

Department of Arizona - Ladies Auxiliary VFW

Pin Points Website & Email Edition

Volume 53 Issue 2

September 2011

Website: lavfwaz.org



CONGRATS to our newest Auxiliary 285 in Surprise! Instituted 7-23-11



Message from the President

Watch your thoughts, they become words.
Watch your actions they become habits.
Watch your habits they become character.
Watch your character it becomes your destiny!

Unknown Author

Auxiliary Membership results will soon be listed by Membership Group & District in Pin Points? (Not available as of Publishing) The National Organization's competition between states for all Programs including Membership are tracked by a similar system of using Membership Groups. The reason is simple. The size of ones membership determines the people resources available to do the work of our Ladies Auxiliary VFW.

Now, on the National level Arizona competes with like sized Departments. We are in Membership Group VII that includes: Arizona, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, and Nebraska. Be sure to note the Membership rankings in the National Magazine and track how Arizona is leading the way to 100% in Membership. **Step UP Arizona!**

Likewise, check Pin Points monthly to see how your Auxiliary compares with like sized units and is helping Arizona to be #1 in the Nation!!

Veterans and Family Support
Deanna Pritchard, Chairman
pritchard@gatewaycc.edu

MMM! MMM! Good!

And I am sure you each know the rest of the phrase.

Campbell's Soup is MMM! MMM! Good!

Did you know that the VFW National Home collects labels? They depend on our label donations to get needed items for the National Home. Go to www.labelsforeducation.com and type in the zip code of the National Home (48827) you can see their wish list, they need Kid alert signs and a 7 passenger minivan. We can make their wishes come true.

- Set up a collection box at your post
- Include information about the label drive in your newsletter
- Encourage friends, family and coworkers to get involved
- Team up with your Youth Activities Chair to encourage a youth group to join your drive, remember to give citations
- Make one meal a month from your pantry, using only items that have acceptable labels.

You can get a printable list of all of the acceptable labels at the Campbell's website

<http://www.labelsforeducation.com/assets/pdf/EnglishProductList.pdf>

Remember to review your VFS Year End Report on a regular basis.

I wanted to share a story with you that my 9 year old grandson shared with me. He told me about a 1st grade teacher who on the first day of school told everyone to rise because they were going to say the Pledge of Allegiance. She asked everyone to put their hand on their heart. Everyone put their right hand on their chest except for one little boy. He placed his right hand on his head. Not wanting to embarrass the boy she said nothing. After they had ended the Pledge and everyone was once again seated she asked the little boy why he put his hand on his head. And he said "because that is where my heart is". She asked him why he thought his heart was in his head and he proudly stated "my grandpa always pats me on the head and says 'Bless your little heart'". He then continued with "and my grandpa knows because he is a veteran".

So no matter where your heart is, remember that there are children who live at the VFW National Home and they depend on us. Visit their website to find out more <http://www.vfwnationalhome.org/>

ARIZONA COTTAGE

Photo by Marilou Peavley 2010



Suzie Gleason – Chaplain

God, we will place our hope in you as we walk together from beneath the dark clouds of the past and into the promise of the future. Amen.

Deceased Sisters

- 3578 Rita Garcia
- 9399 Arlene Dunlavey
- 9399 Donna Rolee
- 10254 Carol Caruss

REMINDER

Please be sure the AUX Chaplain knows only to report monthly on sisters from your respective Auxiliary. If a card is sent to a sister in a different Auxiliary within the state it does not appear on the report of every Auxiliary sending a card.....

Questions: suzieg@frontiernet.net

Sisters Who Have Lost Loved Ones

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 3584 | Josie Huerta | Niece |
| 3584 | Margaret Salazar | Brother-in-Law |
| 3713 | Seaneen L. Daley | Uncle |
| 6739 | Linda Boyles | Husband |
| 7400 | Rose Sperry | Son |
| 7400 | Sheryl McKinney | Husband |
| 7400 | H. Beth Kennedy | Sister |
| 7400 | Joanne McKeever | Aunt |
| 7968 | Roberta Stringer | Sister |
| 7968 | Marion Talbot | Son |
| 9400 | Helga Smith | Husband |
| 9401 | Jan Howarth | Husband |
| 9401 | Verna Krenkler | Husband |
| 9907 | Alexis Thompson | Nephew |
| 10227 | Lee Stirton | Mother |
| 10254 | Ursula (cookie) Mosmeyer | Husband |
| 10386 | Barbara Brewer | Mother |



