

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

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JUNE 2022**EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

JUNE 7 TO 12

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
MARRIOTT HOTEL ~ ALBANY

JUNE 14 – FLAG DAY

JUNE 19 – FATHER'S DAY
CELEBRATED SINCE 1908

JUNE 20 – SUMMER SOLSTICE
ARRIVES 5:14 AM EDT
MOST DAYLIGHT OF THE YEAR!

JULY 16 TO 21, 2022

NATIONAL CONVENTION
KANSAS CITY, MO

SEPTEMBER 10, 202210TH ANNUAL CAFÉ EVENT**PDP AND OFFICER BIRTHDAYS****JUNE**

1 ~ FLORENCE BANKS
(DEPT PRESIDENT 1993-94)
3 ~ SHARON CONNOLLY
(DEPT PRESIDENT 2000-01)
27 ~ BARBARA HODGES
(DEPT PRESIDENT 2009-10)
27 ~ JUSTINE ROBLES
(DEPT CONDUCTRESS 2021-22)

JULY

4 ~ LISA RAPLEE
DEPT. PRESIDENT 2022-23
4 ~ KIM WHITE
DEPT. TREASURER 2022-23

AUXILIARY NEWS ~ June 2022***Visit the Department of New York Website: www.vfwauxny.org***

Dear Auxiliary Members,

Thank you to each and every one of you for supporting the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York this year and for all you gave to meet the needs of our Veterans, their families,

and your communities.

Due to the restrictions that were in place, we started out slow. However, you proved that we could rise above adversity leaving no person behind. Your acts of kindness made this an absolutely wonderful year for the Department, the State Commander Mike Hoag, and me. It didn't matter where I went, I was always met with smiles, friendship and kind hearts from both VFW and Auxiliary members. You are responsible for making my Auxiliary journey in the Department the trip of a lifetime.

Dee Ippolito and her team did an amazing job organizing and preparing for our National President Jean Hamil's visit to Buffalo, NY. Jean was escorted through an Aisle of Honor upon her arrival at the airport, dined at VFW Post 416, visited the Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park and WNY Healthcare/VA Hospital, and attended a dinner in her honor at Russell's Steaks, Chops & More. Our National President was very impressed by the attendance of so many of our VFW members. My heartfelt thanks goes out to the Auxiliary and VFW members who attended the events. You all certainly made a positive impression.

The Department Convention is scheduled for June 8 to 11 at the Marriott Hotel in Albany. The hotel reservation deadline is May 17th. Deanna Guyette is Registration Chairman and Marie McClumpha the President's Awards Luncheon Chairman. I look forward to seeing many of you there as we welcome National Conductress Lois Callahan as our National Auxiliary Representative to our Convention.

The 109th National Convention is being held July 16-21, 2022 in Kansas City, MO. Advance Registration is due May 31st. Most importantly, please attend to support our candidate, Jane Reape. Let's all cast our delegate votes and help her to get elected and be our next VFW Auxiliary National President!

My best wishes for a successful 2022-2023 to all newly Elected and Appointed Auxiliary, County Council, and District Officers. What an honor it has been to install many of you this year! President-elect, Lisa Raplee, thank you for your support this year. I extend my best wishes to you, the Line Officers, and your team for a successful year.

My sincerest appreciation to my Advisor Mary Kruezer, Chief of Staff Karen Dotson, Department Line Officers, and the lady behind the pen, Debbie Cenni, who kept the information flowing and made sure we all adhered to the timelines necessary to keep the Department moving forward into the beginning of the 2022-2023 year. Thank you for your years of service to the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York.

To the Department Program Chairmen, District, County Council, Auxiliary Presidents, and members of the Department of New York, thank you for your ongoing support and for always making me feel welcome. Your kindness has been immeasurable!

Thank you to my VFW Post and Auxiliary No. 8734, Cattaraugus-Allegany County Council, District 6, my children, family, friends, and my employer, NYS DOCCS, for allowing me to pay honor to our Veterans.

To my State Commander Mike Hoag and all Veterans, thank you for your service and the sacrifices you made. Your dedication and commitment to our Country is what makes it possible for the Auxiliary to exist. It is a privilege you bestowed upon me that allowed me to proudly serve as your Department President.

Let us all continue to ... **“Soar Above and Beyond”** as we remain committed to being ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.”**

**God Bless all of You,
God Bless our Veterans,
God Bless America!**

Loyally, *Ruth*



DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK ELECTION OF OFFICERS ~ 2022-2023

Letters of Endorsement were read for candidates at Spring Conference. [Edited] Endorsements for Guard are below.
Department Line Officers will be elected by the Council of Administration to serve for 2022-2023.

Congratulations to the following Department of New York Elected Line Officers:

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT: LISA RAPLEE; SENIOR VICE: Rosalie Cooper; JUNIOR VICE: Darlene Baker
TREASURER: Kim White; CHAPLAIN: Justine Robles; CONDUCTRESS: Belinda Cole; GUARD: Charlene Hooper
NATIONAL DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER NO. 4: Bonnie Burgy; EASTERN CONFERENCE PRESIDENT: Karen Dotson

[Content edited for space] We, the members of Eastern Orleans Memorial VFW Auxiliary Post #202 hereby endorse Ronald E. Boyd, to run for the high office of Guard for the Department of New York VFW Auxiliary.

A Cold War Veteran, serving twice in Germany, Ron went on to graduate from Monroe CC and SUNY Brockport, and then began a career as an educator with the Rochester City School District retiring after 29 years as a teacher and school librarian.

A founding member of the Men's VFW Auxiliary in Holley, Ron became a member of Auxiliary Post #202 in January 2018. Ron's officer history includes Auxiliary Chaplain (2018-2019); Secretary (2019-2022); District #7 Sr Vice President (2019-2021); President for District #7 (2021-present).

Charlene Favata, Auxiliary President

[Content edited for space] It is with great pride that the VFW Auxiliary to Lt. Cyrus Garnsey VFW Post 1323 of Seneca Falls endorses Charlene Hooper as a candidate for the office of Department Guard.

She is a Life Member of Auxiliary 1323 joining in 2014 under her father, Marine Corporal David Fourneir, a Vietnam Veteran. She has been Auxiliary Treasurer, District 8 President (2021-22) and in 2018-19 District President of the Year. She was Department Hospital Chairman in 2020-2021.

Charlene is a life member of the National Home for Children and a member of American Legion Unit 0366 Auxiliary in Seneca Falls. She has 2 grown boys, Joshua and Anthony, and four granddaughters. We like you to consider voting for Charlene Hooper for the high office of Department of New York Guard.

