

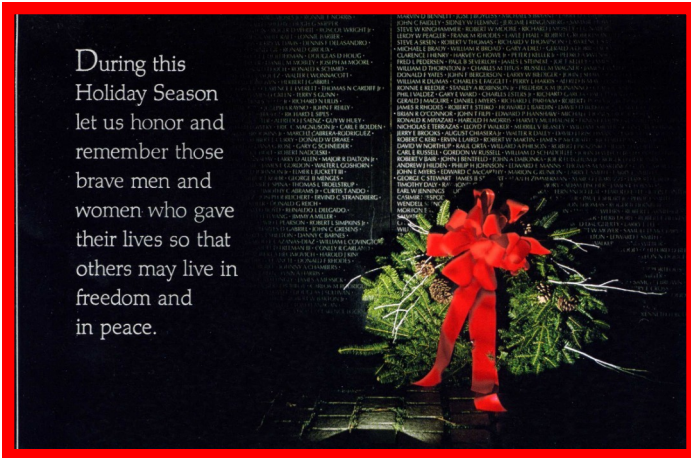
# Department of Arizona - Ladies Auxiliary VFW

Pin Points Website & Email Edition

Volume 53 Issue 5

December 2011

Website: [lavfwaz.org](http://lavfwaz.org)



During this  
Holiday Season  
let us honor and  
remember those  
brave men and  
women who gave  
their lives so that  
others may live in  
freedom and  
in peace.



Department President  
Sheila Shutts

Merry Christmas

From the Department Line Officers & Chairmen

Message from the President

***IMAGINE DREAM SUCCEED***

***100% Auxiliary Membership qualifies the President, Treasurer, and Membership Chairman for a "Night on the Town"! Have dinner Friday Night January 13th at the Casa Grande Olive Garden. There will be door prizes galore! Everyone has a chance to win! And, more importantly the Department of Arizona Ladies Auxiliary VFW will have risen to the occasion and broken all records.***

***Thanks to each of you for an outstanding first 1/2 in the race to the top! I especially wish to thank the Department Treasurer Kim Sloan & Department Membership Chairman Mary Salisbury for a job well done! Let's start looking ahead to 2012 and a great finale!***

## Suzie Gleason - Chaplain Report December 2011

suzieg@frontiernet.net

*Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16*

### Deceased Sisters

40 Shirley Bennett  
1677 Marie Morgan  
1677 Edna Imboden  
7968 Sylvia Kister  
9400 Carol Sheeler  
9401 Catherine Doran



### Sisters Who Have Lost Loved Ones

549	Patricia Clement	Brother
5990	Georgia Schelin	Brother
6271	Lucy Melendez	Son-in-Law
7968	Lee Ann Clevidence	Son
7968	Hazel Goff	Grandson
8053	Dorothy Eberle	Sister
8987	Judy Wiltbank	Sister

### Get Well

549 Susan Ball Pat Dominick Ivy Hoffsmith Lucille Lombardo  
6306 Barbara Bivens  
7400 Kathryn Newman Beulah Helgson Iveta Janis  
7401 Bernice Barton Faith Steele Cindy Torres  
7968 Margaret Emerson Betty Parker Linda Page  
8053 Nan Curtis Sandra Iosue  
8242 Mary Steed  
9401 Carol Hawley  
9833 Marina Green Lavella Lee Anita Smith  
10726 Judy Wood

Before you assume, **learn the facts.** Before you judge, **understand why.** Before you hurt someone, **feel.** Before you speak, **think.**

Sent to us by Mary Salisbury

**Veterans and Family Support Chair Deanna Pritchard**  
**lavfw9400@yahoo.com**

Hello Auxiliary Sisters

I wanted to take a minute and share some news from the VFW National Home with you.

At <http://www.vfwnationalhome.org/page.aspx?pid=429> other ways to give you can find the information about the Campbell's Soup Labels campaign. There is also information about the Amazon Wish List. Through Amazon donors can purchase needed item for National Home and they are directly shipped to them. There is also information about the Tyson A+ program. Check them out.

