



AUXILIARY NEWS ~ August/September 2022

The Official Communication of VFW Auxiliary Department of New York

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It is such an honor and privilege to be serving as your Department of New York VFW Auxiliary President for this year. I am so grateful to those who carried our great organization through such a challenging time over the last few years. It is through their challenging work and dedication that has gotten us all to the point of now being able to have in person meetings and conferences.

To Past Department President Helen Weeks, I have no words for your wonderful nomination speech. As my advisor and installing officer, I am forever grateful for your love, guidance, and friendship. I would like to thank Chris Leavor for agreeing to be my secretary and working to get the year off to a good start. To Kim White and Nina LeFrois for preparing my budget. An incredibly special thank you to my Post #8649 Goodrich Smith and my amazing Auxiliary. Your love and support make this journey extra special. Most importantly, I want to thank my family for your love, patience, and support through my journey.

My Special Project is Homeless Veteran's. All money raised through the t-shirt, sweatshirt, and decal sales, along with any of your special fundraisers will be divided evenly and distributed to the 13 VA facilities across the state.

My theme is, "United to Win the Race for Our Veteran's and Their Families." I chose this along with my Special Project because our Veterans are on an endless racecourse just to get the benefits to which they are entitled.

I have chosen some new Chairman this year along with some veteran chairman. They have worked extremely hard to put the programs together and are eagerly awaiting your first reports. If you have any questions, please contact them, and they will guide you through whatever situation comes up.

I would like to remind all Auxiliary, County Council and District Presidents, that it is imperative to adhere to the deadlines that are given by Department and National. We must work together to make sure we follow the guidelines and deadlines that are set by our Department and National Organization. Reminder that all bonds are due no later than August 31, 2022. Auxiliaries can process them through MALTA.

Please take the time to go over all materials that you received in your Presidents packet. Your guidebook will give you all the information you need for this year's programs. Included in the book is Report Form 1 and it should be completed and mailed to Department Treasurer Kim White by September 30th.

All District and County Council Presidents are reminded to please send me a list of your meeting dates so that I can complete my schedule for my official visits.

I look forward to seeing you all at this year in person OTI in Binghamton on August 5-6.

Together we will stand, "*United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families,*" "*With Hands that Serve and Hearts that Care.*"

Loyally, *Lisa*

Lisa Raplee, President, VFW Auxiliary Department of New York

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Department President Lisa Raplee

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(H) 607-678-0501, (C) 434-594-2539
lisavfwaux2425@outlook.com

Department Secretary Christine Leavor

2027 Cemetery Hill Road
Franklinville, NY 14737
716-676-2400, cal2027@hotmail.com

Department Treasurer Kimberly White

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Auxiliary News Editor DeeDee Guyette

43 High Street, Carthage, NY 13619
315-493-7520, dgullquist@verizon.net

PDP and OFFICER BIRTHDATES

AUGUST

15 - Mary Kreuzer, PDP
21 - Denise Ellen McHugh, PDP
28 - Nina LeFrois, PDP

SEPTEMBER

9 - Marianne McLane, PDP
11 - Rosalie Cooper, Sr. Vice



MARK YOUR CALENDERS

Aug 5-6... OTI (Officer Training Institute)
Double Tree Hotel, Binghamton

Aug 27... Dept Pres Lisa Raplee's Homecoming
VFW Post 8649, Dundee

Aug 31... DEADLINE to process Auxiliary Bond

Sep 10... National CAFÉ Event, Flight 93 Memorial
Shanksville, PA (Lodging in Pittsburgh, PA)

Sep 30... Donation Report Form due to Dept Treas.

Oct 1-3... National President Jane Reape's visit to NY
Location TBA

Oct 14-16... VFW and Auxiliary DNY Fall Conference
Mariott Hotel, Albany

SPECIAL ORDER # 1 ~ JUNE 13, 2022

(Shall be read at the FIRST meeting following receipt before being filed.)

Dear Auxiliary Presidents and Members,

Past National President Marion Watson (1981-1982) went to her Heavenly Home on June 10, 2022 in Louisville, KY. Auxiliaries are directed to drape their charter for a period of thirty (30) days. Condolences may be sent to: The Family of Marion Watson, 507 Cheskirk Place, Louisville, KY 49243-1702.

Loyally, **Chris Leavor**, Department Secretary

By Order of: Department President Lisa Raplee

SPECIAL ORDER # 2 ~ JUNE 30, 2022

(Shall be read at the FIRST meeting following receipt before being filed.)

Dear Auxiliary Presidents and Members,

Past National President Glenneta Vogelsang (1984-1985) went to her Heavenly Home on June 26, 2022 at Cape Girardeau, MO. Auxiliaries are directed to drape their charters for a period of thirty (30) days. Condolences may be sent to: The Family of Glenneta Vogelsang, Attn: Sharon Stausing, 617 W. Springfield Ave, Union, MO 63084-1707.

Loyally, **Chris Leavor**, Department Secretary

By Order of: Department President Lisa Raplee

GENERAL ORDERS # 1 ~ AUGUST 2022 – (Must be read at the FIRST meeting following receipt before being filed.)

