



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

S'MORE NEWS NO.2 (MUST BE READ AT MEETING)

August 2025

1. The bonds for both the President and Treasurer are set to expire on August 31, 2025. **It is essential to renew them NOW. Remember, the bonds must be voted on and in your minutes.** Trustees should ensure your Auxiliary is NOT UNDER bonded. Should you need any assistance, please reach out to Lenny, the Department Treasurer, without delay.
2. Trustees: Have you mailed your Audit for April, May & June? If not, do it now!
3. Your inspecting officer will need to obtain a current copy of your 990 for the Department Treasurer. Please plan to complete this before your visit. **Your 990 must say APPROVED, and a copy must be sent with the visiting officer.**
4. Thank you to all who attended our first Council Meeting and training in Wisconsin Rapids, held July 11th and 12th, 2025. Thank you to everyone that said they had a great time and had fun. Hopefully, the information received was useful. Please share with your Auxiliaries.
5. As a reminder, if your Auxiliary is having to change a meeting date, you need to notify the Department President and Secretary as well as all your members. It is essential to inform the Department Secretary of any changes during the Winter Months so that we can update the roster and website accordingly, with approval of the Department President.
6. If your Auxiliary requires a printed copy of all mailings for the year, please fill out the form and submit a payment of **\$35** to the Department Treasurer, clearly marked as "S'more Mail Fee." Once we receive your payment, we will send the requested documents to you.
7. For our special project "Campfire for Courage", **19 veterans and/or spouses** will get assistance on the Auxiliary side, and **13** by the VFW. 33 in total, what a wonderful start. Check with your local business and bring them the write-up you can find on our website. Donations are always welcome and can be sent to the Department Treasurer. This program is very beneficial to our veterans and families. **Jointly, we would like to help 200 veterans and spouses with the future of assisting family members.** The cost is \$500 per person to attend the retreats. Please earmark your checks "President's Special Project".
8. September 13th visits to the Highground, Neillsville, WI, to learn more about the President's Special Project. Don't forget to sign up. I look forward to seeing everyone.
9. Don't forget to show up at Department meetings this year, as there is something special at each meeting in celebration of 100 years.
10. To ensure the long-term sustainability of our Department, we are focusing on expanding our Auxiliaries this year. It is essential to organize recruiting events to foster growth and prevent the loss of members due to aging out. If you require assistance in planning a recruiting event or need suggestions for potential venues, please reach out to Vicki Newbauer, our Membership chairman at vnewbauer1950@gmail.com. Additionally, if your meetings are typically held during weekdays, consider scheduling your meetings on weekends to attract new members effectively.



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN**

S'MORE NEWS NO.2 (MUST BE READ AT MEETING)

August 2025

11. We are currently working on updating information on the Department Website, so please be patient. It is a work in progress. vfwauxwi.org
12. Thank you to everyone who came out and joined us at the Poker Run. It was a blast!
13. **Ways and Means:**
 - Watch in September for a 4 Square Raffle and instructions.
 - Don't forget to purchase/sell your "Scooter" Raffle Tickets. All monies and stubs are due Feb 6th, 2026. These CANNOT be mailed. You may turn them into Lenny sooner.
 - Keep a watch as there are many "outside the box" activities from our Ways and Means team this year.
14. District dues are now due to your DISTRICT TREASURER based on your June 30, 2025 membership.
15. To all District Presidents and Line Officers, please return the monies collected for the President's Pins that were distributed to you for sale at the Convention to Department Treasurer Lenore Otto. Our supply of pins is running low, so if you feel you cannot sell the pins you currently have, we kindly ask that you return them. If you require additional pins, please reach out to Sherrie Rosenau for assistance at littlemama6@yahoo.com or a Line Officer/District President.
16. If your Auxiliary has less than 10 meetings a year, you are not considered a Healthy Auxiliary! Please reach out to your District President so we can discuss how we can help you reach that goal of being a Healthy Auxiliary.
17. The National and Department programs shall be read at your meetings. The Chairmen put a lot of work into getting you the information for the programs you are here to support. National requires that you only need to participate in and report on one National Program. Department programs do not fall under this.
18. Secretaries ensure that all your pages are numbered and that the Trustees have signed **ALL** pages, bank statements, CD's, BINGO accounts, checkbook, and any other financial records.
19. I wanted to let everyone know that the National President's Visit will not be until April 2026. More information at a later date.

