



AUXILIARY NEWS ~ June 2023

The Official Communication of VFW Auxiliary Department of New York

Visit our Website: www.vfwauxny.org

Like us on Facebook: @DeptofNYVFWAux



Dear Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers,

I can't believe that I am writing my final article as your Department President. It seems like only yesterday I was preparing for my year and here I am completing my journey.

These past twelve months have surely flown by! It was a roller coaster ride for sure, and I would not change a thing. I was thrown a red flag at the beginning of my race when my husband got sick, but with the love and support of each one of you I was able to continue my race. The challenges may have slowed me down at times, but the many successes have made it all worth the journey.

Some of my favorite moments this past year were as follows: The trip to Eastern States Conference with two of my line officers Darlene Baker and Charlene Hooper! The trip to Long Island for District 1 visit and the Trees for Troops event with my advisor Helen Weeks! Our adventure into New York City to see the Christmas tree was so special. The Mid-Winter Cruise was amazing and memorable for sure, with Kim White. The trip to Washington D.C. was fantastic, thank you Jane Reape and Nina LeFrois for the memories! I thought that I was done with special trips until I was asked to present the award for the National Organization at West Point! 'Wow' is all that I can say, it was amazing.

To my District Presidents, I would like to thank you for your hard work and dedication to our organization! The work you do for our Veterans, their families and your communities is something you should all be very proud of. Your work with your auxiliaries has made this race much smoother.

To my Line Officers, you are the most amazing group of people, and I cannot thank you enough for being there for me this past year. You stood by me through all the rough times and celebrated the good times. Thank you does not seem nearly enough for what you have done for me this year.

To my Auxiliary and Post Goodrich Smith 8649, you all are truly the best! We were a brand-new auxiliary when I came to you and said I wanted to take this journey and you were there for me. You make me so very proud at how you have stepped up and become such an amazing auxiliary in just the last 6 years. I am looking forward to being home and helping with all our functions.

To my children, I am so grateful for your love and support! Sara, Michael, Marissa, Nicholas, Rachael, Keith, and Kortnee, you are the most amazing kids, and I am so thankful that you have all been there for me this year. I can't wait for the arrival of the new additions to our family soon and the upcoming wedding!

To my amazing husband Mike, I can never thank you enough for being my everything. We have been faced with many challenges this past year and I am most grateful that you are here with me. I promise you will not have to cut the grass this summer once we return from the convention!

I want to thank you all for the most amazing journey! I wish you all the very best as we continue to 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
4259 State Route 226, Dundee, NY 14837
(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
1799 Fred Road, Schenectady, NY 12303
518-275-7283, kwhitewvt@aol.com

Auxiliary News Editor DeeDee Guyette
43 High Street, Carthage, NY 13619
315-493-7520, dgullquist@verizon.net

PDP and OFFICER BIRTHDATES

JUNE

- 3 - Sharon Connolly, PDP
- 21 - Charlene Hooper, Guard
- 27 - Barbara Hodges, PDP



JULY

- 4 - Lisa Raplee, PDP
- 4 - Kimberly White, Treasurer

MARK YOUR CALENDERS

Jun 7-11... VFW and Auxiliary DNY Convention
~ Marriott Hotel, Albany

Jun 14... Flag Day



Jun 18... HAPPY Father's Day!

Jun 28... **DEADLINE** to register for OTI (Aug 4-5)
~ Double Tree Hotel, Binghamton

Jul 4... Independence Day

Jul 22-27... VFW and VFW Auxiliary Natl Convention
~ Phoenix, AZ

NATIONAL SPECIAL ORDER # 267 ~ JUNE 1, 2023

Suspension VFW Auxiliary No. 6105 ~ New York

Upon recommendation of the Department President and by order of the National President and in accordance with the Natl Bylaws, Article II, Sec 209, the Charter of VFW Auxiliary No. 6105, Hilton, NY, is hereby suspended for the period not to exceed ninety (90) days-from May 15, 2023 to August 13, 2023 - for:

1. Failure of Section 212 - To have a quorum for the transaction of Auxiliary business.
2. Failure of Section 814 - To complete quarterly audits and mail to Department Treasurer.

