



AUXILIARY NEWS ~ June 2024

The Official Communication of VFW Auxiliary Department of New York

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Dear Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers,

Hello Summer! I would like to thank everyone for your love and support this past year. I enjoyed being President and can't believe this is my last article. It seems not so long ago I was preparing my year and heading off to the Sr. Vice Conference. I have learned so much this past year, have lots of memories, and made many more friends. I enjoyed visiting the districts and seeing how things are done differently while following the bylaws and ritual. Every District showed me great respect and hospitality. My highlights through the year were the Veterans Day ball in District 4 and the Trees for Troops in District 1. I also enjoyed attending the MOCA Convention in Norwich, NY, and dressing up for the Veterans Home.

I would like to thank my advisors Mary Kreuzer and Ruth Huber for their support and guidance, and the PDP's for their great wisdom and knowledge. I would also like to thank my Secretary Chris Leavor for all her hard work and travelling with me. The most recent travel was to West Point Army Academy to represent National President Carla Martinez in presenting an award to a deserving young cadet. What a thrill, adventure and honor that was.

I enjoyed working all year with Commander Dan Kell and visiting Districts with him. I would like to thank Dee Ippolito and Karen Schueneman for the great job planning National President Carla Martinez's trip to New York. Although there were some interesting events that took place at the hotel, she seemed to enjoy herself.

It has been a pleasure working with the line officers and chairmen, everybody did a terrific job. I want to thank everyone who attended the Department Convention, especially the first timers. We learned a lot and had a great time. It was bittersweet handing the gavel to Darlene, but I am sure she will do a great job and have the same love and support that was shown to me. Thank you to Nina Lefrois for a Great Convention and Karen Dotson for a Great Luncheon. It was nice having our own Past National President Jane Reape be our Representative at the Convention.

Congratulations to all the award winners and Presidents of the year and runner up Presidents of the year. It was difficult deciding who to give the awards to because everyone did a terrific job. Congratulations to all the newly elected officers and best wishes for a successful year.

I would like to thank my Auxiliary, Private Leonard Post Jr. Post 6251, for their support over the years - especially this year - and District 6 VFW and Auxiliary. May we continue to

"Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" while "Banding Together for Our Veterans."

Loyally, *Rose*

Rose Cooper, President, VFW Auxiliary Department of New York

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PDP/OFFICER BIRTHDATES

JUNE

- 3 – Sharon Connolly, PDP
- 21 – Charlene Carnright, Conductor
- 22 – DeeDee Guyette, Guard
- 27 – Barbara Hodges, PDP

JULY

- 4 – Lisa Raplee, Jr PDP
- 4 – Kim White, Treasurer

MARK YOUR CALENDERS

Jun 6-10... VFW and Auxiliary Dept Convention
~ Marriott Hotel, Albany, NY

Jun 14... Flag Day

Jun 16... Happy Father's Day!

Jul 4... Independence Day

Jul 10... DEADLINE for OTI Room Reservations

Jul 15... DEADLINE for OTI Registration

Jul 27... VFW and Auxiliary National Convention

-Aug 1... ~ Louisville, KY

Aug 9-10... OTI (Officer Training Institute)
~Holiday Inn, Binghamton, NY



DEPARTMENT SPECIAL ORDER #2 MARCH 2024

(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, Patricia Jankowski, who went to her Heavenly Home on March 3, 2024.

Patricia served as National President from 2000-2001. Please keep her brother, Sister-in-law, and special friend Frank in your thoughts and prayers.

A Memorial Service will be announced at a later date.

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

Loyally,

Chris Leavor

Department Secretary

By Order of:

Rose Cooper

Department President



Inspirational Message

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

Belinda Cole

Dear God, We thank you for the many blessings as we look back at our year together. May we be thankful for the friendships we have made, our challenges and successes, and most importantly, the Veterans we have helped along the way. Help us to ease our sadness for the members we have lost and strengthen our hope so we may continue on the mission of our great organization. Grant to our Nation, peace; and to those serving, a safe return home. We ask for your blessing to unite us in service to You, our God, and to the United States of America. We are forever grateful that You have given us another day to "Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" while "Banding Together for Our Veterans."

Letter of Endorsement for Craig Keitel ~ March 2024

VFW Auxiliary 5491

Dear Auxiliary Members,

The members of Greater Mahopac Auxiliary 5491 proudly announce our endorsed candidate, Craig Keitel, for the office of Department Guard at the June 2024 Department Convention.

Craig Keitel is a life member of Greater Mahopac Auxiliary 5491 in Mahopac, NY. He joined the Auxiliary in 2016 under the eligibility of his father, Edward R Keitel, a Vietnam veteran. Craig honorably served in the US Marine Corps and Reserves from 1989-1997, eventually training as combat replacement of Operation Desert Storm troops.

