



WI VFW AUXILIARY

2024-25 GENERAL ORDERS

"HONORING VETERANS TOGETHER"



April 2025

MUST BE READ AT MEETING

Volume 3 - Issue 9

GENERAL Orders and Program Bulletins can be found on the Department Website at:
<https://vfwauxwi.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp> Look under the news tab and click on General Orders.

Spring is in the air and it's a great time to do some spring cleaning! As we leap forward in time, let's clear out dust bunnies and make way for new members, officers, and ideas on keeping our auxiliaries healthy. Keep in mind that members before us could make wonderful mentors along the way.

Election of officers is to be done at the regular business meeting in April. The installation of officers will take place in May. Remember, even if you keep the same officers, you need to fill out the Installation Report and install them. Secretaries at all levels will enter the installation reports directly into Malta.

Credentials – Don't forget to elect your delegates and alternates for District, Department and National Conventions. Failure to do this means your Auxiliary will not have a vote on matters that need voting. Pay close attention to dates on when this process is done. Information on this process can be found in your Podium book on pages 33-35. Even if you think no one will be attending, please submit your form. Delegates have a one-year term, not just for convention.

The Legislative Conference that was held in Washington, D.C. in early March was very enlightening. I encourage all people to do their due diligence when making decisions on who and how they vote in any election. Don't always believe in what you hear on TV or read in the newspaper or Facebook. Fact check before making decisions. Remember our Veterans are counting on us to help them secure their benefits by ensuring our government "Honors the Contract" that our Veterans and Active Military sign when entering the service.

VOD Winner - Grace Kreklow, from Wauwatosa, WI, represented the VFW Department of Wisconsin, and was awarded the \$1,000 Mr. and Mrs. John Biedrzycki and the 2015 Homecoming Committee Scholarship (PA). It was an honor to escort Grace with Commander Ron Ramos at the National VOD Parade of Winners.

Membership – We currently sit at 99.12% in paid members. Keep up the great work and continue to recruit, recruit, recruit.

June Convention – Our department convention will be held June 11-14, 2025, at the Madison Marriott West, 1313 John Q Hammons Dr, Middleton, WI 53562. The deadline for registration and meals is May 23, 2025. There is a link to the Marriott to to reserve your hotel room on our website along with links to on-line registration. **Go to: vfwauxwi.org and scroll down to see the Convention information.** Hope to see you there.

Cordially,
Cheryl L. Woodards
Department of Wisconsin President
608-692-4027
Wivfwacheryl55@gmail.com

**"From our Roots to our Branches Extending
Service to our Veterans" as we are
"Honoring Veterans Together"**

VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

by Kathie Lendosky, V & FS Chairperson

Lendosky16@charter.net

Landline: 262-692-9661 (leave a message)

Cell: 414-588-9339 (Leave a message)



April is Month of the Military Child, a time to recognize and support military families' children.

Decorate with purple, purple camo, and military insignias.* Purple indicates support for all branches of the military: Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard. **Resources include support from the Department of Defense, community organizations, and the VA. ***Ideas for celebrating Month of the Military Child: *Highlight military families** on a day each week in April. Designate a spirit week and have activities every day such as: Monday: Flag ceremony, Tuesday: wear red, white, and blue, Wednesday: Write a letter to thank a military person, et., or Mon- Service Branch t-shirt, Tuesday-Purple, Wed-Orange for Unity. ***When their parents are deployed, their children's milestones** such as birthdays, the holidays and graduations are sometimes missed, have a picnic, go to the park, zoo, library, movies, ice cream, fairs, games, etc. ***Congratulate and support the children** for supporting their parents and let them know that without their support, military parents wouldn't easily handle the important mission of serving their country. ***Take the child out to eat, educate the child on the importance of their parents mission. *Do guidance lesson** H is for Honor. ***Show-n-Tell** – Have students in something military related. **Examples:** memorabilia from an installation or service branch, favorite airplane, book, military character, items or pictures from prior living locations, pictures or anything related to being a military child. ***As a service project adopt a deployed family.** Find out what a family with a deployed service member needs help with. ***Month of the Military Child recognition** in their instruction by having students share their military-connection story through the visual arts, creative writing, musical composition, poetry, etc.