The following procedures are to be followed:

1. While under suspension, the business and affairs of the VFW Aux may be carried on in a sphere limited to current activities (paying financial agreements already incurred and reinstatement from suspension under a Dept Committee. The Aux may hold meetings but is not to make and pass motions to expend money until the suspension is lifted unless the Committee approves. If motions to expend money were passed **prior** to the suspension, then those motions should be honored, and the expenses incurred paid.
2. Membership dues should be continuously transmitted.
3. The Department President shall establish this Committee and she shall grant it written powers and limitations.
4. The Committee shall consist of three (3) members- Nina LeFrois, Helen Weeks, and Charlene Hooper-but does not include the Department President nor the current District President. The Committee is to attend the monthly business meetings as well as other meetings deemed necessary.
5. The Committee members may use the "Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit" and other mentoring tools available in Auxiliary Resources such as Building on the Auxiliary Foundation, Booklet of Instructions, and Treasurer's Guide to assist Aux Officers and members in understanding their duties and roles in the VFW Aux.
6. All acts and actions of the committee shall be subject to the approval or disapproval of the Department President, who, in addition to each Committee member, shall submit to the National President through the National Secretary-Treasurer—shall forward her/his written report for each meeting attended regarding the situation and resolution of the suspension.

The Department President will see that this order is executed immediately.

By Order Of:	Attest:
Jane Reape	Ann Panteleakos
National President	National Secretary-Treasurer
	AP:jc

NATIONAL SPECIAL ORDER # 180 ~ MARCH 31, 2023

Cancellation Erie County Council-56 ~ New York

The Charter of VFW Erie County Council, Dept of NY was cancelled and declared defunct by recommendation of the Dept Commander and in accordance with the provisions of the Natl VFW Bylaws and VFW Special Order No. 199, dated Feb 9, 2023; therefore,

1. VFW Auxiliary to Erie County Council-56, Department of New York is hereby notified that it has sixty (60) days to finalize its business prior to being cancelled and dropped from the rolls of the National Organization as of May 30, 2023.

The following procedures are to be followed:

1. The property of the County Council including books of record, papers, and all moneys belonging to it, shall be turned over within 30 days to the Department President or his/her Representative for disposition as directed by the Department Council of Administration.
2. The Department President shall forward the Charter to Natl Headquarters.

The Department President will see that this order is executed immediately.

By Order Of:	Attest:
Jane Reape	Ann Panteleakos
National President	National Secretary-Treasurer
	AP:jc

NATIONAL SPECIAL ORDER # 179 ~ MARCH 31, 2023

Cancellation Cattaraugus-Allegany County Council-50~New York

The Charter of VFW Cattaraugus-Allegany County Council, Dept of NY was cancelled and declared defunct by recommendation of the Dept Cmdr and in accordance with the provisions of the Natl VFW Bylaws and VFW Special Order No. 199, dated Feb 9, 2023; therefore,

1. VFW Auxiliary to Cattaraugus-Allegany County Council-50, Department of New York is hereby notified that it has sixty (60) days to finalize its business prior to being cancelled and dropped from the rolls of the National Organization as of May 30, 2023.

The following procedures are to be followed:

1. The property of the County Council including books of record, papers, and all moneys belonging to it, shall be turned over within 30 days to the Department President or his/her Representative for disposition as directed by the Department Council of Administration.
2. The Department President shall forward the Charter to Natl Headquarters.

The Department President will see that this order is executed immediately.

By Order Of:	Attest:
Jane Reape	Ann Panteleakos
National President	National Secretary-Treasurer
	AP:jc

NATIONAL SPECIAL ORDER # 178 ~ MARCH 31, 2023

Cancellation Brooklyn-Kings County Council-49 ~ New York

The Charter of VFW Brooklyn-Kings County Council, Dept of NY was cancelled and declared defunct by recommendation of the Dept Commander and in accordance with the provisions of the Natl VFW Bylaws and VFW Special Order No. 199, dated Feb 9, 2023; therefore,

1. VFW Auxiliary to Brooklyn-Kings County Council-49, Department of New York is hereby notified that it has sixty (60) days to finalize its business prior to being cancelled and dropped from the rolls of the National Organization as of May 30, 2023.

The following procedures are to be followed:

1. The property of the County Council including books of record, papers, and all moneys belonging to it, shall be turned over within 30 days to the Department President or his/her Representative for disposition as directed by the Department Council of Administration.
2. The Department President shall forward the Charter to Natl Headquarters.

The Department President will see that this order is executed immediately.

By Order Of:	Attest:
Jane Reape	Ann Panteleakos
National President	National Secretary-Treasurer
	AP:jc

DEPARTMENT SPECIAL ORDER # 6 ~ MAY 31, 2023

(To be Read at All Auxiliary Meetings Before Being Filed.)