Get Well/ Thinking of You

- 40 Susan Dorn
- 285 Bertie Wilson
- 3584 Joy Norton
- 3578 Karen Hammett
- 5990 Allison Molden Muriel Harry Claire Chagnon
- 7400 Lona Varner Anna Dickinson June Thompson Vivian Schlagel Beulah Helgeson
Ruth Gallamore Eleanor Hull
- 7968 Gruta Grenda Betty Weaver Alice Mikolasek Delores Prout Mary Sue Nelson
- 8053 Ruby Lebsack Penny Kane
- 9400 Patricia Facemire Tamela Hyatt
- 9401 Evelyn Sylte
- 9907 Nancy Kenney
- 10005 C.A. Schrecengost Patti James Norma Stuart
- 10385 Lilly Urrea Lauralea Bott Lou Noake Julia Garcia
- 10386 Sandra Mills Wanda Hull Marie Zampol

Theresa Grupe Americanism Chairman/Patriotic Instructor
480-292-3643 tessietg@msn.com

According to Army statistics, in June 2010 soldiers committed suicide at a rate of one per day during that month. As the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan near the 10 year mark, the stresses continue to accumulate for service personnel who have been deployed numerous times. The National Ladies Auxiliary is very concerned about the high rate of military suicides. September has been designated **Suicide Awareness Month**. It is very important that we STEP-UP and make our Communities aware of the suicides within our military community.

We are asking each Auxiliary Member in Arizona to wear a TEARDROP STICKER daily during the month of September as a symbol of our sorrow for each soldier who takes his or her life. You can go online to our National Ladies Auxiliary website and download the TEARDROP STICKER to your own sticker backed paper (Avery 8165 will work for inkjet printers). Also available at <http://lavfwaz.org/americanism2011-12.html>

We encourage you to hand out the teardrops to citizens within your communities to further educate everyone about this serious situation. The Veterans Administration understands the need and has two sites with medical trainee personnel that are available 24 hours a day. Hotline number 1-800-273-8255 or VFW National Home for Children also has Help Hotline at 1-800-313-4200. These men and women are our heroes, and anything we can do to bring this issue to light is a chance to help them.

Chairman, encourage your sisters to jointly host a **POW-MIA Recognition Day** on Friday, September 16, with their posts. Invite members of the community to attend. Plan to purchase and distribute POW/MIA flags in your community. Let these military heroes and their families know that they are not forgotten.

September 11, 2011, will be the 10th anniversary of the horrible terrorist attack on the Twin Towers, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. It is evident that we are a strong country of patriots and must never forget that day in history. Remember those who lost their lives on that day 10 years ago with a silent moment of prayer.

PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR

As your Patriotic Instructor I am asking you to contact your Civic leaders and School Officials to seek their cooperation in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of the National Anthem before every public event. Stress the importance of always honoring our American history through a public display of respect to God and country.



TEAM ARIZONA

Caner Aide & Research

Sisters:

Have you developed your - **Step Up Challenge** – with your VFW, and maybe the Auxiliaries in your District's? Our goal is to raise \$8.00 per member! District Chairman – challenge your Auxiliaries to Step-Up to this Challenge!!!

We joined the Membership Team – at the Diamond Back's game at Chase Field on August 14th. We had our Buttons and Pins on Display – this is an excellent recruitment tool – to explain how the Ladies Auxiliary VFW raise funds for Cancer Aide & Research. It is a sad fact – that we all know someone who has been afflicted by this disease! BUT with all of the research that has been happening there is HOPE!!!

Contact your local Business and urge them to Support your efforts in Raising Funds for Cancer Aide & Research. Host a Dinner and have the proceeds go towards CA&R. Use the Cancer Fact Sheet of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW. You can download the form from the Web site, www.ladiesauxvfw.org. Pass these fact sheets out when you have your Buddy Poppy Drive. Decorate a donation jar (or bucket) and have it right there with you. Help Team Arizona Make a Difference in the Race for the Cure!!!!

