
2001-2002

VFW Teachers of the Year

For the third year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and its Ladies Auxiliary VFW recognized teachers in Grades K-12 for their promotion of citizenship education in their classrooms.

Each national winner receives an award, \$1,000 for the individual teacher's professional development, \$1,000 to his/her school and an all-expense trip to Washington, D.C., for the VFW and Ladies Aux-

iliary National Community Service Conference.

Award winners also have the opportunity to participate in a workshop during the conference.



Linda (center) with VFW Commander-in-Chief James N. Goldsmith and Ladies Auxiliary President Diane Stout.

GRADES K - 5

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Linda W. Tyree of Morgantown, Kentucky, is a fifth-grade teacher at Morgantown Elementary School.

She created educational activities that include a Constitutional Convention,

student role-playing of historical figures, forming a Flag Federation where fifth-grade students teach students in the primary grades about flag history and flag etiquette.

Since 1993, Linda has organized the school's annual Veterans' Day program.

Linda, who has been a teacher

for 11 years, earned a bachelor of science degree and master of arts degree from Western Kentucky University.

In 1998 she received the local Teachers Citizenship Education Award.

She was selected by VFW Post 5837 and Ladies Auxiliary, Morgantown.



Sheila (center) with VFW Commander-in-Chief James N. Goldsmith and Ladies Auxiliary President Diane Stout.

GRADES 6 - 8

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Sheila G. Hansen of Spearfish, South Dakota, is an eight-grade teacher at Spearfish Middle School. She created the "Fallen Sons of South Dakota" project that focuses on the contributions of South Dakotans who served in

World War II.

The project combines research, writing, technology and civic responsibility.

She is currently on a one-year appointment with the South Dakota Department of Education coordinating the World War II project throughout the state.

Sheila, who has taught for 15 years, earned her bachelor of sci-

ence degree from the University of South Dakota.

In 2001 she received the Golden Apple award from the School Administrators of South Dakota and the Mandel Fellowship from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

She was selected by VFW Post 5860 and Ladies Auxiliary, Spearfish.

2001-2002

VFW Teachers of the Year

GRADES 9 – 12 **TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

Lindy G. Poling of Raleigh, North Carolina, teaches grades 9 – 12 at Millbrook Senior High School in Raleigh. She teaches U.S. history and a popular elective, Lessons of Vietnam (LOV), using an approach called the “Community-in-the-

Classroom.” A volunteer team of guest teachers, including veterans, their spouses, former ARVN soldiers, war correspondents, peace activists, authors, clergy, refugees and others, teach students about the important ideas and lessons of the Vietnam years.

Lindy, who has taught for 26 years, earned her bachelor of arts

degree from the College of William and Mary and a master of arts from Colgate University.

She has received numerous awards, including the USA Today All-USA Teacher Team in 2000 and the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year in 1998.

Lindy was selected by VFW Post 10225 and Ladies Auxiliary, Garner, North Carolina.



Linda (center) with VFW Commander-in-Chief James N. Goldsmith and Ladies Auxiliary President Diane Stout.

Each national winner receives \$1,000 for the individual teacher's professional development, \$1,000 to his/her school and an all-expense trip to Washington, D.C., for the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary National Community Service Conference. during the conference.



Linda W. Tyree explains her patriotic program lessons to VFW members during the annual Community Service Conference, held in Washington, D.C., this past April.

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VFW Teachers of the Year

State and Overseas Winners

Alabama

Nancy R. Kimberly-Jones
Beulah Elementary School
Valley, Alabama

Wayne Higgins
Hibbett Middle School
Florence, Alabama

Alaska

Joyce E. Lund
Finger Lake Elementary
Palmer, Alaska

John Gaskins
Mirror Lake Middle School
Chugiak, Alaska

Linda L. Holler
Wasilla High School
Wasilla, Alaska

Arizona

Betty Hardy
Franklin Phonetic School
Prescott Valley, Arizona

Denise Shaw
Mountainside Middle School
Scottsdale, Arizona

Edward P. Hermanski
Hamilton High School
Chandler, Arizona

Arkansas

Susan A. Bucher
Searcy Mc Rae Elementary
Searcy, Arkansas

Robin Morris
Gravette Junior High School
Gravette, Arkansas

Janet Bynum
Waldron High School
Waldron, Arkansas

California

Heidi Schlueter
Mc Kinley School
Susanville, California

Teri Smith
Mayfair Middle School
Lakewood, California

Jacolyn B. Girolamo
Atwater High School
Atwater, California

Colorado

Kathi L. Majernik
Academy Edison Elementary
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Carol L. Bramschreiber
Eagleview Middle School
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Joyce Persson
Standley Lake High School
Westminster, Colorado

Connecticut

Rita M. Ferri
Ox Ridge School
Darien, Connecticut

Joanne B. Levy
South Windsor High School
South Windsor, Connecticut

District of Columbia

Brenda G. Jenkins
C. Melvin Sharpe Health
Washington, D.C.

