Making a Brighter World for Our Veterans

November 2021

THIS OFFICE IS OPEN...PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT BEFORE YOU COME TO DEPARTMENT OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE...THIS IS DUE TO CORVID-19.

**DEPARTMENT FALL CONFERENCE...It's Here...Nov 5-7, 2021...**Double Tree Reid Park Tucson...see registration form in this packet.

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS...

Unit 54...Membership Becky Ruiz...520-723-7557...<u>b13ruiz13@gmail.com</u> Secretary.., audreeunger@gmail.com

Unit 57...Meeting day 1<sup>st</sup> Monday... Secretary...Pam Foster...480-206-8876...pafretired@gmail.com Unit 65...meeting...3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

**EXTRA... EXTRA ... "RED TICKET"** ... Did you get one? If you get one send Department an email to let us know and the reward will be sent out asap.

NEW UNITS ... Yes ... let's get some ... Guess what something is coming.

MEMBERSHIP... "REACHING FOR THE GOAL". Membership is everyone's job. Legion Act has opened the window of eligibility from 12-7-1941 thru now. The Department Goal this year14,282 and we are at 22.38%.

**RENEW MEMBERSHIP BY PHONE**...Call National Headquarters at (317) 569-4570 with your member ID and debit or credit card ready.

#### Applications MUST BE LEGIBLE AND COMPLETE

- The original application is sent to DEPARTMENT not copies of them.
- Be eligible & USE BLUE INK, SEND ORIGINAL APPLICATION and COMPLETE INFO.
- Unit number
- Name of Veteran related to and only 1
- NEW "ANYTIME AFTER" Veteran Served...<u>MUST IDENTY</u>
  <u>CONFLICT...CHECK ALL THAT APPLY</u>
- DIRECT DESCENDANT... No longer on NEW application
- Only 1 relationship and do not add any

- Now you have spouse in place of wife, you have to identify female or male spouse
- Must be signed by a Post Officer unless it is woman veterans joining on herself
- Half sheet transmittal both white and yellow copies
- Do not pay for paid online and PUFL members on your transmittals...They are already paid for.
- USE THE FORMS PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING.
- DO NOT RECREATE THE FORMS.

Barbara Matteson Dept Secretary/Treasurer secretary@aladeptaz.org Pat Stanaski Dept Membership Processor membership@aladeptaz.org

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  Ba eligible & USE B1
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.... interesting a NEW application

### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

### MAKING A BRIGHTER WORLD FOR OUR VETERANS

### NOVEMBER 2021

HELLO ALL YOU WONDERFUL FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF OUR ORGANIZATION. IT HAS BEEN A BUSY PAST MONTH AS I HAVE BECOME MORE AND BETTER ACQUAINTED WITH MEMBERS AND UNITS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVITATIONS AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING MORE OF YOU AS THE YEAR PROGRESSES. I WILL BE SUBMITTING MY CALANDER SO YOU HAVE AN IDEA OF MY SCHEDULE.

THIS MONTH I ATTENDED OUR NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S HOMECOMING IN CINCINETTI AND FOLLOWED WITH A PRESIDENT'S RETREAT. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME A RETREAT HAS BEEN ORGANIZED AND IT WAS A GREAT LEARNING EXPERIENCE, NOT TO MENTION GREAT FUN. I HOPE TO USE WHAT I LEARNED TO MAKE ME BETTER SERVE YOU AND OUR MISSION. YOU SHOULD BE RECEIVEING INFORMATION ON SOME NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR AWARDS BASED ON CAREGIVING.

I KNOW WE ALL FROWN ON MID YEAR REPORT WRITING AND WILL BE HAPPY TO KNOW THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED THIS YEAR. HOWEVER, I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST YOU WRITE THEM AND SUBMIT TO YOUR CHAIRMAN WHO WILL IN TURN SUBMIT TO DIVISION. WHY? WE WANT TO LET NATIONAL KNOW ARIZONA IS STILL WORKING HARD AND DOING MANY THINGS. PLUS, IT WILL BE EASIER TO KEEP UP WHEN WRITING YOUR END OF YEAR REPORT. THIS IS ONLY A SUGGESTION AND NOT A REQUIREMENT.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AT FALL CONFERENCE IN NOV AND HEARING ABOUT ALL THE GREAT THINGS YOU ARE DOING. PLEASE REMEMBER TO PROMOTE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS FOR PTSD.