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

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

Department President Pebbles Cancer Pin & Cancer Buttons

Contact Debi Rankin at rankindebi@aol.com





HISTORIAN 2011-2012

Terri Pfander
pfandet@hotmail.com

Sisters take a look back on Arizona 2010-2011 History from [your](#) Auxiliary reports..... you were Yabba Dabba GREAT!

I read about: Buddy Poppies at Tractor Pulls; Fire Cracker raffles; Bake-less bake sales, Mother's Day cards to deployed Moms and gift cards to spouses at home. Community Beach Parties; Lasagna dinners –raising money for National Home [to spare Dan from wearing a loin cloth]; and water fights with turkey basters.

You had pajama parties for VOD/Patriots Pen; refurbished and distributed computers; sold "Boots for the Troops", and mailed newsletters to your members. I read about the Nascar Party and raffle; the "Patriot Youth Corps" presentation of the Colors; Spaghetti Dinner Shows and Chili Cook-offs.

'Once Upon A Dream' pageant; Pig Roasts and Comedy Night for CAR; wedding receptions and engagement parties; evicted protesters who heckled Senator McCain; how we honored National President Cortina with the Isle of Flags and a served dinner, and celebrated with Department President Pauline with a dance contest at homecoming.

Charters were draped and goodbyes said to Corky, Vi, Alan and so -so many others.

You hosted send offs and homecomings; picnics at the Blind Rehab Unit at the VA; sent boxes upon **boxes** to soldiers; donated "pound" boxes to the community. And so much more!

So **"Batter UP"!** Take a swing - **"Step Up and Leave No Veteran (or their stories) Behind."** Remember – you catch 1 raffle ticket with every update you send. Prizes awarded at Convention. You just might hit a home run!

Suzie Gleason – Public Information Officer/Publicity

Ladies, we have a list of the newspapers in Arizona on the Department website. This would be a great way to promote your programs. Think about what programs are coming up and submit an article. We need to promote our programs and get out in the public eye. Make the ladies of the community to want to JOIN and be a part of this great organization!

If you did backpacks for the school children and have a picture add a caption on it and submit it to the papers.

If you do not have a publicity chairman, the program chairmen can submit articles on their own program. Keep up the great work Arizona!

**Department Hospital & VAVS Chairman
Cathy Seippel (928) 554-9989**

Sisters as we begin a new month, September, remember “Our Veterans Inspire Us to Excellence”. It is time to “Step Up” and assist our Hospitalized veterans and our VA Hospitals. There are several ways that we can do this, one of them is:

1. Become a Volunteer Recruiter – Express the need to give back and the difference the volunteer would bring to the patient’s spirit and healing process within your Auxiliary, youth and other organizations. A charm from National Headquarters will be awarded to each member recruiting one or more volunteers between July 1, 2011 and May 31, 2012.

2. Primary Volunteer Types

Regularly Scheduled (RS) – Volunteers who participate in the VAVS program on a regularly scheduled assignment under VA supervision must complete annual training. These volunteers are eligible to receive individual VA Volunteer awards.

Occasional Volunteers – Those individuals serving under the VAVS Program who do not meet the requirements of regularly scheduled volunteers. (Group volunteers fall under this category.)

Home Volunteers – Work from home performing data entry and developing newsletters or serve as a speaker in schools and the community educating others about volunteering benefits. These volunteers must complete annual training and be in the VAVS system to be eligible to receive individual VA volunteer awards.

Sisters, with these different types of volunteers there should be something almost everyone can do to help so let’s get out and do it!

Here are a few dates coming in the next few months that are important to our veterans.

November 19, 2011 – The Hospital Banquet at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande

December 17, 2011 – The Prescott VA Christmas Party at 2 PM

December 17, 2011 – The Tucson VA Christmas Party

December , 2011 – The Phoenix VA Christmas Party

These are very uplifting and rewarding for you but for our veterans as well. Remember let “Our Veterans Inspire Us to Excellence” and let’s “Yabba Dabba Doo” it.

Saturday November 19, 2001

Go to: <http://lavfwaz.org/index.html> and check the Calendar Page for the **Fall Conference Hospital Banquet Flier.**

Legislative Chairman Stephanie Morris

home: 520-452-0741 cell: 520-559-9430 email: steff.morris@gmail.com

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

I received the following short, concise explanation of the legislative process from National Director, Jodi Nerney:

“To know how we can make a difference, we need to remind ourselves of the legislative process. Familiarize yourself with the legislative process and bring it to the attention of your members.