"We Rise by Lifting Others", "From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free"

Loyally,

Kim McWilliams
Department of WI President
815-999-9214
mrsffiemt@gmail.com



We Rise by Lifting Others

You Are Invited

PRESIDENT'S PROJECT VISIT TO THE HIGHGROUND

VETERAN AND FAMILIES RETREAT WEEKENDS PTSD AND SUICIDE SUPPORT

Join us for a visit to the Highground, Neillsville, WI. Learn about the Presidents Project, tour the facilities, and enjoy a little lunch before your trip home.

Date: **09-13-2025**

Location: **W7031 W Ridge Rd,
Neillsville, WI, 54456**

Time: **10:00 am**

RSVP by **September 1st, 2025**

RSVP to : **Jennifer Mauritz** jmauritz922@gmail.com

Lunch Provided by: **Mueller-Hintz VFWA Post 1866, Marshfield**

Name: _____ **Aux #**

Phone: _____





NEED THE "SMORE NEWS" aka GENERAL ORDERS IN PRINT FOR 2025-2026???

AGAIN, THIS YEAR, if your Auxiliary has no access to a computer or any other way to get the "SMORE NEWS" and Chairmen's bulletins on-line (from the – vfwauxwi.org website), for \$35 for the 2025-2026 year, the Department Secretary will snail mail them to you along with all other necessary paperwork for the year.

Fill out this form with your payment and return to:

Lenore Otto, Dept VFWA Treasurer
1383 W Wisconsin Ave
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Make an Auxiliary Check for \$35 payable to VFWA-WI, earmark check - "Smore News"

Please print clearly:

Auxiliary Name & Number _____

Mail to: (Check One) _____ President or _____ Secretary

Provide Mailing Address: Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____



**VETERANS AND
FAMILY SUPPORT
CALL/TEXT
988 OPT 1
VETERANS
CRISIS LINE**

Knowing how to assist your Veteran is key. There are many resources at your fingertips, when in doubt please reach out. You may just save a life.

[Vfw.org/assistance](https://www.vfw.org/assistance)

A rising tide lifts all veterans to success!

Veterans Crisis Line



**DIAL 988 then
PRESS 1**

Veterans Crisis Line

1.800.273.TALK (8255)
www.veteranscrisisline.net

Give an Hour providers

www.giveanhour.org
Click on "Search for a Provider"

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

1.800.622.HELP (4357)
www.samhsa.gov

Patients Like Me online network

www.patientslikeme.com

VA Health Care

1.877.222.VETS (8387)
www.va.gov/health

PTSD Coach Online Apps

www.ptsd.va.gov/PTSD/apps/ptsdcoachonline

Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health & Traumatic Brain Injury

www.dcoe.mil

VA Vet Center Program

www.vetcenter.va.gov/



KNOW THE FIVE SIGNS OF EMOTIONAL SUFFERING

JODY MCKINNEY
STUDEBAKER1971@GMAIL.COM
**VETERANS AND FAMILY
SUPPORT CHAIRMAN**



This year, the VFW has asked its Auxiliary to assist them in promoting the "TEACHER of the YEAR" Program. Once I get the information from my VFW partner I will share it with you.

What can you do now? Talk to your family members and friends, ask about the teachers at their schools. Get involved in your scholastic community and show the VFW we stand with them in this very worthy program!

P A T R I O T I S M



AWARDS to be earned by an Auxiliary for the following:

"How many American or MIA/POW Flags did your Auxiliary present or distribute"

"How your Auxiliary promoted, participated in and/or recognized any patriotic days and/or branch of service birthdays."

"Certificates or citations presented to schools, citizens or businesses in your community recognizing their displaying of the US, POW/MIA flags or other displays of American pride"

"How many events did your Auxiliary educate others to honor and respect the American Flag"

IF National says your Auxiliary does not have to participate in ALL programs, *please send in your Auxiliary's Americanism End of Year Report. I KNOW everyone does SOMETHING to promote Patriotism In America!* As soon as the End of Year Reports are available on our website I will let you know via an email to all District Americanism Chairpersons or District Presidents.

Let me know in April what you did all year and you could win awards!



