

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: August 28, 2024
Subject: September District 8 Newsletter

I would like to extend my appreciation for all District 8 Auxiliaries for paying their Auxiliary Bond prior July 31, 2024. Department President Darlene truly appreciated your support for attaining this milestone as well.

Key Dates for your Calendar

Fall District Meeting - The District 8 meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, September 8, 2024 at Waterloo Memorial Post 6433**, 29 West Elisha Street, Waterloo. Department President Darlene Baker will make her official visit to District 8 at the September Meeting. A Baked Ziti Dinner will be served after the District 8 meeting (approximately 4 – 4:30 PM). **Reservations are requested to be made by August 31, 2024.** Dinner cost will be **\$10.00** per person. Please contact Karen Dotson, District 8 Secretary either by telephone at 607-648-9271 or email at kdvfwaux@aol.com for your RSVP. No tickets will be sold at the door.

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. The District will continue to have the Auxiliary drawing at the end of the District meeting for the \$25.00 for their Auxiliary Relief Fund.

National President, Brenda Bryant's Official Visit to the Department of New York

National President Brenda Bryant will be visiting the Department of New York from **September 16 – 19, 2024** in Buffalo. National President Brenda's only request is to see Niagara Falls and Department President Darlene Baker is making her dream come true. The Itinerary has been emailed to District and Auxiliary Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers to share with their members. The itinerary is also posted on the Department website. The Due Date for the hotel, lunches, and dinners is **September 7**. All members are welcome to attend.

Department Fall Conference – Fall Conference is scheduled for **October 11 – 12, 2024** at the Albany Marriott Hotel, Albany. The Fall Conference packet has been sent to all District 8 Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers to share with members. The Fall Conference packet is also posted to the Department website too. Hotel reservations **MUST** be made by **September 16th**. Pre-registration and Luncheon reservations due date is **September 27th**. All members are welcome to attend.

A few reminders to share with all Auxiliary from the Department:

1. **990N Acceptance or Rejection Receipt** – A request has been made for each Auxiliary to provide a copy of their 990N Acceptance or Rejection receipt once the 990N has been completed. The copy is to be attached to the Official Visit form at the time the District Representative completes the Official Visit. I highly encourage all auxiliaries to process their 990N IRS form prior to the date of their scheduled Official Visit. You can start to process your 990N on July 15, 2024.
2. **2nd Quarter Audit** – The April, May, June Quarterly Audit is due to the Department Treasurer by **August 31, 2024** 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.
3. **Donation Report** form which can be found on page 5 in the Department Program Guidebook is due to the Department Treasurer by **September 30, 2024**.

District Corner

- District Dues are 50 cents per Auxiliary member. Checks should be made payable to **VFW Auxiliary to District 8** and mailed to the District Treasurer Cindy Winzenried at the following address: 40 Groton Parkway, Rochester, NY 14623.
- VA Hospital Recreation Fund – All Auxiliaries are asked to send their \$20.00 donation for the VA Hospital Recreation Fund. Checks are to be made payable to **Canandaigua VA Medical Center**, earmark Recreation Fund, and send through the USPS mail to Helen Weeks, PDP, Hospital Chairman, 1600 East Ave., Apt. 1116, Rochester, NY 14610.
- In preparation for Fall Conference, President Tina has volunteered to take auxiliary's items to Fall Conference on their behalf. Auxiliaries may bring their items to the September 8 District meeting. The items are as follows:
 - a. Cancer Program – Grocery Bag filled with items no less than \$10.00 representing the Department of NY 100th Anniversary or President Darlene's theme: "Soaring into the New Century of Service with our Veterans and their Families"
 - b. Buddy Poppy Program - \$10.00 Gift Card for raffle – proceeds benefitting "Guitars for Heroes" program
 - c. Ways and Means - \$10.00 Scratch Off Lottery Tickets

District Programs

Veterans and Family Support – September Meeting Request

Veterans and Family Support Chairman, Brittany Tierson, is asking each Auxiliary to donate items from the list below in support of the Rochester Veterans Outreach Center for veterans and their families. Thank you for your continued support for those who are in need.

- Items needed are as follows: *Canned Fruits, Canned Vegetables, Canned Soups (pop-top lid), Canned beans, Pasta (all kinds), Rice, and Peanut Butter*
- Hygiene items needed: *Deodorant, Shampoo, Body Wash, Razors, and Toothpaste (Full size preferred)*
- Household items needed: *Toilet Paper, Detergent*

Reminder - In Lieu of Christmas Card - \$5.00 – see flier – Due Date: **October 31, 2024**

Holiday Cheer (aka Trees for Troops) – see flier - Donation of \$25.00 for Christmas Trees, Menorahs, and decorations – Due Date: **November 10, 2024**

Americanism Program – September Patriotic Holidays

- September 11 – Patriot Day
- September 17 – Constitution Day and Citizenship Day
- September 20 – POW/MIA Day (Third Friday of September)
- September 29 – Gold Star Mother's/Family Day (Last Sunday in September)

Reminder - Wreaths Across America, Donation \$17 per wreath or 3 wreaths for \$34.00 - Due Date: **October 31, 2024**

Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home – Health & Happiness

The Health & Happiness Fund is a key fundraiser for the VFW National Home. The Department goal for 2024 is to have all Auxiliaries contribute to the Health & Happiness Fund by December 31st.