Wendy D. Bridges
Langdon Elementary School
Washington, D.C.

Europe

Ann K. Arnold
Hohenfels Elementary School
Hohenfels, Germany

Billy R. Davidson
Kaiserslautern American High
Kaiserslautern, Germany

Florida

Kimberly C. Swartz
Walter Caldwell Elementary
Auburndale, Florida

John M. Waters
St. Petersburg Christian School
St. Petersburg, Florida

Ellen Miller
Eau Gallie High School
Melbourne, Florida

Georgia
Carole Cote'
Dr. John H. Heard Elementary
Macon, Georgia

George M. Cronin
Awtrey Middle School
Kennesaw, Georgia

Steve Quesinberry
Newnan High School
Newnan, Georgia

Hawaii

Claire M. Griffin
Sacred Hearts Academy
Honolulu, Hawaii

Idaho

Donna L. Smith
Glenns Ferry Elementary
Glenns Ferry, Idaho

Susan M. Hodgins
Moscow Jr. High School
Moscow, Idaho

Keith Adams
Glenns Ferry High School
Glenns Ferry, Idaho

Illinois

Paul Hardt
Dundee Highlands School
Dundee, Illinois

John J. Braun
Central Jr. High School
Belleville, Illinois

Richard A. Dewolf
Argo Community High School
Summit, Illinois

Indiana
David Lilly
Oak Hill Elementary School
Lowell, Indiana

Marie E. Hillesland
Barker Middle School
Michigan City, Indiana

Michael F. Yedinak
Lowell Senior High School
Lowell, Indiana

Iowa

Karen M. Steffen
Crestwood Elementary & Jr. High
Cresco, Iowa

Melodee Balk
Crestwood Elementary & Jr. High
Cresco, Iowa

Brian J. Connick
Algona High School
Algona, Iowa

Kansas

Linda Lynn
Glenwood Ridge Elementary
Bonner Springs, Kansas

Joanne Emerick
Hoxie High School
Hoxie, Kansas

Kentucky

Linda W. Tyree
Morgantown Elementary School
Morgantown, Kentucky

Paulette Carey
Oldham County Middle School
Buckner, Kentucky

Louisiana
Barbara Ellis
Ringgold Elementary School
Ringgold, Louisiana

Ida L. White
Benton Middle School
Benton, Louisiana

Tommy A. Rigsby, Sr.
Kaplan High School
Kaplan, Louisiana

Maryland

Steven J. King
Shepherd Elementary School
Washington, D.C.

Denise Wright
St. Paul's Lutheran School
Kingsville, Maryland

Constance Ann Flagg
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel High
Baltimore, Maryland

Massachusetts

Donna M. Allard
Crocker Elementary School
Fitchburg, Massachusetts

Mary Anne M. Quinn
Memorial Middle School
Beverly, Massachusetts

Peter C. Halvorson
Burlington High School
Burlington, Massachusetts

Michigan

Marilyn J. Malick
Carleton Elementary School
Detroit, Michigan

Sue Drenth
Cedarville Middle School
Cedarville, Michigan

Robert L. Threlloff
Saint Louis High School
St. Louis, Michigan

Minnesota

Jill L. Schisano
Washington Elementary School
Crookston, Minnesota

Michael R. Veldman
Ellis Middle School
Austin, Minnesota

James H. Hopp
Grand Meadow Public School
Grand Meadow, Minnesota

Mississippi

Janice M. Walker
Jackson Elementary School
Pascagoula, Mississippi

Shawn Wigley
Petal Middle School
Petal, Mississippi

Felecia L. Carpenter
Oak Grove High School
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Missouri

Sharon M. Tebbe
Coverdell Elementary School
St. Charles, Missouri

Karen C. Wood
Montgomery County R-II Middle
Montgomery City, Missouri

Robert L. Burns
Rock Bridge High School
Columbia, Missouri

2001-2002

VFW Teachers of the Year

State and Overseas Winners

Montana

Lisa Tryan
Plentywood School
Plentywood, Montana

Tara L. Thielman
Utterback Middle School
Conrad, Montana

Dorothea M. Susag
Simms High School
Simms, Montana

Nebraska

Cheryl Russell
Progress Elementary School
Ogallala, Nebraska

Kerry K. Morava
Panhandle School
Harrison, Nebraska

Nevada

Robbi L. Jacobsen
Gardnerville Elementary School
Gardnerville, Nevada

Elaine M. Toth
Carson Valley Middle School
Gardnerville, Nevada

New Hampshire

Roxanne J. Bowker
Mildred C. Lakeway Elementary
Littleton, New Hampshire

Jennifer Wells Carbonneau
Daisy Bronson Middle School
Littleton, New Hampshire

Brian P. Wiggin
Kennett High School
Conway, New Hampshire

New Jersey

Constance R. Wilke
Bell Oaks Upper Elementary
Bellmawr, New Jersey

Valerie A. Wheatley
Delaware Township School
Sergeantsville, New Jersey

Deborah L. Hoeflinger
Butler High School
Butler, New Jersey

New Mexico

Cecelia M. Lucero
Laguna Elementary School
Laguna, New Mexico

Julie M. Smelser
Zia Middle School
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Ron Allen
Clovis High School
Clovis, New Mexico