1. Having been duly elected by acclamation and installed as Department President at the 97th annual convention held June 8-11, 2022 at the Marriott Hotel in Albany, NY, and working in accordance with the Bylaws and Ritual of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary, I, Lisa Raplee, hereby assume command of the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York. All previous Having appointments are declared null and void and the new officers and chairmen assignments are now in effect.

2. Official communications intended for the Department President shall be addressed to: Lisa Raplee at:

4259 State Route 226, Dundee, NY 14837

3. Requests for rulings shall come through the VFW Auxiliary Secretary, by order of the VFW Auxiliary President, and shall bear the VFW Auxiliary seal. All requests must be in writing and addressed to the Department President who shall forward the request for a ruling to the National president.

4. The official headquarters for the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York is hereby declared to be located at:

1799 Fred Road, Schenectady, NY 12303

All mail intended for the Department Secretary should be addressed to: Christine Leavor, 2027 Cemetery Hill Rd., Franklinville, NY 14737

5. Checks intended for the Department of New York VFW Auxiliary shall be payable to “**VFW Auxiliary Department of New York (VFW Aux DNY)**” earmarked for the fund intended. Checks for Department business should be mailed to:

Department Treasurer, Kim White, 1799 Fred Road,
Schenectady, NY 12303

Checks for specific projects or fundraisers should be mailed to the Program Chairman unless otherwise specified.

6. The VFW Auxiliary President shall countersign all checks drawn by the Treasurer. VFW Auxiliaries may not possess ATM (Automatic Teller Machine) cards, and/or debit or credit cards. The disbursement of money shall be upon motion made and passed at a meeting with the exception of the transmittal of membership dues, which does not require a motion. Refer to Sec. 801A- Auxiliary President of the current Bylaws.

7. VFW Auxiliaries are reminded of the suggested donation of \$2.00 per member to the Cancer Grant Fund based on Auxiliary membership quota as of June 30, 2022.

8. VFW Auxiliaries are encouraged to donate a minimum of \$0.10 (10 cents) per member for the VFW National Home for Children “Health and Happiness” based on the June 30, 2022 membership quota. Treasurers may process this donation directly through MALTA or mail a check made payable to “**VFW Auxiliary**” earmarked **Health & Happiness**” directly to: VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters, 406 West 34th St., 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111.

9. Inspectors are required to attend a School of Instruction held in their respective District. Official visits (on all levels) are to be completed by **December 15, 2022**.

10. It shall be the duty of the Trustees to ensure that the offices of the VFW Auxiliary President and Treasurer are bonded with an indemnity company authorized by the National Headquarters or the Department as surety in a sum at least double the amount of funds and value of property for which, so far as can be anticipated, the VFW Auxiliary President and Treasurer may be accountable. Refer to Sec. 814- Trustees, Duties of (All Levels) of the current Bylaws.

11. The President shall hold the original bond for both the President and Treasurer. A copy of the President and Treasurer bonds shall be incorporated into the Minutes book.

12. Per VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters: There is no minimum age requirement for the bond to cover an officer. If a loss occurs, the bonding company may legally pursue indemnity against the person regardless of age. Therefore, any member in good standing is eligible to hold the office of President or Treasurer.

13. Presidents on all levels shall, within thirty (30) calendar days of assuming office, submit to the Commander of the corresponding VFW unit a financial report and membership count of their Auxiliary. Refer to Sec. 810- President, Duties of (All Levels) of the current Bylaws.

14. Auxiliary Treasurers shall, upon the death of an Auxiliary member, immediately enter the name and date of death in MALTA or send the information to the Department Secretary.

15. It shall be the duty of the Auxiliary Trustees to properly audit the books and records of the Treasurer and Secretary no later than thirty (30) days following the expiration of each quarterly period. Refer to Sec. 814- Trustees, Duties (All Levels) of the current Bylaws. Quarterly Audit report forms must be received by the Department Treasurer no later than sixty (60) days following the end of each quarter as follows: August 31st (April 1-Jun 30); November 30th (July 1- Sept. 30); February 28th (Oct 1- Dec. 31); May 31st (Jan. 1- Mar. 31, 2023). The quarterly Audit report form should be submitted to the Department Treasurer, Kim White, by USPS mail or scanned and emailed only. The Audit report form may not be sent via text message.

16. Auxiliaries should submit the 2022-2023 Donation Report Form by September 30, 2022 to the Department Treasurer.

17. All Department correspondence to the Auxiliaries is to be sent to the Auxiliary President. The Auxiliary President is an elected officer and is responsible for seeing that the correspondence is properly complied with. He/She has the authority to act on the correspondence if it is something that must be taken care of before her/his next Auxiliary meeting.

BY ORDER OF: Lisa Raplee, Department President

ATTEST: Christine Leavor, Department Secretary



FROM the DESK of the DEPARTMENT SECRETARY ~ Christine Leavor



I realize I probably don't have to introduce myself to many of the members, having served as chairman of several programs in the past, but to those of you who don't know me, I'm the new Secretary for the Department of New York VFW Auxiliary. I have HUGE shoes to fill after the outstanding performance of our previous Secretary, Debbie Cenni. Evidence of that is it is taking two people to do the job she has done for years. Deanna Guyette is now editing the Auxiliary News, while I will only be doing the Secretary's job.

