

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT

~ RUTH HUBER ~

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~ KIMBERLY WHITE ~

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NEW WEBSITE!

WWW.VFWAUXNY.ORG

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

PLEASE BE PATIENT!

DEPARTMENT WEBMASTER

~ DEANNA (DEEDEE) GUYETTE ~
Email: dgullquist@verizon.net

NOVEMBER 2021

**MILITARY FAMILY AND
MILITARY CAREGIVERS
APPRECIATION MONTH**

**PANCREATIC – LUNG
AND STOMACH
CANCER AWARENESS**

IMPORTANT DATES!

2 – ELECTION DAY

YOUR VOTE COUNTS !!!

7 – 2 AM

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
SET CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR –
CHECK SMOKE/CO BATTERIES

10 – 1775 ~ U.S. MARINE CORPS
WAS ESTABLISHED

11 – VETERANS DAY ~ 1918
ARMISTICE TO END WW I

18 – THE GREAT
AMERICAN SMOKEOUT
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY
QUIT ~ ONE DAY AT A TIME!



22 – ZOOM “DID YOU KNOW”
INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE AND
REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

25 – HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

AUXILIARY NEWS ~ November 2021
The Official Communication of VFW Auxiliary Department of New York



Dear Auxiliary Members,

It seems as though fall has come and gone in a flash with all of the wonderful activities I have enjoyed.

September found me in Fairport where I had the

great pleasure of attending a District 8 meeting. The Canandaigua VA Medical Center was not allowing visitors, however, they did send reports on their Volunteer Graphics, VFW Auxiliary donations and a lovely gift for PDP Helen Weeks to present me with. I also attended a fund raising dinner for Dan Kell and Rose Cooper in Silver Creek and an Erie County Council meeting where the Official Visit Report was completed.

While in Erie County I visited the Buffalo VA Hospital along with PDP Mary Kreuzer, 6th District President Ann Ferguson, Erie Council President Rose Cooper and VAVS Representative Pat Marciniak. We toured the clothing room that is typically stocked with items to give to our Veterans who may be in need.

With COVID having such an impact on what our volunteers can physically do we were reminded that new items can still be donated as well as monetary donations.

I am truly grateful for all courtesies that have been extended to me! My compliments to Charlene Hooper and Rose Cooper for conducting excellent meetings and the chairmen who did a tremendous job of promoting our programs.

Zoom OTI was conducted in September where our chairmen did a wonderful job presenting their programs to the 92 attendees, including National Sr. Vice President Jane Reape and Donna Ralston, National Ambassador for the Buddy Poppy/National Home Program.

Hopefully everyone who attended OTI found the presentations to be beneficial to what you do as an Auxiliary member. We received positive responses from members who expressed their appreciation to the presenters and our host. My thanks to all of you! In this newsletter are Questions and Answers from OTI (page 3), ACO Program Q & A's (page

8) and Review of Motions (page 2). Auxiliaries are encouraged to print these pages and use them as reference tools.

Visit our website at: WWW.VFWAUXNY.ORG
The monthly Program Report and Membership Report are found under the Report tab. The *Auxiliary News* is found under News.

November 11th is Veterans Day. I would like to express my gratitude to all Veterans for their sacrifice to our country. November also brings us both Military Family Month and National Family Caregivers Month. It is important that we pay honor to our Military Families. Their sacrifices and duty involved in service to the Nation often goes unnoticed. They have made non-stop deployments, had to change jobs and schools, left friends behind and their loved ones are away and missed for months at a time.

Caregivers who regularly provide assistance to our Veterans and their families may well appreciate the helping hand you have to offer.

The Veterans & Family Support Department Chairman suggested many ways you can help caregivers in your community, in addition to how you as a caregiver can keep yourself safe and healthy.

November is also a great time to contact your legislators and let your voice be heard, especially with respect to our Veterans and their families. Educate yourself on the VFW Priority Goals. By working together we can be the difference!

I wish you all much success with your VOD and Patriot's Pen Essays. Please remember to recognize all entrants with a citation that can be purchased through the VFW Store or downloaded from the National website. This program does so much for our youth by encouraging patriotism and helping them to pursue and achieve their educational goals.

Speaking of youth. Did you donate new hats, mittens, gloves or scarves at your Fall District meeting? If not, it's not too late to consider making your donation to a local school or homeless shelter. Children are our future. It is our job to lead by example in all we do.

Let us all ... **“Soar Above and Beyond”**
as we commit ourselves to being ...

**“United to Defend the Freedoms of
Veterans and Their Families.”**

Loyally, *Ruth*



PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE – MOTIONS – A GUIDE FOR AUXILIARY SECRETARIES

ACTION DESIRED	MOTION	SAMPLE WORDING	VOTE REQUIRED
INTRODUCE BUSINESS	Main motion	I move to donate \$500 to a homeless shelter.	Second – majority
CHANGE OR MODIFY A MOTION BEFORE ADOPTION	Amend	I move to amend by striking \$500 and inserting \$600.	Second – majority
HAVE A FEW MEMBERS STUDY OR TAKE CHARGE OF A MATTER	Commit (or) refer	I move to refer the motion to a committee to be appointed by the chair to investigate and report with a recommendation at the next meeting.	Second – majority
POSTPONE MAKING A DECISION	Postpone to a certain time	I move to postpone consideration of this motion until after adoption of the budget.	Second – majority
CHANGE RULES OF DEBATE TEMPORARILY ON THIS MOTION	Limit or extend limits of debate	I move that the debate be limited (or extended) to five minutes on this motion.	Second – 2/3 No debate
STOP DEBATE AND HAVE A VOTE TAKEN IMMEDIATELY	Previous question	I move the previous question (or) I move to stop the debate.	Second – 2/3 No debate
SET ASIDE A MATTER TO TAKE CARE OF AN EMERGENCY	Lay on the table	I move to lay the pending motion on the table.	Second – majority No debate
REOPEN CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION THAT HAS BEEN TABLED	Take from the table	I move to take from the table the motion regarding the donation of \$500 to the homeless shelter.	Second – majority No debate

