

AMERICANISM



Pearl Harbor is a U.S. naval base near Honolulu, Hawaii, that was the scene of a devastating surprise attack by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941. Just before 8 a.m. on that Sunday morning, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes descended on the base, where they managed to destroy or damage nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight battleships, and over 300 airplanes. More than 2,400 Americans died in the attack, including civilians, and another 1,000 people were wounded. The day after the assault, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan.

Ships lost or damaged

Twenty-one American ships were damaged or lost in the attack, of which all but three were repaired and returned to service

Battleships

- [Arizona](#) (Rear Admiral [Isaac C. Kidd](#)'s flagship of [Battleship Division One](#)): hit by four armor-piercing bombs, exploded; total loss. 1,177 dead.
- [Oklahoma](#): hit by five torpedoes, capsized; total loss. 429 dead.
- [West Virginia](#): hit by two bombs, seven torpedoes, sunk; returned to service July 1944. 106 dead.
- [California](#): hit by two bombs, two torpedoes, sunk; returned to service January 1944. 100 dead.
- [Nevada](#): hit by six bombs, one torpedo, beached; returned to service October 1942. 60 dead.
- [Pennsylvania](#) (Admiral [Husband E. Kimmel](#)'s flagship of the [United States Pacific Fleet](#)): in [dry dock](#) with *Cassin* and *Downes*, hit by one bomb and debris from USS *Cassin*; remained in service. 9 dead.
- [Tennessee](#): hit by two bombs; returned to service February 1942. 5 dead.
- [Maryland](#): hit by two bombs; returned to service February 1942. 4 dead (including floatplane pilot shot down)

1



2



3



1-Arizona during the attack

2-Nevada, on fire and down at the bow, attempting to leave the harbor before being deliberately beached

3-West Virginia was sunk by six torpedoes and two bombs during the attack.

Salvage



Captain [Homer N. Wallin](#) (center) supervises salvage operations aboard [USS California](#), early 1942

After a systematic search for survivors, Captain [Homer N. Wallin](#) was ordered to lead a formal salvage operation.

Around Pearl Harbor, divers from the Navy (shore and tenders), the [Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard](#), and civilian contractors ([Pacific Bridge Company](#) and others) began work on the ships that could be refloated. They patched holes, cleared debris, and pumped water out of ships. Navy divers worked inside the damaged ships. Within six months, five battleships and two cruisers were patched or refloated so they could be sent to shipyards in Pearl Harbor and on the mainland for extensive repair.

Intensive salvage operations continued for another year, a total of some 20,000 man-hours under water. *Arizona* and the target ship *Utah* were too heavily damaged for salvage and remain where they were sunk, with *Arizona* becoming a [war memorial](#). *Oklahoma*, while successfully raised, was never repaired and capsized while under tow to the mainland in 1947. The *Nevada* proved particularly difficult to raise and repair; two men involved in the operation died after inhaling poisonous gases that had accumulated in the ship's interior. When feasible, armament and equipment were removed from vessels too damaged to repair and put to use aboard other craft.



Stephen Tyree Early (August 27, 1889 – August 11, 1951) was a U.S. journalist and government official. He served as the third White House press secretary under Franklin D. Roosevelt from 1933 to 1945 and as the acting press secretary under President Harry S. Truman in 1950 after the sudden death of Charles Griffith Ross.

News coverage

The initial announcement of the attack on Pearl Harbor was made by the White House Press Secretary, **Stephen Early**, at 2:22 p.m. Eastern time (8:52 a.m. Hawaiian time): "The Japanese have attacked Pearl Harbor from the air and all naval and military activities on the island of Oahu, principal American base in the Hawaiian Islands." As information developed, Early made a number of additional announcements to approximately 150 White House reporters over the course of the afternoon.

Initial reports of the attack moved on news wires at approximately 2:25 p.m. Eastern time. The first radio coverage (which, at the time, represented the earliest opportunity for ordinary people to learn of the attack) was on the CBS radio network's scheduled news program, *World News Today*, at 2:30 p.m. Eastern time. John Charles Daly read the initial report, then switched to London, where Robert Trout ad-libbed on the possible London reaction. The first report on NBC cut into a play, a dramatization of *The Inspector-General*, at 2:33 p.m. Eastern time and lasted only 21 seconds. Unlike the later practice with major news stories, there were only brief interruptions of scheduled commercial programming.

A contemporaneous newspaper report compared the attack to the Battle of Port Arthur in which the Imperial Japanese Navy attacked the Imperial Russian Navy, triggering the Russo-Japanese War, 37 years prior. Modern writers have continued to note parallels between the attacks, albeit more dispassionately.

Aftermath

The day after the attack, Roosevelt delivered his famous [Day of Infamy speech](#) to a [Joint Session of Congress](#), calling for a [formal declaration of war on the Empire of Japan](#). Congress obliged his request less than an hour later. On December 11, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States, even though the Tripartite Pact

did not require it. Congress issued a declaration of war against Germany and Italy later that same day.



The United Kingdom had already been at war with Germany since September 1939 and with Italy since June 1940, and British Prime Minister [Winston Churchill](#) had promised to declare war "within the hour" of a Japanese attack on the United States. Upon learning of the Japanese attacks on [Malaya](#), Singapore, and Hong Kong, Churchill promptly determined there was no need to either wait or further consult the US government and immediately summoned the Japanese Ambassador. As a result, [the UK declared war on Japan](#) nine hours before the US did.