- **Thrive Online Program** offers courses for parents on positive parenting, stress management, and physical health.
- **Don't forget** Veterans and their families on Easter, decorate eggs, make up a basket, easter egg hunt, transportation to church, donate easter outfits, make a cake...

EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION

by Linda Moran, Department Chief of Staff

Loopylin1950@gmail.com 920-337-9922 (H) 920-639-9987 (C)



We have passed the halfway mark of our Program year and it's time to do an Auxiliary health check to ensure that we elect resilient leaders for the 2025-2026 Program Year and cross the finish line strong and healthy.

Auxiliary Meetings—Inspire and Motivate Your Members Your Auxiliary meetings need to be a place where members feel comfortable, engaged and eager to attend. Use a meeting style that works for your Auxiliary. Consider the options of a roundtable or contemporary meeting: you may find that members feel less intimidated in a more casual setting. Set an example for your Auxiliary. Always be positive, encourage members to express their views and always be respectful of everyone's input.

FINALLY LET'S TALK ABOUT ELECTIONS! April is the month for Auxiliary elections, any member in good standing (except those at large) may nominate themselves or others. A member must be present at the time of elections unless they have sent something in writing prior to the meeting. Mentors are out there to help if you think your ready to assume duties and responsibilities of an office.

GOD BLESS and let's finish this year strong for Department President Cheryl and her Officers.

LEGISLATIVE

by Debbie Nackers,
Legislative Chairperson
debnack666@gmail.com
Cell: 920-362-8184



REGISTER NOW

Veterans Day at the Capitol
April 22, 2025

- 9 AM– Registration at Monona Terrace
- 10–11:30 AM Program & Lunch
- 11:30 AM March to the Capitol
- 12–1 PM Capitol Rally
- 1 PM Meet with representatives

Register at wilegion.org/its-happening



Sponsored By:



Register at wilegion.org/its-happening

Join us at the capitol to meet with your Legislators.

Promoting Veterans Bills Like:

1. Eligibility Expansion of the WI Veterans and Surviving Spouses Property Tax Credit.
2. Funding for University of Wisconsin MIA Recovery and Identification Project.

On the registration form you will find questions about the buses. Plans are for pick-ups in: Eau Claire, Tomah, Wausau, Stevens Point, and Milwaukee.
Donations for the buses are appreciated.

Contact Debbie Nackers with any questions. (See contact info at top of page.)

WI VETERANS ASSISTANCE

by Mary Lou Duerr, Chairman
715-305-5052 marylduerr@gmail.com



This will be my last general orders for this 24-25 year. To those of you who donated plus those of you who reported to me Thank You. It's not to late donate any amount helps. Don't forget to report to me by May. It can be by text, e-mail, mail or phone, I need name of Auxiliary, number, District and amount. This will put your auxiliary in for an award at Dept. Convention in June.

At Mid-Winter I reported \$26,301.57 was distributed from July. 22 Veterans were helped with rent/mortgage, utilities, car payment/insurance etc. We see the help for Veterans growing. Remember this is WI Veterans only. You still have time to donate. Mail your check to VFW, P.O. Box 6128, Monona, WI 53716 earmark: WI Veterans Assistance

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

by Patty Jansky, Chairperson
pajansky@charter.net



Illustrating America Contest



Thank you to so many of our Auxiliaries for the wonderful Illustrating America Contest entries that you sent my way. The Department of Wisconsin judging will be completed during April and the first-place winners will soon be on their way to National! Go, Wisconsin!

Youth Awards and Recognition



Don't forget to say, "Thank You" and "Good Job" to our youth who support veterans or display patriotism. Acknowledging their good deeds will show that we appreciate them and encourage them to do more! Check out these award options that are on our WI VFW Auxiliary webpage under the Youth Activities Program or on MALTA Member Resources:

Youth Group Supporting Our Veterans Citations

Youth groups (Scouts, 4-H, Boys and Girls Clubs, sports teams, school clubs, community service groups, etc.) are doing mazing things for veterans and their families. We can thank them and ensure that these great projects and activities continue by recognizing the whole group with a Youth Group Supporting our Veterans Citation.

