

Presenting...



VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Oregon NEWS

Volume 55

Sept-Oct

Number 5

SUCCESS STORY!

VFW POST 966, BROOKINGS, OREGON



From a struggling Post and a damaged building to a rejuvenated membership, a rebuilt Post building and a Post ready to start an Auxiliary!

Great job VFW Post 966!



ADVENTURES IN LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY AT THE VFW AND AUXILIARY NATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY 26 TO AUGUST 2, 2024



Commander Andrea & Friends .



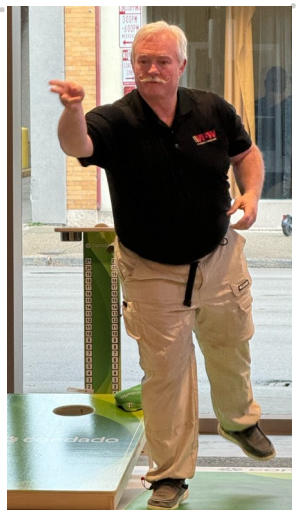
Department of Oregon ready to march in the Patriotic Rally!



State Commander Andrea Summerlin with Buddy Poppy Girl Layla & Georgia State Trooper.



Waiting to escort Dept. President Debra Duggan at her National Convention.



Sr. Vice Commander Bert Little (at left) and Chaplain Tony Barber (above) at the Cornhole Tournament.



Jr. Past Dept President Debbie Little ready to accept the Circle of Excellence Award for Oregon!



Louisville Slugger Factory & Museum



UPDATES

STATE COMMANDER



Andrea Summerlin
State Commander
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asummerlin23@gmail.com

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings Comrades and Auxiliary Members, We are several months into a new program year, and I hope Posts and Districts are working hard together with their Auxiliaries to accomplish our goals. Many of us travelled to Louisville, Kentucky in July to represent Oregon at the National Convention. We returned home feeling energized with new ideas, a strategic plan, and are all in for the 24-25 year! I would encourage you to attend next year in Columbus, Ohio as the VFW celebrates 125 years of service.

We started July with a few challenges, but we all understand that adversity can build character and resilience. After all, the ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand in moments of comfort and convenience, but where they stand at times of challenges and controversy (Martin Luther King Jr). I want to thank you for your patience as we work through this situation and remind everyone that as a Department, we will get through this even stronger and better than before.

This is fair and farmer's market season and the time to be out recruiting for new members. Your Department currently has a recruiting booth at the Oregon State Fair and will be at the Oregon International Air Show and the Rose City ComicCon. Thank you to those who volunteered to work a shift or two at the booth. It takes all of us to make it happen and I appreciate each one of you stepping up to help out.

Ed Stafanak Jr, National Membership, hosted a recruiting training at Post 661 in Salem which was well attended. He also assisted at the fair providing valuable experience to our new membership chair, Kristine Sweezy. Our goal is to finish the year at or above 102% membership so do not wait to engage potential members in your communities. Let us not forget about encouraging our current annual members to become life members and our life members to join the Legacy family.

I appreciate Post 3232 (Commander Richard Earnest) in Florence hosting our first Officer Training School on 24 August. Thank you, District 13 Commandeer Bruce Andrade, for all your support and marketing the event, especially in your area. Bert Key, Committee Chair, coordinated excellent training geared toward District and Post officers. Another training will be held at Post 4060 in Union on 14 September. Registration will be online at the Department website (www.vfwor.org).

Department Representatives will be attending upcoming District meetings over the next few months. A reminder that audits and bonds are due soon and inspections should be accomplished by 15 October. I will be scheduling a School of Instruction for this fall hopefully in conjunction with a joint Homecoming event. Check the Department website for more information soon as we are still planning it.

In closing, I want to leave you with some wisdom from my ancestor, Robert the Bruce, King of Scots. He once told his warriors in 1314 at the Battle of Bannockburn that "You are gathered here with me, so it is needful that you be strong, bold, and without fear. If you believe in this way, you will surely have victory."

Continued next column....

STATE SR. VICE COMMANDER



Bert Little
Sr. Vice Commander
503-739-1071
bdlittle1020@gmail.com

With two months into the new year, I want to thank all the Posts who have been submitting their Community Service Reports (CSR) using the online system at www.vfwor.org. We are working hard to get all Posts trained to use this system for more accurate and timely record keeping. There is a PowerPoint put in the "Members Only" section for review and contact numbers if you need any additional information.

Once again, I remind you to please use the Online Membership System (OMS) that National has on their website (vfw.org). If you have not signed up yet, please do so. There is a PowerPoint on "Members Only" to help you if you have any questions.