Loyally, Bonnie Talbot Auxiliary President

The following announcements were received from the VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

The Department of New York
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary
Proudly Presents **Jane Reape**

For the high office of NATIONAL PRESIDENT

At the 109th National Convention to be held in
Kansas City, Missouri – July 16 – 21, 2022

We request your support of our candidate.

Ruth Huber, 2021-2022 Department President
Lisa Raplee, 2022-2023 Department President

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary
Department of Utah Proudly Presents **Carla J. Martinez**
For the high office of NATIONAL SR. VICE PRESIDENT

At the 109th National Convention to be held in
Kansas City, Missouri – July 16 to 21, 2022

Please join us in support of our candidate.

K. Jeannie Luddington, Dept Pres. – Sheila Steele, Dept Secretary

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary
The Department of Missouri Proudly Presents **Brenda Bryant**
For the office of NATIONAL JR. VICE PRESIDENT

At the 109th National Convention to be held in
Kansas City, Missouri – July 16 to 21, 2022

Please join us in support of our candidate.

Janet Barlar, Dept President – Jackie Davis, Dept Secretary

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary
The Department of Connecticut Proudly Presents **Ann Panteleakos**
For the Office of NATIONAL TREASURER

At the 109th National Convention to be held in
Kansas City, Missouri – July 16 to 21, 2022

Please join us in support of our candidate.

Kim McCarroll, Dept President – Sharon Messenger, Dept Secretary

The Department of Arkansas
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary
Proudly Presents **Lois Callahan**

For the office of NATIONAL CHAPLAIN
At the 109th National Convention to be held in
Kansas City, Missouri – July 16 to 21, 2022

Please join us in support of our candidate.

Kim Davis, Dept President – Laurie Herman, Dept Secretary

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary
Department of Pennsylvania

Proudly Presents **Donna K. Mills**

For the office of NATIONAL CONDUCTRESS

At the 109th National Convention to be held in
Kansas City, Missouri – July 16 to 21, 2022

Pamela Sopher, Department President

Jodie Hollinger, Department Secretary

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of California

Proudly Presents **Joyce A. Bilyeu**

For the High Office of NATIONAL GUARD

at the 109th National Convention to be held in
Kansas City, Missouri – July 2022

We kindly request your support of our candidate.

Kathy Smith, Department President 2021-2022

Gwendolyn Rankin, PNP Department Secretary 2021-2022

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of New Mexico
And the Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of New Mexico

Proudly Presents **Jeanette D. Garcia**

For the High Office of NATIONAL GUARD

At the 109th National Convention to be held in
Kansas City, Missouri – July 16 to 21, 2022

Betty Decker, Department President

Roy Maldonado, Department Commander

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary
Department of Arizona Proudly Presents **Kim Harney**

As a candidate for the Office of NATIONAL GUARD

At the 109th National Convention in
Kansas City, Missouri – July 16 - 21, 2022.

Please join us in support of our candidate.

Janae Kemery, Department President

Kim Sloan, Department Secretary/Treasurer

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENTS OF THE YEAR AND RUNNER-UP PRESIDENTS OF THE YEAR!**DISTRICT PRESIDENT – ANN FERGUSON (DISTRICT 6)****RUNNER-UP – BELINDA COLE (DISTRICT 3) – RUNNER-UP – AGNES STAMPP (DISTRICT 5)****COUNTY COUNCIL PRESIDENT – PATRICIA CRATER (CATTARAUGUS-ALLEGANY CC, DISTRICT 6)****RUNNER-UP – FRANCES RUOCCO (BROOKLYN CC, DISTRICT 1)**

Membership Group I – President – Ann Ferguson (Aux. 5861, D6)	Runner-up – Julie Sherman (Aux. 3529, D5)
Membership Group II – President – Kim Goulette (Aux. 8444, D3)	Runner-up – Nancy Barrett (Aux. 2913, D1)
Membership Group III – President – Karen Dotson (Aux. 412, D8)	Runner-up – Mary Ellen Rosato (Aux. 9594, D3)
Membership Group IV – President – Donna Bates (Aux. 3146, D5)	Runner-up – Donna Caudy (Aux. 2064, D2)
Membership Group V – President – Doris Ippolito (Aux. 2940, D6)	Runner-up – Amy Darling (Aux. 7545, D6)
	Runner-up – Judy Lefebvre (Aux. 309, D9)
Membership Group VI – President – Lorene Ortiz (Aux. 5296, D6)	Runner-up – Raymond Sheldon (Aux. 2522, D6)
	Runner-up – DeeDee Guyette (Aux. 7227, D4)

MEMBERSHIP – Chris Leavor, Chairman**The 50-yard Dash Award:** VFW Auxiliary to Pulaski Memorial Post No. 7289 (D5)

\$100 drawing to the Auxiliary that attained at least 30% of its annual members processed by September 1, 2021

Vaulting Into the Membership Year Award: \$50 to VFW Auxiliary to SSG Michael Ollis Post No. 9587 (D2)

(\$50 drawing for Auxiliaries that attained at least 85% in membership by October 15, 2021. They did not qualify for an additional \$50 for also retaining at least 50% of its annual members.)

Rounding the Bases Award: \$100 to VFW Auxiliary to Pine Valley Memorial Post No. 2522 in (Cherry Creek, D6).

They were 98.98% with over 86% retained. (\$50 drawing for Auxiliaries that attained at least 95% in membership by November 30, 2021. \$50 additional if the Auxiliary also retained at least 75% of its annual members.)

Worth Your Weight(lifting) Award: \$100 to VFW Auxiliary to Chili Memorial Post No. 412 (D8).

They were 100% and had 98% retained. (\$50 drawing for Auxiliaries that attain 100% in membership by December 31, 2021. \$50 additional, if the Auxiliary also retained at least 98% of its annual members.)

Shooting for the Bull's Eye Award: VFW Aux. to Bethlehem Memorial Post No. 3185 (Delmar, D3).

(Life Membership Drawing for Auxiliaries that retain 100% of its annual members by February 28, 2022 and have at least 5 new or rejoined members. The Auxiliary must provide information to the Department Treasurer before May 1, 2022.)

Membership Hurdles Award: To be announced at Department Convention

(Life Membership to the member who recruits the most new and/or rejoined members as of June 1, 2022. If the recruiter is already a Life Member, he/she will receive \$200.00.) (Drawing if there is a tie.)

Membership Parkour Award: To be announced at Department Convention(\$100 to the Auxiliary in each membership group with the highest membership percentage as of June 1, 2022.

