

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Past National President, Jane Reape, Past Department Presidents, Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters,  
I herewith submit my Department Convention Officer's Report

In July, I attended the Family Freedom Festival in Dundee, NY and the National convention in Phoenix, AZ. In August, I attended a Gold Star Mother's benefit in Derby, NY and a Veterans Recognition at VFW Post 1419, and the KIA March in Chestnut Ridge Park and my first official visit to District 5 meeting in Auburn, NY which I followed by attending the District 7 meeting in Holley, NY. I attended the New York State Fair in Syracuse, NY three different days for Membership recruitment.

In September, I had my official visits to District 8 and District 6, as well as visited the Canandaigua VA Hospital and presented them with a check. Due to family emergencies, I could not attend the Café in Salt Lake City Utah. I also went to Patchogue, NY to institute District 11 with Department Secretary, Chris Leavor. I inspected Auxiliary 2530 in Wellsville, NY. I also attended my homecoming. I attended my official visit to District 2 in New Paltz with PDP Lisa Raplee. October 5 – 8<sup>th</sup> I attended the Fall conference in Albany with the honor of having our own Bonnie Burgy be our National Representative. I was there in Atlantic City for the Eastern Conference, and two more official visits to District 4 and District 3 with Veterans and Family Support Chairman, Dee Ippolito. I attended a dinner at District 4 in Lowville, NY.

November found me in District 7 for another visit, and I attended a Veterans Day Ball in Carthage, NY with Veterans and Family support Chairman, Dee Ippolito.

In December I found myself back in New York City for the Trees for Troops with Veterans and Family Support Chairman, Dee Ippolito. I also made my official visit to District 1 and Instituted District 10.

January and February were kind of quiet, but I found myself in Port Canaveral, FL boarding the Royal Caribbean for the Mid-Year Conference. Then I found myself in Crystal City, VA., for the Legislative Conference. I attended the Gold Chevron Ball in Albany, NY.

The Spring Conference was March 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, in Binghamton, where we had the honor of having National Conductor Kim Harney as our National Representative.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of April I went to Fort Plain to institute Auxiliary 3275. April 12<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> was the National President, Carla Martinez's, visit to New York. She arrived Saturday morning on April 13<sup>th</sup>, was met at the airport by Dee Ippolito and Ann Davis, then toured the freedom lounge and was greeted by the aisle of honor. Carla appeared to enjoy herself.

On Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> I headed off to Norwich, NY to represent the Department at the Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary Convention. On Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> Chris Leavor and I set off to Plattsburgh, NY for District 9 dinner and Convention, completing my visits to all districts. On Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup> I left for Clifton Park, NY for District 3 dinner and Convention. May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> found Chris Leavor and I in Montgomery, NY for District 2 convention. I plan on attending District 6 Convention on Friday and Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in Jamestown, NY then on Sunday I am going to District 8 Convention in Palmyra, NY.

On May 23<sup>rd</sup> I will be at West Point Military Academy presenting an award on behalf of National President, Carla Martinez.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as President and wish all the newly elected officers success in the coming year.

May we continue to "Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" as we are "Banding Together for Our Veterans"

Loyally,

Rose Cooper, President, Department of New York VFW Auxiliary

VFW Auxiliary Department of New York – June 2024 Officer and Program Chairman Reports  
99th Annual Convention – June 4-9, 2024

SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Department President Rose, Past National President Jane, National District Council Member No. 4 Bonnie Burgy, Past Department Presidents, Line Officers, and members, I herewith submit my Department Convention report.

During the year, President Rose, Past Department President Lisa, Conductor Charlene and myself attended the Eastern Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey . It was a very motivational and learning experience and travel was great. I look forward to the Eastern Conference in 2024 in Burlington, Vermont.

I had the great pleasure of representing President Rose at the District 9 meeting in Tupper Lake in the fall of 2023. It was a great drive and I saw no wild animals on the drive to or from!

It was wonderful to see so many new faces at OTI, Fall and Spring Conferences and I look forward to a bright future for the organization.

On April 13-14, I had the pleasure of traveling with President Rose and National President Carla on her travels in Buffalo and Jamestown. It was an eventful weekend.

On May 5, 2024, I attended District 7's convention.

It has been a busy year as I was given permission at Fall Conference to begin planning my year. You never realize how much there is to do until the work has to begin. As we look forward to 2024-2025, we should remember we are here for one common good our Veterans, our Active Duty Military and their families!

President Rose, it has been an honor to serve on your team, and I wish you and your chairmen the absolute best at National Convention in Louisville – home of the Kentucky Wildcats!

Loyally submitted,

*Darlene Baker*

Darlene Baker  
Department Senior Vice



My role as Department of NY Jr. Vice President began at the bang of the gavel at the ending of the 2023 Convention. I spent the summer gearing up for my new duties and continuing with existing ones at the District and Post level.

- ❖ July & August – My Auxiliary ran a back-to-school supply, and clothes drive for our community.
- ❖ September –
  - Supplies and clothes were distributed to our sponsored school.
  - I was asked to participate in my Posts 9/11 Memorial Service.
  - Madame President Rose Cooper assigned me to represent her at the Gold Star Families brunch in Levittown Post 9592.
  - That same night I represented our President at the Proctor Hopson Post 1896 Anniversary dinner.
- ❖ October -
  - I attended Fall Conference.
  - I received the OK to assist in the formation of a new auxiliary in District 1. The Haspel-Staab VFW AUX 551 was on its way. My team and I had a great time mentoring them, seeing the excitement on new faces. It was a great learning experience. On a sad note, my angel from national with this project, Janice Criswell passed away. May God bless her.
- ❖ November –
  - My Post commander again asked me to participate in the Veterans Day Ceremony.
  - Started collecting toys and clothing for our annual Christmas drive for our community.
- ❖ December –
  - Toy and clothing distribution
  - My auxiliary threw a Christmas party for the veterans in our area.
- ❖ January – Mentoring Auxiliary 551.
  - February – Haspel-Staab Auxiliary 551 is officially instituted and installed by my team and I. One of the items on my auxiliary bucket list is complete.
- ❖ March –
  - I was assigned by Madame President Rose Cooper to attend the 75th Anniversary of the Levittown Post 9592.
  - I attended the Spring Conference. I received some sad news from a mentor and friend Mary Kreuzer. She informed us all that due to age and health issues this would most likely be her last time at a conference or convention. Hopefully she changes her mind, and we will see her in June in Albany.
- ❖ April – Department of New York Chairman meeting in Syracuse.
- ❖ May –
  - I attended the district 1 convention where I was elected and installed as District President.
  - I went to the National Jr Vice Conference in Michigan. While I was there, I was able to complete another auxiliary bucket list item. I finally got to see the National Home for Children. I will cherish the memories always.
  - On a very personal level, I had the pleasure of installing my niece Ashleigh Horsky to take my place as the President of my home Post 5806. I have mentored her since the age of six in the Jr. Girl's Unit where she became N.Y. State President. She has come full circle, and I am so proud.

Throughout the year I also ran my home post's meetings as president. I attended all District 1 meetings and convention. We had fundraisers and events at our home post. I was asked by my post commander to oversee a joint community service project that our post sponsors. We volunteered our hall and time to a local domino league that lost its place when their previous location closed. Another high point, my nine-year-old daughter Jillian has really started to get interested in what we do. She wants to be mommy's little shadow when I go to the post. It has been an adventurous year; I met many new people and made many new friends. I can't wait to see what this upcoming year brings...

I herewith submit my year end report for the 2023-2024 year.

Loyally Yours,

Justine Robles

Department of NY Jr Vice President



DEPARTMENT TREASURER'S REPORT  
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION - COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

Department President Rose, Past National President Jane Reape, National Council Member #4 Bonnie Burgy, Line Officers, PDP's, and members, I herewith submit my year end report:

As of the writing of my report, we have obtained 99.9% in membership. I have no doubt that we will obtain 100%+ this Auxiliary year. After many years of declining membership, this is terrific news for the continuation of our great organization. Our Auxiliaries have recruited 356 new life and 542 new annual members. We have also managed to rejoin 71 former members. That is certainly impressive! Please remember that the integrity of our organization is the responsibility of the investigating committee. It is your job to ensure that all prospective members meet the eligibility requirements as stated in the podium edition of our bylaws. We still have some work to do to make sure that submitted applications are completed properly. Reviewing these before submitting them for processing will avoid delays. Please take the few minutes required to do so!

The Department has made many changes to try to make us more efficient and work with the funds that we have coming in. Thank you for your cooperation, support and suggestions while we try to become more fiscally responsible and make the most of our resources. Enclosed in this book you will find our latest budget summary report through April 30, 2024, as required by our National Bylaws. The full details will be available at the Council of Administration meeting.

Please remember that if your Auxiliary elected a new treasurer this year, form 8822-B must be filed with the IRS within 60 days. The form can be found at IRS.GOV. It is a very simple form and literally takes 2 minutes to complete.

I wish President Rose a successful Convention. It has been a pleasure to work with you and your officers this year. I know that, with the hard work from our Auxiliaries this year, you will be very successful at the National Convention in Louisville!