As you know by now the VOD program is moving into the 21st century. National has partnered with Scholar's App (ScholarsApp) and now students can scan a QR code that will bring them to an online entry form where they can submit their entry via the internet. No longer will we need to play the game of "pass the thumb drive." The Department can provide some training on this system. An email has been sent to all district commanders with the learning video to pass onto their post commanders and VOD chairman for each post. This will take some time to learn, but we can do this. You can still (this year) turn in entries and judge them as in the past (paper forms) but remember some students may use the new QR code forms. Post chairs should contact their District chair for more information.

On a good note: The Mid-Winter Conference and Voice of Democracy Banquet will be in Portland again this year at the Embassy Suites near Portland Airport. We are finalizing the details and will publish them soon.

We have a new person helping with the website this year, our newly elected QM, and she is doing a great job in keeping current information posted on the site. Please look at our Oregon website (vfwor.org). We will be adding a donation button soon so you can make donations directly to the department. (Nice move into the 21st century.)

I want to leave you with this final note: Please donate to the VMS program on the National Website so we can help support all Veterans in need.

Remember: if we Train, Share, and Communicate we can Soar to Excellence.

Thank you.

Bert Little, Sr. Vice Commander

STATE COMMANDER *Continued...*

We might not be at war against the army of King Edward II of England, but we have a different type of battle. This is a fight for the survival of our organization, for new members, our earned benefits, to have the country remember our sacrifices, and to accomplish our overall goals. By staying strong, being bold, and working together, we will achieve victory!

In Comradeship,

Andrea D. Summerlin
Commander

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT



Debra Duggan
Dept. Sr. Vice President
541-403-4331
debdfvwa@gmail.com

I would like to share with you a little about my special project for this year. I want to raise money to help an organization called "Creating Memories for Disabled Children," which is based in the Wallowa Mountains outside of Joseph, Oregon to update the electrical wiring in their Lodge. This is a camp for disabled children and their families. They have been rebuilding the old Boy Scout camp. The cabins are done and available for families to use. They are updating the Lodge, which will be used as a community-based building. The windows, deck, and interior drywall have been completed and now they are working on the interior electrical wiring. Donations to my project would be used to help fund this final phase of the project.

They pay for families to come, stay and enjoy the area at no expense to the families. Visit their website and see what they offer to the families of Disabled Children. They have families come from all over the northwest to spend time at this wonderful camp. The families will enjoy the beautiful outdoors, fishing, and hiking.

You can find out more about the camp by visiting the website: www.creatingmemoriesfordisabledchildren.com Their mission is: *WE endeavor to Create Memories for Special needs children and their families. Our mission is to lift spirits and change lives.*

My joint project with Commander Andrea Summerlin is to help fund a statue to be displayed in the Centennial Gardens on the campus of the National Home. This is in honor of the National Home's 100th Birthday.

Please think of these projects when you're making your donations. Send checks to the Department of Oregon VFWA Treasurer, 673 W Sandpiper Ave, Hermiston, OR 97868. In the memo line of the check, note the Project that this will go to and remember to report your donations. I thank you for this support.



STATE JR. VICE COMMANDER



Floyd Leach
State Jr. Vice Commander
541-977-0924
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I hope everyone is doing well. We had our VFW national convention in July and had our bylaws updated and approved. We are in the middle of our state fair membership drive. We have a school of instruction, and the Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, and Teachers awards that have to be submitted by October 31, so let us get the students and teachers the recognition they deserve. Let us work together to make Oregon a leader in membership to help us grow in numbers for our organization.

UPDATES

STATE JUDGE ADVOCATE



Greg Arnold
State Judge Advocate
503-752-7203
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I came away from the 125th VFW National Convention in Louisville, KY, feeling positive about the direction the VFW is moving toward and I learned something about Parliamentary procedures as well. (Who would have thought!) Not to mention meeting and being with comrades from around the country and posts from overseas. I recommend that all VFW members, regardless of if you hold an office at your Post or are just a regular member, try to make one VFW National Convention in your lifetime.

I want to take the time for the rest of this article to mention and comment on resources all VFW Posts should have at their disposal, especially during a Post meeting:

The VFW PODIUM: BYLAWS, MOP AND RITUAL. The 2025 Podium edition will be published soon. Published annually following the VFW National Convention, the 2025 VFW Podium Edition contains the VFW's Congressional Charter, National Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual. This "must have" go-to reference book contains the organization's most up-to-date rules and regulations. From how to run a meeting, to guidelines for Posts, Districts and Departments, here you will find the answers to all your questions. Don't go to a meeting without it! Members may purchase a hard copy through the VFW Store for \$8 (available soon) or download the digital version for free.