Craig has held various Auxiliary offices including Jr Vice President (2019-2020), Sr Vice President (2020-2021; 2023-2024), President 2021-2023), Secretary (2023-present). He has served as the Putnam County Council President (2022-2023), as well as District 2 Conductor (2022-2023) and Jr Vice President (2023-2024). Craig is honored to be the Department Color Bearer during this year.

On the Auxiliary and District levels, he has held the following chairmanships: Membership, Buddy Poppy, Youth Activities, and Legislative Affairs. He has instructed/mentored through all Department Programs.

We believe in Craig and acknowledge he has the ability, dedication and commitment to serve as New York's next Department Guard. Therefore we respectfully ask your support and vote for our endorsed candidate/brother Craig Keitel for the office of Department Guard at the June 2024 Department Convention in Albany, NY.

Sincerely,

Rachel DelDuco

Auxiliary 5491 President

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

The following are corrections/changes that were reported after the Directory was printed and distributed at Fall Conference:

- 📖 **New Auxiliary 551**-Haspel Staab #551 (D1)-Meeting Day/Time: 2nd Monday, 6:30 pm
President: James Lisa, 73-20 Penelope Ave, Middle Village, NY 11379, 917-575-1909, cz901844@aol.com
Secretary/Treasurer: Kimberly Cavallo, 61-58 71st St, Middle Village, NY 11379, 516-458-3930, shroady18@aol.com
- 📖 **New Auxiliary 3275**-Mohawk Valley #3275 (D3)-Meeting Day/Time: 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm
President: Roseanne Hoffman, 169 Groff Rd, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428, 518-844-6832, wocky48@yahoo.com
Secretary: Loralee Whitlock, PO Box 307, Nelliston, NY 13410, 518-441-6038, dwhitlock@gmail.com
Treasurer: Donna Cook, 110 Crews Dr, Fort Plain, NY 13339, 607-435-2273, dmcook2489@gmail.com
- 📖 Aux 478-*New Meeting Date/Time*: 2nd Wednesday, 4:00 pm
- 📖 Aux 1400-*New Treasurer*: Ruby Jordan, 324 Vanduzee St, Watertown, NY 13601, 315-486-7179, vjproperties@vplp.net
- 📖 Aux 2250-*New President*: Shirley Jacket, 52 East Washington St, Hornell, NY 14843-1419, 607-324-6604, No E-Mail.
- 📖 Aux 2770-*New Meeting Date/Time*: 3rd Wednesday, 6 pm
- 📖 Aux 5861-*New President*: Cathalene Mendola, 203 Northwood Ave, West Seneca, NY 14224, 716-674-0882, No E-Mail.
- 📖 Aux 7414-*New President/Secretary*: Andrea Hefti, 6555 Gulick Rd, Naples, NY 14512, 585-737-5860, andi.hefti@gmail.com
- 📖 Aux 7466-*New Meeting Date/Time*: 3rd Tuesday, 6 pm
- 📖 Aux 9587 *President-Correct Phone Number*: 917-846-3482

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 2024 Convention.*

MEMBERSHIP ~ LISA RAPLEE, PDP, Chairman

- * **Award 1:** \$100 Drawing for attaining 50% of its annual members by **Sep 1, 2023:** Auxiliary 672 (D2)
- * **Award 2:** \$50 Drawing for having all officers' dues paid by **Sep 30, 2023:** Auxiliary 5808 (D2)
- * **Award 3:** \$100 Drawing for attaining 85% membership by **Oct 15, 2023:** Auxiliary 600 (D4)
- * **Award 4:** \$100 Drawing for attaining 95% membership by **Nov 30, 2023:** Auxiliary 1374 (D2)
- * **Award 5:** \$100 Drawing for attaining 100% membership by **Dec 31, 2023:** Auxiliary 1896 (D1)
- * **Award 6:** Life Membership Drawing for recruiting 5 new/rejoined members: Auxiliary 8726 (D8)

The remaining awards will be announced at the June 2024 Convention:

WAYS AND MEANS ~ GENE SHAW, Chairman

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

\$100 – Oct-May: See Chairman's article on Page 9.

