



American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Minnesota
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VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION Nov/Dec 2017



It was a pleasure for me to meet with the 4 Hospital and 5 Home Representatives and some of their assistants at Waite Park in September. What a dedicated group of ladies represent us as volunteer coordinators at these Veterans' facilities! We had time to discuss the \$5.00 Bill Shower and the upcoming Gift Shops. Sewing patterns were updated and the personal needs of each location were noted. Please look for the sewing patterns and the hospital/home needs sheet in this unit mailing. The sewing patterns are also available online. Our volunteer coordinators don't have much storage, so please spend your valuable free time sewing only what they need or check with the coordinator for updates. Department Secretary Sandie wants me to remind you that **ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HOSPITALS/HOMES SHOULD FIRST GO THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE** so that your Unit receives proper credit. Thank you for all you do for these facilities.



Goal #7 listed in the National VA&R Programs Action Plan is:
"Assist and support caregivers of veterans." The Auxiliary most certainly does this with our volunteer work at and contributions to the 4 hospitals/5 veterans homes we serve. Most of us also know some of our Unit members who are caregivers to their veteran husbands, fathers or brothers in their own homes. These individuals also need our recognition and assistance. In many instances, these members are unable to attend our meetings. As the busy holiday season approaches, I ask that you acknowledge them with a card, a small gift or even a telephone call to let them know the Auxiliary is thinking of them. Some of you may even be able to sit and visit with the veteran while the caregiver gets a couple of hours to run errands or do some shopping. **I know that Auxiliary ladies have warm hearts and a willingness to help others who could use a little assistance.**

Besides the sewing patterns and veteran hospital/home need sheet, I've also enclosed in this unit mailing a yearly calendar type list of special events which could be acknowledged during the 2017-2018 VA&R year. I hope your Unit has scheduled something special for November 11th Veterans Day.

I'd like to wish each of you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous holiday season.

Mary Hendrickson
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