



WI VFW AUXILIARY

2024-25 GENERAL ORDERS



"HONORING VETERANS TOGETHER"

August 2024

MUST BE READ AT MEETING

Volume 3 - Issue 2

There are a couple of items that need your immediate attention if you have not already taken care of them.

- All bonds for the President and Treasurer are due no later than August 31, 2024. Please renew as quickly as possible.
- 4Th Quarter Audits are also due no later than August 31, 2024. Remember, they need to be approved and dated at a regular Auxiliary Meeting.

A great first Council of Administration and School of Instruction was held at Stoney Creek Hotel in Onalaska, Wisconsin July 12-13. Almost all Fall District Meetings and Schools of Instruction have been scheduled and line officers assigned. Encourage your auxiliary members to attend these meetings in your district. You get wonderful information to take back and implement.

The Joint Special Project this year is called "Journey to Healing Together". The purpose is to provide Veterans with funds for their co-payments with respect to Mental Health treatment. The VFW Department of Wisconsin Headquarters has set up a Foundation Account specifically for this purpose. More information will be posted on both the VFW Department Website and our website. (Coming out in August. Watch for it.) Let's see how we can help make a positive difference in the lives of our veterans. While there will be no contest this year between VFW and Auxiliary, there was a small challenge at the C of A to raise \$1,500 over the weekend. Thanks to generous donations, the Auxiliary was able to provide the VFW with a check for \$1,500. Mid-Winter should be interesting.

The Department Treasurer Lenore Otto will be including her updated suggested donation sheets. Please pay careful attention as we are not asking for donations to all funds.

Have you bought a raffle calendar yet? They are selling out quickly! Remember, money and ticket stubs are due back to your District President by September 13, 2024. **DO NOT PUT IN THE MAIL!!!**

District Dues are due now to your District Treasurer based on your June 30, 2024 membership counts.

News will be out shortly for the National President Visit which will take place in October.

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

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)



Service members encounter a series of **Unmet Needs** as they transition out of the military. These include * securing employment and housing, *addressing physical or mental health issues and adjusting to civilian culture, *lack of financial experience * targeted predatory loans, and *service – related traumatic brain injury.

Give Back to the Families, we can do this by helping our National Guard who are frequently deployed leaving their families behind. *Offer to help with childcare, babysit, donate school supplies, *offer to clean the home, *help with repairs in their home, *transportation to school, *Support their events *Ask your grocery store managers if they notice veterans who come in the store in need of food. *Donate a basket of food. *Start a childcare or caregiver funding program with the CVSCO, *Print the family a resource card from our website at vfwauxwi.org and click on Veterans & Family Support under Programs.

Announcing “**Operation Bottom Cover**” This is incoming President Brenda Bryant’s Special Project. There is a need for diapers for the babies of our Military and our Veterans. How can you help? Go to our website at vfwauxwi.org and click on National President’s Special Project under Programs. Work with your Post on this project.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Kim McWilliams, Chairperson / mrsffliemt@gmail.com



Welcome to the New Year! I wish everyone a very successful year. Make sure to get your Achievement Awards information and report form on the department website at vfwauxwi.org Look for Achievement Awards under Programs. You will need the instruction pages to fill out the form.

- The Achievement Awards are designed to assist you and the department to have a successful year.
- Make sure to read carefully regarding earning points.
- There will be 3 District and Auxiliary awards. Prizes are in the instructions.
- I will be confirming the information provided to ensure fairness
- If you have any questions, contact me.

Remember we are a TEAM and even though you are your own auxiliary, not completing things on time or not meeting goals affects your District and the Department. We are one organization.

Who’s going to be our Department Top Districts and Auxiliaries?

AMERICANISM

by Sally Lamers 24-25 VFWA Patriotic Instructor and Americanism Chair
1861 Oakridge Road, Neenah, WI 54956 sslamers@gmail.com
920.475.0789 *please leave a message*



In the next ten months we will hear information we have heard before, and things we will hear for the first time. It will be the year of a “simplified Year End Report” and the year we celebrate our veterans, our freedom and our patriotism. It WILL ALSO be the year we continue to work together to strengthen our organization.

As your Americanism Chair and Patriotic Instructor, I simply to ask two things of you:

1. Pass on the need to read and respond to the monthly reports
2. Encourage the members in your District to send pictures (text 920.475.0789 or email sslamers@gmail.com) as often as a patriotic celebration, symbol, or event inspires them from now until June 1, 2025. I will need the District, Auxiliary name and number with each photo.