\$200 – June: *To be drawn at the June 2024 Convention.*

EXTENSION AND REVITALIZATION ~ MARIANNE MCLANE, PDP, Chairman

- * **District Presidential Citation:** Judy Lefebvre, President District 9
- * **\$25 Organizer Award:** Belinda Cole (New D3 Aux 3275 and 9593) and Justine Robles (new D1 Aux 551)
- * **\$25 Member Award:** *No Submissions.*

CANCER GRANT DONATION FUND ~ PHYLLIS ROSEBOOM, Chairman

* **Fall Conference Raffle Winners:**

\$75 – Webster-Hill Aux #1470 (D5)

\$50 – Sullivan-Jones Aux #7466 (D3)

\$25 – Anna Wrobel, Aux #6338 (D9)

* **Spring Conference Raffle Winners:**

\$75 – Mr. & Mrs Clicquenoni, Aux #6764 (D6)

\$50 – Mayville Aux #8647 (D6)

\$25 – Rome Aux #2246 (D4)

AMERICANISM ~ JOHN HORSKY, 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:	6472 (D6)	2913 (D11)	8649 (D8)	9592 (D10)	6196 (D3)	7227 (D4)
Second Place:	3529 (D5)	416 (D6)	412 (D8)	8259 (D4)	1470 (D5)	8734 (D6)
Third Place:	2159 (D2)	3357 (D9)	1017 (D6)	2064 (D2)	1231 (D9)	1400 (D4)

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

* **Snap'em for Bragging Rights:** Ruth Huber, Aux 8734, District 6

* **Missing Man Table Kit:** Lorna Swan, Aux 7227, District 4

AUXILIARY OUTREACH ~ 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:	7279 (D11)	3357 (D9)	1017 (D6)	358 (D3)	309 (D9)	6912 (D4)
Second Place:	8726 (D8)	7276 (D2)	412 (D8)	8259 (D4)	7545 (D6)	1371 (D5)
Third Place:	973 (D2)	416 (D6)	5444 (D2)	8645 (D2)	6196 (D3)	8734 (D6)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Monica Ordway, President District 6

"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:	2718 (D10)	7276 (D2)	1323 (D8)	7290 (D5)	2535 (D7)	1371 (D5)
Second Place:	6472 (D6)	416 (D6)	412 (D8)	125 (D9)	5491 (D2)	7227 (D4)
Third Place:	313 (D7)	4658 (D8)	8649 (D8)	358 (D3)	1483 (D7)	1400 (D4)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Monica Ordway, President District 6

* **Buddy Poppy Display Contest:** See Chairman's article on Page 11.

HOSPITAL ~ AGNES STAMPP, 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)	1017 (D6)	3146 (D5)	5913 (D2)	8734 (D6)
Second Place:	5796 (D11)	7172 (D2)	8444 (D3)	7127 (D5)	1470 (D5)	2522 (D6)
Third Place:	4947 (D2)	2913 (D11)	260 (D1)	8259 (D4)	1384 (D10)	6433 (D8)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Monica Ordway, President District 6

LEGISLATIVE ~ GEORGIAN DAVIS, 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:	5802 (D9)	885 (D1)	8649 (D8)	161 (D2)	5491 (D2)	1371 (D5)
Second Place:	5861 (D6)	546 (D1)	412 (D8)	7765 (D2)	1384 (D10)	1419 (D6)
Third Place:	2159 (D2)	5798 (D6)	1017 (D6)	125 (D9)	8495 (D8)	8734 (D6)

* **District Presidential Citation:** Gene Shaw, President District 2

* **\$50 - Most Outstanding Aux Excelling in Legislative Education:** *To be drawn at June 2024 Convention*

* **\$50 - Most Outstanding Aux Excelling in Legislative Participation:** *To be drawn at June 2024 Convention*

MENTORING ~ 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:	5861 (D6)	416 (D6)	412 (D8)	358 (D3)	5491 (D2)	2522 (D6)
Second Place:	8137 (D5)	3357 (D9)	8649 (D8)	161 (D2)	1384 (D10)	6338 (D9)
Third Place:	8139 (D5)	3350 (D10)	1896 (D1)	6001 (D4)	1483 (D7)	8734 (D6)

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

SCHOLARSHIPS ~ JOAN BARNHART, 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:	1955 (D5)	416 (D6)	8649 (D8)	9592 (D10)	309 (D9)	2522 (D6)
Second Place:	8137 (D5)	7172 (D2)	412 (D8)	7765 (D2)	6196 (D3)	1143 (D9)
Third Place:	8139 (D5)	2913 (D11)	1017 (D6)	7336 (D1)	7062 (D3)	7227 (D4)

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

* **Voice of Democracy:**

“What are the greatest attributes of our Democracy?”

* 1st – Abigail Jung, Post 10870 (D11)

* 2nd – Avery Mack, Post 369 (D5)

* 3rd – Kseniia Zueva, Post 7172 (D2)

* **Young American Creative Patriotic Art**

* 1st – Abigail Laureta, Aux 9592 (D10)

* 2nd – Samantha Schlosser, Aux 1374 (D2)

* **Patriot’s Pen:**

“How are you inspired by America?”

