, it is necessary that we never let them put these entitlements on the back burner of priorities. We must ensure that veterans and their families receive the benefits and services they need and have rightly earned. It is our responsibility to keep our state and national elected representatives informed and secure their support.

I am asking each of you to begin a letter writing campaign within your auxiliary to contact the elected representatives of your area to remind them of the service that our veterans and families have made and to keep the veterans and their entitlements utmost in their priorities of legislation this upcoming year. With the economy as it is, many budget cuts will happen. We do not want these cuts to happen in veteran entitlements.

Be courteous in your letter. Be informed. Stay within the VFW Legislative Priority Goals for 2009 or just request that the representative keep the promises made to veterans and their families. The VFW and VFW Ladies Aux magazines, VFW Checkpoint Newsletter, VFW Washington Weekly as well as the websites www.vfwdc.org, www.ladiesauxvfw.com, www.house.gov, www.senate.gov and www.virginia.gov will keep you informed and offer suggestion to representatives.

With our 111th Congress about to convene, it is interesting to note that in the House of Representatives, there are 262 Democrats, 178 Republicans, 96 Veterans, 78 Women, and the average age is 57. While in the Senate, there are 55 Democrats, 41 Republicans, 2 Independents, 25 Veterans, 17 Women and the average age is 63. Hopefully, the race between Al Franken and Norm Coleman will be settled and a senator from Minnesota will be seated at the beginning of this session. We hope that Illinois will have a senator seated before too long also.

Virginia Governor Tim Kaine is asking for early voting restrictions to be relaxed to allow anyone wanting to vote early regardless of a reason to be able to do so. Watch for legislation on this.

A heroine in the coalfields is a lady named Mother Jones. Her real name was Mary Harris Jones and her story is one of tragedy losing her husband, George, and four children under the age of five and then

her livelihood as a dressmaker. She was known as the “Miners Angel” as well as the most dangerous woman in America at one time. She was a union organizer and fighter for children rights. She knew well the role that women could play in battles and reminded women that their men were fighting for job security and benefits that were for the whole family and it was their fight too. She organized women and children, armed with pans and spoons to march. The company goons were reluctant to fire weapons on a crowd of women and children which is what they counted on. She was quoted as saying, “Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living.” Women have always played important roles in securing benefits for loved ones.

Remember to bombard the elected representatives with letters reminding them to uphold the promises made to veterans. Let me know if you get a reply from them.

I have received reports from the following auxiliaries. If I have overlooked an auxiliary, please let me know so that I can correct my records. I do appreciate all of the work that you have put into this committee. Remember that many of these reports have been multiple reports.

District 1--176, 824, 3219, 5500, 7167, **Not reporting** 6002 and 8252

District 2-- 392, 993, 3160, 4411, 4809, 8545, 9382, and 9660 for **100%!!**

District 3--1426, 4639, 8046, 8356, 9224, 9501, 9808, 10654, 10657, **Not reporting** 2239, 6364, 10387

District 4--622. 7166. 7819. 8048. 8163. 9855. 9954 **Not reporting** 637, 2584, 5313, 7059, 7897, 8759, 8902

District 5--647, 1115, 4637, 7568, 8243 **Not reporting** 2820, 7726, 7800, 8467

District 6-- 1033, 1264, 2157, 4522, 5311 **Not reporting** 1444, 1841,7854

District 7--1860, 2447, 9660, 9760 **Not reporting** 621, 2123, 8613, 9292, 9872

District 8--2524, 3103, 7589 for **100%!!**

District 9--1184, 6000, 7136, 7328, 7969, 9640, 9696 **Not reporting** 4667

District 10--609, 1503, 3150, 7327, 9274 **Not reporting** 7916, 8241, 9478

District 11--632, 1499, 2424, 8279 **Not reporting** 2216, 3136, 4204, 7814, 8644, 9339, 9480, 10826

District 12--1994, 3782, 8979 **Not reporting** 6975, 8652, 9600, 9830, 10310

District 13-- 8947, 10574, 8169 **Not reporting** 1827, 2217, 7638, 8436

Thank you for you hard work and cooperation. I look forward to hearing from (and meeting) you.

Deborah Branham

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

February 2009

**To: District Presidents, Auxiliary Presidents, Treasures, Membership Chairmen
and Auxiliary members.**

**CC: Colette Bishop, National Membership Director
Susan Simmons, Southern Conference Chairman**

**From: Betty Gimble, Department Membership Chairman
12604 Harbor Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22192
Email: nanagimble@comcast.net 703-491-9249**

**“Live a life of love while serving the needs of others” and
“Our Dreams Become Rainbows”**

THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU

Department President Mary and I thank all of you for your hard work and efforts to attain your 85% in membership. President Mary will get her “Night on the Town” with National President Dixie in Savannah in February.