1. A member(s) of Congress introduces bill. This member(s) will become known as the sponsor of the bill.
2. The Bill is referred to committee or subcommittee. Sometimes bills can be referred to multiple committees.
3. The chairman of the Committee determines if and when there will be a hearing on the bill and if the bill will be ‘marked up’, make changes to the bill as it was introduced.
4. After amendments are accepted or rejected, the chairman moves to vote the bill favorably out of Committee.
5. The Committee chairman writes a report of the bill describing the intent of the legislation, the legislative history (such as hearings and markups), the impact of existing laws, and the position of the majority of the members of the Committee.
6. The Speaker of the House or the Majority Leader of the Senate will determine if and when the bill will come before the full body for debate, amendment, and final passage.
7. When the House or the Senate passes a bill it is referred to the other chamber and follows the same procedure through committee and floor action.
8. If there are minor changes to the bill, the bill usually goes back to the original chamber for a concurring vote. If there are significant differences, a conference committee is officially appointed to reconcile the differences into a single bill. If the conference committee is unable to reach agreement, the bill dies. If an agreement is reached, the conference committee reports the members’ recommendation for changes. Both chambers must approve the conference report or the bill dies.
9. After the conference report is accepted by both chambers, the bill is sent to the President. If he approves and signs it, it becomes law. If he opposes, he can veto it.
10. Congress may override a veto by two-thirds roll call vote of the members present in sufficient numbers for a quorum.“

LEGISLATIVE CONTINUED: This year I will be sending out VFW Legislative Alerts like the one sent on July 27, 2011 via email. I hope that everyone took action on these alerts. Also, please forward the emails to your family and friends to have them contact their representatives too. In your packets I provided the names, addresses, and emails of all US Congress and Arizona Representatives in Congressional District Order, but in case you don't know which Congressional District you reside in the Legislative Resources page on the Department Auxiliary's web site has maps of the state that show the districts. Or for US Congress you can go to: <http://capwiz.com/vfw/home/> and just enter your zip code under "Find Your Elected Officials" This year I will be sending out VFW Legislative Alerts like the one sent on July 27, 2011 via email. I hope that everyone took action on these alerts. Also, please forward the emails to your family and friends to have them contact their representatives too. In your packets I provided the names, addresses, and emails of all US Congress and Arizona Representatives in Congressional District Order, but in case you don't know which Congressional District you reside in the Legislative Resources page on the Department Auxiliary's web site has maps of the state that show the districts. Or for US Congress you can go to <http://capwiz.com/vfw/home/> and just enter your zip code under "Find Your Elected Officials."

After you enter your zip code and click "Go" on the next screen you will see any "Action Alerts" and/or "Call or Write your Elected Officials" messages first and as you scroll down you will see pictures of your elected officials with a link to send an email and bio information for each. Currently there is a Write Your Elected Officials Alert if you click on "VFW Legislative Alert: Support Veterans Employment and Training Bill". The next screen will have a prepared message that you can send to Senators Kyl and McCain and to your Congressman. You can edit this message or send as is. *If we don't take care of our veterans who will?*

Voice of Democracy—Patriot's Pen—State Scholarship
Department Team Captain Sharon Ashby-Robinson ashbyrob@frontiernet.net

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY & PATRIOTS PEN Step 4

September should be your in-between month. You should have already taken the material to the schools, made friends with the teachers and started the balls rolling. Now it's time to follow through. Stop in to see the teachers at the end of their school day toward the end of the month, to see if any of their students have decided to enter the contests. Make sure they have given the students all the copies from your packets they will need to successfully qualify. They should also have copies of last year's winning entries.

It would be a good idea to ask them to have the students complete their speeches and essays a week or so before the deadline so you and the teacher can check them for anything inappropriate and verify their entry forms have been completed accurately and completely. Students who work hard enough to enter these contests should never have to be disqualified because an instruction was accidentally not followed.

The VOD students should be encouraged to record their speeches on home machines just so they can hear themselves and improve any bad speaking habits they may have. But in our next article we will discuss final recording tips.