Dear Auxiliary Presidents and Members,

With deep sadness, I must report to you the passing of Past National President Helen Harsh, who went to her Heavenly Home on May 25, 2023.

Helen, from the Department of Pennsylvania, served as National President from 1994-1995. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Cards may be sent to: James & Charlotte Harsh, 1265 Sheephill Road, BX 117, East Earl, PA 17519.

Auxiliaries are instructed to drape their charters for a period of 30 days in her memory.

Loyally,
Chris Leavor
Department Secretary

By Order of:
Lisa Raplee
Department President

Congratulations To All The Department Award Winners!!

PRESIDENTS AND RUNNER-UP PRESIDENTS OF THE YEAR

* Auxiliary & District Presidents: *ALL Presidents Awards to be announced at the June 2023 Convention.*

MEMBERSHIP ~ MARCIA WILLIAMS, Chairman

~ Drawings and judging for ALL membership awards: *To be announced at the June 2023 Convention.*

WAYS AND MEANS ~ LINDA FLANAGAN, Chairman

*** 9-Month Calendar Raffle Winners:**

- \$100 – Fall Conference: Auxiliary 600, District 4
- \$100 - November: Auxiliary 5913, District 2
- \$100 - December: Auxiliary 1143, District 9
- \$100 - January: Auxiliary 6001, District 4
- \$100 - February: Auxiliary 516, District 1
- \$100 - March: Auxiliary 1143, District 9
- \$100 - April: Lillian Phinney from Auxiliary 6196, District 3
- \$100 - May: *To be drawn at the June 2023 Convention.*
- \$200 - June: *To be drawn at the June 2023 Convention.*

* “Win the Race for the Gold” Raffle: *ALL 15 winners to be drawn at the June 2023 Convention.*

PRESIDENT’S SPECIAL PROJECT ~ CHARLENE HOOPER, Chairman

* Award for the Most Unique Fundraiser: *To be announced at the June 2023 Convention.*

EXTENSION AND REVITALIZATION ~ MARIANNE McLANE, Chairman

* \$25 Organizer Award: Charlene Hooper, Aux 1323 (D8)

* \$25 Member Award: *No Submissions.*

CANCER GRANT DONATION FUND ~ LORI TUNKEL, Chairman

*** Fall Conference Raffle Winners:**

- \$75 – Kathy Beganskas, Aux #3350 (D1)
- \$50 – Barben-Jones Aux #1400 (D4)
- \$25 – Barben-Jones Aux #1400 (D4)

*** Spring Conference Raffle Winners:**

- \$75 - Ilion-Frankfort Aux #502 (D4)
- \$50 - Barben-Jones Aux #1400 (D4)
- \$25 - Edick-Hamlink Aux #369 (D5)

2022-2023 DEPARTMENT PROGRAM AWARDS

First Place - \$20; Second Place - \$15; Third Place - \$10; District Presidential Citation

AMERICANISM ~ TAMARA CUMMINGS, Chairman

	<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>	<u>GROUP 6</u>
First Place:	4947 (D2)	9594 (D3)	8649 (D8)	358 (D3)	309 (D9)	7227 (D4)
Second Place:	8139 (D5)	6776 (D3)	1017 (D6)	4915 (D4)	5491 (D2)	6433 (D8)
Third Place:	5861 (D6)	5798 (D6)	8444 (D3)	125 (D9)	478 (D5)	8734 (D6)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Raymond Sheldon, President District 6

AUXILIARY OUTREACH ~ JUDY LEFEBVRE, Chairman

	<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>	<u>GROUP 6</u>
First Place:	4947 (D2)	416 (D6)	8649 (D8)	1938 (D3)	5491 (D2)	9249 (D6)
Second Place:	8139 (D5)	9251 (D8)	1017 (D6)	7290 (D5)	7545 (D5)	7227 (D4)
Third Place:	5861 (D6)	6390 (D6)	412 (D8)	9592 (D1)	6196 (D3)	1371 (D5)

"BUDDY" @ POPPY / VFW NATIONAL HOME ~ FLORA BECKER, Chairman

	<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>	<u>GROUP 6</u>
First Place:	5861 (D6)	9594 (D3)	8649 (D8)	6001 (D4)	5491 (D2)	7227 (D4)
Second Place:	2159 (D2)	2913 (D1)	1323 (D8)	4915 (D4)	6196 (D3)	1371 (D5)
Third Place:	8691 (D2)	9251 (D8)	412 (D8)	901 (D5)	9587 (D2)	9249 (D6)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Raymond Sheldon, President District 6

* **Buddy Poppy Display Contest:** See Chairman's article on Page 10.