- Auxiliaries may donate 10 cents per member based on their June 30, 2024 membership statistics.
- If your Auxiliary wishes to donate 25 cents or more to the fund, the auxiliary will receive a certificate from National.
- Your donation may be made through MALTA or to send an Auxiliary check payable to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111, earmark Health & Happiness.
- Thank you in advance for your support of the VFW National Home.

Hospital Program - September Meeting Request

Hospital Chairman, Helen Weeks is requesting the following baby items to be brought to the September 8th District Meeting. The items must be new. All items will be delivered to Canandaigua VA for distribution.

Items requested are as follows: *Diapers, Diaper Bags, Bottle Washers, Bibs, Pacifiers, Wash Cloths, Burp Cloths, Receiving Blankets, Blankets (Blankets may be homemade), Rompers, Onesies, PJ's, Boys & Girls Clothing.* *Gender neutral items are always nice*

Membership - 100th VFW Auxiliary – Department of New York Anniversary

Membership needs to be Soaring into the next 100 years! Membership is the backbone of our organization. We must cherish each and every one of our loyal members.

Retaining current membership is vital to our organization. Nurture our members; ensure they feel welcome and important to your Auxiliary. Stay in touch with your members; ask them to participate in your activities and show your appreciation. Contact your members and ask them to pay their dues. Our goal this year is to have District 8 100% by December 31, 2024. Thank you for your support.

Mentoring – Zoom Training Sessions for September

* **Tuesday, September 10** at 7:30 PM – Topic: Secretary Training. Presenter: Department Secretary, Chris Leavor.

* **Thursday, September 26** at 7:30 PM - Topic: Completing a Program Report. Presenter: Department Mentoring Chairman, Karen Dotson.

A Mentoring Moment – Membership Application forms for New and Rejoin Members See Sec. 102 in the Podium Edition of the Bylaws and Ritual (pages 12 – 14)

Sec. 102 Bullet I, sub-bullet 2. The **member making the recommendation** shall not be a member of the Investigating Committee.

Sec. 102 Bullet I., sub-bullet 3: Each application shall be referred to a committee of three (3):

- a. Appointed by the President,
 - i. Investigating Committee can change meeting to meeting (not a standing committee), depending on who is in attendance.
 - ii. The President shall **never** appoint themselves to the committee.
- e. The signatures of at least two (2) persons who served on this committee are necessary.
- f. The Auxiliary shall not take action on the application until the investigating committee's recommendation to accept or reject based on eligibility is made to the Auxiliary.

Youth Activities – September Meeting Request

Youth Activities Chairman, Brittany Tierson is requesting support to the *Family Counseling Service of the Finger Lakes*. The items requested are for the “Domestic Violence Survivors Closet” to benefit youth and females.

Items requested are: non-perishable snacks (such as graham crackers, Goldfish crackers, pretzels, veggie sticks, individual fruit cups) and Toiletry items: Shampoo, soap, body wash, tooth paste, tooth brushes, brush, combs, Q-tips, baby powder, sanitary products. Thank you for your support as it is very much appreciated.

I sincerely 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. I am looking forward to our September meeting and working with each Auxiliary this year.

Loyally,

Tina Roberts

Tina Roberts, District 8 President

Auxiliary Events Happening in District 8

Auxiliary 4658 – Francis E. Hibbard Post

Location: [344 Dorsey Road](#), Rochester

- **Sunday, September 22** – STOP 22 Run/Walk at the Post Home; 1 PM Registration – All are welcome to attend and participate.

Auxiliary 8649 – Goodrich-Smith Post

Location: 125 Seneca St Ext., Dundee

- **Friday, September 6** – 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

Auxiliary 8726 – James R. Moore – Scheduled Events

Location: 7811 NY-21, Naples

- **Friday, September 6th** - Fish Fry Friday Fundraiser
25% of our proceeds will benefit to Hospeace House, our local Hospice Home for patients to live their final days with dignity and love.
- **Saturday, September 14th** - 3rd Annual Trout Fishing Tournament, \$25 Entry Fee with a Youth Division Includes Raffles and Door Prizes. Proceeds to benefit the Auxiliary.
- **Saturday, September 28th and Sunday, September 29th** - Naples Grape Festival, Find us on Main Street!
- **Friday, October 4th** - Fish Fry Friday Fundraiser with live music from original artist Levi Gangi.
- **Saturday, October 26th** - Save the Date for our Trunk or Treat event, free to the community! Prizes! Games! Bounce House and more details to follow!