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

August 2025

Buddy Poppy Distribution, Louise Engness, Chairperson

How are your Buddy Poppy distributions going, whether you are done or just getting ready team up and get the word out how your auxiliary supports the active-duty service men and women and our veterans!

Remember to tell the stories of the Buddy Poppy and share how your auxiliary supports veterans and their families throughout the year. Always keep a new member form in your pocket for a quick hand out!

For the Year End awards remember to Take Pictures of Buddy Poppy Distribution, most enthusiastic, well dressed from head to toe to win! Send Pictures to wagnerla4@gmail.com

Remember to send Buddy Poppy pictures to VFW News!

VFW National Home, Eaton Rapid MI Chairman Louise Engness,



Get Ready to RIDE!

Ride the Bus, that is....to the VFW National Home October 24-26th 2025. This year we not only get to enjoy the Halloween Party; we also get to celebrate 100 years of VFW National Home's continued service to our veterans and active-duty service men and women! Go to VFWnationalhome.org for more information. While on line check out the Wisconsin home!

Auxiliaries, please encourage and help send members on a fact-finding mission to see how the VFW National Home Supports all who live there. There will be tours, yearly meeting and time to just go and explore the grounds and see for yourself how this wonderful VFW program works. There is a museum with so much information as to how this amazing program started and how it has evolved to where it is today! Please encourage members to take time to participate in this three-day fact-finding mission!

Ladies have you ordered your saddle shoes and poodle skirts? Guys do you have your hair...oil ready to go for the **GREASE** VFW National Home **Halloween Party!** The dates are October 24-26, 2025 for the bus trip to VFW National Home. Plan to ride the bus from one of four locations starting in Rothschild, WI at 0530 and continuing south for several stops. There will be a lunch stop just into Illinois and then on to Lansing MI to the hotel by 3:30 pm. Expect a fun filled day on the bus of comradery, movie watching, movie trivia, prizes, eating and of course sharing of snacks and past trips! Friday night the bus will take us to eat at Charlotte MI VFW 2406 and have time to hang out with Missouri VFW members. Saturday, we leave from the motel on the bus just before 0700 for the VFW National Home Annual members meeting and Halloween party, later that night we go out to eat together. We return home Sunday leaving the motel about 0800. The cost includes bus and motel, no meals, are included in cost. Bring your costumes, snacks for the bus and money for meals, and of course save up for the National Home goodies at the gift shop! You can never have too much National Home Swag!

A more detailed Itinerary for October 24-36 will follow. Sign-up sheet pending. This year's award will go to the four (4) Auxiliaries that achieve the highest number of new Lifetime and/or VFW Home Memberships and yes, your Auxiliary itself can sign up.



EXTENSION, REVITALIZATION & MENTORING

AUGUST 2025

WHAT IS A DEPT CHIEF OF STAFF?

The chief of staff is a very important assistant to the Department President. They will be a coach, counselor and mentor to all levels of leadership in the Department.

They must be knowledgeable in all facets of the Auxiliary including Bylaws, Programs and Mentoring for Leadership.

THEY HAVE A CRITICAL ROLE

One of the responsibilities of the Chief of Staff is to provide guidance and resources to VFW Auxiliaries so they can ensure that Auxiliaries are healthy and successful.

WORKING WITH DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

They will work with District Presidents & the Department President to maintain current Auxiliaries, encourage members, promote teamwork and provide guidance during challenging times, such as suspension, consolidation or even working with the auxiliaries to avoid the loss of a Charter. They also help in establishing a new Auxiliary.

Sherrie Rosenau
littlemama6@yahoo.com
920-251-8888



PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT

CAMPFIRE FOR COURAGE

"Campfire for Courage" is a statewide fundraising initiative supporting THE HIGHGROUND'S PTSD RETREATS for Wisconsin veterans. With a camping-themed focus, this campaign invites every VFW Post and Auxiliary to rally behind the 2025-2026 Commander and President's goal to secure 200 sponsors - each covering one veteran's retreat experience (approximate cost of \$500 each veteran for a total of \$100,000 goal).