THANK YOU FOR ALLL YOU DO AND GOD BLESS YOU AND GOD BLESS AMERICA.

JENNIEMOLINA

(520) 220-8460

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

PO BOX 448 DOUGLAS, Az. 85608

DEPT OF AZ, PRESIDENT

truelepa@gmail.com

# **November Americanism**

November is an important month for our veterans and active military. It is a time to honor all members and the families who support them on a daily basis. It's a great month to wear red, white and blue: especially November 11th.

In November, 2020, President Trump declared November National Veterans and Military Families Month.

In November 1918, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the observance of Armistice Day as the anniversary of Germany's surrender in World War I. The fighting actually ended in 1919. Even currently, we continue to have a 2 minute silence on the 11th month, on the 11th day, on the 11th hour.

The poppy is the official flower of the American Legion family dating back to September 1920, that symbolizes those who fought and died during the wars. Our national distribution program by American Legion of poppies began in 1924. The poppy symbolizes the sacrifices made during World War 1 at Flanders Field. Traditionally poppies have been distributed on Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Please recognize our Veterans by saying a Thank you for your service or even saying Happy Veterans Day.

Linda Lopez Americanism Chairman Llopez10@cableone.net



# Chaplain

November 2021

We have lost several members of our units, our families, our friends, and Veterans Known and unknown

Our Hearts are heavy, and our Burden is too hard to bear.

Grief is a part of life that we all have to meet at times and sometimes not easy to accept. Let us remember with love and reverence our departed members, families, friends, and veterans. Let us be thankful for their lives and that their memory serves as an inspiration to us all.

As we come into this fall season, let us be ever mindful of others and be thankful for every new day our Lord has given us. I pray each and everyone will have a Blessed Thanksgiving with your families and friends.

"Our Father, we are truly thankful for the things you have given us, especially the gift of life, Let the peace of our Lord flow into the hearts of every member of each unit and every unit in the American Legion Auxiliary throughout the world. Grant us the knowledge, wisdom, and patience to live in peace with one another in our everyday life, I ask this in your Holy Name. Amen."

There will not be a Mid-Year Report, only a End of the Year Report, Information will be in mailboxes at Fall Conference. If you do not receive it, please email me.

For God and Country

Dolores Chavez Department of Arizona-Chaplain P.O. Box 1517 Benson, AZ 85602 Cell Phone: 928-386-0841 chebeejs@cox.net

# **Community Service**

November 2021

Hello ALA Members,

"We can find meaning and reward by serving some higher purpose than ourselves, a shining purpose, we all have something to give." -President George Bush

# What and when are National Days of Service? And why should ALA members get involved in them?

National Days of Service are certain days of the year, designated either by the U.S. Congress or a service organization, which aim to inspire individuals across the country to make an impact in their local communities by serving on the same day. It's a great way to make a nationwide impact while serving your local community.

Since National Days of Service tend to attract a lot of media attention, they are a great way for the ALA to get positive publicity for our service to veterans and to communities. In addition, National Days of Service might attract individuals who don't normally serve, including ALA members with busy work and child caring schedules. National Days of Service are also great opportunities for ALA units and members to introduce community members to the Auxiliary.

Upcoming Service days are; Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, Family Volunteer Day, Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> and MLK Jr. Day, Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. I encourage you to get out in your communities and get involved. As always, I look forward to hearing about all you've done!

Sara C. Decker Community Service Chairman <u>SaraCdecker91@gmail.com</u> 480-580-3269

# Finance

# June & July 2021

# "Keep Going"

Remember: Kindness and Respect when dealing with others!