Thank you for what you do for our veterans, and for promoting Americanism every day!

~God bless our United States of America ~

AUXILIARY OUTREACH

by Alicia Weix, VFWA Dept. Auxiliary Outreach Chairperson
duds444@gmail.com 715-370-2096



Auxiliary Outreach is partnering with organizations for the benefit of your community or it's institutions. While emphasis is placed on our core VFW and Auxiliary programs, we realize auxiliaries also participate with other community organizations. Auxiliaries can now report and be recognized for such community work through the Auxiliary Outreach Program. Projects may be done by the Auxiliary alone or with the VFW Post. Collectively, all of our volunteer hours need to be counted to effectively show the importance of the local VFW and VFW Auxiliary to the community.

Be visible and show your pride in the VFW Auxiliary by wearing Auxiliary branded attire when you participate in Auxiliary Outreach. A shirt, jacket, or hat with the auxiliary emblem can start a conversation about the Auxiliary and what we do. It is also a great way to show members volunteering out in our communities and not just in our Post.

What is considered Auxiliary Outreach? When an Auxiliary partners with an organization outside of our own, it should be considered Auxiliary Outreach if the project was approved by the Auxiliary and recorded in the meeting minutes prior to the project.

DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS-LILLIAN CAMPBELL

by Jennifer Mauritz, Department Scholarships Chairman
715.383.8628; jmauritz922@gmail.com



The Lillian Campbell Medical Scholarship program was started to honor our Wisconsin Auxiliary member, Lillian Campbell from Neenah, WI, who went on to become our National Auxiliary President during the Golden Anniversary year of 1963-1964.

- Multiple scholarships of \$1,000 are awarded to applicants currently enrolled in a medical program.
- There will also be one (1) \$750.00 Scholarship for a Paramedic Student.
- Application and resources are at our website at vfwauxwi.org - Lillian Campbell Scholarship is under Programs.
- Please see the Eligibility and Requirements form and application for more information.
- Don't forget to forward our Department Scholarship information to eligible students.
- Application deadline is April 1, 2024

Let's focus on spreading the word and letting people know about this wonderful opportunity for a medical scholarship to hopefully increase the number of applicants this year

·Reach out to local Colleges and Technical Colleges to see if they offer any Medical Programs. If they do see if they will pass our information on to their students and provide them with the Guideline form and Applications.

- Speak with your family and friends, see if they know anyone who is in a Medical program who may qualify and pass the information and forms to them.
- Work with Districts and Post who utilizes social media platforms, to promote awareness and participation in this program on those platforms.
- Share this scholarship opportunity with other Veteran Service Organization, such as American Legion, DAV

Mail donations earmarked LCMS before May 1, 2025 to:
Lenore Otto/Dept. WI Treasurer
1383 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

EXTENSION AND REVITALIZATION

by Linda Moran, Department Chief of Staff
Loopylin1950@gmail.com 920-337-9922 (H) 920-639-9987 (C)



GOALS:

1. Maintain and Strengthen Current Auxiliaries
2. Present to Unaffiliated Posts
3. Establish New Auxiliaries
4. Identify and Assist Red Flag Auxiliaries

Does your Auxiliary have what it takes to be a Healthy Auxiliary? Do you know about the Red Flags? Unscramble the words below to find out some of the subjects/issues. Bring your completed word scramble to the School of Instruction in November or email/mail to me to be eligible for a prize. Good Luck!

Word Scramble Sample - For the full Scramble Game, go to our website at: vfwauxwi.org and you will find it under Chief of Staff/Extension under Programs.

TNEDNECATA _____
SUDATI _____
YXUIRIALA _____
NDOB _____

HOSPITAL PROGRAM

by Karen Johnson Hospital Chairman
nursefrazzle@new.rr.com ; (920) 707-3062



Hello everyone, here I am again being your Hospital Chairman. Our hospital program is one of the oldest programs in our organization. Nothing changes - we need volunteers and donations. Our National ambassador Paulette Mc Cords would like us to go back to basics. She wants us to be the Veterans ray of sunshine. We know what the Veterans have done for us and we know we must do something for them.

Veterans need someone to visit them and that is our job as volunteers to bridge the gap between family and the Veteran. This is why we need you to volunteer. You can recruit members and non-members to be volunteers. Get excited and let them see how important they are and how one person can make a difference.



July 2024 – Journey to 100 Years question:

Who was the Department Auxiliary Photographer during the 1970's, 1980's and into the 1990's?



Send your answer NOT LATER THAN August 31st.

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 in the fall, if held. Otherwise at the 2025 Mid-Winter meetings.

The 100th Anniversary Committee

MEMBERSHIP

by Chris Benson Membership Chair
(608) 577-9657; cbenso@owens-minor.com



Congratulations! Everyone pulled together and brought in those last few members to end the 2023-2024 year at 100.4%! As we head into the new year, we face the same challenges we face every year, enlisting new members. As of 7/9/24, we are sitting at a place where, as a department, we need to recruit new or retain annual members at the rate of 4.7 members per day. If we are able to retain 80% of the annual membership from the prior year, this means that we will need to recruit, at a minimum, 216 NEW members.

Our National Membership Ambassador, Linda Roloff, and I are very much aligned with our messaging to our Auxiliaries – Keep Your “Why” Close By. As Linda states, “It has been said that in order to know where you are going, you must know where you’ve been”. We must remember who we are, why we do what we do, and what we stand for. Our basic why can be summed up simply with the Department President, Cheryl Woodard’s theme this year – “Honoring Veterans Together”. This message needs to be clear to anyone we are attempting to recruit. Be PROUD, be INCLUSIVE, be EXCITED, and most of all, be INFORMED.

HISTORIAN/MEDIA RELATIONS

by Nikki David, Chairman

(920) 650-3737; nikdmetalsmith@gmail.com

Hello everyone, as you probably know by now my name is Nikki David, returning as your Historian/Media Relations Chairperson for the 2024-25 year!



Does your Auxiliary use social media to let the community and members know who we are and what we do? Social media is the best tool an Auxiliary has to share Auxiliary news, events and projects, and for keeping our members and community in the know about what we do and how we help our veterans, their families, our youth and our communities.

A picture may be worth a thousand words but remember the five Ws: Who-What-When-Where-Why, tell the story behind the picture. Everything our members do to support our veterans and Programs becomes part of our history. By preserving these memories and be sure to send the pictures of your events, visits and promotions, as always, to me!

This year's National focus and award will be for the most outstanding promotion of VFW Auxiliary Programs to the community through social media sources. An entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to me by March 31, 2025, for judging.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES



Patty Jansky, Chairperson / pajansky@charter.net

I'd like to give you a head start on this year's Youth Activities National Program Awards, which focus on our Patriotism Through Literacy Program by helping to forge a bond between two of our greatest loves – our veterans and our youth!

Awards go to the **most outstanding activity and/or event of youth reading to veterans and/or veterans reading to youth**. Entry forms are available on our Wisconsin Auxiliary website (vfwauxwi.org) or on MALTA Member Resources under Youth Activities. Your Auxiliary must send the completed entry form to me by March 31, 2025 for judging. A citation and \$25 will go to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions. How can your Auxiliary participate?

Host a day of reading – Veterans can come in and read to children or the kids can read to the veterans. Choose a book from the Patriotism Through Literacy Suggested Reading List if you wish. You could meet at your local library, school, VFW Post, VA hospital or Veterans Home. Make it a fun time for both the veterans and the kids!

Your day of reading can take place anytime, but there are many special reading days throughout the year. Here are just a few of the many "book" holidays:

- August 9 – National Book Lovers Day
- September 6 – National Read a Book Day
- October – National Book Month
- November 11-15 – National Young Readers Week
- December – Read A New Book Month
- February 5 – World Read Aloud Day
- February 14 – Library Lover's Day
- March 2 – Read Across America Day (Dr. Seuss Day)

Let's bring our veterans and youth together through the magic of books!



FROM YOUR WEBMASTER

by Faith Elford PDP, 2024-25 Secretary & Webmaster
wivfwafaith@outlook.com



The Members Only section of our website is now up and running!

As a member of the WI VFW Auxiliary you can enter the Members Only Section of our website. Bring up our website at: vfwauxwi.org When you look at the top line of tabs for various pages of the website, go to the far right side and click on "Log In". Under there you will see the dropdown menu and pick "Members Only". You can get in with your Membership number as the Username. Your default password is your last name with a capital first letter. Check it out!

