

South Dakota Department VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Bulletin April 2025

National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans

Department Theme: United in Service for Veterans

As I write this bulletin, I am anxiously awaiting all the *Illustrating America* youth art contest entries. Entries should have been into your local Auxiliary by March 31st. Entries must have the newest application (2024-2025). Once judged locally, I need to have them forwarded to me no later than April 15, 2025 to enable Department judging.

Year-End Reports are due April 15th! These reports are your way of highlighting Auxiliary accomplishments for the 2024-2025 year.

It isn't too late to throw in an event with local youth to prepare Thank You cards for area Veterans in VA facilities or nursing homes. Easter or Welcome Spring cards are also an idea. The time and funds spent in making the cards with youth is reported under Youth Activities. Delivery to the VA and nursing homes would fall under Hospital.

Keep in mind that there may be spring and summer youth activities that could use sponsorships. These might include baseball, bowling, soccer, etc.

Remember that when working with youth of any age:

- Be respectful of them and their time.
- Make the parents feel welcomed and encourage them to stay for the activity.
- Be aware of the location make sure it is appropriate.
- Don't drink or smoke in front of the youth.
- Be a role model for them, they are looking up to you, so set a good example.

APRIL is:

Month of the Military Child (Purple Up Day is April 15 – wear purple to support military children) National Volunteer Month

National Autism Acceptance Month

Keep America Beautiful Month

4/5 is Gold Star Spouses Day

4/22 is Earth Day

4/6 is Army Day – when United States entered WWI in 1917

4/25 is Arbor Day

4/15 is Titanic Remembrance Day

If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or email me (605-490-1220 or nworth@rushmore.com). Thank you for your service to our Veterans and being a Mentor to our Youth.

Department Chairman: Nancy Worth, PO Box 47, Piedmont, SD 57769