* 1st – Gianna Zhang, Post 8692 (D3)

* 2nd – Lauren Fay, Post 26 (D7)

* 3rd – Gianna Lazzaro, Post 6251 (D6)

* **3-Dimensional Patriotic Art**

* 1st – Alejandro Perez, Aux 9249 (D6)

* 2nd – Matalyn Tyler, Aux 7227 (D4)

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)	416 (D6)	1017 (D6)	3146 (D5)	309 (D9)	7227 (D4)
Second Place:	6472 (D6)	2913 (D11)	412 (D8)	7127 (D5)	6196 (D3)	1400 (D4)
Third Place:	973 (D2)	7291 (D3)	8649 (D8)	170 (D2)	2883 (D8)	1371 (D5)

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

YOUTH ~ RUTH HUBER, PDP, 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)	412 (D8)	8645 (D2)	5491 (D2)	8734 (D6)
Second Place:	8726 (D8)	4658 (D8)	8649 (D8)	7127 (D5)	7545 (D6)	2522 (D6)
Third Place:	6776 (D3)	9251 (D8)	8444 (D3)	358 (D3)	2883 (D8)	9249 (D6)

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

* **Illustrating America Art Contest:** See Chairman’s article on Page 10.

* **Get Excited for Red, White, Blue Singing Contest:** See Chairman’s article on Page 10.



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Christine Leavor ~ 2027 Cemetery Hill Rd ~ Franklinville, NY 14737

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



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



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

Very special thanks for allowing me the honor to serve you this year as Veterans & Family Support Chairperson! You have inspired all:

- ✚ to serve our Veterans, their Families and all of our communities to care for our Veterans.
- ✚ to support the VFW in their programs that provide benefits to and for our Veterans and their dependents.
- ✚ to educate about Mental Health, to downplay the stigma of mental health support and to heighten awareness and prevention of the heart-rending 22/day rate of suicides among our veterans and military.
- ✚ to support homeless and at-risk for homelessness veterans.
- ✚ to care for our troops overseas thru Adopt-a-Unit, In Lieu of Cards and “Trees for Troops”/Holiday Cheer.
- ✚ to provide those random acts of kindness that have meant so much to all!

This was a year to “*Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans*” while “*Banding Together for Our Veterans*”. You have each indeed provided the “light of hope” for our veterans and families through all your service. You have worked hard to collaborate with your posts to “band together” to increase our combined service to our veterans and families. Thank you all for all your hard work.

Very special congratulations to all the awardees and indeed to each of our auxiliaries in each membership group of our great Department of New York . Keep up your great work and keep on reporting your activities.



Report now for the period of April 1-June 30! Publicize your activities on our Department’s Facebook page and on our website, vfwauxny.org to inspire and encourage other auxiliaries to join with you in your events.

All the best to you all as we look back on the successes of this year and look forward to a new year of service for our Veterans and their families!
God bless our Veterans and God bless America!

Loyally, *Dee*



FROM the DESK of the DEPARTMENT SECRETARY ~ Christine Leavor



Where has the time gone? Seems like yesterday President Rose was preparing for her year, and here we are getting ready for her Convention, SV Darlene preparing for her year, and me, writing my last article for this year!

April has been a busy month with your election reports pouring in. I appreciate very much those of you who attended the April ZOOM regarding completing these reports. Although my internet was wreaking havoc that night and I kept being cut off, most of you got the message and the reports have been a lot easier to work with. Unfortunately, everyone wasn’t online that night. I emphasized that there is a lot of information to fit on those forms and space being at a premium, every line was important and needed to be filled in.

Contact information is important, not just for the President but for all the officers on the form. **Please be sure that #1- it is complete and #2 -it is accurate.** Most members do not update their MALTA information, so when I’m inputting other information and being sure my Directory information is correct, I also update emails, USPS addresses, and phone numbers. I use the information you provide on the forms since it is the most recent information. If it different than what is in MALTA, I make changes. Guess what? It turns out you don’t have two officers with the same phone number! Sally Jones doesn’t have a new email, whoever completed the form just left three characters out. Please, check for completeness and accuracy.

I appreciate the calls and emails from members who have a question that I can (maybe) help with. I love speaking with you. Please continue to call- but leave a message on my landline. We screen calls and if you just hang up or don’t leave a name and number, I cannot get back to you. I do not use my cell phone at home. I do not **ever** turn the ringer on and it sits on a shelf when I’m home. I do check it occasionally for text messages if I walk by it. But I don’t answer calls with no caller ID or number I don’t recognize, so a message is imperative. Thank you for helping me serve you better.

Have a great summer but remember our work doesn’t stop between April and July. You just hold the reports for the new Chairmen. AND, if you want an email edition of next year’s Auxiliary News send me your request and email address. If you’ve received it this year, you will continue to receive it unless you tell me to stop.

Loyally, *Christine*



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



C – Create **A** – Ask & Answer **R** – Remember & Relate **E** – Encourage

”Mentoring for Leadership” happened in each of the one hundred seventy-six (176) Auxiliaries, in each of our eleven (11) Districts and at both Department Conferences and the June Convention. Unfortunately, only sixty-eight (68) percent of them reported those activities.

Participating Auxiliaries – 119

Auxiliary Year-end Reports Received – 97

GROUP	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place
I	Aux # 5861 – District 6	Aux # 8137 – District 5	Aux # 8139 – District 5
II	Aux # 416 – District 6	Aux # 3357 – District 9	Aux # 3350 – District 10
III	Aux # 412 – District 8	Aux # 8649 – District 8	Aux # 1896 – District 1
IV	Aux # 358 – District 3	Aux # 161 – District 2	Aux # 6001 – District 4
V	Aux # 5491 – District 2	Aux # 1384 – District 10	Aux # 1483 – District 7
VI	Aux # 2522 – District 6	Aux # 6338 – District 9	Aux # 8734 – District 6

District President Citation to Tina Roberts, District 8

National citations will be mailed to award nominees. Nominees are in Auxiliary numerical order.

AUXILIARY AWARD NO. 1	AUXILIARY AWARD FOR MEMBERS NO. 1
Aux # 412 – Chili Memorial	Karen A. Dotson - Aux # 412
Aux # 416 – Amherst Township	Doris Ippolito - Aux # 416
Aux # 1384 – John F. O’Grady	Doris Sharp – Aux # 7276
Aux # 3357 – Albert A. Gonyea	Jackie Cosh – Aux # 8649
Aux # 8737 – Little Valley	Christine Leavor – Aux # 8734

This program year has ended but “Mentoring for Leadership” MUST continue for our organization to endure and grow. Continue to “*show, share and support*” members as they become our future leaders, who will “*Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans*” while they are “*Banding Together for Our Veterans,*” their families, and our growing organization.

Loyally, *Judy*

PRESIDENT’S SPECIAL PROJECT ~ Marcia Williams, Chairman
PO Box 405 ~ Remsen, NY 13438
(315) 725-6582 ~ mmmckinney24@aol.com

Just a big *thank you* to everyone who purchased the shirts and apparel and made donations to make the program successful! Higher Ground is better because of you, our members!

“*Lighting the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans*” as we are “*Banding Together for Our Veterans.*”

Loyally, *Marcia*



TREASURER’S Checks & Balances ~ DEPARTMENT TREASURER, Kimberly White

Dear Members,

Important reminders-Please ask your Auxiliary Treasurer to review any unpaid members on Malta prior to June 30, 2024. We want to make sure that all who have paid their dues for the 2024 year have been recorded. Once the year closes on June 30, there is no going back to correct an oversight. We don't want to cost any member their many years of continuous membership or the right to a cancer grant. It happens every year to someone.

Any newly elected Treasurer must submit Form 8822-B to the IRS within 60 days of election. This updates the responsible person and address with the IRS so that they know who to contact regarding auxiliary business.

Stay safe! And please remember that the best time to reach me is in the evenings or over the weekend.

Loyally, *Kim*



CANCER GRANT DONATION FUND ~ Phyllis Roseboom, Chairman
PO Box 87 ~ Woodgate, NY 13494
(315) 392-2289 ~ garphyl@charter.net



As I take this time to reflect upon the Department of New York Auxiliary members participation in this program, I am so Proud of each of you! You have continued to be active and supportive of our Cancer patients. You have been donors through this year's Cancer Donations. But mostly, you have been there for each of your family or friends, your Auxiliary Brothers & Sisters as they are in their treatment and recovery.

June is noted on the Cancer Awareness Calendar as National Cancer Survivor Month and we can applaud each other. The wearing of a Purple Ribbon shows us all how you fought and WON.

You may recall that the final three Cancer Fund Drawings were drawn at the **Spring Conference**. I congratulate the 'Winners': \$75 – Mr. & Mrs. John Clicquenoni/Aux. 6764 Westfield Dist. 6; \$50 – Aux. 8647 Mayville Dist. 6, and \$25 – Aux. 2246 Rome Dist. 4!

I was overwhelmed by the "In The Box" SHOE BOXES that were created by each of you for the Cancer Fund Raffles along with your ticket purchases. Thanx again.

But most of all, you continue to **"Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans"** and remain **"Banding Together for Our Veterans"** as we FIND a Cancer Cure SOON.

I hope everyone is taking every chance to use Kindness, both to yourself and then to all others.

Loyally, *Phyl*



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



Media Relations is about the different resources your Auxiliary uses to get the word out to the community about who we are and what we do. It also involves how we communicate with each other. All of this involves using different types of Social media, newspapers, radio, and television. It also means sending out newsletters to your Auxiliary and District members, either by email or snail mail. The Auxiliary Historian is responsible for keeping a record, using photographs, flyers, event programs and other memorabilia, of the President's and Auxiliaries activities from installation to installation. You were chosen to fulfill a key role in your Auxiliary, District or Department. It was up to you to tell the story and keep a record of memories for future members.

This year – you kept good records and utilized every form of media available to you, whether it be through Facebook, newsletters, websites and/or videos.

You made this a year of courage, kindness, service, and unlimited "mission" of possibilities! You ensured the future of your Auxiliary this year and made your mission matter.

It was an honor to serve as Department Historian/Media Relations Chairman this year and did so with much excitement! **"Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans"** provided us with wonderful memories while **"Banding Together for Our Veterans."**

Loyally, *Kellianne*

AUXILIARY OUTREACH ~ Peggy Schweitzer, Chairman
50 Franklin Avenue, Apt 228 ~ Clinton, NY 13323
(315) 853-2419 ~ snowy4931@gmail.com

Congratulations to all the winners of the Auxiliary Outreach Program for this year!

All of you are beginning to learn this program better and better each year. I enjoyed reading all of your reports this past year and I am very proud of all of you. All of the winners are listed in another section of this edition. You are all winners in my book!

I also want to thank President Rose for allowing me the opportunity to chair this program. It has been fun and rewarding. We have great Auxiliaries in the State of New York!!

Remember, we are...**"Banding Together for Our Veterans"** to **"Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans."**

Loyally, *Peggy*

AMERICANISM ~ John Horsky, Patriotic Instructor, Chairman
585 Park Avenue, Apt 3C ~ Brooklyn, NY 11206
(347) 356-3829 ~ j_horsky@yahoo.com

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I can't believe it's already the end of the year. I would like to thank Madame President Rose for asking me to be her chairman this year. I hope I served the Department of NY well. Being a first-time Chairman, I know I had big shoes to fill.

Thank You to all the Auxiliaries that participated this year in the Americanism Program. All of you have done and continue to do an excellent job at promoting this program. This program is what we are all about - showing how Patriotic we as Auxiliary members truly are.

A huge THANK YOU to all my Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters who called, emailed, and sent me Thinking of You/Get Well cards. I still have a long way to go and hearing from all of you really helped. Please continue to:

"Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" as we are ***"Bandning Together for Our Veterans."***

Loyally, *John*



WAYS & MEANS ~ Gene Shaw, Chairman
133 Dwarfskill Court ~ Milford, PA 18337
(570) 240-2337 ~ gene.shaw47@gmail.com



Thank you to all the Auxiliary Members who supported the Ways and Means Program this year! My heartfelt thank you to the outstanding members who participated in the scratch-off lottery raffle at our Fall and Spring Conferences and the 9-Month Raffle. Congratulations to all the 9-Month Raffle winners!

- October:** Aux 6778 Palmyra Memorial, District 8. They were also the seller and received \$120.
November: District 9 Auxiliary. They were also the seller and received \$120.
December: Aux 420 Gurtler Brothers, District 3. They were also the seller and received \$120.
January: Aux 2770 Vigilant, District 10. They were also the seller and received \$120.
February: Aux 1896 Proctor Hopson, District 1. They were also the seller and received \$120.
March: District 8 Auxiliary. They were also the seller and received \$120.
April: District 2. They were also the seller and received \$120.
May: Aux 5007 James J Cruden. They were also the seller and received \$120.

Congratulations to the Auxiliary members in Districts #2, #6, #7, #8, #10, and #11 for achieving 100% in the Ways and Means Program. District #9 only needs two auxiliaries to participate for 100%, while District #1 needs only three. You can do it. There is still a chance to win \$220. You have to be in it to win it.

Our Auxiliary members ***"Light the Flame of Hope for our Veterans"*** while they ***"Band Together for Our Veterans."***

Loyally, *Gene*

SCHOLARSHIPS ~ Joan Barnhart, Chairman
689 Southside Road ~ Cold Brook, NY 13324
(315) 368-3957 ~ jbarn98674@aol.com

Where has the time gone? We are at the end of our program year with the Art contest done and our 1st place winners have been sent to National Headquarters. I hope you get to meet them at our State Convention luncheon. I have enjoyed reading all your reports I received and talking to many of you this year. I hope that your auxiliary will be receiving the awards you so deserve.

Next year's themes are: Voice of Democracy - "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"
Patriot's Pen - "My Voice In America's Democracy?"

So, you can tell the students now and they can get a head start on next year's program.

Thank you, Madam President Rose, for the opportunity to serve as your Scholarship Chairman this year.

