

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY TO DISTRICT 6 DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER ~ PAGE 1

2024-2025 OFFICERS

President: Dee Ippolito (416)
24 Blue Jay Circle
Lancaster, NY 14086
(716) 440-3411
Dee.ippolito.017@gmail.com

Sr. Vice: Aurelia Taylor (8647)
17 Old Portage Road Apt. B
Westfield, NY 14787
(716) 269-4041
auteliataylor@yahoo.com

Jr. Vice: Monica Kenney (2522)
238 West Main Street
Gowanda, NY 14070
(716) 720-1313
Monicakenney54@gmail.com

Secretary: Deborah L. Cenni (8647)
36 Parkside Street
Mayville, NY 14757
(716) 753-3757
Bigbear2102@fairpoint.net

Treasurer: Chris Leavor (8734)
2027 Cemetery Hill Road
Franklinville, NY 14737
(716) 676-2400
CAL2027@hotmail.com

Chaplain: Steven Kemna (5861)
600 Aurora Street
Lancaster, NY 14086
(716) 684-9369
skemna@roadrunner.com

Conductor: Beth Ecker (2522)
2501 Busti Stillwater Road
Jamestown, NY 14701
(716) 450-5817
Cas_per_68@hotmail.com

Guard: Pamela Spink (1619)
6 North 4th Street
Allegany, NY 14706
(716) 307-1773
Pamelaspink@aol.com

Department of NY Treasurer
After 5 PM daily or weekends
Kim White
1799 Fred Road
Schenectady, NY 12303
(518) 275-7283
kwhitewvlt@aol.com

Dear Members of the Department of New York's District 6 VFW Auxiliary,

Happy April! March came in like a lion and also went out like a lion! It's so wonderful to see the little leaves coming out of the snow-free ground heralding a new year of reporting and elections for our auxiliaries.

March was busier than the snow-filled months of January and February. Sadly, I attended wakes for family of several members. I participated in Buffalo Veterans Treatment court sessions, visited the VA Hospital as VAVS representative, visited Frontiersman Auxiliary #7547 and Elma-Marilla-Wales-Rademacher Auxiliary #5861, participated as District 6 President and Department of New York's Veterans and Family Support Chairman at the Department's Spring Conference in Binghamton on March 21-22 and participated in the Final Laying of the Wreath for Vietnam Veterans at the WNY National Cemetery on March 29th.

Auxiliary Officer and Delegate elections are to be held in April. Remember to file election and delegate reports immediately after elections and the installation report after the installation of Officers. Follow the instructions on each form!

Thank you for sending reports, as often as you could, sending End-of-Year reports to the respective Department Chairmen and your National Awards to the respective National Ambassadors by March 31, 2025.

We will be starting our 2025-26 reporting year by the time you read this. Report to the new Chairmen about your April Easter celebrations. The month of May is Mental Health Month. Loyalty Day is May 1st, Armed Forces Day the 17th and Memorial Day celebrated on May 26th. June 14th is Flag Day. There are plenty of opportunities to sponsor events for veterans and families. Host "Buddy"® Poppy drives and picnics. You know my saying: "Report, report, report!"

Prepare your reports and send them after the Department Convention to the next year's Program Chairmen. Around July 15th, send in your Donation Report Form, submit your 990N (and wait the 7 minutes to print the acceptance), go on MALTA and donate to the National Cancer Fund and VFW National Home Health and Happiness Fund (requested @ \$.25/member based on June 30, 2025 membership). Next year's goal is to have all reports and donations submitted by September 1st!

Look forward to seeing you in Mayville at the District 6 Convention April 25-26! Please bring a snack for the Hospitality Room at the Chautauqua Suites Hotel and a basket, on behalf of your Auxiliary, to Post 8647 in Mayville for the raffle.

Loyally,
Dee Ippolito, President

Special congratulations to our District 6 Auxiliary Secretary for her Department Award as our Amazing District Secretary!

Special thanks for all the support for our Cancer Grant Fund raffle item at Department Spring Conference, "A Century of Service through a Century of Funds" (\$100) to our Veterans and their Families". (Photo above.)