I have enjoyed this year as your Department Treasurer. I continue my efforts daily to be of assistance to you and broaden my knowledge of our bylaws. I strive to be as much of an asset as I can to our Department and our Officers on every level. I look forward to continuing to work with each Auxiliary and your officers.

Loyally,

*Kim White*

Kim White  
Department Treasurer

10:56 PM

05/20/24

Accrual Basis

**Department of New York VFW Auxiliary**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 July 2023 through April 2024

	<u>Jul '23 - A...</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Bu...</u>	<u>% of Bud...</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Auxiliary News Income	3,458.00	2,800.00	658.00	123.5%
CONV & CONFERENCE INCOME	14,440.70	4,403.00	10,037.70	328.0%
DUES INCOME	186,489.85	135,350.00	51,139.85	137.8%
Eastern Conference Income	450.00			
Extension -New Aux Income	300.00			
Investments	6.81			
National Award Income	1,250.00	1,000.00	250.00	125.0%
National President's Pins	225.00			
National President's Visit	1,625.00			
Officer's Training School	15,992.00			
Other Income	10,049.41	6,400.00	3,649.41	157.0%
Pres. Sp. Project Program	22,968.00			
Program Income	102,776.86	28,195.00	74,581.86	364.5%
Restricted Fund Income	16,843.50	1,520.00	15,323.50	1,108.1%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>376,875.13</b>	<b>179,668.00</b>	<b>197,207.13</b>	<b>209.8%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
Administrative Expenses	53,140.46	65,665.00	-12,524.54	80.9%
Auxiliary News Expense	2,506.15	4,660.00	-2,153.85	53.8%
Bank Adjustment	71.80			
CONV. & CONFERENCE EXPENS...	20,103.42	24,507.00	-4,403.58	82.0%
Dues Expense	100,521.59	46,750.00	53,771.59	215.0%
Line Officer Expense	10,327.23	22,775.00	-12,447.77	45.3%
Nat'l Pres Year End Love Gift	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
National Pres Visit Expenses	2,166.56	600.00	1,566.56	361.1%
Next Years Expenses	300.00			
Officer Training School Expense	14,169.80	1,000.00	13,169.80	1,417.0%
Other Expense	860.42	3,001.00	-2,140.58	28.7%
Pres Sp Proj Chairman Exp	6,212.00	125.00	6,087.00	4,969.6%
Program Expense	64,582.46	10,485.00	54,097.46	616.0%
Restricted Fund Expense	12,330.95			
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>287,292.84</b>	<b>179,668.00</b>	<b>107,624.84</b>	<b>159.9%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>89,582.29</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>89,582.29</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>89,582.29</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>89,582.29</b>	<b>100.0%</b>





## 2023-2024 Secretary's Final Report

Department Convention June 2024

Madam President Rose, and others. Greetings. I herewith submit my final report for the 2023-2024 Membership year.

As Rose was preparing for her year as Department President, I was helping by preparing materials for her convention bags and recruiting volunteers to help assemble them. Thank you to the Auxiliaries in Cuba (2721) and Franklinville (9487.)

I mailed packets to all Auxiliary Presidents, officers, chairmen, and PDPs that were not at the Convention.

After the Convention, I shipped a lot of Guidebook orders- so glad the Auxiliaries were really into making sure their chairmen and officers had the program materials this year.

After returning from the National Convention in Phoenix AZ, I finished prepping folders and my presentation for the OTI in Binghamton. I think OTI (Officers Training Institute) is misleading. It is NOT just for officers. It is for every member who wants to understand how the Auxiliary functions and maintain its integrity and strength. I like "Members Training" better. However, whatever it was called- it was fun and informative.

I kept a steady watch all year on Auxiliaries that did not meet deadlines (ex. Bonds, all officers paid, installations, etc.) so that Rose could try to help them and maintain the Department's eligibility for the Circle of Excellence

I had the Directory ready for print and distribution at Fall Conference. Thank you, Kim White, for all your help. (Actually, Kim and Dee Dee Guyette had HUGE roles in preparing and printing Guidebooks, and Directories.)

Over the course of the year, I printed almost 3 pages of corrections to the Directory. Make sure your election reports are accurate because that's where the info comes from. If the election report is different than MALTA, I update MALTA accordingly.

Speaking of elections, I was privileged to present at ZOOM on April 3<sup>rd</sup> concerning how to complete election, delegate, and installation materials and when to submit. Needless to say, we still need to work on this...

I prepared registration materials and folders for Spring Conference, Chairmen's meeting, and this Convention.

I have answered many phone calls from officers and members, and it is a privilege to be able to try to help when I can. I get many calls every day and talking to the members is my favorite part of this job.

I thank President Rose for all the opportunities this year. Besides this amazing appointment, she invited me to join her when she instituted District 11, went to a dinner in District 4, went to conventions in District 9 and 2, and when she represented National President Carla at West Point!

2023-2024 was an amazing year!

Loyally,

Chris Leavor

Department of NY VFW Auxiliary Secretary

2023-2024



VFW Auxiliary Department of New York - June 2024 Officer and Program Chairman Reports  
99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

CHAPLAIN

Department President Rose, Past National President Jane Reape, Department Line Officers, Past Department Presidents and members, I herewith submit my Department Convention Officer's Report:

While serving as Department Chaplain, I had the distinct pleasure of escorting Madam President Rose into the 124<sup>th</sup> VFW National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona in July 2023. It was truly an honor to be carrying the American Flag alongside her representing the great state of New York!

During the course of my year as Chaplain, I mailed eleven Get Well Soon Cards, thirty-three Birthday Cards, thirteen Thinking of You cards and unfortunately, seventeen Sympathy cards on behalf of the members of the Department of New York VFW Auxiliary. I was blessed to have written six inspirational messages for our auxiliary newsletters and to have the spirituality to write my own prayers for OTI, Fall Conference, Spring Conference, Sr. Vice President Darlene Baker's Chairmans meeting and now the June Convention.

One of my fondest memories will be...In March 2024, Madam President Rose came to District 3 for her official visit. Shortly after her arrival, we went to dinner with District President Rebecca Sweet before returning to her hotel for the evening. The next day, I played "hooky" from work to show Madam President the sights in our area. We had breakfast at Jimmy's Eggs which is famous for their fresh cracked-to-order eggs, hot-off-the griddle pancakes and endless cups of coffee. After breakfast, I took her to the Empire State Aerosciences Museum in Glenville, New York. The museum has two galleries and an outside airpark with twenty different planes from all eras. Madam President recognized a plane that she used to work on when she was in the military. I knew the trip was worthwhile. After the museum trip, we went to the cinema for a movie "Ordinary Angels". If you haven't seen it, it's a must!

In closing, I would like to extend my best wishes to the incoming officers of 2024-2025 for a successful year but more importantly, I want to say thank you Madam President Rose, and the members of this great organization, for your friendship and having the confidence in me as we

***"Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" while "Banding Together for Our Veterans".***

Loyally,

***Belinda Cole***

Belinda Cole

Dept. Chaplain

## Conductor's Report

2023-2024

Madam President Rose, Madam Past National President Jane, Madam National District Council Member #4 Bonnie, Department Officers, Past Department Presidents, and fellow members. I hereby submit my report.

My 2023-2024 year has had its ups and downs. I became Auxiliary President for the Auxiliary to Lt Cyrus Garnsey Post 1323 in Seneca Falls for the first time, and District 8 Guard, and my highlight was to become Department of NY Conductor in June of 2023.

I was able to attend the Eastern Conference in Atlantic City and OTI in Binghamton, as well as Fall Conference in Albany. Spring Conference wasn't a good time. I had to have a Pro Tem because my migraines caused me to go to the hospital via an ambulance.

I was able to attend all the District meetings held.

I will be closing out my year, continuing as President of 1323 and attending the Department Convention in June.

Loyally

Charlene Carnright

Department of NY Conductor



VFW Auxiliary Department of New York - June 2024 Officer and Program Chairman Reports  
99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, June 5-9, 2024  
Department Guard Report

Madam President Rose, Madam Past National President Jane, Madam National District Council Member #4 Bonnie, Line Officers, Past Department Presidents, and members of the great Department of New York, I herewith submit my final report:

In June 2023, I was elected as the Department of NY VFW Auxiliary Guard, at the 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Department Convention in Albany, NY. I was extremely humbled by the nomination of fellow Auxiliary member Esther Reape, as well as, the outpour of encouragement from all my Auxiliary family. That was the beginning of my journey thru the Department chairs, and already the first year has come to an end. For the past 12 months, I have been observing and learning not only from those officers ahead of me, but also from Past Department Presidents, other appointed officers, and of course our Auxiliary members, who truly define who we are as an organization.

As Guard, I have represented the Department of NY at many events; beginning with the VFW Auxiliary National Convention, July 2023, in Phoenix, AZ. This event was especially meaningful, as it was the convention for our very own National President from New York, Jane Reape. I also had the honor of being one of Jane's Pages, and was appointed as the National Convention Chairman for all the Pages.

