



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary  
Department of Wisconsin  
Hospital Bulletin  
October, 2019  
[www.wivfwaux.org](http://www.wivfwaux.org)

Three hospitals have been toured and was very rewarding to see new buildings to the VA centers. Tomah is adding on to their facility, and had well organized events for the week of August 5<sup>th</sup>. One of the many events was The First Brigade band played and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the music. Minneapolis has golf simulation to the rehab dept. which is proven as good rehab for veterans. The spinal cord area has a swimming pool with a treadmill built in the pool, and the floor moves up and down to facilitate ease of climbing in the pool. Chippewa falls is a beautiful nursing home with a yearly Ball planned where the male veterans dress up in tuxedos and the women in historic gowns. The wings are well set up and many events planned through the year with children from schools, outside picnics and events. All the veteran facilities have an area to go to with computers to look up their health history, fact sheets, lab, doctor notes etc. King day was a successful event; beautiful weather. Veterans enjoyed the parade, music, ice cream and socialization. Bingo was enjoyed by all in the afternoon. The official King day was eventful and with bingo in the afternoon. Please consider volunteering in area facilities!

VFW Auxiliary members are continually asked to **Volunteer, Recruitment, recognize your volunteers and offer support.** If unable to volunteer Auxiliary members to please check out the wish list on the Auxiliary Hospital site and offer donations to help support our veterans with hospital projects, clothing (larger sizes), shoes, etc. The wish lists will all be added to the hospital site soon. Please frequently check the site. If not available on site as yet, please let me know and I will forward items of need to you. Remember check out the local hospitals, nursing homes etc., to see how many veterans are there and:

- Send cards (let them know you are thinking of them)
- Talk to the veterans
- Visit on Halloween. You can check to see if the veterans are allowed candy.
  - Decorate a glove with Halloween décor and have popcorn or candy in the glove. (check with facility if veteran allowed to have candy and if able to dress up for Halloween when visit). Dress up in Halloween costume to present the card, or treat.
  - Help a veteran carve a pumpkin (check with facility if ok to bring in a pumpkin to carve)
  - Fill a Halloween basket with needed items (check with your facility of items in need)
- October 13 is the US Navy Birthday. Wish a Navy veteran in the hospital, nursing home, or other non-VA Medical centers a Happy Birthday.
  - You can decorate paper bags with Navy décor and present items (calendar, pencil or pen, note pad, or items you sewed (catheter bag, walker bag, etc.)

Message from National Hospital Ambassador Cyleria Gerrets:

- Gather your educational materials to disperse at your workshops, meetings, etc. Visit the following websites for resources (and be prepared when visit the veteran facilities; Remember the facilities have areas for veterans to go to access computers):
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/suicide/index.html>.
  - National Institute of Mental Health: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml>.

Please **review the updated Department Hospital site** for ideas to serve our hospitalized veterans and their needs. Remember: no blank forms.

**Hospital visits** September 23 Iron Mountain, October 16<sup>th</sup> Zablocki and Union Grove. If interested please let me know.

“Giving Hope to Veterans and Families” as we are “Serving our Veterans with Aloha”



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