Be patient with me as I learn the ropes. I have already learned that being the Department Secretary is way more involved than being a local Secretary. I cannot express enough thanks to Debbie for making this transition as smooth as possible, and to President Lisa for her confidence in asking me to fill this position.

One duty related to the Auxiliary News that I will be performing is sending the email editions. I am starting from "scratch" with that, so if you were previously receiving the email version, and want to continue, please contact me with your email and I will put you on my list. The Auxiliary News is still available in printed hard copy and on the Department website.

My phone is always on- with an answering machine. If you call, PLEASE leave a message. If I am home (we screen unknown names and numbers) I will pick up, and if I'm not, I will return your call when I get home. My landline number is (716) 676-2400. My email is: CAL2027@hotmail.com.

Do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns. It's also worth mentioning that my primary method of sending information will be through the District Presidents. District Presidents are asked to have their Secretaries forward communications to their component auxiliaries. This is really important. Communications via email should still be shared as official communications at your meetings. I have noticed that often the President of an Auxiliary receives the email, but it isn't always getting shared with the members.

We are off on our 2022-2023 Auxiliary journey. I know it will be a great race to the finish.

**"United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families" with
"Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care."**

Loyally, *Christine*



**LEGISLATIVE ~ Ron Boyd, Chairman
337 Sunset Drive ~ Holley, NY 14470
(585) 281-9760 ~ reboyd2@hotmail.com**



Educate ~ Participate ~ Get Others Involved

"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves - and the only way they could do this is by not voting." ~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

Our voice on Capitol Hill cannot be ignored given our strength of more than 1.5 million members of the VFW and the Auxiliary. Some of the recent and most important legislative victories were the expansion of college education benefits for military service members with the signing of the **Forever GI Bill**; and, ensuring America's service members and veterans receive the care of their choice that they deserve by passing the **VA MISSION Act**.

Our first Primary election in New York State took place in June, selecting candidates for Assembly and statewide offices. The second Primary election, taking place in August as a result of the redistricting process, selects candidates for congressional and state Senate offices. The general election will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

All members are encouraged to participate in local and grassroots efforts to Get Out The Vote (GOTV). After logging into MALTA, resources are available under the subject "Legislative" at the Auxiliary website (www.auxiliary.org/resources), including the "do's and don'ts" for involvement in elections and political events. VFW Auxiliary members are also encouraged to get involved in elections, hold voter registration drives, and help facilitate Town Hall meetings and other events featuring candidates for public office. This shows that veterans and those who support veterans issues to be a strong group of voters that most candidates seek support from.

Several reports have been received from Districts and I look forward to receiving more reports of legislative activities our members have been involved with.

"United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families."

Patriotically ~ *Ron*

AMERICANISM/PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR ~ Tamara Cummings, Chairman
125 Atlantic Street ~ Salamanca, NY 14779
(716) 244-3260 ~ tamara.dudleyhotel@gmail.com

Welcome to Lisa's Pit Crew for Americanism!! The Race is about to start, the Cars, Drivers and Pit crews are all on Pit Lane ready to start ...but wait... before the most famous words in racing are uttered (Start your engines)...all stop and face the flag...hats come off and the hands of all including the children cover their hearts....it's the National Anthem!!

**** Important Information:** – On your Wreaths Across America Forms, please add the Western New York National Cemetery in Corfu, New York Code: **NYWNYC** and just add it to your Wreaths Across America form. (Found in your 2022-2023 Presidents Packets) Please note these forms need to be back to me by Oct. 31st. For the past several years the Department of New York has assisted Wreaths Across America in distributing wreaths on graves of those deceased Veterans in National Cemeteries on the third Sunday of December. For \$15, one wreath will be placed on a grave in a National Cemetery of your choice. Donate \$30 and receive three wreaths. All three wreath must go to the same cemetery. Send order form with your check to me or bring it to Fall Conference.

Let's make sure that American Flag is flying proudly. The Department of New York is offering your Auxiliary a free 3X5 American Flag (request form found in Presidents Packet or by contacting me.) The only requirement is that it be given to a non-profit organization that benefits Veterans or Youth.

Yes, **#Auxiliarypatriotism** is back...report when you use the hashtag on social media i.e. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.

Lastly, I know you all do great things for our Veterans, their families and our communities. Please report what you have done! Flag Day? Memorial Day? July 4th? Did you pass out flags, help your Post, or participate in parades? Host a Patriotic Community Event to be eligible for Department Awards. Remember it is the quality of the report, not necessarily the quantity of reports that brings home awards and shows your community your Patriotic Pride.

**“Hands that Care, Hearts that Serve” while being
“ United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families.”**

Loyally, *Tamara*

YOUTH ~ Melinda Ingoglio, Chairman
585 Park Avenue, Apt 3C ~ Brooklyn, NY 11206
(347) 356-0194 ~ mingoglio0129@gmail.com

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Hello! I am Melinda Ingoglio your 2022-2023 Youth Activities Chairman. I feel this program is very important to us all because today's youth are our future members and leaders. This year's youth activities program has not changed very much; we will still be focusing on Patriotism through Literacy, the Patriotic Youth Awards, and the Youth Groups Supporting our Veterans Citations. We also have the two youth activities contests. Our National Youth Activities Ambassador is also asking us to focus on working on grave beautification - we along with our youth can help clean our Veterans final resting places.