HOSPITAL ~ PEGGY SCHWEITZER, Chairman

	<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>	<u>GROUP 6</u>
First Place:	2159 (D2)	416 (D6)	412 (D8)	7127 (D5)	1231 (D9)	9249 (D6)
Second Place:	5861 (D6)	7291 (D3)	8692 (D3)	3146 (D5)	6251 (D6)	6433 (D8)
Third Place:	2718 (D1)	2913 (D1)	1017 (D6)	8259 (D4)	5913 (D2)	7227 (D4)
Honorable Mentions:				9592 (D1)	5491 (D2)	

* **District Presidential Citation:** Raymond Sheldon, President District 6

* **Department of NY "Hospital Volunteer of the Year":** *To be announced at the June 2023 Convention.*

LEGISLATIVE ~ RONALD BOYD, Chairman

	<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>	<u>GROUP 6</u>
First Place:	4947 (D2)	2913 (D1)	8649 (D8)	125 (D9)	1231 (D9)	6433 (D8)
Second Place:	5861 (D6)	4658 (D8)	6778 (D8)	7290 (D5)	5260 (D6)	2522 (D6)
Third Place:	313 (D7)	416 (D6)	412 (D8)	1374 (D2)	2883 (D8)	1371 (D5)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Tina Roberts, President District 8

* **\$50 Award-Most Outstanding Auxiliary Excelling in Legislative Education:** Goodrich-Smith #8649 (D8)

* **\$50 Award-Most Outstanding Auxiliary Excelling in Legislative Participation:** Goodrich-Smith #8649 (D8)

* **\$50 Award Most Outstanding Auxiliary Member Excelling in Legislative Participation:** *No Submissions.*

MENTORING ~ DARLENE STANTON, Chairman

	<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>	<u>GROUP 6</u>
First Place:	8691 (D2)	416 (D6)	8649 (D8)	942 (D3)	1384 (D9)	7227 (D4)
Second Place:	973 (D2)	2913 (D1)	2354 (D5)	9592 (D1)	5491 (D2)	2522 (D6)
Third Place:	8137 (D5)	7338 (D3)	7289 (D5)	1938 (D3)	1231 (D9)	8734 (D6)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Tina Roberts, President District 8

* **Outstanding Mentor in each Group:**

- Group 1: Agnes Stampf, Aux 8137 (D5)
- Group 2: Marion Palumbo, Aux 4658 (D8)
- Group 3: Kim White, Aux 357 (D3)
- Group 4: Linda Flanagan, Aux 3146 (D5)
- Group 5: Ann Marie Vicario, Aux 5491 (D2)
- Group 6: Cindy Campbell, Aux 6433 (D8)

* **Driver with the Most New Members in each Group:**

- Group 1: Rita Johnson, Aux 3350 (D1), 9 new
- Group 2: James McElroy, Aux 6811 (D4), 2 new
- Group 3: Charlene Hooper, Aux 1323 (D8), 21 new
- Group 4: Marica Williams, Aux 6001 (D4), 13 new
- Group 5: Barbara MacPhee, Aux 1384 (D1), 13 new
- Group 6: Lisa Hickok, Aux 524 (D5), 22 new

YOUTH ~ MELINDA INGOGGIO, Chairman

	<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>	<u>GROUP 6</u>
First Place:	5861 (D6)	416 (D6)	8649 (D8)	7127 (D5)	7545 (D6)	8734 (D6)
Second Place:	8137 (D5)	6776 (D3)	412 (D8)	125 (D9)	1384 (D1)	1400 (D4)
Third Place:	8139 (D5)	1314 (D3)	1017 (D6)	1374 (D2)	1483 (D7)	7227 (D4)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Tina Roberts, President District 8

* **Illustrating America Art Contest**

- * Grade K-2 - Jaron Williams
- * Grade 3-5 - Lauren Emborsky
- * Grade 6-8 - Sailor Smith

* **Get Excited for Red, White and Blue Singing Contest**

- * Grade 9-12 - Lorna Becker

SCHOLARSHIPS ~ RUTH HUBER, Chairman

	<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>	<u>GROUP 6</u>
First Place:	2718 (D1)	416 (D6)	412 (D8)	7127 (D5)	7545 (D6)	1143 (D9)
Second Place:	8139 (D5)	5798 (D6)	8649 (D8)	6001 (D4)	6196 (D3)	9249 (D6)
Third Place:	5861 (D6)	7172 (D2)	1017 (D6)	7290 (D5)	1384 (D1)	7227 (D4)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Raymond Sheldon, President District 6