TABLE OF MOTIONS

MOTION	INTERRUPT SPEAKER	NEEDS SECOND	DEBAT-ABLE	AMEND-ABLE	VOTE REQUIRED	CAN BE RE-CONSIDERED
PRIVILEGED MOTIONS:						
1. FIX TIME OF MEETING	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	Yes
2. ADJOURN	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
3. RECESS	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	No
4. QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE	Yes	No	No	No	Chair decides	No
5. ORDERS OF THE DAY	Yes	No	No	No	Chair decides	No
SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS:						
6. LAY ON THE TABLE	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
7. STOP DEBATE (PREV. QUESTION)	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	Yes
8. LIMIT OR EXTEND DEBATE	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3	Yes
9. POSTPONE TO DEFINITE TIME	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
10. ORDERS OF THE DAY	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
11. AMEND	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
12. POSTPONE INDEFINITELY	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Yes
13. MAIN MOTION	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
INCIDENTAL MOTIONS:						
14. APPEAL	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Yes
15. DIVISION FOR VOTE COUNT	No	No	No	No	Chair decides	No
16. DIVIDE QUESTION	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	No
17. WITHDRAW MOTION	No	No	No	No	Majority	No
18. POINT OF ORDER	Yes	No	No	No	Chair decides	No
19. SUSPEND RULES	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	No
20. OBJECT TO CONSIDERATION	Yes	No	No	No	2/3	No
21. PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY	Yes	No	No	No	Chair decides	No
TO REOPEN AND BRING BACK BUSINESS:						
22. TAKE FROM TABLE	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
23. RECONSIDER	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	No
24. RESCIND OR REPEAL	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3	Yes

The general rules are given here. For exceptions refer to Demeter’s Manual of Parliamentary Law and Procedure.

Prepared by Mary Fiumano, President –VFW Auxiliary Department of New York – 1971-1972



**VFW NY DISTRICT #1 IN CONJUNCTION WITH
PROCTOR-HOPSON POST #1896, Veterans of Foreign Wars
“VFW Military Family Support Center”
AMERICAN CITIZENS FOR SOLDIERS IN SERVICE
HOLIDAY CHEER**



On behalf of our military personnel serving in Bahrain, Kuwait, Dubai, Qatar and Abu Dhabi, we are again sending Christmas Trees, lights, ornaments and menorahs to our military personnel in harm’s way at the above mentioned locations. This is our eighteenth year of running our program sending trees to our deployed troops and we look forward to it being as successful as the previous years.

To support this program, you may fund a tree with the appropriate lights and decorations for a donation of \$25.00. You may fund as many trees as you would like. Working together, we as supporters of our military personnel, can make the Christmas holiday a little more enjoyable for those fighting far away from home.

**If you would like to support this program by funding a tree(s), make your check or money order payable to:
PROCTOR-HOPSON POST #1896 (Earmarked Trees)**

MAIL TO: BEN THOMPSON – 119-26 204TH STREET – ST. ALBANS, NY 11412

DONATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 2, 2021 (Be sure to allow extra time for USPS delivery!)

For additional information: Telephone (718) 527-6532 or Email: phpm1896@verizon.net



Question 1 – Does each Auxiliary President need to attend all meetings called by their County Council or District?

Ans. 1 – Refer to Bylaws Section 810A—the President or her/his representative *should* attend all properly called District and County Council (if applicable) meetings and conventions.

Question 2 – What is the website address for the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York?

Ans. 2 – The address for the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York Auxiliary website is www.vfwauxny.org

Question 3 – Can Red Cross Blood Drives held at the Post be reported for Auxiliary Community Outreach credit?

Ans. 3 – Blood drives held at your Post Home *CANNOT* be considered for the Auxiliary Community Outreach Program. However, your donated time should be reported under Veterans and Family Support. In order for a blood drive to qualify to be reported under Auxiliary Community Outreach, it would have to be held at a facility, other than your Post, such as community center, senior center, etc.

Question 4 – I deliver Meals on Wheels. Can I report that for the Auxiliary Community Outreach Program?

Ans. 4 – Your time may be reported to the Auxiliary Community Outreach Program if the meals are NOT picked up at your Post.

Question 5 – Is there still planned a “Capitol Hill” Day in Albany the day before the Fall Conference?

Ans. 5 – Yes! Program Chairman Belinda Cole is working to have one representative from each District attend.

Question 6 – Will there be Legislative material at Fall Conference for the members to contact their Legislators regarding the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Location Act and the Major Richard Star Act?

Ans. 6 – Yes! Material will be available for members to contact their Legislators on these two important bills.

Question 7 – What does REJOIN LIFE mean on the monthly Membership report?

Ans. 7 – *Rejoin Life* means an individual let their annual membership dues lapsed and are rejoining as a Life Member.

Question 8 – What does “an Auxiliary needs to have one project to benefit Veterans” mean?

Ans. 8 – Per the Circle of Excellence criteria in the National Guidebook, “*All Auxiliaries MUST complete at least one project, activity OR donation that benefits Veterans by April 30, 2021.*” Report to V&FS Chairman Karen Mack.

Question 9 – How can I make a donation to Patriotism through Literacy Program at a local school?

Ans. 9 – Contact your local elementary, middle, or high school. Ask to speak to the principal. Explain that your Auxiliary would like to make a donation for books for the Patriotism through Literacy Program sponsored by the VFW Auxiliary. Ask what the best way is to send a donation: check, gift card or ask other ways to donate funds.

Question 10 – National announced there is a new uniform shirt. Do I need to purchase a new blue uniform shirt?

Ans. 10 – The blue uniform blouse/shirt that most Auxiliary members are currently wearing has been grandfathered in. There is no time limit that the shirt can no longer be worn. The marine blue uniform shirt can be worn forever!



OFFICIAL VISITS (INSPECTIONS)
PDP BONNIE L. BURGY, COORDINATOR
 330 EAST BLOOMFIELD ST – APT. 2
 ROME, NY 13440



Telephone: H: (315) 533-6425 – C: (315) 225-9564
 Email: bburgy@twcnny.rr.com

Why are we doing inspections? To see what our Auxiliaries are doing and, more importantly, to find out if they need our assistance. Many Auxiliaries have had to think out of the box over the last year to fund programs that help veterans and families and to assist their communities. In the remarks section you can offer other ideas. If assistance is needed, we can mentor an Auxiliary. These are just a few of the reasons for official visits/ inspections.