With the summer half way over and the new school year about to begin, Auxiliaries can host back to school drives, or even a book collection to donate books to your local schools. Let's not forget about promoting the two contests the Youth Activities program has: ***Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue*** and ***Illustrating America***. Information for these two contests can be found on the national website <https://vfwauxiliary.org/resources/>

Remember we can work with our youth in almost all of our programs, especially this one. Thank you to all the Auxiliaries that have already submitted reports. Just don't forget that reports are due the 1st of every month. Until next time...

Together with our youth we can be ***United to Win the Race for our Veterans and Their Families”***
with our ***“Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care.”***

Loyally, *Melinda*

MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP ~ PDP Darlene Stanton, Chairman
PO Box 13 ~ Clarksville, NY 12041
(518) 470-7310 ~ wwdeedeass@aol.com

Our race has begun, all mentors are in their race cars and heading out of the pit onto the track!!! The mentors are already buckled up and are starting to mentor all of the experienced drivers and to refresh their memories on how to recruit new members to include lapsed members. They are driving to the races to have a membership drive and end the race of the day with new and reinstated members. When you have verified all their information and invite them to your meeting to be sworn in, remember to give a membership welcome bag with all of the things they should know about their new auxiliary. Have them come early so you can have your mentor's mentor the new recruits, so that they can start recruiting at the next membership race. Teach them about the board they can create to show many of the things we do and explain things to them and always as if they have any questions.

Purchase or make some give aways, or just put out some candy or popcorn out to draw potential members or their children to your table. You can also xerox patriotic pictures for the children to color while you recruit their parents and older sibling, they need to be 16yrs old.

I know the wonderful mentors we already have are going to be amazing mentors to all our existing members with the refresher course and to our new recruits and lapsed members. Make it fun, interesting, listen to new ideas from all members.

I am here if you have any questions, or need any help. Remember if your VFW needs new members, invite them to your mentoring sessions and to your recruiting events.

Hugs, *Darlene*

HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS ~ Kellianne Martini, Chairman
315 Anchors Way ~ Winder, GA 30680
(518) 744-8978 ~ kelliannekennedy@hotmail.com

Let's Talk about Fact Sheets!

Fact Sheets are a powerful way to communicate the results of your work directly to the public. These concise official publications can be particularly useful in helping readers understand and appreciate your efforts. Fact Sheets also increase public awareness of the VFW Auxiliary and our mission. An effective Fact Sheet should be a tool in every Auxiliary's toolbox. Refer to it at a recruiting event, a Family Freedom Festival, or when speaking to the community about your accomplishments. There is one available on the National Website that is tailored to the National Organization as a whole, but how about recreating one specifically about your Auxiliary?

No matter how well written, a Fact Sheet will not convey its message unless it is picked up and read. An attractive, color Fact Sheet is far more likely to be noticed than a plain-looking black-and-white product. Colorful illustrations, an interesting format and a bold title help capture the viewer's attention at a quick glance.

TEAMWORK—Every phrase in a Fact Sheet must be carefully considered to ensure that it can be clearly understood, cannot be misread and conveys no unintended meanings to the non-VFW Auxiliary reader.

REVIEW—Different eyes see different things, so you can hardly have too many people read/review a Fact Sheet.

COLOR! COLOR! COLOR!—Tasteful and effective use of color makes it more likely that the general public will pick up a publication and read it.

"SPEAK PLAINLY"—Intended for the public, Fact Sheets must be easily understood by a broad audience.

CONCISENESS—Ask yourself, "Will the public really care about this?" If the answer is "No," either delete this particular item or, if it is essential to the story, make it relevant.

POINT OF CONTACT—So that the interested reader can get more information on the topic presented, a point of contact should be given at the end of your Fact Sheet. Include a telephone number, mailing address, and email and (or) website address.

Creating an effective Fact Sheet for the general public may involve many revisions and much teamwork. Every aspect of a Fact Sheet must be carefully considered to ensure that it will be clearly understood by the non-VFW Auxiliary reader.

**"United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families" will provide us with wonderful memories while
"Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care."**

Loyally, *Kellianne*

EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION ~ PDP Marianne McLane, Chairman
3550 Deer River Road ~ Carthage, NY 13619
(315) 286-2683 ~ mari.mclane1@gmail.com

The green flag is down and the race begins to help revitalize existing Auxiliaries and gain new Auxiliaries for the 2022-2023 Auxiliary year!

We know we all need an extra push at times to race ahead with new ideas each year. I know there are many of us that need to regenerate our Auxiliaries, Councils and Districts. What you do on all these levels flows over to our Department level. I'm here to help you. There are many articles on Malta that will assist you and I bring our Department and our Department President Lisa to new heights.

