

GO #2 Saluting Our Heroes

Sue Jones, Department President

We are extremely busy as we prepare for National Convention, Fall Council and the National President's Visit. I hope as many of you as possible attend these events as a lot of work is involved for the presenters and much good information is given.

Thank you to everyone for getting your auxiliary bonds paid to National before July 31. This gives us extra points for the Circle of Excellence and is much appreciated by the Department as we always hope to earn the award and gather \$500 for the Department. If your auxiliary does not have automatically paying the bond as part of your Standing Rules, I highly suggest you make a motion at your next meeting to remedy this oversight and make this easier for the Treasurer next year.

Our District Presidents have started their official visits to local auxiliaries and the Department officers will start their District official visits after Department Convention.

We will be in Sioux Falls for Fall Council October 3-4. If you are not a member of the Budget or Audit Committees, you do not need to be there until October 4 when we will have the Council of Administration meeting in the morning, lunch, then the School of Instruction in the afternoon, followed by the Homecoming Banquet that evening. Registration is \$105 per member.

You are not required to register and pay if you just attend the meetings. The cost of the banquet is included in registration or \$40 if you are not registered. There is no provision for you to partake in the lunch unless you are registered. The registration forms should be out this week. Please bring food items to donate to my Project for Food for the VOC in Rapid City. There will be a collection can set up for food donations and a cash donation collection can. There is more information in the General Order.

As part of the Circle of Excellence for Auxiliaries, this year it is a requirement for someone from your auxiliary attend each of the Fall Council, Legislative and Department Convention. It is not too soon for your Auxiliary to start thinking about who will attend.

The website is up and has been updated for the 2025-2026 year. Please take a moment and check out our website at vfwauxsd.org to see General orders, forms, and program information.

I want to give you something from the Bylaws book to think about each month.

The question is: How long must an Auxiliary maintain a copy of an application for membership? **Answer:** Per Booklet of Instruction Page 16 and 17 Membership applications for both annual and life members shall be retained as a permanent record until the member has been deceased for 6 years or has reached 120 years of age. Those pages constitute the Record Retention Guide and cover all your files and records.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.