WHY IT MATTERS:

The Highground's retreats offer veterans a safe, healing space to address PTSD through nature, camaraderie, and guided reflection. These programs change lives - providing tools for resilience and recovery.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin
HOSPITAL AUGUST 2025

My name is Laurie Coffin. I am your Hospital Chairman for this coming year. Our Hospital Ambassador is Kim Copson from Manchester, New Hampshire. As in every other year, our Goal is to continue to get volunteers to help our Hospitalized Veterans. There are many ways we can do that. Some ways are to make and deliver cards, knit, crochet or sew items. Make small quilts for their wheelchairs. Host a bingo or other game night. VOLUNTEER at a VA or a VETERANS' HOME. It is your presence that makes a difference – the presents come next. At our local Tomah VA, the residents need help getting to their appointments, extra-curricular activities, church and etc. If they don't get enough volunteers the residents cannot participate and must stay on their floor where their rooms are. No matter where you live, there is a VA Facility not that far away. Talk to your Auxiliary and see if they can afford to take transportation money from the relief fund once a month so that your Auxiliary can participate. In Tomah they are currently asking for at least 4 volunteers each time we play bingo so that the residents can come down to play bingo.



HOSPITAL SUGGESTED DONATIONS:

You are asked to give \$2.00 per member based on the Auxiliary membership as of 06/30/2025. The Hospital Suggested Donation is used to cover the operating costs of the Hospital Program – i.e. Mileage for the VAVS Representatives, Deputy Representatives and Associate Representatives; canteen books, smocks, coffee, the annual gifts given to each facility during the Department President's official visit.



HOSPITAL PROJECTS:

Hospital Projects donations cover all of the special events and holidays i.e. King Day, Tomah Day, Christmas Cheer, Veteran's Day Cheer, Easter Cheer, Thanksgiving Treats. Some of the facilities have treats for Halloween, Memorial Day, New Year's Eve, - Birthday treats, the Spring Prom at King and so on.

SALUTE TO HOSPITALIZED VETERANS:

Donations are used for a special gift which is given during the month of February to ALL Hospitalized Veterans.

Hopefully this explains why it is important to send donations for the Hospital Program each year. When you do your Standing Rules for your Auxiliary you can put the donation amount for these items and vote on them at that time and then you don't have to vote on them each time you make a donation – unless you change the amount to be given.

AWARDS for participating in the Hospital Program:

\$10.00 to an Auxiliary who can come up with creative ways to interact with the Veteran Patients and make them happy and REPORT to me.

2 -\$5.00 Awards to Auxiliary members who recruit and retain New Hospital Volunteers and REPORT to me,

PLUS: I will have \$100.00 to hand to a VAVS OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER. Can You Meet This Challenge?

Think about what You Can Do to make a difference in a life of a Hospitalized Veteran. Can you spare a couple hours of your "free" time to volunteer at a VA Hospital? Think about it!

Laurie Coffin, Chairman

Laurie2bk@gmail.com



Legislative August 2025

Recently someone said to me “Why bother, Politicians don’t listen to us anyway!”

Sometimes it feels like that! Especially when many of our VFW Priorities have been stuck in committees or only passing one branch before losing momentum.

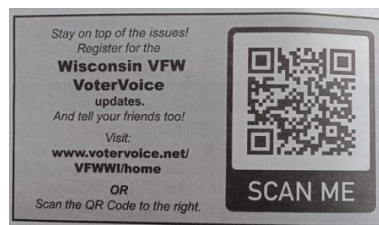
What Can We Do?

How about we join hands and voices. There are nearly **470,000 Auxiliary members nationwide**. Can you image how strong our message could be if we all joined together?

How?

One of the easiest ways to send messages is right at our fingertips. Sign-up for Action Corps and VoterVoice. Use your phone and scan the code, go to the website or send me your info. and I will sign you up. I know many of you don’t do this thinking they will get a lot of emails.....not true! Only a few a month, unless there is an important alert.

Let’s Sign-Up for our Veterans!



Debbie Nackers nackersvfw@gmail.com

VFW A Department of Wisconsin Membership

August 2025-2026



Our family membership excursion has official began!

How are we going to carry out what our organization was chartered to do? By recruiting new members and assuring our current members stay a vital part of our Auxiliary. If you look at the VFW membership number versus the Auxiliary, we can do better. We joined to give **Honor to our Veteran(s)**.

