

Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and
Their Families!



Department of New York

2024-2025

Program Guidebook

Darlene Baker

Department President



It is my honor and privilege to serve as the incoming Department President for 2024-2025. Many people are to thank especially my family, Bob, Nicole, Ezra, as well as Taylor and Abigail, who have made this possible over the last several years, as well as my brothers Dominick and John, but also my cousins Aurora and Lorraine.

However, this would truly not be possible without the true mentorship of Past Department President Florence Banks (and Mike later in her life), who was by my side since 2001 (when I joined under the eligibility of my dad, Dominick, a WW II veteran, who served from 1941-1945). Florence guided me through this journey from Auxiliary President, Oswego County Council President, District 5 President and through the Chairs of Department. As the 2024-2025 Department President, I do this in her memory. It is my hope that Florence will be looking down and we will make her proud as a Past Department President.

My other mentor in District 5 is Past Department President Jackie Herbert, who has guided me with Florence as well as many others in the Department of New York with their guidance and wisdom! To the members of Trach-Auringer Post 7325 VFW Auxiliary and to the many VFW members (past and present) it would not have been possible without their support. To the members of District 5, especially VFW Post Auxiliary 3146 members, thank you for your support throughout the chairs and the three years as District President. To my peers at Barclay Damon LLP, for their continuous support, which I sincerely appreciate.

The last year has definitely been a learning experience; and we hope that what we have put together as a team will be beneficial to all members. The team created informative toolkits and hope that everyone will enjoy using them. The toolkits will be on the Department Website after July 1, 2024.

We, the line officers and leadership team look forward to working with all members for this upcoming year. We truly hope that everyone has a successful and fun year as we continue "Soaring into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and their Families!"

Loyally
Darlene Baker

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Meet Your Department Officers

Department President Darlene Baker

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Bernhards Bay, NY 13028
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Sr. Vice President

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Jr. Vice President

Belinda Cole
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Treasurer

Kim White
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(518) 275-7283 kwhitewvlt@aol.com

Secretary

Chris Leavor
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Chaplain

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Conductor

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(315) 493-7520 dgullquist@verizon.net

Chief of Staff

Karen Dotson PDP
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Patriotic Instructor

Rose Cooper PDP
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(585) 403-1390 navyvet8194@gmail.com

Historian

Kellianne Martini
315 Anchors Way, Winder GA 30680
(518) 744-8978

Guard (To be elected at Convention)

*“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans”
as we go
“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and
Their Families”*



Important Dates 2024-2025

Events/Dates Subject to Change

2024

June 6-9	Department of NY VFW & Auxiliary Convention- Marriott Hotel Albany NY
TBD	Department President's & Commander's Homecoming
July 26-August 1	National Convention- Louisville, KY
August 9-10	OTI- Holiday Inn Hotel, Binghamton NY
August 31-	Last day to have President and Treasurer on all levels bonded
September 6-7	National CAFÉ Event- VFW National Home, Eaton Rapids, MI
September 16-19	National President Visits NY- Buffalo NY
September 30	* Donation Forms mailed to Department Treasurer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit Health & Happiness Donation (Either in MALTA or mailed to Auxiliary National Headquarters, Kansas City MO)• Make Cancer Grant Donation in MALTA• Mail Ways & Means tickets to Chairman
October 10-13	VFW & Auxiliary Fall Conference- Marriott Hotel Albany NY
November 1-3	Eastern Conference- Burlington VT

2025

February 1-6	Mid-Winter Conference- Cancun, Mexico
March	VFW Legislative Conference/VOD Awards- Washington DC
TBD	VFW & Auxiliary Spring Conference- Marriott Hotel Albany NY
April 1	ALL Program Reports must be RECEIVED by the Department Chairmen
April 10	ALL President's Reports must be Postmarked or Emailed by this date.
June 10-15	Department Convention- Marriott Hotel Albany NY
August 9-14	National Convention- Columbus OH

“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families”

Department Awards 2024-2025

Department Awards for 2024-2025 will be presented to SIX (6) Membership Groups

Auxiliary Membership Grouping is based on June 2024 Membership

Awards will be Presented by Program Chairmen at the June 2025 Convention
Unless stated otherwise in the Program pages

Awards are for the **BEST** overall Auxiliary Participation in each respective program

Refer to Membership Program for Membership Awards

Awards in the following programs will be based on the **QUALITY** of material reported- NOT the **QUANTITY** of reports sent by Auxiliaries

Americanism
Auxiliary Outreach
Buddy®Poppy/ National Home
Hospital
Legislative
Scholarships
Veterans & Family Support
Youth Activities

To be eligible for an award, the Auxiliary Chairman must submit at least one report during the year AND submit a year-end report to be RECEIVED by the Chairman by April 1, 2025
Reports may be emailed, or USPS mailed- if using USPS mail- mail it early enough to be received by the deadline date.

First Place: \$20 and a Presidential Citation to the Auxiliary
Second Place: \$15 and a Presidential Citation to the Auxiliary
Third Place: \$10 and a Presidential Citation to the Auxiliary

A Presidential Citation will be awarded to ONE District President who BEST promotes the programs to its component Auxiliaries.

“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans”

VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK DONATION REPORT FORM 2024-2025



Auxiliary Name _____ Auxiliary Number _____ District Number _____

HOSPITAL FUND (Suggested Donation - \$15.00)
Allows the Dept. President to present donations when visiting VA's to purchase special event supplies, holiday gifts, etc. \$ _____

FISHER HOUSE (Suggested Donation – \$15.00)– Albany VA – Samuel S. Stratton VA Medical Center and Fisher Houses I and II – James J. Medical Center A home away from home for family of hospitalized veterans and family members and veterans undergoing extended outpatient therapy. \$ _____

AMERICANISM FLAG FUND (Suggested Donation - \$5.00) Allows for American and POW/MIA flags to be presented to Conference Hotel representatives, VA Hospitals, and other facilities at the discretion of the Department President. \$ _____

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT (OPERATION BOTTOM COVER) \$ _____

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S SPECIAL PROJECT –(SUICIDE AWARENESS) \$ _____

**DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S AND COMMANDER'S SPECIAL PROJECTS –
VA HOSPITAL WOMEN'S WELLNESS CLINICS AND HOMELESS VETERANS**
All proceeds will be divided between the 13 VA Women's clinics to support the two women's initiatives outlined below:
1) Women's Clinic Whole Health and Wellness Program \$ _____
2) Women's Clinic Maternity Care Program \$ _____
3) Homeless Veterans (Buffalo and Syracuse Split) \$ _____

DEPT OF NEW YORK SCHOLARSHIPS, VOD, PATRIOT'S PEN, PATRIOTIC ART, 3D ART \$ _____
Provides funding to present cash and prize awards to Department of New York Scholarship Contest Winners.

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT National Veterans Service: (NVS) Provides a nationwide network of VFW Service Officers who help Veterans, Spouses, active duty, and dependents navigate the VA System \$ _____

National Veterans and Military Support: Three programs fall under this main category to assist active duty and recently Discharged Military service personnel and their families unable to meet monthly expenses (Unmet Needs), financial support to Post, Auxiliary, District, Department to support Military Morale Events (MAP), and Education Support for the "Sports Clips Help a Hero Scholarship" \$ _____

USO: Support America's service members and families keeping them connected to home. \$ _____

DEPARTMENT OF NY SERVICE OFFICERS Provides a network of VFW Service Officers within the Department of NY who help Veterans, Spouses, Active Duty, and Dependents navigate the VA System. \$ _____

DEPARTMENT OF NY VFW AUXILIARY RELIEF FUND \$ _____

AUXILIARY NEWS and DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY: (Suggested Donation \$15.00) To offset the costs of printing and mailing the Department Newsletter and Department Directory to Presidents on all levels. \$ _____

DEPARTMENT POSTAGE FOR MAILING DUES NOTICES: (Suggested Donation \$15.00) Department Headquarters sends dues notices to annual members *only for Auxiliaries that contribute to the postage fund.* The Dues Donation **MUST** be received by the Department Treasurer **NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30, 2024.** \$ _____
Please indicate if you want the Department to send dues notices to unpaid annual members: Y _____ N _____

TOTAL DONATIONS: \$ _____

Please Note: Auxiliaries on all levels will receive Participation credit for their donations!
PLEASE submit the Donation Form by September 30, 2024
Make checks payable to: **VFW Auxiliary Department of NY** earmarked "**Donation Form**"

Mail completed form and check to:
Kimberly White, Department Treasurer: 1799 Fred Rd., Schenectady, NY 12303

*"From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans" by
"Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families"*

PROGRAM COORDINATOR --- JACKIE HERBERT, PDP
PO BOX 138, CAMPBELL, NY 14821-0138
Phone: 607-527-1005 Email: jackievwauxny@stny.rr.com



SOARING INTO THE NEXT CENTURY OF SERVICE WITH OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES!

FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS.

IMPORTANT DATES

By the 1st day of the month the auxiliary program chairmen need to submit their report to each of the Department Program Chairmen.

By the 7th day of the month the Department Chairmen need to submit their reports to me.

On the 10th day of the month the Program Coordinator's Report will be posted on the Department Website.

If your auxiliary donates on the Donation Report Form this will count as a donation, but you need to complete projects and report them to the Department Chairmen to qualify for awards.

THE MEANING OF THE D, P and H & H

The "D" is for donations to a program.
The "P" is for participation in a program.

The H & H is for the VFW National Home Health and Happiness donations. You need to send a minimum donation of **\$0.10 per member** which is based on the **June 30, 2024**, auxiliary membership total. You may donate to this through MALTA or mail your checks to:

**VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64111**

Please make your checks payable to VFW Auxiliary and earmark it "**Health & Happiness**".

OTHER ABBREVIATIONS

Vet & Fam = Veterans and Family Support **W & M** = Ways and Means **Aux. Out.** = Auxiliary Outreach
Youth = Youth Activities **BP/NH** = Buddy Poppy and National Home
Membership = date you reach 100% **Membership 100% (+)** = actual percent above 100%

If you reported and/or donated and didn't receive a check mark on the Program Report Form, you need to contact the Department Chairmen; changes can only be made by the Department Chairmen.



OFFICIAL VISIT FOR INSPECTIONS

“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veteran’s and Their Families”

Official visits, for the purpose of inspecting an Auxiliary, are to help the Department recognize Auxiliaries who are struggling to remain a viable part of the Department and National Organization. Many Auxiliaries have been lost because it was not recognized early enough to give them the assistance and support they needed.

The District President appoints inspectors to assist him/her in getting the official visits (inspections) done in a timely manner. It is honorable for the District President to visit all the auxiliaries, but it is not necessary they do all the inspections themselves.

Rules for District Presidents regarding inspections:

- DO NOT try to do all the inspections yourself.
- DO NOT send the same inspector to an Auxiliary they inspected last year.
- SCHEDULE a School of Instruction for inspectors early in your auxiliary year (i.e., at an organizational meeting or your first District meeting in the Fall.
- REVIEW the inspection form for completeness before forwarding it to me. It will be returned to you to get the missing answers from the inspector or Auxiliary President.
- SEND completed form and copy of accepted 990N to me within seven (7) days.

Rules for Inspectors:

- CONTACT Auxiliary President to set date, time, and place for inspection and be prompt for the visit.
- SIX MONTHS must elapse between inspections.
- ATTEND meeting and COMPLETE the inspection form.
- VERIFY EIN (Employee Identification Number) and date 990N was completed and accepted.
- GET signatures of President, Secretary and Treasurer. Make sure the Treasurer’s address is correct.
- BE HONEST in answering all questions and your assessment of the Auxiliary.
- FORWARD all copies of inspection, with copy of accepted 990N, to the District President within three (3) days.
- IF UNABLE to do the inspection, notify the District President and return all items to the District President so a new inspector can be appointed.

Inspection forms have been redesigned, but still will be used to recognize Auxiliaries who need assistance. Once received, I will review the form. The Auxiliary copy will be returned to the Auxiliary Treasurer (hence the need for a correct, complete address) and the District copy will be returned to the District President. A copy will be forwarded to the Department President for any Auxiliary that needs assistance.

It is Darlene’s and my goal to have all inspections done by JANUARY 15, 2025. Before the Christmas Holiday would even be better.