The brand new duplex ribbon cutting took place at National Home in late October. There are still a few finishing touches including back decks and furnishings. The cost of furnishing the two homes is estimated at \$14,000. The goal is to have two families in the homes by Christmas. <https://www.vfwnationalhome.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=670>

VFW National Home recent audit was successful and followed with a 4 star charitable organization rating. This is the highest rating possible. The report will be published on the website shortly. <http://www.vfwnationalhome.org/page.aspx?pid=410>

During the webinar it was mentioned that many checks for the Health and Happiness Fund are being sent to the National Home and then have to be forwarded to National Headquarter. Make sure when sending these donations to send to the correct location and always mark the check with "Health and Happiness".

Ground breaking of the Tribute Park has taken place. Phase one is underway. There will be 6 phases over the next few years as donations come in to support them. They have added a special structure catalog to the site <http://www.vfwnationalhome.org/page.aspx?pid=671> showing the donations needed for things such as sculptures, stones, plaques, trees and even a bridge.

For those hard to buy for family member consider purchasing a Lifetime Membership to the VFW National Home.

Please remember that we have the Arizona House to support, consider having an extra fund raiser this coming year to send more than the minimum obligation to show that we do truly care about our Veterans and their families.

Have a wonderful week and share this information with our other Auxiliary sisters.

## AMERICANISM-PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

Theresa M Grupe

ladiesaux7968@hotmail.com

480-292-3643



September has been here and gone and we are still wearing our TEARDROPS. National has asked that we wear the TEARDROPS throughout the year to let our Communities know that we are very concerned about the high rate of military suicides. A suicide hotline from the Veterans Administration is 1-800-273-8255. Also our VFW National Home has a Help Hotline at 1-800-313-4200.

The goals of the Americanism program are to promote patriotism, teach students about our American heritage, demonstrate the proper care of the U.S. Flag, and ensure that the public will never forget the sacrifices made by America's soldiers.

We, as Auxiliary members can STEP UP and encourage our Veterans to go into the classrooms. Veterans and their experiences play an important role in educating our nations' youth about the founding principles upon which this country was founded. War can sometimes be a delicate subject for teachers and students. Through VFW's "Veterans in the Classroom" Program, a VFW member is able to assist the teacher in conveying a variety of American history lessons.

In next month's Pin Points you will be reminded of everything that can be done under the Americanism Program. Please read over your Year End Report. At the Leadership Conference in Casa Grande on January 14<sup>th</sup>, we will be going over the Year End Reports.

### INTERESTING TIBITS:

The "Star Spangled Banner" was adopted by Congress in 1931.

Americanism became the third national continuing service program adopted by the Ladies Auxiliary VFW. The program continues stronger than ever.

### PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTORS DO YOU REMEMBER?

Raps of the Gavel

One rap of gavel—Attention

Two raps of gavel—Rise

Three raps of gavel—Be Seated

# TEAM ARIZONA



**Cancer Aide & Research Chairman Debi Rankin**  
**rankindebi@aol.com**

Team Arizona – we are now approaching a New Year – 2012!! With all of our efforts to raise money for Cancer Research – hopefully the brightest doctors and researchers can find a cure for this dreaded disease! We have all – in one way or – been effected, either within our own families, our business associates, or our circle of friends.

Here is a new Challenge – **7 7 7 Campaign** Each sister would call 7 names each day of the week – 7 Sun, 7 Mon and so on. Ask those sisters to donate \$7 for CA&R Fund. That is & day – 7 People – 7 Dollars. Our National Campaign is scheduled for March 19 – 26, 2012. We have all been touched by Cancer. This is NOT JUST and Auxiliary Project Sisters – please share with the Comrades - In my own family I have lost my mother, my father, my brother currently is living with Chronic Myeloid Leukemia CML – who when diagnosed 6 years ago was told that a new drug called Gleivic had just been approved by the FDA – otherwise he would have had less that 6 months – Thank God we are here to help raise funds for CA&R!!!

Please put on your calendar's the Wanda **and Billie** Stuart's Gamble Against Cancer on February 18, 2012 at VFW Post 9399 – Apache Jct.