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APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER ~ PAGE 2



• **District 6 Convention** will be held at Post 8647 in Mayville on April 25 and 26, 2025. Packets were emailed and printed copies distributed at the March 8 meeting. **Pay attention to the following deadlines!**

April 15, 2025: Advance Convention Registration
April 15, 2025: Lunch and/or Dinner Reservation
April 15, 2025: Booster / Ad Book

• Each auxiliary is asked to bring a basket or auction item to be raffled. Donation is \$10 per sheet.

Refer to Bylaws Sec. 810A.J Auxiliaries are to “Assure that the President or their representative attend all properly called District Conventions or meetings.”

• **Deceased Member Names for District 6 Memorial Book** will include those entered in Malta May 1, 2024 to April 1, 2025. Deceased members may be entered into Malta by the auxiliary president, secretary or treasurer **or** submit to Dept Sec’y Chris Leavor who will enter them in Malta for you.

Department President Darlene Baker’s wrote in her Feb/Mar *Auxiliary News* letter, “I would ask that you review your roster to confirm that it is accurate and if you have any deceased members, please record the death by February 28, 2025. We want our records to be as complete and accurate as possible.”

A printed list of deceased members, 80 + years old, was distributed at the March 8th District 6 meeting. There are still a few of those names that have not entered in Malta.

Important note! Entering a deceased member does NOT affect your auxiliary Paid member percentage. Entering a deceased member in Malta is the right thing to do and updates the membership roster.

• **District 6 Member of the Year** Nomination forms were included in packets distributed at the organizational meeting in June. Return your form by April 15th to this year’s chairman, Chris Leavor.

• **VFW National Convention** information is available on National’s website (vfwauxiliary.org). Hotel rooms fill up quickly. Anyone planning to attend should make hotel reservations ASAP.

• **Membership News!** District 6 was at 95.71% as of March 24th We only need 123 more to attain 100%. Please DO NOT hold membership dues! Contact District 6 Treasurer Chris Leavor with questions.

• **Daeman Vets Expo** Saturday, May 10th. 10:30 - 2. Yurtchuk Student Center, 4380 Main St., Amherst, NY



• **Zoom Training** – April 8 at 8:30 PM. Topic TBA. You don’t need a computer to Zoom – you can dial in with a cell or land-line phone!

• **45+ Year Member Recognition and Dept Standing Rules Update**

If your Auxiliary has members who have belonged in good standing for 45+ years, and you wish the Department to recognize them, complete the form found on the Dept. website (vfwauxny.org) ▀Resources ▀Secretary Notes ▀45+. USPS or email form to PDP Karen Dotson by May 1st. *There is no report in Malta to obtain this information.*

• **Update to Department Standing Rules for 45+ year member recognition approved at Department of New York Spring Conference is as follows:**

- For all 45+ members **attending** the Convention a certificate will be presented.
- A list of ALL 45+ year members whose names are submitted will be provided in the Convention folder.
- A blank hard copy of the certificate along with the Auxiliary’s completed 45+ form will be provided in the Auxiliary packet for each Auxiliary to print the certificates for their own members.
- The blank certificate will also be available on the Department website.

13th Annual Evans Aux. Baby Shower, May 18th will be held at Post 5798, 8989 Erie Rd., Angola, 14006 from 1 to 4 PM.

If you cannot attend but wish to donate NEW items, cash and/or gift cards, deliver them to Connie Holt at the District 6 Convention. All items to benefit the Womens’ Health Unit at Buffalo VA Hospital.

Auxiliary Memorial Service and Celebration of life for PDP Donna Emo will be Saturday, July 5 at Post 8647 in Mayville. Details will be announced as soon as available. Contact Debbie Cenni (716) 753-3757.

Election, Delegate (on all levels) and Installation forms were recently emailed to auxiliaries by Dept. Sec’y Chris Leavor. Follow the directions on each form and submit to the person indicated on the form. Contact Chris Leavor or Debbie Cenni if you have questions. Fillable forms are available on the Dept. website (vfwauxny.org).

Department OTI – July 26 – 26, Binghamton, NY information was recently emailed and is available on the Dept website (vfwauxny.org). Deadline to make reservations is July 1st.