

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN



GENERAL ORDERS #9 (MUST BE READ AT MEETING)

APRIL 2024

1. Election of officers is to be done at the regular business meeting in April. 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.

2. Membership: All of you have been working so hard on membership and I deeply appreciate that. We are getting so close to reaching our goals! As of this writing, **WISCONSIN** is in fifth place in the Big Ten Conference and Big Ten is in last place in the battle of the Conferences. We are 88 members away from reaching 100% for our **PAID** membership and 246 members away from reaching 100% of our **CURRENT** membership. If your auxiliary needs help with your membership, please contact our Department Membership Chairman, Linda Schluter. She is more than willing to help in any way that she can.

3. Last month I had the honor of laying a wreath with our State Commander, Ronald Ramos at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at **Arlington National Cemetery** in Washington, D.C. What an honor and a very solemn experience. We also escorted Wisconsin's **Voice of Democracy** winner, Porter Tiedt at the Parade of Winners ceremony in Washington, D.C. It warms my heart to see all the potential in these students and their pride in what they do.

4. Memorial Day is May 27th. It is a time to honor and remember our fallen military.

5. Our Dept. Convention is coming up soon! We will be at the **Tundra Lodge** in Green Bay from **June 12th – 15th**. Our banquet has a **military ball theme**. The registration form was included in the March General Orders. Registration is due by May 24th, otherwise there is a late fee attached.

6. Make sure you get your Department Credentials form filled out and submitted. Your delegates can't vote at Convention without it. Even if you think no one will be attending, please submit your form. Delegates have a one-year term, not just for Convention.

7. Don't forget to check out this month's question for the **Journey to 100 Years** contest. Winners with the correct answer may receive \$25.

8. Due to the death of Past National President Patricia Jankowski, all VFW Auxiliary Charters shall be draped for a period of thirty (30) days.

Graveside service for PDP Ethel "Rusty" Garbacz will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Weyerhaeuser Catholic Cemetery. Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery is located on Old 14 Rd., west of central Weyerhaeuser.

Remember: "Individually we are one drop but together we are an ocean!" Thank you to everyone for all that you do for our Veterans. You are greatly appreciated!

Please continue to **"Bee the Change"** while **"Banding Together for our Veterans"!**

Sherrie Rosenau

Dept. of Wisconsin President

920-251-8888

littlemama6@yahoo.com



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

APRIL 2024

Hitting the **highlights** of the Veterans & Family Support Programs:

VFW SportClips Help A Hero Scholarship gives our nation's heroes the opportunity to further their education through a scholarship.

Unmet Needs grants military families in need of help to bridge the gap while the soldier is away. Grants are up to \$1500.

National Veterans Services (NVS) help veterans, service members & their families obtain benefits they deserve at no cost.

Visit **VFW.Org** for detailed information on these programs.

Eight things to remember when going through tough times:

1. Everything can and will change.
2. You've overcome challenges before.
3. It's a learning experience,
4. Not getting what you want can be a blessing.
5. Allow yourself to have some fun.
6. Being kind to yourself is the best medicine.
7. Other people's negativity isn't worth worrying about.
8. There is always, always, always something to be thankful for.

Having feeling & thoughts that life is too hard. There are people that would like to talk about it. **Dial 988**. Always carry the **CrisisLine #** card with you and review the Signs listed on the reverse side.

RED ON FRIDAYS-----REMEMBER EVERYONE DEPLOYED

Wearing red on Friday shows our support, remembrance & appreciation of troops deployed around the world protecting our freedom. This is something we can all do.

Continue **"Banding Together For Our Veterans"** as we need to **"Bee The Change"**

Helen Stearns hlstearns1021@gmail.com 920-319-2621 (leave message)

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Auxiliary – Department WI
Americanism Chair
and Patriotic Instructor Report
April 2024



Take your Americanism to a school
or youth group:

Light the fire in their young hearts!

-Partner with a teacher who wants
their students to learn citizenship
and help them achieve their learning
goals. *(P.S. then nominate that
teacher for a Smart-Maher VFW
National Citizenship Education*

Teacher Award!)

-Take Flags and pass them out to the
students. Encourage students to
participate in your next event.

Whether it's a parade or a wreath-
laying, it's sure to be something they
will remember forever.

Participate in “Flags Across
America”: Place Flags with
permission in public spaces, in
front of a business, in the
entrance to your subdivision or
neighborhood and of course on
your home. Get a Flag for an
elderly neighbor or veteran who
can't get around. Take a new Flag
to a school, nursing home or
community center. Take pictures
of American Flags where you find
them and then share those pix on
social media. Then send a copy
to me

Thank you to the two members and auxiliaries that sent me pictures – to impact
my power point presentation at our Dept Convention, *I will need MORE!*





Buddy Poppy/National Home Program 2023-24

February/March Bulletin

Feb 21 2024

"Buddy"® Poppy

MID-WINTER POPPY DISPLAYS

Thanks to all the Auxiliaries that created and brought in a Buddy Poppy Display for our Mid-Winter Conference. They were all fantastic! I picked 5 secret judges to make the decision of who the winners would be, so I didn't have to make the choices.

