

Veterans of Foreign Wars to the United States



Auxiliary Department of Idaho 2024-2025 General Orders #3



Greetings Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters!

I was pleased to see those of you who attended Midwinter conference. We receive some very important and helpful information from our program chairpersons, and I encourage you to contact them if you have any questions or concerns regarding your efforts to work the various programs. Are auxiliaries required to work all the programs? Absolutely not! You may work as many or as few as your auxiliary can handle comfortably. Some smaller auxiliaries may choose to concentrate their efforts in only two or three of the programs and that is perfectly fine. Do not spread yourselves too thin. Choose the programs you can excel in working and show us all how it is done!

The Homecoming event was a lot of fun. Several attendees dressed to theme, dress as your favorite sitcom character. We saw representations from The Addams Family, The Flintstones, The Golden Girls, Gilligan's Island, Red Green, The Munsters, The Office, Hee Haw, The Andy Griffith Show, I Love Lucy, and The Young Ones. Thank you to Squirrel and our cruis4e director, Julie McCoy (a.k.a. Melissa Suekel and Tammy Clement) for putting together such a fun evening.

Once again, I was wowed by the students and their maturity at the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year awards banquet. Their speeches are so profound and make me wonder, was I that smart at that age? I seriously doubt it. I look forward to escorting Antoine Taylor from District 8 in the Parade of Winners at Washington, D.C. in March.

Thank you to Susan Brossard, our amazing Department Secretary, for capturing and recording all the happenings at the conference. We are very fortunate to have such an awesome and capable individual keeping track and reporting all the details for us. A big thank you also to Chief of Staff, Cyndi Jones, for compiling the results of the Healthy Auxiliary questionnaires that have been turned in. It gave us a good idea of where we stand as a department regarding our auxiliaries and their members. If you have not already turned in your questionnaires, please do so right away. Not only does the information help us to help you be a better auxiliary, but it also helps you earn points for the All-State Stars and Stripes program which carries a monetary award for auxiliaries and districts that complete the requirements and earn enough points to qualify for the award.

Thank you to the individuals and auxiliaries that made donations to my special projects; Autism Speaks and the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Both organizations have a very personal meaning to me, and I appreciate your support. Thank you also to those who donated to the

Department's Continuing Education Scholarship fund. The fund depends on your generous donations to keep providing scholarships to deserving individuals pursuing further education to enhance and improve their future employment opportunities.

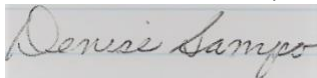
I hope to see you all in Lewiston when National President, Brenda Bryant, visits Idaho in late April. There will not be a Council of Administration meeting so there will be no Zoom option to join. You must join in person to be a part of Brenda's visit. Additional details with dates, times, and meals will be forthcoming once National provides Brenda's travel itinerary.

Please plan to attend our State Convention in June, which will also be held in Lewiston. Please look for registration information to be distributed in the next few weeks that will include hotel, banquet, auction, and activities details. Please get your registration in early as there will be no on-site registration for the banquets.

I would like to ask that anyone who has a Department position notify me as soon as possible if you will not be able to attend the convention. We need ample time to get a replacement to fill your spot and provide any necessary training so they will feel comfortable filling in for you. Of course, I would much rather that you be present but, I also know that life sometimes dictates what we can and cannot do so, please, just let me know so we can arrange coverage for you.

Please know that I am here for you should you have any questions or concerns. I may be reached via phone call or text at (208) 305-6215 or email at vfwaux10043@gmail.com.

Your Sister in Service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Sampo". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Denise Sampo

TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More

National President, Brenda Bryant's Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches – Extending Service to our Veterans.