The first thing I would like you to do to help yourself is to go onto Malta and create a log in if you have not already done so. Then you go to Resources and you will find a multitude of education material for all programs. The Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit has seven ways to assist Auxiliaries in identifying and solving issues.

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|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Healthy Auxiliary Checklist | 5. Good Job Certificate |
| 2. Healthy Auxiliary Member Questionnaire | 6. Healthy Auxiliary Certificate |
| 3. Auxiliary Meeting Clinic | 7. VFW Auxiliary Mentoring Guide |
| 4. Communication Phone/Test Tree | |

Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation will educate our members in all aspects of Officer Duties and how to be a chairman. We want each and every one of our members to feel free to race ahead of each other and assist our Veterans in all their needs.

The Five (5) Essentials of an Auxiliary are also helpful to all our Auxiliaries within the Department. These can help our Auxiliaries that are successfully operating and also those in need of assistance.

1. Auxiliaries should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year. (Sec. 210) Five (5) members in good standing (of that Auxiliary) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. (Sec. 212).
2. Dues should be paid by at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year. (Sec.207)
3. Quarterly Audits by Trustees must be submitted. (Sec.814).
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 30. This generates the bond application via email. (sec. 804A and 806A).
5. The offices of President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by August 31.

We are all here to take an active part in revitalizing our auxiliaries. I'm here to assist you in any manner I can. Please contact me either by telephone at 315-286-2683 or email at mari.mclane1@gmail.com.

Loyally, *Marianne, PDP*

OFFICIAL VISITS ~ PDP Bonnie Burgy, Coordinator
330 E. Bloomfield Street, Apt 2 ~ Rome, NY 13440
H: (315) 533-6426, C: (315) 225-9564 ~ bburgy@twcny.rr.com

Welcome to a new year!

This year official visits/inspections are to be completed by December 15, 2022. Each District President has received a list of their auxiliaries and the person who did the visit and inspection. **The same person is not to do the same auxiliary this year.** It has always been that inspections would not be done by the same person each year and why that changed the last few years I don't know. We are back to doing this correctly.

Also, it is to be a President or Past President of another auxiliary to do the inspection. This is also one of the directions that have been ignored.

Inspectors, please familiarize yourself with the inspection forms so that you answer all questions. I will return the form to the District President to get questions answered. Please read the instruction sheet so you know what has to be signed and dated. **BE SURE TO PUT THE AUXILIARY SEAL ON THE LAST PAGE OF THE FORM.**

District Presidents, the forms are to be returned to you within 7 days of an inspection. Go over each inspection to see all questions are answered and sign in the upper right hand corner and return to me within a week of you receiving them. **DO NOT HOLD INSPECTIONS UNTIL YOU HAVE SEVERAL.**

I want to thank everyone in advance for the work they do!

Loyally, *Bonnie, PDP*



PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT ~ Charlene Hooper, Chairman
2 Fayette Street ~ Waterloo, NY 13165
(315) 719-1820 ~ chooper70@hotmail.com



Lisa's Special Project this year is Homeless Veterans through the VA facilities and T-Shirt sales will benefit the project. Order forms were included in the President's packets and will also be available on the website, www.vfwauxny.org or I can email you a copy. Orders received by Sep 23 can be picked up at the Fall Conference. Prices are Sm -Xlg (\$12) and 2X-4X (\$16). Sweatshirts of the same sizes are \$28.00 /\$32.00. All funds raised will be going to each VA facility for the Homeless Project Program. A \$50 citation will be awarded at the June Convention for the most unique "Fundraiser" to promote the shirt sales.

About the Project: Veterans once stationed in Japan may recall hearing the term "omakase" while dining at local restaurants. Rooted in the verb "to trust," diners who order "omakase" leave their entrée to the chef's discretion—trusting they are the experts on their ingredients and talents. Within [VA's Grant and Per Diem Program \(GPD\)](#), the concept behind "omakase" is central to reducing long-term homelessness among Veterans.

The GPD Program funds community agencies providing transitional housing and other services to Veterans experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness. Much like chefs, GPD grantees know which ingredients—or program elements—mix and match to create a recipe for success.

Similarly, VA trusts that both grantees and Veterans participating in GPD are the experts on their own needs; GPD case managers help Veterans choose the path that best aligns with their goals. The synergistic relationship between GPD and Veterans has helped hundreds of thousands of Veterans exit homelessness since GPD's 1994 pilot program.

While our nation—and the landscape shaping Veteran homelessness—has changed dramatically in the past 2 decades, GPD's progress toward ending Veteran homelessness remains constant. If you would like more information, please visit www.va.gov/homeless.

It takes a Village to help a Veteran in need. "Hands that Serve and Hearts that Care" we will be "United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families."

Loyally, *Charlene*



SCHOLARSHIPS ~ Colleen A. McDaniels, Chairman
110 Crosby Street ~ Hornell, NY 14843
(607) 281-8058 ~ cmcdaniels.aux@gmail.com



It's that time of year when we are all **EXCITED** and can't wait to get started on a New Year!

There are 4 Scholarships to promote this year: **Patriot's Pen** and **Voice of Democracy**, (the two VFW contests that we help to promote) along with **Continuing Education** and the **Young American Patriotic Art** contests.