To download a copy, go to www.vfw.org and log in, then go to My VFW/Bylaws: Training, Forms & Templates/2025 Podium: Bylaws, MOP & Ritual. The 2025 digital edition is available as of 8/29/24.

2. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED (RONR) (Currently in the 12th Edition.)

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) follows Robert's Rules of Order as the governing rules for their meetings. These rules provide an orderly way to conduct business meetings, ensuring that discussions and decision-making proceed smoothly. By adhering to these guidelines, VFW members can focus on substantive matters rather than procedural details. If you have any specific questions about how the VFW applies these rules, feel free to ask! And an outstanding place to ask is on the Facebook group, "VFW Parliamentary Procedures and Bylaws Learning." It is administered by Joshua Schreck, the newly elected VFW Adjutant General, and he knows Parliamentary stuff!

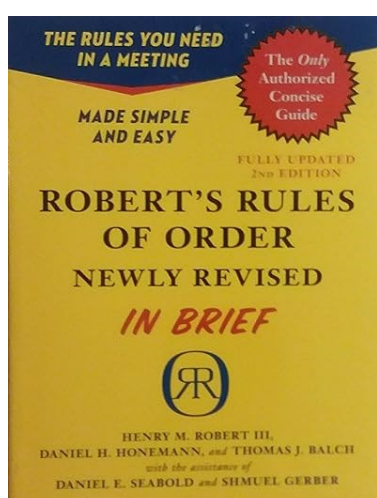
3. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED, IN BRIEF

I know I felt a little intimidated when I first cracked open Robert's Rules of Order. This short publication is recommended, it helps take the mystery out of it and know your way around RONR. I recommend that all Posts have a copy of this publication on hand. It can be purchased through amazon.com for a decent price.

I will now leave you with these two quotes from the man himself, Gen. Henry M. Roberts.

"Where there is no law, but every man does what is right in his own eyes, there is the least of real liberty." And "It is difficult to find another branch of knowledge where a small amount of study produces such great results in increased efficiency in a country where the people rule, as in parliamentary law."

Anchors Aweigh.
Greg Arnold
State Judge Advocate
Commander VFW Post 1324



STATE ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER



Brandy Olmstead
State Adjutant/Quartermaster
qm@vfwor.org
or
adj@vfwor.org

Wow, is it September already? First off let me introduce myself, my name is Brandy Olmstead, and I am your 2024-2025 State Adjutant and Quartermaster (A/Q). For those of you that are unaware, long time A/Q Campos submitted her resignation on July 8th, 2024. I would like to thank her for her years of faithful service to the Department of Oregon and wish her the best in her future endeavors. At the request of Commander Summerlin and the vote of the Council of Administration I will complete the year.

I am pleased to announce that we have hired Cathy Barber from Auxiliary 12140 as the new Administrative Assistant. She is working in the office Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 2 PM. So, if you call during those hours, you will most likely get Cathy. I ask that you please have patience with both Cathy and myself as we learn our new roles and responsibilities.

Please take note of our updated email address:

Adjutant email: adj@vfwor.org
Quartermaster email: qm@vfwor.org
Administrative Assistant: admin@vfwor.org

As a member of the communication committee, I am now assisting Bert Little with the department website. If you have not been to www.vfwor.org lately, I encourage you to check out the changes to the website. Bert and I are working hard to make sure that the information is up-to-date and relevant. Similar to VFW.org, the Department website has two sides, a public side, and a members only side. Any VFW member within the Department of Oregon should have access to the members only side. If you cannot access the members only, reach out to Bert Little or myself and we will get you set up. If you feel that there is something missing from the Department website that you would like to see, please reach out to Bert or myself and we will see about adding it. If you have an interest in website design and management, we are always looking for someone to join the team.

QUARTERMASTER CORNER

Bonds:

National Bylaws require Posts, Districts and Departments to be bonded every year. Posts and Districts can purchase bonding through the Department of Oregon, or through a private insurance company. If you purchased your bond through Department and you have not submitted your application and payment, you're late as they were due by August 31st. Please get your application and payment in ASAP! If you bond with a private company, proof of that bonding needs to be provided to the Department of Oregon, so please send in a copy of your certificate. You may mail a hardcopy or email to qm@vfwor.org and admin@vfwor.org and we will make sure you are not on the hit list. QM bonds were due by 1 Sept 2024, club bonds (bartenders, bingo managers, etc.) are due by 1 Oct 2024. Both bond packets are available on the Department website www.vfwor.org.

