

Veterans and Family Support January 2019



The spirit of the holidays is about family and your VFW Auxiliary family would like to wish you a very Happy New Year. As we enter 2019 it is a time for new beginnings and continued growth in our family.

The **Wreaths Across America** ceremonies took place on December 15th as a way to honor our veterans across this great nation to honor our heroes. As one of the guest speaker of this annual event at Catheys Valley cemetery GySGT Jess Leal spoke of his 22 years in the US Marine Corps expressing, “how important it is for us to keep up the mission to REMEMBER the fallen, HONOR those who serve, and TEACH the next generation that freedom is not free.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of VFW’s National Veterans Service (NVS) Department. **National Veterans Service by the numbers**; here’s a look at what NVS accomplished in fiscal year 2018 (VFW Magazine January 2019-p19)

- \$8.36 BILLION: Total recovered for all clients
- \$1.4 BILLION: Recovered for new clients
- 2,051: Number of VA-accredited VFW representatives
- 109,056: New claims filed by VFW service officers
- 24: Number of Pre-Discharge Claims Program sites

Let’s get back to basics of talking about projects, providing services to help our veterans, active military and their family members by being active **promoting resources**.

- Scholarship Programs
- NVS Resources
- Care Packages
- Adopt-A-Unit
- Operation Uplink

Keep it simple; don’t forget you’re “WHY” you joined this organization to support our heroes. **Veterans Family Support: 7 Simple Ways to Make a Difference in the Life of A Veteran.**

- ❖ Take dinner to a veteran-or-take a veteran out for dinner
- ❖ Take a veteran out of their house-for a day, an afternoon, an hour.
- ❖ Share a Thank You Coin
- ❖ Give and post a Resource Rack Card
- ❖ Spend a few minutes talking to a veteran and active military personnel
- ❖ Provide a hug
- ❖ Let our veterans and military know we are here for them.