In October 2023, I attended my first ever Eastern States Conference in Atlantic City, NJ. This was a very rewarding experience as I met many members from other Departments, and was a part of President Rose Cooper's legislative skit during the program portion of the conference.

I was also in attendance for both VFW Auxiliary Department Conferences - Fall Conference (October 2023) in Albany and Spring Conference (April 2024) in Binghamton. At these events, I fulfilled my Guard duties to the best of my ability during all business and Council of Administration meetings.

The National Mid-Winter Conference Cruise in February 2024 was one of the most relaxing events of the year, with a great turnout of New York members. And I had the pleasure of presenting President Rose with a love gift from all of us in attendance.

In March 2024, I had the honor of representing President Rose at VFW Post 6338 Anniversary Dinner in Gouverneur. This was my first event as an official Department Representative and I was a bit nervous. But I conveyed President Rose's message and spoke from the heart, just as she would have done.

Aside from my office as Department Guard, I completed another year as the Aux News Editor and Department Webmaster. The newsletter continues to be a vital means of communication to members and the website continues to grow in content and resources. At OTI last August 2023, I assisted with various activities as Guard and also conducted training sessions for both the website and Aux News.

In closing, I would like to thank President Rose for leading the way and giving me the opportunity to grow as a new officer. I would also like to thank the members of the Department of New York Auxiliary, especially my Auxiliary 7227, for their faith and confidence in me to start this journey. I wish President Rose and her chairmen much success in Louisville at the National Convention and I look forward to next year and all the accomplishments of our Department yet to come!

Loyally Submitted,

DeeDee Guyette, Guard  
Aux News Editor and Department Webmaster

Chief of Staff and Extension and Revitalization Report  
Department of New York VFW Auxiliary Convention  
June 2024 Albany, New York

The 2023-2024 VFW Auxiliary Year has been finalized. I want to thank President Rose, all her Department Officers, the District Presidents and all of our Deputy Chief of Staffs for their continued Support and Mentoring this Auxiliary Year. I have asked several of these members to go into an auxiliary that needs assistance. All of them responded positively.

We were able to organize three new auxiliaries this year. Auxiliary 9593, 551 and 3275. A big thank you to Belinda Cole, Marie McClumpha, Lynda Essenter, Justine Robles and . Also District One was successful in splitting up their District into two new Districts 10 and 11. A great job by all.

I have found by working closely with our Department President, District Presidents and our Deputy's we are more successful in organizing and mentoring our Auxiliaries and Districts.

We completed four Zoom Meetings this year with the help of Kim White. I believe these Zoom Meetings are beneficial to all our members.

The sad news is we lost seven auxiliaries. Most due to their VFW being disbanded. We need to concentrate on keeping our membership strong not decreasing our numbers.

Thank all of our members for what you do for our Veterans.

"Light the Flame of Hope for our Veterans" while "Banding together for our Veterans"

Loyally,



Marianne McLane-PDP





## Department of New York

VFW Auxiliary President:  
Rose Cooper

### Year End Report:

I have come to the end of my journey as District I President. It has been quite an experience. With the division of District I last year causing so much confusion, This year was much easier. I started my year by attending the VFW Auxiliary Convention in Albany.

In September I participated in my VFW Auxiliary Anniversary, celebrating the auxiliary's 92 years! I visited the St. Albans State VA Hospital where I passed out flags to some of the veterans. I attended an appreciation day for seniors and veterans given by Congressman Meeks. I attended the Fall Conference in Albany, accompanied Past State Commander, Ben Thompson to the Eastern State Conference in Atlantic City, NJ. and also assisted him in raising funds for "Trees for Troops". I also attended a meeting regarding scholarships in honor of Jim Adelis the Founder of "Trees for Troops". I attended the funeral service of our Past Department Surgeon Willie Burks. I officiated in the Auxiliary Service of our auxiliary member Frances Wynn. I worked as a scanner in the New York November Election and participated in various food pantries.

On Veterans Day I attended several Veterans Day services in the Tri-State area. I also fed approximately 50 Veterans. Being able to visit the Valley Stream Post and the Wyandanch Post on Veterans Day was really a treat! I assisted District Commander Neal Jordan and Past State Commander Ben Thompson in resolving issues of Auxiliary 260. I participated in the "Trees for Troops" service at Dee's Nursery. I attended the Spring Conference in Binghamton, the District 3 Gold Chevron Ball and their District meeting in Clifton Park, NY. I visited Auxiliary 7336 St. Patrick's Day fish fry in Glendale NY and made an official visit to the reinstated Auxiliary 551 (Haspel-Staab Post), to introduce myself for lack of information when they were being organized again.

Going forward I attended Post 7279 Testimonial Dinner in Lindenhurst, NY honoring Jeff Molitor. Also participated in Operation Cookie with the Girls Scouts of Nassau County, sending cookies to our deployed troops. All while attending required Zoom Meetings.

After the confusion of last year, I am pleased to say meetings were a lot smoother this year! I was able to complete all my inspections on time. What a year!

Respectfully Submitted

Margie Ginn  
District I President



Madam Department President Rose.

I am submitting my District #2 President Year-end Report.

I'm in this organization to help Veterans. If an Auxiliary has a goal of helping the VFW and its Veterans, if they want to exist and remain an Auxiliary to their VFW Post, my job is to do whatever it takes to help them succeed. This way they can continue to help veterans. My motto is, "No soldier left behind, No Veteran ever Forgotten," including the families of our Veterans.

My greatest accomplishment this year has been working with the members and the VFW to Post 4947, holding them together. I am trying to keep them from disbanding for the following reasons:

1. They voted to stay as an Auxiliary.
2. They do a lot for our Veterans.
3. Punishing all members because a few members aren't doing their jobs is unfair, especially when the members don't understand what is happening.

Since two officers were removed from their office, and the Auxiliary was suspended for not purchasing their Bond on time, I have attended every meeting, mentoring the members of this Auxiliary. This Auxiliary was in total Chaos.

I spent hours on the phone trying to explain what was happening. I have talked to the Auxiliary members, the Auxiliary officers, the post-VFW officers, and representatives of the District VFW. I have spent hours mentoring the new officers and members. All this work to help keep an Auxiliary in District #2 from disbanding. I have utilized phone, newspaper, text, National, and Department websites. I have used the Department Programs Book, the Bylaws, Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundations, Zoom meetings and plenty of emails.

With the help of a few Department Officers, a new member secured her membership status in record time. This Auxiliary now has a full slate of officers in good standing.

There will be more help needed to keep this Auxiliary in good working order.

I am still working with them. Now, it is ultimately up to the members of this Auxiliary to step up and succeed,

I held a special meeting of the District Officers, Past District Presidents, and PDPs who were conducting the official visits to all District #2 Auxiliaries. We reviewed the inspection sheets, the message from the District President, the welcome, and talking points developed by National. This was a special school of instruction in addition to the school of Instruction given at our district meetings, The purpose of this instruction was to enable the officers doing the official visits, to get an early start making the official visits.

At the actual visits, I thanked the auxiliary for their service to our great organization. I helped them with the basics of their meetings. I went over the National and Department talking points. I answered questions. I explained all the Department programs and how to report .

I stressed the importance of the Department and National website, the newsletters, the Action Corps weekly, and having a media presence. I also went over the VFW Priorities.

I answered all questions I made all my visits on time.

District #2 completed all visits before the December 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. Mission accomplished. I have been working with my officers and chairman all year to reach 100% in all Programs.

In District #2 I divided the Auxiliaries into three sections. As President, I have one section. One section is for my Senior Vice President, and one is for my Junior Vice President. Their responsibility is to ensure these Auxiliaries are in good working order. I want to help these officers understand their duties for the future of our District.

I am working with my Auxiliaries' officers and Membership Chairman to achieve 100% membership this year. District #2 has been #1 in the Department of New Yorks membership report all year. In April's membership report we were overtaken by District #6. This upset me. Soon after I received this report, I took a action.

I sent an email to my Auxiliary Officers in District #2. I challenged them to recruit three new or rejoined members by our District #2 Convention. This would give District #2 100% membership. The response was overwhelming. The Auxiliaries in District #2 promised to reach this goal. The Auxiliaries in District #2 promised to process at least six new members before the May 11<sup>th</sup> convention. We reached our goal and surpassed it. When these new members are fully processed. District #2 will surpass 100% of membership.

Before submitting this report, I viewed the latest membership summary in Malta. District #2 has reached 100%+in membership.

We in District #2 strive to "Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" While we "Band together for Our Veterans. "

Respectfully submitted,  
Gene Shaw President  
VFW Auxiliary to District #2  
Department of New York.



New York VFW Auxiliary  
2023-2024 Year-end Report

This year has been an educational year as well as a mentoring year.

While doing Official Visits and District 3 meetings, it became clear that more time needed to be spent showing new officers their duties and how to perform them.