Audits:

As a reminder, quarterly audits are due four times a year on August 1, November 1, February 1, and May 1. Thank you to everyone that turned their audit in on time or slightly late. If you are reading this and have not turned in Q4, you might get a reminder call or email as the list of those that have not submitted audits has been sent to the District Commanders. Audits can be emailed to the Quartermaster email address qm@vfwor.org and should include your post number and audit in the subject line, for example Q4 Audit 965.

AUXILIARY UPDATES



Debbie "Cookie" Little
PDP/Chief of Staff
503-739-0661
chiefstaffvfwor@gmail.com

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

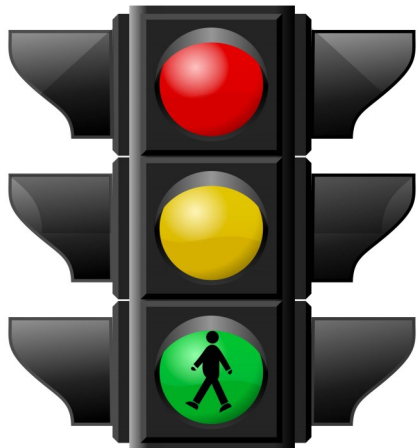
I am back from the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky and so excited for the year ahead of us. It is my job as Chief of Staff to know all the National Programs, mentor all members of an auxiliary and establish new auxiliaries.

To keep our auxiliaries in the green light status we need to utilize all the resources available to us. My intention is to hold virtual meetings for all those interested in becoming an officer for their auxiliary. I will present a Power Point for each office individually. Everyone will be invited. Maybe you aren't sure what the duties of the Chaplain really entail, or maybe Jr. Vice President. Each office has an important role in the auxiliary, and I want you to learn and understand. I will post the link for each training on the website and also send the link to your Auxiliary President and Secretary. If you would like to have a personal invite, please email me at chiefstaffvfwor@gmail.com and I will see that you get a personal invitation. My goal is to begin the first training in September.

If you are aware of a Bachelor Post that has talked about having an Auxiliary, let me know. The department is currently working towards an Auxiliary in Brookings, we are verifying eligibility now. It is my job to visit the Bachelor Posts that may be interested and explain the process and set up meetings in their area. Just think how strong we can be if we add more auxiliaries.

I am here to answer any questions you may have. Remember our goal this year is that all Department of Oregon Auxiliaries are "Green Light" Auxiliaries.

Debbie Little
PDP/Chief of Staff



MEMBERSHIP/DEPT. TREASURER

Sonya Sallee
Department Treasurer
541-429-1870
ortreasvfw@gmail.com

Well, what a great time that we had at National convention in Louisville, KY. Our department rocked this year, and I am very proud of all our members because each one of you helped us make it to the place that we attained this year. I can't wait to see where we end up this year. We made money for the department for the awards that we won for programs and membership. We need to keep this up in the continuing years. Its nice to hear our department name come up for the awards that we obtained.

They are starting to have training for Auxiliary and Department treasurers at National. We had a question-and-answer period for the Department treasurers, and we also made suggestions to National to make MALTA easier for treasurers to use. They also had training on the new bookkeeping system to help people understand the program. If you have questions about it, please let me know and we will work it out together.

The bonds are all taken care of but if your Auxiliary didn't pay National, please send a check to me for \$30.00. Please make the check out to Department of OR VFWA and send it to me. If you wanted to increase your bond amount because you have more than \$20,000.00 in your account, then you can calculate out how much you need to add to the money that has been sent and write a check and place on the memo area of the check "Bond increase" and send to National. We make more points for the Circle of Excellence if we get the bonds all paid by the end of July and we need those points. So please if you have to vote on paying your bond, please get that accomplished at your June meeting and then you can pay it. It makes things much better if we have them paid before they are due.

The audit runs from April 1, 2024-June 30, 2024 this quarter. You have 30 days to get them into the department which would have been July 31, 2024. If your audit isn't completed yet and you haven't contacted the department to request an extension, you are overdue. If I don't have a copy of your audit in 2 weeks and you haven't contacted me, I will notify your Auxiliary President and the Department President and let her know that the audit is late. Almost half of the auxiliaries haven't sent me their audit. I am sure that some of you have completed it, but you haven't sent them to me so please look and make sure they have been mailed.

If you are a new treasurer and you have any questions, please contact me and let me know, my phone number is 1-541-701-0496 and my email address is ortreasvfw@gmail.com. See you next month.

Valorie Wrinkle
PDP/Dept Secretary
541-678-3894
vjwrinkle@gmail.com



Hello everyone!