One form I received had no seal. I contacted the District President who told me that the Auxiliary has no seal. If this is the case please notate that on the form but also explain to the Auxiliary that all need to have a seal. It is a requirement when sending mail or forms to Department or National.

Inspectors, review the forms and be sure all questions are answered. Include comments about your visit in the remarks section. We want to hear about questions or problems and the good things the Auxiliary is doing. **Examine the checks to be sure proper signatures are there.** Send all three copies of the form to the District President within 5 to 7 days of the completion of your visit.

District Presidents are to appoint inspectors. When the forms are returned to you, review them and make sure they are complete. If they are not complete I will return them to you for completion. **Date the upper right hand corner** and return all copies to me within 5 to 7 days after you receive them. **DO NOT HOLD INSPECTIONS UNTIL YOU HAVE SEVERAL TO SEND AT ONE TIME.**

If a member cannot do an inspection, return all materials back to the District President and a new inspector will be appointed. The District President is the only one who can appoint an inspector.

Remember we are ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond” ... “United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.”** Loyally, *Bonnie, PDP*

VFW Auxiliary to Glenn A. Warner Post No. 1371



Auxiliary Veterans and Family Support Chairman Dorolyn Perry reported information about Veteran Suicide Awareness Month during a recent meeting. In the photo at left, Dorolyn presents a teardrop pin to Post #1371 Commander Julie Dodge. In the photo at right, Dorolyn presents a teardrop pin to Auxiliary President Jean Marie Sabol.



“BUDDY”® POPPY



VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN
 KAREN SCHEUNEMAN, CHAIRMAN
 126 VISTA DRIVE – ARCADE, NY 14009

Telephone: (585) 492-1994 – Email: wdstock90@yahoo.com

Members,



Know How to Make an Entrance

**What an Opening Night!
 What a night!
 What a sight!**

**I'll hoist up the curtains! The crowds will crowd in!
 ~ K I Ray the Circus**

A “BUDDY”® POPPY DRIVE is a perfect opportunity to publicize while educating our members and communities the mission behind the VFW “Buddy”® Poppy’s motto:

“To Honor the Dead by Helping the Living.”

Having the “Buddy”® Poppy Program education will *Prepare* you to *Promote* publicity for *Participation* in your Auxiliary’s poppy distribution event.

Enthusiasm and Planning are two key elements to organizing a successful “BUDDY”® POPPY DRIVE. Your demonstration of enthusiasm will be the inspiration and motivation for others to participate. Planning will leave nothing to chance and ensure a successful campaign.

Here are a few key factors to consider:

1. Identify potential volunteers.
2. Number of poppies each volunteer to distribute.
3. Contact Post Commander to order poppies.
4. Choose distribution Dates.
5. Stake out key distribution venues in advance.
6. Kindly request permission to set up display table.
7. Advertise.
8. Provide promotional handout materials.
9. Acknowledgement of volunteers.

For additional reference and promotional materials, visit the National VFW Auxiliary website at vfwauxiliary.org/resources Familiarize yourself with:

1. “Buddy”® Poppy Chairman’s Guide
2. “Buddy”® Poppy Story Cards
3. The Veterans Behind the “Buddy”® Poppy Video
4. The Veterans Behind the “Buddy”® Poppy Article
5. Buddy”® Poppy Information

“Buddy”® Poppy distribution supplies and commemorative mechanize may be purchase through the VFW Store at vfwstore.org.

“Friendly Suggestion”: Smile! Wear your VFW Auxiliary apparel. If possible, recruit for Auxiliary membership.

“Friendly Reminder”: We are NOT “Selling” “Buddy”® Poppies, but we are distributing them with the hope of receiving monetary donations to benefit our Veterans and their Families.

Loyally, *Karen*



**“Soaring Above and Beyond”
 “United to Defend the Freedoms
 of Veterans and Their Families”**



HOSPITAL PROGRAM – PEGGY SCHWEITZER, CHAIRMAN

19 MONTAQUE DRIVE ~ DILLSBURG, PA 17019

Telephone: (315) 853-2419 – Email: snowy4931@yahoo.com

**REMEMBER ... VOLUNTEER HOURS ARE EARNED FOR SERVING VETERANS
IN ALL VA AND ALL NON-VA FACILITIES!**

Happy November! 'Tis the season of Thanksgiving – giving thanks to all our loved ones and especially our Veterans. This is a great time for all Auxiliaries to send Thanksgiving Day cards to our Veterans in the VA Hospitals and non-VA facilities. Each Veteran would love to have some cheering up at this time of year. And then remember to report to me how many cards that you sent! This is a very easy project.

Again in this newsletter article, I must promote the Honors Escort Program. This is a brief ceremonial procession for Veterans at their hour of death in a hospital or nursing home facility. The ceremony honors our military Veterans who have unselfishly served our Country. This program offers a moment of reflection and creates a visual display of military heritage to fellow Veterans, family members and staff.

Many VA facilities have an Honor Escort in place. You may have participated in this ceremony at your local VA. Ceremonies vary at each VA facility throughout the country.

During my OTI presentation, I mentioned two important phone numbers that everyone should have:

**Veterans Crisis Line – 1-800-272-8255, press 1
and Confidential Crisis Chat – text to 838255.**

I understand that several of the VA hospitals in New York are again allowing volunteers in – volunteering is the lifeline of the Hospital Program. Halloween is almost upon us. Maybe you can wear a set of “ears” when you visit. I can assure you that it will bring a smile to a Veteran’s face. You can also dress up silly when you visit and really make an impression!!! Just check with your local VA hospital or non-VA facilities to see if they are open.

Ideas at meetings – have a monthly sign-up sheet so that members can put down their volunteer hours and mileage which makes it easier to report. Recognize your Hospital Volunteers – this is very important. Everyone likes to be thanked for what they do.

Wishing you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving. Please continue to be safe. We will be ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond”** and ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.”** Loyally, *Peggy*



MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

TAMARA CUMMINGS, Co-CHAIRMAN

125 ATLANTIC ST ~ SALAMANCA, NY 14779

Telephone: (716) 244-3260

Email: tamara.dudleyhotel@gmail.com

Dear Members, It has warmed my heart during the transition from summer to winter to read the reports of our Auxiliary members. You are going above and beyond, to Mentor New Members and Future Leaders of this great Organization while retaining the expertise of our Legacy members. You have proven that we want to give our future leaders the tools and knowledge that they need to continue our mission. **“Am I ready or qualified to be a Mentor?”** Take this short quiz!

