



Auxiliary Program SWAPS

In an effort to assist our Auxiliaries with ideas, suggestions, and opportunities to engage their members to participate on the National and Department Programs, Department President Darlene would like to promote the *Auxiliary Program SWAP Listing*.

The Auxiliary Program SWAP Listing will identify activities which Auxiliaries can utilize to energize their membership. While this is sharing of ideas, it is also promoting the mentoring process.

Auxiliaries may find an idea they like and tweak it to meet their needs or the upcoming project. As not every suggestion will be able to meet the needs of every Auxiliary, however, it is a tool available to use if the Auxiliary so chooses.

Each National and Department Program will list the ideas and suggestions. It is anticipated that the Program SWAP List will be available in the Department Auxiliary News and on the Department Website .

Department Chairmen are encouraged to share the ideas, projects, events they receive on their monthly reports for other Auxiliaries to consider.

Program SWAP List

Americanism

- Fly your Flag every day in honor of your Veteran.
- Purchase US Postage Flag Stamps and report to your Chairman
- Replace a tattered American Flag

Auxiliary Community Outreach – Volunteering your Time

- Contact your local Homeless shelters and Assistance Centers; Local Food Pantries
- EMT/Fire/Police; Animal Shelters;
- Red Cross, Cancer, and other charities;
- Adopt a Highway; Town/City/open areas/Community Gardens

Buddy Poppy / VFW National Home – Every day is “Buddy” Poppy Day

- Wear a “Buddy” Poppy everyday, attach to your purse
- Collect loose change at meetings to support the Food Pantry at the VFW National Home

Hospital Program

- Send monthly birthday cards for the hospitalized veterans
- Send holiday greeting cards (Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, St. Patrick’s Day, Easter
- Enlist the support of a Girl Scout, Boy Scout or Youth Group to create the cards for Valentine’s for Veterans as well as “Thank you for your Service” cards for Veteran’s Day

Legislative Program

- Provide childcare or eldercare for a member to vote in the elections
- Provide transportation for a member or non-member to vote in the elections

Scholarship Program

- Promote the VOD and Patriot’s Pen themes at your local Library
- Promote the programs at Community Center

Veterans and Family Support

- Collect Non-perishable food items for a local food pantry
- Collect New blankets for your local Rescue Mission or Veterans Outreach Center
- Send monthly birthday cards to your members
- Send Miss You cards to your Homebound members

Youth Activities

- Collect mittens, gloves, hats for your local elementary school
- Collect items for your community Holiday Giving Tree
- Sponsor a local youth sports team; School Music Program (Chorus, Band) or Musical
- Schedule a baby shower for your local female veterans