First, I would like to thank everyone who attended a Training Academy in August. You were all willing to give up a Saturday to come and learn more about our programs, discuss meeting protocol, explore the Department and National websites, and so much more. It was great to see you there! I hope you all enjoyed it and took home some tools to help you be a more successful Auxiliary member or officer. Always remember, the Department is here to be a resource for you.

If you were unable to attend an Academy, I hope you are at least taking the time to explore the Department website as well as the National website. On the Department website: (www.vfwauxor.org) you will find articles from the Chairmen and officers that will keep you up to date on what is happening with the Department of Oregon as well as information on upcoming events, programs, etc. On the National website (www.vfwauxiliary.org) you can find member resources such as the 2024 Podium Edition and Bylaws, the "Building on the Auxiliary Foundation," and the 2024-2025 National Program book in addition to links to information on the individual programs we support. There is also a tab called National Program Blogs where you can find posts from the National Ambassadors. If you scroll down to the bottom of the screen, on the left-hand side you will see a link for "Online Training Academies." This is another great resource for you and your members.

If you are an officer at any level of the organization, you will have access to a tab called "Duties" where you will find reports and other information you may need to do your job. Scroll down to the bottom of the screen and you will find a link called "Officer Resources" where you will find forms and other information specific to your office. It is important to know that you cannot break anything by exploring either website, so feel free to check them out. These websites are meant to be tools for you.

September is the month where many of you will be holding your Fall District meeting. I want to remind you that you should be holding some kind of training at your Fall meeting, so keep that in mind when you schedule them and look to the National website if you want ideas for subjects to cover!

As always, feel free to call any one of us if you have any questions or need help. We are here to assist you and support you in any way we can.

Have a great month and enjoy your upcoming District meetings!

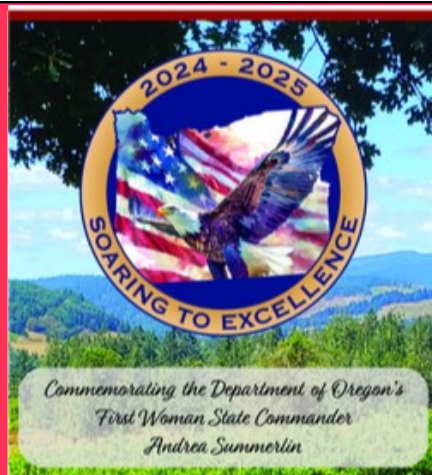
Valorie Wrinkle
PDP/Dept Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Officer Training School

The Department of Oregon will be hosting its second Officer Training School (OTS) on Saturday, September 14, 2024 from 9am-4pm in Union at Post 4060. Check in will begin at 8:00 AM and the training will begin promptly at 8:45 AM. The cost is \$30.00 per person and includes lunch. Pre-Registration is required, limited registration can be done at the door. Details and sign-up forms are available on the department website.

Contact QM Brandy Olmstead at QM@vfwor.org with questions.



COMMANDER'S FUNDRAISER

Benedetto Vineyards has created a special edition Pinot Noir wine. It is a 2022 Red Wine to Commemorate the Department of Oregon's First Woman State Commander. This limited edition is anticipated to sell out before the end of October. The full purchase price of \$36 will be donated to Department of Oregon Commanders fund. Limited bottles available at Dept HQ.



Visit <https://www.benedettovineyards.com/> to order online and have shipped directly to you.



“Adventure on the Wild Side”

Help us welcome National VFW Auxiliary President Brenda Bryant when she comes to Oregon **10/1/2024 to 10/3/2024!**

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL AUXILIARY AND POST MEMBERS.

- OCTOBER 1, 2024 -** **13:00 hours:** Aisle of Honor at “Home on the Lanes,” 37941 Slaughterhouse Road, Halfway, Oregon. Please bring your floor flags if you have them.
- OCTOBER 2, 2024 -** **09:00 hours:** Tour of the Museum in Halfway, followed by a walking tour of the Cornucopia Mining Town. Lunch will be on your own – location to be determined.
18:00 hours: Dinner at Halfway Post #7847
- OCTOBER 3, 2024-** National President Departs

Save the date!



**Department of Oregon VFW and Auxiliary
Mid-Winter Conference and Voice of Democracy Banquet
January 24 to 26, 2025.**



To be held at Embassy Suites by Hilton, 7900 NE 82nd Avenue, Portland Oregon.

The hotel cost will be \$149 + tax. The Banquet is \$45 each.

Booking codes and links will be on the Department website vfwor.org no later than 1 October.

Plans are still being finalized. Stay tuned for more information!

IN THE NEWS

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES—HAVE YOU TALKED TO YOUR LOCAL STUDENTS AND YOUTH GROUPS?



