

## President's Message September 2018

Although there is no change in the weather to indicate Fall is coming, we have changed the calendar to September and children are on their way back to school.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in our Schools of Instruction. Share what you learned with your Auxiliary and your fellow officers. Sharing helps us become a strong TEAM and a strong TEAM helps support our veterans, military and their families. As you read over the information from "Building The Auxiliary Foundation" training if you have questions please do not hesitate to contact your District President, one of the Line Officers or me.

Presidents if you have not yet appointed your Program Chairmen now is the time to do so. The Department Chairmen are working hard to provide information and ideas your Auxiliary can use. Share this information with your members at your meetings.

October 27, 2018 is our Fall Conference that will be held at Embassy Suites, Piscataway. The C of A meeting will be held on Friday, October 26, 2018 and the Conference Dinner Saturday, October 27, 2018. Please review the information you were sent in the monthly mailings and make your plan to attend.

Please mark your calendar for November 27 – 28, 2018 which is when our National President Sandi Kribel makes her Official Visit to New Jersey. Also, mark your calendar for September 25, 2018 which is when the State Convention Committee will meet at Post 3324 at 6:42 PM to continue planning our 100<sup>th</sup>. State Convention. Convention will be held in Wildwood from June 19 to June 22, 2018. All are invited to attend the planning meetings and bring their ideas.

Congratulations to those Auxiliaries who made their first membership quota of 75% and earned their award of \$20.00. If you haven't noticed all membership awards to the Auxiliaries have been increased. September 30, 2018 is the date for earning the next award of \$30.00 for 85%.

As this new year begins let us join together to make it the best ever, not for ourselves but for our Veterans, Military and their families. I believe together we can achieve any goal we set. As a TEAM we can achieve great things. So – let's "Always Be Alert For Ways To Help Our Veterans".

Have a GREAT month.

Eloise (Ellie) Eith, President

## Americanism / Patriotic Instructor September 2018

Denise Beckler  
12 Wright Ave.  
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As summer winds down and we start to look forward to Autumn leaves, cool nights and back to our monthly Auxiliary meetings, now's a good time to brush up on meeting protocol. Thanks to the flexibility of the newer contemporary and round table style, our meetings can take on a more relaxed atmosphere, which is a good thing. However, it is important to remember the basic protocols for running a meeting. National has put out an informative flyer (following) on Understanding Auxiliary Traditions. I encourage Auxiliary Presidents to print out some copies and distribute it to your newer members, to help them feel more comfortable when they attend their first few meetings.

Also, this is a great time to run Back to School drives, I know a number of Auxiliaries do that – don't forget to log on the National VFW Auxiliary website and download the handout on flag etiquette for children and the National Anthem bookmarks – those can be slipped right in to the backpacks you're donating, or offer a handful to the group you're donating them to. To "mis"quote Buddy the Elf: "The best way to spread Patriotism Cheer to is shout out loud for all to hear!" ☺

Let's remember to be "Always Alert for Ways to Help Our Veterans", because I "Believe... We can Do it!"

And don't forget our other Americanism Programs:

Flag Education – share protocol and care of Old Glory  
POW/MIA Recognition – Remember them until they all come home  
Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award – Honor a teacher that best shares Americanism and Citizenship education with their students  
Safety in America/Disaster Preparedness  
Flags Across America

And now for a little trivia fun (answers will be posted on the October communication):

On the first US flag, why were the 13 stars sewn in a circle?

What do the 13 red and white stripes on the flag represent?

Can you name the 13 original colonies the stars and stripes were put on the flag for?

Who signed the Declaration of Independence first?

## **Buddy' ® Poppy/ VFW National Home for Children**

**2018 – 2019**

September 2018

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### **"Buddy" ® Poppy**

Brothers and Sisters,

There should never be an opportunity to miss a day to display, distribute or speak about this memorable red flower. One flower that carries memories for all. Now is the perfect time to start reaching out to all.

