

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
DECEMBER AND JANUARY CHIEF-OF-STAFF/EXTENTION

Happy Holidays Brothers and Sisters,

Every year we work very hard recruiting new members, and that's great! But we also need to work hard retaining current members.

- . **Be kind**—Be nice to all members and be happy to see them. Say positive things to them and make them feel welcome.
- . **Mentor**—Teach them about our organization and all the great things we do for veterans.
- . **Involve**—Find out their interests and incorporate them into events and activities.
- . **Listen**—Be open to new ideas and trying new activities.

Each member counts! Each member makes a difference! Your membership makes it happen.

Now is your Auxiliary healthy this year? **I HOPE ALL OF YOU CAN SAY—YES.**

Below are eight (8) traits of a healthy Auxiliary:

- **Commitment** – A strong commitment to the Auxiliary provides a base of volunteers and the opportunity to assist those in need.
- **Appreciation** – Reward your members with a simple gesture of thanks and strengthen the bond a volunteer has to the Auxiliary. Focus on the strength of each other and not the faults.
- **Time** – Recognize the value of a volunteer's time. Some individuals may have more time available to volunteer but that does not mean those with limited time are not valued. Enjoy what time is available to meet; work together and create an opportunity to socialize.
- **Communication** – A member is more likely to volunteer and invest the time necessary to work on a project if there is open communication and they are able to share their thoughts. Remember that very individual's opinion matters.
- **Share** – If activities and tasks can be shared, it can save time, alleviate stress, bring individuals together for a common cause and bring happiness to all involved.
- **Common Interests** – The more the members have in common, the more they are apt to work together, develop common goals, find opportunities to get together and plan for future projects.
- **Serve Others** – When volunteers serve others, they develop a sense of pride and appreciation for what they and your Auxiliary have done for others.
- **Distraction and Good Health** – While we like to think our Auxiliary will always be healthy, we understand we are not problem-free and there may be unpleasant distractions. Please do not let this situation overcome the positives that your Auxiliary possesses. Discuss and come up with a solution. An unhealthy Auxiliary often leads to a decline in meeting attendance, membership and volunteer opportunities. Do not let this happen to your Auxiliary.

Until next time: Enjoy the Holidays---Wishing you a season filled with fun, relaxation, happiness and laughter—and all the other good things that you deserve so much!

GOD BLESS EVERYONE---HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOURS.

Let's continue "Giving Hope to Veterans and Families" while "Serving our Veterans with Aloha this Holiday Season.

Linda Moran Chief of Staff
dacquid@aol.com

920-337-9922