The attack was an initial shock to all the Allies in the Pacific Theater. Further losses compounded the alarming setback. Japan [attacked the Philippines](#) hours later (because of the time difference, it was December 8 in the Philippines). Only three days after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the battleships [Prince of Wales and Repulse were sunk](#) off the coast of Malaya, causing Churchill later to recollect "In all the war I never received a more direct shock. As I turned and twisted in bed the full horror of the news sank in upon me. There were no British or American capital ships in the Indian Ocean or the Pacific except the American survivors of Pearl Harbor who were hastening back to California. Over this vast expanse of waters, Japan was supreme and we everywhere were weak and naked."



Remember December 7th! by [Allen Saalburg](#), poster issued in 1942 by the [United States Office of War Information](#)

Throughout the war, Pearl Harbor was frequently used in [American propaganda](#).

One further consequence of the attack on Pearl Harbor and its aftermath (notably the [Niihau incident](#)) was that Japanese-American residents and citizens were relocated to nearby [Japanese-American internment](#) camps. Within hours of the attack, hundreds of Japanese-American leaders were rounded up and taken to high-security camps such as [Sand Island](#) at the mouth of Honolulu harbor and [Kilauea Military Camp](#) on the [island of Hawaii](#). Eventually, more than 110,000 Japanese Americans, nearly all who lived on the West Coast, were forced into interior camps, but in [Hawaii](#), where the 150,000-plus Japanese Americans composed over one-third of the population, only 1,200 to 1,800 were interned.

The attack also had international consequences. The Canadian province of [British Columbia](#), bordering the Pacific Ocean, had long had a large population of Japanese immigrants and their [Japanese-Canadian](#) descendants. Pre-war tensions were exacerbated by the Pearl Harbor attack, leading to a reaction from the [Government of Canada](#). On February 24, 1942, Order-in-Council P.C. no. 1486 was passed under the [War Measures Act](#), allowing for the forced removal of any and all Canadians of Japanese descent from British Columbia, as well as prohibiting them from returning to the province. On March 4, regulations under the Act were adopted to evacuate Japanese-Canadians. As a result, 12,000 were [interned](#) in interior camps, 2,000 were sent to road camps, and another 2,000 were forced to work in the [prairies](#) on sugar beet farms.

In the wake of the attack, 15 [Medals of Honor](#), 51 [Navy Crosses](#), 53 [Silver Stars](#), four [Navy and Marine Corps Medals](#), one [Distinguished Flying Cross](#), four [Distinguished Service Crosses](#), one [Distinguished Service Medal](#), and three [Bronze Star Medals](#) were awarded to the American servicemen who distinguished themselves in combat at Pearl Harbor. Additionally, a special [military award](#), the [Pearl Harbor Commemorative Medal](#), was later authorized for all military veterans of the attack.



The USS Arizona Memorial, at Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Hawaii, marks the resting place of 1,102 of the 1,177 sailors and Marines killed on USS Arizona during the Attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and commemorates the events of that day. The attack on Pearl Harbor led to the United States' involvement in World War II.

Birthdays to remember:



U.S. National Guard- December 13, 1636



U.S. Space Force- December 20, 2019

Remember to keep using the hashtag #AuxiliaryPatriotism and watch it grow in our communities! Now, would be a good time to get all your reporting up to date before the holidays "get in the way!"

My reason to live is my reason to give of myself is probably what all the soldiers and sailors were feeling as they tried to defend Pearl Harbor. Please remember all of these brave men and women on December 7th.

Nathaniel "Buddy" Nicholas, NH VFW Auxiliary Americanism Chairman (2022-2023)

**"Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children - 2022-2023
General Information - December 2022**



Goal: Education and Community Outreach of the "Buddy"® Poppy, National "Buddy"® Poppy Display Contest & VFW National Home for Children

Making a difference for veterans and their families: 5 Ws and a H?

The who, what, when, where, why and how of the "Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children Program.

Who? VFW National Home - New Name, Same Mission!

vfnationalhome.org/about-us/

The *VFW National Home* recently refreshed their logo and has begun reverting to the original name, *VFW National Home*. This is the name they were founded with in 1925 and better reflects their program today as they serve families, not only children.

What? Hands that Serve, Have Hearts that Care

One of two themes for the January C of A "Buddy"® Poppy display contest.

- **December giving**....a time for opening our hearts in sharing peace, joy, and love with those around us. There is that flurry of activity both in the business world and our personal lives reminding us of the way how things use to be. Be patient... be kind!
-  Reminder ways to use "Buddy"® Poppies this month
- Christmas, Hanukkah, and winter holidays-when wrapping gifts for hospitalized veterans or a veteran decorate with a "Buddy"® Poppy.
- Decorate a small Christmas tree with "Buddy"® Poppies for a hospitalized veteran's room.
- Provide some holiday treats to your local nursing home topped with "Buddy"® Poppies. Most will have Veteran residents!

"Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children Program KMO 1 Dec. 2022

"Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children - 2022-2023
General Information - December 2022

- Include a **"Buddy"® Poppy** with your gift giving to those needing help.
- Thank a Veteran: As you shop this holiday season hand a Veteran **"Buddy"® Poppy**. Veterans are identifiable by the hats they wear.
- As your Post begins to decorate for the holidays, remember to utilize the **"Buddy"® Poppy**. Share pictures of your post decorated for the holidays.

Ways to help *VFW National Home* New Hampshire House

- Hold a fundraiser with the proceeds going specifically to our New Hampshire House. Big or small your donation makes a difference in the lives of a Veteran family.
- Purchase Amazon gift cards for National Home residents to use for their holiday shopping.
- Relief money - gift ***VFW National Home*** Memberships as a thank you to members. Or donate a Brick in their name for all their hard work.
- Are you an Amazon shopper? Sign up for AmazonSmile.
smile.amazon.com This is a great way to donate to the ***National Home***. AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Mine is set for ***VFW National Home!*** How about you!