Check your community calendar, they are in newspapers, food stores on the bulletin boards, church flyers and on your local television station. They usually always list a contact person and when the next meeting has been scheduled. Now is not the time to be shy, call them introduce yourself and explain to them what you would like to speak about at one of their meetings. This is another way to reach out to those in your community.

Our best advertisers are ourselves, it's what we do in the communities that stays with the public and that is what we want. As you stand there in front of a store or maybe you are walking a parade route, when they see those little flowers of red we want them to remember our "Buddy" ® Poppy and the story we told them. We distribute them in hopes of raising funds to support our veterans who put them together and to help the needs of the National Home for Children. Aside from the Cross of Malta, the "Buddy" ® Poppy is the most visible symbol of our great organization.

There are many holidays coming up so here are a few ideas:

- ✓ Having a dinner at the holidays make napkin rings using your "Buddy" ® Poppies make sure they show the white tag.
- ✓ Take paper plates dessert size attach a Poppy to it, make a memorial wall at your post home and ask for a donation for each plate. Your members can then write on the paper plate the name of a veteran, someone that they want to remember for their service. Hang them on the memorial wall for all to read.

- ✓ At Christmas you can take snowflakes attach a Poppy to it and then display them on your post home Christmas tree. You will be surprised as to how beautiful those little red flowers dress up that tree.

These are just a few suggestions on ways you can distribute your Poppies and help your relief funds. Don't forget our hospitalized veterans you can always put a "Buddy" ® Poppy on gift bags or a small flag to let them know that they are not forgotten.

### **VFW National Home for Children**

While out at the National convention our newly elected National President Sandi Kriebel, told us about her special project, can you guess, yes it involves the home. Last year while madam president was conducting a meeting out there she and the committee noticed that the Guest Lodge kitchen was very outdated. She decided it was time for a remodel. The kitchen is a very vital room at the Guest Lodge. Many Departments and others use that kitchen when they have their activities at the National Home.

Back in 2012, I had the opportunity to visit the National Home and we used that kitchen for Easter festivities and it was cold and damp and not everything worked. When it was built it was furnished as a commercial kitchen and it is in desperate need of many things.

- Commercial stove/oven
- Dishwasher
- Countertops
- Cabinets
- Backsplash
- Windows
- Inspection and/or update to the HVAC system

I know what you're thinking and the answer is NO, I'm not asking you to buy anything on the list but, what I am asking you to do is send in your donations, ear mark your checks "**National President's Special Project**", mail them to our Department Treasurer, Iris Jean George, 154 Oak Pines Blvd., Pemberton, N.J. 08068

**Sandi Kriebel "Believe..... We Can Do It!!"**

**Ellie Eith "Always Alert for Ways to Help Our Veterans"**

DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY CANCER PROJECT

2018 - 2019

September 2018

Deborah McLendon, Chairman  
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Brothers and Sisters,

As they say the dog days of summer are gone and now it's back to school for some and let's not forget those that teach, yes time to get back to hard work and play. Some are already planning their next vacation, birthday party or maybe the birth of a new addition to their family. What ever it is we are always planning or doing something all the time.

Have you given any thought to what you might do as a fun raiser for the Departments Cancer Project? Maybe you could do a rummage sale, tricky tray, a bingo night just for Cancer, 50's night, have one night a month a soup and sandwich night all proceeds go to Cancer. These are just a few ideas I can't remember them all every where I go I'm hearing more ideas that the auxiliaries are doing to raise funds.

For the month of September, we will fight to find a cure for these cancers:

Childhood  
Gynecological  
Leukemia  
Lymphoma  
Ovarian  
Prostrate  
Thyroid

STAND  
↑  
TO  
CANCER

I hope to see all at the Fall conference and hear more ideas that can be shared with our brothers and sisters.