Make sure the teacher has given them your contact information in case they have questions. ***"Step Up - Leave No Veteran Behind"***



MEMBERSHIP

By Department Membership Chairman
Mary C. Salisbury
Phone: 928-706-4044

A "BIG HELLO" Sisters!!! WOW.....the numbers came in from Convention and you are FANTASTIC!!!!!!

Keep those Early Bird's coming in for our **Early Bird 2 for 1** incentive award from Department. Include your raffle ticket with your Auxiliary No. on back with each new member Early Bird transmittal you send to Department on or before August 31, 2011. Your Auxiliary raffle tickets will go into a drawing that will be held at President Sheila's Homecoming on September 10, 2011. Each Membership Group will have one (1) winner. Winner's LAVFW annual membership for 2012-2013 will be paid by Department.

As our "**BIG HELLO**" Campaign continues, your next Department goal is to reach 100% by December 31, 2011, and plan your **Night-On-The-Town** with President Sheila (aka Madam Pebbles). See the flier in your Membership Package or download it from our website for contest rules. Also, don't forget that Department is offering a **CASH AWARD** for the first Auxiliary in each Membership Group to reach 100%.

National's **Opening Doors** incentive awards continue with **Award #2**: \$75 to each Auxiliary with 10-75 members achieving 100% received at National by September 30, 2011. National is offering an incentive award each month and I will remind you of the award in my articles.

Last month we discussed your **KEYS** to a successful recruiting campaign. This month we'd like to talk about **STEPS** to a successful recruiting campaign:

STEP-UP AND COMMIT TO RECRUIT, REINSTATE, RETAIN

Set Realistic Goals

Teamwork

Evaluate Your Plan

Participate in Recruiting Events

Utilize Brochures and Facts Leaflets

Pledge to be 100% by December 31, 2011



As a Team we can **YABBA DABBA DOO IT...**

I'm only a phone call or email away!!

OUR VETERANS INSPIRE US TO EXCELLENCE

STEP UP - LEAVE NO VETERAN BEHIND Pin Points Article No. 2: September

“BIG HELLO” Ladies:

You will recall that your Department Membership Team promised surprises! You are now part of our surprise double-play!!!!

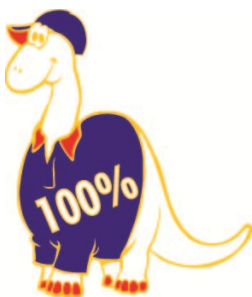
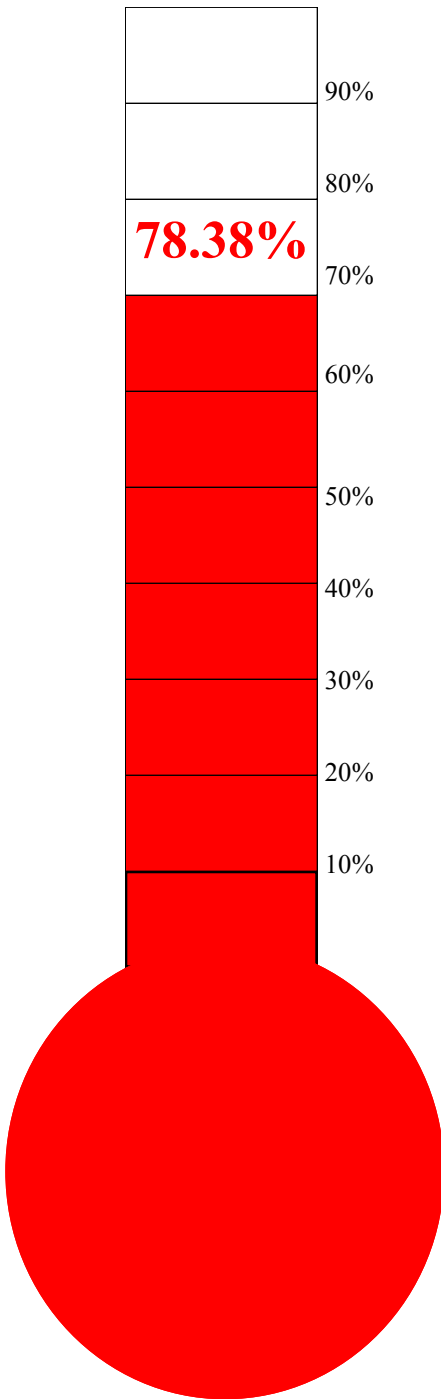
We asked you to **Step-Up** and you are!!! Because you are working so hard getting in the Early Bird transmittals, your Membership Team wants to **Thank You** with an additional incentive award. As you know, on September 10, 2011, during Madam Pebble’s Homecoming, we will have our **2 For 1 Drawing**. One lucky annual member in each of our 10 Membership Groups will win an annual membership for 2013 paid by Department. Your Membership Team is excited to announce we will have an additional **SURPRISE LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWING**. The 10 winners of the 2 For 1 Drawing will be placed into a SURPRISE LIFE MEMBERSHIP DRAWING...!!! That’s right!!! Department of Arizona is offering a LIFE MEMBERSHIP for one of our “Early Bird” annual members!!