Sandra Flynn, PDP, Inspection Coordinator
PO Box 418
Callicoon, NY 12723
(570)224-4894

Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families

From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans



CANCER GRANT DONATION FUND

PHYLLIS ROSEBOOM, CHAIRMAN
PO BOX 87, WOODGATE NY 13494

Telephone: (315) 392-2289

Email: garphyl@charter.net



As we begin our Auxiliary Year, we all need to stay alert and aware of the Medical community making major strides in Cancer treatments. Each day we hear and see of a new technology and/or revitalized medicine regiment. We, as Auxiliary members, also need to continue our support to care for each other and bring relief to our fellow members, and their families.

ERASE



CANCER

Being a member of the VFW Auxiliary has a privilege, that being the gift of a Cancer Grant. In your lifetime, you are entitled to submit a Grant Donation Application for two \$550 each Grants, which is never repaid. That application can be downloaded from the National VFW Auxiliary Website; one is included in this Guidebook; or you can contact myself as your Cancer Chairman Phyllis Roseboom for help and for answers to your questions.

Sustaining the Cancer Grant Fund relies on Auxiliaries donating \$2 per member based upon the Auxiliary's membership as of June 30, 2024. We thank you in advance for your donations.

In the 2024-2025 President's Packet, you will find an Instruction Sheet of details for each Auxiliary Treasurer to 'Make a Donation.' Your Auxiliary Donation through the Gift Entry of MALTA will earn your participation in the Cancer Grant Donation Fund of the Department.

Because of the time lapse of MALTA reporting back to the Department of whomever or whichever Auxiliary has made their donation, I would like to make a request. Would you send me a notification, either by email, phone call or note...of your MALTA process with your Aux. & District #s, your donation amount, and the date it was processed.

Let's make this year a proud experience in your fight to **Erase Cancer**.



AT FALL and SPRING CONFERENCES:

CANCER



Available for a small donation will be the 'ever popular' Mini, USB rechargeable Flashlights. The Cancer Awareness Ribbons are for you!

FALL CONFERENCE – Each **AUXILIARY** is asked to bring a “Grocery Bag” [the type with the gorgeous scenes, flowers, Patriotic, etc.] filled with items to be raffled at the Conference.



Items in your “Grocery Bag” can reference Dept. President Darlene Baker’s theme & slogan of ‘Soaring into the Next Century of Service’ . . . or our celebration this year of our 100th NY VFW Auxiliary Anniversary. It can be your imagination on the contents, with a minimum value of \$10.00.

SPRING CONFERENCE – Each **DISTRICT PRESIDENT** is asked to bring a replica of Department President Darlene’s Logo “Hot Air Balloon” [as shown to the left] to be raffled during the Conference.



A barrel shaped ‘Jug,’ ie: a Party Mix Chip/Snack Jug, 43 oz. size perhaps, could be emptied and decorated to resemble the balloon with its ‘red, white & blue’ stripes and our VFW Family figures on the balloon.

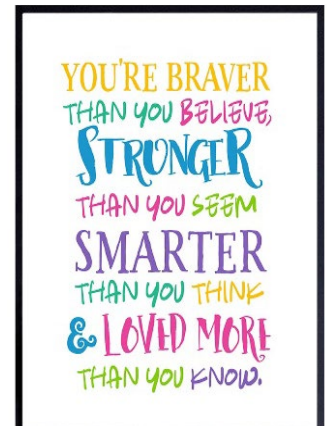
Then fill the emptied Jug with items of your choice showing our 100th NY VFW Auxiliary anniversary celebration, or dedication to our hero Veterans & their family... just let your appreciation show!

At each Conference, the cost of Raffle tickets will be 3 tickets for \$2 or 10 tickets for \$5.00.

Please Read the Auxiliary News articles for updates on new technology and regiments for patients and their families.

Visit the Cancer tables at the Conferences and Thanx to each Auxiliary Member for continuing to be an awesome support group and for your generosity this coming Year.

Please join in our mission to **ERASE this CANCER** disease, and support current Research to find a CURE.



And to our **Cancer patients** ==>

“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service with Our Veterans and Their Families”

“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans”

**Americanism Program, Patriotic Instructor
Rose Cooper, Chairman**

3 Elm St., Cuba, NY 14727 ~ Telephone: 585-403-1390 ~ Email: navyvet8194@gmail.com

Americanism, also referred to as American Patriotism, is a set of nationalist values which aim to create a collective American identity for the United States that can be defined as "an articulation of the nation's rightful place in the world, a set of traditions, a political language, and a cultural style imbued with political meaning".

In the words of Theodore Roosevelt, "Americanism is a question of spirit, conviction, and purpose, not of creed or birthplace."

Flag Education: Demonstrating Americanism and Patriotic Spirit is done by showing how to respect and properly care for the U.S. Flag. Flag etiquette covers everything from proper displaying of our Flag to acceptable conduct around this symbol of our nation.

1. Respect for the Flag – Engaging the Community

- **Flag Education in School** – Educating our youth about Patriotism teaches good citizenship. Members are encouraged to volunteer in schools and educate youth about respecting Our Flag.
- **Recognition of Outstanding Community Flag Display** – Present a Business, Organization, or Community member with a certificate of appreciation through your Auxiliary.
- **Flag Retirement Ceremonies** – This is a great way to involve the whole family of Auxiliary and VFW members, as well as the entire community.

For more information on all flag etiquette refer to MALTA Member Resources.

2. #AuxiliaryPatriotism - Promote Patriotism- Celebrating Patriotic Holidays

- **July 4th** – Independence Day
- **September 11th** – Patriot Day
- **September 20th** – POW/MIA Recognition Day
- **September 29th** – Gold Star Mother’s & Family’s Day
- **November 11th** – Veterans Day
- **December 7th** – Pearl Harbor Day
- **February 21st** – Presidents Day
- **March 29th** – National Vietnam War Veterans Day
- **May 1st** - Loyalty Day
- **May 17th** – Armed Forces Day
- **May 30th (Traditional)** – Memorial Day
- **June 14th** – Flag Day

3. Branch of Service Birthdates and Military Order of Precedence



Army
06/14/1775



Marine Corps
11/10/1775



Navy
10/13/1775



Air Force
09/18/1947



Space Force
12/20/2019



Coast Guard
08/04/1790



National Guard
12/13/1636
Not Displayed

4. Star Family Recognition

- **Gold Star-** is a banner displayed when a family member has made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the armed forces during war zone.
- **Blue Star-** is a banner displayed when a family member is actively serving in the armed forces.
- **Silver Star-** is a banner displayed when a family member has been wounded, contracted a serious illness or injury in a war zone.
- **White Star-** the White Star designation recognizes **families who have lost a service member to suicide**, whether they were military or first responders.

FALL CONFERENCE: Wreaths Across America – this is the 19th year Wreaths Across America will deliver handmade balsam wreaths in tribute to Veterans laid to rest in VA National Cemeteries and State Veteran Cemeteries. Visit <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org> for videos of the wreath laying on the 3rd Saturday in December. Information and order form included in Presidents Packets.

SPRING CONFERENCE: Honor Flight - Honor Flights are dedicated to transporting as many United States Military Veterans as possible to Washington DC to see the memorials of the respective war they fought in at no cost to them. You can purchase and sign a “Thank you for your service and sacrifices” card for \$5.00 each. All signed cards and money raised will be distributed to each of the NY Honor Flight Hubs. If you are unable to attend the conference, “Don’t worry about it...I’ll sign the card for you!” Forms will be included in the Presidents package, or you can email me for one.

NATIONAL AWARDS for AUXILIARIES: Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 program divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about lesser-known Patriotic Holidays.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Form must be sent to Department Chairman by March 31st, for judging. Department Chairman must sign and forward copy to National Americanism Ambassador by April 30th for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after the National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS for AUXILIARIES: The Auxiliary that has the most outstanding Patriotism Program will receive a Citation and (\$20) for First Place; (\$15) for Second Place; and (\$10) for third Place in each membership group. Plus a Citation to each Auxiliary that Participate in the 2024-2025 Massing of the Colors at Department Convention.

REPORT !

REPORT!

REPORT! By the 1st of EACH Month!!

**“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families”
“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans”**



AUXILIARY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Judy Lefebvre

316 Pellerin Rd, Plattsburgh, NY 12901
518-593-5628 (Cell), 518-563-7558 (Home)
E-mail: biljud@aol.com



“REACH OUT & PARTNER to VOLUNTEER TIME!”

*“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans” as we continue
“Soaring into the Next Century of Service with Our Veterans and Their Families!”*



Who? What? When? Where? Why? & How?

WHO should your Auxiliary members approach to establish partnerships?

- Non- profit, civic and other organizations that support residents, animals, and the environment can be approached in person, by letter or email to offer partnerships that will provide volunteers to help and assist in making their company goals and projects a reality.
- Homeless shelters and Assistance Centers; EMT/Fire/Police Safety Classes/Centers; Red Cross, Cancer, and other charities; animal shelters; fundraisers to benefit the public or community members in need; adopt a highway; Town/City/open areas/community gardens; food shelves and pantries.

WHAT steps should an Auxiliary take to have a successful Outreach Program:

- Partner with non- profit, civic and other organizations that support residents, animals, and the environment.
- Have a MOTION APPROVED AND RECORDED IN THE MINUTES prior to partnering and volunteering TIME.
- At least one (1) member of any age or skill set must volunteer TIME with the other approved organizations.
- Members must WEAR VFW AUXILIARY ATTIRE (shirt, hat, name badge, lanyard, etc.) when volunteering TIME.
- Volunteers should share information about membership eligibility, and Auxiliary programs.

WHEN can members establish partnerships, request Auxiliary approval and volunteer TIME?

- Partnerships can be for single events or for multiple on-coming needs.
- Partnerships need to be approved and recorded PRIOR TO THE EVENTS EACH AUXILIARY YEAR.
- Partnerships/volunteer TIME need to be reported to the Department Chairman to ensure Auxiliary credit.
- Year-end reports must be received by March 31st, 2025, to be eligible for Department and National awards.

WHERE can members volunteer TIME and show their community support?

- Auxiliary members should volunteer TIME with organizations that serves to benefit and improve the community.
- Cook, serve food/drinks, or deliver food to shut-ins; make beds and do laundry at homeless shelters.
- Feed, walk dogs, and clean animal cages; clean, paint, and repair inside/outside community facilities.

- Upkeep public parks & walkways; plant trees and flowers in open areas.
- Read or write letters, teach computer skills to seniors; be a personal shopper for shut ins.
- Register donors at Blood Drives; register and/or time participants and/or provide water to walkers at fund raisers.

WHY should an Auxiliary “reach out” to other organizations and establish partnerships?

- VFW and VFW Auxiliary members being visible in their Auxiliary attire is a win/win.
- Partners benefit from the years of knowledge and experience that volunteers apply to the project.
- Sharing time in the community residents gives Auxiliary members the opportunity to educate the community about the VFW Auxiliary, its programs, goals, and membership eligibility for membership.
- Auxiliary members meet new people, learn new skills, and develop personal confidence.

HOW does an Auxiliary get credit for its partnerships and volunteer TIME?

- Auxiliary Program Chairman report partnership details, volunteer attire and TIME to the Department Chairman by email, USPS, or phone call. Donations, monetary, gift cards or goods, are not reportable.
- Activities that benefit the VFW, the VFW Auxiliary and/or the Post Home do not qualify for credit.
- Activities that are reportable under other VFW Auxiliary programs, do not qualify for credit.
- Auxiliary members are helpers and are NEVER in charge of events and activities for Outreach credit.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- All Auxiliaries, who report approved partnerships and volunteer TIME by September 30, 2024, will be entered into a drawing for twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) at Fall Conference.
- All Auxiliaries who report approved partnerships and volunteer TIME to the Chairman by December 31, 2024, will be entered into a drawing for twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) at Spring Conference.
- First, second and third place winners will be awarded in each membership group at Department Convention in June 2025.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- Most outstanding photo collage created by the VFW Auxiliary of their VFW Auxiliary Outreach partnerships during the current Program Year.
- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that creates the most outstanding photo collage of their VFW Auxiliary partnerships during the current Program Year.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman by March 31, 2025, for judging. The Department Auxiliary Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Auxiliary Outreach Ambassador by April 30, 2025, for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliary from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN

1. A \$25 VFW Store Gift Certificate to one Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best promotion of how to build partnerships outside of the VFW Auxiliary organization.
2. The Outstanding Performance Award and Second-Place Outstanding Performance Award will be awarded in each of the 10 Program Divisions based on criteria listed on Page 5 and for the promotion of the Program goals listed at the top of Page 13 in the National President’s Guidebook.

National winners will be announced, and awards presented at the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

“Buddy” Poppy Program
Flora Becker, Chairman
86 Garden Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
Telephone: 315-521-2675 Email: loveourveterans17@yahoo.com

The “Buddy” Poppy has been an integral part of the VFW community for 100 years. The “Buddy” Poppy is the symbol that represents the blood shed by our service members and that we shall never forget the sacrifice they made for our country’s freedom.

To purchase “Buddy” poppies, request a **“Buddy” Poppy Order Form** from the VFW Department Headquarters at least two to three months in advance of your distribution date. **All order forms MUST be sent to the VFW Adjutant, VFW Dept of NY Headquarters, 69 Sand Creek Road, Albany, NY 12205.** You may order the Traditional “Buddy” Poppies or the “New” Tin Tab “Buddy” Poppies. The “New” Tin Tab “Buddy” Poppy may be worn as a decorative pin on a hat, collar or suit jacket.

The costs of the “Buddy” Poppies are as listed below. Note that the Post Quartermaster **MUST** provide a signature for the order form. All orders **Must** be in multiples of 500 and orders will require a shipping and handling cost. (See attached Buddy Poppy Order Form)

Traditional Poppies: 1000 Poppies - \$340.00; 500 Poppies - \$170.00
“New” Tin Tab Poppies: 1000 Poppies - \$206.00; 500 Poppies – \$103.00

Just a reminder, the “Buddy” Poppy is not for sale; they are to be distributed for donations to your Auxiliary Relief Fund. “Buddy” Poppy drives can be hosted throughout the year and all auxiliaries are encouraged to do a least one drive a quarter if possible.

For the **Fall Conference**, I am asking each Auxiliary and District to bring a minimum gift card of \$10.00 or more to be raffled with proceeds going to the “Guitars for Heroes” program at the VFW National Home. Gift cards should be from brand name stores or gas stations available across the state.

Spring Conference will be our annual “Buddy” Poppy Display Contest. The three categories are: Public Promotion; Memorial or Inspirational; Artistic or Decorative

Your display **MUST** have one “Buddy” Poppy in its original form, color with the label attached. A 3 x 5 index card should be affixed to the bottom of the display identifying the category of entry, Auxiliary Number, District Number and the amount of “Buddy” Poppies used in the display. Include a written/typed report explaining the inspiration for your display. All first place winners in each category will then be entered into the National Judging in Columbus, Ohio.

National Awards: Most outstanding activity and/or event using the VFW “Buddy” Poppy to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy” Poppy. Citation and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions. Entry form is due to Department Chairman by March 31, 2025. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliary by National Headquarters and award money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary Account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Buddy Poppy Order Form

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GONE, BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Traditional Poppies
 1000 Poppies- \$340.00
 500 Poppies- \$170.00
 (Must be ordered in multiples of 500)

***NEW* Tin Tab Poppies**
 1000 Poppies- \$206.00
 500 Poppies- \$103.00
 (Must be ordered in multiples of 500)

Shipping & Handling
 \$100.00 to \$200.00 \$15.95
 \$200.01 to \$300.00 \$29.95
 \$300.01 to \$400.00 \$34.95
 \$400.01 to \$500.00 \$39.95
 \$500.01 & Over \$69.95



<u>Post #/ Quartermaster Name</u>
<u>Quartermaster Member ID</u>
<u>Shipping Address:</u> (Poppies cannot be shipped to a P.O. Box)

# of Traditional Poppies/ Cost	\$
# of Tin Tab Poppies/ Cost	\$
Shipping & Handling	\$
Total:	\$
X _____ (Quartermaster Signature)	

Payment: Credit Card Check

Credit Card

If you purchase Buddy Poppies with a credit card, you can mail or email the form:
 To: adjutantdny@vfwny.com
 Cc: acomstock@vfwny.com

Mail Form & Check to:

Veterans of Foreign Wars
 69 Sand Creek Rd
 Albany, NY 12205

<u>*Name</u>	<u>*Phone:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>*Billing Address:</u> (Same as Shipping Address)
<u>*Credit Card Number:</u>		
<u>*Exp. Date</u>	<u>*CRV Code on Back</u> (3 Digit Code)	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>*Email:</u> (Email Receipt Requested)

HQ Use Only

Check #/ Transaction ID:	Invoice #:	Posted:	
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VFW National Home

On January 7, 2025 the VFW National Home will celebrate its 100th Birthday through serving our Veterans and their families. On January 7, 1925, the VFW National Home was founded, helping to fulfill the VFW pledge to “honor the dead by helping the living.” Over the past 100 years, the National Home has evolved to meet the changing needs of America’s military and veterans’ families by maintaining its commitment to honor our nation’s veterans and active-duty military by providing help and hope for their children and families.

In honor of the 100th birthday, please consider sending a heartfelt birthday card to the VFW National Home prior to January 2025 so they can be displayed at the Birthday party. In an effort to assist the VFW National Home for its birthday celebration, we are being requested to use the **Amazon Wish List** to donate or **make a donation** to help with the costs of the 100th Celebration.

The Health & Happiness Fund is a key fundraiser for the VFW National Home. The Department goal for 2024 is to have all Auxiliaries contribute to the Health & Happiness Fund by December 31st.

- Auxiliaries may donate 10 cents per member based on their June 30, 2024 membership statistics.
- If your Auxiliary wishes to donate 25 cents or more to the fund, the auxiliary will receive a certificate from National.
- The Health & Happiness Program supports Christmas gifts, Graduation gifts, Maintenance of Auxiliary sponsored buildings, and Emergency repairs and renovations.
- Your donation may be made through MALTA or to send an Auxiliary check payable to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64111, earmark Health & Happiness.

Other ways to support the VFW National Home is through becoming a Life Member; purchase a brick for the Tribute Park, or becoming a Hometown Hero contributor.

Fall Conference Request: The District having all Auxiliaries contributing to the Health and Happiness Fund by December 31st will be placed in a drawing to receive a monetary award of \$20.00. The drawing will be announced at the Department of NY Virtual Birthday Party via ZOOM on January 7, 2025. (More details to follow.)

Spring Conference Request: Purchase a Life Membership to the VFW National Home and be placed in a drawing to win a monetary award of \$50.

Cash Bash Celebration Raffle – VFW National Home 100th Birthday

- Each Auxiliary and District will receive one ticket in their President’s Package for a Cash Bash Celebration. Ticket price: \$20.00. Only 300 tickets will be sold.
- Auxiliary Checks payable to VFW Auxiliary, Department of New York – send check and completed ticket to Dept. Chairman, Flora Becker, 86 Garden Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
- Prizes – 1st Place \$600, 2nd Place \$300, 3rd Place \$200, 4th Place \$100 (4 winners) and 5th Place \$50 (10 winners). Winning tickets will be drawn at **Spring Conference**.
- All proceeds benefit the VFW National Home 100th Birthday Celebration.

National Awards:

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home’s 100th Birthday. Citation and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions. Entry form is due to Department Chairman by March 31, 2025. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliary by National Headquarters and award money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary Account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

2. Citation to each Auxiliary that contributes a gift of 25 cents per member to the Health and Happiness Fund based on June 30, 2024 membership statistics. Citation will be mailed to Auxiliary from National Headquarters.

*“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans” as we are
“Soaring into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and Their Families”.*

Presidents Special Project

Women Veterans Healthcare
Women Veterans Reproductive Health Care

Linda Flanagan, Chairman
155 Briggs Street, Syracuse NY 13208
Home Phone 315-475-7526
Email: auxd53146@hotmail.com

Women's health care is provided at the 13 VA Medical Centers in New York State. There are various services provided.

Some of the service is called "Whole Health-It's all about You." Whole Health means the whole you. From integrative health approaches like stress reduction, nutrition, and health coaching to traditional care and complimentary health approaches – your journey to Whole Health starts at your VA Medical Center.

Auxiliaries are encouraged to support the project through a donation on the Donation Report Form found in the Department Program Guidebook. Your Auxiliary is welcome to hold a special event and send your monetary donation to Linda Flanagan, Chairman, to receive participation credit in this program.

President Special Project- Polo Shirts- Pre-order your Polo shirt in support of the President's Special Project. Pre-order forms are included in the Presidents' packet.

Something Different- Coffee Anyone??

We will be selling Coffee mugs for \$12.00 and Travel mugs for \$15.00 with the President's logo engraved on the mugs. The items will be available at OTI, Fall Conference and Spring Conference. All proceeds will benefit the 13 VA Women Centers.

Additionally, in support of our pregnant female veterans, we will also be accepting monetary donations for the baby showers held at the VA Hospitals. Auxiliary checks should be made payable to VFW Aux. Department of NY and earmarked "Baby Shower." Monetary Donations are to be sent to Linda Flanagan, President's Special Project Chairman, 155 Briggs St., Syracuse NY 13208.

In each *Auxiliary News*, I will be highlighting other parts of the President's Special Project, especially the "Whole Health- It's all about You!" On behalf of the female veterans, thank you for your support of our Whole Healthcare needs.

"Soaring Into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and Their Families" – "From Our Roots to our Branches Extending Service to our Veterans."



EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

KAREN A. DOTSON, CHAIRMAN
19 CALGARY LANE, BINGHAMTON, NY 13901
TELEPHONE: 607-648-9271
EMAIL: kdvwaux@aol.com

The sixth President of the United States, John Quincy Adams, said ... “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” These inspirational words of wisdom are instrumental for each of us to strive to be a good leader, an active listener and to keep our thoughts open to new ideas in order to achieve the goals that are set forth by our National organization.

As a team, we will all work together to achieve the four goals that have been established by the National Chief of Staff for 2024-2025:

- Goal # 1 – Maintain and Strengthen Current Auxiliaries
- Goal # 2 – Present to Unaffiliated Posts
- Goal # 3 – Establish New Auxiliaries
- Goal # 4 – Recognize Red-Flag Auxiliaries

MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN CURRENT AUXILIARIES The National Organization has developed many resources for members to use. These resources are found on the VFW Auxiliary National Website behind the MALTA login *Member Resources*.

One resource is the **Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit**. The Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit includes seven (7) tools designed to assist Auxiliaries and to help them identify and solve issues that may arise:

- Auxiliary Meeting Checklist for the Aux President • Healthy Auxiliary Checklist – To-Do’s and Deadlines
- Healthy Communication Phone/Text Tree • VFW Auxiliary Healthy Certificate
- VFW Auxiliary Meeting Challenges & Solutions • VFW Auxiliary Member Questionnaire
- VFW Auxiliary Sample Meeting Agenda

Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation is a guidebook that provides valuable information to help educate members about all aspects of the duties of all Officers [on all levels]. The guidebook outlines the duties and responsibilities of program chairmen. It explains why reporting is important and much more!

What is Extension & Revitalization? Extension pertains to contacting Unaffiliated Posts for their interest to institute a new Auxiliary. Revitalization refers to ensuring that our current Auxiliaries continue to be healthy by providing learning experiences for all members. Conversely, for auxiliaries requiring some assistance, the program will extend a helpful hand to the auxiliary to regain its strength to being healthy. Our Department has many legacy members who are willing to share their knowledge and provide assistance to auxiliaries in distress.

What benefits does the Extension & Revitalization Program provide? The Extension & Revitalization Program will benefit every member of the Auxiliary. Benefits to all members include being more informed about the organization and gaining knowledge of our Auxiliary traditions and programs designed to assist in mentoring our members for future leadership roles.

What are the 5 essentials of an Auxiliary?

1. Auxiliaries should have a minimum of 10 business meetings per year (Sec. 210A) with a quorum of 5 members in good standing attending for the transaction of business (Sec. 212A).
2. Membership dues should be paid by at least 10 members on or before February 1st of the current year. (Sec 207C)
3. Quarterly audits completed by Trustees must be submitted to the Department Treasurer (Sec. 814).
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters by June 30th. This generates the bond application via email (Sec 804A and 806A).
5. The offices of President and Treasurer must be bonded by August 31 (Sec. 814E).

Contacting Unaffiliated Posts and Establishment of New Auxiliaries can be achieved through communication, promotions and presentations. We must show Unaffiliated Posts how they can benefit from having a VFW Auxiliary. We can then help them establish a new Auxiliary for their Post. Several tools are available to share with Unaffiliated VFW Posts. “**Top Ten Reasons for Your Post to Have an Auxiliary**” is great handout to use when meeting Post members. A PowerPoint presentation “**Why Having an Auxiliary Can Boost Your Post**” is designed to show Post members how helpful the Auxiliary and its contributions are. Another valuable tool to have on hand when making presentations is the **VFW Auxiliary Eligibility Wheel**.

We continue to accomplish growth within our Department by actively extending ourselves to show how an Auxiliary is an asset to the Post. We demonstrate how we fulfill the mission of our organization by working together as a family to serve our veterans, our active-duty service personnel and their families.

Recognizing Yellow-Flag Auxiliaries – Auxiliaries are exhibiting Red Flag and caution light situations. The Department Chief of Staff, upon request of the Department President, will assist the Auxiliary to return to a posture of a Green Light Auxiliary. Green light Auxiliaries are considered healthy.

Recognizing Red-Flag Auxiliaries – The Auxiliary will be placed on Suspension which is a time for the Auxiliary to step back and regroup. Suspension simply means there is some work to do to get the Auxiliary where it needs to be with the hope for the Auxiliary to come back stronger and better than before.

Mentoring for Leadership – In the VFW Auxiliary, mentoring is an important part of maintaining the health and viability of each Auxiliary and for the organization as a whole.

What is the purpose of mentoring? The purpose of mentoring is to facilitate the personal and professional growth of individuals by providing guidance, support and knowledge transferred from experienced mentors to mentees.

Utilizing the “*Mentoring at VFW Auxiliary: Relationship Building for the Future*” document will help you get started in creating a program for your Auxiliary. Through the Mentoring for Leadership Program, all mentors will be encouraged to embrace and promote the C.A.R.E. concept.

- C ... Catch the member when they first join.
- A ... Ask them to participate.
- R ... Remember what it felt like to be new.
- E ... Engage them in a program that fits them.

As a mentor, you will also be asked to practice the **3 C's of Mentoring**:

- **Consultant** – that is the most obvious role of the mentor.
- **Counselor** – listen to your mentees.
- **Cheerleader** – give constructive feedback, advise, provide support and enthusiasm.

Be Informed – There is something else you can do to grow and become more involved. You need to learn all you can with the resources available to you.

1. Obtain a copy of the National Bylaws and read it in its entirety. Your rights and responsibilities as a member of this organization are contained in that document. You need to know them!
2. Be sure you read all communications received from Auxiliary, District, Department and National levels.
3. Do you receive the E-Newsletter from the National Office? Go to National website Home page -> Media ->E-Newsletter Signup
4. Log on to the Auxiliary website and Facebook pages often. You will want to stay up-to-date on news and information, www.vfwauxiliary.org

Back by Popular Demand! Communication and training are important to achieve success. The Chief of Staff will host monthly “**Zoom Training Sessions**”. All members are encouraged to attend. Each month, beginning in September, a different VFW Auxiliary topic will be featured along with an agenda of the scheduled training. The “**Zoom Training Session**” will last approximately 30 minutes. Time will be allotted for questions and answers. After each “**Zoom Training Session**”, the information will be included in the next *Auxiliary News* and posted on the Department Facebook page and Department website. A Zoom Training schedule will be posted on the Department Website with dates and times. We hope you will be able to attend.

Communication works hand in hand with Recognition. A simple “*thank you*” for a job well done is always appreciated. The “**Good Job Award**” certificate is available for download at the National website. This certificate allows us to show how much we appreciate our members. Always welcome members at your meetings and events with a spirit of *compassion, kindness and empathy*.

Department Award For Auxiliaries and Members

Organizer Award – Citation and \$25.00 to a member who organizes a New Auxiliary with the approval of the Department President between July 1, 2024 and February 28, 2025.

Member Award – Citation and \$25.00 to the Auxiliary Member appointed by Department President who reactivates an Auxiliary that has been disbanded within the previous 12 months.

***“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans” while
“Soaring into the Next Century of Service with Our Veterans and Their Families!”***



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



*Historian /Media Relations
Kellianne Martini, Chairman*

315 Anchors Way

Winder, GA 30680

Telephone: (518) 744-8978

Email: kelliannekennedy@hotmail.com

I am truly honored and thrilled to serve as President Darlene Baker's Department Historian this year. With your assistance I will be working diligently to record her year while she and all auxiliary members strive to provide the support so richly due our veterans and their families. Through recording Darlene year, I will be going by the motto: *"Let's get carried away with making this year memorable."*



The Historian/Media Relations Program encompasses memory keeping and collecting the five Ws: the who-what-where-when and-why of an Auxiliary. Members involved with this program compile and chronicle memories and events in written format, photographs, memorabilia and print news/video clips. They also spread the word about our valuable National Programs and share how we are making a positive impact in the lives of veterans, active-duty service members and their families in thousands of communities across the country.

History:

Tradition and history are revered in our organization. Many Auxiliaries proudly celebrate 100 or more years of history. Many of our members treasure long-standing rituals and practices. The work of the Auxiliary is important. By sharing our stories, we are doing our part to promote the Auxiliary in our communities. Service is more than something we do; it is who we are. This is going to be a year of courage, kindness, hope, service, and unlimited possibilities to share the history-in-the-making of our organization.

Media Relations

Media is the piece of the puzzle that helps create a successful Auxiliary. It is important for our organization to be visible in our communities. Visibility creates awareness of our organization and an opportunity to recruit new members. A part of being visible is getting the word out to our community about the who-what-where-when and-why about Auxiliary events and activities. There are various media outlets for you to use. Traditional media include radio, television, and newspapers. Digital media includes websites, blogs, and social media sites such as Facebook.

Attention Auxiliaries!!



Auxiliary and District Presidents are asked to send pictures along with a brief description about what you did when President Baker made her official visit. The photos and description must be sent to the Department Historian within ten days of her visit. The more pictures the better! Please include anything regarding her visit! If you post on Facebook, please use [#deptofnyvfwaux](https://www.facebook.com/deptofnyvfwaux) and Tag us on your Facebook pictures [@DeptofNYVFWAux](https://www.facebook.com/DeptofNYVFWAux). Also, I want to see your Facebook Pages, and newsletters! I will feature vital and stimulating news and pictures on all of our social media pages and in our newsletter. Please send me your photos (using your cameras or smart phones) and write-ups as soon as you can once an event has occurred. Consider presenting President Baker with a digital scrapbook and be sure to record what is happening in the picture and who is in the picture. Use local media outlets and social media to keep everyone up to date on your auxiliary's activities.



#SNAP (S.N.A.P)- Stop Now Ask Permission:

Be mindful and respectful before you #SNAP. Be certain to print the youth and adult photo releases available in MALTA Member Resources. These releases protect the photographer and the person being photographed, especially children. Photography opens the doors into the past, but it also allows a look into the future. A camera is a SAVE button. Let your Auxiliary Legacy members become STARS, for without our STARS, our Auxiliary would not exist.

Benefits of Using Facebook Pages

Did you know that our [Department of New York VFW Auxiliary](#) has a Facebook page? I encourage you to “Like” our department page or “Join” the group if you haven’t already done so. By connecting with the Department’s page, you will stay connected with what is going on at the Department and National levels. How can your Auxiliary benefit from a Facebook Page? Many auxiliaries are limited in budgets and resources for outreach to constituents, donors, the media, and the public. While a web site can serve as an effective destination for an auxiliary, many people these days consider web sites as places for background and archived information rather than an active and dynamic communications tool. Facebook is a fast way to get important information and events out quickly. Tag us on your Facebook pictures [@DeptofNYVFWAux](#)



Historian/Media Relations Program Awards

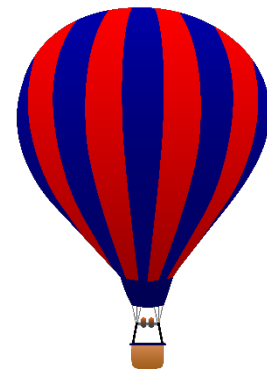
Most outstanding promotion of VFW Auxiliary Programs to the community through social media sources. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with the most outstanding promotion of VFW Auxiliary Programs to the community through social media sources.

Awards, Criteria and entry form (required) available at www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources.

It is an honor to serve as Department Historian /Media Relations Chairman this year and will do so with much excitement! **“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families.”** “From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans” will provide us with wonderful memories.

Sincerely,

Kellianne Martini, Chairman





Hospital Program

AGNES STAMPP, CHAIRMAN

2622 HAMILTON STREET, WEEDSPORT, NY 13166

PHONE # 315-834-6921

EMAIL: agnes.stampp@gmail.com

VFW Auxiliary members have been volunteering in hospitals and medical facilities since the organization's inception in 1914. The Hospital Program was one of the first nationally adopted for the organization. Hospital volunteers have been putting smiles on veteran's faces for well over a hundred years, but there is more to the Program; it is about the veteran. This year we are going back to the basics, we are going to be their little ray of sunshine. We know what the veteran has done for us, now it is our turn to do for the veteran.

We are the ones who bridge the gap between the family and the veterans. We share of ourselves. Imagine going into their room with a smile and a cheerful "Hello". Before long, you will see a grin on their face. Not everyone can visit a veteran center, but you can participate by making things and sending them to the health facility. Get in touch with your activity director to find out what is needed.

Where can we serve? Members, non-members, and youth can volunteer in many different types of facilities under this program. Local hospitals, Veterans' homes, Nursing homes, Domicilairies both VA and non-VA medical facilities and clinics.

Who can serve? Members, Non-members, Youth and Families.

What can we do? Volunteer opportunities are based on the facility. Some facilities will have a volunteer program in place with specific jobs, events and needs. They will have opportunities to suit different ages and abilities. Be sure you follow guidelines of the facility, and ask how you can assist them.

What can we earn? Members can earn Hospital Volunteer Service Pins from National for their hours. Chairmen should track total hours (both VA and non-VA) and submit an application for pins. More information along with forms can be obtained from the Department Chairman or in MALTA Member Resources. Members can also be named an Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in their Program Division. Applications are available from the Department Chairman. Non-members can also earn a one-time volunteer pin for 100 hours.

Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition and Support – New volunteers are needed everyday across the country. Volunteers offset millions of dollars in expenses in health care. A few tips for recruiting and keeping volunteers: Monthly sign up sheet for regular events at your meeting, emails and phone calls for special events, and public recognition for current volunteers. Find out how each person best communicates, whether by phone, email, Facebook or texting. If someone says "No" to the first invitation, be sure to ask again!

Recruiting both member and non-member community volunteers and engaging them in the work of the Hospital Program is integral to its success. In most medical facilities, an extra hand can help lighten the load for staff and is greatly appreciated. Hospitals and nursing homes are in almost every community and often include veteran residents who do not have spouses or close relatives to assist them.

For more information about being a volunteer, how to handle a Department Hospital Fund and other topics, download the Hospital Program Guide and VAVS Guide in MALTA Member Resources.

Valentines for Veterans – Share the love we have for our veterans and service members this Valentine’s Day by sending a store-bought or handmade valentines, hosting a party, recognition event or dinner in their honor. Fellow members, individuals and youth groups in your community can use their creativity to show compassion for our veterans and service members.

HONORS ESCORT – This program is an opportunity to honor each veteran in a respectful and open manner. It provides an opportunity for a veteran’s family and friends, other veterans and medical facility staff to participate in a display of high regard and reverence for the individual at the time of death.

WOMENS VETERANS HEALTH CARE – Women have served our nation for generations and are the fastest growing group within the veteran population. Comprehensive health services are available and tailored to the unique needs of women veterans. Learn about the resources and health care services available and help them receive benefits and services they deserve.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR MEMBERS - Entry form (required) available at vfwauxiliary.org/resources. The Department Chairman must receive completed entry form by March 31, 2025.

1. Citation to one member in each of the 10 Program Divisions who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 2024 – March 31, 2025. Winners will be announced and citations presented at the 2025 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.
2. Hospital Volunteer Recruiter for the Year plaque awarded to one member in the nation who recruits the most Hospital volunteers (VA and non-VA facilities) from July 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025. Winner will be announced and plaque presented at the 2025 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.
3. Citation to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in each of the 10 Program Divisions. Winners will be announced and citations presented at the 2025 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES – Entry form (required) available at vfwauxiliary.org/resources. The Department Chairman must receive completed entry form by March 31, 2025.

1. Most creative ways to interact with and to provide happiness to veteran patients.
 - a. Citation and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that were the most creative in ways to interact with and to provide happiness to veteran patients.

VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Department Hospital Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department winning entry form to the National Hospital Ambassador by April 30, 2025.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited in to the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARD

1. Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of Year

A Department Award will be presented at the June Convention 2025 for an Outstanding VFW Auxiliary member who serves as a Hospital Volunteer in any medical facility within the Department of New York. The volunteer must serve from July 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025. VAVS Representatives and Deputies are eligible to be considered as an Outstanding Hospital Volunteer. Volunteer hours for VA and non-VA facilities may be combined for award purposes. Applications must be completed and received by the Department Hospital Chairman no later than **April 1, 2025**. Contact the Department Hospital Chairman to obtain an application.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Tina Roberts, Chairman

1215 Crawford Rd ~ Dundee, NY 14837

Telephone 607-243-8011 (Home) 315-694-0326 (Cell) Email: tinaroberts@frontiernet.net

YOUR VOTE ~ YOUR VOICE ~ SUPPORTS OUR VETERANS

NEW YORK STATE PRIMARY LOCAL, STATE & FEDERAL ELECTIONS: June 25, 2024

PRESIDENTIAL, NEW YORK STATE, LOCAL GENERAL ELECTIONS: November 5, 2024

Our mission is to EDUCATE, PARTICIPATE and GET OTHERS INVOLVED!

The 2024 United States Presidential elections will be the 60th quadrennial Presidential Election. Voters will be electing a President and Vice President for a term of 4 years. You can help your Veterans and community members by:

1. Offer them a ride so they can go vote.
2. Help home bound members get absentee ballots.

Support today's Veterans and military by contacting or visiting your Congressional Representatives and stressing that we expect them to fight for Veterans issues in the 118th Congress.

Contact information for your legislators may be found at:

Senate: www.senate.gov/senators/

Congress: www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative

The Priority Goals reflect the resolutions passed and supported by the men and women of the VFW and its Auxiliary. The Priority Goals for the current year were released in January. This year they are:

1. Budget, To fully fund programs for Veterans, service members and their families.
2. Education, Employment and Transition Assistance: To ensure veterans succeed after leaving military service
3. Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs: To ensure Veterans and their survivors have timely access to earned benefits.
4. Health Care: To ensure service members and Veterans receive timely access to high-quality health care without increasing cost shares.
5. Military Quality of Life: To maintain a quality, comprehensive benefits and retirement package that is the backbone for preserving the all-volunteer force.
6. National Security, Foreign Affairs, and POW/MIA: To fully support the all-volunteer force, protect our Nation's citizens and defend American interests around the world.

Here are a few simple ways you can help support our Veterans through the Legislative Program:

1. Become familiar with the VFW Priority Goals-then share this information with other VFW and Auxiliary members during meetings or in newsletters.
2. Know where elected officials stand on Veteran issues, then be prepared to draft letters for upcoming Legislation.
3. Sign up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly-then invite others to sign up. Action Corps weekly is free, and you can find it by visiting www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassrootsefforts to sign up.

4. Respond to VFW Action Alerts-then spread the word for others to act. Write up a letter and have your non e-mail members sign it and mail it for them.
5. Get involved with town hall meetings-then encourage others to attend.
6. Offer rides to members/community members who don't drive.
7. Be sure to vote in all elections-then assist others with the voting process.
8. Use the MALTA Member Resources, Legislative-then teach others what is available in MALTA Members Resources.
9. DO NOT endorse any candidate on behalf of the VFW Auxiliary-we must remain neutral.
10. DO NOT wear any VFW Auxiliary attire when campaigning for a candidate.

The Legislation program information can be found at vfwauxiliary.org, go to the programs tab then to Legislation and all the information you need will be there.

REPORT! REPORT! REPORT by the first of each month!!!

National Awards for Auxiliaries:

1. Most outstanding activities and/or events collaborating with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers. Citations and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with most outstanding activities and/or events that collaborated with the VFW Post connecting members with local lawmakers.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2025, for judging. The Department Legislative Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

- Winners will be announced, and awards presented at the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus Ohio.

Department Awards for Auxiliaries

1. \$50.00 Award for the most Outstanding Auxiliary excelling in Legislative Education:

How many different Auxiliary members were educated on Legislation that affect our Veterans?
What types of materials were used?

2. \$50.00 Award for the Most Outstanding Auxiliary excelling in Legislative

Participation: How many times during the year did your Auxiliary organize, speak with, or contact Congressman and Senators regarding Veterans concerns? What were the issues advocated?

“FROM OUR ROOTS TO OUR BRANCHES EXTENDING SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS”

as we are

“SOARING INTO THE NEXT CENTURY OF SERVICE WITH OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES!”



Membership 2024-2025



“Soaring into the Next Century of Service with Our Veterans & Their Families”

The Department of New York Auxiliary will celebrate its 100th Anniversary this year. The VFW National Home will also celebrate its 100th Anniversary. What better way to celebrate our service and continue to **“Soar into the Next Century of Service?”**

Our roots are firmly imbedded within our organization by those who have preceded us. They set the foundation, carried on the mission and it is our turn to **“branch out.”**

The roots are our beginning – **our nourishment**. The trunk is our valuable current membership - **our strength**. The branches are the new members – **our hope and our future**.

Retaining our current membership is vital to our organization. Nurture them, ensure they feel welcome and important to our Auxiliary. Stay in touch with them, ask them to participate in our activities and show your appreciation.

Branch out and find a way to reach future members. Try a new approach don't let those leaves fall and blow away. We have created a QR code that will take perspective members to the Fact Sheet, Membership Wheel and an application. Keep an application handy or have them readily available at the VFW. Let's get the Department of New York **“Soaring into the Next Century.”** It is imperative that we ensure that the VFW Auxiliary is around for the next century.

Who will put wreaths on the graves of WWI veterans, visit WWII and Korean veterans alone in nursing homes, care for Vietnam Veterans suffering from the effects of Agent Orange or our veterans of the last 20 years of war? Who will help the young veteran suffering from the ravages of war with TBI, PTSD and missing limbs? Who will be there for the young mother on suicide watch? Who will go to Congress and advocate for our veterans? If not us, who? That is our mission today and our challenge for the next 100 years. It is up to us to ensure that that mission is accomplished. **Membership is the key!!**

National Membership Awards

Awards for Members:

1. Recruiter Pin for (5) new and/or rejoined members July 1 – May 31, 2025
2. Achievement Award to each VFW or Auxiliary member who recruits (20) members or more July 1 – May 31, 2025
3. Top Recruiter Award to one member in each of the (4) Conferences who recruits the most members (recruiters and Treasurers not eligible).
4. VFW Auxiliary Recruiter Drawing for each member receiving the Achievement Award – one \$500 Visa gift card.

Awards for Auxiliaries:

1. \$50 to each Auxiliary that reaches 100% plus by June 30, 2025
2. VFW Auxiliary Drawing. Each Auxiliary that reaches 101% plus will be entered into a one-time drawing to receive \$500 by June 30, 2025

Awards for Departments:

1. Bronze Award #1: \$200 to each Department that reaches 95% plus by November 30, 2024
2. Silver Award #2: \$250 to each Department that reaches 98% plus by March 31, 2025
3. Gold Award #3: \$300 to each Department that reaches 100% plus by June 30, 2025.
4. Platinum Award #4: \$400 to each Department that reaches 101% plus by June 30, 2025

Conference vs. Conference:

1. \$50 to each Department within the Conference with the highest percentage by January 31, 2025
2. \$50 to each Department within the Conference with the highest percentage by June 30, 2025

Department Membership Awards

Early Bird Special: Auxiliary whose Pres, Treas, and Sec have dues paid by 9/30/24 – drawing for \$100.

Soaring High Award: Drawings for Auxiliaries 100% by

- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| 1. 9/30/24 | \$100 |
| 2. 10/30/24 | \$ 75 |
| 3. 11/30/24 | \$ 50 |
| 4. 12/31/24 | \$ 50 |

Serving Our Veterans Award: Drawing for any (2) members who join or convert to Life Membership by Fall Conference – Life Membership reimbursed.

March Madness Award: Highest % gained by an Auxiliary in March 2025. (Gift from Department Chairman). Will be presented at the Department Convention Drawing if a tie.

Lifetime Award: Auxiliaries over 100% by February 28, 2025.
Drawing for Life Membership at Spring Conference.

Recruiting Award: 20+ members by May 31, 2025 – drawing for \$50

Century Award: Drawing for Auxiliaries 103%+ by May 31, 2025 – drawing at Department Convention - \$200

Hot Air Award: Auxiliary with the highest percentage by Wednesday before Department Convention– Timeshare donated by Debbie Casella. Drawing if a tie. Must coordinate with Debbie Casella.

Chairman Award: Gift from Department Chairman for all Presidents and Treasurers 100%+ by May 31,2025.

There are many valuable awards for members and Auxiliaries. New York can reach all of these goals and ensure that our organization will thrive for another 100 years. If we each recruited just one new or rejoin member we could double our membership. We each know a relative, friend or VFW member who qualifies or has a family member that qualifies. Wave that branch and soar into the next century by recruiting and retaining members.

“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans”

Jane

Jane Reape
108 Bridge St
Carthage, NY. 13619
janereape@yahoo.com
(315) 755-8694



WAYS AND MEANS PROGRAM

Marcia Williams, Chairman PO Box 405 Remsen NY 13438

Email mmmckinney24@aol.com

Cell Phone 315-725-6582

The Ways and Means Program is used to raise money to help offset the operating costs of the Department of New York VFW Auxiliary. The Ways and Means Program is one way to help ensure that we have a successful year.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT EVERY VFW AUXILIARY DOES THEIR PART AND PARTICIPATES IN EVERY ASPECT OF THE VFW WAYS AND MEANS PROGRAM.

9-MONTH CALANDAR RAFFLE

Each President's Packet includes ten (10) 9-month raffle tickets and a self-addressed envelope. Each ticket is **\$5.00**. the seller of the winning ticket receives **\$20.00**. Be sure to write clearly and include the seller's name on the ticket.

The first drawing of \$100.00 will be drawn in October 2024 at Fall Conference. There will be a drawing for \$100.00 on the first of every month thereafter until May 2025. In June, at the Department Convention, the final ticket will be drawn for \$200.00.

Make all checks payable to the **VFW AUXILIARY DEPT OF NY**

Earmark checks "Ways and Means 9-month raffle." Return checks and stubs to Marcia Williams- PO Box 405, Remsen, NY 13438

Think BIG with a 55" Flatscreen TV with Surround Sound

Our **BIG** raffle will be a TV with surround sound tickets will be **\$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00**. Imagine that theatre sound in your very own living room! We will also have 2nd and 3rd place Patriotic items for those lucky winners! Drawing will be at the Department Convention in June 2025.

FALL CONFERENCE AND SPRING CONFERENCE LOTTERY RAFFLE

We are asking each auxiliary to donate **\$10.00** worth of scratch-off Lottery tickets. Be sure to have your tickets at the table Friday night.

Fall Conference and Spring Conference Fire HD8 tablets Raffle!

Tickets will be 3 tickets for \$2.00 or 10 tickets for \$5.00. Raffle tickets will **only** be sold at each Conference.

"From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans." by "Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families!"

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
JOAN BARNHART, CHAIRMAN
689 Southside Road – Cold Brook, N.Y. 13324
Telephone: [315]368-3957 – Email: jbarn98674@aol.com

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THIS PROGRAM!! CONTACT local Schools, Junior ROTC Units, Churches, Youth Sport Teams, Parent-Teacher Associations, and other youth groups in your area.

THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM provides substantial financial assistance to pay for higher education tuition and expenses. Scholarship opportunities are available for students enrolled in grades 6 to 12. What a great way to encourage patriotism and help students reach their full potential. Application forms and complete rules for all contests may be obtained by contacting Department Chairman Joan Barnhart or at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarship.

2024 – 2025 VOICE OF DEMOCRACY -Audio Essay Contest
Theme is: “Is America Today, Our Forefathers Vision?”

The Voice of Democracy 3 to 5 minutes audio essay contest is open to all students Grades 9 to 12, including those who attend public, private schools, and homeschooled students. Students must be a resident of the state where their essay is entered. One Department winner will be forwarded on to VFW National Headquarters.

DEADLINES: All entries must be received at the local Post by midnight October 31, 2024. Post judging to be completed by November 15, 2024. District judging must be completed by December 15, 2024; one winner will be forwarded on to Department. Department judging will be completed by January 10, 2025. The Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters by January 15, 2025.

National Awards: First Place-\$35,000 scholarship; Second Place - \$21,000 scholarship; Third Place - \$15,000 scholarship; Fourth through 36th Place - \$7,000 to \$1,500 scholarship; 37th – 53rd Place - \$1,000 scholarship. The first-place Department winner will enjoy an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C.

2024 – 2025 PATRIOT’S PEN ESSAY CONTEST
Theme: “My Voice in America’s Democracy?”

The Patriot’s Pen is a 300 to 400 word written essay contest that is open to all students enrolled in **Grades 6 to 8**, including those who attend public, private and homeschooled students. Students must be a resident of the state where their essay is entered. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters.

DEADLINES: All entries must be received at the local Post by midnight October 31, 2024. Post judging to be completed by November 15, 2024; District judging must be completed by December 15, 2024; one winner will be forwarded to the Department. Department judging will be completed by January 10, 2025. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters by January 15, 2025.

National Awards: First Place - \$ 5,000; Second - \$4,000; Third Place - \$3,500; Fourth though 53rd Place - \$2,750 to \$500.00.

CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Continuing Education Scholarship is open to any VFW Auxiliary member who has been a member for at least a year, their spouse, son, or daughter with a financial need. Entrants must be 21 years old by February 15, 2025. The Continuing Education Scholarship is \$1,250 and is awarded to one winner in each of the four Conferences. Applications must be received at Auxiliary National Headquarters by February 15, 2025. Program Awards Administrator, VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters
406 West 34th Street – 10th Floor Kansas City, MO 64111.

YOUNG AMERICAN CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST AND 3-DIMENSIONAL CREATIVE PATRIOTIC ART CONTEST

These Contests are open to students in Grades 9-12 who are enrolled in public, private, or parochial high schools, or home study programs in the United States and its territories. Entries will be judged on patriotic theme, creativity, and technique. One Department winner will be forwarded to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters. More information and applications are available from the Department Scholarship Chairman or the National website: www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships.

DEADLINES: All entries must be received at local VFW Auxiliary by March 31, 2025
Local Auxiliary Judging Complete – April 10, 2025
District Judging is Optional - VFW Auxiliary Department Judging by April 15, 2025
Forward to National Headquarters by May 5, 2025

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest NATIONAL Awards

First Place - \$15,000; Second Place - \$7,500; Third Place \$ 3,500; Fourth Place - \$2,500;
Fifth and Sixth Place - \$1,500; Seventh and Eighth Place - \$1,000;
Ninth through Nineteenth Place - \$500.00

3-Dimensional Creative Patriotic Art Contest NATIONAL Scholarship Awards

First Place - \$2,500 – Second Place - \$ 1,000 - Third Place - \$500.00

**DEPARTMENT AWARDS: In all Four Contests: VOD/ Patriot's Pen/ 3-D Art /Young
American Creative Patriotic Art Contests**

First place winners: \$150 and a plaque
Second place winners: \$100
Third place winners: \$50

“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families!”

“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans”



**VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT
DORIS “DEE” IPPOLITO, CHAIRMAN
24 Blue Jay Circle ~ Lancaster, NY 14086**



Telephone: (716) 440-3411 – Email: dee.ippolito.017@gmail.com

Veterans and Family Support is the heart of our organization and a program in which every member can and should participate. We are united in our passion for this organization, and we are all here for the same purpose; to support our veterans, service members and their families.

“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families” is our focus for the coming year! We have reflected on the past 100 years of the VFW Auxiliary and now we are on to the next 100 years. This year we will be encouraging all to participate in the VFW’s National Veterans Service and the three Veterans and Military Support Programs. We are also continuing our efforts in providing Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention and reducing Veteran Homelessness. We have joined with the VFW, particularly Ben Thompson of Proctor-Hopson Post, in providing Trees for Troops and sending our giant “In Lieu of Card” along with the trees, menorahs and decorations to our troops serving overseas.

Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Awareness

Many Veterans returning home do so with heavy hearts and minds. Help to raise awareness and foster community engagement by working with other organizations to change the stigma surrounding mental health, i.e., Elizabeth Dole Foundation, Give an Hour, etc. Become educated about “mindfulness”. Discover and use the **10 Steps of Mindfulness Meditation**. Contact Veterans Affairs Hospital for information on their Community Outreach/Suicide Awareness program for assistance.

At our Fall Conference, we will be working closely with the VFW to do another “Stop 22” Walk. “Stop 22” gets its name from the suicide rate among veterans that has again risen to 22 lost per day. Help “Stop that 22!” Walk with us. Create your own “Stop 22” event in your own community. Walk, sit, play baseball, or whatever activity you choose for 22 minutes. Exercise and educate your community on the resources available to help our veterans.

The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat or text. Support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Educate all on the **Crisis Line – Call 988, press 1**.

As part of Mental Health this year, we will be focusing on the mental health of our military serving overseas by assuring that their children at home are receiving excellent childcare. New York State is the first state to provide the Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood (MCCYN-PLUS) offered by the DoD. 48,000 eligible military families are now able to choose from 15,000 state-licensed childcare providers to receive childcare assistance.

Holiday Cheer/“Trees for Troops”- Again this year, we will be working with the Department’s VFW to send trees, decorations and menorahs to our troops serving overseas. Trees are \$25.00 each. Donate on the form included in your President’s Packet. All donations are due by **November 10, 2024**.

“In Lieu of Cards”- A specially designed card will accompany trees, menorahs and decorations to troops overseas in time for the holidays. The card will be available for signatures at OTI, Fall conference. Donate \$5/member to sign the card Form in your President’s Packet. All donations are due by **November 10, 2024**.

HELPING HAND



National Veterans Service (NVS) This program helps Veterans, service members and their families obtain the benefits they deserve – at no cost. NVS provides a nationwide network of nearly 300 VFW Service Officers who help veterans and their family members navigate the Veterans Affairs system. Examples of claims and resources provided are: • Disability compensation, • Rehabilitation and educational programs, • Pension and death benefits and • Employment and training programs.

Support NVS by making a contribution on [the Department of New York Donation Report Form](#) found in our **2024-2025 Program Guidebook**.

VFW Veterans and Military Support Program (VMS) Initiated by the VFW, this program serves active-duty and recently discharged military. The three components include: Military Assistance Program (MAP), Unmet Needs and VFW “Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship.” Support VFW Veterans and Military Support on the Donation Report Form in our **2024-2025 Program Guidebook**.

Military Assistance Program (MAP) This program helps forge and nurture bonds with military units by providing financial assistance for Posts, Districts and Departments to sponsor morale-boosting send-offs, homecomings, and casual get-togethers. It offers ways to connect with troops. Posts and Auxiliaries participating in *Adopt-a-Unit* and *Family Readiness Group* events can receive assistance. MAP can cover the cost of postage for sending care packages. For guidelines to apply for MAP funds, contact the VFW Veterans & Military Support office at (816) 756-3390.

Unmet Needs Can help in a crisis ... a soldier serving overseas ... who has rent due back home ... whose family car needs a major repair ... and many more situations that the family cannot afford. Grants of up to \$1,500, payable directly to a creditor, can bridge the gap to cover these bills. To learn more visit vfw.org/assistance/financial.grants.

“Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship” Up to \$5,000 is awarded to qualifying veterans and service members to help them complete their educational goals, without incurring excessive student loan debt. To learn more, visit vfw.org/student-veterans-support.

***Fall District meeting** – Go to MALTA/Resources/Veterans and Family Support and complete the National Award #1. Bring your report to your Fall District Meeting. Donate to “In Lieu of Cards” and Trees for Troops. Do a “Stop 22” event and seek donations of \$1/person or more.

***Spring District meeting** - Promote VFW programs-Unmet Needs, Service Officers, Military Assistance Program, Sport Clips Scholarships.

***Fall Department Conference:**

1. **“In Lieu of Cards”** –Sign our giant card which accompanies the trees, menorahs and decorations sent overseas at holidays. For each donation of \$5.00, you will be able to sign and write a brief message to our troops. President Darlene Baker will also be bringing “The Card” with her for donations when she visits District meetings this fall.
2. **Participate in Stop 22 Walk!** -Help raise awareness of suicide prevention and mental health through your participation. Encourage all your friends to participate!
3. **Holiday Cheer/”Trees for Troops”** : Donate \$25/tree, menorah, decorations.

***Spring Department Conference:** Promote VFW programs-Unmet Needs, Service Officers, Military Assistance Program, .Sport Clips Scholarships. Donate to the programs.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS: See Program Guide p.5 End-of-Year Report due April 1st to Chairman D. Ippolito.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES: Criteria and entry form available at vfwauxiliary.org/resources
Most outstanding activity and/or event that increases awareness of military suicide and mental health.

- Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that increases awareness of military suicide and mental health. Entry form due to Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman Dee by March 31, 2025.
- Citation and \$25.00 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding activity and/or event that increases awareness of military suicide and mental health. Winners announced and awards presented at 2025 National Convention.

Thank you for all your service to and for our Veterans and their families as we “Soar into the Next Century!”

Loyally, Doris “Dee” Ippolito, Veterans and Family Support Chairman 2024-2025



Youth Activities Program—2024-2025

Phyllis Walker, Chairman

74 Mulcahy Blvd, Rochester, NY 14624

Telephone: (585) 571-4506 Email: phyllispwalker3019@gmail.com

VFW Auxiliary is in a unique position to help teach our youth the skills to become responsible adults through serving our country, communities, and veterans. Today's youth are the future of our nation. They are our future leaders of tomorrow. So how do we get them involved and teach them about our great organizations? We can take the lead in this endeavor if we commit ourselves to teaching them and guiding them in the right direction. Get out in our community and reach youth groups, then engage them in activities that give back to our veterans, their families, and community. Teach them to respect and take responsibility for their country.

Patriotism Through Literacy

One of the easiest ways to promote patriotism is through reading. It is often taken for granted the many freedoms we enjoy, that our forefathers fought so hard to defend. We need to educate our youth at an early age about the historical figures that helped built this great country, the United States of America. **Ways you can participate:** Donate historical fiction or non-fiction books to your local school, library, or shelter, volunteer to read to youth at a school or library, host a read-a-thon and award prizes for the number of books read. Prizes might include books, bookmarks, or stickers. Go to MALTA Members Resources, under Youth Activities, and under 'Patriotism through Literacy' there are lists that are divided by grade levels.

Youth Reading to our Veterans & Veterans Reading to Youth:

Reading is a big part of growing up and learning. Many students have nightly reading as homework starting at an early age. Sometimes just talking to the students about patriotism, America and our country can be dull. But taking the students on a journey in a book might capture their attention more and open their mind. For example, the little ones can view images of what Frances Scott Key saw as he wrote the "Star-Spangled Banner." The Youth Group Supporting Our Veterans Citation is one way for Auxiliaries to recognize youth groups for their efforts and service projects honoring our veterans and assisting service members and their families.

Christmas Toy Drive:

Auxiliaries are asked to participate in the Christmas Toy Drive for the children in our communities. The drive should run from November 1st - December 1st, 2024. Please bring an unwrapped toy to your District meeting by December 1st. The District President will donate the toys to an organization in your area. Suggestions of agencies: Boys & Girls Club, Daycare Centers, or Church Youth Groups.

Placemats projects:

This is an easy program. Auxiliaries can purchase paper placemats to work with children in local youth groups. Have them decorate the placemats for VA hospital, nursing home or senior center lunch program.

Illustrating America

This is a two-dimensional art contest that is open to any student in grades K-8 who are enrolled in a public, private, parochial school, or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions, or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. Entries will be judged on patriotic theme and technique and consist of three grade divisions: K-2, 3-5, and 6-8. Entries must be received at the participating Auxiliary by March 31st, Department by April 15th, and National by May 5th. The entry form with all requirements and contest rules can be found in MALTA. **In each division winners will receive:**

First Place: \$25 Second Place: \$15 Third Place \$10

Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups

An Auxiliary can sponsor a youth group and engage youth in all our programs. Teach them about Auxiliary efforts to respect and take pride in our country. They can visit and volunteer in VA and non-VA hospitals and/or facilities, raise funds for a community veterans memorial, march in patriotic holiday parades, volunteer to help veterans and active-duty military families with yard work or household chores, send cards or small gifts to the National Home to show support for the families, make cards or write letters in the classroom to mail to our troops overseas or hospitalized veterans, or teach veterans and their families computer skills.