First being familiar with the Programs, the program guidebook, and vital dates within the National and State schedule. With fewer and fewer Auxiliary members attending the “required” district and state meetings, the knowledge needed to perform each officers’ duties has fallen through the cracks. Filling out reports and which program was the second most covered subject. With fewer members at each meeting, it has become the Presidents responsibility to file the reports. With the Official visits, I encouraged the attending members to use their Malta accounts. I informed the president to share the program book that they receive at the beginning of each year. Select something from the multiple selections within each program and have fun creating an event to fulfill the requirements to submit to the state program chair. Each person has their own passion, use it to have fun to support the program that best corresponds to those passions.

I had an exceptional Secretary and advisers. We held a well-attended Mentoring Session after the State OTI. We used some fun tricks we learned to pass on information and to keep our session interesting. The program guidebook, Bylaw Podium book and Malta Resources were highlighted with the importance of using them as well as contacting all the district officers for any questions. My card was passed to each attendee with encouragement to call, not only was I there to hold the meeting, I and my officers were there to learn and pass on new knowledge to make them better at their level.

With the help of my secretary, we worked on a TRICKS sheet to make report taking and reviewing easier for Secretaries, Treasurer and Trustee during audits. These small tricks were noticed while doing visits that auxiliary officers had added into their reports. Sharing these was reported to have helped several new officers. Also including a list of important dates for new officers to review so vital payment and report submitting was done within accurate time periods.

My secretary also kept me informed as I had never filed some of these items myself. Reading all communications to stay informed of changes in bylaws, upcoming events and sharing news about members, good or sad.

We used the Good of the Order section of our meeting to bring up a different item each meeting and encouraged an open discussion on that item or anything a member needed clarification on. Our chairs and advisors were wonderful at providing answers.

I worked with both my District and home VFW commander to learn more about the rules and schedules they must adhere to, to pass on to auxiliaries to support their programs. That is why we were created to SUPPORT THE VETERANS. I did encounter the age-old wall of misunderstanding a few times, but took the initiative to let them know I needed to learn and understand so I could teach my auxiliaries that we could all work better together for the greater



Of course, Membership was one of the most important programs. It was presented as a vital part of each meeting as an honor to be a member, and a challenge to keep our great organization strong. Sharing tricks and events to recruit and keep members via reports and media was a primary way to support this program.

Talking with people within my community and encouraging other members to talk with people they meet is the best way to recruit both for the VFW and the Auxiliaries. Be PROUD to be a member.

I had retired in May with full intentions to attend multiple events throughout my District. I unfortunately had to return to work and regret missing some of the fun events advertised by my sisters and brothers. Seeing their posts on media sites made me proud of the hard work they do.

I am going back through the chairs to gain the knowledge that I know I missed with the non-contact period of Covid that impacted the Jr. and Sr. year. Those being the two most important years to learn the duties to build on a TRULY SUCCESFULL YEAR AS PRESIDENT and am determined to not be working during that term.

I encourage each new officer, no matter how scared they may be to put forth their best effort a use the people around you and the tools provided to achieve the goals you want to achieve and the goals set by your state and National officers to keep this great organization strong to support our Veterans, Family and Community.

Respectfully submitted.

**REBECCA SWEET**

District 3 VFW Auxiliary President

**DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK**

**DISTRICT 4**

**PEGGY SCHWEITZER, PRESIDENT**

I was installed at the June Convention in June 2023. I collected all the President's packets who were not at Convention and upon returning home, I delivered them. I enjoyed this so much as I got to meet all Auxiliary Presidents on an informal basis and got to talk to them.

In July, I held my Organizational meeting; attended OTI in August where I was a presenter for my program, Auxiliary Outreach. I attended the New York State Fair at least 5 times over a 10 day period to promote all of the Auxiliary programs. I enjoyed talking to the public and our youth about our programs. I loved doing this.

I attended Ice Cream Social at Aux. 6001; POW/MIA ceremony at Boonville 5538; Fall Conference; and presided over all of our District meetings. I also attended Zoom meetings presented by Department; attended the State Commander and State President's dinner in Lowville 6912 – what a fun time we all had.

I attended the Military Ball in Carthage 7227 and inspected Auxiliary 6001; also attended meetings at 14 out of 16 Auxiliaries; attended two Children's Christmas Parties which was so much fun.

I have been in contact with all Auxiliaries either by email or phone; solved problems with the assistance of my Advisor, and made sure that I followed up with everyone.

I have enjoyed being District 4 President for a second year. Both years were great and I want to thank my Advisor, Bonnie Burgy, for all of her guidance and assistance. We travelled together to meetings, events, etc. Thank you Bonnie.

I also want to thank all the Auxiliary Presidents in District 4 for going above and beyond and getting the work done. All of you are GREAT!

It has been a pleasure serving as District 4 President under Department Rose Cooper and of course, I cannot forget "Brink".

THANK YOU.

Loyally,

Peggy Schweitzer

District 4 President

Department President Rose, Department Line Officers, Past Department Presidents, and members, I submit my year-end report..

As District President I was overwhelmed at first but with assistance from my officers, advisor, and Past District Presidents I was able to recover very fast. My secretary, Jackie Herbert was very supportive, sending out all emails and notices from Department to all of our Auxiliary Presidents.

I visited 14 of our auxiliaries talking about the National Talking Points and importance of keeping and signing up new members. I went to 3 of the auxiliaries having difficulties, trying to assist them with no good results. Another one, I was unable to contact any members and after going 3 times to the Post gave up. They ended up getting suspended. Another Auxiliary I visited was not able to get more than 3 officers-trying to get more involved also with no results. I left copies of the talking points by National at every district meeting and auxiliary I visited and explained them at the meetings.

I enjoyed Spring Conference, OTI, Department Convention, and Fall Conference learning as much as I was able. Staying as President another year, I plan attending all I am able to, learning more.

Thank you,  
David Bennett, District 5 President



## Veterans of Foreign wars District 6 Auxiliary

President Monica Ordway,

I am so proud to have been elected as District 6<sup>th</sup> President. Thank you, Tammy Cummings, for asking me to do this. I was and still am nervous to do this for all of you. After being elected, my first official meeting was the organizational meeting that was held in June at the VFW Post in Salamanca NY. All program chairmen spoke on the programs and the plans for the year.

August 5<sup>th</sup> went to Department OTI in Binghamton NY. What a great time, and we learned so much. No matter how many times you go you always learn more.

In September, I made my first official visit in Salamanca. They are very informative and hold a great meeting.

October was the Fall Conference in Albany. What a great turn out! I was so glad to work under President Rose Cooper.

In November made 2 official visits.

November 4<sup>th</sup> was a meat raffle at Silver Creek to benefit the State Commander Dan Kell and Department Rose.

The second District meeting was November 18<sup>th</sup> in Little Valley VFW.

I was unable to do any official visits in Dec, Jan, and Feb as I had problems with my car.

In March I attended the Spring Conference in Binghamton.

March 23<sup>rd</sup> was the third District 6 meeting held at Hamburg Township VFW.

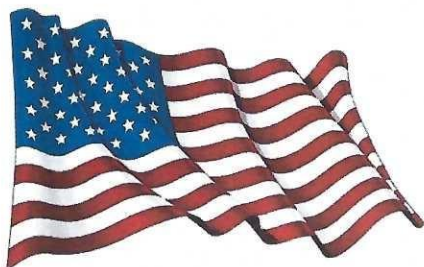
April 14<sup>th</sup> I had a bowling tournament for my special project, Down Syndrome, which raised \$521.00.

My lesson learned is you really need to get your official visits in early as you never know what will come up. If I could do it all over again, that would be my goal. I would also make sure to attend everything as this is so important to our organization.

Thank you

Monica Ordway

District 6 president



2023-2024 End-of-Year-Report - Programs  
Department of New York VFW Auxiliary  
District #7

Our National and Department Programs support and advance the goals of our organization. Throughout the year, the District Chairmen and I have promoted these programs to the best of our abilities. The majority of promotions for these programs have been done through email. At our District meetings and Official Visits, I have spoken about each of the programs, how they support Veterans and their families, and the importance of doing our best to support them. Our District had the honor of sponsoring the Department of New York 1st Place winner of the first ever 3-D Art Contest. We have also sponsored entries in “Get excited for the red, white, and blue”, as well as “Illustrating America”.

I believe that we strongly support the Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home for Children, the Hospital Program, the membership program, the Mentoring for Leadership Program, the Scholarship Program, and the Veterans and Family Support Program. District 7 holds an annual picnic at the Batavia Veterans Hospital and solicits contributions and donations for VA Hospital residents during holidays. For the Community Outreach Program, District 7 holds an annual Halloween party at the Batavia School for the Blind and Visually impaired. I believe that we need to strengthen our support and develop new ways to support the Legislative Program, and the Scholarship Program. One of the best ways, in my opinion, is to develop better relations with the school districts in our District, particularly to send information home to families in our communities.

I believe that my greatest accomplishment as District #7 President was through keeping the District active. Our membership remained stable despite losses from deceased members. However, at this time I am aware of two Auxiliaries in District 7 that are in danger of closing or turning in their Charter due to not having active members to install as officers. I enjoy the support of many key members across the District, but often do not receive information from Auxiliaries or requests for assistance.