At our Council of Administration meeting that was held on 11/18, as your department Chairman I made a motion to change the name of this program to add Billie Stuart! Wanda and Billie were dedicated members of our VFW Family – both HUGH supporters and Leaders of this program for years. Both – passed away because of cancer. Donations are being gratefully accepted state wide for the Annual “Gamble”.

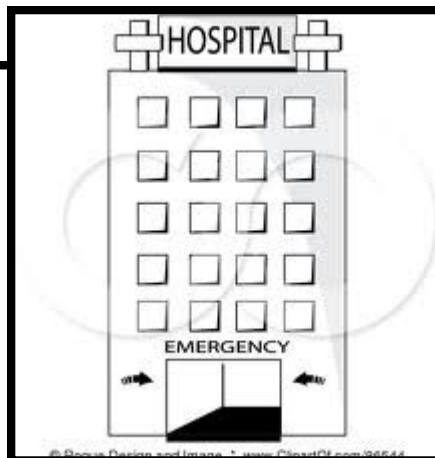
Wishing you a Joyous Holiday Season and a Healthy New Year!!

**“Step Up – Leave No Veteran Behind” while “Our Veterans Inspire Us to Excellence”**

Always in our Lord's love and grace,  
Debi Rankin

CHECK THE MANDATE ATTACHMENT TO SEE HOW YOUR CANCER  
DONATIONS ARE PROGRESSING

**Hospital Chairman**  
**Cathy Seippel**  
**cathyspoodles1@yahoo.com**



Hello sisters I was happy to see so many of you at the Fall Conference and Hospital Banquet. I hope you got some new ideas to help you work your programs and help our veterans. I heard some good ideas from you also; some of you give each veteran a small cloth bag with their goodies in it, some give each a small basket and some give a “Thinking of You” card along with the other items. I’m sure other Auxiliary sisters have different ideas too, use them and share them with your Auxiliary sisters in Arizona so we can all assist our veterans to the best of our ability.

The majority of you have paid your mandated \$ 20.00 donation to Hospital, thank you so much for that, if you haven’t please do so, this all goes to help our veterans. Also I see some of you have gone over and above and made at least a \$50.00 donation as one step in the Grand Slam. This is great! I see that the majority of you are submitting a Program Activities Report, remember all these donations are reportable on the Program Activities Report so be sure and report all your monetary donations and of course all the hours and miles you spend volunteering to Judy Hamlin on your monthly Program Activities Report.

Christmas is a busy and special time for us all, but don’t forget our veterans in the VA hospitals, it’s a special time for them too. Please visit them and try to attend one of the Christmas Parties for them, again the dates of the VA Christmas Parties are Prescott VA Saturday December 17 – visit the veterans at 12 PM with Bingo and food at 2 PM, Tucson VA Saturday December 17 at 12 PM and Phoenix VA Tuesday December 20 at 12 PM. When you go visit don’t forget to thank them for their service, in many cases they gave up a lot to serve their country so we are free to live like we do. I am very proud of you all. Let’s continue to make this a “Yabba Dabba Doo” year.

**Lucille Lombardo—Region III Hospital**  
**lucillelm@aol.com**  
**520-609-0469**

Next month is the Southern Arizona Tucson VA Christmas Party. Saturday December 17-- 11:00 to 2:00. We need a count of people that plan to attend. The reason is the hospital is providing the food and need to know how many are attending. If you plan to come and all are welcomed please call me or e-mail me at 520 (790-7893) or my cell 520 (609-0469) . We are also again asking for gifts for the patients. I am enclosing a list that is approved by the hospital.

Baseball caps  
Fleece Blankets  
Lap Robes  
Stuffed animals  
T-shirts  
CD players with head sets  
Small radios with head sets  
Watches  
Hand held games  
Small bags for carrying personal items

Comfort Items in small gift bags with items such as tooth paste, toothbrushes, shampoo, lotion, shaving cream, and socks. **(Notice I left out razors)**. We will have patients that are not allowed sharp objects. This is important as we will not have time to go through the bags and do not want to cause a patient harm. We also have female patients so bags for ladies marked as such would also be appreciated. Please mark each item you bring so the veterans that receive the gift will know what organization donated it.