Wisdom is knowledge and it gives us Hope to fulfill our greatest dreams and responsibilites, but we must keep going and not give up.

There are two others I wish to sincerely thank for their assistance to the Finance Commitee and to the Auditing team, you did a great job! Thank you Yolanda Bonilla and Helen Griffin. This is a yearly audit on Dept Chrm books handling your funds. Even though some records were missing and it took more time than usual. All transactions Must have a receipt for proof. Keep up your good work and Keep Going!

Finance Commitee

Helen Stout Chairman, Jinnie Molina Pres, Penny Maklary,

Patricia Lugo NEC, Helen Griffin, Barbara Matteson Dept

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# EDUCATION

#### **NOVEMBER 2021**

November is *National Scholarship Month*. Information on Scholarship and Educational Opportunities can be found on our website: <u>https://www.aladeptaz.org/member-resources.html</u>

November 8, 2021, is *National Parents as Teachers Day*. Contact your schools to see if you can assist as a Teacher's Aide that day.

November 11, 2021, is *Veterans Day*. This would be a great day for a Veteran to talk to students and inform them of the importance of being patriotic and supporting fellow students whose family members may be deployed.

November 15-19 is *National American Education Week*. Education week exists to celebrate the potential of all American Students, recognize and give thanks to the teachers and professionals working within the education system as well as honoring parents and guardians who support and encourage students. Learning is lifelong and not restricted to a class room.

The Auxiliary supports scholarship programs to ease the burden of the cost of education of veterans' children:

Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship, awarded annually to 15 outstanding students who are children and grandchildren of veterans

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship, awarded annually to five students who are members of The American Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion

Spirit of Youth Scholarship, awarded annually to one Junior Auxiliary member in each of the Auxiliary's five national divisions.

When you contact your high schools' counselors or teachers regarding scholarships available to their students, please do not forget to discuss Girls State, ALECA, essay contests and Oratorical.

Please review the materials in the Education packet distributed at Fall Conference. Information regarding scholarships and the year-end report will be included. A mid-year report is not required this year.

I look forward to meeting Education Chairs and finding out what your Unit is doing to promote Education of our future leaders.

Anita Ritter Education Chair Department of Arizona ritmar@cox.net 602-679-1785

#### Legislative

#### November 2021

Greetings Members,

Are you ready for Fall Conference???!!! I am excited to see all of your smiling faces at Fall Conference.

As I said in the last bulletin, the Legislative Program encompasses a lot of legislative issues for our active duty military and veterans.

At Fall Conference, I will be handing out my Legislative Packet to all the Units. This packet will include the report form for Mid-Year and Year End reporting, as well as my contact information, award criteria, and the American Legion Auxiliary Programs Action Plan for the Legislative Program for 2017-2022.

I would also suggest that Unit Chairs order a Legislative Advocacy Guide from the National Headquarters. This booklet contains some very useful information on the Legislative Program.

In conclusion, these are trying and challenging times for our nation. We are coming back together as a society, but it takes time and patience. I have learned so much as a person and ALA member in the last few months. Please be kind to one another. We are all here for the same thing, helping veterans. ALSO, MID-YEAR REPORTS ARE DUE DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. PLEASE GET YOUR REPORTS INTO THE CHAIRMEN ON OR BEFORE THIS DATE. DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN MUST REPORT TO NATIONAL THE HARD WORK THE UNITS HAVE BEEN DOING WORKING THE PROGRAMS. SEE YOU AT FALL CONFERENCE!!!!

For God and Country,

Stephanie M. McMullen

Chairman

15239 W. Taylor St.

Goodyear, AZ 85338

(623)910-4716, <a href="mailto:stephaniemcmullenala62az@gmail.com">stephaniemcmullenala62az@gmail.com</a>

#### EMAIL ABOVE HAS CHANGED. PLEASE RECORD NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

# **Reaching for the Goal!**

#### November 2021

Have you received your membership renewal in the mail? Check with your members to see if they have received theirs, too.