"Lighting the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" as we are ***"Bandning Together for Our Veterans."***

Loyally, *Joan*

HOSPITAL ~ Agnes Stamp, Chairman
2622 Hamilton Street ~ Weedsport, NY 13166
(315) 834-6921 ~ agnes.stamp@gmail.com

Congratulations to all the winners of the Hospital Program Awards! You have all worked very hard throughout the year to make the lives of our Veterans and Military better, and in my eyes, you are all winners. New York was almost at 100%, great job everyone!

Speaking of a great job, here is just how wonderful you all performed:

- * We had 229 Auxiliary members volunteer 7706 hours at a VA or Non-VA facility; 1990 volunteered under VFW Auxiliary sponsorship. We had 58 Auxiliaries partake in Honors Escort, 81 participated in Valentines for Veterans, 41 promoted Veterans Healthcare and 44 promoted Women Veterans Healthcare.
- * The total amount spent on all Hospital Programs was \$81,836.79. Fantastic!!

Please keep track of your volunteer hours and activities during April, May and June. When the guidebooks come out, you will know the name of the chairman to send the reports to.

Remember, by supporting the Hospital Program, we can make a difference by,
“Lighting the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans” while **“Banding Together for Our Veterans.”**

Loyally, *Agnes*

YOUTH ACTIVITIES ~ Ruth Huber, PDP, Chairman
9511 W Bucktooth Run Road ~ Little Valley, NY 14755
(716) 801-2003 ~ poofalina@yahoo.com

Dear VFW Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters,

Congratulations to the winners of the Get Excited for the Red, White & Blue National Anthem Singing Contest! In the K-8 division, Isabelle Passante received 1st place, sponsored by Auxiliary 7276, District 2. Avalynn Langville received 2nd place, sponsored by Auxiliary 6338, District 9. And Ophelia Carpenter received 3rd place, sponsored by Auxiliary 2475, District 3. In the 9-12 division, Ella Wood was the 1st place winner, sponsored by Auxiliary 8961, District 7.

The winners in the Illustrating America art contest are as follows: In the K-2 division, Breyer Huber received 1st Place, sponsored by Auxiliary-8734, District 6. Winners in the grades 3-5 division are: 1st place Evelyn Wilkes, sponsored by Auxiliary 2535, District 7; 2nd place Hayden Hakes, sponsored by Auxiliary 2883, District 8; and 3rd place Charlotte Edenfield, sponsored by Auxiliary 3357, District 9. In the grades 6-8 division, Lexis Kerr was the 1st place winner, sponsored by Auxiliary 1143, District 9. Congratulations to all of the winners!

My heartfelt gratitude and congratulations to all the Department award winning Auxiliaries by membership groups. Group 1: 5861 District 6 1st, 8726 District 8 2nd, 6776 District 3 3rd; Group 2: 416 District 6 1st, 4658 District 8 2nd, 9251 District 8 3rd; Group 3: 412 District 8 1st, 8649 District 8 2nd, 8444 District 3 3rd; Group 4: 8645 District 2 1st, 7127 District 5 2nd, 358 District 3 3rd; Group 5: 5491 District 2 1st, 7545 District 6 2nd, 2883 District 8 3rd; and Group 6: 8734 District 6 1st, 2522 District 6 2nd, 9249 District 6 3rd.

Your efforts to engage our youth in our programs by participating in and promoting the Patriotism Through Literacy program, Random Acts of Patriotism, Illustrating America art contest, and the Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue singing contest is to be commended. And that was just the beginning as you also engaged youth in other ways. You volunteered countless hours coaching youth sports and working with youth, raised money to support youth programs and activities in your communities, made cards to send to our Veterans, purchased school supplies, donated money for children in need, held parties for the holidays, presented awards, and so much more! **You are truly amazing!** I cannot thank you enough.

For those of you who have not yet done so, please remember to recognize youth for their efforts and service projects that honored our Veterans and assisted active-duty military personnel and their families. The Patriotic Youth Awards are available in MALTA and are free to download as are the various press releases for the winning entries in the contests.

What wonderful things you have done! Thank you for **Being the Difference!** By **“Banding Together For Our Veterans”** we did **“Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans.”**

Thank you, Madam Department President Rose, for allowing me the privilege of serving as your Youth Activities Chairman.

Loyally, *Ruth*



MEMBERSHIP ~ Lisa Raplee, PDP, Chairman
4259 State Route 226 ~ Dundee, NY 14837
H: (607) 243-0031 ~ C: (434) 594-2539 ~ lisavfwaux2425@outlook.com



What a great honor to have served you all as the Membership Chairman this year!

I would like to thank Department Treasurer Kim White for your time and dedication in processing all the applications. As of this writing, we are only lacking 29 members. I am confident that we will hit that magic number by June 30, 2024. To all the District Presidents thank you for communicating with your auxiliaries and getting the membership in. I look forward to handing out the remaining awards at the Department Convention in Albany.