(Suggestion Post and Auxiliary in town or city)

**Note** your donations are very much appreciated, for the patients safety and sensibilities caps, T-shirts and DVD,S should not have anything on such as alcohol, or war related suggestions. **(suggestions logos, patriotic, football, basketball)**. **Please do not bring breakables, such as glass, or again sharp objects.**

I hope you decided to join us I promise a rewarding time. Sisters please inform your Post members.

## **Stephanie Morris—Legislative Program Chairman**

**home: 520-452-0741**

**cell: 520-559-9430**

**email: [steff.morris@gmail.com](mailto:steff.morris@gmail.com)**

One of the ways to stay up to date on legislative issues is to sign up for the VFW's Washington Weekly. Sign up at: [http://capwiz.com/vfw/mlm/signup/?ignore\\_cookie=1](http://capwiz.com/vfw/mlm/signup/?ignore_cookie=1) There is a lot of information in the issues. Below are three items from the two most recent issues:

**1. Budget Battle Impacts Troop Morale:** VFW National Commander Richard DeNoyer returned home from Afghanistan earlier this week extremely concerned that White House and congressional proposals to eliminate or reduce military pay and benefits is impacting the morale of 190,000 deployed American troops. "They see it as a breach of faith and a complete lack of support, understanding and appreciation for what it is they do daily for the rest of America," he said. "They also cannot comprehend why anyone would even propose such measures while our nation is still engaged in two wars." Help the VFW to protect military pay and benefits by contacting your congressional members today. Urge them to protect the current military retirement and pay and allowance system, all TRICARE programs for military families and retirees, and all VA healthcare programs for wounded, ill and injured veterans. Click [here](#) to contact your members of Congress. Read more about the VFW national commander's trip [here](#).

**2. House Roundtable Discusses Patient Safety:** On Tuesday, the House Subcommittee on Health held a roundtable with representatives from the VA, veterans' service organizations, and healthcare industry leaders to discuss bringing new innovations and technologies into the VA to help combat healthcare-associated infections. Almost 1.7 million hospital patients nationwide are infected every year by potentially deadly and antimicrobial-resistant infections. The VFW will continue to work with Congress and the VA to provide the best possible care to our veterans. To learn more about the roundtable, click [here](#):

**6. DD214s are Free:** It has come to our attention that there are people advertising to obtain a veteran's DD214 for a fee when this service is in fact free for veterans and their family members. Need a copy? Read more [here](http://www.army.mil/article/67903/).

To see the VFW's position on current legislation go to <http://capwiz.com/vfw/issues/bills/> for the list of legislation.

For Legislative Alerts and Updates go to: <http://capwiz.com/vfw/issues/?style=D&>

You can also sign up on Twitter for the VFW QRF (Quick Reaction Force). Not familiar with Twitter or the VFW QRF? On the Department Ladies Auxiliary Legislative Resources page there is a PDF file "Twitter as an Effective Advocacy Tool". It describes the QRF and has instructions on how to sign up for the QRF. The object is to get members and supporters who follow the VFW QRF to contact their representatives at a moments notice when they receive a message. They will only use it for "truly urgent and serious situations"

***Those who DON'T vote are the ones that really change an election! There are no unimportant elections.....***

**MEMBERSHIP** By Department Membership Chairman Mary C. Salisbury  
[mcsalisbury@npgcable.com](mailto:mcsalisbury@npgcable.com) home: 928-706-4044