When? December or any day!

Let Your Reason to Live be Your Reason to Give of Yourself

- Every day is **"Buddy"® Poppy** day!
- My favorite, grab several Poppies and as you shop provide them to Veterans...a lot of Veterans now are identifiable by the hats they wear.
- Please remember the Homeless veterans this winter season and families in need of food and providing a little Christmas joy to the children!
- Every Child deserves a Safe Home and a Happy Childhood!

**"Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children - 2022-2023
General Information - December 2022**

Where? In your Post and within your community

- Put on your thinking caps about how we can best educate our veterans, service members and their families as to what the **VFW National Home** can do to help them.
- If you have new VFW and Auxiliary members, they most likely do not know of the **National Home** existence!

Why?

- Far too many Veterans are not aware of the **VFW National Home** or how the Home can help them in their own communities.

How?

- Enlist your members to participate in "Buddy"® Poppy distributions and the many ways to utilize the Poppies all year round. Also, educate your Auxiliary members on the VFW National Home by making them Caring Patriots!

My Reason to Live is My Reason to Give of Myself knowing that Hands that Serve have Hearts that Care!

May peace, love, and prosperity follow you always. Wishing you a joyous Holiday season and a happy and peaceful New Year.

Thank you!

Kate

Kate Ouellette

**"Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children
Chairman 2022-2023 - Department of New Hampshire
Contact info: katevfw@aol.com Phone: 603-635-3870**

**"Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children - 2022-2023
General Information - December 2022**

"Buddy"® Poppy Display Contest - January C of A

Where: Council of Administration Meeting - Concord Post 1631, Concord, NH

When: 14 January 2023 - 10AM



Theme 1: Hands that Serve Have Hearts that Care

And/Or

Theme 2: Paws that Serve Have Hearts that Care



Category 1. Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)

Category 2. Memorial or Inspirational Displays (Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)

Category 3. Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies (Post Home displays, table centerpieces, corsages)

Reminder: At least one Poppy used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

- Displays may be accompanied by a white card, not to exceed 4 X 6 inches in size, on which is lettered in black ink an explanation of the theme and Category for the display or other information of interest to the viewer or the judges.
- In addition, I request that you provide me with a white card with your Auxiliary's display information; don't forget to include your Auxiliary's name along with the number of people, hours and poppies.
- Post name, Post number, city, or state (including the shape of your state) may not be visible on display entries. However, this information can be listed on the backside of the white card.

I look forward to viewing your creative designs and as always, have fun with your Auxiliary and VFW members and community folks working on your entry! Remember, your hard work for this event is reportable under the "Buddy"® Poppy/VFW National Home Program, under "Buddy"® Poppy!

• **Please ensure your display is ready for judging before the start of the C of A. And as always, Thank You and have fun with your creations!**

Kate

Kate Ouellette - New Hampshire

"Buddy"® Poppy/VFW National Home for Children - Chairman

"Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children Program KMO 1 Dec. 2022



VFW NATIONAL HOME

LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBER INFORMATION

Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

ZIP Code: _____

Date of birth: _____

*Email: _____

*Mobile Phone: _____

Membership Type:

Associate (not a member of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary)

Life Member (must be a member in good standing of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary or a unit of the VFW or VFW Auxiliary.

Complete affiliation information below. If no Post or Auxiliary number is provided, an Associate Membership will be issued.)

VFW & VFW AUXILIARY INFORMATION

(Required if a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member)

I am a member of VFW Post _____ in the Department of _____ VFW

I am a member of VFW Auxiliary _____ in the Department of _____ VFW Auxiliary

RECRUITER (Not required)

Recruiter name: _____ Recruiter Post or Auxiliary number: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Apply online at:

www.vfwnationalhome.org/membership

One-time membership fee \$50

Check enclosed and made payable to **VFW National Home**

Charge my Visa Mastercard Discover American Express

Name on card: _____

Card number: _____

Signature: _____

Expiration date: _____

WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A LIFE MEMBER

BEING A LIFE MEMBER or an Associate Life Member of the VFW National Home is one way you can create a bond between yourself and the mission of the National Home. Your support and encouragement honor our veterans and today's military by helping their children and families in times of need. Life Members in good standing with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary may vote for trustees representing their National Home District and proposed Bylaw or Articles of Incorporation changes.

*These fields are required for electronic voting.



Circle of Excellence

To All Auxiliary Presidents and District Presidents,

As we enter the Holiday Season, this marks the halfway point of our Auxiliary year! My message to you at this time is:

Everyone single one of you should be striving to become a member of the Circle of Excellence – I know you can do it! As I have noted before, “this is not brain surgery”!! It is merely doing your job as an Auxiliary or District President. Yes, it is as easy as that! You are representing your Auxiliary or District when you become a member and each and every one of your members will be proud of your success.

At this point, you need to assess where you are. It is not too late. Please look carefully at the criteria that was listed in the Department Program Book to see what you have accomplished and what is left to do. If you don't have this information for some reason, please let me know and I will be happy to send it to you again. If you need help or ideas, again, please let me know and I will be happy to help you.

I know each and every one of you is capable, I just hope you care enough and have the desire to complete the job for yourself and your Auxiliary and/or District. Our veterans put their lives on the line for us; you can show your gratitude by doing your very best to reach the Circle of Excellence!