- 1) Are you up-to-date on the latest developments in the VFW Auxiliary? Do you attend District meetings? OTI? Do you read the *Auxiliary News* and National Newsletter?
A: Yes; B: Sometimes; C: I only focus on what interests me.
- 2) Do you meet with your mentee on a regular basis? Do you answer questions by phone/text/email between meetings?
A: Yes. I consider mentoring a commitment that benefits both parties and the future of our Organization.
B: I'll try to make time, but others things take priority.
C: Between my personal commitments, I'm pressed for time.
- 3) Do you share your knowledge and expertise?
A: Absolutely. I enjoy helping others learn.
B: I don't mind sharing what I know, but I'm not very good at communicating it to others.
C: I excel on my merits and like to receive all the credit.
- 4) Are you willing to discuss your past regrets or mistakes?
A: Yes, if that helps the mentee; B: Is that really necessary?
C: No, everyone should learn from their own mistakes.

If you answered mostly A's, **you're definitely ready** to be a mentor. You're willing to make commit the time, focus on your mentee. You're informed and willing to go the extra

mile to help a mentee become an informed member or a future leader in the VFW Auxiliary.

If you answered mostly B's, **you're still on the fence** regarding the commitment and responsibility involved in being a mentor. Make time to listen to your mentee and communicate clearly and honestly in order to offer useful, actionable advice.

If you answered mainly C's, **you may want to wait** to become a mentor and there's nothing wrong with that. Mentoring is not for everyone. You may not have the time or the mindset. Your time and energy may greater benefit to your Auxiliary in doing the things you enjoy. If you are not ready now you may be in the future.

Join us on Oct. 25th for our first Zoom **“Did You Know?”** Invitations will be emailed to Auxiliary Presidents or you can email me a request for an invitation. The first session topic will cover the duties of the Secretary.

“Defending the Freedoms of our Veterans and Their Families” while ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond.”**

Loyally, *Tamara*



HISTORIAN / MEDIA RELATIONS PROGRAM
KELLIANNE KENNEDY, CHAIRMAN
 315 ANCHORS WAY ~ WINDER, GA 30680
 Tel: (518) 744-8978
 Email: kelliannekennedy@hotmail.com

“I’m Keeping an Eagle Eye on the Eagle’s Nest”

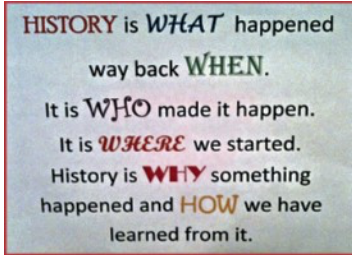
Telling our amazing story – whether through pictures or the written word – defines who we are and what we accomplish as members of the VFW Auxiliary. The Historian Program provides an opportunity to share and document our many projects, leaving a trail of our history that will be useful and enjoyable to those who follow in our path.

“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families” is the perfect theme because this is what we, as members of the Auxiliary, do best. The work that is done in each of the programs should be showcased in our communities and on social media, allowing others to get an idea of what our organization is all about – with a side benefit being a way of the possibility of attracting new members.

We live in an ever-changing world. Today’s technology enables us to share our projects with thousands of individuals through the use of social media. Newspaper articles never go out of style – neither do scrapbooks – which Auxiliary Presidents at all levels would enjoy. However an individual chooses to share their stories, it is important to provide the Who, What, When, Where and Why” of the project that is being documented.

Have your camera ready and make an effort to capture those special moments. It’s so easy to do, with most of us having cell phones. If you miss your chance, you will never have that opportunity again, and the memory will be lost to all time.

It is an honor to serve as Department Historian /Media Relations Chairman this year and will do so with much excitement! “United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families” will provide us with wonderful memories while ... “Soaring Above and Beyond.” Loyally, *Kellianne*



MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM – CHRIS LEAVOR, CHAIRMAN
 2027 CEMETERY HILL ROAD ~ FRANKLINVILLE, NY 14737
 Telephone: (716) 676-2400 – Email: CAL2027@hotmail.com



I hope everyone enjoyed being back in an “in person” Fall Conference as much as I did! I have really missed the rejuvenated feeling I always come home with after I have attended a conference as well as the “brain buzz” from all I learned from the Chairmen as they reported on their programs.

Congratulations to the 47 Auxiliaries that retained 30% of their annual members by September 1st and were entered into the 50-yard Dash Award drawing. VFW Auxiliary to Pulaski Memorial Post No. 7289 (D5) won the \$100 drawing. Also, congratulations to Auxiliaries that received a Bronze Olympic medal for reporting on their Membership Drive by October 1st.

Remember, though, it’s not “one and done.” Auxiliaries should have it in their Membership PLAN to have at least four drives per year. Membership plan? Yes! Every Auxiliary should have a plan for membership that includes: Contacting members, Outreach to former members, Recruiting events, and Choosing a mentor for new members.

Before the new membership year begins your Auxiliary should set its calendar and plan when to do these things, as well as recruit members of the Membership Committee. Use the tools at vfwauxiliary.org as you promote VFW and VFW Auxiliary membership in your community. Request The Fact Sheet from National Headquarters which is especially valuable. It spells out exactly what our organization accomplished in the last year. It’s a great tool to show prospective members what “we” do.

As I write this, the Department of New York sits at the bottom of our Membership Division with 74.82% and only 30.25% of our annuals retained. Does that sound like a winning Olympic TEAM? Every member of a TEAM must do his/her part. EVERY AUXILIARY on OUR TEAM needs to do ITS PART. If your Auxiliary hasn’t sent in any of your annual members yet, **PLEASE** do so. Do you have hospitalized, nursing home residents, seniors, or shut-ins who could use help paying their dues? You may tap into your Relief Fund to help them. Identify the members you can assist and remit their dues NOW.