Our Cousin "**Know**" from Illinois (National Ambassador Mike) would like every Department, District and Auxiliary Officer to ask their VFW counterpart if their spouse and family members are members. If they are not members get them to join. Here are some ways to recruit new members. • Joint VFW/Auxiliary open house • Exclusive Membership drives • State/County fairs (with prior approval) • Patriotic gathering (with prior approval) • Newspaper article • Partner with your Program Chairmen from Extensions & Revitalization, Youth Activities, Scholarships, Set up booths at Schools for various activities, etc.

Our Big Ten Conference Coach, Nancy Ustruck, **CHYTT** family member **ROAR** has the responsibility to ensure our membership prospers. She knows membership and will work with each of us to guarantee we expand our family through membership. Let's all make Nancy proud of her home state!



Valuable information - Can be found in Malta – Membership Resources

VFW Door Hangers

What is the Value of ONE member

New member packet

OUR TREASURE IS WAITING.....HAPPY TREASURE HUNTING!

<https://vfwauxfl.org> and MALTA <https://malta.vfwauxiliary.org> website



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
Membership Award Verification Form
2025-2026

“Gem” Award-Any member in each membership family group, adopting a member to pay their dues by December 31, 2025 will be entered in a drawing to win \$25. Form must be verified by the Auxiliary Treasurer.

Name: _____ Member # _____

Auxiliary Treasurer: _____ Date: _____

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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
Membership Award Verification Form
2025-2026

“Bounty” Award-Any Auxiliary in each membership family group to do member-to-member gifting to pay dues by December 31, 2025 will be entered into a drawing to win \$25. Form must be verified by the Auxiliary Treasurer.

Name: _____ Member # _____

Auxiliary Treasurer: _____ Date: _____

Mail to: Vicki Newbauer, 1909 E 14th St. #17, Merrill, WI 54452

Deadline date: **January 31, 2026**

DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN AUXILIARY

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

2025-2026

ALL AWARDS- BY CHANCE DRAWINGS

1. **"#1" Award**- All Auxiliaries in each membership family group reaching **100% +** in membership by October 31, 2025 will be entered into a drawing to win \$50.
2. **"#2" Award**-All Auxiliaries in each membership family group to reach **100%+** in membership by December 31, 2025 will be entered into a drawing to win \$50.
3. **"Awe" Award**- All Auxiliaries in each membership family group to reach **101%+** in membership by January 31, 2026 will be entered into a drawing to win \$50.
4. **"Mega" Award**- All Auxiliaries in each membership family group to reach **105%+** in membership by January 31, 2026 will be entered into a drawing to win \$50.
5. **"Gem" Award**-Any member in each membership family group, adopting a member to pay their dues by December 31, 2025 will be entered in a drawing to win \$25. Form must be verified by the Auxiliary Treasurer.
6. **"Bounty" Award**-Any Auxiliary in each membership family group to do member-to-member gifting to pay dues by December 31, 2025 will be entered into a drawing to win \$25. Form must be verified by the Auxiliary Treasurer.

Awards presented at February Port of Call for appropriate deadlines.

7. **"Big Movement" Award**- All VFW and Auxiliary members who recruit 5 five (5) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary by April 30, 2026 will be entered into a drawing to receive \$25.
8. **"Mother Load Treasure" Award**- All VFW and Auxiliary members who recruit Ten (10) or more new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary by April 30, 2026 will be entered into a drawing to receive \$50.
9. **"Treasure Trove" Award**- District Presidents in each membership family group to reach 100%+ by February 28, 2026 will be entered into a drawing to have Registration & Banquet paid for the June 2026 Convention in Rothschild. All Auxiliaries in the District **must** be 100%+ to qualify.
10. **"Booty" Award**-Any New Life member joining an Auxiliary by April 30, 2026 in each of the family membership groups will be entered into a drawing to receive life membership reimbursement.

Awards to be presented at the June Rothschild Port of Call for appropriate deadlines.

Family Group #1: Districts 4, 10, 11 & Unaffiliated

Family Group #2: Districts 2, 7, 8, & 9

Vicki Newbauer, Chairman

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

August 2025

National Scholarships



Have you been doing your homework? It is never too early to get started. We have three different deadlines for three different contests. Start with getting your list of local schools and promote the essays for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen.

The theme for 2025-2026 is the same for both: ***"How are You Showing Patriotism and Support for our Country?"***. Log on to www.vfw.org/scholarships or www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships to download and print the entry form. The deadline is October 31st to the participating Auxiliary. Don't forget social media to reach the home schooled as well.