Youth groups should be recognized for their efforts and service projects that honor our veterans and assist active-duty military personnel and their families. Let your community leaders, teachers, coaches, school clubs, and others know what we have to offer our youth and how we will recognize their efforts. Supporting Our Veterans National Citation and the Patriotic Youth Award are available in MALTA.

Most Outstanding Activity and/or Event: National Award

Youth reading to veterans and/or veterans reading to youth. A citation will be awarded to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event who submits an entry form, which can be found on MALTA, and received by the Department Chairman by March 31st for judging. All entries will be sent to National who will mail the citations to the Auxiliaries. One Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences will receive a citation and \$25 for the most outstanding activity/event.

Make Your Auxiliary Accessible to Today's Youth

Communicating our causes and events to the world has never been easier. The youth of today are tweeting on Twitter, posting on Facebook, sending pictures on Instagram, and subscribing to YouTube channels. The collaborative elements of social media allow our youth the ability to view and comment on each other's activities. Use these resources to get the word out about how they can get involved in our cause.

Random Acts of Patriotism (R.A.P.)

Children like to be told they are doing a wonderful job. Praising a child can go a long way and it helps boost their confidence. Create a reward system for the cards, each card has so many points. The points can help them win a book, or other prizes. R.A.P. have cards available to present to a youth who demonstrates a random act of patriotism. The card can be downloaded from MALTA for free and printed on cardstock.

SPRING CONFERENCE REMINDERS

Illustrating America Art Contest: Entries are due at Spring Conference. Color sheets, digital art and photography are not accepted.

By actively participating in the youth activities program you are giving of yourself to help ensure a better world for our Veterans, their families, and the communities in which we live. You are teaching good citizenship, building self-esteem, instilling responsibility, and giving us all hope for the future where our children can grow and become responsible caring adults.

“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans” By “Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families.”



Department of NY Christmas Toy Drive

Drive should run from November 1st-
December 1st, 2024.

Let's help the children in our community
this Christmas!

Please bring an unwrapped Toy to the District meeting.
By December 1st.

The toys will be distributed to a local organization in your
district.

Some suggestions of youth groups:
(Boys & Girls club, Daycare centers, or Church youth
group)

Your auxiliary will get participation credit for this project!

Phyllis Walker, Chairman
Youth Activities Program



Department of NY VFW Auxiliary

Americanism

Year-End Report

Must Reach Department Chairman BEFORE April 1, 2025

Auxiliary Name: _____ # _____

District # _____ **Auxiliary Chairman:** _____

1. Did your Auxiliary promote, participate, recognize any patriotic day and/or branch of service birthdays? Y / N

2. Did your Auxiliary distribute and/or present American Flags or POW/MIA flags? Y / N

3. Number of American Flags and/or POW/MIA Flags distributed and/or presented _____

4. Number of Patriotic Appreciation Citations, Certificate of Appreciation or Respect for the Flag Citations were presented to citizens and/or businesses in recognition of their displaying the American Flag, POW/MIA Flag and/or displays of American pride. _____

5. Did you honor/recognize a Gold Star, Blue Star, Silver Star, White Star Family? Y / N

6. Did your Auxiliary participate in the following:
Honor Flight Y / N
Wreaths Across America Y / N
POW-MIA Ceremony Y / N

Auxiliary Chairman signature _____

Chairman Phone number: _____ **Email** _____



Department of NY VFW Auxiliary

Auxiliary Outreach

Year-End Report

Must Reach Department Chairman BEFORE April 1, 2025

Auxiliary Name: _____ # _____

District # _____ **Auxiliary Chairman:** _____

1. **Did your Auxiliary as a group partner with another organization not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary?** **Y / N**

2. **How many organizations did your Auxiliary partner with this Program year?** ____

3. **Number of combined member and/or Auxiliary hours volunteered with another organization not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary** _____

4. **Did your Auxiliary participate in the collage contest?** **Y / N**

Auxiliary Chairman signature _____

Chairman Phone number: _____ **Email** _____



Department of NY VFW Auxiliary
Buddy® Poppy & VFW National Home
Year-End Report

Must Reach Department Chairman BEFORE April 1, 2025

Auxiliary Name: _____ # _____

District # _____ **Auxiliary Chairman:** _____

VFW Buddy® Poppy

1. Did your Auxiliary hold a Buddy® Poppy drive with or without your Post? Y / N
2. Number of VFW Buddy® Poppies distributed. _____
3. Did your Auxiliary participate in the VFW Buddy® Poppy Display Contest? Y / N

VFW National Home

1. Did your Auxiliary promote the VFW National Home? Y / N
2. Did your Auxiliary promote the VFW National Home Helpline? Y / N
3. Did your Auxiliary purchase at least one VFW National Home Life Membership during this Program year? Y / N
4. Did your Auxiliary purchase at least one VFW National Home Tribute Brick during this Program year? Y / N
5. Did you participate by sending a 100th Birthday Card to the National Home on 1/7/2025 or make a donation to the 100th Celebration? Y / N
6. Did you participate in the Cash Bash Raffle to benefit “Guitars for Heroes Program” at the National Home? Y / N

Auxiliary Chairman signature _____

Chairman Phone number: _____ **Email** _____



Department of NY VFW Auxiliary

Historian & Media Relations

Year-End Report

Must Reach Department Chairman BEFORE April 1, 2025

Auxiliary Name: _____ # _____

District # _____ **Auxiliary Chairman:** _____

1. Does your Auxiliary communicate quarterly to each of your members via email, printed mail, text, or phone call? Y / N

2. Does your Auxiliary have a Facebook page with or without your Post? Y / N

3. Does your Auxiliary have a web site with or without your Post? Y / N

Auxiliary Chairman signature _____

Chairman Phone number: _____ **Email** _____



Department of NY VFW Auxiliary

Hospital

Year-End Report

Must Reach Department Chairman BEFORE April 1, 2025

Auxiliary Name: _____ # _____

District # _____ **Auxiliary Chairman:** _____

1. **How many Auxiliary members volunteer at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility?
(Auxiliary member to be counted ONE time only per year) _____**

2. **Total number of hours that Auxiliary members volunteered at any VA or non-VA
medical facility. _____**

3. **Total number of hours of SPONSORED Non-Members and/or students who
volunteered under the VFW Auxiliary sponsorship and/or supervision at any VA or
non-VA medical facility. _____**

4. **Did your Auxiliary host or co-host any activity with your Post at any VA or non-VA
medical facility? _____ Y / N**

5. **Total dollar amount spent on all Hospital Program related items and/or projects
\$ _____**

Auxiliary Chairman signature _____

Chairman Phone number: _____ **Email** _____



Department of NY VFW Auxiliary

Legislative

Year-End Report

Must Reach Department Chairman BEFORE April 1, 2025

Auxiliary Name: _____ # _____

District # _____ **Auxiliary Chairman:** _____

1. Did your Auxiliary promote, participate in, and/or host or co-host activities regarding the VFW Priority Goals with or without your Post? Y / N

2. How many times did your Auxiliary members contact your legislators regarding veterans' issues by any means- emails, letters, postcards, phone calls, etc. _____

3. Number of Auxiliary members who attended events where they could interact with legislators (example: legislative conferences, town halls, meet-and-greets, etc.) _____

Auxiliary Chairman signature _____

Chairman Phone number: _____ **Email** _____



Department of NY VFW Auxiliary

Scholarships

Year-End Report

Must Reach Department Chairman BEFORE April 1, 2025

Auxiliary Name: _____ # _____

District # _____ **Auxiliary Chairman:** _____

FWW Scholarships

1. Did your Auxiliary assist the Post in promoting or conducting the VFW National Patriot's Pen Essay Contest? Y / N
2. Did your Auxiliary assist the Post in promoting or conducting the VFW National Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest? Y / N

FWW Auxiliary Scholarships

1. Did your Auxiliary promote the Young American Patriotic Art Contest
Check if yes: Two-dimensional art? _____ Three-dimensional art? _____
2. Did your Auxiliary promote the Continuing Education scholarship? Y / N

Recognition

1. Did your Auxiliary host or co-host an awards ceremony with the VFW to recognize awardees and participants in any/all contests? Y / N
2. Total dollar amount and/or value of awards presented by your Auxiliary in all contests. \$ _____

Auxiliary Chairman signature: _____

Chairman Phone number: _____ **Email:** _____



Department of NY VFW Auxiliary

Veterans & Family Support

Year-End Report

Must Reach Department Chairman BEFORE April 1, 2025

Auxiliary Name: _____ # _____

District # _____ **Auxiliary Chairman:** _____

1. Did your Auxiliary promote, participate, host or co-host with your Post activities for ANY VFW Program? (Examples: Disaster Relief-Military Assistance Program (MAP)- National Veterans Service (NVS)- Unmet Needs- Veterans & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness) Y / N

2. Did your Auxiliary provide direct aid to veterans, service members and/or their families?
(Examples: meals- transportation- cards- packages- donations, etc.) Y / N

3. Approximate number of veterans, service members, and/or their families did your Auxiliary assist? _____

4. Total monetary donations and/or value of donations and goods/services provided.
\$ _____

5. Did your Auxiliary participate in the following:
Trees for Troops Y / N
In Lieu of Cards Y / N
Stop 22 Event Y / N

Auxiliary Chairman signature: _____

Chairman Phone number: _____ **Email:** _____



Department of NY VFW Auxiliary

Youth Activities

Year-End Report

Must Reach Department Chairman BEFORE April 1, 2025

Auxiliary Name: _____ # _____

District # _____ **Auxiliary Chairman:** _____

Youth Groups

1. Number of **Youth Groups** your Auxiliary worked with this Program Year _____
2. Number of **YOUTH** your Auxiliary worked with this Program Year _____
3. Number of "Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans" Citations awarded _____
4. Did your Auxiliary participate in Patriotism through Literacy? Y / N
5. Number of books donated in participation of Patriotism through Literacy _____

Illustrating America Art Contest

6. Did your Auxiliary promote the Illustrating America Art Contest? Y / N
7. Number of students who submitted art entries to your Auxiliary for judging _____
8. Number of entries submitted to Department for judging _____
9. Did your Auxiliary host an awards ceremony to recognize awardees and participants in this contest? Y / N
10. Total dollar amount and/or value of awards presented by your Auxiliary \$ _____

Miscellaneous Programs

11. Did your Auxiliary participate in the Placemat Program? Y / N
12. Did your Auxiliary participate in the Christmas Toy Drive? Y / N

Auxiliary Chairman signature: _____

Chairman Phone number: _____ **Email:** _____

"Soaring into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and Their Families!"

Auxiliary President's Year End Report ~Must be Postmarked or emailed by April 10, 2025

Send Report to: Darlene Baker, Department President

USPS Address: 42 Willard Drive, Bernhards Bay, New York 13028 Email: dbaker1017@aol.com; (315-657-6909)

Auxiliary Name: _____ Auxiliary # _____ District # _____

How many Meetings does your Auxiliary hold each year? _____

How many Auxiliary Meetings were held since Installation? Regular _____ Special _____ No. you Presided over _____
Membership total as of June 30, 2024? _____ Membership total as of April 1, 2025? _____

Did your Auxiliary reach 100% in Membership? Y / N Did your Auxiliary retain your prior year's members? Y / N

During the **2024-2025** year, which "**Department**" functions did you attend?

Department Convention Y / N **OTI** Y / N **Fall Conference** Y / N **Spring Conference** Y / N

District Meetings _____ (# attended) (By President and/or Representative)

Did you promote MALTA and encourage your Auxiliary member's to create a MALTA account? Y / N

Did your Auxiliary Participate in the Department President's and Department Commander's Joint Special Projects for the VA Womens' Clinics and the Homeless Veterans? Y / N (If you held a special function, please provide a description in your write-up)

Did your Auxiliary promote the National President's and National Commander in Chief's Special Projects ~ Operation Bottom Cover and Suicide Awareness? Y / N

Are the Four Quarterly Audits completed, approved and sent to the Department Treasurer for the dates below? (Y/N for each of the below)

Qtr1 ~ 4/1-6/30/2024 _____ Qtr2 ~ 7/1-9/30/2024 _____ Qtr3 ~ 10/1-12/31/2024 _____ Qtr4 ~ 1/1-3/31/2025 _____

Communications ~ A) Did you communicate with your District President when needed? Y / N

B) Did your Secretary forward **ALL** communications received from the Department /District Secretary? Y / N

C) List the ways you communicated with members of your auxiliary (newsletters, email, telephone, etc.)