I use the talking points to highlight the different ways that our members can offer support to Veterans, families of Veterans, active-duty Service members, and Veterans in hospitals, nursing homes and Veterans Hospitals. I also remind members of our history, our mission, and our goals.

Loyally submitted.  
Ronald Boyd  
District 7 President



## DISTRICT NO. 8 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Department President Rose Cooper, Past National President Jane Reape, Line Officers, PDP's and members, I herewith submit my Department Convention Officer's Report:

I am very proud of the milestones that District 8 was able to accomplish this program year. All Installation Reports and Bonds were completed prior to the due dates. The Official Visits to Auxiliaries and associated reports were completed by the December due date as well. At each District meeting, a school of instruction was held for our members. This year we implemented "Did You Know" zoom training sessions for our District 8 members. Lastly, the monthly District Newsletter added a new feature -- "Auxiliary Events and Activities" which enabled the members to know what is happening around the District such as Fish Fry's, Euchre Tournaments, Bus Trips, Turkey Party and Bake Sale, Dinners, Eclipse Parties, etc.

At the September District Meeting, the Auxiliary members supported our Youth Activities Program with donations of school supplies totaling \$600.00 to Keuka Lake School. At the December District meeting the Auxiliaries donated non-perishable food items totaling \$225.00 in support of our Veterans and Family Support Program to Millie's Pantry in Penn Yan. For the Hospital Program, the Auxiliaries donated Wal-Mart, Gas and Food Gift Cards, Body Wash, Socks, Sweatshirts/Sweatpants and cleaning supplies totaling \$1500 for the VA. The Youth Activities Chairman requested the Auxiliaries to collect hats, mittens, and gloves for children totalling \$316.25. The collected items were distributed to "One Stop" an organization located in Canandaigua and Victor.

At the March District meeting, members donated blankets, quilts, afghans, and lap robes totaling \$800 for the Rochester Veterans Outreach Center to benefit Richard's House and Priscilla's House. In support of the Hospital Program, the Auxiliaries donated \$5 gift cards from Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks, and Tim Horton's as well as gift cards from Wal-Mart, Tops, and Wegmans along with body wash and shaving cream totalling \$650.00 for the VA. Colorful baby blankets were requested for the Neonatal Unit at Strong Memorial Hospital along with Grab and Go snacks totalling \$1015.00 for the Youth Activities Program.

In support of the Department President's Special Project, District 8 held a Raffle Board Fundraiser with all proceeds and donations due at the March District Meeting. At the Spring Conference, a check in the amount of \$1300.00 from the proceeds of the Raffle was presented to Department President Rose for her Special Project -- Higher Ground.

Our District was very active with the Legislative Program. At the December and March District meetings, letters to Senators Schumer and Gillibrand were signed and mailed in support of the following Call to Action Alerts: H.R. 3933/ S. 2888, TAP Promotion Act, S. 928 / H.R. 4157, Not Just a Number Act (Prevent Veteran Suicides by Sharing VA Data), Claim Sharks Are Illegal, Despite What They Say, and HR1139 / S740 -- Guard VA Benefits Act as it pertains to Claim Sharks. Over 100 letters were mailed to the Senators.

The District sent a donation to the VFW National Home 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration and sent a donation to the Dept. of Texas VFW to support the veterans affected by the Texas Wildfires.

It is with great sadness that on February 2, 2024, District 8 lost Past District President, Patricia Mooney-Tirao and Auxiliary President to Canandaigua Memorial Aux. 7414. As District President, I have been working with the members of Auxiliary 7414 to ensure a smooth officer transition.

President Rose, it has been an honor and pleasure to serve as the District 8 President. I wish you a very successful Department and National Convention as we "**Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans**" while "**Banding Together for Our Veterans.**"

Loyally,

**Tina Roberts**

*Tina Roberts, District 8 President*



## DISTRICT # 9 PRESIDENT'S 2024 CONVENTION REPORT

Department President Rose, Past National President Jane, National Council Member # 4 Bonnie, Past Department Presidents, Line Officers, and Members, I herewith submit by Convention Report:

I was installed at the District # 9 Convention on May 7th, and at the Department Convention on June 10th, 2023. It was my desire to help "*Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans*" while "*Banding Together For Our Veterans.*" I attended all scheduled meetings at the Fall and Spring Conferences.

The first couple months of the year were rough as I met repeatedly with officers and members of the Auxiliary to the VFW Post #1466 in Beekmantown. Unfortunately, the Post disbanded. The members were provided transfer information with no immediate response. National Headquarters cancelled Auxiliary #1466's Charter in January, and their members were transferred to Members-At-Large. There are two (2) Auxiliaries within twenty-five (25) miles who continue to reach out to them.

With only three (3) scheduled District meetings, and an increase in emails from National, Department and Program Chairmen, communication has become increasingly important. At their request, as well as a monthly District newsletter, District Line Officers, Chairmen, Auxiliary Presidents, Secretaries and Treasures were emailed weekly updates of the week's "please forward" information. National and Department Special Orders were attached.

September 17th was all-day for District 9 with the School of Instruction and a regular meeting. Department Sr. Vice President Darlene Baker was our honored guest at the November meeting. Past District and Auxiliary Presidents helped meet the goal of completing all the "official visits" by December. I personally visited or accompanied the "visitor" to their Auxiliary meetings except for Ogdensburg. When I arrived at their Post, their meeting had been postponed. In October, I attended the Commanders and Presidents' Dinner at the VFW Post # 1143 in Massena. The March training and meeting was postponed/rescheduled and held April 7<sup>th</sup> at VFW Post 3120, Tupper Lake.

District 9 Auxiliaries were 100% reporting in Veterans and Family Support, National Home, and Scholarship in December. At the end of the reporting year, District Auxiliaries were, also, 100% in Membership Drives & Reporting, Americanism, Auxiliary Outreach, and Hospital Programs.

Edward & Moses Wells VFW Post # 125 and Auxiliary hosted the District 9 Convention in Plattsburgh on April 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. It was an honor to welcome Department President Rosalie Cooper, Department Secretary Christine Leavor and Past National Treasurer/Secretary Margaret Bergeron as guests. Department Rose installed the 2024-2025 elected officers.

Members continue to recruit new and former members. The membership standing went from 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – needing 58 in December to 9<sup>th</sup> Place -needing 74 in January. April 30th, we are in 7<sup>th</sup> Place – **needing only 12**. District 9 members are not only "mighty fine," they are "awesome." They overcame forty-seven (47) members transferred to Department At-Large and fifteen (15) members going to their heavenly home this year. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the Auxiliaries are now over 100% Current Membership.

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as the President of the Auxiliary to Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of New York, District 9 for the 2023-2024 year. President Rose, we wish you a successful Department Convention, entry into the "Circle of Excellence," and many New York Program Awards at the National Convention in Louisville.

Respectfully submitted,

*Judy*

Judy Lefebvre, President

*"Volunteers are Unpaid Because They are Priceless"*

**DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF NY AUXILIARY CONVENTION**  
**COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**  
**JUNE 5,2024 ALBANY, NY**

Madam President Rose, Madam National President Jane, Madam National District Council Member #4 Bonnie, Past Department Presidents, Department Officers, delegates, and members. I herewith submit my report.

On December 3, 2024, District 10 Auxiliary was Instituted and Installed. I was installed as President by Department President Rose Cooper. Since being installed, I have held 3 District meetings with all Auxiliaries represented.

Prior to the Institution of District 10. as Deputy Chief of Staff for District 10 and the only PDP in District 10, I fulfilled all the duties of the District President.

From July through December, I made Official visits to all Auxiliaries in District 10. Auxiliaries needing assistance were mentored and additional visits made. All Department communications were forwarded to the Auxiliaries along with reminders about membership and timelines for program participation.

I have attended all Conferences, Council of Administration and Budget meetings this year.

As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, District 10 membership is at 94.46% due to the disbanding of Auxiliary 3211.

Of the remaining 7 Auxiliaries, we are at 103.14% with only 3 unpaid annual members. Only 2 Auxiliaries have not reached 100%.

All but 2 Auxiliaries are at 100% in Program participation.

It took me almost a year to get District 10 established. After two years of being orphan Auxiliaries, all the Auxiliaries are now in good working order and properly educated on Auxiliary procedures.

The promotion of all events held by the Auxiliaries in the District has resulted in participation of Auxiliary members in other Auxiliary events. This has created a camaraderie among the members of District 10.

I want to thank all the members of District 10 for their assistance in getting this District started and their continued support as we go forward as a District.

President Rose, I wish you a successful Convention as we "Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" as we are "Banding together for our Veterans".

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Makosky PDP

District 10 President

To: Rose Cooper, Department of New York VFW Auxiliary

From: Anne Anderson, District 11 President

Following is my yearend report:

District 11 is located in Suffolk County (Long Island), and consists of seven auxiliaries. District 11 was formed and installed on September 14, 2023 by President Rose Cooper. Since the installation two meetings, and a convention were held. Each auxiliary president was given a packet of information containing:

- A listing of the auxiliaries in our District along with name, address, and telephone number of the president.
- The October 18, 2022 letter from Department regarding Section 810A of our by-laws.
- A Wish List from the Medical Center at Northport.
- Health Care Benefits Overview from the VA.
- Information on the National Home along with a Life Membership application.
- Community Service report form.