* **Voice of Democracy - "Why Is The Veteran Important?"**

- * 1st – Olivia G. Wolber District 1
- * 2nd – Oliver Tupper District 6
- * 3rd – Madison M. Anderson District 8

* **Young American Creative Patriotic Art**

- * 1st – Erick Wittman, Aux 9249 (D6)
- * 2nd – Madison LaDuke, Aux 1143, (D9)

* **Patriot's Pen - "My Pledge to Our Veterans"**

- * 1st - Magnus H. Caselli District 6
- * 2nd - Armel Mahmutovic District 4
- * 3rd - Aidan D. Moran District 1

* **3-Dimensional Patriotic Art**

- * 1st - Kayla Neale, Aux 202 (D7)
- * 2nd - Savanna Vizzini, Aux 770 (D3)

VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT ~ DORIS 'DEE' IPPOLITO, Chairman

	<u>GROUP 1</u>	<u>GROUP 2</u>	<u>GROUP 3</u>	<u>GROUP 4</u>	<u>GROUP 5</u>	<u>GROUP 6</u>
First Place:	5861 (D6)	3357 (D9)	8649 (D8)	170 (D2)	309 (D9)	6912 (D4)
Second Place:	8139 (D5)	6472 (D6)	412 (D8)	3146 (D5)	7545 (D6)	1400 (D4)
Third Place:	8691 (D2)	546 (D1)	8692 (D3)	125 (D9)	6196 (D3)	8734 (D6)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Tina Roberts, President District 8

AUXILIARY SPOTLIGHT

**2721 ~ Town of Cuba Memorial
Cuba, NY**

Town of Cuba Memorial Auxiliary to VFW Post 2721 held their annual member dinner on February 11, 2023. Pictured are Bonita Terwilliger (Charter and 50+ year member), President Karen Dennis, and Justine Weller (Charter and 50+ year member). What a milestone! Congratulations - and thank you for all your years of service!



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



I just want to thank everyone that donated or purchased a shirt for the Special Project!

We should never have a homeless population let alone a Veteran.

Please continue to follow www.va.gov/homeless to keep up with what is going on for our Veterans.

Loyally, *Charlene*



2023-2024 AUXILIARY NEWS Order Form

PLEASE PRINT

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

(NAME) AUX No. _____

(ADDRESS) (CITY) (ST) (ZIP)

(E-MAIL) (AREA CODE/PHONE) _____

\$15 Per Subscription (Includes 6 printed editions). CHECK #: _____

**Make Check Payable to: VFW Aux Dept of NY
Earmark "Auxiliary News"**

**Mail *Auxiliary News* Subscription Order Form AND Check to:
DeeDee Guyette ~ 43 High Street ~ Carthage, NY 13619**

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

2023-2024 PROGRAM GUIDEBOOK Order Form

PLEASE PRINT



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

(NAME) AUX No. _____

(ADDRESS) (CITY) (ST) (ZIP)

(E-MAIL) (AREA CODE/PHONE) _____

No. of Guidebooks _____ @ \$7 each = \$ _____ CHECK #: _____

**Make Check Payable to: VFW Aux Dept of NY
Earmark "Guidebook"**

**Mail Guidebook Order Form AND Check to:
Christine Leavor ~ 2027 Cemetery Hill Rd ~ Franklinville, NY 14737**

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



SCHOLARSHIPS ~ Ruth Huber, Chairman
95 Bucktooth Run Road ~ Little Valley, NY 14755
(716) 801-2003 ~ poofalina@yahoo.com



Summer has finally arrived in New York, which is quite an accomplishment since it was still snowing a month ago. The onset of Spring brought many deliveries to my doorstep. You guessed it! There were twelve entries in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art and six in the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contests. Thank you to all of the Auxiliaries who sponsored the entries. Here are your winners in the Creative Patriotic Art: 1st Place-Erick Wittman, Auxiliary 9249, District 6 and 2nd Place-Madison LaDuke, Auxiliary 1143, District 9. The 3-Dimensional Art winners are: 1st Place-Kayla Neale, Auxiliary 202, District 7 and 2nd Place-Savanna Vizzini, Auxiliary 770, District 3. The 1st Place entries have been forwarded on for National judging.