(Drawing if a tie.) This will include deceased members whose 2022 dues were processed before passing away.)

Membership Pentathlon Award: To be announced at Department Convention

\$100 to the Auxiliary with the BEST program to REJOIN members. The report MUST include details.

Auxiliary Presidents who received medals:**Bronze medal to Auxiliary Presidents whose chairman reported at least one membership drive by October 1, 2021:****District 1 – 8160; District 2 – 1374; District 3 – 2475, 7062, 8692, 9594; District 4 – 1400; District 5 – 2250, 7325, 8137; District 6 – 1017, 1419, 2940, 5296, 5798, 5861, 7545, 8647; 9249, 9487 and Erie CC; District 8 – 412, 8649; District 9 – 309, 6338****Silver medal to Auxiliary Presidents whose chairman reported one membership training session by March 1, 2022:****District 1 – 9592; District 2 – 5491; District 3 – 8444; District 4 – 1400, 7227; District 5 – 3529, 7289, 7290; District 6 – 557, 898, 1419, 1619, 2522, 2530, 2721, 2940, 5296, 5798, 5861, 6251, 6390, 6472, 6533, 7545, 8647, 8734, 9249, 9487; Catt-Alle CC, Erie CC and District 6; District 7 – 202, 313, 547, 1483, 1602, 2535, 6780, 8961 and District 7; District 8 – 412, 9251; District 9 – 5802, 6338****Gold medal to Auxiliary Presidents who report attending Zoom OTI, Fall Conference and Spring Conference and attain 100% in membership by May 31, 2022.****Auxiliaries reaching 100% membership by May 31, 2022 will receive a certificate.****WAYS AND MEANS 9-MONTH TICKET PROGRAM – Marcia Williams, Chairman**

\$100 Fall Conference – VFW Auxiliary to Lt. Cyrus Garney III Post No. 1323 (D8). Auxiliary was also the seller for \$20.

\$100 November – VFW Auxiliary to Earl J. Santimaw Post No. 1143 (Massena, D9). Auxiliary was the seller for \$20.

\$100 December – VFW Auxiliary to James J. Cruden Post No. 5007 (Gowanda, D6). Auxiliary was the seller for \$20.

\$100 January – VFW Auxiliary to Yates County Post No. 745 (Penn Yan, D8). Auxiliary was also the seller for \$20.

\$100 February – VFW Auxiliary to Watervliet City Post No. 729 (D 3). Auxiliary was also the seller for \$20.

\$100 March – VFW Auxiliary to John W. Tiffany Post No. 53 (Jamestown, D6). Auxiliary was the seller for \$20.

\$100 April – VFW Auxiliary to District 6. District 6 was the seller and will receive an additional \$20.

\$100 May – Terry McGarr, VFW Auxiliary to Queensbury Post No. 6196 (D3). Aux. was the seller for \$20.

\$200 Final Drawing – VFW Auxiliary to Hamburg Township Post No. 1419 (Erie CC, D6).

\$\$Think Green\$\$ winners were drawn at Department Convention and will be listed in the next *Auxiliary News*!



PROGRAM AWARDS PRESENTED AT DEPARTMENT CONVENTION – Albany, NY
First Place - \$20; Second - \$15; Third - \$10. Presidential Citation to County Council and District President

AMERICANISM – Doris Ippolito, Chairman

Group I	First – 8139 (D5)	Second – 5861 (Erie CC, D6);	Third – 3529 (D5)
Group II	First – 547 (D7);	Second – 600 (D4);	Third – 5798 (Erie CC, D6)
Group III	First – 8649 (D8);	Second – 412 (D8)	Third – 8692 (D3)
Group IV	First – 125 (D9);	Second – 1374 (Putnam CC, D2);	Third – 9587 (D2)
Group V	First – 309 (D9);	Second – 2940 (Erie CC, D6);	Third – 7545 (Erie CC, D6)
Group VI	First – 2522 (D6);	Second – 7227 (D4);	Third – 8734 (Catt-Alle, D6)
Group VI	Honorable Mention – Aux. 2721 (Catt-Alle, D6) and Aux. 8647 (D6)		
County Council Presidential Citation	Erie CC – Rosalie Cooper, President		
District Presidential Citation	District 5 – Agnes Stampp, President		
Special Citation for use of #auxiliarpatriotism	– Karen Mack, posthumously – Aux. 2522 (D6)		

AUXILIARY COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM – Judy Lefebvre, Chairman

Group I	First – 5861 (Erie CC, D6);	Second – 416 (Erie CC, D6)	Third – 4947 (D2);
Group II	First – 9251 (D8);	Second – 3357 (D9);	Third – 6390 (D6)
Group III	First – 9594 (D3);	Second – 8649 (D8);	Third – 1017 (D6)
Group IV	First – 6196 (D3);	Second – 1938 (D3);	Third – 7290 (D5)
Group V	First – 5491 (Putnam CC, D2);	Second – 6251 (Erie CC, D6);	Third – 7545 (Erie CC, D6)
Group VI	First – 5538 (D4);	Second – 1371 (D5);	Third – 7227 (D4)
County Council Presidential Citation	Erie CC – Rosalie Cooper, President		
District Presidential Citation	District 6 – Ann Ferguson, President		

“BUDDY”® POPPY / VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN – Karen Scheuneman, Chairman

Group I	First – 1498 (D3);	Second – 5861 (Erie CC, D6);	Third – 4823 (D7)
Group II	First – 3357 (D9);	Second – 9251 (D8);	Third – 2913 (D1)
Group III	First – 8649 (D8);	Second – 9594 (D3);	Third – 412 (D8)
Group IV	First – 3146 (D5);	Second – 1374 (Putnam CC, D2);	Third – 8259 (D4)
Group V	First – 2940 (Erie CC, D6);	Second – 7545 (Erie CC, D6)	Third – 2535 (D7)
Group VI	First – 7227 (D4);	Second – 9249 (Erie CC, D6);	Third – 7062 (D3)
County Council Presidential Citation	Erie CC – Rose Cooper, President		
District Presidential Citation	District 8 – Charlene Hooper, President		

BUDDY POPPY DISPLAY: Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign – Olean Aux. 1619 (D6)

Memorial or Inspirational – Little Valley Aux. 8734 (D6)

Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies – Silas Wainwright Aux. 6338 (Gouverneur, D9)

CHIEF OF STAFF – Karen Dotson, PDP, Chairman

Group I	First – 3529 (D5);	Second – 5861 (Erie CC, D6);	Third – 973 (D2)
Group II	First – 7338 (D3);	Second – 3357 (D9);	Third – 9251 (D8)
Group III	First – 8692 (D3);	Second – 8649 (D8);	Third – 412 (D8)
Group IV	First – 3146 (D5)	Second – 9587 (D2);	Third – 125 (D9)
Group V	First – 982 (D4);	Second – 6764 (D6);	Third – 7545 (Erie CC, D6)
Group VI	First – 8647 (D6);	Second – 5296 (Catt-Alle, D6);	Third – 7227 (D4)
County Council Presidential Citation	Erie CC – Rosalie Cooper, President		
District Presidential Citation	District 3 – Belinda Cole, President		
Award No. 1 – Strengthening Auxiliary of the Year Award	– Citation and \$25 – Tina Roberts, President – Aux. 8649 (D8)		

HOSPITAL – Peggy Schweitzer, Chairman

Group I	First – 4947 (D2)	Second – 2159 (D2);	Third – 5861 (Erie CC, D6)
Group II	First – 8444 (D3)	Second – 6776 (D3);	Third – 9251 (D8)
Group III	First – 412 (D8);	Second – 1017 (D6);	Third – 9594 (D3)
Group IV	First – 3146 (D5);	Second – 7127 (D5);	Third – 9592 (D1)
Group V	First – 5913 (D2);	Second – 5491 (Putnam CC, D2);	Third – 8495 (D8)
Group VI	First – 9249 (Erie CC, D6);	Second – 2522 (D6);	Third – 369 (D5)
County Council Presidential Citation	Erie CC – Rosalie Cooper, President		
District Presidential Citation	District 6 – Ann Ferguson, President		
Hospital Volunteer of the Year	– Plaque plus \$100 cash – Maria DeLourdes Dallin – Aux. 4947 (D2)		

PROGRAM AWARDS PRESENTED AT DEPARTMENT CONVENTION – Albany, NY**LEGISLATIVE – Belinda Cole, Chairman**

Group I	First – 2718 (D1);	Second – 3529 (D5)	Third – 2159 (D2)
Group II	First – 2913 (D1);	Second – 9251 (D8);	Third – 4658 (D8)
Group III	First – 412 (D8);	Second – 8649 (D8);	Third – 9594 (D3)
Group IV	First – 9592 (D1);	Second – 1374 (Putnam CC, D2);	Third – 125 (D9)
Group V	First – 1231 (D9);	Second – 1384 (D1);	Third – 7545 (Erie CC, D6)
Group VI	First – 1371 (D5);	Second – 7227 (D4);	Third – 1470 (D5)

County Council Presidential Citation Erie CC – Rosalie Cooper, President

District Presidential Citation District 8 – Charlene Hooper, President

\$50 Award to Auxiliary that excelled in Legislative Education – Goodrich Smith Aux # 8649 (D8)

\$50 Award to Auxiliary that excelled in Legislative Participation – Unitas Memorial Aux # 9594 (D3)

\$50 Award to Auxiliary Member who excelled in Legislative Involvement – Louise Cole – Glenn A. Warner Aux 1371 (D5)

MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP – Tamara Cummings, Chairman

Group I	First – 3529 (D5);	Second – 4947 (D2)	Third – 361 (D1)
Group II	First – 4658 (D8);	Second – 3357 (D9);	Third – 2913 (D1)
Group III	First – 9594 (D3);	Second – 8649 (D8);	Third – None qualified
Group IV	First – 1938 (D3);	Second – 1374 (Putnam CC, D2);	Third – 8259 (D4)
Group V	First – 5491 (Putnam CC, D2);	Second – 1384 (D1);	Third – 2940 (Erie CC, D6)
Group VI	First – 1371 (D5);	Second – 9249 (Erie CC, D6);	Third – 8734 (Catt-Alle, D6)

County Council Presidential Citation Putnam CC – Anne Marie Vicario, President

District Presidential Citation District 9 – Jeff Platt, President

Citation and gift from Chairman for Outstanding Mentor/Leader Award

Group II – Karen Scheuneman, Lt. Boyd and Sgt. Parker Aux. 547 (D7)

Group III – Tina Roberts, President – Goodrich Smith Aux. 8649 (D8)

Group VI – Deborah Cenni, President – Lake Chautauqua Memorial Aux. 8647

SCHOLARSHIPS – Dolores Sheeley, Chairman

Group I	First – 6811 (D4);	Second – 5195 (Brooklyn CC, D1);	Third – 1955 (D5)
Group II	First – 6472 (Erie CC, D6);	Second – 7172 (D2);	Third – 6776 (D3)
Group III	First – 8649 (D8);	Second – 6778 (D8);	Third – 2354 (D5)
Group IV	First – 2064 (D2);	Second – 6001 (D4);	Third – 5199 (D1)
Group V	First – 2940 (Erie CC, D6);	Second – 982 (D4);	Third – 8645 (D2)
Group VI	First – 7227 (D4);	Second – 7062 (D3);	Third – 9249 (Erie CC, D6)

County Council Presidential Citation None qualified District Presidential Citation None qualified

Patriot's Pen written essay contest – “How Can I Be A Good American?”

First Place – Ava R. Bedard – VFW Post No. 1418 – Champlain – District #9

Second Place – Aaron Orvis – Dionne Rumble VFW Post No. 7227 – Carthage – District #4

Third Place – Paul Hayden – Moravia VFW Post No. 7127 – Moravia – District #5

Voice of Democracy audio essay contest – “America: Where Do We Go From Here?”

First Place – Daniela Mare – William Francis Taylor VFW Post No. 9486 – Lake Ronkonkoma – District #1

Second Place – Joshua Farrell – VFW Post No. 1418 – Champlain – District #9

Third Place – Mary Quinn – Lockport VFW Post No. 2535 – Lockport – District #7

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

First – Jessica Daley – Sophomore at Portville Central School – Sponsored by Olean Aux. No. 1619 (Catt-Alle CC, D6)

Continuing Education Scholarship – Patricia Caputo was named the winner of the Eastern Conference. She is a single mom and life member of VFW Auxiliary to Post No. 493 in Nutley, NJ. Her grandfather is a Past State Commander.

VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT – Darlene Baker, Chairman

Group I	First – 5861 (Erie CC, D6);	Second – 313 (D7);	Third – 3350 (D1)
Group II	First – 9251 (D8)	Second – 6776 (D3);	Third – 1314 (D3)
Group III	First – 412 (D8);	Second – 8649 (D8);	Third – 9594 (D3)
Group IV	First – 3146 (D5);	Second – 7127 (D5);	Third – 6196 (D3)
Group V	First – 309 (D9);	Second – 2940 (Erie CC, D6);	Third – 1384 (D1)
Group VI	First – 6912 (D4);	Second – 1371 (D5);	Third – 1400 (D4)

County Council Presidential Citation Erie CC – Rosalie Cooper, President

District Presidential Citation District 3 – Belinda Cole, President



PROGRAM AWARDS PRESENTED AT DEPARTMENT CONVENTION – Albany, NY

YOUTH ACTIVITIES – Cindy Winzenried, Chairman

Group I	First – 8139 (D5);	Second – 8137 (D5);	Third – 5861 (Erie CC, D6)
Group II	First – 4658 (D8)	Second – 8444 (D3);	Third – 6776 (D3)
Group III	First – 9594 (D3);	Second – 8649 (D8)	Third – 412 (D8)
Group IV	First – 125 (D9);	Second – 1374 (Putnam CC, D2);	Third – 7290 (D5)
Group V	First – 2940 (Erie CC, D6);	Second – 5491 (Putnam CC, D2);	Third – 7545 (Erie CC, D6)
Group VI	First – 9249 (Erie CC, D6);	Second – 7227 (D4);	Third – 8487 (Catt-Allegany, D6)

County Council Presidential Citation Erie CC – Rosalie Cooper, President

District Presidential Citation District 6 – Ann Ferguson, President

Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue! vocal contest: No entries submitted

Illustrating America contest: Citation and \$25

- Grades K-2 – Malia Fluder – Sponsored by Lake Ontario Auxiliary 313 (Youngstown, D7)
- Grades 3-5 – Breana Hardy – Sponsored by Chili Memorial Auxiliary 412 (Rochester, D8)
- Grades 6-8 – Savannah Haley – Sponsored by Edwards-Wevers Auxiliary 7290 (North Syracuse, D5)

CANCER GRANT FUND – Linda Flanagan, Chairman

Ticket Drawing – Fall Conference and Spring – First place – \$75.00; Second place – \$50.00; Third place – \$25.00

Congratulations to the Fall Conference Cancer Grant Fund ticket winners:

- First Drawing \$75 – VFW Auxiliary to Eastern Orleans Memorial Post No. 202 (Holley, D7)
- Second Drawing \$50 – VFW Auxiliary to Albert A. Gonyea Memorial Post No. 3357 (Saranac Lake, D9)
- Third Drawing \$25 – Patricia Reschetnikow, Treasurer of VFW Shilling Burns Young Aux. No. 9591 (Clinton, D4)

Congratulations to the Spring Conference Cancer Grant Fund ticket winners: (updated March 2022)

- First Drawing \$75 – VFW Auxiliary to Greenwich Post No. 7291 (D3)
- Second Drawing \$50 – VFW Auxiliary to Rex Field Post No. 901 (Elmira, D5)
- Third Drawing \$25 – VFW Auxiliary to Robert F. Garrison Post No. 3350 (East Rockaway, D1)

VFW AUXILIARY 10th CELEBRATING AMERICA'S FREEDOM EVENT



Find more information about the location at the Flight 93 National Memorial website: nps.gov/flni

**FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL
SEPTEMBER 10, 2022**



WHEN – Saturday, September 10, 2022
 9/9: Arrivals
 9/10: Flight 93 National Memorial
 9/11: Departures

WHERE – Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

CAFE Registration is \$35.00 per person and will open 6/1/22 and end 8/12/22.

Bus to Flight 93 National Memorial Park included.

Hotel – Pittsburgh Green Tree DoubleTree by Hilton. Discount codes: CDTVFA & CDTVFW
 \$119.00 – Room Rate: 1 – King; 2 – Queen; King Suite. Reserve at 1-800-222-8733 by 8/8/22



CHIEF OF STAFF
PDP KAREN A. DOTSON, CHAIRMAN
 19 CALGARY LANE
 BINGHAMTON, NY 13901
 Tel: (607) 648-9271 – Email: kdvfvaux@aol.com

Dear Members, I would like to extend a sincere appreciation to all the Auxiliary members who participated in the “Did You Know?” zoom training sessions. The team’s hope was that you would receive additional insight on the key areas of our organization and able to utilize the training within the Auxiliary. It has been our pleasure to present these sessions to the Auxiliary members. Thank you to President Ruth, Debbie Cenni, Tamara Cummings, and DeeDee Guyette for your support in these training sessions.

Congratulations to Goodrich Smith Auxiliary No. 8649. They received the Department Chief of Staff Award #1 **Strengthening Auxiliary of the Year Award** for best use of the Chief of Staff Resources to strengthen an Auxiliary.

A quick reminder to all Auxiliary Presidents, refer to Bylaws Sec. 810—President Duties of - The President, within 30 days after induction into office shall submit to the Commander the last quarterly audit and membership status report. (You may provide a copy of the most current Audit and notate the total number of Auxiliary members.)

Thank you for all that you have done for our veterans, our active-duty personnel, their families and our members while **“Soaring Above and Beyond”** as we are ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.”** Loyally, *Karen, PDP*

HISTORIAN / MEDIA RELATIONS PROGRAM
KELLIANNE MARTINI, 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



The year is coming to an end but our work still has to go on! Make sure that your Auxiliary is taking advantage of the VFW Auxiliary Publicity Guide: **PUBLICITY**

- Proven methods of generating publicity
- What Auxiliary activities and events are newsworthy?
- What is the format for a news/press/media release?
- A template for creating your own local fact sheet
- Sample News Release
- TV & Radio Public Service Announcement samples
- Sample media interview with questions and answers



Press/media releases are a great way to get the word out about Auxiliary functions and what we are all about. Less is more! A few helpful hints include:

- Your release should not exceed one page; and never be more than one and half pages! The reason for this is reporters scan most press releases.
- Make sure you include all of the important who’s, what’s, where’s, when’s and why’s. Carefully proofread; use spell check; and then ask a friend to take a look!
- Always provide relevant links to your website or Facebook page, a copy of the National Fact Sheet and the National Elevator Speech where writers can learn more about your mission and what you’ve accomplished.
- Is this a story and a photo opportunity? If so, include a line at the top: Photo opportunity: then explain it!

It was an honor to serve as Department Historian/Media Relations Chairman this year and I did so with much excitement! **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families”** provided 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 cannot believe how quickly this year has blown by! It seems like just a day or two ago that Madam President Ruth honored me with the request that I accept this Chairmanship, and now, here I am writing my final newsletter.

I want to thank all the Auxiliaries in this great Department for your cooperation with this program. Every year the new Officers, new Ambassadors and new Department Chairmen present to you their vision for the programs. And every year you step up – take the challenges they present to you – and do your best to make their visions come true.

