Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
2019-2020

Chairman - Anne Lamson, 48 West St., Apt 214, Ashland, NH 03217 - Tel: 603-507-4188
Email - ahlamson@msn.com
2nd member - Jean Drew, 50 Great Falls Drive, Penacook, NH 03303 - Tel: 603-496-8987
3rd member - Linda Flanagan, 96 Vaillancourt Dr. , New Ipswich, NH 03071 - Tel: 878-3431
VA Hospital Rep - Gloria Morin, 13 Maple St., Lincoln, NH 03251 - Tel: 781-307-5186
VAVS Deputy - Carol Maynard, 6 Epping Woods Rd., Epping, NH 03042 - Tel: 679-2237
VAVS Deputy - Carol Ducasse, 78 Belmont St., Manchester, NH 03042 - Tel: 264-4714
VA White River Rep - Susan Pond, 17 Union St., Lyme, NH 03768 - Tel: 795-2816

The Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program promotes our mission to enhance the lives of veterans, military and their families.

What you can do to help a homeless veteran:
1. Host or volunteer at homeless veterans’ stand downs, events where homeless veterans receive haircuts and medical exams.
2. Contact homeless veteran emergency shelters, transitional housing projects and permanent housing projects in your community and identify the organizations volunteer and in-kind contributions needed.
3. SOCKS OF LOVE - one sock filled with hygiene items and the other sock filled with snacks. Tie it all together with a winter hat. Hand them out to the homeless veterans in your community. You can also give to the local police department that could hand out to the homeless veteran population.
4. Create a “TREE OF WARMTH” by collecting scarves, mittens, hats and attaching them to a tree in a location the homeless frequent. Include a sign that says “Please Take if Needed”, “Free if Needed” or something similar.

National Veterans Creative Arts Festival - support rehabilitation and healing of veterans through arts, crafts and hobbies. National Veterans Creative Arts Festival is the national, annual competition and festival that recognizes the progress and recovery made through recreation therapy and raises the visibility of the creative achievements of our nation’s veterans after disease, disability or life crisis. Did you know that the American Legion Auxiliary became a national sponsor during the year 2000-2001 when our own Kris West was serving as National President. Kris chose this program as her project and we continue to support it today. As the national presenting sponsor, the American Legion Auxiliary should strive to increase monetary support by encouraging units to donate and hold fundraisers that will contribute to the increased awareness and support of this program.

Encourage Auxiliary members to become a volunteer at VA health care facilities thru the VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) and to increase volunteers outside a VA Medical Center thru “Service to Veterans”. The two VA Hospitals in our area, Manchester, New Hampshire and White River Junction, Vermont, can always use more volunteers, regular or occasional and donations to their supply shelves. Don’t forget to recruit Volunteers - student volunteers. VAVS Representative Gloria Morin sends out requests for certain supplies. Please do what you
can to collect these items and/or make a monetary donation to the VA Supply Shelf. Last year the Manchester VA began a program to assist the female veteran. Please continue to send in your monetary support for this program. Save the date - Set up for the VA Christmas Gift shop will be Saturday, December 7, 2019 and the VA Christmas Gift Shop will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2019. We look forward to your support of new gifts so that our veterans can shop for those special presents for their family.

Service to Veterans recognizes volunteers who provide service to veterans, servicemembers and their families outside a VA Medical Center. Volunteers conduct projects and work for military/veterans and/or families from their homes and in their communities. Keep track of your hours and activities separately from anything done at the VA Medical Centers. Second member Jean Drew will be asking your support of homemade goodies, no nuts, for our annual Post Holiday Party at the NH Veterans Home in Tilton on Saturday, January 4, 2020. This is always fun socializing with the veterans.

The NH Veterans Fund continues to be a valuable asset for our veterans. In 1989, then Department Commander Harry Poper and Department President Dottie Hunnewell felt there was a need for a fund to help veterans and their families. Since then the NH Veterans Fund has provided direct financial assistance for Utility bills, Rent, Mortgages, Food, Transportation and Medical expenses. We need to continue to raise funds so that there is money available to assist our Legion family and the Veterans in their time of need. Third member, Linda Flanagan, will have a fundraiser so we can continue to add to this fund. Keep watch in the monthly bulletins.

Would appreciate your unit’s Mid-Year Report by December 15, 2019 and your Year-End reports by May 1, 2020. Toot your horn! Let’s be a 100% in reporting.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR UNITS:

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit VA&R Program....Award: Citation Plaque...presented to: One unit in each division (5) announced by the national VA&R committee at the pre-convention meeting. Materials and guidelines: The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words. Include pictures, clippings, scrapbooks, folders, etc. Deadline May 15, 2020.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

District 1 Trophy To a Unit in District #1 submitting the best report
Marion Lecius Trophy To a Unit in District #2 submitting the best report
Shirley Calvert Trophy To a Unit in District #3 submitting the best report
Eunice Lacz Trophy To a Unit in District #4 submitting the best report
Leighton Tasker Trophy To a Unit in District #5 submitting the best report
Dane Grant Trophy To a Unit in District #6 submitting the best report
District 7 VA&R Trophy To a Unit in District #7 submitting the best report
Cowell Trophy To a Unit in District #8 submitting the best report
Eileen Rehm Award
To the Unit in Department submitting the best Veteran’s Affairs & Rehabilitation report in their classification:
CLASS I - (10-100 members)
CLASS II - (101-200 members)
CLASS III - (201+ members)

Cook Trophy
To the Unit in Department submitting the best Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation report (Winner is picked from one of the three (3) Eileen Rehm Class winners)

Perry Service to Veterans Trophy
To the Unit in Department submitting the best Service to Veterans report (No VAVS included).

Hospital Representative Trophy
For the Unit in the Department who has the best report on what they have done for the VA Hospital. (Winner submitted by VAVS Representative)

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**Mid-Year Report** - activities from May thru December 2019 that your Unit did under the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program. **Report due December 15, 2019** to
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Please list all things done, money and hours spent. Write a narrative explaining what you have accomplished.