Membership is the lifeblood of our great organization. Without our members we would not be able to work the ALA programs.

Will your Unit make the November 11 deadline for 100% membership? There is plenty of time to recruit new members and have current members renew their membership.

#### Don't forget about the 10 New in 2022!

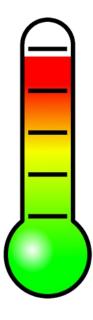
Members who recruit 10 *new* Junior or senior Auxiliary members for the 2022 membership year. Deadline to Department is May 20, 2022.

The holidays are fast approaching, this is a great way to gift a membership to friends and family who are eligible to join the ALA.

Hope you have a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Until next month . . . .

Barbara White Department Vice President 602-908-2980 Barbarawhite99@gmail.com



# MISSION TRAINING, NOVEMBER 2021



Grateful wishes for a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving to everyone and their families. We extend "Service not Self" throughout our Auxiliary year, but we totally extend ourselves in the holiday season. In your Units do you have someone

who always take a leadership role? We thank them for continuing to do this, perhaps it is time to mentor another member on what needs to be done. Do not be afraid to step up and share your ideas with your fellow members.

YES, YOU CAN DO IT! We all have our unique talents in various areas. We are not born with leadership skills, (maybe 1% are) those skills are acquired through experience (and hard work!). We are all taking different paths through this amazing life, most of us look to leaders for guidance and advice.

What are the qualities for good leadership? There are countless lists on the internet, some may work for our organization and some for another type of organizations. The one I chose to share made the most sense to me. The first quality:

1. COMMUNICATION: the most important part of communication is **LISTENING!** A good leaders listens to her/his followers, employers and every single individual person they are leading. Show sincere interest in what they are saying and perhaps you can connect in a meaningful way. Try this in your day to day activities and see how it works for you.

Once again, please text or send an e-mail to me if you wish to set up a Mission Training for your Unit or District. We have set three so far and I have talked with two other individuals about setting one up. Hope to hear from more of you.

#### NATIONAL SECURITY

#### **NOVEMBER 2021**

The Unit should acquaint all its members with the existing situation regarding national security by providing a study of the subject at Unit meetings. Every Unit should endeavor to give its members an understanding of the necessity of maintaining an adequate national security.

The American Legion Auxiliary recognizes that natural disasters and crime can also threaten our national security. Therefore, the national Security program, was expanded to include emergency planning and crime prevention.

While we cannot stop natural disasters from occurring, we can change the way America deals with them through Project Impact, a project of the Federal Emergency management Agency (FEMA). The goal is to reduce the personal and economic costs of disasters in a community by planning and preparation.

Crime prevention, neighborhood watch, support for police and fire departments help to strengthen our communities and contribute to the national security.

**National Security Resources You Can Use** 1. www.ALAforVeterans.org resources on the National Security program page:

American Legion Auxiliary Military Family Readiness Action Guide o A training package is also online for department and units. It includes an instruction sheet, PowerPoint presentation and script, sample agenda, learning exercises, pre-session survey, satisfaction survey and sample marketing text.

• Welcome To Our Hometown Auction Guide • ALA-Operation Homefront • ALA-USO Action Guide.

Follow us on Facebook:

ALA National Headquarters: www.facebook.com/ALAforVeterans

The National Security Committee group is www.facebook.com/ALA National Security.

For your National Security committee members (see National Security program page on the national website or Annual Supplement for contact information

Patricia Lugo, Chairman plugo1@cox.net 602-475-0208

#### New Units/Unit Development & Revitalization

November 2021

#### **Charter Lost or Destroyed**

When a charter has been lost or destroyed, a duplicate can be secured through request to the Department secretary and payment of the charter fee. Duplicate charter rolls can also be obtained by the same procedure.

#### **Charter Cancellation**

A Unit voting to relinquish a charter for cancellation shall vote at a regular meeting of the Unit, with advance written notice to the membership. The Unit charter cancellation shall be voted on by the Department Executive Committee and then forwarded to national headquarters for vote by the National Executive Committee.