New York

Melissa L. Ferrie
Division Street Elementary
Saratoga Springs, New York

Richard T. Carroll
Rondout Valley Junior High
Accord, New York

Suzanne M. Wells
Charles D'Amico High School
Albion, New York

North Carolina

Jane W. Rowland
Swain County East Elementary
Whittier, North Carolina

Linda Tabor
Hardin Park School
Boone, North Carolina

Lindy G. Poling
Millbrook High School
Raleigh, North Carolina

North Dakota

Teri Oliver
North Hill Elementary
Minot, North Dakota

Trisha L. Martin
Horizon Middle School
Bismarck, North Dakota

Michelle De Foe
Devils Lake High School
Devils Lake, North Dakota

Ohio

Mary F. Brown
Canal Winchester Intermediate
Canal Winchester, Ohio

Barbara J. Adams
North Union Middle School
Richwood, Ohio

William J. Van Jura
Valley Forge High School
Parma Heights, Ohio

Oklahoma

Lena M. Kofoed
Ranchwood Elementary School
Yukon, Oklahoma

Patricia J. Brown
Emerson Jr. High School
Enid, Oklahoma

Byron Burkett
Drumright High School
Drumright, Oklahoma

Oregon

Marolyn Wilks
Chenoweth Elementary School
The Dalles, Oregon

Courtney Kiser
Chenoweth Middle School
The Dalles, Oregon

Ted Burdett
Brookings-Harbor High School
Brookings, Oregon

Pacific Areas

Lorena Q. Chaco
Saint Anthony School
Tamuning, Guam

Brian P. Galang
Saint Anthony School
Tamuning, Guam

Lourdes Babauta
Academy of Our Lady High
Hagatna, Guam

Pennsylvania

Ann Marie N. Dalkiewicz
Bloomsburg Memorial
Elementary
Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

Kimberly L. Mates
Somerset Junior High School
Somerset, Pennsylvania

Rhode Island

Barbara Costa
Saint Mary School
Cranston, Rhode Island

Romeo G. Berthiaume
Woonsocket Senior High School
Woonsocket, Rhode Island

South Carolina

Kathy W. Mishoe
St. James Middle School
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Tommy Thompson
Andrews High School
Andrews, South Carolina

South Dakota

Michele Damuth
East Elementary
Spearfish, South Dakota

Sheila G. Hansen
Spearfish Middle School
Spearfish, South Dakota

Mary Ellen Luikens
Scotland High School
Scotland, South Dakota

Tennessee

Matthew Drinnon
Alpha Elementary School
Morristown, Tennessee

Gail F. Trapnell-Fontaine
Freedom Middle School
Franklin, Tennessee

Martha C. McCarley
Ooltewah High School
Ooltewah, Tennessee

Texas
Diane Lopez
E.A. Jones Elementary School
Missouri City, Texas

Linda Kathleen Fisher
Wylie Junior High School
Abilene, Texas

Karen Hill
Pecos High School
Pecos, Texas

Utah

Nannette Watson
Riverdale Elementary School
Ogden, Utah

Vermont
Patricia S. Reynolds
Sharon Elementary School
Sharon, Vermont

Ronald Savageau
Benson Village School
Benson, Vermont

Jill G. Wilkens
Enosburg Falls Middle/High
Enosburg Falls, Vermont

Virginia

Ann Ralston
A.S. Rhodes Elementary
Front Royal, Virginia

M. Catherine Peterson
Princess Anne Middle School
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Diana W. Watson
Princess Anne High School
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Washington

Erika Mc Cray
Saint George's School
Spokane, Washington

Bryan E. Hoddle
Chinook Middle School
Lacey, Washington

C. Victoria Sawyer
Shelton High School
Shelton, Washington

West Virginia

Andrea D. Kovach
Flemington Elementary
Flemington, West Virginia

Janet K. Clayton
Moorefield Middle School
Moorefield, West Virginia

Arlyn Haslacker
Petersburg High School
Petersburg, West Virginia

Wisconsin
Renee Heinrich
Rib Mountain Elementary
Wausau, Wisconsin

Matthew J. Friedl
New Richmond Middle School
New Richmond, Wisconsin

Sandra A. Nichols
Assumption High School
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin

Wyoming

Kenna Lou Duvall
Meadowlark Elementary
Gillette, Wyoming

Helen Boyd
Pine Bluffs Jr. - Sr. High School
Pine Bluffs, Wyoming

L. Marie Dickey
Campbell County High School
Gillette, Wyoming