If you haven't done so already, please remember to recognize all of your local participants. From the students to the teachers, parents, members, judges, chairmen, mentors, and local media, everyone likes to be acknowledged for their efforts. Everyone loves to feel appreciated. Any of your activities/events you have completed since April 1st should now be reported to the new Scholarships Chairman. Make copies of the new Program Report found in the guidebook and let the ink flow. Who doesn't want to see that their Auxiliary has already received credit in the various programs when the first report comes out from the Program Coordinator in September?

Thank you to all of the Auxiliaries who have held fundraisers and donated to National President Jane's Special Project to establish an escrow fund for the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art which will increase award amounts and add more awards. Let's keep the momentum going to continue building the fund.

Your determination to ensure students attain an education and reach their full potential is to be commended. It has been a wonderful year to serve as the Scholarships Chairman. Congratulations to all of the Department winners this year! Your dedication is to be commended! When considering several of the award recipients it literally came down to the number and quality of the reports you sent me. That tells you what a wonderful job you all did. Never stop reporting! The Chairmen don't know what you are doing within your Auxiliaries if you don't consistently send us your reports.

Moving forward here are some helpful hints when promoting and submitting Patriotic Art/3D Patriotic Art entries. Reinforce the rules of the contests i.e., size, weight, medium, etc. and entry forms must include parent/guardian signature, Auxiliary information, and leave no empty lines except those that need to be completed by the Department Scholarships Chairman.

Thank you, Madam President Lisa, for entrusting me with the Scholarships Program. The Department of New York has attained 100% in reporting and/or participation in the program. On behalf of the Auxiliaries who continued to send their reports to Colleen McDaniels, I would again like to say thank you. I truly appreciate all you have done to make this program a success.

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

Loyally, *Ruth*



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



Cancer Awareness: June – Cancer Survivors Month ~ July – Bone Cancer

Thank you everyone for making donations to the Cancer Grant Fund. Your help is needed for us to support Auxiliary patients who are fighting cancer.

If you have any members in your Auxiliary with cancer, don't forget to tell them about the Cancer Grant. They may not be aware of it and it could make a big difference for them.

If I can be of any help in the future, please let me know.

"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

I would like to take the time to say the **MISSION was POSSIBLE** and we made it. We made it to Victory Circle at the end **April 2023** with **100.28%** which changes daily. We made Lisa happy by getting her the points needed for the circle of excellence. I'm proud of each one of you. When we put in a new member, it raises the %, when we put in a death it takes away from the %. That is why it is very important to record them when you know. I have seen so many updates at the end because they wanted their 100% for their auxiliary. This is not fair to the Department President as we all should be working for the same goal. Membership applications should also not be held for the next President. WHY do you ask?--because that member joined with good intentions, and should they need a cancer grant after 1 yr. of membership and you held it by not submitting it, that member loses out until they have one year membership.

As of this writing, we had **121** Auxiliary's that reached **100%** or more. We had **6** Districts reach **100%**. I am hoping by convention every auxiliary has made their 100%.

Now here are some interesting facts and figures. **96** auxiliaries utilized membership material/resources on the National Malta website. **89** auxiliaries promoted or participated, hosted or co-hosted with their post a membership recruitment. **102** auxiliary's educated members on the benefits of their membership. The majority underlined the cancer grants. Thank you for getting the word out. **73** auxiliaries educated their members on the national membership program awards. **77** auxiliary members participated in a recruiting event. And **94** auxiliaries recruited at least **1** new member. In total, we had **278** new life members, **490** new annual members, and **53** rejoin annual members.

I received many reports all year long, however I cannot express the importance of the year end report. If you did not send a year end report, I can't count what you did. **YOU MUST SEND YEAR END REPORTS.** These numbers would be higher had I received the report and please don't write 'didn't do anything' or leave it blank. You all did something, and these numbers are what keeps our voice on the hill.

I enjoyed my chairmanship, and trust me, Membership is very important. It's the backbone of our organization.

Let's stay ***"United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families."***

Loyally, *Marcia*

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

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Can you believe how fast this year has gone by! I would like to thank Madame President Lisa for asking me to be her chairman this year. Being a first time Chairman I hope I served the Department of NY well.

A huge **THANK YOU** to all the Auxiliaries that participated in the Youth Activities Program this year. You have all done and continue to do amazing work with our youth. First place winner in the ***Get Excited for Red, White and Blue*** singing contest was uploaded to the National YouTube page. As well as the three first place winners for the ***Illustrating America*** art contest. Unfortunately I forgot to write down the names of the sponsoring Auxiliaries, but I have the names of the first place winners:

Illustrating America Art Contest:

- ★ **Grade K-2** – Jaron Williams
- ★ **Grade 3-5** – Lauren Emborsky
- ★ **Grade 6-8** – Sailor Smith

Get Excited for Red, White and Blue Singing Contest:

- ★ **Grade 9-12** – Lorna Becker

Until we see each other again, remember...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*



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



For Honor, Service and
"United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families"
 by having *"Hands that Serve and Hearts that Care."*
THANK YOU!