Jan Cushing New units/UD&R Chairman gcushing@cox.net 623-544-0797



November 2021

# 🔆 Happy November!! 🔆

Veterans Day is approaching! How are you planning to honor the men and women who have served and are currently serving? If you're unsure, **here are some ideas on how to involve poppies into your busy day:** 

- □ Create education posters talking about what Veterans Day is
- □ What it means to you
- $\hfill\square$  What the poppy stands for
- □ Explain what poppy funds are used for
- □ Create goody-bags with poppy's inside and a Flanders Fields Poem

These ideas can also be used as a 'drive-thru' if your unit is planning on social distancing. If you have any questions or need more ideas reach out to me and let me know! If your unit is doing something different, tell me about it! I can use your ideas to help out other units.

# Ideas on how to distribute poppies... in a pandemic:

- Mail letters to family, friends, members, co-workers, etc. asking for donations. You can include poppies and a Flander's Fields poem.
- Use social media pages to get the word out
- □ Hold virtual meetings. You can raffle off items, baked goods, etc.
- □ Ask local businesses to help out

# Importance of the poppy:

"Connecting the visual image of the poppy with the sacrifice of service made by our veterans has been an important goal of the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program since its inception in 1921. On Memorial Day and Veterans Day, millions of red crepe paper poppies—all handmade by veterans as part of their therapeutic rehabilitation—are distributed across the country in exchange for donations that go directly to assist disabled and hospitalized veterans in our communities" (ALA Website).

# Jessica Vaupel (Unit 11)- Poppy Chair



Hi to all Units and Districts who host a PPP event? This month we will recognize Pablo J. Cortez Unit 26 in Mesa.

Every year beginning with the October meeting the Unit puts together a Special Gift, we sell raffle tickets at \$1 each or 6/\$5.

This raffle goes from October through December, when the winner is announced.

Submitted by President Carol Groger.

Each month'I will remind you of the awards available to your Unit.

The AAPP (Arizona's Active Past Presidents Plaque) Cora Grigg Past Presidents Parley Plaque Unit Member of the Year Jarvis Plaque (Auxiliary Member of the Year) National Salute to Women Veterans

I look forward to hearing from your Unit and sharing your stories about your PPP program!!!!

Until next month with more news!!

Cindy Queen Past President Parley Chairwoman <u>cynqueen53@cox.net</u> 602-316-7647

# ALA PUBLIC RELATIONS



### Making a Brighter World for our Veterans

Hello to my American Legion Family, we hope all of you are feeling better. I know there is a lot of the flu going around. Make sure you take care of yourself and your family.

Let me know what you are doing at your Units for events supporting the Presidents Special Project, (ie) the education and awareness of Veterans PTSD. When you have your events take pictures and write down what you did and how successful an outcome you have accomplished. You will need this information to put in for the awards at the end of the year.

These are the awards for this Public Relations committee:

MEMBER AWARD: ALA Brand Ambassador, all entries must be sent to your National Division Chairman. Deadline must be postmarked on or before 5: 00pm EST on JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>.

UNIT AWARD: New Website or Social media account launch (blog or twitter) All entries must be sent to the National Vice Chairmen. Deadline must be postmarked on or before 5:00pm EST on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

UNIT AWARD: Most Outstanding Unit Public Relations Program (per division). All entries must be sent to your National Division Chairman. Deadline must be postmarked on or before 5:00pm EST on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

DEPARTMENT AWARD: Best Department Public Relations (per division). All entries must be sent into your National Division Chairman. Deadline must be postmarked on or before 5:00pm EST on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Members should follow instructions from their department.

I will email forms that need to be filled out for these awards. They will include instructions on how to fill them out. Please submit on any event that relates to these awards, no matter how big or small. Thank you, hope this helps to enter your events. Text or email me anytime.