**IF YOU BELIEVE WE WILL SUCCEED!!!!!!!!!!**

**Chief of Staff/Extension  
September 2018**

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**MENTORING**

Does your Auxiliary have a mentoring program? Just one member assigned to talk things through with a new member or even an older member struggling with the mission of the Auxiliary? If not, why not? A mentor can be any member of your Auxiliary who understands the workings of the organization and is willing to share their knowledge with others. We all need a little help now and then and it is the responsibility of the mentor to give that help.

A mentor should be a patient person as sometimes it is difficult to understand how the Auxiliary operates. Not just new members can benefit from the assistance of a mentor. Sometimes even seasoned members can use a little help and advice from someone even just a little more knowledgeable than themselves. Make sure that all members know that there is a mentor available to them. Some members may not feel comfortable voicing their questions or opinions at a meeting in front of everyone else but would gladly consider a one-on-one. These one-on-ones can help to give that new member the confidence and self-assurance that they need to be able to speak up at a meeting and to become more active in the programs that are the heart of our organization.

Keep Department President Ellie's motto for this year in mind, *"Always Alert For Ways to Help Our Veterans"*. Without a strong mentoring system leading to a healthy Auxiliary we won't be able to Help Our Veterans.

Make certain that your Auxiliary mentor's phone number is available to all members. Both of mine are listed above as well as my email address. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email. I am here to help!

VFW Auxiliary  
Department of New Jersey  
Hospital Program  
September Promotion  
2018

Elizabeth (Betty) Kitson  
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It is time for the students to go back to school. This would be a good time to plan your Hospital parties and go into the schools and recruit the youth as volunteers. All of the students will need community service hours for the year and this would be a great way for them to earn their hours. The Veterans love having the young people come so that they can talk to them about their life experiences. The students will learn things that they will never learn in school from the people who lived through the trying and good times. Make up certificates for the students who volunteer and present them to the students.

The students can also help the Veterans write down their stories, thoughts or poems and help them submit them to the Veterans Voices Writing Project. The Project was founded in 1946, and has long been connected to VFW Auxiliary. It is a therapeutic writing program that helps the Veterans express themselves and communicate in a creative way. The project's therapeutic writing is designed to acknowledge military veterans' experiences and build self-esteem through creative expression and possible publication.

Listen to the veterans stories. Ask them if it's ok if you write them down or record them. The Veterans Voice Project publishes the "Veterans Voice" magazine three times per year and print a selection of submissions.

These stories need to get out there because they are an important for people to see what our veterans went through on the battlefield and after they came home what their struggles were once they came back to their old life. It can help our veterans coming home now help adjust and know that there are others out there that have gone through the same experiences and struggles. To learn more about the program and how to become involved, visit [veteransvoices.org](http://veteransvoices.org) or call (816) 701-6844 or email [volunteer@veteransvoices.org](mailto:volunteer@veteransvoices.org)

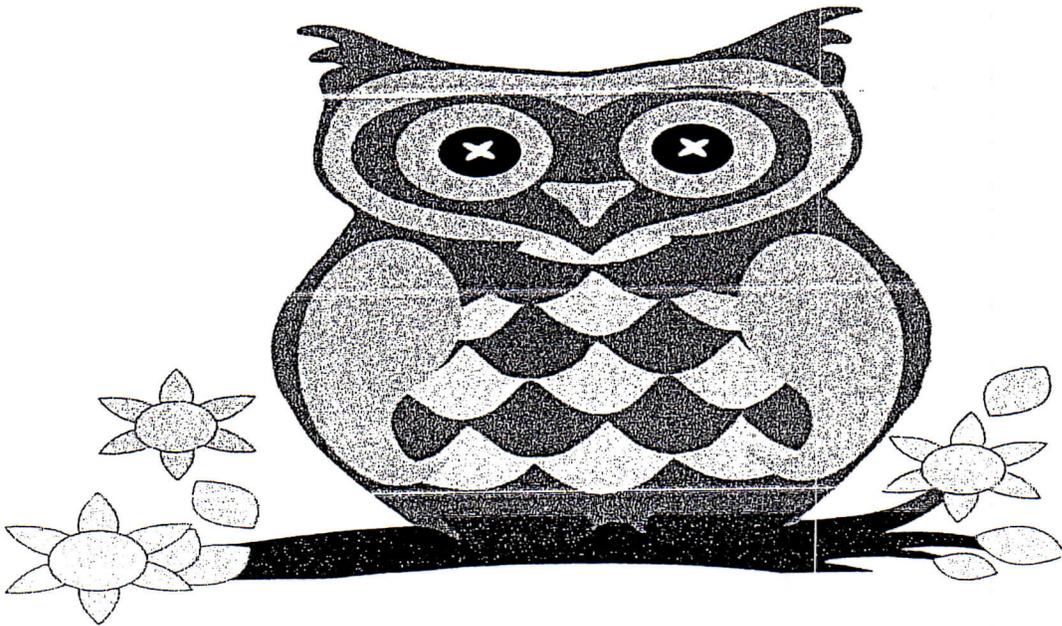
By doing this you will be taking care of two goals: Volunteer recruitment, recognition and support.

The last goal is to Spotlight suicide awareness and mental health issues. Make the community aware of the signs and symptoms of PTSD and the warning signs of the risk factors for suicide. Have a gathering at the post giving information such as the Veterans Crisis Line and pamphlets that you can distribute the information. There are several short films that you can show like Project 22 or The Welcome. This is the time to act because there are many Veterans out there who are in crisis.

Now two reminders, have you mailed in your Christmas Cheer Donations and Hospital Fund Donations? Please send them in as soon as possible so we can take care of our Veterans. Also when you fill out the Hospital Party forms I would also like a copy of the activity sheet you turn into recreation at the home or hospital. I need the volunteers to sign in, the number of patients along with the amount of money spent. I have included a copy of an activity form if the hospital doesn't have one. You can also find it on the Department website.  
We Can Do It, Volunteering, and Always Alert For Ways to Help Our Veterans.

Until next month.

**Betty Kitson**





## PARAMUS VETERANS HOME SEPTEMBER 2018

Another September, another Fall, another year and so glad to be your Paramus Veterans Memorial Home Representative for another term. We had a very successful 2017-18 and hoping for more success in 2018-19. Please mark your calendars for the following PVH parties:

Thursday, October 25, 2018 2:00 pm-Bingo  
Saturday, December 15, 2018 2:00 pm-Holiday Party  
Thursday, April 4, 2019 2:00 pm-Bingo  
Friday, May 17, 2019 2:00pm-Bingo

Also, FYI, District 2 bingos will be: Thurs. 9/27/18, Fri. 11/16/18, Thurs. 3/7/19 and Thurs. 5/2/19. All will be at 2:00 pm and, by the way, if you are planning a PVH event, please let me know. The information will be shared and our residents may enjoy some additional volunteers and visitors.

Please remember to get your Hospital Cheer and Hospital Quota donations in early. December comes around very quickly. Our facility residents are counting on you for success parties. Also, remember any additional donations to PVH would be gladly appreciated by Iris Jean George, myself, and especially our PVH veterans. All donations will be put to good use to help brighten our heroes stay. Keep in mind to " earmark " donations "PVH parties" or the money goes into the general fund which is also welcomed.

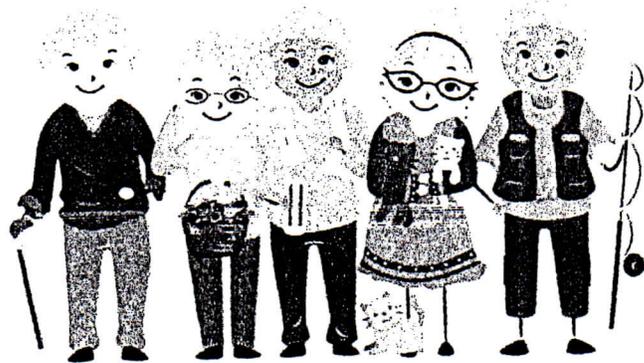
I am gearing up for our Holiday Party and asking for donated items. Would love to take all the "freebies" you receive from your charities off your hands to put to good use in the holidays bags. Also handmade items or signed holiday cards, maybe from a youth group, would be great. I am also asking for suggestions for volunteer entertainment. One of our residents mentioned a magician! Any help would be wonderful and desperately needed (quickly).