The first 2 to promote are the **Patriot's Pen** and the **Voice of Democracy** contests as their deadlines are on **October 31, 2022**. This year's theme for the Patriot's Pen is: "**My Pledge to Our Veterans**". Entrants must submit a 300 to 400-word essay, in their own words about the theme. This year's theme for the Voice of Democracy is: "**Why is the Veteran Important?**". This scholarship is an audio-essay competition for students in grades 9-12. The student is to record their original 3 to 5-minute audio-essay and submit it along with a typed version, to their local VFW Post. Both contests are for public, private, parochial, and homeschooled students.

Please get the information out! We need to think outside the box and **find ways** to **share** and **promote** the amazing **scholarship opportunities** that the VFW and Auxiliary offer. I encourage everyone to **email brochures** to your local school principals, guidance counselors, teachers, PTA/PTO, youth group leaders, scouts, support groups, homeschooled agencies, your family, and friends. Share [a press release](#) and/or share to your [social media](#) providing the link and how they can find out more [information locally](#). Promoting scholarships and our wonderful organization cannot be left to just the Scholarship Chairman of your unit, but to every member. We need to all gain knowledge; we must come together and work together as a team to get the word out!!! I hope you are as EXCITED as I am for this year. If more information is needed, do not hesitate to contact me or our National website at: www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships.

As we are "United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families" we will show that "Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care" is what the VFW Auxiliary is all about!

Loyally, *Colleen*

"BUDDY"® POPPY/VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN ~ Flora Becker, Chairman



**86 Garden Street ~ Seneca Falls, NY 13148
(315) 521-2675 ~ florabecker74@yahoo.com**

Let's start your engines and get ready to begin the race to help President Lisa as her pit crew as we keep our head in the race and do our part for the "Buddy" Poppy and our National Home for Children. We now see the green flag to advance in the race. With all the Auxiliaries working together this year we can help our Department President Lisa Raplee win the race.

Buddy Poppy: During this Summer is a great time to be hosting a "Buddy" Poppy drive in your community that will provide the opportunity to receive monetary donations for your Auxiliary and/or Post Relief Fund to benefit our Veterans and their families. For the Fall Conference we will be asking each Auxiliary to purchase a "Buddy" Poppy item from the VFW Store to be raffled.

National Home: Purchase a Life Membership to the VFW National Home for Children and be entered into a drawing to win a monetary award of \$50.00 Drawing will be held at the 2023 Spring Conference. Contribute to the Health and Happiness Fund. Please ensure your Auxiliary donates at least \$.10 per member based on June 30, 2022 membership quota or increase your Auxiliary donation to \$.25 or more and receive a Citation from National Headquarters. Remit by Sept. 30, 2022. Donations may be processed by treasurers directly in Malta at vfwauxiliary.org under Treasurers duties. To donate by mail send a check earmarked 'Health and Happiness Fund Donation' to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters, Attn: Health and Happiness Fund Donations, 406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 6411.

Remember anything you did from April 1st and on can be put on a report to send in. Thanks to those who already sent in reports. Let's go for the goal for that checked flag. Together we can be

"United to win the race for our Veterans and Their Families"

with our **"Hearts that Serve, Hearts that Care."** ♥

Loyally, *Flora*

WAYS & MEANS ~ Linda Flanagan, Chairman

**155 Briggs Street ~ Syracuse, NY 13208
(315) 475-7526 ~ auxd53146@hotmail.com**

** We need to raise funds for the Department and this is what the Ways and Means program is all about. **

* This year we will have the 9 month raffle tickets (\$5.00 per ticket) – the tickets are in the President's Packets. If you need more tickets please contact me at the above address, phone number or email address.

* We will have the popular scratch off ticket raffles at the Fall and Spring conferences. Please bring \$10.00 worth of tickets to support this raffle.

* Race for the Gold tickets are available at the Fall Conference for \$20.00 per ticket.

* When you receive products in the mail from National, please respond with a donation. This is the Guarantee Program. The money you donate comes back to the department. Please support the Ways and Means program.

"UNITED TO WIN THE RACE FOR OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES."

Loyally, *Linda*

WORDS OF CONGRATULATIONS!

On behalf of the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York members, officers and chairmen, I would like to extend our sincerest congratulations to newly elected President Lisa Raplee and her 2022-2023 team. Best wishes for a most successful year!

Loyally, *Ruth Huber*

Jr. Past Department President



VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT ~ Doris "Dee" Ippolito, Chairman
24 Blue Jay Circle ~ Lancaster, NY 14086
(716) 440-3411 ~ dee.ippolito.017@gmail.com

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Welcome to the Veterans and Family Support Program for 2022-2023!

Thank you for all you do for our Veterans every day! Veterans and Family Support is at the very heart of the Auxiliary mission and objectives: to care and provide support to our nation's heroes and their families.



Caregivers - Are you or do you know a veteran's family member who is a full-time caregiver? If so, the caregiver should investigate receiving assistance from the VA through the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC). This may include resources, education, support, beneficiary travel and more. Visit caregiver.va.gov for more information.



