

## General Orders #1 - Sue Gregg

August 3, 2024

Good day Sisters and Brothers,

I am glad to be back home from the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. A wonderful experience and another state off the bucket list that I'd never been to.

To begin our year with respect and honor to our Veterans and their families will put us on the right step forward.

Our programs have been arranged with careful consideration from our National President Brenda Bryant and our Ambassadors.

### Changes:

Mentoring has been returned to Extension-Retention, as it was preferred by many that had asked the appropriate questions, and so it was realigned.

Also, there will be a change in the Membership Program as well, but Sister Emily Arnold will report on that.

Our National Presidents Special Project is Operation Bottom Cover – the availability to provide diapers and wipes to our veterans' families. The attention for this project is that in extremely high humidity, when diapers are washed, they do not dry properly. And, the price of diapers and wipes cost an average of 2 times our price for a package of diapers overseas. Please consider having a fundraiser and challenge your Post to participate as well – i.e., maybe the Auxiliary buy the diapers and the Post buy the wipes! Monetary donations are welcome also – please send these to the Dept. Treasurer. Our Veterans and Family Support Chairperson will elaborate on this and other points in her report. FYI, Brenda Bryant, our National President's theme this year is "From Our Roots to Our Branches" Extending Service to Our Veterans.

All the Auxiliary Bonds in the Dept. Of WA are paid and you should be able to print it from MALTA now or in the very near future and if you had the Dept. Treasurer input the bond data, payment for this is due now; so, please mail the amount due for your bond to Cindy Burkey ASAP!

On MALTA, please associate yourself with it ... get a sign-in and surf for answers as there is a lot of valuable data there especially for Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers AND everyone!

We should do our best to be 100 percent paid membership before December 31<sup>st</sup>.

I've just brought back a new National Home" bank" that will be decorated and is to be filled with donations and returned to Western Conference in Hawaii in October. I will bring it around on my travels while visiting various Districts as well.

There will be two (2) Schools of Instruction. Westside will be in Port Orchard. **The Council of Administration meeting will be Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at VFW Auxiliary #2669 in Port Orchard (basement of the Post) – 3:00 PM start time.** SOI for the Westside will be held at the Eagles in Port Orchard. Registration will begin at 8:00 AM on SUNDAY, August 11 – meeting to begin at 9:00 AM. We will meet separately until the afternoon when, jointly, Membership and Veterans & Family Support will be covered. The Eastside SOI will take place on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> in Spokane Valley at VFW Post 1435.

Walt Tanimoto's memorial service is at 3 PM, Shelter #4, Friday, August 9 at Tahoma National Cemetery. His contagious smile, amazing photo taking, and true love for our organization was beyond words and he will be missed immensely.

Please feel free to drop me an email, note or quick call to me and please leave a message with who, when, why, and I will touch base with you as soon as I'm available.

From our Roots to Our Branches, our Veterans Families are always on our minds and in our hearts forever.

Respectfully,

*Sue Gregg*

Department President

Address: 2110 Market St.

Mount Vernon WA 98273-5460

E-mail: sue9332000.sg@ gmail.com

Cell: 360-840-5334