

## AUXILIARY DECEMBER EVENTS

We did not have a general meeting this month but that does not mean our Unit was not busy – just the opposite in fact. Our Auxiliary ladies are hardworking and caring and were busy sharing the “Holiday Spirit” this December.

- **Luminaria Beach Walk:** Thanks to everyone who baked Pecan Pie muffins for this event and to those who “manned” the campsite serving up Sloppy Joes and handing out muffins. The Sloppy Joes were a huge success – all 120+ of the home made buns were gone almost immediately (thanks Elaine). Everyone (Legionnaires, Sons, Riders and Auxiliary) wore a Poppy and the Riders served hot chocolate and marshmallows and had a POW/MIA table set up.



- **Care Packages:** Lots of homemade goodies (cookies, brownies, fudge, etc) were included in the Care Packages this month as well as signed Christmas cards in each package. Maida Sanders was a big



help, getting as many different people to sign cards as she could. Many individuals wrote personal notes with “thank you for your service” included and nearly every card had multiple signatures and notes written in them. On the day we packed many of us wore festive Christmas gear, and we all sang Christmas carols and had a wonderful time preparing these special packages for our overseas troops. One individual, not to be named of course, even wore antlers and a flashing red nose!

- **Baked Goods Appreciation Trays:** On December 13<sup>th</sup> trays of home baked goodies were prepared for all Sierra county schools (Arrey grade school, TorC & Sierra grade schools, Appletree & Manzano schools, TorC Middle school and Hot Springs High School) to show the teachers our appreciation for all they do for our children. We also prepared a tray for the employees at NMSVH as well as one for each newspaper (Sentinel & Herald) and one for the Post Office employees. Again, the trays were our way of showing the Veteran’s home employees our thanks for all their hard work, the newspapers for all the articles they publish for us at no cost to us and the workers at the Post Office for all the help they give us each month with Care packages. A great big thank you to everyone who baked and helped arrange and distribute the trays.



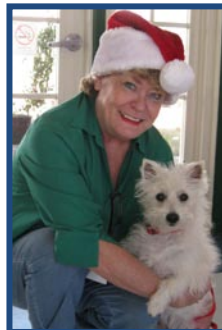
- **Mid-Year Reports:** Kudos to everyone involved in getting the mid-year reports to Department by the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month. I know it was difficult with everyone getting ready for the holidays . . . but . . . we were one of the very few Units who DID get their reports completed, submitted AND on time!

- **NMSVH:** The veteran's home was a busy place this month.

- ❖ December 15<sup>th</sup> the New Mexico Legion Riders (which includes a few of our Auxiliary members) visited bearing wondrous gifts: a 72" flat screen television for the newly renovated recreation center, hand crocheted lap robes for each resident and a generous check to supplement the canteen fund. The Riders spent time distributing the lap robes and visiting with the appreciative residents.



- ❖ On the 17<sup>th</sup> the female resident's received a little something extra with their manicures – sacks of home made goodies, Christmas music, lots of good cheer and a visit from a special little lady "Mi Hjita". Liz Foster brought her adorable little dog for a Christmas visit and the ladies loved her.



Goodies and hand made cards by the children of Appletree/Manzano were delivered during "nails" as well. We had a larger than usual turnout to help distribute goodies, do nails and spread Christmas cheer – thank you everyone!

- ❖ Finally, on the 18<sup>th</sup> the NMSVH held a Christmas party for the residents. Each resident received a gift from Santa and Sam Parker (man of a 1000 voices) sang old Christmas carols and inspired the residents to sing along. Auxiliary members were on hand to serve refreshments and give assistance wherever needed.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Girls State Bake Sales:** We kick off our monthly bake sale on January 12<sup>th</sup> during the All You Can Eat Breakfast at the Post. We have had so many inquiries from hopeful young ladies wanting to attend Girls State that we are starting our fundraising efforts early. Anyone who would care to donate baked goods for the sale please drop them off at the Post Friday night or bring them with you Saturday morning.

**Americanism Essay Contest:** The Americanism Committee has already received essays from Manzano and a visit to Arrey Elementary School is scheduled for January 16<sup>th</sup> with visits to TorC and Sierra Elementary schools being planned for this month as well. We are hoping to receive a record number of entries this year. Anyone interested in participating in the gathering and judging of these essays should contact Marty Novak or Sharon Pierson.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- “JUGS” or “Just Us Girls” (can you guess which of our Auxiliary members are JUGS members?) is hosting a Bunco fundraiser party for SCCA (Sierra County Cancer Assistance) on January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Meal Site at 360 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The doors open at 12:30pm and the fun begins at 1:00pm. The cost is only \$8 and seating is limited so if you’d like to purchase a ticket please contact Kitty at 744-4877, and do it quickly – seating is limited to 40 seats!
- The next Leadership Course will begin in January. Anyone who would like to attend should contact Liz Foster.