This year you have all played our Olympic Games in an outstanding fashion. We may not have made all our retention goals, but we certainly gave it our best and I THANK YOU sincerely for that. As I write this, we have over 100 Auxiliaries that have reached, or surpassed, the 100% mark. 32 only need one or two members. Do you think you might have an annual member, who hasn’t paid yet, who might be a candidate for help from your Relief Fund?

I am sure you reached out to those last few members, reminding them that they aren’t in good standing, and their membership will cease on June 30th. I hope when you spoke with them you asked them if they even want to continue as members. That will let them let their membership lapse without anymore “bugging” by us, and you can concentrate on those who do want to remain in this organization.

Please continue to work the Membership Program through June 30th. That’s the date for our final goals to be met. Please focus on the unretained annuals. Keep records, though. Year-end reports may have already been submitted, but our work never ceases. Everything you and your Auxiliary continue to do will be reported to the new Department Chairman after the Department Convention.

Continue being ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of our Veterans and Their Families”** while ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond.”** Loyally, *Chris*



MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP – TAMARA CUMMINGS, CHAIRMAN
125 ATLANTIC STREET – SALAMANCA, NY 14779
Telephone: (716) 244-3260– Email: tamara.dudleyhotel@gmail.com



Dear Members, It has been an honor to be the Co-Chairman with Chief of Staff Karen Dotson for the Mentoring for Leadership Program. It is my hope that each Auxiliary learned and passed on the valuable information that was presented this year. **“Tell me, and I forget, teach me, and I may remember, involve me, and I learn.”** – Benjamin Franklin

It is a very important part of the mentoring process to be involved. Mentoring is not just for the Leaders of your Auxiliary; it is for all your members. If they understand the what’s, why’s and how’s of our organization, it will make the Leaders job easier and hopefully enable your members to take on Leadership Roles in the future.

I realized this year, as a first time Chairman, that there is always something new to learn. Our organization grows and changes every year. Be sure to grow and change with it. Mentoring does

not stop at the end of a program year. To be effective, mentoring needs continue. The longer mentoring continues the better your Auxiliary will be prepared for the growth and change that is inevitable in any organization.

Congratulations to those that received awards. I hope that you enjoyed this program as much as I did this year. Best Wishes to President Ruth at National Convention and to the New Officers and Chairman of the “Great” Department of New York VFW Auxiliary as we ... **“Soared Above and Beyond”** and will remain ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Our Veterans and Their Families.”**

Respectfully submitted, *Tamara*



AMERICANISM PROGRAM / PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR
DORIS “DEE” IPPOLITO, CHAIRMAN
24 BLUE JAY CIRCLE ~ LANCASTER, NY 14086
Telephone: (716) 440-3411 – Email: dee.ippolito.017@gmail.com



“O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain ...”

Take time to honor our Veterans, Families and Community especially on the following patriotic holidays in June:

6 – D Day – The 1944 invasion of Normandy. The largest seaborne invasion in history. D Day began the liberation of France during World War II. Axis Powers were fooled by “rubber tanks and boats” in England and surprised on beaches of Normandy.

14 – Flag Day – commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States in 1777 by the Second Continental Congress.

20 – Father’s Day – a day to honor all fathers.

Thank you, President Ruth, for the honor of serving you as your Americanism/Patriotic Instructor this year! It has been my privilege to serve you, your line officers, PDPs, your program chairmen, and, above all, your Auxiliaries and their members this year. We have had fun learning how to use hashtags. Especially #auxiliarypatriotism to inform our Auxiliaries and our communities of our activities.

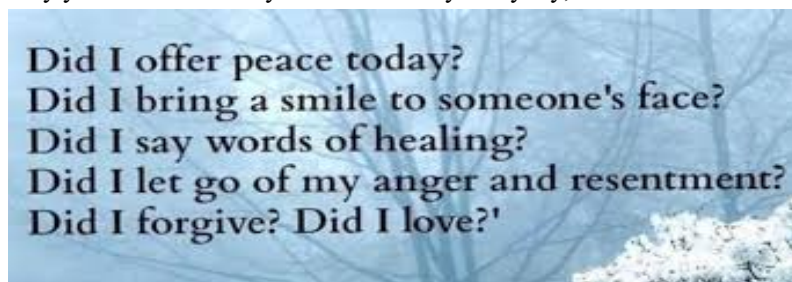
We have distributed U.S. flags, POW/MIA flags, honored our businesses for displaying their U.S. flags, collected donations through Wreaths Across America to place 900 wreaths at 90 cemeteries in New York on the graves of our fallen heroes, collected funds to send trees, decorations and menorahs to our troops serving overseas at the holidays and collected funds to send cards to our Veterans through ten Honor Flight hubs at their “Mail Call” as they traveled to visit Washington, DC.

Remember to continue to educate our youth and our communities through all your service to our Veterans and their families. Our youth are our future and instruction in the history of our great country and ways to honor our military and Veterans are a large part of that instruction. We continue **“Soaring Above and Beyond”** and remain ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Our Veterans and Their Families.”**

Thank you again for the opportunity to work with you all this year! All the best in the future! Loyally, *Dee*

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

I hope you enjoy the quote below by Henri J. M. Nouwen.
 May you continue to stay safe and healthy! Loyally, *Darlene*



On behalf of my family, I would like to thank everyone who sent cards, notes, emails, texts and other expressions of sympathy after the recent passing of my son-in-law. Thank you, brothers and sisters! You are the best!
 Love to you all,
 Donna Caudy



“BUDDY”® POPPY
VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN
KAREN SCHEUNEMAN, CHAIRMAN
 126 VISTA DRIVE – ARCADE, NY 14009
 Telephone: (585) 492-1994
 Email: wdstock90@yahoo.com



**Hats Off to the
 VFW Auxiliary Department of New York Membership!**

**Today was good.
 Today was fun!
 Thank You.
 Thank You Everyone!**



The Attendees of the 2022 VFW Auxiliary Department of New York Spring Conference received verbal recognition for the achievements of the “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children Program. Several highlights of the mentioned obtained goals were:



Thank You to the VFW Post Auxiliaries who generously contributed to the VFW Department of New York VFW National Home for Children Program Special Project: VFW National Home Early Education Center ~ Dr. Seuss Reading Corner. Items were purchased and delivered. Remaining proceeds will benefit the VFW National Home Early Education Center Program. Details will be provided in an email promotion and summarized in the 2022 Convention Program Report. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to all District Presidents for distribution to all those who have contributed to this worthy endeavor of bringing a smile to the pre-school students’ and teachers’ faces.



