

PRESCOTT ALA WHIPPLE CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOP & VAVS REPORT

Northern AZ VA Health Care System

The Prescott Gift Shop was held on **December 17, 2025**. It has evolved into a gift distribution that is meeting the needs and interests of the Veterans served by this facility. We currently provide gifts to the Veterans receiving treatment through the Domiciliary (DOM) and Community Living Center (CLC).

Thanks to volunteers from Units 108, 78, 13, 40 and AL 108. We started the day in the CLC with a holiday party, complete with refreshments, music, social time and, of course, Santa Claus gave out gifts to each Veteran. This year each Veteran received a snap flannel shirt or fleece jacket and several fun/useful items to enjoy or pass along to family members. The group also went to individual rooms to distribute gifts and treats and to share holiday greetings from the Auxiliary. After lunch, we proceeded to the DOM where we set up tables with backpacks, fleece blankets, socks, personal care items and treats. Veterans made their way past the tables to choose the items that they wanted for themselves or family members. Our refreshment table consisted of traditional holiday party fare. Again, everyone enjoyed live music and plenty of time to enjoy the company of the Auxiliary and each other.

I have incorporated funds from the VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) account into the holiday festivities by using it to supply the refreshments for the parties. In addition, the VAVS fund has been used to provide passes to the local movie theater for both the DOM and CLC, ice cream socials for CLC, and new clothing for the Clothing Room. Those items included underwear, shoes, jeans, sweatpants and shirts, and long/short sleeve t-shirts. Clothing is available to Veterans in need through a process that starts with his/her social worker. A change this year is the VA no longer accepts women's clothing; they maintain a fund to purchase items as the need arises. We do continue to accept new clothing, shoes, underwear, and jackets for men; they can be donated through the CDCE office in Building 15 – please call 928-776-7013 prior to bringing in.

ALA donations recorded from May 1, 2025 – April 30 totaled \$19,124.34.

The ALA has one regularly scheduled volunteer at the Prescott VA with 129 hours and 148 occasional volunteer hours recorded. Occasional hours do not appear to be correct and is an area that can be improved by ensuring all activity that includes ALA support be reported to the CDCE office.

Respectfully submitted by:

Patricia (Trish) Aljets

VAVS Deputy Representative

Whipple Gift Shop Chairman