

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY DISTRICT 8



To: District 8 Line Officers, VFW Auxiliary Presidents, Program Chairmen,
District 8 Past Department Presidents
From: Tina Roberts, District 8 President
Date: February 28, 2025
Subject: March District 8 Newsletter

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all Auxiliary Members! Spring is almost here...Remember Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 AM on Sunday, March 9th so please spring forward and reset your clocks. I look forward to seeing everyone at the March 9th District Meeting.

Key Dates for your Calendar

Spring District Meeting - The Spring District 8 meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, March 9, 2025 at Waterloo Memorial Post 6433**, 29 West Elisha Street, Waterloo. The Audit will be held at 1 PM; and the meeting will begin at **2:00 PM**. Each Auxiliary is encouraged to have a least one representative to attend the District meeting.

President's Special Project - Each Auxiliary is asked to bring an **Easter Basket** for a raffle. The proceeds from the raffle will go towards the President's Special Project – Baby Shower.

A reminder to share with all Auxiliaries from the Department:

1. **4th Quarter Audit** – The October, November, December Quarterly Audit is due to the Department Treasurer by February 28, 2025 or sooner. Audits may be sent through the USPS mail, scanned via email or faxed to the Dept. Treasurer. Please do not **TEXT** the Audit.
2. **March 21 – 22** – VFW Auxiliary Spring Conference – Holiday Inn Downtown Binghamton – Information should have been received by the Department Secretary, Chris Leavor. If you have not received the information, please contact Chris Leavor or Conference Chairman, Karen Dotson. Advance Registration and Meal Reservations due by **March 10th**.
3. **Items for Spring Conference** – President Tina will be more than happy to bring to the Spring Conference the items requested. Baby Diapers/wipes, Scratch Off Lottery Tickets, Buddy Poppy Displays
4. **April 1** – All Department Program Year End Reports are due to the Department Chairmen

District Corner

- **Gift Cards Request** – At the District 8 Auxiliary meeting we will be collecting Gift Cards from **Tops, Aldi's, or Wal-Mart** in support of the **Ovid Fire Victims**. Your support is greatly appreciated.

District Programs

Americanism Program – March Patriotic Holidays – Reminders from District Chairman, Ardell Garland

- March 3 – Navy Reserve Birthday
- March 13 - K-9 Veterans Day – the official birthday of the US K-9 Corps
- March 25 – Medal of Honor Day – to honor those who have received the Medal of Honor
- March 29 - Vietnam Veterans Day – National Holiday to honor Vietnam War veterans

Remember to fly your flags proudly.

Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home – Department Chairman Flora Becker

- A “Cash Bash” ticket was in each President's package in June. If you have not already sent in your “Cash Bash” ticket, you still have time. Ticket is \$20.00 payable to VFW Aux., Dept of NY, earmark Cash Bash. Drawing will be done at the Spring Conference. Thank you for your support of the VFW National Home.

- Reminder “Buddy” Poppy Display Contest will be judged at the Department Spring Conference. The three categories are: Public Promotion, Memorial or Inspirational, Artistic or Decorative. Please see Department Guidebook for further details.

Hospital Program

Hospital Chairman, Helen Weeks reported for the **March 9th District meeting** in support of our homeless veterans program at the Canandaigua VA, Auxiliaries are asked to bring the following household items:

- Alarm clocks, laundry baskets, pillows, bedding, blankets, brooms, mops, kitchen items, pots & pans, dishes & utensils, paper towels, cleaning items, paper products (plates & napkins), bath towels, shower curtains, shower curtain hooks, laundry detergent, fabric softener, toilet paper. Thank you for your support.

Membership – Benefits to Members - Membership Chairman, Phyllis Walker

Any member who has not paid their dues by **December 31, 2024** is no longer a member in good standing and is not eligible for a cancer grant. Why should members renew their membership? Why should all eligible prospective members join the premier Veterans Auxiliary?

There are many benefits to joining or maintaining their membership. Many are not aware of these benefits because we as Auxiliary members do not share.

Financial Benefits

- Cancer Grants (\$550.00) 2 in a lifetime
- Access to Veterans Travel Service
- Discounted policies for life, health, accident, long-term care and dental insurance.
- Access to discounts on products and services – including local offers
- Credit cards and financial services through USAA

Personal Growth

- Opportunities to Support Veterans, Service Members & their families
- Self-satisfaction in knowing you’ve made a difference
- Develop new skills
- Gain self-confidence
- Cultivate friendships
- Acquire Leadership skills
- Compassionate support system
- Have fun
- Enjoy many travel experiences

These are just a few of the benefits of VFW Auxiliary membership. These benefits may be fruitful when recruiting new members.

Mentoring – There will be two Zoom Training Sessions during the month of March. The zoom invitations will be emailed by the Dept. Secretary.

- a. March 11– 7:30 PM – Zoom Training Session on Review of Installation Reports / Delegate Forms with Chris Leavor – (This is the second session in case you were not able to attend session on 2/18)
- b. March 27 – 7:30 PM – Zoom Training Session - TBD

A Mentoring Moment – Sec. 211 – Standing Rules – General Reminders

Sec. 211 - Standing Rules (Auxiliaries, Districts and Departments)

A. Auxiliaries, Districts and Departments may establish Standing Rules to provide for specified operations, activities, events, expenses and disbursements between meetings provided such rules do not conflict with the National or Department Bylaws.

B. Custom has the status of a Standing Rule. Standing Rules may be amended, modified, or rescinded at any meeting.

1. If prior notice is given, the vote is by majority vote of those members present.
2. If previous notice is not given, the vote is by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present. **Standing Rules become effective immediately.**

C. A copy of the current Standing Rules must be included in the Secretary Book, and any time they are changed, rescinded or amended.