The Department membership stands at 91.15% so we still need about 750 members to make our 100%. If your Auxiliary has not reached 100% now is the time to start contacting the ladies who have not paid their dues. As of January 1st, they are no longer a member in good standing and cannot attend a meeting until they have paid their dues. You should also contact the members who did not pay their 2008 dues and see if you can reinstate these members. If you make personal contact with these members, it lets them know that you care. These last few dues can be the hardest to collect.

One of the National awards is the Aide-De-Camp. To qualify you must sign up 20 new or reinstated members from July 1, 2008, through April 30, 2009 and must be received at National Headquarters by May 31, 2009. There is also a reward for the member who secures the most new and/or reinstated members. A minimum of 40 members to qualify and the winner will receive \$500 towards her trip to Phoenix for the National Convention or \$250 if not attending.

We still need to RECRUIT – RECRUIT - RECRUIT! You should start planning your Spring Recruiting events now. If I can be of any assistance, please let me know. I will be glad to help in any way. My National Director presented a very good ideal in signing up new members in the next few months. Think about collecting two years dues when you sign up a new member so you are not asking them to pay again in a few short months. Perhaps your Auxiliaries would consider a full years dues plus the per capita cost for the 2009 dues instead of a full amount for two years. For example: Our Department and National Dues are \$9.00 and if your Annual Dues amount is \$20.00, the \$5.00 initiation fee, collect \$34.00 for the new member and they will have already paid their 2010 dues too!

National will present \$1,000 to each Department for obtaining 110% in Membership received at National Headquarters by May 31, 2009. Wouldn't it be WONDERFUL if we could receive one of these checks? I know this is dreaming but “Our Dreams Become Rainbows”.

Here are some important dates to remember:

- \$50 to each Auxiliary that increases NEW Life Memberships (Transfers do not apply) by 10% of their June 30, 2008 total membership between July 1, 2008 and April 30, 2009, and received at National Headquarters by May 15, 2009. Auxiliaries with membership of 300 or more will only be required to secure 30 new Life Memberships to qualify.
- \$100 to the District and an “Our Dreams Become Rainbows” Plate to the District President and Membership Chairman of each District obtaining 100% in membership and received at National Headquarters by April 30, 2009.

- \$200 to the District for obtaining 110% in Membership received at National Headquarters by May 31, 2009.
- \$300 to each Department attaining 100% of 2009 membership received at National Headquarters by May 31, 2009.

Congratulations to the 50 Auxiliaries who obtained their 100% in membership by December 31st. A very special congratulations to the 11 Auxiliaries who obtained 110% or better as of December 31st. They are as follows:

District 1: #824 Grafton and #5500 Hampton
District 2: #8545 Smithfield
District 3: #8046 Norge
District 4: #637 Hopewell
District 10: #9478 Sterling
District 11: #7814 Staunton
District 12: #3782 Haysi, #6975 Bristol, #8979 Clintwood and #10310 Ewing

For: Department President, PDPs, Line Officers, District Presidents, Auxiliary Presidents, V&FS Chairmen, Members, National Program Director and Southern Conference Program Chairman

“Our Dreams Become Rainbows”

“Live a Life of Love while Meeting the Needs of Others”

Bottom Line Up Front

Well, the cold winds, snows, cold rains and low temperatures are moving across Virginia as we are in the middle of winter. But, the love, dedication and support that the Ladies Auxiliary has demonstrated in the areas of Veterans and Family Support have brought warmth to the state that is wonderful.

- **The time is to apply for the Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship by February 15, 2009! Be sure to turn it in to National HQ and report on it.**
- **Plan for the special Buddy Poppy Program in March. Please see the Buddy Poppy section for details.**
- **Don't forget about your Buddy Poppy Display for the June Convention – start planning now – let's see what great displays we can have. ALSO – you Buddy Poppy Hat for the parade at the luncheon.**
- **Look for a special announcement under the Snowball Express section.**

Don't forget to send in any articles that you have had **publicized on what you have done or are planning to do** for our Veterans and their families. Print flyers, and publish in the local newspaper! I have been getting quite a few great newspaper articles and pictures. Keep it up Ladies!