Make sure your Annual members understand that while they are in “good standing” until December 31st, that doesn’t mean they should wait until then to pay their dues. Consider incentives to promote earlier dues payment – a membership breakfast (or dinner) for early payers, or a drawing – for a life membership, gift certificate or a prize. You can be as creative as you want and I’d love to hear your incentive ideas when you report.

At the Fall Conference you heard me state that the Department MUST meet our GAIN (new/rejoined members) as well as our RETENTION (annual and annuals who convert to Life) by October 31st. I trust you, our TEAM, to have done your part in making that happen. Thank you for ALL you do! Loyally, *Chris*

“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families” “Soaring Above and Beyond.”



YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAM
CINDY WINZENRIED, CHAIRMAN
 40 GROTON PARKWAY
 ROCHESTER, NY 14623
 Telephone: (585) 230-9022
 Email: cindy@wwtruckn.com

Dear Members,

It doesn't seem possible November is here and the holiday season is upon us. To kick off the holiday season, we honor our Veterans for Veterans Day. I encourage each Auxiliary to contact youth groups to request them to write "**Thank you for your Service**" cards/letters to be presented to your Post veterans and send to your homebound veterans. Wouldn't it be nice to brighten a veteran's day with a greeting card from a student?

The National Ambassador is asking that we encourage our youth to participate in the "Illustrating America" program. This is an opportunity for our youth to view America through art work. There are 3 grade divisions: K-2, 3-5, and 6-8. Art work will be judged on a patriotic theme and technique. Complete details can be found on page 34 in the Program Guidebook. Completed application and art work is due to the local Auxiliary by March 31, 2022 and Auxiliary winners in each division are due to me by April 15, 2022.

The "**Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue!**" program encourages our youth to showcase their vocal talent along with their patriotism by singing "**The Star-Spangled Banner.**" This year there are two divisions: K-8 and 9-12. This is a solo performance and the words to the song cannot be changed. Complete details can be found on page 34 in the Program Guidebook. Application/video must be submitted to the local Auxiliary by March 31, 2022. The Auxiliary winners' application and video must be submitted to me by April 15, 2022.

Now that we are encouraging students to participate in patriotic art and singing, we also need to promote the importance of reading and learning about our historical figures, places and events that helped to shape our country. May I suggest that you contact your local schools and/or public libraries to see how best to support the **Patriotism through Literacy** program through the use of a monetary donation or gift cards.

Lastly, thank you to all Districts who have completed the Fall District Meeting Project by collecting new winter hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves to be distributed to local schools or a homeless shelter.

I look forward to reading your reports as you work with our youth. Reports can be sent to me either USPS or email.

Thank you in advance for your support as we "**Soar Above and Beyond**" and remain ... "**United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.**"

Wishing a Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

Loyally, *Cindy*



SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM
DOLORES B. SHEELEY, CHAIRMAN
 PO BOX 1025
 ROCK HILL, NY 12775
 Telephone: (845) 796-1322
 NEW Email: sheeleyd@gmail.com



We have reached our deadline for receiving both the **Voice of Democracy** and **Patriot's Pen Contests**. I hope every-one has been successful in receiving many entries. The next step is to assist our VFW with judging at the local level. Post level judging must be completed by November 15th for forwarding to the District VFW Chairman.

Remember, it is crucial that the VFW Auxiliary Chairman, at each level, works together with their VFW counterpart. These are VFW Contests. However, Auxiliary members work extremely hard for these programs. Working together will ensure a successful program. One of our program goals is **Participant Recognition**. Now is the time to start planning a ceremony, dinner or an awards banquet for recognition of the award winners. Contact your local media to feature your winners in the news. This will support another goal of **Community Awareness**.



Continue promoting the **Continuing Education Scholarship** to your members (who have belonged at least one year), their spouse and children with a financial need who are eligible to apply. This is **OUR** scholarship! So please get the word out. The deadline to National Headquarters is February 15, 2022.



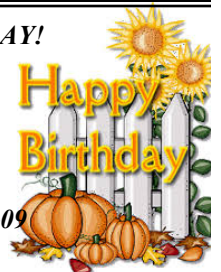
You are not done. Your next contest focus is our **Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest**. Entry deadline is March 31, 2022. Brochures can be found at <https://www.vfwauxiliary.org/programs-page/resources/>

"**Soaring Above and Beyond**" together, we will accomplish great things along the way as we are ... "**United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.**"

Loyally, *Dolores* – #AuxiliaryPatriotism

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY!

- 6 – Karen Dotson, Dept. President 2016-17
- 9 – Terry McGarr, Dept. President 2004-05
- 9 – Bonnie Burgy, Dept. President 2013-14
- 10 – Ruth Huber, Dept. President 2021-22
- 24 – Cindy Campbell, Dept. President 2008-09
- 27 – Belinda Cole, Dept. Guard 2021-22





CHIEF OF STAFF

PDP KAREN A. DOTSON, CHAIRMAN

19 CALGARY LANE ~ BINGHAMTON, NY 13901

Telephone: (607) 648-9271 – Email: kdvfwaux@aol.com

“Welcome and thank you for attending the Auxiliary meeting.” Those are very thoughtful words to hear when you are greeted at a meeting. Especially if you have been away or missed a few meetings! Hopefully, these words will make a returning Auxiliary member feel glad to be back and willing to support our veterans in Auxiliary programs/projects.

Many Auxiliaries have a Communication Plan. Now is the perfect time to implement a healthy communication plan or revise an existing one. Keeping members informed of meetings and special events is important. The use of a Communication Plan should include telephone calls, emails, newsletters, postcards and/or displaying information on your Post/Auxiliary website or Facebook page. Using social media helps keep our “snowbirds” aware of the sponsored events while they are enjoying the warmer climate. Most importantly, please share your communication plan with all your members.

Listed below are commonly asked questions to share with our members:

Q. Are children permitted to attend Auxiliary meetings?

A. Yes! Children are allowed to attend meetings if accompanied by an Auxiliary member. See Bylaws Sec. 909

Q. Are alcoholic beverages permitted during the Auxiliary meeting?

A. No alcoholic beverages will be permitted during Auxiliary meetings. See Bylaws Sec. 902 – 4th bullet

Q. Are members able to order items from the VFW Store?

A. Auxiliaries, County Council, District, Department or Auxiliary members may order from the VFW Store using the procedures provided by the VFW. See Bylaws Sec. 914.