My wish for you and your family is to celebrate a very *Merry Christmas* and a healthy, prosperous and *Happy New Year*.

Loyally,

Linda

Linda Meader
2022-2023 Director of Presidents

VFW Auxiliary Department of NH

December 2022 General Information

Historian Media Relations

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

As December begins and the hustle and bustle of the Holiday Season goes into full swing, let's not forget it's the Season of Giving and Remembering. Is your Auxiliary having a Children's Christmas Party or sponsoring a Veteran for Christmas? Did you send packages to our Troops? Send me your pictures!



LET'S TALK ABOUT PICTURES

I know each Auxiliary is having events, but I have only seen a handful of pictures.



\$\$\$ INCENTIVE \$\$\$

The Auxiliary that does the most of following will receive a prize at the January COA Meeting.

- Tags me on your Facebook Post with Pictures
 - Using **#NHVFWAUXHISTORIAN** & **#VFWAUXHISTORIAN**
- Email me Photos of your Events
- Send me your event information to be sent to WMUR / Union Leader / Patch
- Request me to attend an event
- Some examples

WHY HAVE YOU JOINED?????

You joined the VFW Auxiliary because???

- To honor the service of a family member.
- To promote patriotism within your community to all citizens young and old.
- To participate in programs that bring family and community members together for worthwhile projects.
- To stress that veterans and their entitlements be a number one priority for legislators.
- To be the voice of those veterans that gave the ultimate sacrifice so we can all live in a democracy.



I joined under the eligibility of my father Harold W. Schneider who served in the Army in the 300th Battalion during the Korean War 1950-1953. He was a mechanic and operated a retriever tank on the 38th parallel. My father told stories from the war and was injured by a piece of shrapnel that injured his ankle. Each year especially towards the end of his life he would ask to see the shrapnel on Veteran's Day to never forget his deployment and the men that did not return home.

YOUR TASK!!!!

1. Let me know in pictures who you joined under and why. We should never forget why we joined.
 - a. The Auxiliary that provides the most "Why we joined" will receive a gift at the January COA in Concord, NH

NOTE: I have not received any Photos / Story of WHY you joined the VFW Auxiliary. We can NEVER forget the WHY because our MISSION is to SUPPORT our Veteran's and their Family!

Best regards,

Julie DeRubeis – Dept of NH VFW Auxiliary Historian / Media Relations Chair 2022-2023

Email to: nhvfwauxhistorian@gmail.com Phone: 603-546-5533

US Postal Service: 12 Hartwood Dr - Merrimack, NH 03054



Greetings Members: This is just an important **reminder** whenever you or your Auxiliary “volunteer” to step up and donate any items, for any holiday, for any occasion, or even just because, please remember to always should include the appropriate “Donation Form” for the facility you are donating to, as well as a “reminder” for YOU to also report it for the “online Reporting system. Over the course of the year there are many opportunities I promote as Hospital Chairman for unique and outside the box opportunities to donate to the three (3) medical facilities we typically support as an organization:



New Hampshire Veterans Home VA Medical Center Manchester WRJ VA Hospital

Therefore, for your quick access I am also including the individual **“Donation Forms”** for each of these facilities. I suggest you download them to your computer, so you have them readily available when you need one.

Remember these forms should be used for any of the donations, sponsorships etc you do for example.....





Adopt-a-Family



"With hands that serve and hearts that care this continues to support "Our reason to give as our reason to give of ourselves...."

And so much more that you all do to support the Hospital Program that is promoted. Your generosity, participation, and willingness to step up as individual members and Auxiliaries has been truly amazing and greatly appreciated by all we support. Included in these General Informational for December are the three **DONATION FORMS FOR EACH FACILITY!** Again, may I suggest you download to your computer for easy access. These forms are also available on the Department website.

final reminder

IF YOUR AUXILIARY OR ANY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS SPONSORED THANKSGIVING DINNER BASKETS PLEASE FILL OUT THE VA MEDICAL CENTER DONATION FORM AND EMAIL TO MADELINE AT Madelinelavfw@aol.com to help make sure they are all properly reported to the VAMC.

Any questions, please contact Madeline at Cell 603 508-0843 regarding any of this Information that I have just shared. Again, thank you for all you do!

Madeline Dreusicke, Hospital Chairman



Donation Record

Donor

Donated by: Organization/Post/Chapter Individual Date: _____

Organization: _____

Individual's Name: _____

Address: _____

Donation Description

Activity

Dollar Value of Canteen Books: _____

Dollar Value of Activity: _____

Misc: _____

Check Cash Money Order

Amount: _____

Check Date: _____

Check Number: _____

Field Service Receipt #: _____

GPF #: _____

Designation: _____

Material Donation. Please give a brief description and **estimated value**: _____

Disposition

In Memory of: _____

Family Contact: _____

On Donor Log

Acknowledgment Sent

Date: _____

The Internal Revenue Service has announced that under the Tax Code, donations to the Department of Veterans Affairs' General Post Fund for exclusively public purposes are deductible from federal income taxes in the manner and to the extent allowable. The announcement reflects the tax law provision, which makes those donations deductible as "donations to the United States".