How about Patriotic Art? This can be promoted right away too. It may take time for artists to prepare their entries even though that deadline isn't until March 31st.



And last, we have a Continuing Education scholarship for members. They can start working on their essays now and that deadline is February 15th.

"We Rise by Lifting Others" as we are "Honoring Veterans from Sea to Shining Sea"

Marge Southworth
Department Chairman, National Scholarships
Mdsouth2228@gmail.com

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

An Auxiliary who participates the most with their Post in promoting this program and has the highest number of entries will be awarded the following:

- Voice of Democracy \$20.00
- Patriot's Pen \$20.00
- Art \$20.00

1st place winners in each District for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen will be invited to Midwinter. Department winners will be invited to join other Department winners in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. That is a change from Washington D.C.

Winners for Art is as follows:

1st place - \$1000.00 plus 3 meal tickets for Luncheon at Convention

2nd place - \$750.00 plus 3 meal tickets for Luncheon at Convention

3rd place - \$500.00 plus 3 meal tickets for Luncheon at Convention

3D Art – 1st place will receive \$500.00 plus 3 meal tickets for Luncheon at Convention

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

Ways & Means

Win Me



HME
Home Medical®

Veterans of Foreign wars Auxiliary
1383 W WISCONSIN AVE OCONOMOWOC, WI 53066
BUZZAROUND CARRYON MOBILITY SCOOTER

Travel anywhere in the Buzzaround CarryOn folding scooter! Whether by plane, cruise or train, this lightweight & portable scooter promises comfort & style on-the-go.

Weight Capacity: 300 lbs Length: 38" Width: 19.5"
Operating Range: 14 miles Maximum Speed: 3.6 mph

DRAWING WILL BE AT 8PM FEBRUARY 6, 2026
AT MID-WINTER IN APPLETON, WI

Raffle License
#R0032634-A-82120

\$20 EACH TICKET

Need not be present to win.

TICKET NO. 0001

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

NO. 0001

Buy a raffle ticket to win this great scooter.

Go anywhere with this easily transportable scooter.

Planes, Trains & Automobiles.. nothing will stop you.

Donated by HME Home Medical. Contact your Ways and Means team for tickets.

Debbie Nackers nackervfwa@gmail.com Jen Mauritz jmauritz922@gmail.com or Lerline Rohaas rohaas4@gmail.com **Stay tuned for more exciting fundraising events.**

Vfwa.org



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WAR AUXILIARY
WI Veterans Assistance
August 2025

Our year for programs has started. WI Veterans Assistance is a program strictly for our WI Veterans, whether a member or not. We help with rent, home furnishings, bills for the homes, vehicles, etc. The monies go to the debts not directly to the veteran.



Last year we gave over \$40,000.00 all because of your donations. No donation is too small.

Send donations to: VFW Dept. of WI
P.O. Box 6128
Monona, WI 53716

Earmark: WI Veterans Assistance.

After your donation has been made, REPORT to me to be entered into the drawing for one of four (4) awards.

- Your Auxiliary name and number
- District number
- Your city

Awards: Four (4) - \$5.00 awards presented at the Department Convention in June 2026.

“From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free”
“We Rise by Lifting Others”

Mary Lou Duerr
2313 S Washington Ave Trl 3-4
Marshfield, WI 54449
(715) 305-5052
marylduerr@gmail.com

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

August 2025

VFW Auxiliary – Department of Wisconsin
Patty Jansky, Chairman / pajansky@charter.net



SPONSORING AND WORKING WITH YOUTH

Let's get our kids involved! Your Auxiliary can engage children in any one of our many Programs, including activities to honor our veterans and display patriotism. You can find youth groups everywhere – sports teams, church youth groups, 4-H, Boys & Girls Clubs, school clubs and programs, Scouts, home-school associations, JROTC, and more. Think outside the box – consider a local youth theater group, robotics/STEM group or Academic Challenge team. Don't forget about your own members' children and grandkids! Many youth organizations require community service hours – tap into that and encourage youth to take part in our Auxiliary projects. These activities can even bring new membership to your Auxiliary. When youth and their whole family are included, they feel more connected to your Auxiliary. Be sure to get proper permission from schools and parents for different activities. Our youth are important – let's work together with them to show our love and support for our veterans, our community and our country!



What are some things we can do with our youth?