Q. How long is the Auxiliary Charter draped when a member passes away?

A. The Charter should remain draped for a period of thirty (30) days.

Q. What are the meaning of the Raps of the Gavel?

A. One (1) rap of gavel – Attention; Two (2) raps of the gavel – Rise; Three (3) raps of the gavel – Be Seated

I hope that you will find the **“Did You Know”** Zoom training sessions informative. All questions and answers from the “Did You Know” training sessions will be shared on the Department website and in the *Auxiliary News*.

As we all ... **“Soar Above and Beyond,”** I wish all members a Happy Thanksgiving and Welcome Home to all Auxiliary Members as we are ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.”**

Loyally, *Karen, PDP*

**AUXILIARY COMMUNITY OUTREACH (ACO)
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

1. Q.: Every year my Auxiliary participates in a walk in our area that raises awareness about suicide prevention. Members walk in the event and donate \$100 to the organization. Can the number of hours and members who walked in the event count toward Auxiliary Community Outreach?

A.: This is a great team-building activity for your Auxiliary, however, walking or running in an event/race may not be reported under Auxiliary Community Outreach. This particular example may be reported under Veterans & Family Support as that’s where Veteran & Military Suicide Awareness and Prevention falls.

2. Q.: Members of a local Auxiliary were asked to sit on their county board to help raise money and volunteer to work at a dedication of a memorial that honors veterans. Since it was not a VFW or VFW Auxiliary-sponsored event, can this be reported under Auxiliary Community Outreach?

A.: No, it cannot be reported under ACO. It’s for veterans and the betterment of the community, therefore, it should be reported under Veterans & Family Support.

3. Q.: A VFW Post hosts several events throughout the year at which VFW and Auxiliary members hand out Thin Blue Line flags in honor of police officers. Can this be reported under Auxiliary Community Outreach?

A.: No, it cannot be reported under ACO as it is not in partnership with another organization. If the Auxiliary partnered with the police department or police foundation to hand out Thin Blue Line flags it would count under ACO.

4. Q.: A few of the ways listed to participate in Auxiliary Community Outreach involve youth. Would this be reported under the Auxiliary’s Youth Activities Program?

A.: It depends on the project. For example, if you are putting on a patriotic program at a school with your Auxiliary, that is reported under Americanism and/or Youth Activities. If your Auxiliary partners with the Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts to teach them the Folds of the Flag, that is reported under Americanism and/or Youth Activities. If your Auxiliary volunteers at the Boys & Girls Club to tutor a group of children that is reported under Auxiliary Community Outreach.

5. Q.: Our Auxiliary purchases and delivers turkeys for a food pantry every Thanksgiving. Does this get reported under Auxiliary Community Outreach?

A.: No! Dropping off turkeys for a Thanksgiving meal is not the same as volunteering time in the food pantry organizing food, serving meals, bussing tables, etc.

6. Q.: Our Auxiliary partners with another organization to host a sock collection at our local Walmart. Does this qualify as Auxiliary Community Outreach?

A.: It depends. If you stay and man the collection, then yes. If you drop off a collection bin and leave, then no. If you are unsure of whether your project for will count toward the Auxiliary Community Outreach Program, contact your Department Chairman [Judy Lefebvre] with your questions.

(National VFW Auxiliary Resources ACO Guide, Page 3)



CANCER GRANT DONATION FUND – LINDA FLANAGAN, CHAIRMAN
155 BRIGGS STREET ~ SYRACUSE, NY 13208

Telephone: (315) 475-7526 – NEW Email: auxd53146@hotmail.com

November Awareness: Pancreatic Cancer – Lung Cancer – Stomach Cancer – Honoring Caregivers
Remember ... Cancer can strike anyone!



Cancer is a never-ending battle. A suggestion is for your Auxiliary organize an event to honor caregivers. Remember! Cancer can strike anyone. Continue sending your checks and ticket stubs to me! If you missed the Fall Conference drawing you will be entered into the second drawing at Spring Conference. The donation is \$2.00 per member as of your Auxiliary's June 30, 2021 membership. If you need more tickets, feel free to copy them or contact me and I will send you more.

Congratulations to the Fall Conference winners: \$75 – Eastern Orleans Memorial Aux. #202 (Holley, D7)
 \$50 – Albert A. Gonyea Memorial Aux. #3357 (Saranac Lake, D9)
 \$25 – Patricia Reschetnikow, Treasurer of Shilling Burns Young Aux. #9591 (Clinton, D4)

Remind your members that they are eligible to apply for a \$550 Cancer Grant. The current form can be found on page 52 in the Program Guidebook or on Malta. Using the wrong form will delay the processing of a Cancer Grant Application.

At Spring Conference there will be "In Honor of" and "In Memory of" luminaries for a donation of \$5.00. Candy bars and cancer ribbons will be available for a donation.

"Soaring Above and Beyond" while ... "United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and their Families."

Loyally, *Linda*

AMERICANISM PROGRAM / PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR – DORIS "DEE" IPPOLITO, CHAIRMAN

24 BLUE JAY CIRCLE ~ LANCASTER, NY 14086

Telephone: (716) 440-3411 – NEW Email: dee.ippolito.017@gmail.com



Thank and Remember our Veterans on November 11th!

Let everyone know that you thank our veterans. How? Use **#auxiliarypatriotism**

- ✓ Take pictures of your events to celebrate our Veterans.
- ✓ Post the pictures on social media.
- ✓ Put #auxiliarypatriotism in the caption.
- ✓ Write about your celebration.
- ✓ Include a hashtag which of your auxiliary, district and Dept of NY #VFW(whatever your number is)Dept of NY

Show everyone that you thank our Veterans for their service to all of us!!!!



Tick-tock. Time is running out. Donate before October 31st for Wreaths Across America and "In Lieu of"

Wreaths Across America Donate now so wreaths can be placed on soldiers' graves on National Wreaths Across America Day (December 18th). Donation is \$15 for one wreath or \$30 for three wreaths. Wreaths will be placed in a National or local cemetery of your choice.

"In Lieu of ... Cards" Our giant poster will include your name(s) for a donation of \$5.00. The poster will be sent overseas in conjunction with "Holiday Cheer" decorated trees and menorahs.