Veterans & Family Support

Remember your auxiliary can donate to:

VFW National Military Services
 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
 406 West 34th Street
 Kansas City, MO 64111

if your auxiliary does not want to be specific in sending monies to MAP, Operation Uplink, UNMET Needs or Adopt-A-Unit. Checks are to be made out to **“VFW National Military Services”** allows the VFW Foundation to utilize the funds where needed and to transfer monies to the various funds. **If auxiliaries use this method, they will receive credit for 2 of the areas for banner requirements. But make sure you report that you have sent the monies to National Military Services so I can credit you accordingly.**

• Assistance to veterans and their families.

With the cold and frigid weather, please be sure to check on the veterans who live alone, in nursing homes, or assisted living facilities. See if there is anything that you can do for them. Perhaps they need groceries or someone to pick up their prescriptions. You can always just go and spend some time with them. Plan a special event and don't forget to send a report.

Military Assistance Program (MAP)

Are there service members who are returning home from their deployment and are looking for jobs? If so, work with your VFW Post Service officer and submit a request for MAP assistance. The VFW website has links for jobs along with www.vetjobs.com. There is help out there. If someone does not have access to the internet, let them go to the public library – many libraries have computer carrels for use.

UNMET Needs Program

The UNMET Needs is always looking for people with skills and time to donate to assist and help veterans and their families. If you or someone you know has skills in any of the following areas, please ask them to donate their time and skills:

Appliance Repair	Auto Repair
Auto Body Repair	Financial Planning
Brick/Masonry Repair	Carpentry (Finish)
Carpentry (Framing)	Dental
Doctor Care (general MD)	Drywall
Education Assistance (tutoring)	Electrical
Boy Scout Troops (general help/ maintenance)	Girl Scout Troops (general help/maintenance)
Heating, Ventilation and/or Air Conditioning	Sump Pumps
Insulation	Legal
Maintenance (general handy services)	Sealing (foundations, leaks, etc.)
Painting	Plumbing
Roofing	Nursing
Septic	Tree/Lawn Service

There is a form to complete for the UNMET Needs that is sent to National VFW HQ. They will then contact the individual with the skills and connect them with a veteran family in their area who they can help with repairs and maintenance items. See your Post VFW Service officer for the form, or contact your District POC or Department Chairman for the form.

Operation Uplink



The Operation Uplink cards (both domestic and international) are such a great way to connect a soldier or veteran with their loved ones. Donations to this wonderful cause allows our service men and women (along with the veterans) to call and hear the voices of their loved ones. Please consider donating to Operation Uplink on a regular basis.

Adopt-A-Unit Program



I know that the soldiers and units who are receiving the care packages and special gift bags from our auxiliaries and posts really appreciate what they receive. Remember that there are women serving also. So, consider sending some feminine hygiene products along with your package.

GOOD WORK LADIES! Keep up the good work and keep on reporting!

Buddy Poppy



ALL AMERICAN STAR-SPANGLED BONUS

Are you planning for the special day to distribute poppies on **March 3, 2009?** This date is significant as it marks the anniversary of VFW's victory in sealing the Star Spangled Banner as the national Anthem on March 3, 1931.

A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY: The **Star-Spangled Banner** is the national anthem of the United States of America. The lyrics come from a poem written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key, a then 35-year-old amateur poet who wrote "Defence of Fort McHenry" after seeing the bombardment of Fort McHenry at Baltimore, Maryland, by Royal Navy ships in the Chesapeake Bay during the War of 1812. The "Star-Spangled Banner" was recognized for official use by the Navy in 1889 and the President in 1916, and was made the national anthem by a congressional resolution on **March 3, 1931**, which was signed by President Herbert Hoover

Make the Buddy Poppy your daily corsage.

VFW National Home for Children



Christmas at the National Home was wonderful this year. Thanks to so many donations and contributions to the home.

The Virginia house is doing well and your donations to our sponsored house are coming in on a steady basis. Keep up the great work. Remember that Spring brings a time to spruce up and the folks at the National Home will be sprucing up their homes to welcome the warm weather. .

Fisher House

Ladies, one of the Fisher Houses is currently undergoing renovations. Your donations to the Fisher House Foundation will help to speed up and pay for this upgrade.

Thank you for what you have given so far and please continue to donate. The address for donations is:

Fisher House Foundation, Inc.
1404 Rockville Pike, Suite 600
Rockville, MD 20852

(Specify the Portsmouth, McGuire, or Walter Reed House)

Wreaths Across America



For those of you who helped to place the wreaths on the cemeteries on December 13, 2008, you know how wonderful and moving the experience was.

However, you probably also know that many more wreaths were need to place one on every veterans final resting place. Therefore, **a special certificate will be given to each auxiliary who donates \$100 between February 1 and April 15, 2009 to Wreaths Across America.** Be sure to report on this so you can get the recognition that you deserve.

