

**Veterans Affair and Rehabilitation
Department of Arizona
Book of Reports
2025 - 2026**

As the Department of Arizona concludes another productive year, I am pleased to share the highlights of our units' dedication to supporting our veterans. Our members have remained steadfast in their mission through activities such as organizing meals, hosting birthday celebrations, and providing handcrafted donations.

Several units achieved exceptional milestones this year:

- Unit 2 (William Bloys - Tempe): Presented a hand-stitched "fidget quilt" to Major Fannie McClendon, Ret., a 105-year-old WWII veteran and 66-year member of Post 2.
- Unit 6 (Ernest A. Love - Prescott): Volunteers documented 3,534.5 hours serving 1,440 veterans, in addition to 218 hours for military families and 1,500 hours of community service.
- Unit 27 (Apache - Apache Junction): Volunteers participated in the VA Christmas Store to support and provide meals for veterans during the holiday season.
- Unit 39 (Merrell-Mitchell - Gilbert): The Quilts of Valor program honored a combat veteran on January 11, 2026, and has a ceremony scheduled for May 17, 2026, to honor 7–10 additional veterans.
- Unit 62 (John J. Morris - Peoria): Donated \$7,000 to the local Guitars for Vets chapter, supporting therapeutic music instruction for veterans with PTSD.
- Unit 86 (John D. Wibby - Overgaard): Partnered with P.A.W.S.S. on a fundraiser to connect veterans with companion animals.

Additionally, the Department has committed to supporting veteran rehabilitation through the Creative Arts Festival, providing a platform for veterans to aid their healing process through artistic expression.

It has been an honor to serve as your VA&R Chairman. I value the collaboration with our Department and unit chairpersons and appreciate the leadership you provided during your tenure. I wish the incoming chairman much success.

Respectively;

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American Legion Auxiliary
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