***** Note...**It is suggested that the Auxiliary President, Secretary, and Treasurer have a copy of the most current Auxiliary Standing Rules. The Trustees should have a copy of the current Auxiliary Standing Rules when they are doing the Auxiliary Quarterly Audit.

Examples of a Good Standing Rule:

The Auxiliary Treasurer may purchase the **Auxiliary Bond** by July 31st. The payment may be processed through MALTA between July 15th and July 31st of the current year. (If the Treasurer does not have computer access, an Auxiliary check may be submitted to National Headquarters. An Auxiliary check requires the signatures of the Treasurer and President.)

The Auxiliary Treasurer may submit .25 cents per member to the **VFW National Home Health & Happiness** fund. Total donation will be based on the Auxiliary's membership as of June 30th. The payment may be processed through MALTA for the current year. (If the Treasurer does not have computer access, an Auxiliary check may be submitted to National Headquarters. An Auxiliary check requires the signatures of the Treasurer and President.)

A memorial donation of \$25 (or amount decided upon) shall be sent to the VFW National Home when a member passes away. If another specific charity has been requested by the family, the memorial donation will be sent to that charity.

Scholarship Program

Scholarship Chairman, Charlene Carnright wants to remind Auxiliaries they should be contacting Schools, Youth Groups, and connecting on Social Media communicating the VFW Auxiliary Art Contests. The Illustrating America Art Contest, which is part of the Youth Activities Program, is open for students in grades K-8. The 3-D Patriotic Art Contest and the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest is open to students in grades 9-12. Applications can be printed from MALTA under Member Resources then scroll down to Scholarship. Due date for art submissions is **March 31st**.

Youth Activities

Youth Activities Chairman, Brittany Tierson is requesting members to bring new baby blankets to the March District meeting. The request is to bring color to a sterile environment at the Strong Memorial Neonatal Unit. Baby blankets may be homemade but not used. Also, healthy snacks and coffee pods are needed for the nursing staff in the unit.

I appreciate all that each of you do for our veterans and their families. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 315-694-0326 or email tinaroberts@frontiernet.net. I encourage you to share this information with your Auxiliary members. Happy St. Patrick's Day to everyone.

Loyally,

Tina Roberts

Tina Roberts, District 8 President

Auxiliary Events Happening in District 8

Auxiliary 4658 – Francis Hibbard Post

Location: 344 Dorsey Road, Rochester

- **Friday, March 7th** – Sponsored by the Sons of the American Legion, Happy Hour – 4 – 7 PM
- **Friday, April 4th** – Sponsored by the Sons of the American Legion, Happy Hours – 4 – 7 PM
- **Saturday, April 19th** – 9 AM Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny after the Hunt – Breakfast
Cost - TBD

Auxiliary 6433 – Waterloo Memorial Post

Location: 29 West Elisha St., Waterloo

Waterloo VFW Fish Fry: Fish, Shrimp, or Clam Strips dinner with French Fries and Mac salad.

No Reservations required. For takeout/pick up orders please call 315-539-9771

- **Friday, March 7th** – Fish Fry – Serving from 5pm-7pm (or until sold out) Cost \$16.00
- **Friday, March 14th** – Fish Fry – Serving from 5pm-7pm, (or until sold out) Cost \$16.00
- **Friday, March 21st** – Fish Fry – Serving from 5pm-7pm, (or until sold out) Cost \$16.00
- **Friday, March 28th** - Fish Fry – Serving from 5pm-7pm, (or until sold out) Cost \$16.00

Auxiliary 8649 – Goodrich-Smith Post

Location: 125 Seneca St Ext., Dundee

- **Friday, March 7th** – Fish Fry - 4 PM – 8 PM (eat in or take out service available)
Serving fried or broiled Haddock or breaded Shrimp dinners – Cost \$15.00
- **Saturday, May 17th** - Annual Hunters Banquet - \$20.00 donation. Ticket includes 20 items or cash value prizes on ticket to win, Chicken BBQ dinner and drinks. 50/50 raffles and additional raffles during the banquet. Contact person - President Tina Roberts for tickets.
- **Current Raffles:** Contact person – Tina Roberts for tickets
 - Meat Raffle - \$500.00 gift card for any kind of meat at Morgan's Grocery in Penn Yan NY \$2.00 a chance.
 - Raffle Gas Patio Heater, 60 qt cooler and items in the cooler. \$5.00 a chance.

Auxiliary 8726 – James R. Moore Memorial Post

Location: 7811 Rt. 21, Naples

- **Friday, March 7th** – Fish Fry – Doors Open 5PM
- **Saturday, March 15th** – Spring Forward Music Fest to benefit Honor Flight – 2PM – Food, Refreshments, Live Music – Cost \$20.00 (See attached flier)

Auxiliary 9251 – Pennington-Moye- *All Aboard for a Casino Trip*

Auxiliary 9251 is sponsoring a bus trip to Seneca Niagara Casino on Saturday, **May 17, 2025**. Deadline for payment and reservation is **April 15, 2025**.

The cost is \$40.00 per person. Non-refundable.

Bus leaving at 9:00 am from Walmart located at 2150 Chili Avenue.

Bus will be returning back to Walmart at 5:00 pm.

Check payable to: Pennington-Moye VFW Aux. 9251

Mail check to: Phyllis Walker, Aux Treasurer, 74 Mulcahy Blvd., Rochester, NY 14624

All passengers will receive \$25 in free play and \$5 in food vouchers.

For reservations please call Phyllis Walker @585-729-3801