Here's to an outstanding 2018-19 for our Veterans and our Auxiliaries!

Chris Schimel  
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Vineland Veterans Memorial Home  
524 North West Boulevard  
Vineland, NJ 08360-2895  
September Communication

Denise Beckler  
12 Wright Ave.  
Stratford, NJ 08084  
Dwilliams722@verizon.net  
856-448-3501 (can text)



Don't forget to book an activity at the Vineland Home - our veterans and their spouses love visits and are waiting for you to stop by. Call the Volunteer Representative Lisa Williams at 856-405-4212. She can assist with any questions or ideas you have. Get those Christmas party dates booked!

The latest Wish List follows, feel free to drop off items on the list at any time at the volunteer office – call Lisa Williams to check for hours to drop off items.

And don't forget - anytime you hold a party or donate items, be sure to complete the Hospital Chair report and submit within 30 days to the Hospital Chair – this assures your auxiliary gets credit for your generous donation of time and money.

If I can assist in any way, please don't hesitate to give me a call!

**WHO CARES IF WE'RE  
GETTING OLDER?**



**WE STILL ROCK!**

Visit EMF at [facebook.com/EightiesMusicForever](https://www.facebook.com/EightiesMusicForever)

**RESIDENT NEED AND WISH LIST 2018**  
**524 NW Boulevard**  
**Vineland, NJ 08360-2895**  
**856-405-4212 (Volunteer Office)**



**It is through the generous contributions of organization and individuals that we are able to provide many of the "extras" as we care for our residents. Listed below are ongoing wishes, special needs, and future projects that we have identified for our Home.**

**SPECIFIC NEEDS**

- Body Wash- Scents that can be used for men or women.
- Body Spray
- Diabetic Socks
- Button Down Cardigans (S-5XL)
- Socks with non-slip tread on bottoms
- Lip Balm
- Tissues (Boxes)
- Perfume
- Pre Shave, After Shave and Cologne
- Sunglasses
- Denture Adhesive and Denture Cleaning Tablets
- Suspenders & Belts-Larger Sizes
- Sweatshirts & Sweatpants (S-5XL)
- Cordless Electric Razors
- 2GB Flash Drives (Library Kiosk)
- Undershirts (White) Sizes S-5XL
- Batteries (New only) AA & AAA & C
- Deodorant- Universal scents for men or women.
- Refreshments (Please Check Expiration Dates)
  - Tasty Cakes - Regular & Diet (Individually Wrapped)
  - Chips and Pretzels (Individually Wrapped)
- Seasonal Decoration for Residents' Rooms
- Gift Cards
  - Wal-Mart, Target, Visa, Amazon

**ONGOING FUNDING ITEMS**

- Monetary donation for:
  - Second Wind Dreams
  - Sporting Event Tickets
  - Longwood Garden Tickets
  - Zoo Trip Tickets
  - Wheelchair Cup Holders & Bags
  - Newspaper & Magazine Subscriptions
  - Books of Postage Stamps for mailing cards to loved ones. (Prefer "Forever Stamps")
  - Sponsorship of music programs
  - Dining Out Events (Trips to Diners and Restaurants)

**PROJECTS/WISH LIST**

- Dementia Life Stations
  - Wireless Headphones for TV or Music
  - Dining Room chairs
  - Solarium furniture (Tables and Chairs)
- Please contact us for more information on these or other project ideas.**

If you are interested in helping with a specific need item or project and would like to send a check, please make the check payable to: New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland (NJVMH of Vineland) – Welfare Fund and indicate what item you would like the funds to go towards.