VFW Service Officer Education

Your Post Service Officer is an invaluable tool to the families of our veterans. The Service officer can provide assistance with eligibility and helping with the VA system for benefits. Find out what your can do to help him/her with obtaining the benefits and the VA Healthcare System.



Well the children and their families that went on the Snowball Express are still talking about their experience and the friends that they saw again and the new friends that they made. Start planning for next year's event. Hold a special fundraising event – a dinner, raffle, yard sale, or auction – to send monies to Snowball Express. The memories for these children are ever lasting and they will always remember your generosity.

Many thanks to the Ladies to went to the airport to see the families off or to welcome them back home. Also, thanks to the Patriot Guard Riders who escorted each family to and from their vehicles and helped with the baggage.

Scholarship Program

The deadline for submitting an application is February 15, 2009. Mail all applications to:

Judy Millick, Administrator of Programs, Ladies
Auxiliary VFW National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th
St., 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111

Just report that you have submitted.



The Departure from Dulles Airport



The Patriot Guard Riders at Norfolk Airport



Tony Orlando gives airline directions at Dulles

**Loyally,
Lorraine (Laine) Beckwith
Veterans and Family Support Chairman, Department of Virginia
41 Kings Point Drive, Hampton, VA 23669
(757) 722-0235, e-mail: Dabeck41@cox.net**

Reports as of 12/5/08

DIST	0 OF 5	1 OF 5	2 OF 5	3 OF 5	4 OF 5	5 OF 5	6+				
1	CONGRATULATIONS!					176	6002 7167	824 3219 5500			
2		9382			993	3160	8545	392 4411 4809			
3	1426	10387	8356	6364	2239	9908	9224	4639	8046 9501	10657	10654
4	637	2584	7059	5313 8902	7166	8048	8759	9954	622 7819	9855	8163 9855
5	2820		647	7800			8467	4637			1115 7568 7726 8243
6	7854		1444	1841 2157 4522			5311	1033	1264		
7	2123	9292	8613		621				2447		1860 9660 9760 9872
8							3103	2524	7589		
9		9640			7328			7136			1184 4667 6000 7969 9696
10	8241				609	9478	9274			3150	1503 7327 7916
11			4204	7814 8279 9480 10826	9339		632	2424	3136	8644	1499 2216
12	6975	9600	1994	10310			3782				
	8652	9830									
	8979	10298									
13			7638		1827	2217		8947	10574		
					8436						
%	14%		19%		11%		7%		11%	14%	24%

OK FOLKS – LET’S GET THOSE REPORTS IN!!

REMEMBER – YOU MUST REPORT IN 5 OF THE 10 AREAS TO BE FULLY REPORTED IN VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT!

DON'T FORGET THAT THE HEALTH AND HAPPINESS IS 25 CENTS PER MEMBER BASED ON YOUR JUNE 30, 2008 MEMBER COUNT A FEW OF YOU HAVE NOT DONE THIS.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY/PATRIOT'S PEN PROGRAM

Debbie Weekley
VOD/Patriot's Pen Chairman
595 Bowman Road
Dayton, VA 22821
Phone: (540) 879-2066
E-mail: weekslock@comcast.net

Hope everyone is having a great new year. I started the year off with the Department judging for the Voice of Democracy Program on January 3rd and then the Patriot's Pen on the 6th. Entries for both of our programs were good.

I am very happy to announce the Department of Virginia winners:

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

1 st Place	12 th District	Bristol VFW Post 6975 and Ladies Auxiliary Brent M. McFerrin
2 nd Place	10 th District	Dale City VFW Post 1503 and Ladies Auxiliary Barbara M. Montgomery
3 rd Place	6 th District	New Caste VFW Post 4491 Langley J. Looney

PATRIOT'S PEN

1 st Place	7 th District	Berryville VFW Post 9760 and Ladies Auxiliary Rachel K. Sefton
2 nd Place	11 th District	Staunton VFW Post 2216 and Ladies Auxiliary Clarkson C. Wolfe
3 rd Place	5 th District	Stuart VFW Post 7800 and Ladies Auxiliary Taylor R. Boyd

The Posts and Auxiliaries have truly made "Our Dreams Become Rainbows" by sponsoring our youth in both of these programs.

Even though the Department judging has taken place, this does not mean that your Auxiliary has completed all of your work. I only received 12 reports since the last General Orders. Be sure to report if you have an awards program planned for later this year, report on that newspaper article that recognizes your judges and certainly recognize your Post winners. I want to know what you have done from the start of your program until the end of our reporting period.