A school of basic procedures was held at our first meeting. Our second meeting focused on Trustees, their responsibilities, and how to do an audit. The members are excited to share information and we look forward to a mutually enlightened relationship.

Loyally,

Anne Anderson, President



My year as Patriotic Instructor/Americanism Chairman started as soon as we got back to Brooklyn. As the Patriotic Instructor I was asked to help with a Flag Day Ceremony at VFW Post 5806 for an elementary school class, we taught them the importance of the American Flag and how it should always be treated and respected. Each student received a certificate, a small goody bag and also a miniature American Flag. August I attended OTI in Binghamton. In September I attended the opening ceremony for the moving Vietnam Wall in Flushing Meadows Park. I attended 9/11 & POW/MIA services at my home post. Towards the end of September I attended A Gold Star Family Brunch in Levittown along with Department Jr Vice President.

In my year as Patriotic Instructor/ Americanism Chairman I participated in many Post functions, Memorial Services, parades and meetings. I even attended the institution of a new Auxiliary in District 1, VFW Aux 551.

I can honestly say my most memorable part of my year was in October when I attended the funeral of a recovered World War 2 US Army Private Wing O Hon. He was finally brought home to his family and they were able to give him a proper burial and have closure. The many Veteran Organizations that attended was amazing to see.

As a first time Officer and Chairman I can truly say it has been an honor to fill the shoes of the many that were before me. I wish the best of luck to all the future members that fill these shoes.

Loyally Yours,  
John Horsky  
Patriotic Instructor/Americanism Chairman  
2023-2024

**OFFICERS' AND PROGRAM CHAIRMEN'S REPORTS – COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION  
99<sup>TH</sup> DEPARTMENT CONVENTION - JUNE 8, 2024 – ALBANY, NY**

**VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Department President Rose, Past National President Jane, National District Council Member No. 4 Bonnie, Past Eastern Conference President Karen, Past Department Presidents, Department Line Officers, and members, I have been honored to serve you this year and herewith submit my Department Convention report:

**100% of our 176 Dept. of New York's Auxiliaries have participated in the great Department of New York's Veterans & Family Support Program and attained 100% in reporting as of November 30, 2023!**

During 2023-2024 the Veterans and Family Support this year, I presented information at the June Convention in 2023 on the program for the coming year, as I did at the OTI in August, the Fall Conference where we focused on Suicide Awareness and Prevention, "Trees for Troops" and "In Lieu of Cards" and then again at the Spring Conference where we focused on Homeless Veterans. In addition, I developed six Department Newsletter articles and sent out seven additional Veterans and Family Support promotions to District Presidents and FB and Department Website for distributions to date.

Again this year the program encompassed the Veterans of Foreign Wars' **National Veterans Service (NVS)**, the three-part **Military and Veterans Support (MVS)** -Unmet Needs, Sports Clips Help a Hero Scholarships, and Military Assistance Program (MAP); Suicide Awareness and Prevention, the Joint Project with Department Commander Kell-Awareness of and service to Homeless Veterans, Random Acts of Kindness and "In Lieu of Cards", and **new** this year, the joint project with Proctor-Hopson Post and Past Department Commander Ben Thompson, "Trees for Troops"/Holiday Cheer for holiday trees for our service members deployed overseas.

**NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICE (NVS) 100% of -Our auxiliaries donated \$1,680.50.** The Veterans Service Officers in the VFW Dept of NY in Buffalo and New York City reported to me that they serve an average of new 90-150 Veterans and survivors/month; in NYC benefits to 3,650 and Buffalo 3,082 Veterans and dependents/month, and, New York's Service officers recovered \$79,760,897 in benefits for Veterans and dependents in New York State for FY 2023.

**VETERANS MILITARY AND SERVICE (VMS)** The National VFW reported that our Department's auxiliaries donated in the amount of \$2,060.50.

- **UNMET NEEDS** The VFW reports that as of March 2024, in the Dept of New York, 3 Veterans and/or families received \$3,074.65 in grants for emergency assistance.
- **SPORTS CLIPS HELP A HERO SCHOLARSHIPS** were paid directly for tuition and fees for 3 Veterans to further their education and awarded to their schools in the amount of \$15,000.00.
- **MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM -**\$1,600.00 was awarded by National VFW to three Dept. of New York posts for Family Days/Pre-deployment/Post deployment activities.

**SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION-**This year I established a collaboration with the VFW to do a STOP 22 Walk at the Fall Conference and encouraged our auxiliaries to hold local STOP 22 "walk" in their communities. They collected donations for the VFW Department of New York in the amount of \$3306. Our auxiliaries submitted a total of 25 National Award #1 follow up applications.

**HOMESLESS VETERANS-** As part of President Rose and Commander Dan Kell's joint project, our auxiliaries and districts reported items and funds donated in the amount of \$6,264.

**ACTS OF KINDNESS-** Our auxiliaries have provided goods/services, monetary assistance in total amounts of \$200,316.54 to more than 18,319 Veterans and their families.

**"IN LIEU OF CARDS"-** Our Department donated \$2,311.00 through signatures on our giant card.

**"Trees for Troops"/Holiday Cheer-** Our auxiliaries donated \$7,280.00 to send a total of 900 trees, menorahs and decorations to our troops serving overseas during the holidays. I had the honor and privilege to participate in the Holiday Cheer Ceremony in December 2023 with President Rose.

In closing, I would like to thank President Rose for appointing me to the chairmanship of Veterans and Family Support for this year. Thank you to all the members of our great Dept of New York for your service as we "*Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans*" all while "*Banding Together for Our Veterans.*"

Loyally, ***Doris (Dee) Ippolito***, Veterans and Family Support Chairman 2023-2024



**DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK**  
**AUXILIARY OUTREACH REPORT**  
**PEGGY SCHWEITZER, CHAIRMAN**

President Rose Cooper asked me to be the Auxiliary Outreach Chairman for the year 2023-2024. I have had this program twice before and many Auxiliaries still do not understand it. We were all used to the old Community Service Program but little by little many of our Auxiliaries are beginning to understand the Outreach Program. This program is all about your volunteer TIME. We must participate with another organization (not the VFW) and donate our time to assist the organization that we partner up with.

The following are the stats for the year 2023-2024:

1. Number of Auxiliaries that utilized any of the Auxiliary Outreach materials/resources available in MALTA Member Resources – 63
2. Number of Auxiliaries as a group that volunteered/partnered with another organization not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary – 62
3. Number of organizations that Auxiliaries volunteered/partnered with during the year:
  - a. First Responders – 27
  - b. Churches – 53
  - c. Towns – 46
  - d. Disaster relief – 7
  - e. Cancer, Heart, ALS Association, etc. – 35
  - f. Other – 70
4. Number of combined member and/or Auxiliary hours volunteered with another organization not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary – **21,135 hours.**

I want to thank President Rose for appointing me to this program. It has been an honor to teach the Auxiliaries about this wonderful program.

I also want to thank all the Auxiliaries in the Department of New York for doing the best that they could. You have all done a wonderful job this year. Keep up the good work.

Loyally,

Peggy Schweitzer

Auxiliary Outreach Program Chairman



## Officers and Program Chairman's Convention Book

"Buddy" Poppy - National Home Chairman Report. - State Convention- June 2024 - Albany, NY

To the Officers and Members assembled at the 98th NY State Convention of the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York convened in Albany, New York from June 5th to the 8<sup>th</sup> 2024. I herewith submit my final report as "Buddy" Poppy and National Home Chairman.

It has been an honor and a privilege to have been appointed as the Department of New York "Buddy" Poppy and National Home Chairman. I thank all of you, the VFW Auxiliary members, for your ongoing support of this program. The reports I have received by the Auxiliaries have been outstanding. Unfortunately we did not attain 100% in participation. As of April 1<sup>st</sup> We were a little short. Out of 174 Auxiliaries there were Auxiliaries that participated in "Buddy" Poppy or National Home or both. So out of the Auxiliaries I had 131 Auxiliaries reported they did for the "Buddy" Poppy. 154 of the Auxiliaries reported they did for the National Home. That is 88% of the Auxiliaries participated. The 11 Districts collected for the NY Cottages of the National Home of a total of \$445.63 that was collected at the Spring Conference.

We collected from the "Buddy" Poppy Raffle and Dimond art picture from Fall and Spring Conference is 960.00 and donations of \$105.00 Total of these is \$1,065.00. That will go to the National Home. The Department also gave to the National Home \$100.00 for the Christmas cheer.

Our Auxiliaries did a Great job!

I would like to express my sincere appreciated for your generosity to all the programs within the "Buddy " Poppy and National Home.

I want to congratulations all the winners of the "Buddy" Poppy Displays from the Spring Conference. #1 Public Promotion 1<sup>st</sup> place 982 no other winners in that category. #2 Memorial or Inspirational 1<sup>st</sup> place 3146, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 7290, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 309.