Voice of Democracy - For Grades 9 thru 12

Theme: “Is America Today Our Forefathers’ Vision?”
 (3 to 5 minute Audio essay due to sponsoring Post by 10/31/2024)



Patriot’s Pen - For Grades 6 thru 8

Theme: “My Voice in America’s Democracy”
 (300 to 400 Word Written Essay due to sponsoring Post by 10/31/2024.)



POST 81 Scholarship

Do you have a Child, Grand-Child, or Great-Grandchild of a VFW Department of Oregon member (member must be in good standing, or was upon their death) who is attending any high school (public or private) or home schooled and graduating this year?

Are they planning to attend a Community College, Vocational School, or University in the U.S.? Then they should apply for the Post 81 Scholarship. Visit vfwor.org and look for scholarships under the programs tab. **Don’t delay, applications are due in February!**



YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST

For Students in grades 9-12 by the March 31 deadline who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools.

- March 31, 2025: Student Entry Deadline to VFW Auxiliary.*
- April 15, 2025: VFW Auxiliary winners due to Department (state) Scholarships Chairman for judging.*
- May 5, 2025 VFW Auxiliary Department (state) Winners to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.*
- *required deadlines*

There are two contests: One is for 2 dimensional art and one is for 3 dimensional art. Go to www.vfwauxiliary.org for details!



ILLUSTRATING AMERICA ART CONTEST

• A patriotic art contest for elementary and middle/junior high school students that encourages students’ artistic abilities and rewards their hard work. It’s fun to see how our youth see the world through their drawings and paintings. The contest consists of three grade divisions: K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. There are National awards for first, second and third place in each grade division. .Entry must be on canvas or paper. Watercolor, pencil, pastel, charcoal, tempera, crayon, acrylic, pen, ink, oil, glitter, marker or other media may be used.

- March 31, 2025: Student Entry Deadline to VFW Auxiliary.*
- April 15, 2025: VFW Auxiliary winners due to Department (state) Scholarships Chairman for judging.*
- May 5, 2025 VFW Auxiliary Department (state) Winners to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.*
- *required deadlines*

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Who is Eligible to Apply?

- Applicant must be 21 years of age or older and a current VFW Auxiliary Member, Spouse of current VFW Auxiliary Member, or the son or daughter of a current VFW Auxiliary Member. *Qualifying member must have been a member of the VFW Auxiliary for one (1) year by the application submission deadline.*
-

What is the Scholarship Amount? Four \$1,250 scholarships will be awarded each year, one in each of the four VFW Auxiliary Conferences.

****Go to www.vfwauxiliary.org for more information on the Young American Creative Patriotic Art, Illustrating America and Continuing Education or call your local Auxiliary.**

RECRUITERS

As of August 31, 2024

DIST POST # RECRUITER	MEMBERS	DIST POST # RECRUITER	MEMBERS	DIST POST # RECRUITER	MEMBERS
2 2848 Donovan J. Goff	1	10 12141 Michael D. Williams	1	15 180 William E. Watkins	4
2 10580 Tiffany C. Adams	1	13 3232 Richard L. Earnest	1	15 1324 Franklin R. West	2
2 12123 Claude Miller	6	13 3473 Mary K. Sweezy	3	15 1324 Gregory A. Arnold	2
3 1325 Bruce W. Hall	1	13 3965 James E. Manson	1	15 1324 Paul H. Harris	1
4 966 Jerry W. Law	2	13 9448 Benjamin J. Bennett	1	15 3973 Andrew L. Fosket	1
4 3182 Michael C. Malish	1	13 9448 Kerry G. Shafer	3	15 4273 David B. Lowe	1
5 1383 Daniel B. Williams	1	14 661 Rick A. Breen	1	15 6057 Alejandro G. Bello	1
5 4070 Michael D. Shults	1	14 4227 Andrea D. Summerlin	1	15 12140 Anthony L. Barber	2
10 1643 Christopher I. Thomson	1	15 180 James Killinger	1	16 2666 Dale S. Yee	1
10 4108 James A. Russum	1	15 180 Michael L. Martin	2	16 3452 Paul A. Maidel Jr.	2
10 12141 Leonard P. Hellwig	1	15 180 Samantha Rose Ciaramitaro	2	16 4211 Louis A. Rober	2
		No Recruiter	27		

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to the Department of Oregon, Posts, and Districts for making the National All-American Team for the year 2023-24.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication in achieving this award.