To Our Department of New York President Lisa, Line Officers, PDPs, and All of Our Fantastic Auxiliaries and Members of the Great Department of New York,

Very special thanks for the honor of serving you this year as your Veterans and Family Support Chairperson! You have inspired all...

- ✚ to serve our Veterans, their Families and all of our communities to care for our Veterans,
- ✚ to educate all on caregiver support,
- ✚ to support the VFW in their efforts to provide benefits to and for our Veterans,
- ✚ to educate about Mental Health and to downplay the stigma of mental health support,
- ✚ to support homeless and at-risk for homelessness veterans
- ✚ to care for our troops overseas, and
- ✚ to provide those random acts of kindness that have meant so much to all!

This was a "re-building" year after our two long years of COVID. The year was a year of change and often loss. You all learned from our president and her team how to do things in new and exciting ways. "Racing" was used as a tool to inspire and unite. Thank you all for your thoughtful donations and reports of individual and group events and activities this year.

Very special congratulations to all the awardees in each membership group of our great Department of New York. Keep up your great work and keep on reporting your activities. Publicize your activities to inspire and encourage other auxiliaries to join with you in your events.

All the best to you as we look back on the successes of this year and look forward to a new year of service and love for our Veterans.

God bless our Veterans and God bless America! ~ Happy Flag Day and Happy Fourth of July!

Loyally, *Dee*



WAYS & MEANS ~ Linda Flanagan, Chairman
155 Briggs Street ~ Syracuse, NY 13208
(315) 475-7526 ~ auxd53146@hotmail.com

➤ Congratulations to the winners of the 9 Month:

March - Auxiliary 1143 from District 9

April - Lillian Phinney from Auxiliary 6196, District 3

➤ The May and June winners will be chosen at the Department Convention.

➤ The Race for the Gold Raffle drawing will also be held at the Department Convention.

➤ Also, when you receive products in the mail from National, please donate, as this money comes back to the Department. This is called the Guarantee Program.

Thank you for your support of this important program!

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

Loyally, *Linda*



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 2022-2023 program year started with the need in August for our members to contact their elected Congressional representatives regarding passage of the PACT Act, intended to significantly improve healthcare access and funding for veterans exposed to toxic substances during military service. While the legislation failed to pass initially, it was brought back for a second vote and successfully passed. The many members of our organization who contacted legislators ensured that the PACT Act was passed before Congress adjourned.

This year, New York State saw their Congressional districts redrawn by the Judicial system as the State legislature was unable to do so. New York State also held elections for all Congressional seats, commonly referred to as “midterm elections” as it occurs at the halfway point of the current President’s term of office.

There are still several bills languishing within Congressional committees. Most notable are the Major Richard Star Act for disabled retirees, and the Military Family Nutrition Access Act of 2023. Passage of these Bills should be non-partisan.

Although the program year has come to an end, our work is not done. I encourage our members and Auxiliaries to subscribe to Action Corps Weekly to stay informed. I also encourage our members to engage our elected representatives whenever possible to enlist their support for legislation beneficial to Veterans, active-duty service members, and their families.

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

Patriotically ~ ***Ron***



“BUDDY”® POPPY/VFW NATIONAL HOME ~ Flora Becker, Chairman
86 Garden Street ~ Seneca Falls, NY 13148
(315) 521-2675 ~ loveourveterans17@gmail.com (NEW E-MAIL)

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

We have reached the finish line of the race. Thank you to all that participated in the "Buddy" Poppy and National Home, and those who contributed to the National Home Cottages. At the Spring Conference we had the lovely "Buddy" Poppy Displays. The 1st place winners won \$50, a trophy, and are eligible to compete at the National Convention. The 2nd and 3rd place winners received a trophy. The winners are:

Category #1 Public Promotion Category #2 Memorial/Inspirational Category #3 Artistic/Decorative

1st place Post 7227 D4

1st place Post 125 D9

1st place Post 7276 D2

2nd place Post 3146 D5

2nd place Post 2530 D6

2nd place Post 7545 D6

3rd place Post 8734 D6

3rd place Post 9592 D1

3rd place Post 7290 D5

Congratulations to all the winners. Thank you to my PDP's that judged the contest.