A "BIG HELLO" Sisters!!!  
**PUT ME IN COACH I'M READY TO PLAY .....**

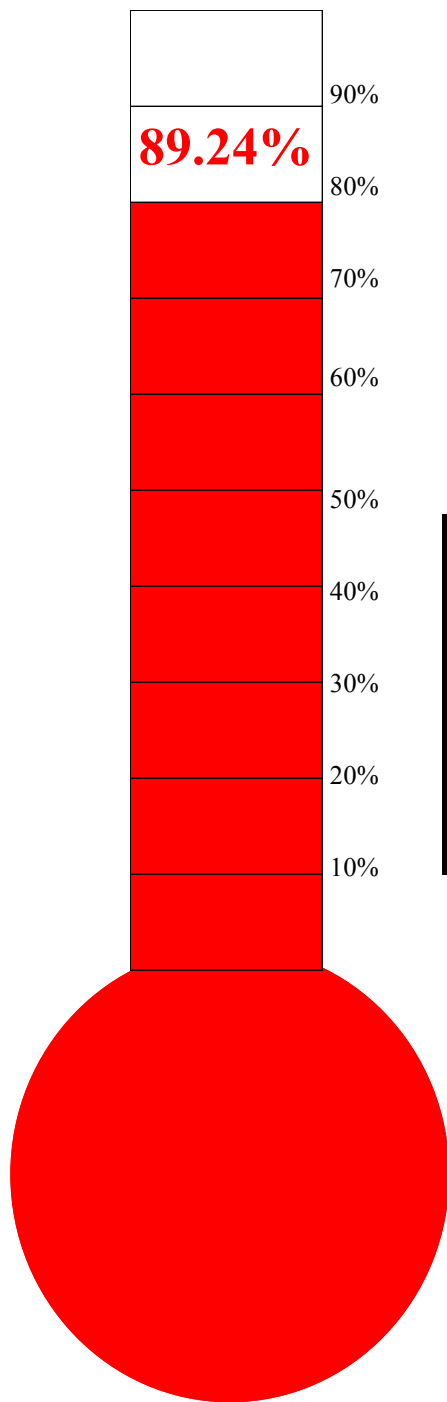
**HOW WILL YOUR AUXILIARY ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS???**

1. Did you hold an "Early Bird" event? \_\_\_\_\_  
What was the date and was it a joint function with the Post? \_\_\_\_\_  
Provide documents or pictures.
2. Did your Auxiliary **STEP-UP** and participate in the **Parade of Transmittals** at 2011 Department Convention? \_\_\_\_\_ At Fall Conference? \_\_\_\_\_ At Winter Conference C of A? \_\_\_\_\_
3. A. Describe in detail the "**BIG HELLO**" **Campaign(s)** to recruit new members that you as Chairman and your Auxiliary held during November 2011 Auxiliary "**National Recruiting Month**".  
  
B. Describe **all other "BIG HELLO" Campaign Membership Drives** conducted during 2011-2012 using the **Key Tools** provided. Please submit pictures of these events.
4. Did you – as Membership Chairman, sign up new members or re-instate members?  
\_\_\_\_\_ How many? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Describe how you and your Auxiliary mentored new member(s).
6. How many **National Aide-De-Camps** (members who sign up 20 or more new or reinstated members between July 1 and April 30) did your Auxiliary have? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How many **Department Top Recruiters** (members who sign up 10 or more new or reinstated members between July 1 and March 31) did your Auxiliary have? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Describe how the Auxiliary and Post assisted each other with membership recruiting.
9. Describe how your Auxiliary used different **medias** to publicize Membership events. Attach articles.

**CALL ME IF YOU NEED HELP!!!**

From now until December 31, 2011, your Auxiliary can earn cash awards from Department and National. Your Presidents, Treasurers and Membership Chairmen can earn a *Night On The Town* during Winter Conference (see flier for details). This year we need to focus on maintaining our strength as an organization and to accomplish this we need to reach our goals.

Keep working, don't stop, have fun, SEND PICTURES. Keep laughter in your heart for that will be the **KEY TO OPENING DOORS** for your "BIG HELLO" Campaign. Thank you for everything you are doing .....



- 55%** by August 31, 2011
- 65%** by September 30, 2011
- 75%** by October 31, 2011
- 85%** by November 30, 2011
- 100%** by December 31, 2011
- 105%** by January 31, 2012
- 110%** by February 2, 2012
- 115%** by March 31, 2012

**Is your Auxiliary at 85%.....?**

**Night on the Town Winners  
As of 11-30-11 Deadline 12-31-11**

**720, 1704, 1709, 2190, 2357, 2364,  
5990, 6739, 8242, 9907, 9977, 10342**

**HI! I'm Dino the Dinosaur—And I  
am the 2011-12 Membership Pin!  
Earn me please.....**

We have made a slight change to the 2011-2012 Membership Year End Report. The revised report can be found on our website at [www.lavfwaz.org](http://www.lavfwaz.org). The revised report can also be found as an attachment to this Pin Points edition.