And the winners were:

1st Place—Chippewa Post #1038 Auxiliary with a "Bee the Change" wreath that promotes our programs.

2nd Place—Goede-Smith-Ramsey Post 8478 Auxiliary created by Teresa Steinke

3rd Place—Edwin Frohmader Post 1879 Auxiliary created by Deanna Carothers.

Honorable Mention-Ozaukee County Memorial Post 5373 Auxiliary created by Jane Jacque.

Greater Plover Memorial Post 10262 Auxiliary and DePere Post 2113 Auxiliary also had great entries.

Watch for the rules and entry blank for Buddy Poppy Displays for State Convention. Remember the first place winner in that contest goes on to National!



FIRST PLACE

VFW National Home



This is the last push to sign up as a Life Member; have a special program to promote the National Home; or even just talk to your own members and neighbors and tell them all about the VFW National Home before it is time to fill out your Year-End Report.

So, let's take a little quiz to see just how much you have been paying attention to the information I have sent out to you or look at the National Home website for the answers-

1. **Where is the VFW National Home?** (Eaton Rapids, MI)
2. **How many homes are there at the National Home?** (42-Under About/Community)
3. **What anniversary did the National Home just celebrate on January 7th of this year?** (Their 99th Anniversary)
4. **Who qualifies to apply to stay at the VFW National Home?** (On website under Who We Help)
5. **How long can a family stay at the Home?** (click on How we Help on website)
6. **How much does a family have to pay to stay at the National Home?** (No charge. Also on How We Help page)
7. **How many ways can you help the VFW National Home?** (See You Can Help page)

If you were able to correctly answer the above questions—You Win! You are definitely ready to talk to any person or group to let them know what the VFW National Home is!

Whenever possible, show people the VFW National Home website at www.vfwnationalhome.org. It is easy to maneuver through and is filled with all the information you could possibly need to tell people what the VFW National Home is all about.

Are you afraid to talk in front of a group? Think you can't do it justice? Let the VFW National Home speak for itself. Check out the "Stories" on their website under "Who We Help" and click on one of the stories. You don't have to say a word!

And don't forget about all the information in Malta. So, no excuses my fellow members, let's make sure the VFW National Home IS NOT the Best Kept Secret we have.

Remember to tell me what you did to promote the VFW National Home on your Year-End Report!

Buddy Poppy Contest Winners!



SECOND PLACE



THIRD PLACE



HONORABLE MENTION

Check out pictures of all of the entries on our website under Programs/Buddy Poppy...

Faith A. Elford, PDP, 2023-24 Chairperson, 608-322-5144, faelford@outlook.com

Extension & Revitalization

April 2024

I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation for your unwavering commitment and dedication during our “BEE THE CHANGE” extension program year. Your hard work, enthusiasm, and collaboration have been *instrumental* in achieving our goals of healthy Auxiliaries!



As we continue to march forward, let's celebrate our achievements and keep pushing boundaries. Together, we've created something meaningful, and I'm excited about what lies ahead.

Once again, ***thank you*** for being an essential part of our extension program's success!

Vicki Newbauer

Chief of Staff

HISTORIAN/ MEDIA RELATIONS

April 2024

Thanks to our STARS

Thank you to those Auxiliaries who sent in a Legacy video! Please also extend my thanks to your STARS that gave the interview. Where would we be without our STARS!

All legacy videos and National forms need to be in to me by March 31st. So if you are seeing this before the end of March. It's not too late to get one in quick.

There's Still Time to Send Your Pictures

Remember all your Great pictures help me to put together a Great Powerpoint presentation for President Sherrie and highlight all we do here in Wisconsin to show at the National Convention. I have to send our PowerPoint in to the National Historian by the end of April. So there is still time to get me any pictures from this last year!

Email them, Text them or Mail them in to me. I will take them whatever way you need to send them. Please just remember to include your Auxiliary number and short message about what the pictures are from.

Thank you District and Auxiliary Historians for the great pictures I've received so far this year. Can't wait for everyone to see the great work you've all done this year for your communities and our veterans.

(Pictures of where President Sherrie has been in February & March.)



Where do you send photos from your Auxilary events?

Email: nikdmetalsmith@gmail.com

Text: 920-650-3737

Mail: 303 E North St.

Jefferson, WI 53549



Nikki David - Historian/Media Chair
920-650-3737

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN



Journey to 100 Years



April 2024 – Journey to 100 Years question:

What city was the Silver Jubilee Encampment held in?

Send your answer **NOT LATER THAN April 30th** .

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 June.

The 100th Anniversary Committee

Legislative April 2024



“I Vote in Honor of a Veteran”

You can find in the Resources under Legislative the ability print labels with “I voted in the Honor of a United States Veteran”. This is a great way to show your support for your veteran and all other veterans. The initiative provides everyone the opportunity to pay tribute to those who serve this country. Thus, exercising the right to vote at levels from local to Federal. Put your veterans name on it and wear it proud in their honor. This gives a visual reminder why it is important to vote on veterans’ issues. Why it matters!!



A UNITED STATES VETERAN

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary | vfwauxiliary.org

Legislative Tools in Malta

Have you looked at the Legislative Resources this year? You can find a guide to share with your Auxiliary regarding contacting your Legislators, a guide on the legislative Process, and our Involvement in Elections and Political Activities.

Election Dates 2024

- Spring Election 4-02-2024
- Partisan Primary 8-13-2024
- General Election 11-5-2024

Get out and vote!

Share Actions Corps and WI Voter Voice with everyone and anyone.

Knowledge is important to spread the word.

YOU make the difference for our veterans and their families.

There are websites regarding Legislative and will take you right to the National Archives, The White House, U.S. House of Representatives, and U.S. Senate. Even the VFW Resources are accessible from here. Please explore the Matla Resources for an abundance of information.

BEE THE CHANGE

Kim McWilliams

Legislative Chairman

Phone: 815-999-9214

mrsffiemt@gmail.com





**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
MEMBERSHIP REPORT
April 2024**

DISTRICT RACE

AS OF MARCH 5, 2024

DISTRICT	PLACE	PAID %
D-9	1 st	105.17%
D-2	2 nd	101.82%
D-4	3 rd	101.66%
D-6	4 th	100.76%
D-8	5 th	99.43%
D-7	6 th	98.79%
D-10	7 th	94.97%
D-11	8 th	94.72%
D-1	9 th	85.16%

IMPORTANT

National has a system to track Member Recruiters. On the Member Application, the very first line, there is a place to list yourself as the Recruiter and your Recruiter Member ID. Without that information, you are not given credit for recruiting that person. Lenore, Dept. Treasurer, has given me a list of recruiters through February 19, 2024.

There are 19 Auxiliaries that have unlisted recruiters and they are: 305, 328, 987, 1621, 2260, 2267, 5729, 6003, 6279, 6375, 7591, 8329, 8338, 8400, 8482, 8483, 10197, 10394, and 10406.

A form has been devised by me for you to get credit for these unlisted recruiters so you can compete for Wisconsin recruiting awards. This form is ONLY FOR APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY MID-WINTER. This form is page 2 of my bulletin.

GOING FORWARD, you must have your recruiting information on the Membership Applications to qualify for Recruitment Awards.

Current Dept. Membership AS OF MARCH 5, 2024

Current Percent is **97.00%** while Paid Percent is **98.89%**. With only **90 more members, we will be 100% for Paid Percent.** **WE CAN DO IT!** *Please remember that Annual dues will increase on July 1, 2024.* **There is plenty of time to convert to Life Membership to avoid the increase in Annual Dues in July for our next year.**

“BEE THE CHANGE” AS “WE BAND TOGETHER FOR VETERANS.”

Linda Schluter, Membership Chairman

l.schluter0319@gmail.com

608-209-3080

RECRUITING MEMBERS for THE VFW AUXILIARY 2023-2024

This form is ONLY for recruiters who did not put their Recruiter Name and Recruiter Membership Number on the New Member's Application before submitting them for processing.

If you have recruited **3, 5, 10, or more new members this year**, please fill out the form and return it to the Department Membership Chairman at: **Linda Schluter, 4601 Declaration Lane, Madison, WI 53704, OR gmail , l.schluter0319@gmail.com by May 1, 2024.**

Recruitment Awards:

Recruit 3 new or reinstated members by January 15, 2024.	2(\$25) Awards
Recruit 5 new or reinstated members by May 10, 2024.	3(\$25) Awards
Recruit 10 new or reinstated members by May 10, 2024.	3(\$75) Awards
Recruit the most "new or reinstated members" by May 10, 2024.	1(\$25) Award

Recruiter's Name _____ Post Number _____

Recruiter's Address _____

Recruiter's Membership Number _____ Recruiter's Email _____

Number	Date	New Auxiliary Member Name	Auxiliary Membership Number	Auxiliary Number
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

THIS FORM IS DUE NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2024! LATE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Jackie Gregory Chairman

APRIL 2024

jackie.g@tds.net

Department of Wisconsin

Young American Creative Patriotic Art

The VFW Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest & 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest provide an incredible scholarship opportunity for young artists while promoting patriotism throughout schools and home school associations. Follow the advice below to ensure that every student who enters the contest has the best possible chance of realizing his or her dreams



HELPFUL HINTS

PACKING THE ART Do not use old, bent or torn cardboard for packaging. If the cardboard can bend, so can the art. Consider insuring the art and getting a delivery confirmation. National Headquarters is not responsible for art lost or damaged during shipment.