Thank you to the 25 VFW Post Auxiliary members that had 39 that joined the National Home Life Membership and qualified for the Life membership raffle. **The winner of the raffle was Post 9249 in District 6.** Congratulations to all the award recipients at the June Convention.

Don't stop doing for the "Buddy" Poppy and National Home just because this race is done. Start now to get a leg up for the new year. With Father's Day and Flag Day, remember to incorporate the "Buddy" Poppy in gifts and displays.

Thank you to Madam President Lisa Raplee for the opportunity to serve as your appointed chairman for the "Buddy " Poppy and National Home Program. It was a pleasure doing this program. Wishing you all good luck at the 2023 National Convention.

As we are **"United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families"** with
"Hands that serve, Hearts that care."

Loyally, ***Flora***



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



Auxiliary Outreach Numbers for 2022-2023						
Participating Auxiliaries		Used Malta Resources		Events held at VFW locations	Volunteering Auxiliary Members	Volunteered Member Hours
94		82		146	813	9424
1 st Responders	Faith Related	City/Town/County	Charities	Disaster Relief	Other Events	
54	59	92	104	16	91	

Department of New York VFW Auxiliary members stepped out into their communities in the third year of this awesome program to partner with other organizations to improve the lives of their neighbors and surroundings. Organization specific motions were moved, seconded, and recorded in the minutes; members wore clothing, hats, and/or badges that made them easily recognizable as VFW Auxiliary member volunteers. Thank you to all the Auxiliaries and their members for continuing to report services to veterans, hospitals, nursing homes and youth activities to their respective programs and reporting members, hours, and monetary donations to their respective Posts for inclusion in their VFW Community Service Reports.

Thank you for volunteering hours and proving that Auxiliary members have ***“Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care”*** while continuing to be ***“United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families.”*** It has been my honor and pleasure to help our members understand the changes to this program in year three (3).

Don't Stop Now!! Report partnership after April 1, 2023, to the 2023-2024 Chairman!
 New motions are required for continuing partnerships for the 2023-2024 reporting year!

Loyally, *Judy*

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

When you receive this, the Convention will be over and the awards will have been given out.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS! It was tough judging this year as everyone participated and we are 100% in the Hospital Program. Way to go New York!

I hope that all of you are keeping track of what you are doing for the Hospital program for the months of April, May and June and when the Guidebooks come out at Convention, you will be able to mail or email your reports to next year's chairman.

Some of the numbers for this year are:

We had 323 Auxiliary members volunteer; We had 8,355 hours of members volunteering in hospitals, etc.; We had 551 hours that volunteers and/or students volunteered; We had 30 Auxiliaries partake in the Honors Escort program; We had 45 Auxiliaries who participated in the Valentines for Veterans program; We had 33 Auxiliaries who promoted the Veterans Health Care program; and finally, the total amount spent on all Hospital programs was \$52,273.00.

I am SO proud of all of you for what we did this year. Keep up the good work for our Veterans. Thank you President Lisa for asking me to chair this program this year.

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*



**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY
4TH OF JULY!
AND THANK YOU FOR ALL
THAT YOU DO!**



***Inspirational Messages* from DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN Justine Robles**

Flag Day: June 14, 2023

O God, we thank Thee for the Flag of our country and for all that our flag represents. We thank Thee for giving victory to brave and valiant men and women, who have given their last measure of strength in order that it might wave over the land of the free and the home of the brave. We thank Thee for giving us the ideals of faith, and liberty, for preserving the sanctity of our homes, and freedom of worship. Conscious of our limitations and our deep unworthiness we pray that our Flag may bind together the many elements in our own dear country and foster in our ranks a one hundred percent Americanism. Make us who have served our country in time of war, willing always to uphold and defend our Constitution and our government grant that this Union, of sovereign states, may remain forever an indissoluble union flying the same flag. Amen.

Independence Day: July 4, 2023

Eternal God, stir Thou our minds and stimulate our hearts with a high sense of patriotism as we approach the Fourth of July. May all that this day symbolizes renew our faith in freedom, our devotion to democracy, and redouble our efforts to keep a government of the people, by the people, and for the people truly alive in our world. Grant that we may highly resolve on this great day to dedicate ourselves anew to the task of ushering in an era when good will shall live in the hearts of a free people, justice shall be the light to guide their feet, and peace shall be the goal of humankind: to the glory of Thy holy name and the good of our Nation and of all mankind. Amen.