

WI VFW AUXILIARY 2026-2027 GENERAL ORDERS “AN ANCHOR FOR VETERANS”

July 2026

Congratulations to all the District and Auxiliary Officers. Let's make this an enjoyable and successful year as we work together as one team. Commander Simpson and I chose to have Partners in Success on our shirts as we are more successful working together than against one another. If we are to be an Anchor for our Veterans we must unite in caring for their needs. Hopefully, by now your election reports are turned in and you have your program chairs in place; please encourage them to take notes and keep a file that will assist them in their year-end reports.

- General Orders should be read at each meeting. We have asked that the Department Chairman keep their bulletins short, enabling you to keep your meetings to an hour. You will also find additional information on each of our Programs on the VFW Auxiliary website.
- Our first Council of Administration and Chairman Promotional Meeting will be held at Stoney Creek in Onalaska on July 10 & 11, 2026. A tentative agenda is posted on our website. There will be a line officers meeting on Thursday evening.
- BONDS: Remember to get your bond for your President and Treasurer voted on and paid at your July meeting to garner the maximum points for the Achievement Awards. The bond must be completed by August 31, 2026.
- The National Convention will be held in Reno, NV this year from July 25-30, 2026. The MOC & MOCA Convention is immediately following the National Convention in Reno from July 30 – August 2, 2026.
- Presidents: We are here to assist you. Please reach out with any concerns or questions you might have or if there is interest in starting an Auxiliary. Our Chief of Staff for the year is Marla Morgan, marlamoose1@gmail.com and Secretary/Treasurer is Faith Elford secretary@vfwauxwi.org.
- The VFW Family (VFW, VFWA, MOC, MOCA, & Riders) have all designated Fisher House Madison as their special project this year. An initial kickoff is scheduled for July 3, 2026 from 4pm to 8pm at the Madison Day Post 7591 located at 301 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison. There will also be a briefing at the CofA on Friday afternoon before the dinner.

Respectfully,
Charlene K. Cobb
WI VFWA President 2026-2027
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(262) 348-6547

Your Department of Wisconsin VFW Auxiliary Line Officers for 2026-2027 are:

President Charlene Cobb from Post 1621 Aux. in Janesville
Sr. Vice President Margorie Southworth from Post 388 Aux in Wausau
Jr. Vice President Jody McKinney from Post 10331 Aux in Chetek
Secretary/Treasurer Faith Elford from Post 1879 Aux in Fort Atkinson
Chaplain Kimberly Goss from Post 10406 Aux in Cochrane
Conductor Jeff Nuernberger from Post 5729 Aux in Medford
Guard Amanda Williams from Post 8512 Aux in Almena
Chief of Staff Marla Morgan from Post 6352 Aux in Marshfield



AMERICANISM BULLETIN

Sally Lamers, Chair/Patriotic Instructor

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920.475.0789 (please leave a message with your name
and Auxiliary number and I will respond as soon as possible)



Greetings to my “other” family: the amazing Department of WI VFW Auxiliary.

At this time, I would like to introduce myself to any brand new “family” members. I joined the organization in 1987 as a Charter Member under my father Harry Lamers’s eligibility. He was a proud Army Air Corp Veteran of World War Two.

Did you know....the VFW Auxiliary has promoted Americanism since its founding in 1914? Americanism continues to be ONE OF THE FOUNDATIONS of our great organization!

This message is a call to action to all VFWA members to be prepared to inspire others in your community by demonstrating proper observances of patriotic holidays through celebrations & events.

Throughout the year I will send messages through our monthly bulletins with General Orders, please share them at your District Meetings. Each District President and District Americanism Chair will also receive information from me via email every 6-8 weeks. These messages are my way of getting my National Americanism/Patriotic Instructor Ambassador’s information to the great Department of WI. We all make the VFWA chain of communication stronger when we keep things flowing in the right direction!

I am eager to begin a new year with fresh ideas to promote this amazing program. By all of us working together we will make President Charlene proud while serving our Veterans, their families and be a necessary presence within our communities.

Thank you for being a part of something great!

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Margorie A. Southworth, Chairman

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Did you know your District and Auxiliary Presidents can be in a Circle of Excellence just like our Department President? Awards are available at the end of the year for both. Start earning your points now. You can download the Auxiliary Achievement Awards Entry Form is on the website at: vfwauxwi.org under Programs-Achievement Awards.

