

Veterans. **We exist because of and for our Veterans.** Please continue to **ENCOURAGE NEW VOICES**, not discourage. **WE ALL MATTER!**

Thank you to all Auxiliaries who sent in local service reports and youth reports. These reports are important for our continued existence.

Reminder: My President's project this year is The Women Veterans at the Bath VA. Bags For Babies our Dept. project was a great success. Thank you to all who donated. We collected thousands of dollars in items for new mom Veterans

I'm looking forward to visiting more auxiliaries in the Spring. Please call or email to set up a visit. I'd like to come to an activity but I will come to a meeting.

We are doing marvelous things for our Veterans and communities. I know if we put all of our talents and resources together all of us can do even better (myself included) for those we serve.

Remember our Veterans especially women.- **SHE IS WOMAN. SHE IS STRONG. SHE IS A VETERAN!**

YOUR AMVETS Sister,

Candace Clemens

AMVETS Ladies Dept. of N.Y. President

candyeclemens@gmail.com 716 372-9268



AMVETS *Ladies Auxiliary* *Department of New York, Inc.*

Bath VAVS Bulletin Spring 2017

BRRRRRRRRR! It's still winter at my house as I look in my yard at all the snow. Hopefully by the time you get this report the sun will be shining on everyone so that you can come and join us at the Bath VA.

Our Voluntary Services Director announced at our meeting that Davis Shulkin has been selected as the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs by our new President Trump. However, as of sending this bulletin out his nomination has yet to be confirmed. He would replace Bob MacDonald.

The Bath VA still has not had a new director appointed. Mr. Swartz is still the acting director. He continues to travel back and forth between Bath VA and Canandaigua VA.

Bags For Babies Dept. project yielded over \$5000 worth of new baby items just for the Bath VA. Since we donated so much half of the items were sent to the Canandaigua VA. Both VA's were very pleased with the donations.

Wreaths Across America was very successful at the Bath National Cemetery this year. Volunteers laid 2,115 wreaths.

The week of Feb. 12-18th is National Salute To Veteran's Week. Many fun activities and valentines are planned for our Veterans.

As your VAVS Rep. I continue to work with the CLC Veterans with crafts, bingo and field trips. My Deputy Aren Schank also helps in these areas. We both have lunch when we can with the Veterans.

Patients of the VA are now restricted to the VA and are not allowed to venture off the premises without someone from the VA with them. Because of this new rule the VA is trying to have extra trips for these Veterans to stores, restaurants, malls, etc. These trips require more volunteers to accompany them or organizations to sponsor these trips. Please ask your VAVS Rep. how you and your auxiliary can help.

Hoping to see YOU at the VA soon.

Candace Clemens

VAVS Bath

candyeclemens@gmail.com

716 372-9268



AMVETS *Ladies Auxiliary*
Department of New York, Inc.

VAVS BATAVIA SPRING 2017

Karen Kemp, VAVS Batavia, Dept. of NY

Greetings Ladies,

The Batavia VA has been busy this fall and throughout the holiday season. I work in the office of the Voluntary Service manager Mark Francis. In the winter months again this year it has been a challenge to keep up with the office work. I send out letters to all donors and my drawer never seems to get cleared out. Jim and I volunteer every Tuesday and it never seems to be enough.

I would love to see more volunteers. but instead. they seem to be dwindling more and more each year. Again this year I will be working on the volunteer awards ceremony for Batavia and this too is a daunting task.

I received a letter from our National VAVS Representative, and she emphasized that my donations and volunteer hours were down. She said I should encourage all of you to volunteer. So I am asking, Batavia needs you, I need you, so does every Veterans hospital. If your auxiliary is not near a facility perhaps you could send a monetary donation. Remember we exist, as Amvets Auxiliary, to support Veterans. So let's all dig in and make this happen.

Just in case you want to send it my way or Batavia's way, make your checks out to Western NY Health Care System at Batavia, 222 Richmond Ave., Batavia, NY 14020.

Thank you for your continued support.

Karen Kemp, VAVS Batavia
AMVETS DEPARTMENT OF NY
7 Janice Dr.
Rochester, NY 14624
585-889-4603 - kkemp7118@frontiernet.net