TO MAT OR NOT TO MAT? * All two-dimensional art (except pieces on a stretcher frame) if matted, must be matted **ONLY IN WHITE**. The use of a color mat will result in immediate disqualification. Colored mats can give an entry an unfair advantage by drawing out color or setting off contrast. It is very important that mats **ONLY BE WHITE**. Double mats are accepted if they are **ONLY WHITE**. *(Matting only applies to Young American Creative Patriotic Art- two-dimensional - entries.)

APPLICATION (One application for each contest) When a student submits an art entry and contest application, check for the following:

- Legible writing (If you can't decipher the writing, chances are we can't either.)
- Address with city, state and ZIP Code (No P.O. Boxes. We cannot ship art back to a P.O. Box.)
- Phone number with area code.
- Email address.
- Name and signature of or parent or guardian.
 - Signature of student.
- Source - this must be completed even if it says "original idea."
- Media used in entry.
- Signature of Auxiliary Chairman and Judge (*Department Chairmen: Do not send the Department-winning entry to National Headquarters without these signatures!*)
- **ARTWORK NOT SPONSORED BY A VFW AUXILIARY WILL BE RETURNED WITHOUT BEING JUDGED.**

Send your Auxiliary winning art entry to Jackie Gregory, National Scholarship Chairman, W5463 Apple Ave, Medford WI, 54451, no later than April 15.

National Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy results: **Congratulations** to Wisconsin winners:

Porter Tiedt, from Burlington, Wisconsin, represented the VFW Department of Wisconsin Voice of Democracy contest and was awarded \$1,500.

Nora Elliott, from Oak Creek, Wisconsin, represented the VFW Department of Wisconsin Patriot's Pen contest and was awarded \$500.

WAYS AND MEANS PROGRAM GOALS

APRIL 2024

Our main goal is to increase our funds. We are open to new ideas.

Our next event that we need raffles baskets for is State Convention. State Convention will be held June 12th - 15th in Green Bay. We are looking for already made baskets. We appreciate any donations! Consider giving a gift card to be added to a gift card tree.

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR DONATIONS OF CASH (CHECKS) FOR SPECIAL RAFFLES AT CONVENTIONS. CHECKS CAN BE SENT TO LENORE OTTO, EARMARKED "W & M SPECIAL RAFFLE". DONATIONS CAN BE MADE BY INDIVIDUALS OR AUXILIARIES.



Alicia Weix & Barbara Stillman

Ways and Means Co Chairs

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

WI QRF Unmet Needs Program

April 2024

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

The chart below certainly demonstrates that “No One Does More for Veterans”, in this case Wisconsin Veterans, members of the military and their families. Generous Donations from Wisconsin Auxiliaries across the state, along with our Posts, several private sector businesses, organizations and individuals have made the results possible. The QRF Unmet Needs Program Committee wants to take this opportunity to thank you all for your generosity over the last six years.

It's not too late to donate now if you haven't already done so. There's still time to get in the drawing for the June Convention. After sending a donation to the VFW, let me know by sending me a note by mail or email stating your Auxiliary number, name, District number and amount of your donation. A random drawing will be done to determine the 4 winners. May 1st is the deadline for the drawings.

Program Results	# Wisconsin Veterans Helped	Program Year	Total \$ spent
approved	37	2017-2018	\$ 34,068.66
approved	45	2018-2019	\$ 35,024.27
approved	44	2019-2020	\$ 41,839.70
approved	27	2020-2021	\$ 30,504.92
approved	40	2021-2022	\$ 66,054.56
approved	64	2022-2023	\$ 97,355.42
approved ytd	42	2023-2024	\$ 54,918.85
Since July 16, 2017 – ytd Grand total spent =			\$ 359,766.38
Total helped =		299	



The QRF Unmet Needs application can be found on the VFW Dept. website: www.vfwwi.org

Thank you so much for what you do for the VFW, Auxiliary and WI Veterans, members of the military and their families.

“Bee the Change” while “Banding Together for Our Veterans.”

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





YOUTH ACTIVITIES

April 2024

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



Go, Wisconsin!



Thank you so much to many of our Auxiliaries for all the wonderful **Illustrating America** and **Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue!** contest submissions 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!



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 amazing 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 displays 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 plans to recognize 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!



"Bee the Change" while "Banding Together for Our Veterans".