By the end of June did you turn in your installation report? Did you give your Post Commander your latest audit report? By the end of July are your President and Treasurer bonded? Did your President attend the School of Instruction at the July Council and did anyone in your auxiliary attend the President's Kick Off event? Keep track of what you do and stay tuned for further reminders.



BUDDY POPPY BULLETIN

Jane Bynum, Chairman

hellofromjane@gmail.com

608-408-9222



Welcome Brothers and Sisters to a new year promoting the VFW Official Memorial Flower!

My name is Jane Bynum & I am honored this year to be the Department Chair of this meaningful program. I am a 20+ year Life Member of District 7 having joined under my beloved Marine husband with 2 Vietnam tours. I currently am Jr Vice & Trustee with Waushara Auxiliary 6007 in Plainfield and Trustee for District 7.

Having held many Officer positions in 2 Auxiliaries, Officer positions in District 7 and Auxiliary & District Chairs for Buddy Poppy/National Home, I am looking forward to interacting with all our Auxiliaries for this program.

Memorial Day, Veteran's Day, Patriotic Days, breakfasts, bingo, fundraisers, dinners any time you have a gathering – set out your Buddy Poppy containers.

We have just passed an important distribution date for the Poppies, Memorial Day. This is reportable for the 2026-2027 year. Please make sure you send me pics & information about your activities, number of poppies distributed, collection amounts and whether your Post participated with you. Send pics to the VFW News also.

I am looking forward to meeting with the many Poppy Princesses & Princes this year also. Let me know when you are having events, you never know when I will show up!

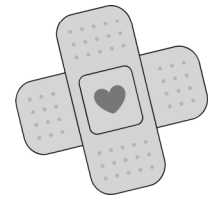
We all have the same goal in mind and I look forward to working with you in Serving America's Heroes one Poppy at a time.

EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION

Chief-of-Staff Marla J. Morgan

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715-384-2500 or 715-650-2442



As we enter our “An Anchor for Veterans” year with President Charlene Cobb at the helm of our team, I am heartened to hear these words from National Chief-of-Staff Bette Jean Biedrzycki (pronounced Bih-JET-ski), of Pennsylvania:

“So much more is accomplished working together. Like a football team moving down field, our focus should be on achieving the same goal. No one can do this alone.”

We will continue to focus on ensuring that all of our Wisconsin Auxiliaries have the guidance and resources they may need at any given time, to be healthy and successful. We will explore those many resources in the coming months. For now, let’s remember the five things required by our National Organization:

1. At least ten (10) business meetings per year. Five (5) members in good standing constitute a quorum to conduct business.
2. Dues should be paid by at least ten (10) members by February 1.
3. Quarterly Audits by Trustees must be submitted.
4. Officers must be elected, installed and reported to National HQ by June 30. This will generate the bond application via email.
5. President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by August 31.

PLEASE contact me or our Secretary-Treasurer Faith Elford if you need assistance. I look forward to working with the team this year!

Work hard, be kind, and amazing things will happen!



LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

Gail Brown Bensen, Chairman

gsbbensen@gmail.com

518-209-8362 talk/text



As we bask in all the celebratory activities for the 250th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, we know we must also look forward to serve the veterans who protected, and continue to protect, the freedoms described in that declaration.

In this new VFW Auxiliary Program Year, let us pledge “our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honors,” just as our founders did in that extraordinary document; to ADVOCATE on behalf of our veterans and their families, to AMPLIFY the vision of our VFW and Auxiliary Leadership, and to ACT to reach out to legislators, so that our combined voices will continue to be heard loud and strong, just like our forefathers were heard in 1776.

I am honored to serve as your Legislative Chair, and I stand ready to support your efforts in any way I can – with messaging, materials, and outreach to representatives electronically, on paper, and in person. We have work to do...together.

LILLIAN CAMPBELL MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Kimberly Goss, Chairman

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(715) 946-3285



2026 Scholarship Recipients

The Department of Wisconsin VFW Auxiliary proudly recognizes the outstanding recipients of the 2026 Lillian Campbell Medical Scholarship.