Thank you, Veterans!

Thank you all for your service to Veterans and their families!

Report Now on social media and use #AuxiliaryPatriotism. Call or email me with questions. *Happy Thanksgiving!*

"Soaring Above and Beyond" and ... "United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families." Loyally, *Dee*



#auxiliarypatriotism



VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT
KAREN MACK, CHAIRMAN
 PO BOX 71 ~ GERRY, NY 14740
 Telephone: (716) 985-1000
 Email: teddybears2016@outlook.com

Dear Sisters and Brothers, Winter is on its way! We will soon turn the clocks back on hour making the days seem even shorter! Whether it is raining or snowing, the needs of our Veterans and their families remain the same! Our Veterans and their families are depending on us!

Veteran and Family Caregivers Our Auxiliary mission includes assisting the family of veterans. Caregivers often lose themselves while caring for others. Stress levels may rise until it becomes overwhelming. Take a few moments to show our support and acknowledge the importance of caregivers.

The VA offers support services to assist the caregivers within the VA System. Visit caregiver.va.gov for more information. October 2020 was the first time spouses could file to receive caregiver benefits.

Thank you to the Auxiliaries that brought donations to the Fall Conference to support our Military Caregivers.

Women Veterans need VA's that are able to care for them when they are transitioning back to civilian life.

Homeless Veterans Please help our homeless Veterans.

National Veterans Service (NVS) supports VFW Service Officers. Donate on the Donation Report Form or mail a check directly to VFW Headquarters (earmarked "NVS.")

VFW Veterans and Military Support Program There are three separate programs fall under this one main category: **Military Assistance Program (MAP)**,

Unmet Needs and **"Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship."** Please refer to the Program Guidebook for details about these programs.

Veteran & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness Know the warning signs of suicide. Many resources are listed in the Guidebook. I hope you were able to join the Stop 22 Walk at Fall Conference.

The Veterans Crisis Line is a confidential toll-free hotline available 24/7/365 that connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified responders. **Call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1**

Chat online at veteranscrisisline.net

Send a text message to 838255

Reminder! April 30, 2022 is the deadline for all Auxiliaries to sponsor at least one project, activity or donation to benefit Veterans and ***SEND A REPORT!***

We are ... **"Soaring Above and Beyond"**
"United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families."

Loyally, *Karen*



LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM
BELINDA COLE, CHAIRMAN
 6 BEECH STREET
 HUDSON FALLS, NY 12839
 Telephone: (518) 260-1694
 Email: belinkisses@gmail.com



Hello Brothers and Sisters! Thank you to all that stopped at my table for Fall Conference. I am excited to receive all the reports advocating for our Veterans' Rights. Keep up the great work! I hope you received a copy of the Dept of NY VFW Legislative goals. Contact me if you didn't get a copy. I will email it.

Due to Covid restrictions and the legislator's schedule most of us were not able to participate at the Capitol Hill event. The VFW team will keep us posted and we will advocate from the sidelines. Remember to EDUCATE, PARTICIPATE and GET OTHERS INVOLVED. Our numbers speak volumes!

Encourage members to stay in tune with what's happening by signing up for the *Action Corps* Weekly Newsletter. Print a copy to read at your meetings. This newsletter contains everything you need to stay informed of all the legislation that affects our Veterans. Share the link www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-efforts, click on Action Corps then enter your email and zip code.



Pay special attention to the Action Alerts which need your immediate support. Items such as the:

GWOT Memorial Location Act NOW is the time to formally honor the more than 2.7 million men and women who served in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). With the recent end to the conflict in Afghanistan and the 20th commemoration of the attacks on 9/11, Washington bureaucrats are prohibiting a GWOT Memorial on the National Mall. The VFW believes our veterans, their families and survivors have earned their right to have a place to commemorate alongside the other memorials of previous generations. Congress is failing the post-9/11 veterans who fought to defend our freedom and way of life.

Major Richard Star Act Many disabled combat veterans are being DENIED full access to their hard-earned benefits. Over 48,000 medically retired veterans, most Purple Heart recipients, do not receive full retirement pay – they sacrificed their health and military careers. The VFW firmly believes DOD retirement pay and VA disability compensation are fundamentally different benefits, earned for different reasons. Congress fails to acknowledge this inequity. They need to fix this injustice now.

The VFW demands that Congress pass both the GWOT Memorial Location Act and the Major Richard Star Act as amendments to the NDAA for 2022. ***Let our voices be heard!*** If it is important to our Veterans then it is important to us! Not sure who to advocate with? go to: nyassembly.gov/mem/search/ Type in your address to locate your assemblymember find your senator at <https://www.nysenate.gov/find-my-senator> and lastly, <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>.

Thank you for all you do as we stand... ***"United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families" while "Soaring Above and Beyond."*** Loyally, *Belinda*



AUXILIARY COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM
JUDY LEFEBVRE, CHAIRMAN
 316 PELLERIN ROAD ~ PLATTSBURGH, NY 12901
 Tel: (518) 563-7558 – (518) 593-5628 (C) – Email: biljud@aol.com

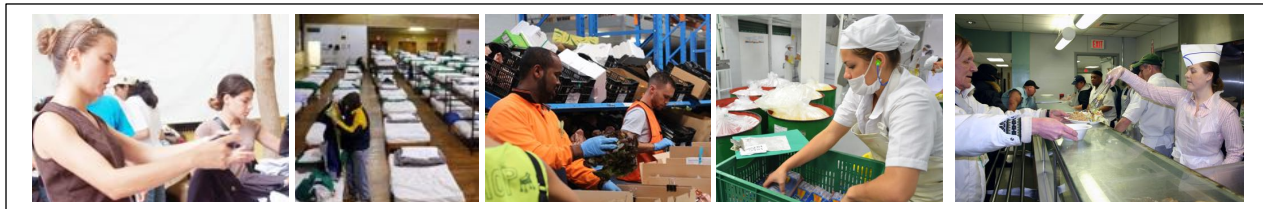


APPROVE MOTION RECORDED IN THE MINUTES.