**VETERANS HAVEN SOUTH  
301 SPRING GARDEN RD.  
HAMMONTON, NJ  
September Communication**

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day: 215-972-7175  
email: dwilliams722@verizon.net



I know we're all still in the summer swelter's, but believe it or not the holidays are right around the corner and it's time to start thinking Veteran's Christmas parties!

Would your auxiliary and/or post like to do something for Vets Haven South? Call me now to get a date reserved! Spots go fast that time of year and the sooner you book a date the better. What to do for them? Something as simple as a pizza party, or a dessert night – maybe take a bunch of Christmas cookies in and just visit? Your "party" can be big or small – either shows our Veterans how much we care about them!

Feel free to contact me with any questions, or help booking a date for an activity!



And we have a date! Our annual VFW/VFWA sponsored Vet Haven South Christmas Party is set for Thursday, December 6, 2018 – more details to follow – mark your calendars!

**Two important items to note:**

When you donate items, be sure to fill out a receipt slip – VHS keeps a copy so they know who donated and gives you a copy, which you should send with a hospital report within a month of the visit, to our Dept Hospital Rep. This lets us know what great work you're doing and gives us a running total of donations by the VFWA for the year.

Please donate new clothing only – used clothing can no longer be accepted!

## LEGISLATION

Terri Andryszczak  
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Summer is over and children are back in school. The seasons are changing.

Before you know it, it will be November and we will be voting again. This year all the talk is about 'mid-term' elections. Candidates will be making appearances, either in person, shaking hands, etc. or you will see them in their campaign ads on the internet, television and radio. We must listen carefully to their message and promises. Let's see which one has the military and veterans as one of their top concerns; if not, the top concern.

Why not invite your local candidates to attend an open forum at the Post? A question and answer session is a good way to see what their views are in regards to the issues of the military and veterans. Press them with difficult questions and do not be satisfied with a simple answer. We need candidates that want to advocate for better benefits, education and quality of life for our military, the military and their families.

Or, host a voter registration night at your Post. Better yet, set up a table at your local community's Fall events for their citizens. This is a good time to hand out the 2018 Priority Goals. We need to keep encouraging our local community to come out and vote. If they say, 'our vote doesn't count', well, yes it does. We have seen how close local and state elections can be. Candidates elected into their seat/position by the narrowest of margins. So, yes, every vote does count!

During any of these events, reach out to the young citizens in the community. They are the future of our county, our future voters. This is a good time to engage them and provide them with an understanding of our legislative process. In the coming months, I will give you 'hints' for our students and adults to learn more about our advocacy for veterans and their needs.

As always, you can call or email me with any questions.

## **MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT**

Believe

--

We CAN Do It

Alice Sandman  
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[amsandman0204@gmail.com](mailto:amsandman0204@gmail.com)

Happy September!

We have received our quotas from National. We need 210 new members by September 30<sup>th</sup>. We currently have 69 new members. We also have 7 members that have rejoined.

We have 17 Auxiliaries who have reached 75% in membership already! Way To Go! Keep Up the Good Work. Including Auxiliary 215 in District 16 with 100+%!

Remember the first goal is to reach 75% in membership by August 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Membership Tip**

Investigating Committee for New Applications consists of 3 members appointed by the President. They carefully examine the eligibility of the Veteran. If the qualifying Veteran is a member of the Post the Auxiliary member is joining, the only need the Veterans VFW Membership Number. All others must be accompanying paper work (example DD214).

### **REMEMBER**

**ALL NEW MEMBER APPLICATION MUST BE SENT IN TO THE DEPARTMENT TREASURER FOR PROCESSING.**

Don't forget to send in those Just One Recruiting Cards.

**Always Alert For Ways to Help Our Veterans**