#3 Artistic or Decorative 1<sup>st</sup> place 1323, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 125, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place 416.

District 7 eon the drawing of the district that has all their Auxiliaries donate to Health and Happiness before dealing and won \$20. Aux 6336 won the life membership drawing of \$50.00.

Congratulations to you all.

I am happy to report the total donations for 2023-2024.

As of April 1, 2024, there were out of VFW Auxiliaries that donated to the VFW National Home and Health and Happiness Program for a total of \$3,905.15. That was 155 Auxiliaries that helped donate.

Thank you for allowing me to chair this program and I wish you a very successful Convention as we proved that as we “ Light the flame of Hope for our Veterans”, while “ Banding together for our Veterans.”

Respectfully Submitted by:

Flora Becker

Department "Buddy " Poppy and National Home Chairman

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Department Cancer Fund Report  
99<sup>th</sup> State Convention - Council of Administration  
June 7-9, 2024 - Albany NY

To the Officers and Members assembled at our 99th State Convention of the Department of New York VFW Auxiliary convened in Albany, New York from June 7-9, 2024, I herewith submit my Chairman's report.

Department President Rose Cooper's chairmanship of the "Cancer Grant Fund" has been very rewarding during the Auxiliary Year of 2023-2024. I began the year off with the Guidebook article outlining the procedure that allows Auxiliaries to donate their \$2 per member donation and entry in the Program Raffles. And introduced the "Thinking INSIDE the Box" feeling for this Program. The responses and donations were wonderful. By the Fall Conference, President Rose saw the many, many "Shoe Boxes" brought to her SHOE STORE and at that Conference Auxiliaries bought tickets to win one or more of the Shoe Boxes. And then onto the luncheon for the drawings of the \$2 per member ticket entries to win one of the Cash prizes of \$75, \$50 or \$25. We all were excited when either their name or Auxiliary was one of those winners!

As the months went by, the donations to the Fund continued and were recorded for Auxiliary Participation. We were asked through the Auxiliary News to support, show kindness and compassion to our Cancer patients. And then, a repeat response was felt at our Spring Conference in Binghamton NY with another three prize winners. But this time, our District Presidents submitted 11 special Shoe Boxes designating the contents to be related to Rose's LIGHT theme and of course the CANCER program. That was a gorgeous display of the District Shoe Boxes spelling out CANCER and LIGHT on the Raffle table. And the winners were delighted when they opened these specially designated Shoe Boxes.

I am very proud of how our NY Department VFW Auxiliaries supported the Cancer Grant Fund and thank them for making it successful again. Congratulations to all my Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters for all their efforts in sending their donations. This process to our National Headquarters keep the Member Cancer Grants available to our members upon their filing a Cancer Grant application.

And of course, thanx President Rose for your confidence in my ability to conduct the Cancer Grant Donation Fund that supports of our Cancer members in their Fight to defeat Cancer. Brothers and Sisters, as I close this report...thanx for your participation and donations. Please take care and keep your concerns for our Cancer patients in your hearts.

Loyally,

*Phyll R.*

Phyllis Roseboom, Cancer Grant Fund Chairman



Agnes Stamp  
Hospital Chairman  
2622 Hamilton St. Weedsport, NY 13166

### Year End Report

Department President Rose, Past National President Jane Reape, Department Line Officers, Past Department Presidents and Members, I herewith submit my Department Convention Officers Report.

I was appointed as Hospital Chairman by Department President Rose Cooper for the 2023 – 2024 reporting year. This appointment as a chairman was my first and it was an enjoyable learning experience. I was continuously amazed at all the wonderful things our members did to improve the lives of our veterans who did so much for us.

They knitted lap robes to keep them warm, sent birthday and holiday cards to cheer them up, provided gift cards, Christmas stockings, much needed personal care items as well as visiting to cheer them up and brighten their day.

176 Auxiliaries spent 14,776 hours with 4,842 veterans, traveling 18,575 miles to do so. They spent over \$8,000.00 of their own money in addition to \$78,233.23 in Auxiliary funds.

Of the 176 Auxiliaries, 58 participated in or promoted Honors Escort, 52 participated in Valentines for Veterans, 44 promoted Women's Veteran Healthcare, 41 promoted National Veterans Health Care. These numbers are a testament to your dedication, caring, and giving of yourselves.

I want to Thank all the members of the Auxiliaries, and you should all be proud of the hard work you have done throughout this year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Department President Rose Cooper for the appointment of Hospital Program Chairman.



**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary Department of New York  
LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REPORT  
State Convention June 2024 – Albany NY**

**To the Officers and Members assembled at the 103<sup>rd</sup> Department of New York State Convention in Albany, New York of the VFW Auxiliary. I herewith submit my final report as Legislative Chairperson.**

**It has been an honor and indeed a privilege to have been appointed as the Department of New York Legislative Chairperson. I thank all of the Auxiliary Presidents and Chairpersons for the support given me by all the informative reports submitted on the Priority Goals**

**Some highlights at the Washington D.C. Legislative Conference Hearing were:**

- **Richard Star Act**
- **Elizaeth Dole Home Care Act H.R.552**
- **TAPS Program**
- **Needed changes in the VA fiduciary process**

**Your involvement with your congressmen, senators, legislators is just amazing  
Your sharing of information IE Action Corp and the various Bills for our veterans and their families is truly one of keeping “The Flame of Hope Light Glowing”.**

**I have as of April 12<sup>th</sup> received reports from 112 Auxiliaries in 11 Districts; with 3 Districts 6, 8 and 2 reporting in at 100% of the 62 Auxiliaries in their respective Districts.**

**Again, let me thank the Chairs of all the Auxiliaries for your work and dedication to the mission of the VFW.**

Your truly  
Submitted By:

Georgian (Ann) Davis  
Department Legislative Chairperson

“Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans” as we “Band Together for our Veterans”

## Membership Year End Report

What an honor it has been to serve as the Department of New York Membership Chairman this year for President Rose Cooper. My journey began on July 1, 2023, when the official membership program kicked off! I set the goal of making sure that President Rose Cooper shined on the red carpet at the Circle of Excellence at the National Convention in Louisville.

At the Fall Conference, held in Albany I put together packets for all the District Presidents with information to help obtain our goals in Membership. The auxiliaries that were eligible for all membership awards at this point in the year were handed out at this time.

I attended the Eastern States Conference in Atlantic City where we exchanged ideas to help our department reach that magical 100% on membership.

I sent emails reminding the District Presidents to assure all officers within their Districts had their dues paid by December 31, 2023. At this time, I was encouraging all to help make President Rose ring in the New Year by getting their dues paid.

The New Year came and with that, my husband underwent another brain surgery to remove another cancerous tumor. During this time, I must be honest and say I truly relied on my District Presidents for getting the job done. I could not have done it without them, Department Secretary Chris Leavor and Department Treasurer Kim White.

With our Spring Conference approaching, we did not have any District reach 100% in membership. I put out a Special Award for any District that obtained 100% by the Conference would be eligible for this award. Unfortunately, there were none that reached it, so I gave it to the district with the biggest increase during that time.

As this year ends, I encourage all auxiliaries to keep in mind the increase in dues for the National and the Department. These changes will take effect on July 1, 2024.

I would like to thank the auxiliaries for all their hard work obtaining the goals that were set at the beginning of the year. We have lost auxiliaries this year but have been able to still come close to obtaining 100% as of this report. I am looking forward to our Department Convention in Albany to hand out the remaining awards for this year. President Rose, I wish for you the absolute best at National Convention in Louisville.

Loyally,

Lisa Raplee, PDP

Membership Chairman 2023-2024



## MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Department President Rose, National President Jane, District Council Member No. 4 Bonnie, Past Department Presidents, Department Line Officers, and members, I herewith submit my Department Convention Chairman's Report:

President Rose, I have genuinely enjoyed serving as your "Mentoring for Leadership" Chairman. You gave me the opportunity to "share, show and support" Auxiliary members about the leadership resources on MALTA, in "Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation" and in our By-laws and Ritual. I was privileged to watch them "*Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans*" while they were "*Banding Together For Our Veterans.*"

The Mentoring for Leadership Program centered on "mentoring" members to become the future officers and chairmen of our organization on every level. New York mentors and mentees "stepped outside the box" by holding and attending four (4) Zoom Meetings, as well as presentations at Officers Training, Fall and Spring Conferences. The District Presidents and Chairmen followed with presentations during their School of Instructions and regular meetings.

Email made it easy to correspond with my National Ambassador. Following my letter of introduction in June, I emailed her monthly with copies of my presentations, Auxiliary news articles, invitation to Zoom meetings, and updates on District and Auxiliary activities.

Marilyn Monroe was quoted as saying, "There are always two sides to every story" --- one hundred nineteen (119) Auxiliaries reported participation with members serving as both mentors and mentees; but fifty-seven (57) Auxiliaries did not report anything. I know that ALL our Auxiliaries have members who "show and share" with others the essential elements of our programs and procedures.