Again, I want to remind you of the awards that I will be presenting on Thursday night at the State Convention in June. If you want to be considered for these awards, I must have a good report from you, so let's keep them coming.

\$30 to the Auxiliary with the best overall entry in both the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen
\$20 to the Auxiliary with the best promotion and/or participation in the Voice of Democracy Program
\$15 to the Auxiliary with the best recognition of our Voice of Democracy Program
\$20 to the Auxiliary with the best promotion and/or participation in the Patriot's Pen
\$15 to the Auxiliary with the best recognition of our Patriot's Pen Program

Auxiliaries **NOT** reported in Voice of Democracy or Patriot's Pen as of January 8, 2009:

District								
1	176	824	3219	6002				
2	100%							
3	1426	2239	6364	8356	9224	10387		
4	622	637	7819					
5	2820							
6	1444	1841	4522	5311	7854			
7	621	2123	2447	8613	9292			
8	3103	7589						
9	7136							
10	1503	8241						
11	632	2216	2424	3136	4204	7814	9480	10826
12	1994	3782	6975	8652	9600	9830	10298	10310
13	1827	2217	7638	8436				

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES/JUNIOR GIRLS
YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART
FEBRUARY 2009**

**Fran Simmons, Chairman
76 Eldridge Drive
Front Royal, VA. 22630**

**E-mail: simmonss@shentel.net
Phone: (540) 636-9235**

**“OUR DREAMS BECOME RAINBOWS”
“LIVE A LIVE OF LOVE WHILE SERVING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS”**

To: DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT, PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS, DISTRICT PRESIDENTS, AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS, AUXILIARY CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS

Ladies, we are now into February and I need to receive reports from many Auxiliaries.

As you are aware this program consists of Youth Activities, Patriotic Art and Jr. Girls. Our banner requirement states that you must report in at least two. Is the requirement the reason that you are not reporting? I know for many Auxiliaries it may seem very restrictive. Therefore with President Mary approval and guidance, I have decided to open the program requirements. Hopefully this will be a better “fit” for many Auxiliaries.

You will be considered reported and receive your banner if you report in any two Youth Activities. Please see examples below:

Send soup labels to National Home and paid your 25 cents per member to the Health & Happiness Fund. Make a donation of school supplies, hold Halloween/Christmas party or purchase baked goods from a youth or school group. When you were shopping did you donate to St. Jude’s, Miracle Children Network or stop by the Salvation Army kettle? Perhaps you donated food to a family with children or assisted your Post with the VOD/Pen contests. Have you purchased Boy Scout popcorn or Girl Scout cookies? Any and all will count as a report.

Please take a moment and think of all the things that you do that benefit children in some way. Reporting should not be difficult. We touch the lives of children in so many ways.

Your project need not be elaborate or expensive. Small things are important.

If you choose not to use the report form that okay. I will be glad to accept notes, letters and etc.

PLEASE, REPORT REPORT REPORT
Auxiliaries Not Reported as of Jan. 7, 2008:

District 1: 6002
District 2: 4411, 8545, 9382
District 3: 1426, 2239, 4639, 6364, 8046, 8356, 9224, 9808, 10387
District 4: 622, 637, 2584, 5313, 7059, 8048, 8759, 8902, 9855, 9954
District 5: 1115, 2820, 7800, 8243, 8467
District 6: 1444, 1841, 2157, 4522, 5311, 7854
District 7: 621, 2123, 8613, 9292
District 8: 2524, 3103, 7589
District 9: 7136, 7328, 7969, 9640
District 10: 3150, 7916, 8241, 9478
District 11: 632, 2216, 2424, 3136, 4204, 7814, 8644, 9339, 9480, 10826
District 12: 1994, 6975, 8652, 8979, 9600, 9830, 10298, 10310
District 13: 1827, 2217, 7638, 10574

ATTENTION 3RD AND 4TH DISTRICTS:

We have 800 tickets now available for sale for the fundraiser that we are co-sponsoring with Stein Mart for the National Guard Family Assistance Program and the Challenge Program. This will be an exclusive shopping event on Sunday, February 8th, at the Stein Mart store at 4740 Commonwealth Parkway in Chesterfield County and will include live music, door prizes, decorating tips, informal modeling, fashion consultations, delightful refreshments, and a 20% off one item coupon.

ALL PROCEEDS will be for the benefit of the National Guard Family Assistance Program and the Challenge Program!

Please work with the comrades and do your best to sell as many of these tickets as possible. The ticket price is \$20.

There will be more of these events in the future in different areas of the State. Let's show our Virginia National Guard that we support them with more than just words!

Contact Irene Peters @ 804-328-2464 and let her know how many tickets you can sell.