First Place - Elias Matiash - Sponsored by Barron Auxiliary #8338



Second Place - Emma Miller - Sponsored by Renee Simpson, Camp Douglas Post #10911



Third Place - Lauren Weber - Sponsored by Germantown Memorial Auxiliary #9202

These exceptional students have demonstrated dedication, academic achievement, and a commitment to pursuing careers in the medical field. Congratulations to our recipients and sincere appreciation to the sponsoring Auxiliaries and members whose continued support helps make these scholarships possible.

Supporting the next generation of healthcare professionals while honoring our veterans and their families.



MEMBERSHIP

Jennifer Mauritz, Chairman

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715-383-8628



“All Aboard: Every Member, Every Stop, Every Opportunity”

Hello Riders! The Membership Train has officially left, and July is all about building your passenger list. This is the month to set the tone, set the pace, and set your goals high.

The Membership Train represents who we are: a strong, steady, mission-driven organization built on movement, momentum, and connection. Every member is a passenger with a role to play. Every Auxiliary is a station where people are welcomed, supported, and encouraged to stay involved. And every stop along the way offers new opportunities to grow, reconnect, and strengthen our ability to serve veterans and their families.

Let's Load This Train With Members!

🕒 Membership Actions for July

- Invite at least one new member – start strong
- Hold a “Bring a Friend” or “Meet the Auxiliary” event
- Share the Membership Train story everywhere (FB, newsletters, meetings)
- Identify 2-3 members who can help with outreach
- Make sure your officers know your membership goals

This is your launch month – let's fill those seats!

The tracks ahead are clear. The engine is running. Wisconsin is ready to move forward together – one stop, one member, one opportunity at a time.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Patty Jansky, Chairman

pajansky@charter.net



Welcome to an exciting new VFW Auxiliary Program Year! I'm honored that President Charlene has asked me to stay on as the Youth Activities Chairman for 2026-2027. Debbie Little, our new National Ambassador, says that "our youth are eager to be part of patriotism in America and are like sponges soaking up all the information we provide to them." Our Auxiliary Youth Activities Program (see below) offers several ways to reach out to our youth to boost their patriotism and respect for our veterans. Watch for details in our upcoming monthly bulletins, on our Wisconsin Auxiliary website and on MALTA Member Resources under Youth Activities. This year we will focus on:



- Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups
- VFW Auxiliary Lending Library Project
- Patriotism Through Literacy
- Illustrating America
- Random Act of Patriotism (R.A.P.) Cards
- Youth Acts of Kindness Certificates
- Individual Patriotic Youth Awards
- Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citations
- Involving Youth in ALL Auxiliary Programs
- VFW Scout of the Year Program

Let's all make an effort to include our youth in our Auxiliary projects and events this year as we serve our veterans, their families and our communities!



WAYS & MEANS

Vicki Newbauer, Chairman

vnebauer1950@gmail.com



"DROP ANCHOR"

Good Day, Department of Wisconsin Auxiliary Members!

This year, your Ways & Means Committee – Aimee, Lerline, Barbara, and Vicki – is thrilled to announce that we will "DROP ANCHOR" for fundraising! Throughout the year, you'll see fun, creative, and engaging opportunities for participation... and even a few designed for non-participation.

Watch the monthly chairman bulletins and other Department communication channels for exciting updates as they roll out. Your District – and every member within it – could be recognized as our V.I.P. District!

Your support fuels our mission, strengthens our programs, and uplifts our veterans. Together, let's Drop Anchor, stand united, and make this a year of purpose, pride, and impact.

100th Anniversary Celebration



We celebrated the Department of WI VFW Auxiliary 100th Anniversary at our Convention in June.

President Kim McWilliams had a slide show created that shows every President we have had in our first 100 years. The slide show is on our website at www.vfwauxwi.org. Check out the "100 Years & Still Going Strong!" slider on the website and click on the button to go to the slide show.

Also on the website is a History Book that was created by the 100th Anniversary Committee that has some brief information from some past and current VFW Auxiliaries and Districts.

Please take some time to check out these special pictures and documents.



Check out the 101st Dept of WI Auxiliary Convention Book

The Auxiliary Convention Book contains all of the final reports given by the 2025-2026 Officers and Program Chairmen and see who were the winners of the various program awards.

The 101st Convention Book is in the Members Only area of our website, under the Minutes tab.

[Remember, to get into the Members Only section you just need your membership number and your last name is the password - with the first letter capitalized.]

If you have any problems getting to any of this information, please contact me at Secretary@vfwauxwi.org.

Faith Elford
2026-27 Secretary/Treasurer