DEPARTMENT of OREGON

102.391% State Commander Allen Anderson (2023-2024)

ALL-AMERICAN POSTS

ALL-AMERICAN DISTRICTS

RANK	DIV	PERCENTAGE	POST	COMMANDER	RANK	DIV	PERCENTAGE	DISTRICT	COMMANDER
38	3	106.77	4273	Michael J. O’Leary	17	4	106.11	15	Gina M. Thomas
111	3	102.45	4015	Michael D. Billings	20	5	103.61	16	Daniel W. Helfrich
18	4	111.9	180	David B. Lowe	25	5	102.56	10	Joseph J. Steller
84	4	103.09	1324	Gregory A. Arnold					
17	6	110.97	12140	Anthony L. Barber					
66	7	103.91	2302	Charles E. Delore					
28	9	106.58	12141	Michael D. Williams					
22	10	112.12	5638	Milton G. Hooch					
37	10	105.97	4362	David P. Sleightham					

Recruiting is not all work!
Auxiliary Conductor Tracy Bogard & friend.

State Chaplain Tony Barber,
VFW National Membership Ed Stafanak Jr. and
State Judge Advocate Greg Arnold.



State Commander Andrea Summerlin & Membership Chair Kristine Sweezy setting up the Recruiting booth.

Rodney Wymore from VFW Post 3972, Molalla & friend..



Above:
Oregon’s Dynamic Duo-State President Debra Duggan & State Commander Andrea Summerlin.

Above:
ALOHA! The next Western Conference Meeting will be hosted by the Department of Hawaii.
Join us at the Ala Moana in Honolulu, HI October 31 to November 3, 2024.
Registration information can be found at www.vfwhi.org.

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If you prefer to receive a hard copy of the Oregon VFW News printed on 11" x 17" paper, email QM@vfwor.org to get on the mailing list. The cost is \$15 per year for a black & white copy, or \$20 per year for color. We are working on a link from the website as well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAPS—August 31, 2024

POST	FIRST NAME	MI	LAST NAME	POST	FIRST NAME	MI	LAST NAME	POST	FIRST NAME	MI	LAST NAME
180	Harold	S	Atkinson	2468	Richard	E	Nygaard	4070	Terry		Sodorff
180	Loyd	W	Konkle	2666	Bobby	G	Barton	4108	Charles	L	Buckley
180	Eugene	F	Loferski Jr	2666	Hugh	J	Vanderzanden	4108	Michael	V	Scroggins
180	James	A	Outlaw	3156	Jack	E	Flansberg	4227	Richard	E	Petersen
293	Cecil	P	Cameron	3156	Noah	F	Perkins	4248	Dexter	L	Nielsen
293	Robert	A	Dougherty	3203	Myron	A	Yancey	4273	Robert	F	Peters
293	Bruce	M	Kramer	3232	Kenneth	P	Henderson	4307	Oscar	M	Victor
584	Warren	I	Coker	3232	Donald	F	Young	4362	Benedict	R	Guidarelli
922	Ed	D	La Roque	3437	Alfred	B	Davenport Sr.	9745	Clyde	E	Lloyd
965	James	F	Galten	3452	Kenneth	R	Overton	MAL	Don		Ash
965	Richard	E	Swartling	3452	Richard	D	Rudig	MAL	Robert	A	Dibala
1324	Richard		Call	3452	Lawrence	D	Underhill	MAL	Charles	W	Dunn
1383	John	W	Quisenberry	3473	Bruce	S	Pilling	MAL	J	W	Gutzler
1643	Walter	C	Schloer Jr.	3965	Lester	L	Ellingson	MAL	Lloyd	B	Nielson
1833	Eugene		Louder	3965	Michael	H	La Bolle	MAL	Marvin	W	Stegner
2302	John	A	Hudick	3965	Sonny		Ray	MAL	Richard	H	Taylor
2302	Paul	J	Huston	3973	Japheth	S	Childers	MAL	Orville	D	Withrow
				4015	Carroll	J	Tichenor				

In your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our Comrades.

In this life you embraced them with your tender love; deliver them now from every evil and bid them eternal rest.

The old order has passed away: welcome them into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain, but fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.

Amen

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

By **Andrea D. Summerlin**

On National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we remind every American to never forget to honor those who were held captive and returned, and those who remain missing in action. is on September 20, 2024.



September 20 is a poignant reminder of those whose sacrifice helped pave the way to Freedom and protection of the American way of life. Established through proclamation signed by President Jimmy Carter in 1979, National POW/MIA Recognition Day is commemorated across the nation on the third Friday in September.

The plight of the more than 140,000 American former prisoners of war is a burden that stays with each of them, and we would be remiss if we do not acknowledge and honor those who endured such hardships on our behalf.