Thank You to the fourteen VFW Post Auxiliary Members who joined the VFW National Home for Children and qualified for the Life Membership Raffle. The Winner of the Raffle was Diane Rich (2535).



Thank You to the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York Membership for your support and participation. Thank You Department Madam President Ruth for the opportunity to serve as your appointed Chairman for the “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home for Children Program.

And Always Remember
And will you succeed?
Yes! You will, indeed!
(98 and 3/4 percent guaranteed)
KID, YOU’LL MOVE MOUNTAINS!
~Oh, the Places You’ll Go!



Congratulations to all the award recipients. Wishing you all “Good Luck” at the 2022 VFW Auxiliary National Convention!

Loyally, *Karen*

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



First Place Winners

- Category 1: VFW Post Auxiliary 1619
- Category 2: VFW Post Auxiliary 8734
- Category 3: VFW Post Auxiliary 6338



YOUTH ACTIVITIES
CINDY WINZENRIED, CHAIRMAN
 40 GROTON PKY ~ ROCHESTER, NY 14623
 Tel: (585) 230-9022 – Email: cindy@wwtruckn.com

I am pleased to announce the Youth Activities Program first place winners for the “Illustrating America” Art Contest.

Congratulations to the winners in each of the grade divisions:

- Grades K-2 – Malia Fluder – Sponsored by Lake Ontario Auxiliary 313 (Youngstown, D7)
- Grades 3-5 – Breana Hardy – Sponsored by Chili Memorial Auxiliary 412 (Rochester, D8)
- Grades 6-8 – Savannah Haley – Sponsored by Edwards-Wevers Auxiliary 7290 (North Syracuse, D5)

The first place art submissions have been mailed to National Headquarters for further judging.

Unfortunately, there were no submissions for the **“Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!”** singing contest.

Thank you to all the Auxiliaries that participated in the Youth Activities Program this year while ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond”** and being ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.”**

Loyally, *Cindy*

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



Hello Brothers and Sisters! Well, my year is coming to an end and I want to thank all the Auxiliaries that participated in the Legislative Program. This program is crucial for our Veterans and we are the many voices that speak loudly for their rights. Remember, that even though my year is almost over, that does NOT mean we stop advocating for our Veterans! Continue to fight for their rights by contacting your legislators! Sign up for *Action Corps Weekly* to keep yourself informed on current legislation. Share the link with your members www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-efforts, click on Action Corps Button, enter your email and zip code. It is packed full of updates on pending legislation such as the PACT ACT and other information needed to keep yourself well informed. We need to continue to EDUCATE, PARTICIPATE and GET OTHERS INVOLVED for our numbers will speak volumes!

Please! For our Veterans sake, do not stop engaging with our legislators. Not sure who to advocate with? To locate your assemblymember go to nyassembly.gov/mem/search/ type in your address, your senator: nysenate.gov/find-my-senator or representative: house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative. Be sure to save your reports and give them to next year’s Chairperson. Congratulations, again, on a job well done this year and keep up the good work!!

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*



SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM
DOLORES B. SHEELEY, CHAIRMAN
PO BOX 1025 – ROCK HILL, NY 12775

Tel: (845) 796-1322 ~ Email: sheeleyd@gmail.com

Hey Everyone!! I have BIG BIG BIG news!!
 Guess who won the National VOD Contest for a \$30,000
 Scholarship? Our very own Daniela Mare from
 VFW Post #9486 in Lake Ronkonkoma NY – District 1.
 How exciting is that?



Daniela Mare

The judging of the **Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest** has been completed and the Department of New York winner is **Jessica Daley – sponsored by VFW Auxiliary to Olean Post No. 1619**. Her painting has been sent to National Headquarters. Maybe we will have ANOTHER winner from New York.



And guess what else happened? Sammy and his cousin Randy had entries in the **Young American Patriotic Art Contest**. Their paintings were entitled “Purple Mountain Majesty” and Randy’s was entitled “Patriotic Sky.” They each measured 3” X 3” and were beautifully done. Unfortunately, they did not win, but the Committee gave them Honorable Mention. I have included their pictures for you all to see.



Don’t forget...we still have the **Continuing Education Scholarship** and our **National President Jean Hamil’s “Young American Creative**

Patriotic Art Escrow Fund”. See our National Website at: vfwauxiliary.org for more information.

It has been an EXCITING year for the Scholarships Program. I have been honored to be Chairman. Thank You President Ruth for your confidence in my ability to Chair the Scholarships Program for the Department of New York.

We have been ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Our Veterans and Their Families”** and will always be ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond.”** Loyally, *Dolores*

WAYS AND MEANS PROGRAM
MARCIA MCKINNEY WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN
PO BOX 405 ~ REMSEN, NY 13438
 Cell Tel: (315) 725-6582
 Email: mmmckinney24@aol.com



Wow! It’s hard to believe we are nearing the end of the year. It has gone by fast. We all know how important this program is for our Department. Think Green tickets will be sold right up to the Department Convention in June.

Every ticket sold means more funds for the Ways and Means program. Ways & Means funds support the Department in many ways. The success of this organization depends on you the members. I want to thank each and every one of you who supported 9-month calendar raffle, brought lottery tickets and/or purchased chances to win them and the Think Green tickets.

It can be challenging to come up with a good raffle to support the program. I did the best I could by thinking outside the box. Each year the chairman has to come up with a program idea that supports the Department Auxiliary.

The April raffle winner was Auxiliary to District 6 (also the seller). The May winner was PDP Terry McGarr from Queensbury Aux. No. 6196 (D3). The final \$200 drawing will be at June convention. Loyally, *Marcia*

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

VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT
DARLENE BAKER, CHAIRMAN
42 WILLARD DRIVE
BERNHARDS BAY, NY 13028
 Telephone: (315) 657-6909
 Email: dbaker1017@aol.com



Congratulations NEW YORK! You came out of the pandemic with achieving 100% in participation and/or donation in supporting our veterans, active duty military and their families, and your surrounding communities.

As you continue to be their Ambassadors, please continue to take blankets, personal care items to homeless veteran shelters, send cards and making telephone calls to veterans in communities that puts a smile on their face, take them to a doctor appointment and/or provide them assistance to cut their lawns. These little things will make their day!

Remember to hold your reports for the period starting April 1, 2022 for the incoming Veterans & Family Support Chairman. Do not send them to me! New Chairman’s information will be released to at the June 2022 Convention.

Best of luck to all Auxiliaries at the Convention! Best of luck to President Ruth at National.