**DUES INCREASE EXPECTED IN JANUARY 2012  
PAY NOW TO AVOID PAYING MORE LATER**

## Voice of Democracy—Patriot's Pen—State Scholarship Department Team Captain - Sharon Ashby-Robinson

### Step 10

Your deadline to district is **December 6th.**, and now begins the wait to see how your winning student has placed in district, and then, for the lucky ones, on to state. The banquet is **January 14th.** (My last article mistakenly said the 15th.) Make sure if you have a district winner that your post has given the hotel and banquet info to the family and made arrangements for their stay.

### Step 11

Remember these programs can both be worked on a tight budget. While it is the responsibility of the post to provide scholarship funding, the VFW Store has many items that can be used as thank you gifts instead of more expensive means. VOD and PP gifts are available and can be presented to judges, teachers, students and media. These gifts are thoughtful, will remind the recipient of their participation in the program and won't drain the general fund. There are mouse pads, flag sets, pins, pads, certificates, pens, etc. There is also a myriad of patriotic gifts in the catalog. Giving a gift that reminds them of us keeps us fresh in their mind. Your auxiliary treasurer should have the catalog. Make sure to choose what is wanted before a meeting so you can get a motion on the floor first.

### Step 12

If you haven't already exhausted asking families, teachers, etc., about prospective membership in our organization - now would be a great time. The heat is off and you should have established great relationships with all of them by now. **NEVER forget MEMBERSHIP!** Next month we'll talk about your award presentations.

**National Director, Bernie Botbyl, has asked me to extend her sincere appreciation to all you ladies who chose to "Step-Up" their involvement in this program. She wishes everyone wonderful and joyous holidays.**

### Step 13

Begin planning a fundraiser for State Scholarship. This program has been slowly lagging behind previous years. If we all don't make an effort soon, the scholarship program won't be worth competing. Let's give a scholarship the students will tell their friends about. This is another valuable membership tool. Look for parents to sign up - then ask their graduating seniors to try for the top prize. Don't wait until one of your own sisters just happens to have a senior in Arizona.

Have a blessed Holiday Season.

Sharon Ashby-Robinson

*"Step Up - Leave No Veteran Behind"*



## **Youth Activities**

**Tw**as a month before Christmas, and all through the Post  
our members were scurrying, to help those that need it the most.

We donated to HOPI, to help Mrs. Claus.  
Providing toys in shelters is such a great cause.  
The kid's eyes how they twinkle when they open their gifts,  
how happy they are Santa made it through all the snow drifts.

The classrooms were decked out in wintery scenes,  
the students all know what Patriotism means.  
We've delivered the Young American Patriotic Art information,  
so budding young artists can show their pride in our nation.

Our kids are prepared to handle emergencies;  
they know how to test the smoke detector batteries.  
Items have been collected to send to the Troops,  
with help from our community and local Youth Groups.

The Girl Scouts donated cookies and the Boy Scouts popcorn,  
to help all our soldiers have a bright Christmas morn.  
We helped with their badges and special events,  
and purchased caramel corn and lots of thin mints.

Auxiliaries have been challenged to start a Junior Girls Unit;  
to all involved it would be such a benefit.  
The Junior Unit Merit Program commonly known as JUMP,  
is better than sugarplums no matter how plump!

Our work is never done but we must take time to rest,  
and count the many ways we have all been so blessed.  
When the new year starts we will be back out there again,  
new projects and challenges are about to begin.

So hold on to your family and hug them real tight,  
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!

Coach Chrissy Harlan [vfwkidsrus@gmail.com](mailto:vfwkidsrus@gmail.com) (520) 219-1184

# This & That Page

New LAVFW Pin available at  
VFW Store <http://www.vfwstore.org/>



**Yabba Dabba Christmas**

**Department Convention Information & Registration**  
<http://vfwaz.org/2012conv>



**EVEN  
PDP's  
CAN  
LEARN  
NEW  
TRICKS!**

**FALL CONFERENCE—CASA GRANDE**