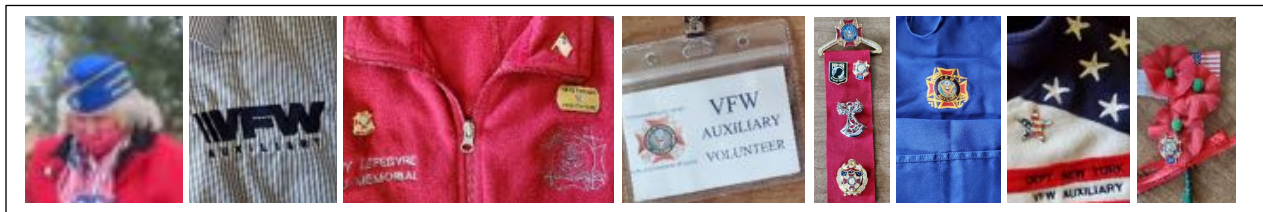
COORDINATE WITH ANOTHER ORGANIZATION.

OUTSIDE YOUR VFW PROPERTY.

Everyone has suffered in some way because of Covid-19. Thousands lost their lives or family members. Others lost their jobs and/or their homes. Unemployment rates are high. At the same time hospitals and businesses are under staffed or closed. Our communities need us to **“Reach Out to Help, to Support and to Volunteer in Numerous Ways.”**



Coordinate with town offices, county income assistance and health departments to volunteer. Donate hours sorting clothing, working at homeless shelters, cleaning pens and feeding animals at shelters, distribute and serve meals in soup kitchens and/or senior/family food programs, tutor students or read to seniors. If volunteer opportunities present themselves between meetings, and the members agree to participate, the motion can be brought up at the next meeting. Please be sure to wear Auxiliary apparel or insignia when volunteering!



“Reach Out to Help and Honor – National 1st Responders Day – October 28th

Our members continue to be ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families”** while ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond”** to enhance the VFW Auxiliary image in our communities. Loyalty, *Judy*

WAYS AND MEANS PROGRAM – MARCIA MCKINNEY, CHAIRMAN
 PO BOX 405 ~ REMSEN, NY 13438

Cell Telephone: (315) 725-6582 – Email: mmmckinney24@aol.com



The Ways and Means Program is coming along quite well. Prior to Fall Conference 79.9% of Auxiliaries in the Department had already purchased 9-month calendar tickets. VFW Auxiliary to Lt. Cyrus Garney III Post No. 1323 (D8) was the lucky winner of the first 9-month raffle ticket drawn at Fall Conference. They and will receive \$120 as it was both the buyer and seller of the ticket. Each day I am amazed to receive more envelopes in the mail. Every two weeks I forward checks that I receive to Department Treasurer Kim White. So there are no discrepancies, the deposit is reconciled before sending the report to Department Program Coordinator PDP Irene Rohde who places an “x” in the boxes!

“Think Green” raffle tickets were mailed if your Auxiliary did not have a representative attending the Fall Conference. The tickets were printed on green paper to follow the “Think Green” theme. If you missed the details on this new raffle, here are the highlights: Only 1,000 tickets will be sold – Donation is \$20.00 per ticket – There will be 15 winners. The prize payout is as follows: 1st place \$1,500 – 2nd place \$1,000 – 3rd to 5th place \$500 each – and 6th to 15th place \$100 each.

If you do not attend your meetings and are interested in purchasing a ticket(s) please reach out to me. Remember! Only 1,000 tickets will be sold. Let me know if you are interested in selling tickets – I will send them to you.

The Ways and Means Program is important to the Department as it helps offset the cost of running the office expenses. This includes insurance, mailings, etc. In the past our raffles have been a great success. So please earn the “X” for your Auxiliary participation on the Program Report Form. I wish to extend to you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving.

“Soaring Above and Beyond” ... “United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.”

Loyalty, *Marcia*

VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

Deborah L. Cenni, Editor ~ *Auxiliary News*
36 Parkside Street ~ Mayville, NY 14757

**INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE FROM
2021-2022 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN
DARLENE BAKER**

Thanksgiving Day ...
is the annual holiday to celebrate the harvest and
other blessings of the past year.

While we continue to work through the pandemic
and refugees are welcomed into our communities,
may we take the time to reflect on the past and all
the successes we achieved as an organization.

Look into the future to find ways that we can
continue to grow and remain ... **“United to
Defend Veterans and Their Families”** while ...
“Soaring Above and Beyond.”

Have a blessed Thanksgiving Holiday!



AUXILIARY NEWS ~ The Official Communication of the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York



PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT
LINDA LaROSA, CHAIRMAN
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MAYBROOK, NY 12543
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Email: llarosa60@gmail.com

Happy Fall Everyone! Next season is winter! Speaking of winter, the VA sponsors many types of sporting events and clinics for Veterans. One event is the “National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic.” Veterans are trained in “adaptive” Alpine and Nordic skiing, sled hockey, scuba diving, rock wall climbing and other sports and activities. This clinic began in 1987 and has grown from 90 participants to nearly 400. The clinics are held in Snowmass, CO (near Aspen). Search Google to learn more.

Thank you to all who have already ordered shirts and sweatshirts. I am taking shirt orders from now until March 1, 2022 for delivery at Spring Conference. Remember! The more shirts you sell, the more money we can give to these Awesome Veterans. You do not have to be a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member to wear the shirts. Anyone can wear our Special Project t-shirts and sweatshirts.

We are ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond”** and ...
**“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans
and Their Families!”**

Loyally, *Linda*

WEARING THE OFFICIAL CAP

In the absence of procedures in our Bylaws for wearing the Official Cap, National President Jean Hamil has issued the following ruling (which supercedes then National President Sandi Kriebel’s ruling dated June 28, 2019):

“If you choose to wear the Official VFW Auxiliary Cap, it will remain on your head for TAPS, the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem. Caps will be removed for the prayer, IF the VFW or Auxiliary Chaplain removes their cap and/or IF the Auxiliary Chaplain is not wearing a cap.”

Other information pertaining to the caps:

- 1) If uncovering, the hat shall be placed on the extended closed fingers of the right hand in such a way that the Cross of Malta is exposed and held over the heart; the left hand goes behind the back as in parade rest.
- 2) Official caps will NOT be worn during luncheons, banquets or other meals.
- 3) If you are unable to see the Chaplain and are unsure if they removed their cap, please remove your cap.