Christel Romero/ Department of Arizona Public Relations/ TALMA Photojournalist

## **VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION**

## (VA & R)

#### Happy November,

As you all are reading this, we will be packing our suitcases and getting ready to meet in Tucson for Fall Conference. For those of you who don't go, you really should try and make it for Saturday. There is a lot of changes going on in the ALA and we want you all in the know.

The new State Veterans homes are accepting applications <u>www.azstatejobs.gov</u>. I urge all of you to visit their Facebook pages.

#### VA&R Key Program Statements:

- Support rehabilitation and healing of veterans through arts, crafts, and hobbies.
- Support veteran caregivers, family members and survivors.
- Recruit Auxiliary members as VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) volunteers at VA health care facilities.

• Help The American Legion, State Department of Veterans Affairs and Chamber of Commerce promote job fairs for veterans and their families.

• There isn't a VA hospital close to your community? Find opportunities for Auxiliary members to serve veterans in your area such as serving the homeless

Most of the ALA programs have Facebook pages. The hope is that members will find this easier to use, and National is able to update resources quickly.

The VA & R page can be searched using: American Legion Auxiliary Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)

These groups are for members only and they will ask you a few questions to make sure you are a member. Please answer the questions and they will accept you very quickly.

For God and Country

Rose

# **SERVICE TO VETERANS**

I hope that all of you are off to a great start helping our veterans, their families, and our active duty military. It is recommended that each unit appoint a chairman to gather volunteer hours for their unit and report to me each month.

Keep in mind that "Service to Veterans" volunteer hours are <u>direct or</u> <u>personal service</u> to Veterans, their families, and active duty military. Hours spent attending meetings, workshops, convention, conferences, etc. are NOT direct service to veterans.

Although the pandemic is still very much with us, there are still many opportunities to support our mission serving veterans. Every day on Facebook and Ring Your Bell I see units holding dinners or lunches at their post as well as other activities. Please report these hours to me!

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at Fall Conference in Tucson.

If you have any questions please email me at <a href="mailto:lpnmoe14@gmail.com">lpnmoe14@gmail.com</a>

For God and Country

Nancy Berg

Service to Veterans Chairman

#### 9-30-21

All events are suspended until further notice. There is communication that some volunteer activities will be restarting. No specifics as of this date. Thank you volunteers for your help!

Moderna vaccine has arrived and all staff who desired vaccination have been vaccinated.

All Veterans and caregivers have been offered the two dose vaccine. Current numbers are encouraging according to Director.

Southwest Blind Rehabilitation Center is now opening back up. There is limited visitation at SAVAHCS. Monetary donations are being accepted at this time.

# There is a new program in start-up process to assist Veterans patients with food insecurities. Once implemented, a separate food pantry will fill this need.

There are not yet any monetary donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 is \$3,151.00. Thank you Unit 7, Unit 24, Unit 66, Unit 109, Unit 131 and Unit 132 for your generous donations to support our programs.

Four registered hospital volunteers donated time which was credited to the American Legion Auxiliary. The grand total of registered volunteer hours May 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 is 884. **S AVAHCS is in the process of** bringing back volunteers. Volunteers will be phased in as needed and the process will be closely monitored by the Director. Volunteers will be contacted by the Voluntary Service office as their services are needed. One more Auxiliary volunteer has been called back.

This chairman has volunteered 85 hours and logged 960 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of September 30, 2021. This chairman has now logged over 4,000 hours in service to SAVAHCS. This chairman was elected to be the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the VAVS Executive Committee at the meeting on October 8, 2020. This chairman has been nominated to fill a three year term on the VAVS Executive Committee. This chairman has attended every Executive Committee meeting and every VAVS meeting this year. This chairman worked with all Units to provide beverages and snacks for staff, patients and volunteers who were manning the COVID-19 vaccination sites. This chairman is working with the Homeless Program to ensure that our Homeless Veterans and those in Transitional Housing have the food and beverages that they need during this time of enormous stress on all community resources. This chairman is working with the Recreation departments to purchase needed supplies for the National Veterans Creative Arts Program and other recreational activities. Annual Joint Review was completed November 10, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative