

# ~ ~ Auxiliary Community Outreach ~ ~

BULLETIN #1 2020-2021

**"Soaring to New Heights"** – and what better way to do that than to update an old program with a new name and new emphasis – Auxiliary Community Outreach.

National Ambassador Diane Pencak has given us a great start with her information on pages 12 -14 in the *National Program Book*. You will find this on the National Aux. website Resources at: <https://vfwauxiliary.org/resources/> This website, along with the information on the Department of WA website will be a couple of your most valuable resources for a productive year of volunteer service. (also - Distributed at School of Instruction!)

Keep a record of your service and then REPORT your activities – PLEASE! And, be sure to recognize your Volunteers with a "Good Job" Thank You Certificate, or maybe a special dinner.

Program materials will be made available at School of Instruction. If you have not received them please contact your District President and/or let me know. New Report Forms are included in the packets. **PLEASE USE THEM!!** You will also find forms on our website: <http://www.auxdeptwa.org>. If you have ANY questions about how to record your projects, give me a call, or send an e-mail.

National Ambassador Pancek writes: "While emphasis is placed on our core VFW and Auxiliary Programs,... members and Auxiliaries also participate with other community organizations. Members and Auxiliaries can now report and be recognized for such community work through the Auxiliary Community Outreach Program.

It is important that at the beginning of the Program Year a motion is made on the floor that when a member(s) volunteers their time for a civic program, school program, youth program, etc., they are representing the VFW Auxiliary and the member should turn in their hours served to be reported for Auxiliary Community Outreach.

Projects may be done by a member who is representing an Auxiliary, by an Auxiliary alone, with the VFW Post or other community groups.

Collectively, all of our volunteer hours need to be counted to effectively show the importance of the local VFW and VFW Auxiliary to the community."

**Please Note – Report only what is done to benefit others. Volunteer work that is performed for the benefit of the Post or Auxiliary is NOT considered Community service.** Again – see the National Program book for Guidelines.

## ~~~ SOME IDEAS ~~~

- It's not too early to make plans for hosting an Open House to show what the VFW and Auxiliary is all about. Organize a **Family Freedom Festival** and be sure to contact the media. This is the best way to recruit new members, meet people who will work with you to serve veterans and also get the word out to young people about the VFW scholarship programs.
- **"Make a Difference Day" – October 24, 2020** conduct a project to make a difference in the lives of others. See if you can team up with other organizations to conduct your project.
- **Send packages to our Troops.** The Holidays will be here sooner than we know and there will be many ways to show how much we appreciate the sacrifices that our men and women are making for our freedom. Invite the public and other groups to participate.
- Make a donation to the **"Wreaths Across America"** – Join the thousands of volunteers on National **Wreaths Across America Day** December 19, 2020. Each December on National **Wreaths Across America Day**, the mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 1,600 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org>

Be sure to donate to **our State President Marjorie's Special Project** which is **Honor Flight**, both **Puget Sound (Westside) and Inland Northwest (Eastside.)** The funds will be divided at the end of the year.

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