The second big news!! "The 2024-2025 WI VFW Auxiliary Roster" is in the Members Only section! Now let me say it before you do – this looks a lot different than our past rosters. It is no longer the 114-page (57 sheets), 8.5" x 5.5" booklet. It is now just a 40-page 8.5 x 11" landscaped booklet (only 20 sheets-if printed back-to-back), if you want it on paper.

I have also broken-down the roster into separate sections on the page so that you can go straight to the section you want to find.

As you know, someone's information changes at least every month, if not everyday. I will be pulling new sections of the Roster and re-posting it once a week on the website. You can check the "Updated Date" on the bottom of the pages to know the last time it was updated.

My next goal for you is to create a page called "What is Happening Around Wisconsin". If you are looking to reach more people about your next special event, send me the information of who, what, where, and when **at least a month before the event** and I will put your event on the website! Watch for a slider page to come up on our website within the next few weeks.

SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS!

Bus Trip to VFW National Home!

It is time to sign up for the Bus Ride to the VFW National Home for the Fall Festival! This year's theme is the "Wizard of Oz!" Attached is the form to sign up to be on the bus with us for this very special and very fun event! The more the merrier!

Costume suggestions for the Districts are: District 1 & 6-Lollipop Guild; District 2 & 11-Munchkins; District 3 & 9-The Flying Monkeys; District 4 & 10 - Ozians; District 7 - Winkie Guards & Winkies; and District 8 - Crows.

The more members that come on the trip, the less expensive it will be.

We guarantee a wonderful time!

Donation Forms Attached

As President Woodards told you on the first page of the General Orders, also attached are the Donation Request forms to help you navigate where your donations need to go and who the checks should be made out to. Please read the pages carefully. At the bottom of the donations form that you mail to our Dept Treasurer, there is a list of programs that do have a healthy balance in our restricted funds, so you could consider giving more to the other programs for this year. Just a suggestion.



Department of Wisconsin 2024 Bus Trip to the National Home Festival Party



Each person must complete a registration form for accountability

DATE: October 25-27, 2024

COST: \$320 for Adult Double Occupancy or \$440 for Single Adult Occupancy

- Includes Bus transportation & Hotel stay at Quality Suites, Lansing, MI. Meals not included.
- Discount if you register by August 12th, 2024. \$300 for Double Adult Occupancy/\$405 Single Adult Occupancy
- Children 12 and under \$75 Bus Fee
- \$30 rebate available after trip if 40 people register for the bus trip by September 27th, 2024.

Reservation Deadline: September 27, 2024

Pickup and drop off location: Pick-up starting at 6:00 AM at Cedar Creek Mall Parking Lot, Schofield, WI,
TRAVELING DOWN THE Hwy 51/39 route. Other locations will be determined based on the amount of appli-

Room Type: ____ Double Occupancy ____ Single Occupancy ____ Bus Ticket for Children 12 & Under

Name: _____ VFW Post/Aux#: _____ District#: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

(You will be contacted by Phone or email if pickup time changes)

Roommate Choice: _____ (If you choose to room alone, Single Occupancy rate ap-

Total Payment Due/enclosed: _____

Emergency Contact Information (Full Name and PH#):

Please provide vehicle information if leaving a vehicle
at a pick up point. Make: _____

Model: _____ License Plate # _____

Points of Contact:

Michele Rathke, 715.218.0400, marathke@gmail.com

Sue Carlson, 715-271-8088, susankarlsonl@gmail.com

Make all checks payable to:

VFW DEPT OF WISCONSIN

Earmark: 2024 National Home Buss Trip

Mail this form and check, if paying by check to:

VFW OF WISCONSIN
P.O. BOX 6128
MONONA, WI 53716-0128

~ OR ~

Register Online



DONATION REQUESTS FOR 2024-2025

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. _____ CANCER (\$1 PER MEMBER BASED ON 6/30/2024)

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ HOSPITAL PROGRAM (\$2 PER MEMBER BASED ON 6/30/2024)

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ VFW NEWS (\$1.00 PER MEMBER BASED ON 6/30/24) **NOTE CHANGE**

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ AMERICANISM PROGRAM (HWY 32/PARADE FLAGS)

\$ _____ 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. _____ WAYS & MEANS

\$ _____ 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 – PATRIOTS PEN

\$ _____ CHECK NO. _____ PRESIDENTS SPECIAL PROJECT

TOTAL AMOUNT _____ CHECK NO. _____

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

THE ABOVE LIST ARE DONATIONS FOR 2024-2025 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.

THANK YOU