“United to Defend Veterans and Their Families”
 while ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond”**

Loyally, *Darlene*



HOSPITAL PROGRAM
PEGGY SCHWEITZER, CHAIRMAN
 50 FRANKLIN AVENUE APT. 228
 CLINTON, NY 13323
 Telephone: (315) 853-2419
 Email: snowy4931@yahoo.com

Dear members, As I write my last Hospital Program newsletter article for this year, I am thinking about how far we have come. Many of our VA hospitals and clinics are still closed because of COVID. But, many of our non-VA hospitals and nursing homes are opening up again and we are beginning to start to do what we all love to do for our Veterans – volunteer and help and care for them!

Even though you will not receive this until after our June Convention, I would like to advise you of something that my Ambassador shared the first stanza of this poem with us:

“**BIVOUAC OF THE DEAD**” by Theodore O’Hara
*“The muffled drum’s sad roll has beat
 The soldier’s last tattoo;
 No more on life’s parade shall meet
 That brave and fallen few.
 On Fame’s eternal camping-ground
 Their silent tents are spread,
 And Glory guards, with solemn round,
 The bivouac of the dead.”*

Memorial Day, May 30, 2022, has passed by this year. However, I want to write a little bit about the Flower of Remembrance. “**In Flanders Fields**” was written by WWI Colonel John McCrae, a surgeon with Canada’s First Brigade Artillery. He expressed his “grief over the row on row of graves of soldiers who died on Flanders’ battlefield, located in a region of western Belgium and Northern France.

Today, Veterans at VA medical facilities and Veterans’ Homes help continue to assemble “Buddy”® Poppies, which are distributed by the VFW and other veterans’ organizations throughout the region.

Please reach out and visit veterans in the VA and non-VA facilities to present them with a “Buddy”® Poppy and share the story about Flanders Field and the story of the Flower of Remembrance.

I want to thank President Ruth for appointing me as your Hospital Chairman for this year. Even though we could not go into the VA hospitals, some of us were able to volunteer in our non-VA hospitals. It was wonderful reading all of your reports throughout the year and it was very difficult to choose winners since ALL the Auxiliaries thought outside of the box this year!

We will be ... “**Soaring Above and Beyond**” and ... “**United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families.**” Have a wonderful summer.

Loyally, *Peggy*



“BUDDY” POPPY®
 WEAR IT PROUDLY!



FROM THE SECRETARY AND EDITOR’S DESK
DEBORAH L. CENNI
Where has the time gone?



Dear Auxiliary members, The formatting and editing of this, my last, *Auxiliary News* edition is nearly complete. I would like to share my thoughts and a few memories.

Nearly 30 years ago I was asked to be a judge at the local VFW for the Patriot’s Pen and VOD Scholarships essays. As an educator, I was thrilled and promptly accepted.

One afternoon in 2005, my late husband, Ray, and I were guests at the Mayville VFW. At that time, our youngest son was active duty Army serving in Iraq. One of the bartenders said, “you should join the [Ladies] Auxiliary to support your son!” I knew the VFW was a place to go have a beer, but knew nothing else about the organization. I did not have Joe’s active duty documentation but did have a copy of my father’s DD214. My father was a WW II Navy Veteran. Shortly after that day, I joined as a life member and was soon appointed as Auxiliary Scholarships Chairman and became editor of the Post’s bi-monthly newsletter. I began to learn about all the great things the VFW and its Auxiliary does for Veterans, their families and the community.

One of the most memorable moments of my teaching career was being chosen as the 2009-10 VFW Department of New York Citizenship Education Teacher Award Recipient for grades 9 to 12. I was nominated by Post Commander Don Skellie and Auxiliary President Clara Dunbar. That year, the VFW Scholarships Chairman was Dennis Sullivan.

Continuing to May 2011. I was making preparations to retire as a public school business teacher and was ready to get involved and give back to my community. By then, I had attended a few County Council and District meetings.

It was May 2011 when I received a phone call from [then] Jr. Vice President Robin Giles. Robin told me I would be getting a call from [then] Sr. Vice President Jane Reape. Yes indeed! This woman, Jane, whom I had never met in person, called and asked if I would accept the appointment of Department of New York’s *Auxiliary News* Editor. I was humbled as I thought Department Chairmanships were only for very important people! I gratefully accepted! It is now 11 years and 99 editions later. *Where has the time gone?*

In 2015, I received a call from [then] Sr. Vice President Karen Dotson. She asked if I would accept the appointment of Department Secretary. Again, humbled as I thought the Department Secretary was only for a very important person. Here it is 2022 – six years later. *Where has the time gone?*

As I retire, I may be setting aside my calendar and pen, but will never forget the Objects of this Great organization. I thank, and will dearly miss, all those who supported me.

*God Bless You, God Bless Our Veterans
 God Bless America*

I would be remiss if I didn’t include my signature line ...

*“If you can read, thank a teacher.
 If you can read in English, thank a Veteran.”*

With much love and respect, *Debbie*

VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

Deborah L. Cenni, Editor ~ *Auxiliary News*

36 Parkside Street ~ Mayville, NY 14757



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

AUXILIARY COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM – JUDY LEFEBVRE, CHAIRMAN

316 PELLERIN ROAD ~ PLATTSBURGH, NY 12901

Telephone: (518) 563-7558 – (518) 593-5628 (C) – Email: biljud@aol.com

The mission of the Auxiliary Community Outreach Program is for Auxiliary members to coordinate with other organizations and to be visible in the community after Auxiliary approval has been recorded in the minutes.



Food Drives

Soup Kitchen

Animal Shelters

Cleanup

Senior Centers

1st Responders

Department of New York VFW Auxiliary members are awesome! They give of themselves every day. They have **“Reached Out to Help and Volunteered with Organizations”** on projects that benefited community members and improved the environment at the same time they **“Reached Out to Help and Support”** first responders and essential workers during and coming out of this COVID pandemic. Members from 92 Auxiliaries reported over 9,092 ½ volunteer hours at the same time they were ... **“United to Defend the Freedoms of Veterans and Their Families”** and were ... **“Soaring Above and Beyond.”**

Don’t Stop Now!! Continue to coordinate with other organizations, continue to record your activities in the minutes, continue to volunteer to improve your community. Report all these activities after April 1, 2022, to the 2022-2023 Auxiliary Outreach Chairman. **Don’t Stop Now!!**

Thank you for learning the differences between the VFW Community Service Program and the Auxiliary Community Outreach Program. Thank you for reporting your activities with other organizations that helped, served and improved your community and its residents. Thank you for remembering to report services to veterans, hospitals, nursing homes and youth activities to their respective programs. I am proud to be your sister. Loyally, **Judy**