Spread the word about National Veterans Service (NVS) - Our Veterans deserve the benefits that they have earned through their service to our country! Our Veterans Service Officers help Veterans

receive the benefits they deserve. Hold a benefit for Service Officers and send funds to VFW Hdqtrs./NVS.



Veterans and Military Support (VMS) - Includes Military Assistance Program (MAP), Unmet Needs and "Sports Clips Help a Hero Scholarships. Hold an event this year to benefit one, or all, of these programs for our Veterans!



September is Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month - Hold a walk to support suicide awareness. Provide information on Mental Health Services at or through your VA. Go to MALTA-Veterans and Family Support and print out teardrops. Ask your Auxiliary members to wear a teardrop and to provide information on Veteran Suicide Awareness and Prevention.

Keep doing all of your amazing works for our Veterans.

******Remember to send your "In Lieu of Cards" messages and funds to me by October 31, 2022. (Form included in President's Packet.) When you send your donations by the deadline, they can go with the Trees and Menorahs to our troops overseas in time for the holidays!******

Keep sending those reports to me, too! (Email, text, phone, USPS.) The sooner 100% of our Auxiliaries have reported/donated, the sooner we show that we have "Hands that Serve. Hearts that Care" as we are "United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families!"

Loyally, *Dee*



CANCER GRANT DONATION FUND ~ Lori Tunkel, Chairman
10 Michelle Drive ~ Gardiner, NY 12525
(845) 255-8983 ~ loritunkel24@gmail.com (NEW Email)



Cancer Awareness September – Leukemia, Lymphoma, Childhood Cancer, Uterine Cancer.

Cancer can be a dreadful disease. We have all been touched sometime or another by a loved one's fight with cancer. There are many types of Cancer. It has no boundaries and does not discriminate.

Let's Beat Cancer Together! Cancer Grants help members who are fighting this disease. The money that your Auxiliary donates to our Department supports grants of \$550.00 – up to two per lifetime, per member. Please send the Cancer Grant Fund tickets and checks to me, **Lori Tunkel**, at the address above.

FALL CONFERENCE:

- ✓ Three Cancer Grant Fund tickets will be drawn. Please make sure you send your tickets in time to be entered in the drawing.
- ✓ Each **AUXILIARY** is asked to bring a Fall-themed basket to be raffled.
- ✓ "In Memory of" and "In Honor of" Luminaries will be available for a donation of \$5.00 each.
- ✓ Candy bars and various Cancer Awareness ribbons will also be available for a donation.

Your help is needed for us to support Auxiliary patients who are fighting cancer. We will be: **"United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families" with "Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care."**

Loyally, *Lori*

MEMBERSHIP ~ Marcia McKinney-Williams, Chairman
PO Box 405 ~ Remsen, NY 13438
(315) 725-6582 ~ mmmckinney24@aol.com

Membership is the backbone of our organization. By now the Presidents have received their packets for the upcoming year. Some key questions I have for all of you-Do you know who can join from the VFW Auxiliary Eligibility wheel?-Do you use it as a recruiting tool? You should also have from the Bylaws and Ritual, Article 1 Membership, Section 101 Eligibility. You will find all the Qualifying Dates, Military Service and the Campaign Medals. These are very important when potential members are filling out applications. The DD214 from the Veteran has important information needed to determine eligibility. Please use these tools when verifying the information.

You will be hearing a lot this year about recruiting and retaining our membership. Please be sure to read the guidebook information as well. Please report when you have a membership drive and if you recruited any new members or life members. I have been receiving reports already as some have had recruiting events. Be sure to send me any articles you used to promote the program.

Our Mission goals are simple:

Invite - Everyone/Anybody can be a potential member.

Include - Current Members, don't let continuous members slip away.

Invest - Investing time in members or potential members means investing in the future of our organization.

Recruitment tips include:

- 1) Smile.
- 2) Create your own recruitment speech that is from the heart to make it personal and relatable to potential members.
- 3) Always, and I mean always, have membership applications handy and/or a brochure to help explain what the Auxiliary does.
- 4) Tell people why you joined the Auxiliary.
- 5) Have the "8 Ways You Can Help Veterans" cards with you to hand out. These are available resources that will be available in the weeks following National Convention by logging into your MALTA profile.

Every Auxiliary will get the chance to submit an Auxiliary recruitment video and a chance to win the most Outstanding Video Award.

Most everyone is on a social media platform. Now is the time to take advantage of these platforms and take membership to a whole new level. It is my sole mission to grow this organization so it will be around for another 100 years. With Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care we will complete this mission and take our organization to new heights. I will be sharing with each and every one one of you tips and articles from my ambassador. Please share and be sure to spread the word.

Recruit—Retain let's get President Lisa around the track and into the Circle of Excellence Winners Circle.

United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families.

Loyally, *Marcia*

Inspirational Message from DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN Justine Robles

Purple Heart Day: August 7, 2022

God of strength and resilience, on this Purple Heart Day, we celebrate the valor of our service member siblings. We remember the ones who risked their lives-those who returned to us- some healed, others healing, and those who sacrificed their lives- now abiding with God on that side of heaven. God of broken bodies and shattered souls, we pray for our siblings injured in a time of war or during a time of service. May their stories be lifted and spirits elevated. May the light of the Divine be a balm to the injuries marked on their souls and hearts. May the winds of the Spirit build their resilience. May we, as your children, Holy One, advocate for their healing. Allow us to see our place in the well-being of all our neighbors and, especially today, the ones who are the wounded brave. Amen.