- Make cards or gifts for veterans.
- Visit nursing homes and hospitals.
- Deliver groceries to disabled veterans.
- Help a veteran with yard work or repairs.
- Teach computer skills to a veteran.
- Discuss proper flag folding and etiquette.
- Conduct a Missing Man Ceremony.
- Be "Reading Buddies" together.
- Send care packages and mail to troops.
- Help with "Buddy" Poppy drives.
- Support the Illustrating America Contest.
- Take part in parades and patriotic events.
- Conduct a flag retirement ceremony.
- Participate in the Oral History Project.
- Get involved in Wreaths Across America.
- Promote Patriotism Through Literacy.
- Organize food and clothing drives.
- Send cards/gifts to the National Home.
- Recognize youth with patriotic awards.
- Honor students going into the military.
- Award Scholarships to graduating seniors.
- Place flags on veterans' graves, and more!



NATIONAL YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAM AWARD

The above list contains just some ideas of how we can interact with our kids. Your Auxiliary probably has some amazing projects you've accomplished together with youth. This year's National Youth Activities Award for Auxiliaries is for the **"Most creative and/or unique activity and/or event of the VFW Auxiliary working with a youth group."** Why not give it a try? Be creative! A copy of the 2025-26 entry form is included along with this Youth Activities Report.

DONATION REQUESTS FOR 2025-2026

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE HERE'S A FORM YOU MAY USE FOR EITHER A COMBINED CHECK OR INDIVIDUAL CHECKS

THE FOLLOWING ARE MADE PAYABLE TO: VFWA-WI

MAILED TO: LENORE OTTO, DEPT TREASURER

1383 W WISCONSIN AVE

OCONOMOWOC, WI 53066

DISTRICT NO. _____ AUXILIARY NO. _____

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ HOSPITAL PROGRAM (\$2 PER MEMBER BASED ON 6/30/2025)

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ VFW NEWS (\$1.00 PER MEMBER BASED ON 6/30/25)

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ AMERICANISM PROGRAM

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ HOSPITAL PROJECTS

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ WAYS & MEANS

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP –PATRIOTIC ART

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP-3D PATRIOTIC ART

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ STATE SCHOLARSHIP **LILLIAN CAMPBELL MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP ONLY!**

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ MEMORIALS – PLEASE STATE WHAT PROGRAM TO CREDIT TO

THE PROGRAMS LISTED BELOW ARE ONLY IF REQUESTED BY PRESIDENT OR CHAIRMAN

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ NATIONAL HOME

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ YOUTH ACTIVITIES

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP – VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP – PATRIOT'S PEN

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT

TOTAL AMOUNT _____ CHECK NO. _____

SPECIAL PROJECTS AS LISTED IN CHAIRMAN'S BULLETINS OR GENERAL ORDERS!!!!

THE ABOVE LIST ARE DONATIONS FOR 2025-2026 YEAR. YOU MAY MAKE COPIES AND SUBMIT WITH YOUR CHECKS FOR PROPER CREDIT AND RETAIN A COPY FOR EASY FILLING IN OF YEAR END REPORTS.

THE FOLLOWING IS MADE PAYABLE TO: **VFW-WI**
MAILED TO: VFW DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS – WISCONSIN
PO BOX 6128
MONONA, WI 53716-6128

[illegible]**MAILED TO: VFW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

KANSAS CITY, MO 64111

THIS INCLUDES MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, (UNMET NEEDS)

MAILED TO: VFVA NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

KANSAS CITY, MO 64111

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DISTRICT 2 - KAREN BAUMANN	4802 GOLDFICH DR	MADISON, WI 53714
DISTRICT 4 - JULIE PIPKE	4301 S 43 RD ST	GREENFIELD, WI 53220
DISTRICT 7 – CONNIE SCHOELKOPF	E8860 HUDSON RD	CLINTONVILLE, WI 54929
DISTRICT 8 – NANCY MALEWISKI	405 WOODROW ST	DENMARK. WI 54208
DISTRICT 9 – PATTY JANSKY	12758 43 RD AVE	CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI 54729
DISTRICT 10 – JEFF NUERNBERGER	N2789 LEKIE RD	MEDFORD, WI 54451
DISTRICT 11 – LAURA COFFIN	503 S “L” ST	SPARTA, WI 54656

THANK YOU