Below are the totals from the ninety-seven (97) Auxiliary year-end reports received:

- # Auxiliaries utilizing MALTA Member Resources – 88
- # Auxiliaries educating members on Program Awards– 76
- # Auxiliaries that had members setup as mentors – 87
- # Members who served as role models – 348
- # Mentors who submitted a report on their unique way of mentoring – 48
- # Auxiliaries holding special recognition of their mentors – 40
- # Auxiliaries hosting activities/events to educate on mentoring or leadership – 48
- # Auxiliaries who submitted event award form – 17

Five (5) Auxiliaries submitted entries for the Auxiliary Award No. 1 and five (5) members were nominated for Auxiliary Award for Members No. 1. All the award submissions were sent to the National Ambassador and National Headquarters. Citations will be mailed directly to the Auxiliaries and members. Winners will be announced at the National Convention in Louisville.

Thank you for your faith in me and your continued support as I weaved between "mentor and mentee." My best wishes to you and your Chairmen at the National Convention in Louisville.

Respectfully submitted,

*Judy*

Judy Lefebvre, Chairman

Department President Rose Cooper, Past National President Jane Reape, District Council Member Number 4 Bonnie Burgy, Officers, Past Department Presidents, and members, I herewith submit my Department Convention report

I presented my Scholarship program at the Department. of N.Y. Convention on June 7-11, 2023. I made a poster with all of the parts of this program on it.

July 22- July 27 ,2023 I attended the National convention in Phoenix, Az.

Aug. 4-5, 2023 went to Binghamton to attend OTI and gave out information.

OCT.5-7, 2023 I attended Fall conference in Albany, N.Y. I setup a table with all of my program information on it.

Nov. 11, 2023, I attended Veteran Days ceremonies at my VFW post #982 in Remsen, N.Y. I also handed out our VOD and Patriotic Pen awards with our Commander and Quartermaster.

Nov.17, 2023, did our District # 4 judging in Lowville.

March 15-17, 2024. I attended the Spring Conference in Binghamton. Setup my table with art information. And had lunch with our 1<sup>st</sup> place VOD and Pen winners.

April 12-14,2024 I met National President Carla Martinez at the Buffalo airport and spent Sat. with our group in Jamestown to visit the Lucy Museum.

It has been wonderful working with all of the members of the Department New York on this program.

Rose I thank you for having faith in me with this program. To the new officers and chairman, the best of luck for a successful year.

Loyally Submitted,

Joan Barnhart  
Scholarship Chairman



## Special Project Higher Ground

Marcia Williams Chairman

VFW Auxiliary Department of New York 99<sup>th</sup> Convention assembled in Albany New York June 5 thru June 9, 2024; I hear with give my final report.

When President Rose Cooper called and asked me if I would be her Special Project Chairman I was hesitant. She said I have chosen Higher Ground and I was hesitant because I had never heard of them. She said that's OK. Past Department Commander Marlene Roll is on the Board of Directors at their Buffalo office and she will give you some insight.

Rose said I would like to sell shirts and sweatshirts and let's try hats. I said "ok," then the design came to me thru Rose and the artist. I liked it and said "oh, we should do embroidery." She said "It's your program. You can do what you want,"

So, we began to call around for quotes and we got them, and the apparel went into production. We sold them at Department Convention and OTI. Then again at Fall Conference. Never did I expect to have sold out when we placed orders 3 different times. I am proud to say we have 4 small sweatshirts left out of all the orders we took. That being said, we did well.

I wish to thank all the auxiliaries who donated on the donation report form and the auxiliaries that went the extra mile and did special projects to raise funds. From the bake sales to golf tournaments to just simply passing the hat. When it all came down to the end, we raised almost \$13,000 for Higher Ground.

I am so proud as I learned a lot about this wonderful organization. I am sure they will be shocked when they see what we did. Please take a moment and thank yourselves for all you did to make this successful. I would also like to thank those who made donations to the Homeless Veterans part of this program with over \$4000 in donations. A total of \$17,000 was donated to both.

I want to wish President Rose a successful convention. I also want to wish her luck for the Circle of Excellence in July at the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

Marcia Williams , Chairman



UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK**

INSTITUTED APRIL 1925

Madam Department President Rose, Past Department Presidents, Department Line Officers, Sisters and Brothers,

I herewith submit my Year-end Ways and Means report for 2023-2024.

I would like to thank President Rose Cooper for allowing me to serve as Ways and Means Program Chairman.

At the Fall Conference, we had a scratch-off raffle, a bonus \$100.00 scratch-off basket—and 9-month raffle ticket sales. The total from all the raffles at the Fall Conference equaled \$803.00. We had the same raffles at the Spring Conference. We totaled \$726.00 at the spring conference. The two lucky winners of the \$100.00 bonus baskets (fall conference and Spring Conference) were Auxiliary 5913 and Auxiliary unknown.

Our 9-month raffle started in October. Since then, at the beginning of every month, we picked a lucky winner from the tickets purchased up to that month. We totaled \$6,970.00 for the 9-month raffle. The nine winners this year were: October winner, Auxiliary 6778 D-8, November's winner, District #9, December's winner, Auxiliary 420, D-3 January's winner, Auxiliary 2770, D-10, February's winner Auxiliary 1896 District #1, Marches winner was District #8 April's winner was District #2 and Mays winner was Auxiliary 5007 D- 6 and June TBD

The VFW National Guarantee Program has deposited \$18,558.73 this year.

The total income so far is \$26,997.73. The expenses so far are \$120.00 for each payout of the 9-month raffle. To date, the total payout amount is \$1180.00. This leaves a net income so far for 2023-2024 of \$25,817.73. With the information I have right now, the final will be in June.

My greatest accomplishment as chairman included successfully working with the District Presidents and many auxiliary members. We worked together to reach our goals and promote these programs. Other accomplishments this year for the program include having the envelopes donated. I also had \$200.00 donated to help with the bonus Scratch-off raffles.

I met the projected goals set for this Program.

We had 100% Participation in the Ways and Means program from 6 out of the districts and one district with just 2 Auxiliary not Participating. The six districts are Districts #2, #6, #7, #8, #10, and #11. The district with just two Auxiliary to participate in is District #9.

I would like to wish Department President Rose Cooper good luck at the National Convention. I know New York will win many awards. Good luck to President Rose in achieving the Circle of Excellence.

Respectfully submitted:

Gene Shaw, Ways and Means Program Chairman, VFW Auxiliary to the Department of New York.

Where we "Banded together for our Veterans", While we "Light the Flame of hope for our Veterans,"

Department President Rose Cooper, Past National President Jane Reape, National District Council Member No. 4 Bonnie Burgy, Past Department Presidents, Department Line Officers, and members, I herewith submit my Department Convention report:

As the Department of New York Youth Activities Chairman I have learned so much more about what our Auxiliaries are doing with and for our youth. With one quick look at the program report you can tell that the Auxiliaries did an amazing job sending in their reports. The majority of the participating Auxiliaries sent several reports, then there were those who sent reports every month without fail.

Hoping to get a running start on the year, I utilized my designated time during OTI to promote various activities I thought would have a powerful impact on our youth. I encouraged recycling cards to make new ones that could be sent overseas to our deployed troops or to hospitalized Veterans, recycling plastic bags to make mats for the homeless, reading to children in classrooms and schools, and volunteering to assist home-bound Veterans and active-duty military personnel's families with household chores and yard work. The Auxiliary Newsletter and Website have also proven to be tremendous assets to our programs. With the articles that were submitted throughout the year our members received ideas about a variety of ways they could get youth involved in activities that would benefit and honor our Veterans, their families, and their communities.

I received many reports, some with pictures, of members pushing carts filled with toys and other items through stores, Santa handing out gifts, get-togethers to wrap gifts, placing flags at cemeteries, cleaning yards, hosting trunk-or-treats and Easter egg hunts, etc. Additionally, our members decorated boxes to collect food and/or school supplies for needy children in their school districts, they handed out R.A.P. cards, donated books to the Patriotism Through Literacy Program and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Literacy Drives, raised funds for Special Olympics, utilized social media to reach out to youth, volunteered countless hours coaching youth sports and working with youth, raised money to support youth programs and activities in their communities, made cards to send to our Veterans, donated money for children in need, held parties for the holidays, presented awards, and so much more! All of our members should be very proud of the members who so generously gave of themselves to involve youth in our programs and bring joy to others. I know I am!

It was clear to me that our members also did a great job promoting the National Youth Activities Program contests as we had several entries in the *Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue!* National Anthem singing contest and the *Illustrating America* art contest as I received many. Our first-place winners have all been forwarded to National for the last phase of judging and thank-you cards were sent to all of the entrants in the contests.

It was truly an honor and a privilege to serve as the Department of New York VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Chairman this year, thank you Madam Department President Rose for this amazing opportunity. My best wishes Madam President Rose for a successful Department Convention and may you return from National Convention the bearer of many awards.

Loyally submitted,

Ruth Huber, Department of NY VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Chairman 2023-2024

***By "Banding Together For Our Veterans" we did "Light The Flame of Hope for Our Veterans"***