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Medical Center
718 Smyth Road
Manchester, New Hampshire 03104



Stella M. Lareau, Chief, Center for Development & Civic Engagement (Voluntary Services)
 (603) 624-4366 Ext. 6419

Please fill in the information below so that we may acknowledge and record your donation/activity: (please print)

Donation

Organization Name: _____

Name of Person for Acknowledgement: _____ Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Item(s) Donated: _____

Value of Donation: _____

Thank you for your contribution. In accordance with Title 38 U.S.C. 8301, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may accept gifts, for use in carrying out all laws administered by VA, which enhance the Secretary's ability to provide services and benefits to the veteran. No goods or services are provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs in return for your contribution. A donation to support any of the Department's programs is tax deductible, whether the donor directs that the donated funds be used for a specific purpose, or allows the Department to decide how the donated funds will be used. I understand that my donation is unconditional unless otherwise agreed and that the VA may use, convert and dispose of my donation as it deems in the best interest of the Agency and veterans.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Service / Recreation Activity



Date: _____ Service / Activity: _____

Sponsoring Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone #: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Volunteer Signature: _____ Date: _____

Donation: _____ Value: _____

What are the Issue areas that fall within the scope of the partnership?

- Homelessness
- Mental Health
- Women's Health
- Caregiver Support
- Transportation
- Employment
- Financial Literacy

- Education
- Jobs Training
- Benefits
- Outreach
- Adaptive Sports
- Recreational Therapy
- Volunteer Event

Please list the names of the Registered Volunteers if they have not been entered into the computer.

Name (please print)	Volunteer Code*	Number of Hours

Note:

* If you are an occasional volunteer please write **Occ.** in code column.



New Hampshire Veterans Home

139 Winter Street
Tilton, NH 03276



DONATION FORM

Thank you for your thoughtful donation. Please provide us with the following information so we can properly acknowledge your generosity. If this is a financial donation, please make the check payable to the "NHVH Resident Benefit Fund".

Name of Donor: _____

I represent an Organization, Group or Business

Organization, Group or Business Name: _____

Donor's title at the above establishment: _____

Does your organization, group or business have a:

Website? ___No ___Yes; the site is: _____

Facebook Page? ___No ___Yes; the name is: _____

COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS:

ITEM(S) DONATED:

ESTIMATED VALUE: \$ _____ TODAY'S DATE: _____

SIGNATURE OF DONOR: _____

FOR NHVH STAFF USE ONLY

Location of donation: _____

Signature of employee accepting donation: _____

Question for Auxiliary Members:

Did you ever stop and wonder about hospital patients, nursing home patients and see the Holiday season thru their eyes as they look about their room, sitting alone gazing out a window. Unfortunately, we continued to be restricted with visitations and face to face contact at many of these facilities. Loneliness and sad thoughts about the holidays are more common than we know. Typically, it should be a joyous time



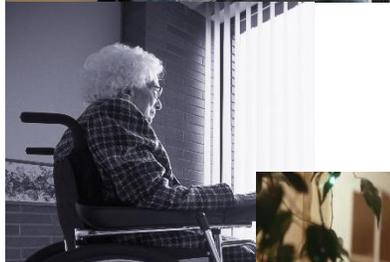
of year, celebrating with family and friends, kids wondering if Santa got my letter, and does he know I was good this year.....Will I have Christmas mail this year or will someone stop by to visit and drop off some yummy Oatmeal cookies?

DID YOU & YOUR AUXILIARY realize with just a little of

your time and creativity,

that **YOU CAN DO SOMETHING TO CHANGE THIS FEELING** & bring joy, happiness and smiles to their faces with much happier

& bring joy, happiness and fill their hearts Holiday Cheer....





Here are some simple ideas..... gather up all your elves, well you know the wonderful artistic, creative Auxiliary members that like to “volunteer” their time & offer their talents and together, just maybe, perhaps, possibly with a little “elf magical dust”.....create some beautiful, colorful decorations and cards for their rooms, their walls, even their doors! Sprinkle their rooms with the Christmas colors to brighten up their surroundings. Head on down to Dollar stores, Michaels even a Hobby Lobby and I am sure your Auxiliary elves will find some ideas that will help create a Winter Wonderland and brighten up their faces with a smile!!



Round up



youth helpers,

serve cocoa & decorate the cookies.



Wrap the cookies & decorations up with a bow and drop them off at the Manchester VA, **NHVA**, **WRJ VA** or a nursing home in your

community as well! Remember to bring a donation form for the facility!!! This little act of kindness helps brighten the hearts of our older Veterans & patients by utilizing the gift of youth, their laughter and fulfilling their desire to help and bring happiness to others!



- Start by picking up the phone and calling the “Volunteer Offices” at a facility near you to see how YOU AND YOUR AUXILIARY can help bring holiday cheer to a facility near you including but **NOT LIMITED TO** the Manchester VA, WRJ VA and NH Veterans Home.
- Always check what **THEIR** protocols, dietary restrictions & other guidelines they may have in place for their facility **FIRST**, & respect them accordingly.
- Put your “best foot forward” when representing the VFW Auxiliary and supporting any facility, you may be surprised and come upon **volunteer opportunities** that are available and closer to your home and perhaps fit your schedule as well :)
- Above all else, always remember.....

We are an Organization with “Hands that Serve and Hearts that Care” as we all know, “Our Reason to Live Is Our Reasons to Give of Ourselves”, especially when it comes to caring for our Veterans! Thank you all and wishing everyone a Very Joyous Holiday Season as we kickstart this most wonderful time of year of year!

Madeline Dreusicke, Hospital Chairman





Department of NH VFW Auxiliary Legislative 2022-2023

Be An Advocate-Be Informed-Be Engaged

December General Information

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This and last month are very busy months for us all in both our personal lives and with our auxiliaries. I hope you were all able to get out and vote on November 8, 2022 and were able to attend the Eastern Conference. Luckily, we have a short reprieve before we are back at it again in the coming weeks with kids Christmas parties and senior dinners. Last month I provided some information on the three branches of Government and they work together to ensure the checks and balances system is adhered to. This month we will explore what specifically the legislative branch does.

