



VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT MARCH

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who has supported the Soldier Recovery Unit (SRU) in Ft. Riley. The unit looks forward to receiving any items donated and definitely puts everything to good use. Should your Auxiliary have any items to donate, please bring them to your District meetings and I will make arrangements to pick it up.

Have you made a donation to OPERATION: Bottom Cover yet? It is not too late. Not only is this the National President's Special Project, it is also Department President Marsha LaRosh and Department Commander Terry Fletcher's Special Project. Donations may be made by sending your check to Department Treasurer, Jeanette Cox, earmarked NP Special Project or made directly online at MALTA and forwarding a copy of the receipt to Department Treasurer, Jeanette Cox.

The following are a couple of organizations you may consider donating to:

FISHER HOUSES (Non Profit)

These homes are located at military and VA centers around the world. They have up to 21 suites with private bedrooms and baths. Families share a common kitchen, laundry facilities, dining room, and living room. Criteria to stay is established locally by the hospital or installation command and there is never a charge to stay. There are approximately 73 houses in the US and abroad.

TO DONATE: Fisher House Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 791598
Baltimore, MD 21279

GARY SINISE FOUNDATION (Non Profit)

Their mission is: At the Gary Sinise Foundation, we serve our nation by honoring our defenders, veterans, first responders, their families, and those in need. We do this by creating and supporting unique programs designed to entertain, educate, inspire, strengthen, and build communities.

TO DONATE: Gary Sinise Foundation
P O Box 40726
Nashville, TN 37204

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES:

1. Citation and monetary award to the Auxiliary that donates the most to the National President's Special Project, *OPERATION: BOTTOM COVER*

10-100	Members
101-200	Members
201-300	Members
301-400	Members
400 and up	Members

2. CERTIFICATE to every Auxiliary that donates to the SRU at Ft. Riley

NATIONAL PROGRAM AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES:

1. Most outstanding activity and / or event to increase awareness of suicide and mental health for veterans, military and their families.
 - a. Citation and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and or event to increase awareness of suicide and mental health for veterans, military and their families.

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman by March 31st, for judging. The Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department winning entry form to the National Veterans & Family Support Ambassador by April 30th, for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Reminder, to be eligible for the Circle of Achievement, your Auxiliary must submit at least 2 reports in this program by March 31st.

Mike McCandless
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