Loyally, *Justine*



AUXILIARY OUTREACH ~ Judy Lefebvre, Chairman
316 Pellerin Road ~ Plattsburgh, NY 12901
H: (518) 563-7558, C: (518) 593-5628 ~ biljud@aol.com



The quote by George Leonard, an American writer, is perfect for Auxiliary Programs, especially Auxiliary Outreach: "How to begin the journey? You need only to take the first step. When? There is always now."

"There is always now." You don't have to wait until the next meeting. Start your research and gather information "now." Surf the various virtual media sites or review grocery, pharmacy, church and post office bulletin boards, or the yellow pages to find groups that are looking for volunteers. A few examples are non-profit charities like the Red Cross, food pantries, low-income and senior assistance centers, homeless and animal shelters, libraries, maintenance departments that maintain parks and hiking trails, and/or environmental improvement organizations.

The exciting news for 2022-2023 is that events and/or activities held at the Post or the Auxiliary meeting location **CAN** be reported as Auxiliary Outreach **IF** members are the supporting "partner," only volunteering hours. The Auxiliary or VFW **CANNOT** be the organizer or promoter. Additional guidelines are available in National President Jane Reape's and Department President Lisa Raplee's Guidebooks. The goal of the Auxiliary Outreach Program is to enable Auxiliaries and their members to report volunteer hours that **CANNOT** be reported under other Auxiliary Programs. "Robbing Peter to pay Paul" doesn't gain the Auxiliary extra reportable hours.

Auxiliary Outreach is a "multi-step" program. "Partnering" to volunteer is only one (1) of the steps in the process. At Auxiliary meetings be prepared to present your project ideas so motions can be approved and recorded in the minutes for Auxiliary members to "partner to volunteer hours." Motions must be organization specific but can be for a single or various events; i.e.: I move the members volunteer with XYZ Inc. to serve meals every other month this year while wearing Auxiliary apparel or other items that make them easily identifiable as Auxiliary members.

As members continue to be "*United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families*," Auxiliary Outreach projects and members volunteering hours in their communities prove that members have "*Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care*."

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call, text or email me.

Loyally, *Judy*

HOSPITAL ~ Peggy Schweitzer, Chairman
50 Franklin Avenue ~ Clinton, NY 13323
(315) 853-2419 ~ snowy4931@yahoo.com

Hello Everyone – I'm back as your Hospital Chairman for this year and I want to thank President Lisa for this appointment!

As most of us know, the VA's hospitals and clinics are currently closed to volunteers. However, you might want to try a regular hospital and/or nursing homes in your area that you can volunteer in. We have been volunteering since the organization's inception in 1914. We all love to serve our Veterans and they need us more than ever. When you do volunteer in a facility, please keep track of your hours and report the same to me. You can qualify for Hospital Volunteer Service Pins.

Last year, most of the Auxiliaries thought outside of the box and I would like for you to continue to do that this year. You can send cards to our Veterans at the VA's. We will be having many holidays coming up soon or just send a Thinking of You card. We want them to know that we are thinking of them.

Try to recruit new volunteers under this program. Have a sheet at your monthly meeting so members can sign up. You can email or place a call for special events. If someone says "no" to the first invitation, be sure to ask again.

Please refer to the Guidebook for lots more information on this program. Until next time,

We will have "Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care"
and we will be "United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families."

Loyally, *Peggy*

VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
 Deanna Guyette, Editor ~ *Auxiliary News*
 43 High Street ~ Carthage, NY 13619



CONGRATULATIONS!!

to our very own

Jane Reape

newly elected 2022-2023

VFW Auxiliary National President

We are so proud of you and wish you much success as you lead our great organization in this coming year!

Loyally,

*The officers and members of the VFW
 Auxiliary Department of New York*

Get Ready for Fall Conference !! ~ October 14-15, 2022 ~ Mariott Hotel, Albany NY

Sandra Flynn ~ Fall Conference Chairman

Friday Afternoon: Budget & Advisory Meeting

Saturday All Day: General Meeting

Friday Evening: Council of Administration Meeting

Saturday Noon: President's Luncheon

Watch the October *Auxiliary News* and the mail for more information regarding room reservations, registration, and luncheon reservations.

Below are mini order forms for the *Auxiliary News* and Program Guidebook. For full size copies, please send a request to DeeDee Guyette, *Auxiliary News* Editor, 43 High St, Carthage NY 13619, or dgullquist@verizon.net

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43 High Street - Carthage, NY 13619

Questions? Contact Editor DeeDee Guyette, dgullquist@verizon.net, 315.493.7520

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[Presidents on all levels receive one (1) complimentary guidebook.]

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 Christine Leavor

2027 Cemetery Hill Road - Franklinville, NY 14737

Questions? Contact Dept Secretary Christine Leavor, cal2027@hotmail.com, 716.676.2400