The Constitution states “all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.” How does a bill become a law? All laws being as an idea. To introduce that idea, the following steps are taken:

- A representative has to sponsor the bill.
- The bill gets assigned to a committee for study.
- If released by the committee, the bill is put on a calendar to be voted on, debated or amended.
- If the bill passes by a majority, the bill then moves to the Senate.
- In the Senate, the bill is assigned to another committee and if released, debated and voted on. Again it must be passed by a majority of the Senate.
- Lastly, a conference committee made of House and Senate members work out any differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill.
- The resulting bill returns to the House and Senate for final approval.
- The President has 10 days to sign or veto the bill.

So as you can see from the above it is a cumbersome process, however, it is a necessary one to be sure that all parties are happy enough with the bill that it is able to pass by the majority.

In October the following veterans driven bills were introduced:

H.R. 4993/S. 292 – Veterans Emergency Care Reimbursement Act would limit the amount veterans who are authorized to receive emergency care from the VA are required to pay health plans and other third parties. This bill calls upon Congress to improve the VA’s emergency and urgent care benefits to ensure that veterans are not discouraged from seeking care due to the fear of high out-of-pocket costs or complex rules.

H.R. 8750 – Expanding Veterans’ Options for Long Term Care Act. This bill seeks to assess the effectiveness of providing assisted living services to eligible veterans. Currently the VA provides home-based primary care services and 24 hour care and supervision by skilled nurses and aides at community living centers for veterans who can’t be cared for at home. However care is still needed for those who fall between intermittent home-based supportive services and an extended care facility.

I took action on both and hopefully you all did as well.

Tammy L. Baker
Department of NH VFW Auxiliary
Legislative Chair 2022-2023



As the end of the year approaches, I want to bestow on your Auxiliaries a gift. For every new member recruited during the month of December your Auxiliary will receive \$5.00 back into your treasury!

A new member is an engaged member, but often someone who needs to have an orientation to the VFW Auxiliary. It's best to hand the New Member Packet to them personally at a meeting or social gathering, but it can be mailed as well. It's important that the new member feels welcome and appreciated as they are often eager to volunteer and help veterans and their families.

Listed below are materials to include in a New Member Packet. All of the materials listed below are available for free behind Member Login.

- **New Member Welcome Letter/Email Template**
- **Connect with Us (Auxiliary Officer and National contact information)**
- **Member Benefits One-Sheet**
- **Create a MALTA profile**
- **Know Your Bylaws**
- **Understanding Auxiliary Traditions**
- **VFW Auxiliary Acronyms and Common Terminology**
- **VFW Auxiliary National Programs: An Overview**
- **VFW Store Flyer**

DECEMBER AUXILIARY OUTREACH

Hello everyone! With the holidays approaching we have plenty of opportunities to help out other organizations with their goals! There are so many things that happen only in December that your auxiliaries should have no problem finding something to vote on. Always remember that it needs to be something that does not benefit the post nor auxiliary. "My reason to live is my reason to give of myself" And "Be the unity in your community" Hoping everyone has a safe and happy holiday season.

Respectfully;

2022-2023 Auxiliary Outreach Chair

Colleen Pierce



VFW Auxiliary Dept of NH

Presidents Special Project

Suicide Awareness

December 2022 - General Information



WARNING SIGNS

Most people who consider suicide have problems they think they can never overcome. They think that no one can help them, and that suicide is the only way out.

People who are considering suicide may feel:

- Helpless, like there is nothing they can do to make things better
- Hopeless, thinking their problem cannot be solved by them or anyone else
- Worthless, thinking they're unable to help themselves or feeling like a failure
- Hateful toward themselves
- Like they are a burden to others
- As if the pain of living is too much to bear

Some Veterans' pain may come from having been through traumatic events like the death of someone close to them, seeing people die during their military service, or sexual assault or abuse. Other Veterans' difficulties may be the result of a major setback such as ending a marriage, losing a job, or feeling as if their honor is lost. Some people may think about suicide due to the buildup of stress, depression, anxiety, or posttraumatic stress that makes life seem as if it's no longer bearable.

No matter the reason, people don't attempt suicide because they want to die, but because they see suicide as the only way to escape the pain of living. It is important to realize that there are many ways to handle any problem — even if you can't see a solution yourself. Sometimes you need an outside perspective to see new answers to personal problems. (Make the Connection - Suicide, 2022)

This Holiday Season, keep all Veterans and their Families in your thoughts. If you see something say something. If you have not heard from a Veteran and this is out of the norm, don't hesitate and reach out to the Veteran. You can change his/her life!

Assistance is only a phone call away.

GET READY for **10-DIGIT Dialing** for New Hampshire calls

INCLUDE **603** for ALL NH CALLS starting **OCTOBER 24, 2021**

To ensure that users can dial 988 to reach the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline after July 16, 2022

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE
1-800-273-TALK
AFTER 7/16/22 DIAL **988**

We all have a role to play. Together, we can help save Veteran lives.