Patriotic Youth Awards

Do you know an individual boy or girl who shows patriotism and/or supports our veterans, service members and their families? Don't let this go unnoticed – present them with a Patriotic Youth Award! For example, my Auxiliary recognizes high school buglers who offer to play "Taps" at military funerals.

R.A.P. Cards (Random Act of Patriotism)

Have you seen a child respecting our flag or thanking a veteran? Every little thing counts! R.A.P. Cards are a fun and easy way to applaud youth and thank them for their patriotism.



I also want to include a personal THANK YOU to all our Auxiliaries for all YOU do for our youth! ❤️



Journey to 100 Years April 2025 Question



Who was the National President when Wisconsin became a Department?

Send your answer NOT LATER THAN April 30, 2025.

To: Rita Byers at rabyers66@gmail.com for a chance to win the \$25.00 monthly cash prize.

No entries will be accepted after the deadline. All entries with correct, complete answer will be put into the drawing for the month. This month will be drawn at the Council of Administration meeting at the June Council Meeting.

**DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
VFW AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**

DIST #: _____ AUX# _____ AUX. NAME: _____ CITY: _____

AUXILIARY SECRETARY: Immediately following your election of Delegates and Alternates to the Department Convention, to be held June 11-14 in Middleton, WI, please complete this form. It is **YOUR** duty to mail/email this form to the **DEPARTMENT SECRETARY, Faith Elford, 1414 Montclair Place, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538** or wivfwafaith@outlook.com

PLEASE NOTE: NO CREDENTIALS will be mailed to your Auxiliary. **ONLY THOSE** Presidents, Delegates and Alternates attending the Convention will receive credentials at the Convention. Please elect those people who plan on going to the Convention first...and then fill in with ones that are undecided.

NOTICE: Delegates and Alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Auxiliary held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Department Convention; one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Auxiliary at the time of the election of Delegates. Sec. 303 page 33-34 of the 2025 National Bylaws.

Date of Election _____ Number of Members dues paid on date of election _____

DELEGATES

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

ALTERNATES

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

President

(Auxiliary Secretary)

Sr. Vice President

(Secretary's Address)

Jr. Vice President

(City, State & Zip Code)



NOT ACCEPTED BEFORE APRIL 1, NOR AFTER MAY 31
of the Current Calendar Year

**NATIONAL CONVENTION
OFFICIAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

~~DO NOT SEND THIS FORM IN IF NAMES HAVE BEEN INPUT ONLINE~~

TO: National Secretary
VFW Auxiliary
406 West 34th Street, 10th Floor
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

FROM: AUXILIARY NO. _____ DEPARTMENT OF _____
AUXILIARY NAME _____
CITY AND STATE _____

Per Section 305 of the National Bylaws, "Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall be elected at the last regular meeting in April; one for each thirty-five (35) members or fraction thereof in good standing on March 31. The VFW Auxiliary Secretary shall provide the names of the Delegates and Alternates to the National Secretary, along with their membership ID number, within thirty (30) calendar days of the day of election" and no later than MAY 31. The Auxiliary Secretary is asked to input his or her Auxiliary's Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) online in MALTA via use of their respective membership ID number(s) and to print out a copy of the Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) for his or her records.

This is to certify that the Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) listed below were duly elected to represent our VFW Auxiliary at the upcoming National Convention on _____ based on the total VFW Auxiliary membership as of MARCH 31 in the MALTA System.

ID Number and Name ARE REQUIRED to complete this form.
TYPE or PRINT NEATLY each Delegate's or Alternate's ID NUMBER and NAME.