"Banding Together for Our Veterans" as we "Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans."
 Loyally, *Lisa*



LEGISLATIVE ~ Georgian (Ann) Davis, Chairman
97 Ridge Park Ave Rear ~ Buffalo, NY 14211
(716) 491-8096 ~ anndavis311@gmail.com

I made a promise, and that is "I will continue the OATH, my son Nathaniel C. Jones Jr. swore to when he enlisted" and that is to serve the United States of America servicemen and women and their families.

Action Corp Weekly: please sign-up for this informative newsletter: www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-efforts

I thank you all, my Legislative Chairs for your guidance in getting Auxiliary members involved in learning of the various bills, which will affect our military and their families. Passage of these bills is of the utmost importance; please stay in touch with your Senators, Congressman and other officials, urging their support for the passage of these bills for our military; to include the Major Richard Star Act for our disabled retirees and the Military Family Nutrition Access Act of 2023, and so many others.

If you are not sure who you should be talking with, go to the New York Legislative website.

Thank you again for your support; I could not have done it without you (Auxiliary) during my term; and even though that term is almost over, your continued support for our Veterans does not. I've learned so much from reading your reports and that has also helped me to know your Auxiliary and your involvement in your military issues and community. Be sure to save your reports and give to the next year's Chairperson.

Another Big Thank You – You Truly Do So Much!
"Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" as we "Band Together for Our Veterans."
 Loyally, *Ann*

"BUDDY"® POPPY/VFW NATIONAL HOME ~ Flora Becker, Chairman
86 Garden Street ~ Seneca Falls, NY 13148
(315) 521-2675 ~ loveourveterans17@yahoo.com

Thank you to everyone for all your hard work in the Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home Program! I truly enjoyed reading all your wonderful reports. And now for the winners of the Buddy Poppy Display contests from the Spring Conference:

CATEGORY:

- ARTISTIC or DECORATIVE
 - 1st Place: Auxiliary 1323 Lt Cyrus Garnsey (D8)
 - 2nd Place: Auxiliary 125 Edward & Moses Wells (D9)
 - 3rd Place: Auxiliary 416 Amherst Township (D6)
- MEMORIAL or INSPIRATIONAL
 - 1st Place: Auxiliary 3146 Mattydale (D5)
 - 2nd Place: Auxiliary 7290 Edwards-Wevers (D5)
 - 3rd Place: Auxiliary 309 Peru Memorial (D9)
- PUBLIC PROMOTION
 - 1st Place: Auxiliary 982 Remsen Memorial (D4)

Congratulations to all the winners - let's see what next year will bring!
"Light the Flame of Hope for Our Veterans" while "Banding Together For Our Veterans."
 Loyally, *Flora*

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

The *Auxiliary News* is published six times a year:
August, September/October, November/December,
February/March, April/May, June.
Deadline for submissions is the 1st of the previous month.
August articles are due July 1st

- OTI TRAINING TOPICS**
- ✓ Mock Meeting
 - ✓ Healthy Auxiliary Check-Up
 - ✓ VSO Report
 - ✓ How to Conduct an Audit
 - ✓ How to Complete a Program Report Form with Your Chairman
 - ✓ Auxiliary Organization and Bylaws
 - ✓ What's New and Where to Find it on the Department Website
 - ✓ MALTA
 - ✓ Report by National Ambassador DeeDee Guyette
 - ✓ Other Topics to Help You Maintain a Healthy Auxiliary

OFFICER & MEMBER TRAINING SCHOOL (OTI)

The VFW Auxiliary Department of New York Officers Training School will take place August 9th-10th at the Holiday Inn Binghamton Downtown, 2-8 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY. The hotel room cost is \$139 plus tax per night. The room cut-off date is **July 10, 2024** and **VFW** is the group code when making your hotel reservations. The telephone number is 607-722-1212. Check-in time is 4pm and check-out time is 11am.

The food package which includes your registration fee is \$93 per person for dinner Friday night, breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Members may attend on Saturday only for \$37 which will include your lunch and registration fee. Class materials will be provided. Please complete the section below and mail it to Ruth Huber, 9511 Bucktooth Run Rd., Little Valley, NY 14755 so it is received by **July 15, 2024** to reserve your spot in what Madam Department President Darlene hopes will be a fun and informational weekend. Checks need to be made payable to **VFW Auxiliary, Department of NY.**

Attendees are asked to bring your Bylaw and Ritual Podium Edition and 2024-2025 Program Guidebook.

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Address: _____ Auxiliary # _____

Attending Friday and Saturday: _____ Attending Saturday Session Only: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Check # _____ District # _____