Support for Veterans, their Families and Friends

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255

Send to 838255
Confidential Chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

Click here to visit The Veterans Crisis Line

SUICIDE FREQUENCY

22 PER DAY
ONE EVERY
65 MINUTES

Best regards,
Julie DeRubeis

Dept of NH VFW Auxiliary Department - President Special Project Chair - 2022-2023
Email to: julie.derubeis@gmail.com Phone: 603-546-5533
Mail via US Postal Service: 12 Hartwood Dr - Merrimack, NH 03054



VETERANS and FAMILY SUPPORT

DECEMBER 1, 2022 GENERAL INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

As we approach the Christmas holidays, let us reflect upon the urgent need for Mental Health awareness in our communities and in our homes. We, as members of the VFW Auxiliary must be committed to helping change the

overall conversation and stigma associated with the issue of mental health in our personal lives, our communities, and our Nation. Only this kind of energizing, uplifting, and public campaign can open the eyes of the millions of people in this country who overlook the mental

health needs of our active duty military and veterans suffering from the kinds of depression that lead to thoughts of suicide.

In addition, let us be ever mindful of the fact that not all wounds are visible, especially the wounds incurred in the heat of battle.

During this holiday season, let us also remember and recognize the result of suicidal thoughts and the reality that some suicide attempts are successful and thus result in a long-lasting emotional and devastating impact on the loving (yet struggling) caregivers and families of our nation's heroes.



This Christmas let us take the time to let all of our military members and veterans, as well as their families and care givers know how much their sacrifices for this country are appreciated.

The holiday season is also a time to share our many talents with not only the members of our communities, our homebound veterans suffering from PTSD or other war related injuries or other mental health issues, but also a time of reflection on what other ways we can serve our families, our country, our communities, and our faith organizations (Churches, Synagogues, Temples, and other places of worship). Enjoy the holiday season and reach out to the veteran communities, organizations, and VA hospitals and mental health clinics with . . .



and



“Hands that Serve”

“Hearts that Care”

and

Don't forget that our “Reason to Live” is our “Reason to Give of Ourselves.”



Linda Theroux, PDP, NDCM#1

Dept. of NH Veterans & Family Support Chair

58 Patten Road

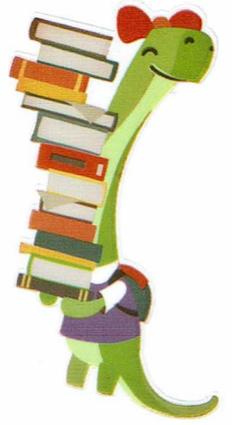
Merrimack, NH 03054





YOUTH ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 2022

Hands that serve, Hearts that Care



“Patriotism through Literacy” is an activity which introduces our young youth and students to patriotism through the love of reading.

Here are some examples on how this can be accomplished.



Volunteer to read a historical or creative nonfiction picture book to kids at your local library.



Donate historical fiction or creative nonfiction books to your local school, shelter or library.



Host a read-a-thon and award small prizes (stickers, Pins etc.) for number of books or hours read.





Run a writers' workshop for aspiring teen and tween authors at your post home.

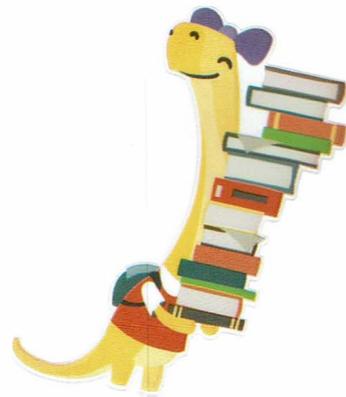


Invite an author of historical fiction or creative nonfiction to go to a book talk/signing in your area.

★ Remember our goal is to give of ourselves so that the youth of America will know the country's history and the sacrifices made by many generations of veterans. ★

★ Please find attached a list of books.
Don't forget to report your hard work!!!

Happy Holidays
Loyally,
Sue Joslyn
Youth Activities Chairman





NICE R.A.P.!
Random Act of Patriotism



NICE R.A.P.!
Random Act of Patriotism



NICE R.A.P.!
Random Act of Patriotism



NICE R.A.P.!
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NICE R.A.P.!
Random Act of Patriotism



Patriotism Through Literacy

Book Suggestions

Note: grade/age levels are suggested based on publisher's guidelines, school curriculums and reading/comprehension levels, not rules. Interest levels & ability vary by student. Updated: 2022

Pre-K-Kindergarten

John, Paul, George, and Ben by Lane Smith
I Am series (*I Am Abraham Lincoln, Rosa Parks, Amelia Earhart, etc.*) by Brad Metzger
The White House: A Pop-Up Book of Our Nation's Home by Robert Sabuda
Red, White, and BOOM! by Lee Wardlaw
America the Beautiful by Katharine Lee Bates
God Bless America by Irving Berlin, illustrated by Lynn Munsinger
The Scrambled States of America by Laurie Keller
This Land is Your Land by Woodie Guthrie & Kathy Jakobsen
Wow, America! by Robert Neubecker
My Little Golden Book about Kamala Harris by Rajani LaRocca
My Little Golden Book about The White House by Jen Arena
Sesame Street: Elmo Doodle Dandy (A Little Golden Book) by Naomi Kleinberg
Don't Forget, God Bless Our Troops by Jill Biden
My Red Balloon & Dandelions by Eve Bunting
Blue Sky, White Stars by Sarvinder Naberhaus & Kadir Nelson
A is for America: A Patriotic Alphabet Book by Tanya Lee Stone

Grades 1-2

Creative Non-Fiction:

Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad by Ellen Levine
The Story of Ruby Bridges by Robert Coles
Stars and Stripes: The Story of the American Flag by Sarah L. Thomson
What the Big Deal About First Ladies? by Ruby Shamir
Harriet's Ruffled Feathers by Joy McCullough
Turning Pages: My Life Story by Sonia Sotomayor
Rescue & Jessica by Jessica Kensky & Patrick Downes
I Could Do That: How Esther Morris Gets Women the Vote by Linda White
Show Way by Jacqueline Woodson
Tuesday Tucks Me In by Luis Carlos Montalvan
They Called Her Molly Pitcher by Anne Rockwell
Baseball Saved Us by Ken Mochizuki
Martin's Big Words by Doreen Rappaport
Ben Franklin: Wit & Wisdom from A-Z by Alan Schroeder

Educational/Americana & Historical Fiction:

Happy Birthday, America by Mary Pope Osborne
Apple Pie 4th of July by Janet S. Wong
If I Were President by Catherine Stier
Tricking the Tallyman by Jacqueline Davis
Ellie May on President's Day by Hillary Homzie
This is a Rope: A Story from the Great Migration by Jacqueline Woodson
The Flag We Love by Pam Munoz Ryan

Grades 3-4

Historical Fiction:

Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan
I Survived series (*Gettysburg, Pearl Harbor, D-Day, 9/11, etc.*) by Lauren Tarshis
American Girl original series & *American Girl History's Mysteries* by various authors
If You Were a Kid During the American Revolution by Will Mara
The Captive by Joyce Hansen
Magic Treehouse Mysteries series by Mary Pope Osborne
Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh by Uma Krishnaswami
Capital Mysteries series by Ron Roy

Creative Non-Fiction:

Magic Treehouse Fact Trackers series by Mary Pope Osborne
A is for Abigail: An Almanac of Amazing American Women by Lynne Cheney
Shh! We're Writing the Constitution by Jean Fritz
Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the Fastest Woman... by Kathleen Krull
She Persisted series (*Maya Lin, Maria Tallchief, Patsy Mink, etc.*) by various authors
A Splash of Red: The Life & Art of Horace Pippin by Jen Bryant
Who Was/What Was series, (*George Washington, the White House, Sacagawea, etc.*)
Little Legends series by Vashti Harrison
The Poppy Lady: Moina Belle Michael and her Tribute to Veterans by Barbara E. Walsh

Educational Americana:

America's White Table by Margot Theis Raven
Our 50 States: A Family Adventure Across America by Lynne Cheney
We the Kids by David Catrow
I Have a Dream by Martin Luther King, Jr., illustrated by Kadir Nelson
We Are America: A Tribute from the Heart by Walter Dean Myers

Grades 5-6

Historical Fiction:

Towers Falling and *Ghost Boys* by Jewell Parker Rhodes
Keeping Score by Linda Sue Park
Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper
Show Me a Sign by Ann-Clare LeZotte
Red, White & Whole by Rajani LaRocca
My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich by Ibi Zoboi
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
Worth by Alexandria LaFaye
The Year of the Boar & Jackie Robinson by Bette Bao Lord
One Crazy Summer trilogy by Rita Williams Garcia
Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan
Nine, Ten, a September 11th Story by Nora Raleigh Baskin
Planet Earth is Blue by Nicole Panteleakos
The True History of Lyndie B. Hawkins by Gail Shephard
Bud, Not Buddy and *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis

Creative Non-Fiction:

Stamped (for Kids) by Sonja Cherry Paul, Jason Reynolds & Ibram X. Kendi
Rocket to the Moon by Don Brown
History Smashers series by Kate Messner
It's Up to You, Abe Lincoln by Leila and Tom Hirschfeld

Grades 7-8

Historical Fiction:

Dear America series by various authors
Home is With Our Family by Joyce Hansen
Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes
Kira-Kira by Cynthia Kadohata
Fever 1793 and *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson
Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar
Five Children on the Western Front by Kate Saunders
Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse
We Dream of Space by Erin Entrada Kelly
Hattie Big Sky by Kirby Larson
Betty Before X by Ilyasah Shabazz
The Notorious Benedict Arnold... by Steve Sheinkin
All the Stars Denied by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

Non-Fiction & Memoir:

Amelia Lost: The Life & Disappearance of Amelia Earhart by Candace Fleming
Grasping Mysteries: Girls Who Loved Math by Jeannine Atkins
Lifting As We Climb by Evette Dionne
Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings by Margarita Engel
Hidden Figures: The American Dream & the Untold Story... by Margot Lee Shetterly
What Was the Continental Congress? and *Clara Barton* by Candice Ransom

Grades 9-12

Historical Fiction:

Sophia's War: A Tale of the Revolution by Avi
Butterfly Yellow by Thanhha Lai
Girls Like Us by Randi Pink
So Many Beginnings by Bethany Morrow
The Downstairs Girl by Stacey Lee
We Are Not Free by Traci Chee
The Memory of Things by Gae Polisner
Last Night at the Telegraph Club by Malindo Lo
A Very Large Expanse of Sea by Tehera Mafi
Fly Girl by Sherri L. Smith

Non-Fiction & Memoir:

Pure Grit: How American WWII Nurses Survived Battle... by Mary Cronk Farrell
Chester Nez: A Navajo Codetalker's Story by Joseph Bruchac
Code Talker Stories by Lauren Tohe
Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom... by Lynda Blackmon Lowery
Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Phillip Hoose
Loving Vs. Virginia by Patricia Hruby Powell
Stamped by Jason Reynolds
Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson
Fly Girls: Forgotten Women Airforce Service Pilots of WWII by P. O'Connell Pearson
Sally Ride: America's First Woman in Space by Lynn Sherr
Black Birds in the Sky by Brandy Colbert
They Call Us Enemy by George Takei
Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow