

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK



TO BE READ AT THE FIRST MEETING FOLLOWING RECEIPT BEFORE BEING FILED FOR REFERENCE

January 10, 2025

Dear VFW Auxiliary Members:

On behalf of Department President Darlene Baker, the VFW Auxiliary Department of New York cordially invites you to attend its annual Spring Conference on Friday, March 21 and Saturday, March 22, 2025 at the

Holiday Inn Downtown ~ 2-8 Hawley Street ~ Binghamton, New York 13901

The VFW Auxiliary room rate is \$139.00 per night. Call the Holiday Inn Downtown directly at (607) 722-1212 to make hotel reservations and reference **Group Code VFA**. The deadline to receive the VFW Auxiliary group rate for hotel rooms is **Friday, February 21, 2025**. Be sure to provide your Auxiliary tax-exempt forms (ST-119.5 and ST-119.1) when you check-in.

The Council of Administration Meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 21, 2025 at 7:30 PM. ***All members in good standing are invited and encouraged to attend.*** The Spring Conference Business Session will begin at 8:00 AM on Saturday, March 22, 2025.

On Saturday, March 22nd, the Auxiliary will have several special guests. Retired Col. Joe Morris with his partner Allen Lund will be sharing a presentation on "Modernization of Charitable Gaming" at 8:30 AM. Department Commander Dan Kell will speak to the members following the presentation.

At approximately 9:30 AM, Hillary Cashier, Manager of Women's Health at the Syracuse VA will be speaking on Women's Health and Maternal Care. In support of the Virtual Baby Shower for the President's Special Project, the Department will be collecting small packages of diapers and baby wipes which will be presented to Ms. Cashier at the Conference. All are welcome to participate in this activity and the items may be dropped off at the President's Special Project table on Friday, March 21 after 3 PM.

Spring Conference Registration begins on Friday, March 21, 2025 from 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM and will be open again on Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 7:00 – 8:30 AM. The cost for Advance Registration is \$8.00 per person and the cost of registration at the door is \$10.00 per person. The deadline for advance registration is **March 10, 2025**. Please note there will be **NO REFUNDS** after the deadline of March 10, 2025. ***Note: Be sure to allow sufficient time for USPS delivery.*** ***Reminder - Attire for the Saturday Business meeting will be the Marine Blue Uniform Blouse/Shirt, black slacks/skirts.***

Department Program Tables will open on Saturday morning, March 22 at 7 AM. Program Chairmen will be able to set up their tables after 3:00 PM on Friday afternoon.

At the Spring Conference, the Auxiliary is offering to all members and guests a Friday Night Dinner Buffet, Breakfast Buffet, and the Department President's Luncheon. The Friday Night Dinner and Saturday President's Luncheon will be held in the Endicott/Johnson City Ballrooms. Please see enclosed Reservation forms for complete details for all meals.

All meals will need to be **pre-paid** and vouchers for the meals will be provided in the Registration envelopes. Deadline for all meal reservations is **March 10, 2025**. Please note there will be **NO REFUNDS** after the deadline of March 10, 2025. There will be no scheduled Auxiliary Dinner on Saturday evening.

We hope that you will join us for the Spring Conference to gather information from our Department Chairmen and Special Guests who will be attending the Conference. Together we are..."Soaring into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and their Families".

Loyally,
Karen A. Dotson, PDP
Spring Conference Chairman

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK



**SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION ~ March 21 and 22, 2025 ~
Holiday Inn Downtown, Binghamton, New York**

Advance Registration: \$8.00 per person ~ \$10.00 on site ~ Advance Registration Deadline: **March 10, 2025**
NO REFUNDS after due date

Please make checks payable to: VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NY earmarked: **“Registration”**
USPS mail your check with this completed form to:

PDP Karen Dotson, Registration Chairman – 19 Calgary Lane – Binghamton, NY 13901

<u>Aux</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Name (Print)</u>	<u>Title</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____

Total No. of Advance Registrations: _____ **@ \$8.00 per person = Total \$** _____ **Check #** _____

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PRESIDENT’S PURSE

Dear Members,

Each year, a President’s Purse presentation is made to our National President and Department President. The Department of New York is again asking for your donation toward the 2024-2025 “Thank You” gift for President Darlene Baker’s *“Soaring into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and their Families”* and National President Brenda Bryant’s *“From our Roots to our Branches, Extending Service to our Veterans”* Auxiliary year.

Please make checks payable to: VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NY earmarked: “President’s Purse” and USPS mail your check with this completed form to:

PDP Karen Dotson, President’s Purse Chairman – 19 Calgary Lane – Binghamton, NY 13901

Auxiliary No. _____ District No. _____ Amount enclosed:\$ _____ Check Number _____

Thank you for your generous donation!

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**SPRING CONFERENCE
PRESIDENT’S LUNCHEON**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025 ~ 12:00 PM (Noon)
HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN Hotel ~ 2-8 HAWLEY STREET, BINGHAMTON, NY**

**Cost is \$25.00 per person
Reservations *must be received* by MARCH 10, 2025 - Firm
NO REFUNDS after due date**

Luncheon Buffet Includes:

*Sliced Ham, Turkey & Roast Beef, Sliced American, Swiss & Provolone Cheeses, Assorted Breads and Rolls,
Lettuce, Tomatoes, Onions & Condiments, Chicken Noodle Soup, Assorted Chips, Assorted Cookies &
Brownies, Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Hot Tea, Iced Tea*

Auxiliary Number: _____ District Number: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Total Number Luncheon Reservations: _____ @ \$25.00 per person =

Total \$ _____ Check Number _____

Make checks payable to: **VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NY** earmarked **“Luncheon”**

USPS Mail Reservation Form and Check so they arrive by **March 10, 2025** to:
PDP Karen Dotson, Luncheon Chairman – 19 Calgary Lane, Binghamton, NY 13901

**** Please notify the Luncheon Chairman if you have allergies or special dietary needs ****
“Soaring into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and their Families”

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**SPRING CONFERENCE
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER AND SATURDAY BREAKFAST**

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025 ~ 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Cost is \$33.00 per person

Dinner Buffet Includes:

Mixed Greens with Ranch and Italian Dressings, Chef’s Choice Fish, Penne with Vodka Sauce, Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable Medley, Rolls & Butter, Chef’s Choice Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Decaf, Ice Tea

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025 ~ 6:30 AM – 9:00 AM – Tioga Room

Cost is \$20.00 per person

Waffles, Scrambled Eggs, Breakfast Potatoes, Bacon/Sausage, Bagels, Cereal, Fresh Fruit, Muffins, Pastries, Yogurt, Coffee, Tea, Juices

**Reservations *must be received by* MARCH 10, 2025 - Firm
NO REFUNDS after due date**

Auxiliary Number: _____ District Number: _____
(Place an “X” to indicate which meal you are reserving)

Name: _____	Fri Dinner	___	Sat Breakfast	___	Total \$	_____
Name: _____	Fri Dinner	___	Sat Breakfast	___	Total \$	_____
Name: _____	Fri Dinner	___	Sat Breakfast	___	Total \$	_____
Name: _____	Fri Dinner	___	Sat Breakfast	___	Total \$	_____
Name: _____	Fri Dinner	___	Sat Breakfast	___	Total \$	_____

Total Number Reservations: Fri Dinner _____ Sat Breakfast _____

Grand Total \$ _____ Check Number _____

Make checks payable to: **VFW Auxiliary Dept. of NY** earmarked –
Dinner and/or Breakfast

USPS Mail Reservation Form and Check so they arrive by **MARCH 10, 2025** to:
PDP Karen Dotson, Luncheon Chairman – 19 Calgary Lane, Binghamton, NY 13901

*** Please notify the Chairman if you have allergies or special dietary needs ***
“Soaring into the Next Century of Service with our Veterans and their Families”

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Department Programs Update for Spring Conference

Veterans and Family Support

- In an effort to support the VFW with their Service Officers Program, the Veterans and Family Support program will be accepting monetary donations at Spring Conference. Checks are to be made payable to: VFW Auxiliary, Department of New York and earmark – Service Officers Program.
- Promote VFW programs for Unmet Needs, Military Assistance Program, Sport Clips Scholarships. Monetary donations will be accepted. Checks should be made payable to: VFW Auxiliary, Department of New York and earmark the program.

Buddy Poppy – Display Contest – 3 Categories

- a. Public Promotion
- b. Memorial or Inspirational
- c. Artistic or Decorative

VFW National Home – Cash Bash (\$20.00 ticket) – Drawing at Spring Conference

- Prizes – 1st Place \$600, 2nd Place \$300, 3rd Place \$200, 4th Place \$100 (4 winners) and 5th Place \$50 (10 winners).

VFW National Home – Life Membership Drawing at Spring Conference

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

Cancer Grant Donation Fund

- Each **DISTRICT PRESIDENT** is asked to bring a replica of Department President Darlene’s Logo “Hot Air Balloon” to be raffled during the Conference. 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.

President’s Special Project

- Coffee Mugs (\$12.00) and Travel Mugs (\$15.00) available for purchase
- Monetary donations for the Baby Showers held at the VA Hospitals
- Small packages of baby diapers and wipes in support of the Virtual Baby Shower

Ways and Means

- Auxiliaries are asked to donate \$10 worth of scratch off Lottery Tickets
- Fire HD8 Tablet Raffle – Tickets only sold at Spring Conference
- Think Big - 55” surround sound Flat Screen TV – Tickets are \$5.00 each - Drawing at Dept. Convention

Youth Activities

- Reminder – Illustrating America Art Contest Submissions are due.

Year End Program Reports – Department Chairmen will gladly accept completed Year End Program Reports – Due date is April 1, 2025

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UNWAVERING SUPPORT



INSTITUTED APRIL 30, 1925



January 10, 2025

Dear Auxiliary Members:

As a courtesy to the Department of New York VFW, we are providing key information to the VFW Auxiliary members for the VFW Spring Conference.

Date: April 10 – 13, 2025

Location: Radisson, Corning, NY

Room Rate: \$139.00 plus tax

The VFW is scheduling a dinner on Saturday, April 12th to honor the Service Officers as well as a presentation to the Department Scholarship winners for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs.

At the time of this writing, all details for the dinner had not been finalized. Upon receipt of the VFW Spring Conference package, the information will be shared with the Auxiliary members for their planning purposes.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Loyally,

Darlene Baker

Darlene Baker, President
Department of New York