We hope the addition of this **SURPRISE LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD** will provide another **Tool** to aid you in your Auxiliary’s membership goal of 100%. So make those “**BIG HELLO**” phone calls to your annual members today and let them know that, not only could they win a paid annual membership for 2013, they could win a paid LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

All Dues transmittals are to go to Department Treasurer Kim Sloan (326 E. Burrows St. Tucson, AZ 85704). If you send transmittals to Nancy Kane and they get delayed, those members may not make it into the drawing. Only annual members received by the Department Treasurer by August 31 will be eligible for these drawings. Don't forget to include your raffle tickets with member last name and Auxiliary number.

We are taking Team Arizona to the playoffs.....on our way to the World Series.

Your Membership Team,



BIG HELLO TEAM ARIZONA

Susan Dorn

Department President's
Special Project Chairman
sdorn56@yahoo.com



Hope that we have all been working on FIRST BASE. Donating \$10.00 to THE NATIONAL HOME TRIBUTE PARK MAINTENANCE FUND. Have a fundraising raffle, send the donation to Department Treasurer Kim Sloan earmarked TNHTPMF.

I have been asked if the \$150.00 donation for THE NATIONAL HOME TRIBUTE PARK is a part of NATIONAL HOME TRIBUTE PARK MAINTANCE FUND. No, it is not. That is the donation required of ALL State Presidents & Commanders. They are two separate funds. The National Home Tribute Park, is the National Presidents Special Project for her presidents & Commanders. The National Home Tribute Park Maintenance Fund is a part of Department President Sheila's Special Project for our Arizona Auxiliaries....THE GRAND SLAM!

Now on to SECOND BASE, which is \$50.00 to VA Hospitals. Hold another raffle. These two Projects are the easiest. Try to get them out of the way. WE CAN DO THIS. Remember we are in it together. TEAM ARIZONA. Positive thinking. This check also goes to Kim and earmark for the VA Hospital.

REMEMBER TO HAVE FUN, GET IN THE GAME. Don't feel overwhelmed. Take one base at a time. When you plan a fundraiser, just remember the first three letters spell FUN.

This & That Page

Membership Target Dates

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



vfwstore.org

Bibles to the troops.....

Bibles should not be included in care packages or mailed to individual soldiers. If the box is inspected and it contains anything objectionable (i.e. a bible or religious articles) the box will be confiscated.

But you can send them to Chaplains and they will go through ok. The Chaplain can then offer them to whomever would like one.

We work closely on our care packages with a non-sectarian group and they will not donate or fund to us if anything religious is included in the packages. So we are very careful, but they do not object to sending those type of items to the Chaplain as they

National Convention Patriotic Rally Dress Code

Blue AZ Shirts

Everyone May Participate

Red/White & Blue if you do not a BLUE AZ shirt

17 Sept 2011 - 5PM -8PM - MANA House Transitional Housing 755 East Willetta St. Phoenix Hamburgers and Hotdogs and various other items to be provided by VFW District 3 & AUX 5:30 PM POW/MIA Recognition, Constitution Day Ceremony - Entertainment starace2002@gmail.com Cell: 623-341-8677 or shelee124@hotmail.com

FACEBOOK SECURITY - Take a look at your URL (top box on your screen.) If you see "http" or just "www" instead of "https" you DO NOT have a secure session & can be hacked. Go to Account Settings - Click Security on the left top corner - click Edit next to Secure Browsing, Check box, click Save. FB has automatically set it on the non-secure setting! Do everyone a huge favor, copy & re-post.