~DELEGATE CREDENTIALS WILL BE ISSUED AT CONVENTION SITE UPON CHECK-IN.~

DELEGATES		ALTERNATES	
ID NUMBER	MEMBER'S FIRST AND LAST NAME	ID NUMBER	MEMBER'S FIRST AND LAST NAME
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(Auxiliary Secretary) (Address) (City, State & Zip Code)

NOTE: This is a listing only. (NO CHECKS ARE TO BE INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM.)

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN, AND ITS AUXILIARY

2025 WISCONSIN STATE CONVENTION

June 11th—June 14th, 2025

Madison Marriott West

1313 John Q Hammons Dr, Middleton, WI 53562



Member: _____

Post # _____ Title: _____

\$20.00—\$25 After May 23rd



Member: _____

Aux #: _____ Title: _____

\$15.00—\$20 After May 23rd

Past Post Commanders Lunch

Thursday, June 12th - Noon

Auxiliary Plated Lunch
(Open to all Auxiliary)

\$44

Downhome Buffet—Garden Salad with Ranch and Balsamic Vinaigrette, Apple Slaw with Poppy Seed, Fresh Rolls and Sweet Butter, Tender Pot Roast, Grilled Chicken with Herb Jus, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Baby Carrots, Sautéed Seasonal Vegetables, Caramel Apple Pie, Turtle Cheesecake, Fresh Brewed Iced Tea



Grilled Herb Chicken, Herb Jus, Wild Rice, Seasonal Vegetable, Mixed Green Salad: Baby Lettuces, Vegetable Ribbons, and Balsamic Vinaigrette, Warm Rolls and Sweet Butter, Fresh Brewed Iced Tea

\$36



\$30

Women Veterans Plated Breakfast (Open to all Women Veterans) ~ 7:00 am - 8:00 am

French Toast—Grand Marnier Marinated Brioche with Powdered Sugar, Berry Compote, and Wisconsin Maple Syrup. Served with Breakfast Sausage.

Friday, June 13th

Auxiliary Club Lunch
Noon

Backyard Cookout Buffet—Red Bliss Potato Salad, Creamy Cole Slaw, Grilled Hamburgers and Barbeque Chicken, Sliced Tomato, Onion, Lettuce, Pickles, American Cheese, Condiments, Baked Beans, Watermelon, Salted Caramel Brownies, Fresh Brewed Iced Tea.

\$44



\$59

Convention Banquet ~ Cocktails 5:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

\$59

Plated Dinner served with Salad of Choice, Warm Rolls, Door County Cherry Cheesecake, Coffee, Decaf Coffee, and Iced Tea

Salad Choice: Baby Lettuces (Mixed Greens, Vegetable ribbons, choice of dressing).
 Caesar
 Iceberg (Fried Pancetta, Crumbled Gorgonzola)

Entrée Choice: Roasted Free-Range Airline Chicken Breast, Herb Jus, Whipped Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable.
 Double-Cut Pork Chop, Bourbon and Maple Glaze, Roasted Fingerling Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables

Saturday, June 14th, 7:30 am ~ Past Dept. Presidents Breakfast: Yes No

VFW Reg: _____ P/C Lunch: _____ Banquet: _____ VFW Subtotal: _____

VFW/AUX Total: _____

Aux Reg: _____ Aux Plated Lunch: _____ Aux Club Lunch: _____ Banquet: _____ P/P Meal: _____ AUX Subtotal: _____

REGISTRATION & RESERVATION POLICY

- ◆ This form accommodates up to 1 VFW Member and 1 Auxiliary Member, for a total of TWO registrations.
- ◆ Use additional forms for more registrations.
- ◆ Cut-off date for meal registrations is May 23, 2023.
- ◆ Registration and payment MUST reach Dept Headquarters by the **May 23rd Deadline** to avoid higher registration fee.
- ◆ **No Refunds.**
- ◆ *Late meal reservations, if accepted, are subject to \$5.00 surcharge per meal.*
- ◆ **Special dietary needs? Please let us know in advance.**

Make all checks payable to:
VFW DEPT OF WISCONSIN
Earmark: 2025 Convention.
Mail to:
VFW OF WISCONSIN
P.O. BOX 6128
MONONA, WI 53716-0128



Scan the QR Code to register online