Official Visit ~ Indicate the date your Auxiliary Official Visit/ Inspection was completed: _____

Training ~ Did your Auxiliary hold a Membership Training session? Y / N Date ____ / ____ / ____

Indicate Number of members who attended the session: _____

Did your Auxiliary or Members participate in the Zoom Trainings? Y / N

Least Informative? _____ Most Informative? _____

Mentoring ~ Did your Auxiliary host a Mentoring for Leadership Training Session? Y / N Date ____ / ____ / ____

Did you or your Auxiliary members attend a Recognizing an Unhealthy Auxiliary Presentation? Y / N # Attended ____

Programs ~ What Program/Programs did your Auxiliary participate in (Circle all that apply) (and provide in write-up your activity detail):

Americanism Y / N Legislative Y / N

Auxiliary Outreach Y / N Scholarship Y / N

Buddy Poppy Home/National Home Y / N Historian Y / N

Hospital Y / N Youth Y / N

Veterans & Family Support Y / N

Did your Auxiliary participate in a joint VFW / VFW Auxiliary Department level project in addition to the National Scholarships programs? Y / N

Auxiliaries are encouraged to focus on at least three of their favorite programs. On a separate sheet of paper describe your Auxiliary's favorite programs and what you did to support them.

****Required by National**~ Auxiliaries **MUST** complete at least one project, activity, or donation that benefits veterans. On a separate sheet explain how and what project your Auxiliary sponsored to benefit veterans.

Leadership ~ On a separate sheet of paper, explain how you enjoyed your year as Auxiliary President? What was your personal favorite program? How did you assist / mentor Auxiliary Members? What do you feel was your greatest accomplishment this year?

"From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans as we are Soaring into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and Their Families"

President _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Phone _____ Email _____

"Soaring into the next century of service with our veterans and their families!"
District _____ President's Year End Report ~Must be Postmarked or emailed by April 10, 2025
send Report to: Darlene Baker, Department President
USPS Address: 42 Willard Drive, Bernhards Bay, New York 13028
Email: dbaker 1017@aol.com Telephone: 315-657-6909

How many District Meetings does your District hold each year? _____
How many District Meetings held since Installation? Regular _____ Special _____ # you Presided over _____
How many Auxiliaries are in your District? _____ How many did you visit? _____
Membership total as of June 30, 2024? _____ Membership total as of April 1, 2025? _____
Did your District reach 100% in Membership? Y / N If yes, on what date? _____
Did your District reach 100 plus in Membership? Y / N If yes, on what date? _____

During 2024-2025 which "Department" functions did you attend? (Circle Y or N)

2024 Department Convention Y / N 2024 OTI Y / N 2024 Fall Conference Y / N 2025 Spring Conference Y / N

Audits ~ How many of Auxiliaries in your District are current with quarterly audits? _____

Communications ~

Do you communicate on a monthly basis with all of your Auxiliaries by email, newsletter, telephone? Y / N
Is all communications from Department, National, and activities in between Conferences shared with the Auxiliaries? Y / N
Do you communicate with the Auxiliaries after reviewing the Program Coordinators Report and provide guidance if necessary? Y / N
Do you communicate on a monthly basis with all of your auxiliaries by email, newsletter, telephone and keep them up to date with all communications from Department, National activities in between conferences and also provide them guidance after reviewing the program coordinator's report? Y / N

Official Visits ~

Did your District conduct a School of Instruction for Official Visits/ Inspectors? Y / N
Was your School of Instruction this held during a District meeting or on a separate date? Y / N
Date held: _____
List topics covered: _____

Were ALL Auxiliary Official Visits/Inspections completed for your District by January 15, 2025? Y / N

Membership ~ Retention / **Unhealthy Auxiliary** and **MALTA**:

Did you have a Membership Retention session during a meeting? Y / N If yes, date held: _____
Did your District hold a Recognizing an Unhealthy Auxiliary presentation? Y / N
Did your District promote the use of MALTA? Y / N
Did you reach out to your Auxiliaries on a monthly basis to discuss the monthly program report Y / N

Programs ~

Did ALL Auxiliaries complete at least one project, activity, or donation that benefitted Veterans? Y / N
Did your District or any Auxiliary in your District do a joint Project with the VFW? Y / N

On a separate sheet of paper, describe how you and your chairmen promoted the National and Department Programs to Auxiliaries within your District. Identify areas you believe to be strong and areas that need to be strengthened.

Leadership ~ On a separate sheet of paper, Describe the most successful part of your year as District President.

What was your greatest Accomplishment?

Explain how you used the Talking Points developed by National during your official visits to the Auxiliaries.

"From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans as we are Soaring into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and Their Families!"

President _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Phone _____ Email _____

Cancer Grant Application

Instructions:

- * Member must meet eligibility requirements below.
- * Member and Physician sections must be completed legibly and in their entirety. If member is unable to sign, a Power of Attorney (POA) may sign. If POA signs, then POA documentation must be submitted.
- * If the member is deceased, next of kin may submit application with documentation of proof of death such as obituary, doctor's letter, death certificate, etc. Application and proof of death must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters within 30 days of member's passing.
- * Grants will ONLY be made payable to the VFW Auxiliary member.
- * Do NOT send any other supporting documents, as it will not be considered.
- * **Mail** original, completed application to:

VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters
Attn: Cancer Grants
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64111



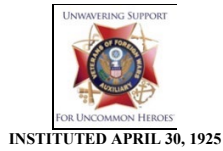
Eligibility Requirements:

- 1) Applicant must be a member of the VFW Auxiliary for one (1) full year and current dues must be paid.
- 2) After twelve (12) months have passed from date of diagnosis or last treatment, application will be rejected.
- 3) A member is allowed two grants during lifetime.

*Twelve (12) months must elapse between new diagnosis and/or treatment from date of first grant.
 Continuous treatment which lasts beyond the twelve (12) month period may qualify for a second grant.*

THIS SECTION IS TO BE FILLED OUT BY MEMBER	THIS SECTION IS TO BE FILLED OUT BY ATTENDING PHYSICIAN
Membership ID #	Type of cancer diagnosed
Auxiliary Post #	Date diagnosed with this cancer (MM/DD/YYYY)
Member's Name (as shown on membership card)	Last date of treatment for this cancer (MM/DD/YYYY)
Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)	Physician's Office / Hospital Name
Email Address	Phone Number
Phone Number	Physician's Name
Street Address	Street Address
City, State and ZIP Code	City, State and ZIP Code
Date Member Signed (MM/DD/YYYY)	Date Physician Signed (MM/DD/YYYY)
Member's Signature	Physician's Signature

***By submission of this application, you grant authority for the VFW Auxiliary to contact the attending physician.
 If grant is approved, funds must be deposited within six months or the grant is forfeited. REV. 6-18***



AUXILIARY / OFFICER / MEMBER CHANGE / MEMBER DEATH REPORT

CURRENT DATE: _____

AUXILIARY No. _____ DISTRICT No. _____ MEMBERSHIP ID No. _____

MEMBER'S NAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

CURRENT ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PHONE No. HOME: _____ CELL: _____

INDICATE INFORMATION THAT IS TO BE UPDATED (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NO. CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS DEATH OF MEMBER Date _____

CHANGE OF OFFICER CHANGE FROM: _____ NAME OF PREVIOUS OFFICER _____ INDICATE OFFICE HELD
CHANGE TO: _____ NAME OF NEW OFFICER _____ INDICATE OFFICE HELD

NOTE: NEW TREASURER MUST FILE IRS FORM 8822 B WITHIN 60 DAYS
CONTACT DEPT. SECRETARY CHRIS LEAVOR IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

CHANGE OF MEETING DAY AND/OR TIME _____ PREVIOUS MEETING DAY/TIME _____ NEW MEETING DAY/TIME

CHANGE OF ANNUAL DUES: PREVIOUS DUES \$ _____ NEW DUES AMOUNT \$ _____

CHANGE OF NAME FORMER NAME: FIRST _____ LAST _____
NEW NAME: FIRST _____ LAST _____

**FEE FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP CARD: \$5.00 FOR ANNUAL MEMBER – \$10.00 FOR LIFE MEMBER
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NY EARMARKED "REPLACE CARD."**

REPLACE LOST MEMBERSHIP CARD/ THE EASIEST AND FASTEST WAY TO GET A NEW CARD IS TO DO SO THROUGH YOUR OWN MALTA ACCOUNT

**FEE FOR REPLACEMENT MEMBERSHIP CARD: \$5.00 FOR ANNUAL MEMBER – \$10.00 FOR LIFE MEMBER
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NY EARMARKED "REPLACE CARD."**

**SEND COMPLETED FORM TO:
DEPARTMENT SECRETARY Chris Leavor
2027 Cemetery Hill Rd ~ Franklinville, NY 14737
EMAIL: CAL2027@HOTMAIL.COM – TELEPHONE: (716) 676-2400**

VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK – QUARTERLY AUDIT REPORT

Auxiliary Name _____ Aux. No. _____

District No. _____ Audit Period: From _____ to _____

FUND	BALANCE LAST AUDIT	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	FINAL BALANCE THIS AUDIT
GENERAL				
RELIEF				
RESTRICTED				
TOTALS				**

1. Bank Balance Shown on Current Statement		\$	
2. PLUS Deposits Not Shown on Statements	+	\$	
3. Sub Total	=	\$	
4. LESS Outstanding Checks (# of outstanding checks _____)–		\$	
5. TOTAL BANK BALANCE		= ** \$	
6. Other Funds: Savings, CD's, etc. \$ _____ \$ _____		= + \$	
7. TOTAL ALL FUNDS		= \$	

(** Note: This figure must match Final Balance This Audit)

Date of Last Membership Transmittal or Entry in MALTA _____

This is to certify that the books of the Secretary and Treasurer have been audited and found to be Correct and all monies are properly accounted for. AUDITED THIS DATE: _____	Trustee # 1 _____ Trustee # 2 _____ Trustee # 3 _____
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Section 814—Trustees, Duties of (All Levels)

- All Audits are to be completed by the elected Trustees •with a minimum of two (2) in attendance. At least one (1) must be an elected Trustee.
- Any negligence on the part of the Trustees in carrying out the mandates of this section, or in attending audits, shall make them individually and collectively responsible, with any others, for any discrepancy.
- A signed copy of the accepted audit shall be forwarded to:
Kimberly White, Department Treasurer – 1799 Fred Road – Schenectady, NY 12303
- A copy of the accepted audit shall be included in the minutes record book.

<u>1st Quarter Audit</u> January / February / March Sent to Dept. Treasurer No later than May 31	<u>2nd Quarter Audit</u> April / May / June Sent to Dept. Treasurer No later than August 31	<u>3rd Quarter Audit</u> July / August / September Sent to Dept. Treasurer No later than November 30	<u>4th Quarter Audit</u> October/November/December Sent to Dept. Treasurer No later than February 28
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•Note: Second Quarter Audit – Both outgoing and incoming Treasurers and Trustees should be present.

Revised August 14, 2019



VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK PROGRAM REPORT FORM ~ 2024-2025



PROGRAM NAME _____

AUXILIARY No. _____ DISTRICT No. _____

PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HOW YOUR AUXILIARY/ MEMBERS PERFORMED/ATTENDED/PROMOTED/DONATED TO THIS PROGRAM. INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL PAGE, IF NECESSARY, FOR YOUR REPORT.

No. OF MEMBERS PARTICIPATING	No. OF VETERANS ATTENDING/ AFFECTED/ BENEFITTED	No. OF HOURS	No. OF MILES TRAVELED (PORTAL TO PORTAL)	DOLLAR VALUE OF GOODS DONATED BY AUX MEMBERS (BASKET ITEMS, DISH TO PASS, ETC)	AMOUNT OF AUXILIARY FUNDS SPENT	TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT THIS EVENT

AUXILIARY CHAIRMAN _____ EMAIL _____

DATE OF SUBMISSION _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT _____ EMAIL _____

***THANK YOU FOR SUBMITTING YOUR REPORT AND KEEPING OUR MISSION TO OUR VETERANS STRONG!
REPORTS MAY BE SENT USPS OR EMAIL TO RESPECTIVE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN.***

**PLEASE REPORT BY THE 1ST OF EACH MONTH!
“Soaring Into the Next Century of Service With Our Veterans and Their Families”**

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™