It is also the duty of every American to remember that some 81,000 service members are still listed as missing in action. Their families still hold out hope that one day they will receive the call that their loved one has been found. We owe them our support and vigilance until that day comes.

Whether you honor them by attending a POW/MIA ceremony, setting up a special POW/MIA table at an event, or holding a candlelight vigil, the more than 1.4 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliary ask to keep the candle of hope lit until all our nation's mission service men and women are accounted for.

In a recent edition of the VFW Action Corps weekly, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced two identifications and four burial updates for service members who have been missing and accounted for from World War II and the Korean War. Private William Calkins from Washington County will be laid to rest on 13 September in Hillsboro, Oregon. To learn more, visit <https://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/Press-Releases/PressReleaseArticleView/Article/3874572/soldier-accounted-for-from-wwii-calkins-w/>

Releases/PressReleaseArticleView/Article/3874572/soldier-accounted-for-from-wwii-calkins-w/



The National Home will be celebrating its 100th anniversary on June 28, 2025. Location: 3573 S. Waverly Rd., Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827.

Founded in 1925 as a place for families who were left behind due to war, so they could remain together. The National Home is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization (VFW and Auxiliary) as well as businesses and corporations that support veterans. The National Home assists military veterans and their families with children, by creating a foundation of services and resources to achieve their personal and family goals to move forward in a positive, safe, and healthy environment.

The National Home community is open to the families of actively serving military personnel, veterans and relatives of the VFW and VFW Auxiliary members. The family can be one or both parents with one or more children. The assistance available to them is at no cost and includes education, daycare, recreation and help with case management. There is no cost for lodging during their stay.

The community is a small town consisting of 42 single family homes on tree lined streets. It has a gym, library, computer and science labs, day care facilities, playgrounds, fishing pond, hiking trails and more. Homes are sponsored by States, military organizations, or private citizens. One of these buildings is a guest lodge annex. Oregon has one house that was built in 1957. It is a 1620 sq foot brick two story, 3 bed/1.5 bath house.

Michael Wilson is the Executive Director of The National Home. There are twelve elective members, one member appointed by the board, seven ex-officio members and twelve trustees. The twelve elected trustees represent one of the twelve National Home districts. They serve a six- year term. Oregon is in district number twelve, which covers California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and the Pacific Areas. Our Trustee is Mary Anne Kreutz from California. She was just elected to the trustee position last year and will be there till 2029.

At our Post, Hutchinson-Rempelos Post 3182 in North Bend (Oregon), at each meeting after the National Home prayer we take up a donation. We collect anywhere from \$60.00 - \$120.00 per meeting. I am also planning to start a collection for the National Home at my recruiting table.

I hope to see you there for the tour of the complex and to celebrate the National Home's 100th birthday.

Michael Malish
Oregon's National Home contact—rockhound3m@gmail.com

DEPARTMENT DASHBOARD

District	Post	VMS \$125 Donation	Buddy Poppy Order	Membership	Community Service Q1 Jul-Sep
2	1440	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
2	2848	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
2	2994	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
2	4362	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
2	10580	Met	Met	Unmet	Met
2	12123	Unmet	Met	Unmet	Unmet
3	1325	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
3	4248	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
4	965	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
4	966	Unmet	Met	Unmet	Unmet
4	2928	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
4	3182	Unmet	Met	Unmet	Unmet
4	3440	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
4	4439	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
4	6102	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
5	1383	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
5	4070	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
6	3048	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
6	4060	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
6	4307	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
6	5452	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
6	7847	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
7	1833	Unmet	Met	Unmet	Met
7	2302	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
7	6881	Unmet	Met	Unmet	Unmet
7	9670	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
8	922	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
8	2471	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
8	3597	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
8	4567	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
10	1412	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
10	1643	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
10	4108	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
10	7242	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
10	8138	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
10	12141	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
13	293	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
13	2468	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
13	3232	Unmet	Met	Unmet	Met
13	3473	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
13	3965	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
13	4039	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
13	4166	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
13	9448	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
13	9745	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
13	10639	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
14	584	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
14	661	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
14	732	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
14	3156	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
14	3203	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
14	3437	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
14	3957	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
14	4065	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
14	4227	Met	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
14	5638	Unmet	Met	Unmet	Unmet
14	12214	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
15	180	Unmet	Met	Unmet	Met
15	1324	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
15	3973	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
15	4273	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
15	6057	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
15	12140	Unmet	Met	Unmet	Met
15	12211	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet
16	2666	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
16	3452	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
16	4015	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met
16	4211	Unmet	Unmet	Unmet	Met